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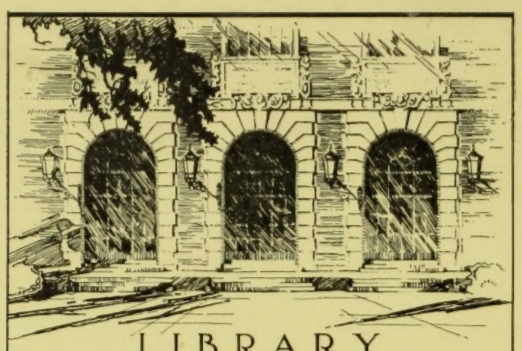

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A

HANDY TOPICAL INDEX

TO THE

"JAPAN MAIL"

FROM 1869 TO 1889 INCLUSIVE.

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A HANDY TOPICAL INDEX TO THE "JAPAN MAIL"

FROM 1869 TO 1889 INCLUSIVE.

[NOTE.—There are two particular allowances to be made for the following rough topical index: (1) It has been made at a distance, from notes taken during residence in Japan; and with the files of the *Mail* inaccessible at the time of final compilation, many errors of citation have inevitably and undoubtedly crept in. (2) From 1869 to 1881—that is, until the *Mail* came under the present management—there was no annual index prepared. Hence, the columns of those thirteen years are alone in actual need of such a summary as the present; a careful search of the annual indexes since that date would furnish the desired references. But many topics might conveniently be brought down through the later period—*e.g.*, Local Government. Moreover, on several topics—*e.g.*, Press, Taxation, China—it was worth while to note here such articles as were worth reference, and thus at least effect economy for students who would otherwise have to search half-a-dozen indexes for a few references. While, therefore, the first thirteen years are believed to have been fully covered for all topics of more than a temporary interest, the subsequent years must be understood as dealt with by no means exhaustively, the effort for the latter period being mainly to note important articles and not mere items of news. In particular, no attempt is made to trace the political parties arising after 1881, the year of the Constitution-promise.

It must furthermore be noted that articles reproduced from other sources in the *Mail*—such as Mr. Gubbins' masterly reports on Taxation, on Finance, and Banking—are not here noted. But where a translation is given of an article in a foreign language—*e.g.*, Mr. Heneken's Diary and Mr. Michaelis article on Penal Law—this seemed worth noting. Moreover, matter which first appeared in the *Mail*, though afterwards in book-form—such as Mr. Pfoundes' "Budget of Notes," or Mr. Suyematsu's "Yoshitsune and Genghis Khan"—ought here to be noted. As to the title "Bibliography," its limited contents cover only such works as are not to be found in Mr. F. Wenckstern's admirable and invaluable "Bibliography of Japan." Indeed, a main motive for venturing to publish this rough Index is the fact that the learned compiler of that work was unable to obtain access to a complete file of the *Japan Mail*, and that the valuable material in its columns thus remained without any representation in the titles of that comprehensive work. The *Mail* noticed from time to time the appearance of most of the books on Japanese topics, and the present writer once collected these with some view towards beginning a bibliography of Japan. But the appearance of Mr. Wenckstern's work makes it now necessary only to note those few publications which evaded that gentleman's industrious search.

The references are to the year and page. Where two volumes appeared in one year, the indication is thus: 88 (2) 129, for the second volume.

In completing a survey of the topics in the following list, one's main feeling is that of deep regret that the rarity of the earlier files of the *Mail* makes practically inaccessible a quantity of material so interesting and valuable to the now numerous students of Japanese history and manners.]

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YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 6TH, 1895.

DEATH.

At the General Hospital, on Tuesday evening, FRANÇOIS BEYER, aged 34 years, late clerk at the M.M. Co.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE anti-Cabinet crusade is gradually "petering" out.

THE British Fleet leave for a cruise in Northern waters to-day.

THE French flagship *Bayard* leaves Yokohama on Monday.

CHOLERA is raging at Port Arthur: at Sasebo also the epidemic is very prevalent.

SOME 823 artisans left Tokyo for Formosa on the 30th ult., and 179 on the 1st inst.

THE Weston Challenge Shield and the American Minister's Cup were won by *Maid Marion*, an English-owned boat, on the Fourth of July, beating eight American competitors.

THE Tokyo Tramway Company expect to pay a dividend of 20 per cent. for the half-year.

LATEST cholera returns for he whole Empire show 3,997 total cases, and 11,183 deaths.

MR. ENSLIE, acting as umpire in the *Rheingold* arbitration case, has found against the ship.

VISCOUNT MUTSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is said to be in a somewhat dangerous condition.

MR. SUGIMURA TORACHI, Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Russia, has been transferred to Vienna.

THE Korean Government proposes to dispense with the services of a good many of its Japanese employés.

THE Navy were again defeated at Cricket on the Fourth, losing the match with the Y.C. and A.C. by 66 runs.

COUNT ITO and other Ministers lunched with Admiral Buller on board H.M.S. *Centurion* on Friday.

CHOLERA is spreading in Tokyo, and increased Hospital accommodation is demanded by the Governor.

COUNT INOUYE, Japanese Minister to Korea, attended a special meeting of the Cabinet held on Thursday.

THE Meritorious War Services Committee are busy investigating cases deserving the Emperor's particular notice.

UNTIL Formosa is properly pacified, Governor-General Kabayama desires none but officially sent Japanese to go to the island.

COUNT GOTO will shortly publish a weekly magazine. The editor will be Mr. Takahashi Chuji, a distinguished follower of the Count's.

ADMIRAL BULLER received on board the *Centurion* on Wednesday; on Thursday Admiral Carpenter was "at home" on the *Baltimore*.

A GOOD deal of rain fell during the earlier part of the week, but a change occurred on Thursday. Floods are now reported from Hokkaido.

VISCOUNT HAYASHI and Mr. Ozaki Saburo succeed to the positions of Court Councillors vacated by Baron Takasaki and Mr. Kuki.

THE Naigai Shushin-sha reports that Vice-Admiral Nakamuda, formerly Chief of the Office of Naval Command, is very dangerously ill.

THE Law Lords of the Privy Council at Westminster, have decided in favour of the Japanese Government in the *Chishima-Ravenna* appeal case.

MR. OTANI KAHEI, President of the Yokohama Guild of Tea Merchants, has been publicly thanked for his services towards improving the quality of Japanese tea.

MR. KAWASE ZENTARO, who has Studied Forestry in Germany for many years, succeeds to the post in the Imperial University Tokyo, vacated by Mr. E. Grasmann.

THE Portuguese Barradas, who was arrested on suspicion of being connected with a scheme to swindle some Japanese mine-owners, has been acquitted by the Yokohama Local Court.

WITH a view to making Kagoshima one of the principal markets for the Formosan trade after the opening of steamship communication with the island, several Kagoshima residents are preparing to organize a Formosa Trade Society with the support of the parliamentary representatives for that Prefecture.

THE commencement exercises of the Yokohama Kyoritsu-Jo-Gakko took place on Monday, when four young Japanese ladies graduated. To-day the Yokohama Girls' High School, and the Winton House School for Boys jointly held a breaking-up festival.

THE "Glorius Fourth" passed off amid a blaze of sunshine and an almost universal discharge of bombs and fire-crackers. The only *contretemps* was the accidental pulling down of the palings at the Grand Hotel by the crowd gathered to see the illuminations.

REUTER telegraphs:—The following Ministerial appointments are announced:—Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India; The Marquis of Landsdowne, Secretary of State for War; Sir Matthew White Ridley, Secretary of State for Home Affairs; Lord Cross, Lord Privy Seal; The Rt. Hon: C. T. Ritchie, President of the Board of Trade; Lord Ashbourne, Lord Chancellor; Earl Cadogan, Viceroy of Ireland; and Lord Burleigh, Secretary of State for Scotland. The resignation of the Rosebery Cabinet came about in this manner. An amendment was moved by the Hon. H. W. St. John Brodrick, M.P. for Guildford, on the Army Estimates, protesting against the inadequacy of the reserves of ammunition. This was carried against the Government by one hundred and thirty-two votes to one hundred and twenty-five, a majority of seven, a result which astonished even the Opposition. Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, Secretary of State for War, announced, prior to the vote, that H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge will resign his position as Commander-in-Chief in October, but that it was not proposed to abolish the office though the functions of the Commander-in-Chief would be greatly modified. The marriage of the Duke of Aosta and Princess Heléne d'Orleans has been solemnised at Kingston-on-Thames, with full French royal state. Fifty Princes and Princesses were present at the ceremony.

THERE is very little to be said about the Import trade, and no improvement worth recording, buyers of Yarns and Piece-goods only operating to fill bare necessities. The principal reason for this condition of trade appears to be the continued tightness of the money market, and relief in this direction would probably put a different complexion on the Import business. There is no change to note in the Metal market, except that large sales of damaged cargo are said to be interfering with the regular trade. No alteration is to be seen in Kerosene, but the recent rumours about the Pennsylvanian wells giving out are again in circulation. There has been very little done in Sugar, and all brands and qualities may be called unchanged. New Silk does not come to this market in large quantities yet, but the parcels that have been sent in have commanded full rates, and the present tendency of prices is upward. There is no change in the value of Waste, as any tendency towards a rise in prices stays transactions. In the Tea trade a fair amount of business continues to be done at recent quotations, but the quality of the second crop leaf, which was stated at first not to be up to the usual standard, does not appear to improve as the season advances, consequently most of the parcels at present on the market are reckoned to be dear at the price now paid. Exchange has again fluctuated, though not to any great extent.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The anti-Cabinet agitation has collapsed altogether. The dissolution of the attempted combination of Opposition parties led to the formation of a new party, the *Doshi-kai*, in addition to those already in existence. But the new party is already in a very precarious condition, its projectors, it is believed, having suddenly discovered that they were the dupes of a secret intrigue on the part of a certain ambitious statesman. Whatever may be the truth of this report, there is no doubt that the *Doshi-kai* lacks any force of cohesion, and it may therefore be said that the Progressionists and their allies have entirely failed, first, to effect an overwhelming combination of the parties opposed to the Cabinet, and secondly, to stir up any strong popular excitement throughout the country. Their ill-considered and unpatriotic scheme seems to be viewed with disgust by the public in general, while they have little if any hope of being supported in the next session of the Diet by the Radicals, the National Unionists, or the Independent Members, or even by many of the men that have hitherto acted in concert with them. Their organs are circulating various rumours relating to the Radicals and the National Unionists; rumours designed to discredit those parties in the eyes of the people. But such devices are too hackneied to be productive of much effect. As to the alleged changes in the Cabinet, little is now heard. Count Inouye, however, is the subject of journalistic gossip. He is regarded as the most probable successor to Viscount Mutsu, whose resignation of the post of Foreign Minister is, in the opinion of the news-mongers, only a question of time.

* * *

The convocation of an extraordinary session of the Diet still continues to be demanded by a majority of the metropolitan papers. Rumour states that Count Matsukata's consent to withdraw his resignation was conditional upon the calling of such a session. It is even reported that the Cabinet contemplates taking that step either at the end of the present month or at the beginning of next. The Opposition politicians have their own reasons for desiring an early assembly of the Diet, but the grounds upon which they openly advocate that course are two, namely, first that the Ministry is morally bound to adopt immediate measures for acquainting the Houses of the Diet with the present state of the country's foreign relations, since it was by the unstinted support of the people and their Representatives that the Government was able to achieve such splendid military and naval successes; and secondly, that various measures, Military and Naval and otherwise, demand immediate attention. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, however, exposes the absurdity of demanding an extraordinary session of the Diet. Measures relating to an increase of the Army and Navy are intimately connected with the national finances, and time is obviously needed to elaborate the economical part of such measures. Persons who think that the Diet can be at any moment convened to discuss these matters, prove themselves ignorant of practical affairs of State. Some of the measures in question must be at once carried out: the construction of war vessels, for example. The *Nichi Nichi* hopes that the Government will take steps in that direction on its own responsibility. For the rest, there are no reasons necessitating the convocation of an extraordinary session.

* * *

During the war it was feared that Military and Naval Officers, returning from the field in the full blush of honour and glory, would obtain undue ascendancy in society, and that an obstacle would thus be placed in the path of healthy progress. But events have proved the baselessness of such an apprehension. The moderate and unostentations attitude of both officers and men is a subject of universal praise throughout the country. No one now entertains the slightest fear of any undue preponderance of military influence either in politics or in society. Most of the senior officers returning from China have declined any ostentatious form of welcome, saying that they have done their simple duty, and have no manner of claim on the gratitude of their fellow-countrymen. Commenting on this fact, the *Nippon* infers from the conduct of these officers that they believe the real war to be still unfought.

* * *

The question how to reward the rank and file of the Army attracts considerable attention. Private soldiers receive almost nothing in the way of pay, only a little over one *yen* being allowed them monthly as pocket money. There are of course special regulations for rewarding acts of bravery and making provision for the families of men killed in battle, but it is generally felt that these regulations are not sufficiently comprehensive, and many journals strongly urge the Government to give rewards to all the private soldiers. The *Jiji Shimpo*, the most enthusiastic advocate of this step, proposes that a sum of money, say 30 or 50 *yen*, be given to each soldier, and that the distribution of the reward be made in the presence of the Emperor. Our contemporary prays that His Majesty will graciously pay a visit to the Divisional Headquarters all over the country, and there, summoning the whole force that took part in the recent war, personally attend the ceremony of giving the rewards. Such a gift from the Imperial hands would make a strong and indelible impression upon the simple and loyal soldiers. Supposing the whole number of soldiers that went to China to be 200,000, and that 50 *yen* be given to each of them, the total sum required for the purpose would be only 10,000,000 *yen*. Even taking into consideration the expenses of the Imperial journey and the summoning of the disbanded troops, 11 or 13 million *yen* would more than suffice.

* * *

The *Kokkai* writes in a similar strain. It agrees with the above quoted journal in recommending that a monetary reward be given to all the private solders, but it does not specify the sum to be distributed, merely suggesting that the contributions made by private individuals to the War Fund, and the portion of the Fund still remaining in the Treasury, might be used for the purpose. It also urges revision of the present regulations as to pensions and gratuities. These regulations are stated to be unfair to the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers.

* * *

Questions connected with foreign policy continue to occupy a conspicuous place in the columns of the vernacular press. Thus the subject of the Anglo-Japanese alliance is persistently discussed by the *Jiji Shimpo* and other papers. The *Jiji* cannot agree with the *Nichi Nichi's* conclusion that the change of Cabinet in England will not be attended by any change in foreign policy. The known propensity of the Conservative statesmen, as well as the state of things in the East, will not permit the new British Ministry to maintain a neutral attitude in these parts of the world. "The practical solution of the question of an alliance," writes our contemporary, "is a diplomatic secret and must be left to the management of the responsible officials of the two countries. What we make no doubt about is that a new departure is inevitable in the foreign policy of England."

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The *Kokumin Shimbun's* staff seem to be divided among themselves on the subject of the above alliance. Sometimes we are strongly led to suspect that our contemporary is in favour of an alliance with Russia, while at other time it writes as though it were not opposed to one with England. The philo-Russian elements, however, seem to be weaker than those making for a close friendship with England. A conspicuous feature of the *Kokumin's* attitude on this topic, is that, even when it expresses itself favourable to the idea of an alliance with England, it takes care to make it apparent that it is supremely indifferent about the friendship of that country. In its opinion, England, not Japan, should be anxious to effect the proposed alliance. Its latest article on this subject contains the following:—"It is important for England to be on good terms with the *Dreibund*, especially with Germany. In Europe, she ought to induce the Turks to join an alliance between herself, Germany, Austria, and Italy; while in the East, she ought to solicit the assistance of Japan on the understanding that the latter shall have a commanding voice in the solution of Oriental questions. If England followed such a policy, it would not be difficult to maintain the peace of the world. Should she, on the contrary, continue, as under the Rosebery Administration, to be a mere spectator of the great international drama, her political death, not only in Europe and Africa but in Asia, must ensue. Japan is ready to take due notice of an England with blood and life, but she is not foolish enough to stand firm by a mere skeleton of England."

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The public anxiety about Korea has been relieved so far as concerning the attitude of Boku Eiko. But considerable uneasiness is felt on account of a report that the relations between the Queen and the Russian Legation grow more and more intimate. Just as before the recent war, the Japanese press urged that, in dealing with Korea, the Government ought to be prepared to come face to face with China, so now it is alleged that the policy necessary in Korea is a policy against Russia. The Northern Power's ambition to obtain a port in waters open during all the seasons of the year, is denounced as a danger to the peace of the East—a danger that must be averted at all hazards by this country. Referring to the rumour that Russia has demanded, or is about to demand, the withdrawal of the Japanese troops from Korea, the metropolitan papers unite in advising the Government to reject such a demand. They declare that their country has no sinister motives in Korea, whereas Russia's aim is to annex the peninsula, or at all events to bring it completely under her own influence. Russia being on the watch for an opportunity to pounce upon her long coveted prey, it is, say these journals, the duty of Japan never to relax the strong policy she has thus far pursued in Korea. A report has been circulated that the Japanese Government contemplates the adoption of a neutral policy in this matter, but the *Jiji Shimpo* declines to believe anything of the kind, for having once taken upon herself the task of guarding the independence of Korea, Japan has no choice but to adhere to that policy.

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The *Mainichi Shimbun* strongly complains of the Cabinet's indolence in matters of foreign affairs. It frankly declares that Marquis Saionji, the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, is not capable of dealing with a juncture like the present. If Viscount Mutsu can resume the duties of the post, well and good. But should his health be too much impaired, a suitable successor must at once be appointed. Our contemporary seems to be in favour of Count Ito's joining that portfolio with the Premiership. The *Mainichi* is further dissatisfied with the appointment of Mr. Hayashi to Pekin. He may be a valuable man as a friend in private life, but his talent, in the *Mainichi's* opinion, is not of a character fitted for the management of difficult diplomatic affairs. The truth is that our contemporary is not in the least likely to be satisfied with any official appointment until its own Party comes into power.

THE "CENTURION."

Vice-Admiral Buller, C.B., yesterday entertained at tiffin on board the Flagship their Excellencies the Minister President of State, Count Saigo, Viscount Enomoto, and Marqnis Saionji; Vice-Admiral Ito, Messrs. Sannomiya, Lowther, and Kirkwood; Captains Shimamura, Nagasaki, Henderson, and others. Before tiffin the guests were taken over the ship, and the men afterwards went to quarters and handled the big guns as in action. In the afternoon the party proceeded to the *Edgar*, and having inspected the ship, drank tea with Captain Henderson, returning to Tokyo by the 4.15 train.

LIBRARY CHAMBERS

EDITORIAL NOTES.

JAPANESE EMIGRATION.

MR. NAKAGAWA, Japanese Consul in Hongkong, has submitted a report upon Japanese emigration. It being quite natural, he says, that the number of Japanese who go abroad should increase with the progress of the nation's foreign intercourse, it is of course against reason to interfere with the movement. Still, emigrants that now leave Japan for foreign shores being used to a simple mode of life at home and being quite ignorant of the keen competition prevailing in foreign countries, are mostly under the delusion that if once they emigrate they can obtain high wages without undergoing any particular hardships. Labouring under that idea, they are generally sure to find themselves confronted with difficulties in regard to their subsistence, and even when fortunate enough to find employers they are liable to be subjected to treatment even inferior to that generally accorded to Chinese employés. Last winter for instance, about thirty Japanese arrived in Hongkong with the purpose of going to North Borneo. Their travelling expenses were fraudulently appropriated by their guide, and they were obliged to stay in Hongkong, though it was evident that they could not compete with Chinese as labourers. After some while, several succeeded in getting to Borneo, but soon returned, finding themselves unable to carry on the work expected of them. Sickness broke out among them in Hongkong, and the Consulate was obliged to send more than 20 home. North Borneo was reported upon last year after a careful inspection by the Consul, and he therefore regrets exceedingly that despite the warning contained in that report local offices should so far disregard it as to allow emigrants to leave Japan for that region. Not a few publicists hold that foreign emigration is an important element in extending the prosperity of Japan. These men know nothing about foreign countries, or about the requirements of foreign labour, their knowledge of the subject being derived mainly from newspapers. Consequently, whenever they hear of a new country being opened up, they suffer themselves to be deluded into thinking that it would be well to send Japanese labour thither, while they always expect the venture to turn out highly profitable. Now and then they specially send out an exploring agent. In such a case the new country, needing labour badly, treats the delegate with all possible hospitality and affords him every convenience. His stay in the place is limited, however, and it is not possible for him to conduct sufficient or proper inquiries. Hardships therefore too often await the Japanese emigrant. Especially when the needs of imported labour are urgent, it is not infrequent for such a country to promise unusually favourable conditions, simply to entice emigrants, although the authorities have no real intention of fulfilling these glowing promises. The emigration of Japanese labourers must be conducted with the utmost precaution. Since the project of sending Japanese labourers abroad was conceived, with the single exception of Hawaii, no successful result has reached the ears of the writer of the report. The disastrous failures of the Fijii and New Caledonia settlements are notorious. Qeensland is also said to be highly unsatisfactory. These failures must be attributed to carelessness in carrying out preliminary investigations. The writer hears that British New Guinea is desirous of importing labour from Japan, and that a project is on foot to supply the demand. Such an enterprise demands great caution. Some folks may say that the emigrants should be left to do as they choose, and that they should not be regarded in the light of children requiring protection. Should they fail owing to their inability to surmount natural hardships, let them fail, and so afford object lessons to others similarly inclined. The writer can not but regard such an opinion as not quite consistent with reason. Japanese emigrants are generally destitute of patience, are of mild disposition, and are not only unused to endure the hardships common to a sphere of keen competition, but are even unable to offer opposition when cruelly treated by their employers. The Japanese emigrants now employed in tree-felling in the deep forests of Borneo are as likely as not, after a few years, to degenerate till they are not much superior to the aborigines. The writer is not well acquainted with the circumstances of the work at a certain mine in Siam, but he entertains great fears that the Japanese there will be reduced to a similar condition before long. He can not see that the sending of such people abroad will conduce to the prosperity of the Empire. In short, he is of opinion that except in places where government officials are stationed, or where agents really interested in the welfare of emigrants are in charge of the enterprises, the Government should interfere and forbid emigration from Japan.

THE FORMOSA SUGAR SUPPLY.

THE public are liable, says the *Keizai*, to exaggerate the output of sugar in Formosa, and to think that the island can raise an inexhaustible supply of this food stuff. That is far from being the case, as the *Keizai* learns from a wholesale merchant in Yokohama. Formosa at present supplies only a small portion of the sugar consumed in Japan. According to the Customs returns, the total amount of sugar imported last year was 228½ million catties, representing in value about 13,320,000 *yen*. Now, the whole export of sugar from Formosa, as given in the Custom returns of Tainan, does not exceed 600,000 piculs. Even if one-half of the amount is sent to Japan it does not exceed 300,000 piculs, or 30 million catties. There being, however, a certain amount of sugar carried over to the mainland of China and not included in the Custom returns, the total sugar crop of the island may, after making all allowances, be put at 1,200,000 piculs, or 120 million catties. That is about half of the entire import into Japan. Thus it will be seen that in the event of the whole yield being sent to Japan, more than one hundred million catties have still to be supplied from abroad. Of the various kinds of sugar consumed in Japan, the principal are (1) refined sugar from Hongkong, (2) Luzon sugar, (3) refined and brown sugar produced in China, and last of all, the sugar of Formosa. Even in the event of Government protection being accorded to the sugar industry of Formosa, such as the abolition of Customs duty, the *Keizai* cannot see that the demand for inferior Formosa sugar will be perceptibly stimulated. On the other hand, the refined sugar of Hongkong grows more and more palatable to the Japanese people, and next in popular favour comes the sugar produced in Luzon. The question is, will it be possible to improve the Formosan sugar, and raise it to the standard of Hongkong or Luzon sugar? It should not be an impossible task; but at the same time it cannot be denied that the undertaking is beset with many difficulties. There are in the Far East two sugar refineries, both of which are situated in Hongkong, and they have agencies in various treaty ports of Japan. The raw material used by these refineries comes from Formosa, Luzon, and other southern islands. It is, therefore, needless to point out that any enterprising Japanese who intends to refine Formosa sugar and to sell it in Japan must be prepared from the outset to encounter strong competition from the two Hongkong refineries. That is one grave difficulty which will have to be met. And it bears a graver aspect when we consider that the sugar of Formosa as compared with that produced in Luzon, Java, and other districts, is far inferior in quality, so that it yields but a comparatively small quantity of refined sugar in proportion to the bulk of raw material treated. To bring Formosa sugar to the level of that refined in Hongkong, the first requisite will be to improve the cultivation of the cane. At first there was no difference in the relative quality of cane grown in Formosa, Luzon, or Java, the variety being the same; but owing to the negligence of sugar cultivators in Formosa the cane gradually deteriorated, till at last it is now greatly inferior to that grown in other islands. To improve the quality of the cane, either the Japanese emigrants must open new sugar plantations or must plant a superior species in the old plantations. At any rate radical improvement is essential. Under the circumstances, no particular change can be hoped for in the sugar supply of Japan, as a long time must of necessity elapse ere the refined sugar of Hongkong can be replaced by the new-quality Formosa. The Hongkong sugar refineries are flourishing, their dividends being far above those declared by any other company in the Orient. Every half-year dividends of 20 per cent. and over are distributed. In fact, the sugar supply of the Far East is practically controlled by the Hongkong refineries, and the Japanese capitalist who intends to start sugar refining with a view to supersede them, will find the enterprise fraught with innumerable difficulties. These comments of the *Keizai Zasshi* will be read with interest in Hongkong. We may note, however, that the statement with regard to the dividends paid by the Hongkong refineries is greatly exaggerated.

THE EXPLOSION AT KELUNG.

SERGEANT NAKAMURA, of the First Regiment of the Imperial Body-guards, who was one of the sufferers by the explosion at Kelung, lately returned to undergo treatment at the Hiroshima Reserve Military Hospital. He states that the explosion took place on the premises of a big temple situated in the southern part of Kelung. After the fighting had finished on the 4th instant, the streets were strewn with dead bodies of Chinese, and the 6th Company of the 18th Regiment, were ordered to clear away the corpses from the temple. This done, the 6th Company was quartered in the temple and placed in charge of several thousand cases of powder that had fallen into the hands of the Japanese as spoils of war. At about 11 a.m., the following day, the main body of the 1st Regiment were quartered a short distance away from the temple, and Sergeant Nakamura, together with 5 soldiers, about 100 coolies, and some 30 natives, were ordered to convey the powder to a safer place. The Sergeant reported to Lieutenant Tanaka, and then proceeded to execute his orders. At the same time the Lieutenant and others approached the spot where the cases were piled-up, when an explosion took place. Volumes of smoke poured forth from the powder-store, darkening the heavens. When it had cleared away a little, it was found that the Lieutenant, a sergeant, and several soldiers, 27 in all, had been killed outright, while over 120 non-comissioned officers, soldiers, coolies, and natives were more or less seriously injured. As soon as the alarm reached the Regiment, Captain Hirata, hastened to the temple and made various inquiries as to the cause of the explosion. At last two Chinese were discovered under the temple, and these were seized at once. A hasty cross-examination of the men revealed the fact that the explosion had been caused by them. They both carried boring tools, and coils of fuse used in mining. The suspects were conveyed to the head-quarters of the Regiment, but sentence had not been delivered when Sergeant Nakamura left the island.

THE TAKASHIMA COLLIERY.

THE present condition and future prospect of the Takashima colliery are discussed in the Nagasaki vernacular paper. The coal-mining operations of the Mitsubishi Firm, carried on in the vicinity of Nagasaki, are very closely connected with the prosperity of the town. It is for the purpose of coaling that mail steamers of England, France, and the United States of America specially call at the port, even though they have no passengers or cargo for Nagasaki. In the event of a failure in the coal supply, the result, so far as Nagasaki is concerned, would be deplorable, for with the diminution of shipping the prosperity of the town would decline. It is to be greatly feared that the town has cause for anxiety in regard to the supply of coal in its near neighbourhood. The Takashima mine, which once enjoyed the reputation of being the largest in Japan, and was one of the principal sources of income for the Mitsubishi Firm, be-

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sides being regarded as an important national resource, has begun to show signs of being worked-out. But the other colliery, at Hajima, has not been worked very long and promises a hopeful future. In fact, compared with the yield of the year before last, the increased out-put for 1895 is more than 100 tons per day, the total extraction being about 300 tons per diem. But the yield from the two collieries is now only between 150,000 to 200,000 tons a year, and is gradually growing less. The Mitsubishi Company are already taking steps to open up a new coal-field, and trial mining has been commenced on the Island of Yokohama. Up to the present the results have proved satisfactory, and the firm is making arrangements for increasing the output of the mine. It is matter for regret, however, that this mine is situated on a very small islet, the area not being half that of Hajima, and the preparatory works are beset with many difficulties. No definite estimate can therefore be formed as to the production to be anticipated from this new colliery. It is greatly to be hoped that the mine will prove productive, for owing to its convenient situation, close to the harbour, it will enjoy great facilities of transportation, and should become in every respect a profitable venture.

KYORITSU JO GAKKO.

THE graduation exercises for 1895 of the Kyoritsu Jo-gakko, No. 212, Bluff, Yokohama, took place on Monday evening, and proved a great success. The room arranged for the occasion was neatly decorated with flowers and bamboos, and many drawings of the lady pupils. No small improvement is to be noticed in the drawing department, and an equal advance has been made in knitting and sewing, some handsome specimens of which were on exhibition in another room. The proceedings commenced at 8 o'clock, when the large room was filled to overflowing with guests, including both foreigners and Japanese. The exercises passed off most successfully, each and all meriting the hearty applause bestowed by the audience. The Programme was as follows: —Two Pianos, Eight Hands, "Invitation à la valse," Weber, Miss Eleanor Bewick, Miss Mary Bewick, Miss Eugenie Gordon, and Miss Tama Oyama; Salutatory, Miss Tai Miyata, Anthem, "I will lift up mine Eyes," Martin, Senior Division; Recitation, "The Creeds of the Bells," Miss Eugenie Gordon; Piano and Organ Duet, "Gavotte," Jungmann, Miss Eleanor Bewick and Miss Yasu Totsuka; Essay, "Joshi-Kyoiku," Miss Toshi Hayashi; Vocal Solo, "One Morning, O so Early," Scott Gatty, Miss Eugenie Gordon; Recitation, "Absalom," Miss Sono Soma; Piano Solo, "Album Leaf," Kirchner, Miss Tama Oyamo; Essay, "Sobetsu," Miss Mitsuru Yonekura; Piano and Organ Duet, "Rigoletto," Verdi, Miss Eugenie Gordon and Miss Shobi Yamada; Recitation, "Nothing to Wear," Miss Eleanor Bewick; Trio, "April Showers," Hatton, Senior Division; Piano Solo, Airs from "Traviata,' Verdi, Miss Nobu Yoshida; Valedictory, Miss Yasu Totsuka; Trio, "Hosanna," Martin, Senior Division. The certificates were presented by Miss Irving, Chief Instructor of the institution. Four young ladies presented themselves for graduation honours. They were:—Miss Yasu Totsuka, Miss Sono Soma, Miss Tai Miyata, and Miss Toshi Hayashi.

COUNT QUADT.

WE learn that Count A. Quadt, Secretary of the Imperial German Legation, who left this country on leave at the end of February, will not return to Japan, having been appointed to the Embassy in Constantinople. Count Quadt was a general favourite in Tokyo, and it had been hoped that his stay there would have been prolonged until 1898, as the original programme was that he should remain to act in the capacity of *Chargé d'Affaires* during the absence of Baron von Gutschmid, who contemplated a trip to Europe on leave in 1897. Count Quadt arrived in Tokyo at the end of October, 1893, so that his service there extended to 16 months only.

* * *

Count Quadt's engagement to Miss Martino, daughter of the Chevalier de Martino, for many years Italian Representative in Japan, is also announced. There had been some talk of this happy event before the Count left Tokyo, but the difficulties lying in the way rendered the result questionable. It would be necessary, in the first place, to set aside the rule of the German diplomatic service forbidding marriage with a lady of a different nationality; and in the second place, there were serious complications to be overcome in connection with the fact that Count Quadt represents one of the Mediatized Families, whose marriage affairs are controlled by certain hard-and-fast laws. However, the Kaiser is powerful enough to act as *deus ex* in almost any German question, and we presume that Count Quadt could command influence to overcome all obstacles. Japan sends many wishes for the happiness of the young couple.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for May, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1894: SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	9,204,056.140	9,840,349.470
Imports	10,323,789.830	11,021,372.740

Total exports and imports	20,861,722.210
Excess of imports	1,181,023.270

CUSTOMS DUTIES

Exports	158,972.852
Imports	355,861.259
Miscellaneous	13,977.736
Total	528,811.847

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports, Silver Yen.	Imports, Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
China	730,717.780	1,807,133.350	2,537,851.130
Hongkong	1,459,990 750	331,995.270	1,791,986.020
British India	367,846.240	1,383,667.030	1,751,513.270
Korea	320,750.752	214,145.770	534,896.520
Annam & other French India	810.000	263,600.220	264,410 220
Philipine Islands	9,958.500	118,121.090	128,079.590
Russian Asia	46,913.140	76,342.920	123,256.060
Siam	3,600.380	14,978.240	18,578.620
Great Britain	571,343 010	4,017,590.300	4,588,933.310
France	1,406,271.310	476,366.190	1,882,637.500
Germany	94,815.480	866,271.220	961,086.700
Belgium	3,311.000	154,705.910	158,016.910
Italy	144,572 000	9,339 200	153,912.850
Switzerland	14,553.000	75,170.370	89,723.370
Holland	4.685.360	22 097.400	26,782.760
Austria	19,127.003	2,364.380	21,491.380
Spain	3,046.260	3,544.640	6,590.800
Turkey	5,300.520	160.000	5,460 520
Russia	1,974 320	1,376.620	3,350 940
Sweden & Norway	—	3,102 310	3,102.310
Portugal	—	1,627.980	1,627.980
Denmark	125 000	90.000	215 000
United States of America	4,025,969.380	1,006,865.000	5,032,831.380
Canada & other British America	278,815 820	281.580	278,997.400
Australia	64,273.220	25,468.870	89,742.090
Hawaii	68,626.430	—	68,626.430
Other Countries	21,127 990	145,066.880	166,194 870
Total	9,688,522.190	11,021,372.740	20,689,894.930

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	5,939,349,880	3,999,417.900	9,938,767 780
Kobe	2,960.008.790	6,105,069.490	9,065,078.280
Osaka	110,498.040	165,797.290	276,295.330
Nagasaki	308,104 120	648,173.450	956,277.570
Hakodate	43,205.810	1,676.800	44,882.610
Niigata	3,124.030	—	3,124.030
Shimonoseki	205,511.930	70,805.580	276,317.510
Moji	74,211.000	—	74,211.000
Hakata	151.700	6,942.920	7,094.620
Karatsu	15,129 000	—	159,129.000
Idzugahara	2,484.370	10,552.210	13,036.580
Shishimi	1,980.390	7,587.100	9,567.490
Sasuna	1,054.200	—	1,054.200
Fushiki	967.310	—	967.310
Muroran	13,572.100	—	13,572.100
Otaru	1,891.800	6,040.000	7,241.800

Specie and Bullion	Exports	1,709,547.870
	Imports	208,102.760
Total		1,917,650.630
Excess of exports		1,501,445.110

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	Exports	1,573,509.510
	Imports	3,848,387.150
Imported by Government		237,094 870

VALUE OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM JAPAN EACH MONTH THIS YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	12,704,459.900	9,862,419.680	22,566,879.670
February	8,633,163.380	8,239,136.430	16,873,099.810
March	9,638,333,380	9,939,827.600	19,578,160.880
April	8,498,400 640	9,974,473.310	18,472,879.950
May	9,840,349.470	11,021,372,740	28,861,722.210
Total	49,315,512.760	49,037,229.760	98,352,742.520

THE PIONEER SPINNING FACTORY IN JAPAN.

SATSUMA, writes the *Chuo*, was the place where the cotton-spinning industry was first established in Japan, and there was set up an Arkwright's spinning-jenny. Prince Shimazu Narihisa, the father of the present head of this illustrious family, was one of the most highly gifted men of his time. While other feudal lords were occupied in petty domestic squabbles and regarded foreign manufactures with lofty contempt, Prince Shimazu discerned the true value of Western things and spared no cost or pains to introduce them in his fief of Satsuma. In 1850, he established a scientific laboratory in his grounds and encouraged investigations in Western medical and chemical sciences. The Prince personally acted as overseer of this institution, and telegraphy, photography, glass-making, the manufacture of gas for illuminating purposes, and others scientific arts were investigated there. Three years later, another work-shop was started near his summer villa in Iso. The new institution was half arsenal, half iron-foundry. Personally conducted experiments in Western sciences and arts having more and more convinced him of the great benefits accruing from the practical application of Western science, the Prince constantly sent one or other of his retainers to Nagasaki to purchase any interesting imported article, regardless of price. On one occasion a merchant of Nagasaki informed a retainer charged with the duty of purchasing foreign articles, of the arrival of some new volumes on natural philosophy and chemistry. Deterred by the price asked, he inquired of the Prince whether the volumes should be purchased. The Prince ordered him to buy them, and at the same time observed that physics and chemistry being the foundation of economics, every new book bearing on those topics should be bought without delay, no matter what their cost might be. The volumes were duly obtained, translated into Japanese, and studied by the Prince and his schoolmen. Such were the painstaking habits of the Prince, who endeavoured to introduce all the western sciences and arts which had any practical utility into his dominions. There stands at this day in a suburb of Kagoshima called Niriiso, a spinning factory where 3,030 spindles are in operation, and which is conducted on a capital of 30,000 *yen*. This factory was the first of its kind in Japan, and was established more than 40 years ago by Prince Shimazu Narihisa, when the public at large were entirely ignorant of the existence of a spinning machine and spinning was exclusively carried on according to the old methods. The machines introduced by the Prince were throstles and mules, made by Platt and Brothers, and the factory was built entirely of stone, an Englishman being engaged as principal in the factory. A house was specially built for the accommodation of the foreign teacher, and this house now forms a portion of the buildings of the present Higher Middle School at Kagoshima. As the enterprise was not started with any thought of profit-making, but from the far-reaching idea of propogating the art of spinning among the people, everything was conducted and installed on an elaborate and expensive scale. This disregard of cost and labour made itself manifest in the production of yarns of superior quality, and from these yarns the well-known cotton fabric of Kagoshima, *Satsuma kasuri*, was made. Subsequently the factory passed into the hands of a citizen of Kagoshima, from whom the present head of the Satsuma family bought it back. PrinceNarihisa once engaged several coal miners from Chikuzen to see if coal could be found in his territories. Their prospecting proving fruitless, Prince Shimadzu next conceived the idea of utilizing water-power for the purpose of working the machines. With this end in view he determined to conduct water to Kagoshima from a distance of some 10 miles, and actually started the great work, but death intervened and the project was abandoned.

"GANJU-YAKI."

AN interesting story is told by the *Osaka Mainichi* of Mr. Higuchi Haruzane, a *shizoku* of Saga *Ken*, who succeeded, after years of patient effort, in making the new porcelain which he calls *ganju-yaki* (jewelled-ware), that is to say, the "grains of rice pattern" of Chinese kilns. In the old fief of Nabeshima, *samurai* were specially permitted to engage in porcelain manufacture, and the family of Mr. Higuchi were hereditary porcelain-makers. Since the Restoration, Mr. Higuchi has devoted his whole energy to the making of porcelain. On one occasion, with a view to extending the export of Japanese porcelains, he went to China, where

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he conceived the idea of making a new kind of ware. One day he observed a flaw on the surface of a small piece of earthenware—the flaw rudely represented a cherry blossom, and was quite transparent. This accidental discovery served as a suggestive hint, and Mr. Higuchi from that day endeavoured to discover the art of turning out porcelain upon which the forms of flowers, birds, and other things should stand out transparently. In the year 1882, he finally decided to carry into effect the idea furnished by the accidental flaw, and after seven years of repeated trials and failures found that his indefatigable labours had almost exhausted his resources. But he did not lose hope, and his long cherished desire began to bear fruit in the spring of 1886. He at once applied for patent rights, which were granted in December of next year. In the March following, by a still further improvement upon the new process, he succeeded in turning out several cups (*mizu-nomi*) decorated with transparent chrysanthemums. The cups were presented to the Imperial Household, which not only accepted them, but even appointed the potter one of its regular protégés. Higuchi was ordered to make some flower-vases bearing the Imperial *kiri* badge. Three years were occupied in completing the task assigned him by the Imperial Household, and it was only after he had baked fourteen batches of specimens, and had been driven to the verge of privation, that he succeeded in turning out pieces to his own satisfaction. In April, 1890, when His Majesty visited Sasebo, Higuchi carried a pair of the vases to the Emperor, and had the satisfaction of having them received. In June of the same year, another pair of the same kind of vases was presented to and accepted by the Empress. Soon after, the Imperial Household gave Higuchi an order to make a pair of vases bearing transparent decoration of phœnixes and clouds. Another three years were spent in completing this task, and the vases were sent up to Tokyo in June, 1893. In consequence of intense application and unsparing exertions, extending over a period of about 13 years, Higuchi lost his most trusted artist, Matsuoka; and three of his other assistants became enfeebled by brain disease. He enjoyed a competence at first, but his exertions towards developing the new keramic process reduced him to penury. His relatives and friends earnestly exhorted him to give up the unprofitable work and to turn his attention to more remunerative undertakings. He thanked them for their kindness, but did not follow their advice. At times, when he reflected upon the misery he had brought on his family and upon the dreary prospect before him, his resolution almost failed him. In 1893, when he heard of the contemplated holding of an international exhibition in America—the World's Fair—he thought that he must not lose the opportunity of displaying some specimens of his hardly evolved invention. He determined to exhibit some pieces of the new ware, and to obtain funds for the purpose he disposed of his furniture. Still he had not raised the necessary amount. At last, he forwarded a petition to the Authorities and applied for Government assistance. The Government deemed his application proper, and readily gave consent. Mr. Higashijima, of Saga, reputed for his liberal munificence, was struck with admiration at the earnestness of Higuchi, and volunteered to help him. The *Noshomusho* also gave orders to the inventor to manufacture for the Department certain specimens of the new ware. Encouraged by such unexpected facilities, Mr. Higuchi set to work upon the specimens for the World's Fair, and they were completed in due time, and sent to Chicago. The exhibitor awaited with impatience the judgment of the inspecting committee. At last it came, and was to this effect: "The make and design of the small pieces of porcelain decorated with transparent figures of flowers and birds on a pure white ground, exhibited by Higuchi Haruzane, Saga, Japan, are very chaste and graceful." Mr. Higuchi was delighted to receive the news of the appreciative remarks of the Committee of the Exposition, and said that it comforted him to a certain extent for the painful years through which he had passed; still, thought he, the ultimate umpire is the public, and unless my wares enjoy the appreciation of the public I cannot rest satisfied; for the influence of an exhibition committee, of whatever description, is necessarily narrow and must after all be regarded as differing but little from mere table talk. At any rate, I owe not a little to my assistants who are now in the grave for the distinction enjoyed by me upon the world's stage, and I ought to inform their spirits of the success their efforts have attained. Higuchi then visited the graves of his dead assistants and read in a loud voice a translation of the certificate of the Exposition. His exhibits fared far better at the hands of the public than might have been expected, and although many other exhibits obtained higher marks of the Judges' appreciation than did those of Mr. Higuchi, only one or two of the latter's articles failed to find purchasers. At the Winter Exhibition subsequently held at San Francisco, Mr. Higuchi's exhibits were even better appreciated, and they won for him a gold medal and a certificate of merit. His wares are attracting more and more attention now and he receives orders both from foreigners and Japanese. Mr. Higuchi's exhibits in the 4th Domestic Exhibition at Kyoto, attract a considerable amount of attention from the visitors; and a flower vase (150 *yen*), coffee cups (36 *yen*), and two water cups (10 *yen*) were purchased by the Empress. His efforts are thus bearing fruit after many years.

RAILWAY FREIGHTS.

At the general meeting of Japanese Chambers of Commerce, held the year before last at Kobe, the Chamber of Commerce of that place suggested the advisability of taking steps to obtain a reduction in the freights of Government railways. No definite decision was arrived at on that occasion, but it was resolved to leave the matter to be deliberated upon by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce. In pursuance of that resolution the Chamber subsequently appointed a special committee and entrusted it with power to carry out the necessary investigations. These investigations have at last been completed, and the Committee, which was presided over by Mr. Shoda Heigoro, decided to reject the suggestion, chiefly on the ground that the reduction of freights would be likely to interfere with the proper development of railway enterprise. Instead of applying for a reduction in freights, the Committee decided to submit a representation addressed to the Ministers of State for Agriculture and Commerce, and for Communications, praying them to extend the Government railways as far as possible. The Committee arrived at this conclusion after long and mature consideration. They found that they could not endorse the views entertained by the introducers of the suggestion, and could not hold that freight rates on Government railways were so high as to interfere with commercial development. As a proof of this contention, the committee referred to the present condition of the Tokaido railway, which has already drawn to it the major portion of the passenger traffic between Tokyo and Kobe and Yokkaichi. The railway has even commenced to encroach upon the field once held by steamers in the transportation of goods between those places. It is true the regular freight rates charged by the Railway Bureau may appear rather high, but there is a special arrangement for the exclusive hire of cars by which rates can be considerably reduced. Thus, while the regular charge for goods between Tokyo and Kobe is 5.375 *yen* per ton per 100 miles, the actual charge in virtue of special arrangements for rice and 24 other staple commodities is only 1.524 *yen*. To contrast, as the introducers of the suggestion did, the freight charged for exclusive hire of goods-cars and that for ordinary goods carriage between Kobe and Bamba (Otsu), with the rates on the Sanyo Railway, is not just, the conditions between the two lines being widely different. Traffic on the Tokaido line has lately become unusually brisk, so brisk that it is difficult to meet the demand for transportation. Hence reduction of freights might aggravate this insufficiency, and eventually impede seriously the development of trade. In short, what merchants are mostly dissatisfied with in regard to the Government railways is not so much the rates of freight, as insufficiency of rolling-stock to carry the goods demanding instant transportation. The present arrangement for the exclusive hire of freight cars was established for the purpose of allowing a certain latitude in the rigid rules governing the handling of freight, but the necessity of such a system will pass away upon the establishment of a more convenient set of rules. Moreover, there being no fixed arrangement about receiving goods direct from owners, only transport agents derive benefit from it. What the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce desires to see is the abolition of the present system of reducing freight through the exclusive hire of freight cars, and its replacement by a system for receiving goods direct from owners at various stations along the line, so as to enable the public at large to fairly enjoy the benefit of cheap transportation. Freights should not be too rigidly fixed, as they are at present, but certain latitude should be allowed in virtue of which owners of goods might be charged reduced rates within certain bounds in certain special cases. The dislocation of the goods traffic his now reached a very grave point. For instance, in consigning goods from Tokyo to Osaka or *vice versa*—a distance of about 350 miles—one week is not infrequently required. Such a defective mode of transportation between the two greatest marts of the country cannot but seriously effect business. Under the circumstances, the Government should take prompt steps to obtain the necessary funds to enable it to double the present Tokaido line, at the same time increasing the rolling-stock upon it. According to the annual statistics for the 26th year of *Meiji*, the profit accruing from the Government railways averages 9.5 per cent., whereas the average profit on private railways amounts to only 6.1 per cent. a year. In other words, the former enjoy a profit of more than 50 per cent. above the latter. Profits being so large, even at present, when the facilities of transportation afforded by Government railways are far from satisfactory, it is plain that they would increase considerably were the means of transportation more perfectly arranged. The reduction of freights, as suggested by the Kobe Chamber of Commerce, would interfere with the expansion of the Government railways by reducing their income, and hence the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce decided not to endorse the proposition.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

The Concert given on Wednesday evening in the Seamen's Free Reading Room was a pronounced success. Long before the time fixed for commencing, the place was packed and every item on an exceptionally good programme was loudly applauded. Miss Leach sang Cowen's "Children's Home," and in company with Mrs. Irwine, "The Angel" (Rubenstein), greatly to the delight of the audience. The Misses Page gave two violin selections, "Caliph of Bagdad," and "Two Studies," by Franz Wohlfarht, and had to response to an encore. Mrs. Irwine sang Millard's lovely song, "Waiting," and in company with Mr. Walford, Schubert's "Serenade." Miss Thomas gave a nice renderiug of Frederick Cliff's "When;" Mr. Sharp recited "Kissing Cup's Race," in his inimitable style; Mr. Brackenbury sang "Three Merry Men," and another very amusing ballad; and Mr. Oxford gave two songs. During the evening selections were given by a string band from H.M.S. Fleet.

* * *

On Wednesday afternoon the *Undaunted's* Ebony Minstrels entertained a large company of Yokohama's little ones at the Public Hall. The entertainment was hugely appreciated.

WANTON ASSAULT.

On Wednesday evening, shortly after 6 o'clock, one of those mob-risings, whose origin lies in a trivial dispute, took place at the French *hatoba*.

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Three English marines had come down to the landing steps preparatory to returning to their ship, when a slight dispute arose about fares. In a moment all the *sendoes* lounging about the place had congregated and joined in. Soon oars were being flourished and nasty looking sticks began to appear among the Japanese. The marines were surrounded and soon one of them was knocked down, by a terrific blow across the head and face, the force of which caused blood to flow freely. Some foreigners on the Boat-house verandah, seeing affairs assuming this desperate aspect, then ran round, and by their exertions cleared up matters. All this time the police at the *hatoba* entrance had remained passive, with their heads turned another way. One of the wounded men endeavoured to lay a complaint with the *hatoba* police, but he was unheeded. A complaint has since been laid at the Settlement Police Station

SILK IN THE UNITED STATES.

FOLLOWING are the Imports of Raw Silk at New York and the Pacific coast ports for May, 1895 :

	BALES.	LBS.	VALUE.
New York	1,410	300,566	$1,058,011
San Francisco	1,732	220,260	715,476
	3,142	520,826	1,773,487

Imports of Waste, Noils, and Cocoons in same period were :—

New York	205	66,800	19,098
San Francisco	25	10,800	5,348
	230	76,100	24,446

Imports of Japanese Piece Goods and Handkerchiefs were from January 1st to April 25th, 1895 :—Silk Piece Goods, 218,046 pcs. Silk Handkerchiefs, 150,146 doz.

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

THE Commander-in-Chief of the British Squadron in the East, the Captains of the *Centurion*, *Edgar*, *Undaunted*, and *Leander*, accompanied by the British *Chargé d'Affaires*; the Commander-in-Chief of the French Squadron in the Far East, the Captain of the *Bayard*, and their staffs, accompanied by the French Minister; and the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Squadron on the Asiatic Station, and his staff, accompanied by the U.S. Minister, proceeded to the Palace on the 2nd inst., and were received in audience by the Emperor.

PIGEONS ON WAR SERVICE.

AT this year's French grand naval manœuvres in the Mediterranean, the 500 homing pigeons installed last year in the military dovecotes of Missiessy, at Toulon, will take part. These pigeons have already done service by conveying reports on observations made from the car of a captive balloon attached to a torpedo-boat in the open sea to the Naval Prefecture on shore. Preparatory to their use in the manœuvres, the pigeons will be trained by being taken out to sea once a week from now, and released at gradually increasing distances.—*L'Écho de l'Armée.*

THE BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE.

WE are glad to be able to state that M. le Baron d'Anethan has sufficiently recovered from his illness to be able to proceed to Miyanoshita, for which place he has set out by order of his medical advisers. Monsieur le Baron asks us to say that he regrets to be unable to acknowledge, until his return, the many kind visits and inquiries that he has received from his friends and acquaintances of Tokyo and Yokohama.

DEATH OF MR. HANS KOCH OF KOBE.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* records the death of Mr. Hans Koch, of Messrs. Faber and Voigt's. Mr. Koch, who has been a resident of Kobe for less than two years, appears never to have been in the enjoyment of robust health, but it was not until Saturday last that serious symptoms connected with the brain developed themselves, after which he rapidly sank, passing away quietly at 6 p.m. on Monday.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A CHINAMAN.

THE *Asahi Shimbun* says that a Chinaman, named Kun Kei-ki, of Tsukiji, Tokyo, who escaped to Yokohama immediately after the police had discovered that he had sold opium, was arrested on the 28th ult. but while being conveyed to the Tokyo Local Court was suddenly taken ill, and expired at the Takanawa Police Office, Shiba, Tokyo, on the 29th, at 7 p.m.

CHEAP MERCENARIES.

THE *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tsz Yat Po*) says that the authorities at Canton are now paying off the soldiers returning from Formosa and the Pescadores at the rate of a dollar per head.

EXTREMES.

HONGKONG is suffering from drought: Yokohama is suffering from too much rain.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

By the Imperial Ordinance No. 92, promulgated on the 29th ult., provisions are enacted relating to the establishment of Extraordinary Military Tribunals, having jurisdiction over territories occupied by military forces in time of war or after its conclusion. These Tribunals are to be constituted in the same manner, and invested with the same authority as ordinary Military Tribunals established in localities in a state of siege. Civilians, as a rule, will be tried in accordance with the common laws, but a number of exceptional cases are specified in which civilians must be dealt with under the provisions of the Military Criminal Law. These exceptional cases may be classed as acts calculated to assist the enemy.

It has been reported by some papers that the present Ordinance is meant for Formosa, but the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is informed on good authority, that the Tribunals in question will be established in the Liaotung peninsula and at Weihaiwei. It need scarcely be added that the Ordinance has to be submitted for the *post facto* approbation of the Diet in its next session.

THE ECONOMIC CONDITION OF JAPAN.

Mr. Yamamoto Tatsuo, a Manager of the Nippon Ginko (Bank of Japan), delivered an interesting lecture at a meeting of the managers of the metropolitan branches of the Provincial Banks on the 27th ultimo. The lecturer's direct object was to define the financial policy of his bank, but in so doing he threw some light upon the general economic condition of the country. Contrary to the general expectation that the restoration of peace would be immediately followed by great tradal prosperity, men are complaining, said the lecturer, of bad times and general business depression. He thought, however, that the present depression was but temporary, being in a great measure due to national disappointment at the return of Liaotung, and to uneasiness caused by the state of affairs in Korea. He then went on to explain the economic causes that have led to the present tightness of money. Shortly after the commencement of the war last year, a small class of financiers advocated the importation of foreign capital to avoid any disturbance of the national economy. But the country being able to rely upon its own resources, domestic loans of 30 million and 50 million *yen* were successfully floated at different times. Still the withdrawal of 80,000,000 *yen* from circulation could not fail to produce sensible effects upon the condition of the business world. Scarcely had the last instalment of the War Loan been paid, when, the silk season having commenced, large applications for advances were made by sericulturists and silk merchants. This demand for money was accentuated by another cause, namely, the desire of small traders to replenish their stock of goods in anticipation of a revival of business activity. These causes operating together had produced the present extreme tightness of the money market. Now the question for the bankers to consider seriously was whether they should loosen their purse-strings and meet the pressing call for accommodation. Mr. Yamamoto did not hesitate to reply in the affirmative, inasmuch as the tightness of the money market had resulted not from any commercial or industrial crises, but from the conversion of floating capital into a War Loan, and from advances to sericulturists and other merchants. The capital diverted into those channels was sure to flow back sooner or later without the slightest risk of loss. Under these circumstances, Mr. Yamamoto thought it necessary that the bankers should meet the demand for accommodation. Especially important did a liberal policy seem at a juncture like the present when the country was just beginning to extend and develop its trade with foreign lands. The demand for money would have to be met by an issue of taxable convertible notes by the Bank of Japan. A possible objection that to increase the paper currency might tend to encourage speculative undertakings, was refuted by the lecturer, who adduced statistics in support of his view. By comparing the volume of paper currency at the end of June, 1894 and 1895, as tabulated below, it was shown that an increase of 20,000,000 *yen* had taken place :—

	1894. Yen.	1895. Yen.
Paper currency	139,000,000	159,000,000

A large proportion of the above increase was in circulation in Korea and in the occupied Chinese territories, and a portion remained in the hands of the army and the military coolies. That such was the case appeared from the following figures, showing the state of deposits in the Postal Savings Bureau and the metropolitan banks in the month of May, 1894 and 1895 :—

	Postal Savings Bureau. Yen.	Metropolitan Banks. Yen.	Total. Yen.
May, 1894	25,100,000	37,560,000	62,600,000
May, 1895	24,500,000	40,000,000	65,400,000

From this table it will be seen that the increase in deposits was only 2,800,000 *yen*, a sum altogether out of proportion to the nominally augmented volume of paper money in circulation. A steady rise of prices was sometimes quoted as evidence of an increased volume of circulating money. But Mr. Yamamoto ascribed it to the depreciation of silver in terms of gold. To the question whether or not the Bank of Japan had a sufficient amount of specie reserves for the purpose of issuing taxable convertible notes, the lecturer replied in the affirmative. The amount of the convertible notes already issued, and that of the specie reserve, were as follow :—

	Yen.
Convertibles Notes	135,610,000
Specie Reserve	65,000,000

Mr. Yamamoto thought that the Nippon Ginko could safely issue 20 or 30 millions *yen* of convertible notes in addition to those already in circulation, especially as there was a prospect of an influx of specie amounting to some 60,000,000 *yen* in value, from China in October next. Under these circumstances, he asked his fellow bankers to adopt the policy of making advances to suitable applicants, and he entertained no doubt that the result would be most beneficial to the development of trade and industry. He proceeded to allude to the economic condition of Germany after her victorious war of 1870-1871. A sudden and indiscriminate increase in the volume of circulating media by the redemption of domestic loans, had proved disastrous in her case. But no such undesirable result would follow the incoming of specie from China, since not only was the indemnity to be paid in small yearly instalments, but also it would be used, not for the redemption of the War Loan, but for various military and naval purposes. A time might come when it would be necessary for the banks to tighten the strings of their purses, but the present state of the national economy required exactly the opposite policy. The Nippon Ginko had just established branches at Sapporo and Hakodate for the purpose of meeting the demand for accommodation in the north. In conclusion, Mr. Yamamoto asked his hearers to use their judgment and discretion in promoting the distribution of money from the centre to the respective localities, for the success of the new policy inaugurated by the Nippon Ginko depended largely upon the manner in which the practical work of distribution was carried out.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

Concerning Count Matsukata's decision to remain in the Cabinet, various rumours are circulated. They seem scarcely worthy of notice, being evidently fabrications of politicians disappointed at the step taken by the Minister of Finance. One story, however, may be referred to, namely, that, among the conditions on which he has consented to remain in office, is included the opening of an extraordinary session of the Diet. Those that circulate this report seem to take it for granted that the Cabinet has decided to convene an extraordinary session. Of course the Ministers of State have never declared that such a step will not be taken, but it was orginally reported on good authority that time being required to elaborate the Naval and Military Bills demanded by the exigencies of the era, it would be impossible to assemble the Diet at an early date. Whether it has since been found possible to push the drafting of these Bills sufficiently for such a purpose we can not say.

Viscount Torio's appointment as a Privy Councillor causes some surprise. He has always been regarded as a free lance in the House of Peers, by no means well affected toward the present Cabinet. He is an interesting figure in that House, though eccentric and inconsistent at times. One of the most eloquent and ready speakers, he is always listened to with respect and pleasure by members of all parties and factions. On several occasions he has been the chief hope of the Opposition politicians, who are very anxious to obtain friends in the Upper House. Hence his retirement from a parliamentary career—for Privy Councillors are not permitted to sit in either House—has caused some surprise and considerable disappointment. Apparently by way of revenge, the Opposition say that his entrance into the Privy Council may be regarded as his political demise.

The projectors of the recently dissolved anti-Cabinet agitation have been arraigned before the District Court of Shiba on a charge of violating the Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations. According to that law, notice of the formation of a political association must be given to the police authorities within a specified period of time. The projectors of the movement in question held repeated conferences, adopted resolutions, issued manifestoes, and in various other respects acted exactly like an organized political body. But they did not give the required notice to the police. Their defence is that they did not organize any political association, and consequently did not come under the scope of the Law in question. The public procurators think otherwise, and have instituted proceedings against these politicians. The case is fixed for to-day (29th). Concerning the point at issue, namely, whether or no the recent agitation included essentials of a political association, much may be said on both sides, and the case has excited considerable interest not only in political, but also in legal circles.

With regard to the failure of the above mentioned agitation—for there is no doubt that it has been a failure—the *Kokumin Shimbun* offers two explanations. First, that the projectors neglected to make it clear that the object of the coalition was not primarily destructive, but essentially constructive; and secondly, that they also did not take sufficient pains to remove the misconception that the whole of the Cabinet was to be held responsible for the return of Liaotung, whereas the true object of the agitation was to demand the resignation of only a section of the Ministers. Had the latter fact been made known from the outset in an unmistakable manner, our contemporary believes that the movement would have been cordially welcomed by many who stood indifferent. The *Kokumin* ought to recognize the absurdity of holding only one or two Ministers responsible for a measure of such grave importance as the return of the Liaotung Peninsula.

Of the projectors of the anti-Cabinet agitation, those that do not belong to any of the existing parties have decided to organize a new association under the name of *Doshi-kai* (Association of Men of Similar Views). The programme is very simple, namely, the elevation of the nation's prestige. The principal members of the new party are Messrs. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Shiga Shigetaka, Suzuki Manjiro, and Mori Hajimu. Such seems to be the sole result of a movement that was to unite the whole Opposition parties under a single banner. It is surely a curious phenomenon that an agitation for party amalgamation has ended in adding a new party to those already existing.

Count Yamagata, who is recruiting his health at Oiso, is reported to be hale and busy. The *Chuo Shimbun* tells us that he is arranging his journal of pre-Restoration days for publication. It will no doubt be an interesting work.

The development of the resources of Hokkaido is attracting much attention. The number of emigrants is yearly increasing. Thus, while the population at the end of 1893 was 510,000, it became 600,000 by the end of last year. The increase is still more remarkable this year. It is expected by the authorities that the population of the island will soon reach a million. Mr. Kitagaki, Chief of the Hokkaido Administration Board, is reported to have submitted to the Minister of Home Affairs a scheme for further developing the resources of the island and enlarging the scope of the Board. The paper is now undergoing examination in the Home Office.

With characteristic tenacity, the *Jiji Shimpo* returns again and again to discuss the question of an alliance between Japan and England. In its latest article on this subject, it calls attention to a circumstance that has been noticed in these columns more than once, namely, that the action of Russia, Germany, and France with respect to the Liaotung peninsula has had a salutary effect upon the attitude of the Japanese toward foreigners in general. Whether the proposed Anglo-Japanese alliance, now very popular with the Japanese, will or will not lead to any practical result, is more than our contemporary can predict. But it is glad that one beneficial result has followed from the discussion of the question of foreign alliances. The changed aspect of the country's foreign relations has entirely swept away whatever anti-foreign sentiments may have lingered in the recesses of conservative minds. Our contemporary is also convinced that the relations between the Japanese and foreign residents will hereafter become frank and cordial. The latest statistics about the foreigners in Japan are as follow:—Englishmen, 1,780; Americans, 940; Germans, 490; and Frenchmen, 390. As to the Russians, their total number does not much exceed 100. Apart from diplomatic reasons, the present growth of friendly feeling between England and Japan is hailed with genuine joy by our contemporary, seeing that the English constitute the great majority of the foreign residents, whereas the Russians are so few that their presence need not be taken into account.

Some folks advocate the removal of the capital to Osaka, or still farther west to suit the requirements of the south-westerly expansion of the Empire. The *Keizai Zasshi* is opposed to this project. It is aware that, had the capital been nearer to the continent of Asia, it would have attained a far greater degree of commercial prosperity. But the removal would involve an expenditure of money so vast as to more than counterbalance the benefits expected from the measure. Moreover, the *Keizai* think that Tokyo is better situated than any port in the south-western part of the empire from a military point of view; for there are few places in Tokyo's vicinity where a foreign enemy could effect a landing, while such facilities are more numerous west of Osaka. Instead of removing the capital, the *Keizai* thinks it a better policy to remedy the causes that make Tokyo an inconvenient centre of politics and commerce. The first step in that direction is the construction of a harbour in Tokyo. Were that done, it would be possible, among other things, to ship troops, provisions, and ammunition directly from the capital, instead of collecting them at Ujina. Secondly, the central railway line—connecting Tokyo with Nagoya through Kofu and the Southern part of Shinano—should be completed as speedily as possible. Thirdly and lastly, the freight and passenger rates over the Government lines should be reduced by 50 per cent. Most of the money spent by the Government in connection with the recent war has gone into the pockets of business men in Osaka and west of it, and very few benefits have been obtained by the citizens of Tokyo. One of the causes of this is to be sought in the fact that the costliness of travelling between Tokyo and Osaka prevented smaller merchants from going to the capital to get what they wanted.

The appointment of Viscount Torio to the Privy Council has led to a rumour that several others members of the Upper House will receive official appointments. It is reported, for instance, that Viscount Tani will be appointed Minister of the Imperial Household, that Prince Konoye, will be accredited to a European Court, and that Viscount Soga will become President of the Nobles College.

Various attempts are made to impart an appearance of undiminished vitality to the anti-Cabinet agitation that has been so vigorously suppressed by the Authorities. All efforts to hold political meetings having been resolutely prevented by the police, the projectors of the agitation now advocate the holding of a grand social reunion of men entertaining the same political views. Moreover, a number of Members of the House of Representatives, who are in sympathy with the anti-Government movement, met on the 4th instant in the Maple Club, Shiba, Tokyo, to discuss various important questions relating to the policy to be pursued in the coming session of the Diet. Another scheme conceived by the enemies of the Ministry is the formation of a grand journalistic league. Such a league, organized last year, was dissolved by the Authorities as being injurious to good order. Taught by that experience, the projectors propose on this occasion to avoid all outward semblance of combination, so as to afford no pretext for police interference. But it is scarcely conceivable that a large number of newspapers, published in different parts of the country, can be combined in such an innocent-looking fashion. After all, these projects are but devices to make men believe that the anti-Cabinet agitation has not lost its vitality.

The necessity of constructing railways through the Provinces on the coast of the Sea of Japan, is much discussed. The *Kokkai*, writing on this topic, remarks that, although the diplomatic relations between Japan and Russia are friendly, important measures of defence must not on that account be neglected, and that among such measures, one of the most urgent is the connection of important points on the northern coast. Various lines are in course of construction in those regions, but more must be laid out as quickly as possible. As to Hokkaido, our contemporary observes with satisfaction that a line connecting Otaru with Hakodate is about to be built by a private company, while the Government projects a trunk line connecting Sapporo with Nemuro in the extreme north of the island. The *Kokkai* hopes that the Diet will not refuse to sanction this line.

The conduct of the Police Inspectors at the lecture meeting of the anti-Cabinet politicians on the 30th ultimo has evoked severe criticism in the columns of the metropolitan papers. Especially vehement is the condemnation of the police in connection with the suspension of Mr. Shimada Saburo's speech. Mr. Shimada had just commenced to read an Imperial Rescript when he was ordered to descend from the platform. In this instance the police officials may have been a little hasty, but there could be no doubt that the speaker was about to discuss the forbidden subject, namely, the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula.

The question of the terms upon which the return of the Liaotung Peninsula is to be effected,

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has been almost exhausted by Japanese writers. Nevertheless, the public being still without information as to the time when the negotiations are to be opened with China, a certain amount of anxiety is evinced. It is apprehended that even a temporary occupation of the peninsula by Japan may provoke another protest from the three European Powers. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, however, sees little danger of such a protest being made. Germany has never been prepared to go to the length of war with Japan; and her zeal for the Triple Alliance has of late visibly cooled. As to France, she was even less enthusiastic than Germany. She gave her nominal assistance to Russia because she wanted the latter's cōoperation in her Egyptian policy. The *Kokumin* thinks that, if Russia refuses to help the French in driving the English out of Egypt, that will be the end of the Franco-Russian alliance. If, again, France secures her ally's assistance in her Egyptian policy and carries out that policy earnestly, she will have little reserve force for a campaign in these waters. Thus, in either event, France is not likely to join Russia in a possible collision with this country. With Russia alone, Japan will know how to deal; but Russia, in our contemporary's opinion, is not rash enough to protest, single-handed, against a temporary occupation of Liaotung by Japan. Neither has Russia any pretext for offering such a protest, for, by expressing itself satisfied with Japan's promise to renounce the permanent possession of the peninsula, the Russian Government virtually recognized Japan's right to adopt any measure short of permanent possession. The *Kokumin*, therefore, advises the Cabinet to demand an increase of the indemnity and the occupation of the peninsula for 15 years. Such a stay is absolutely necessary as a guarantee not only against a possible breach of faith on the part of China, but also against "a still greater contingency that is instinctively felt by the Japanese."

It is now reported that the *Doshi-kai*, the new political association whose organization was planned by the leaders of the recently suppressed anti-Cabinet agitation, will not come into existence. The avowed reason is that the projectors apprehend its dissolution by the Government. But the *Chuo Shimbun* professes to know the true reason, which is as follows. When it was decided to organize the new party, application for membership was suddenly made by a large number of men who are under the immediate control of Count Goto, such, for instance, as Messrs. Takahashi Chuji, Inagaki Shimesu, Yasuoka Yukichi, Ayai Takeo, and so forth. This roused the suspicion of the projectors, Messrs. Taguchi, Shiga, Suzuki and a few others who, by piecing together various circumstances that had hitherto escaped their notice and making fresh investigations, were startled by the humiliating discovery that they had been the unconscious instruments of an ambitious conspiracy on the part of Count Goto. The memory of the fate of the *Daido Danketsu*, seven years ago, being still fresh in their minds, they thought it unsafe to be associated with the Count, and consequently decided to abandon the project of forming a new party. Such is the explanation offered by the *Chuo*. But the projectors of the *Doshikai* must have been aware from the first that there was among them a personal follower of Count Goto, namely, Mr. Mori Hajime, and we find it difficult to suppose that they would have complacently allowed themselves to be guided by him, had they entertained so much distrust of the Count.

Count Goto, in an interview with a certain newspaper representative, is stated to have avowed his desire to go to Korea as Japanese Minister. He said that he knew perfectly well how to coin the hearts of the Koreans. All that he wants is money and the consent of Count Ito. The former he has no doubt of being able to obtain, but as to the latter he is very uncertain. Alluding to the rumour that he was secretly pulling the strings behind the curtain in the recent drama of opposition to the Cabinet, he is reported to have strongly denied the accusation, alleging that, although subjected to much pursuasion, he did not allow himself to be led away.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

According to investigations made in the Department of Finance, the Government and Bank notes in circulation at the end of April and May were as follow:—

	End of May. Yen.	End of April. Yen.	Decrease. Yen.
Government paper money of 1 *yen* and higher denominations	9,516,024.000...	9,798,524,000...	282,500.000
Government paper money of 50 *sen* and lower denominations.	2,895,311.750...	2,995,311.750...	100,000.000
Totals	12,411,335.570...	12,793,835 750...	382,500.000
Bank Notes	21,219,719.000...	21,219,719.000...	—
Notes of those Banks which have been closed	78,655.500...	78,655.500...	—
Totals	21,298,374.500...	21,298,374.500...	—
Grand Totals	33,709,710.250...	34,092,210.250...	382,500.000

Adding to the above mentioned total (*yen* 33,709,410.250) the amount of the convertible notes in circulation at the date, namely, *yen* 119,811,204, the aggregate sum of paper currency in circulation at the end of May last was *yen* 153,520,914.250. The following table shows the volume of currency in circulation for the past six years:—

	Yen.
May 31st, 1895	153,520,914.250
May 31st, 1894	147,039,315.250
May 31st, 1893	142,297,435.850
May 31st, 1892	132,980,839.900
May 31st, 1891	125,762,049.400
May 31st. 1890	131,832,715.400

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* informs us that a project is on foot in Kobe for the establishment of a bank, with a capital of 1,000,000 *yen*, under the name of the Nippon Boyeki Ginko (Japan Trade Bank). The object of the projected corporation is to afford facilities to the import and export business of the country. The projectors are the leading merchants of Kyoto, and the scheme has obtained the support of Messrs. Hirose Mitsumasa and Mitsumura Riso of Kobe, Messrs. Tanaka Ichibei and Matsumoto Jutaro of Osaka, and Mr. Shimogo Dembei of the province of Omi. Nearly one-third of the capital will be supplied by the business men of Kobe. The inauguration of another banking enterprise is reported from Hyogo, its projectors being Messrs. Sawada Seibei, Kawanishi Seibei, Sawano Sadashichi, and Kashiwagi Sobei. Their original plan was to fix the capital at 200,000 *yen*, but Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro having joined the enterprise, the amount has been increased to 1,000,000 *yen*.

The same journal states that there is a project among the business men of the Capital to establish a big industrial company in Formosa. The affair is said to have so far matured that a public announcement may be expected in a few days.

The bankers, merchants, and manufacturers of Kyushu 250 in all, recently assembled in Fukuoka to consider various questions relating to the commercial development of the southern island. With the exception of No. 8, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1.—That the port of Moji be made a special port of export.

2.—That a large warehouse company be established at Moji.

3.—That steps be taken to secure the smooth working of the economic machinery of Kyushu.

4.—That a Kyushu Central Bank be established.

5.—That an industrial association, named the *Chinzei Kyokai*, be established for the promotion of industry in Kyushu.

7.—That Kagoshima be made a special port of export.

8.—That the railway be extended to Kagoshima.

9.—That Karatsu, in the province of Hizen, be made a special port for export.

10.—That the regulations of the *Chinzei Kyokai* be drawn up.

The task of making the necessary investigations in order to carry out these resolutions, was entrusted to a commission composed of three commissioners from each Prefecture in Kyushu.

The continuance of cool weather causes considerable anxiety to the sericulturists of the Kwanto Provinces. A correspondent of the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, writing from Mayebashi, states that in the neighbourhood of that place sericulturists have given up all hope of a plentiful crop. He believes that the weather may have proved equally injurious in the North-Eastern Provinces. At all events, it now seems probable that the silk crop will not be so good this year as had been expected.

Insufficiency of steamers for purposes of coastwise carriage during the recent war caused a rise of freight charges by as much as from thirty to forty per cent. But of late the rate has gradually fallen. At present the charge for herring guano is 100 *yen* per 100 *koku* from Otaru to Osaka, and 60 *yen* from Otaru and Yokohama. Most of the ships requisitioned by the Government in connection with the war will be disengaged by the end of August, provided that no unexpected emergency requires their continued retention for State service. It is expected, therefore, that freight will undergo further reductions about that time. In anticipation of such a result, there is a tendency among merchants to postpone the shipment of goods.

The Bank of Japan has decided to pursue the policy of affording as much accommodation as possible to business men. In pursuance of that resolve, the Bank is said to have issued convertible notes considerably in excess of the prescribed limit. At the end of last week the excess reached 7,587,023 *yen*, an increase of 4,504,647 as compared with the figure for the preceding week. This great increase is attributed to a general need of funds to settle half-yearly accounts and to pay the instalment of the War Loan falling due at the end of June. It is believed that, in the course of the present month, the amount of convertible notes over and above the prescribed limit will decrease considerably, inasmuch as the demand for money will be less.

The *Jiyu Shimbun* states that Count Soyejima has been appointed President of the Japan-Russia Industrial Association (*Nichi-Ro Jitsugyo Kyokai*), which was organized last year for the purpose of promoting commerce between the two countries. Viscount Enomoto, Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke, and Governor Miura had been requested to accept the post, but they all declined. The regulations of the Association have been translated into Russian by Mr. Suzuki Otohei, an interpreter of the Russian Legation. Letters, it is further stated, will shortly be addressed, through Mr. Hitrovo, to the principal manufacturers and merchants in Russia inviting them to join the Association.

The prosperous condition of the silk trade is viewed with universal satisfaction. In spite of the damage caused by the recent inclement weather, the *Shogyo Shimpo* still believes that the crop of cocoons will show an average increase of from 20 to 30 per cent. when compared with that of last year. Consequently, the quantity of silk produced throughout the country will be from 120,000 to 130,000 bales. Estimating the quantity to be exported at 120,000 bales, or 6,750,000 catties, at an average price of 850 *yen* per 100 catties, this year's silk trade will realise the gross amount of 57,375,000 *yen*. Subtracting from this amount the cost of production, insurance, commission, and so forth, the net profit to the silk producers is estimated at 13,875,000 *yen*. It may be interesting to reproduce here the cost of production based on experience of silk producers of Suwa in the Province of Shinano. It is as follows:—

Cost of Production per Bale.	Yen.
Cost of raw cocoons	306.00
Wages of female reelers at 20 sen per diem each	24.20
Board of female reelers	8.80
Wages and board of male labourers	6.00
Cost of fuel	9.00
Miscellaneous	4.00
Insurance, transportation, hypothecation	4.50
Total	362.50

The *Shogyo* thinks that interest on capital, commission paid to dealers, and the *kankan*

fee, need not be considered for they are more than balanced by the value of the waste silk. The above profit, realised by the silk trade, will have all come into the pockets of the local producers by February or March next, and will give a powerful impetus to the reviving prosperity of business throughout the country.

The probable establishment by the English of cotton factories in China, in virtue of the Shimonoseki Treaty, is causing considerable anxiety to Japanese cotton manufacturers. The united guild of the cotton spinning factories in Osaka recently decided to send a commission to China to make investigations *in loco* about the prospect of erecting factories in that country. The manufacturers of Tokyo also intend to send a similar commission.

FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

The news that official allusion has, for the first time, been made to the Franco-Russian alliance in the Chamber of Deputies, naturally excites much comment in Tokyo, and much enthusiasm among those directly concerned. Last autumn, *réunions* at which Frenchmen and Russians alone were present, constituted quite a social feature in the capital, and the intelligence just telegraphed from Paris seems to have revived this particular and decidedly genial species of demonstration. Rumour has it that the bumpers drained on England's account at these festive meetings are not filled with overkindly sentiments. How should they indeed? Powers unfortunate enough to be compelled to strike hands despite divergent interests and unforgotten quarrels, may well contemplate with envy, amounting to dislike, the attitude of independence that Great Britain is able to maintain.

BAPTISM OF COUNTESS COUDENHOVE.

The ceremony of administering the sacrament of baptism to Countess Coudenhove took place in the Tsukiji Cathedral on the morning of the 1st instant. The Cathedral was crowded with friends and acquaintances, and the whole affair was very imposing. The Countess, wearing a costume of pink brocade that became her admirably, performed her part in the ceremony with grace and self-possession. His Grace Archbishop Osouf delivered an address full of kind sympathy and gentle thoughts, concluding with an expression of hope that his hearers might soon re-assemble for a similar purpose. It need scarcely be added that the organ in Chevalier de Kontski's hands and the singing of the "Ave Maria" by Mr. Braccialini were fully worthy of the occasion.

CHOLERA IN TOKYO.

Cholera first made its appearance in the Capital on the 24th of May, and has since gradually increased until 20 new cases were reported on Wednesday last. It being feared that the Hospital at Fukagawa may soon become inadequate to accommodate the increasing patients, the Governor convened an extraordinary session of the Local Assembly on the 2nd inst. to consider a bill for repairing and refitting the three other cholera hospitals at Okubo, Komagome, and Hiroo. These hospitals being temporary sheds erected some years ago, require extensive repairs, cost of which, together with that of engaging physicians and purchasing medicines and so forth, was originally put at 27,005 *yen*. The Standing Committee, however, deeming it needless to engage physicians and collect medicines and other articles before the opening of the hospital became actually necessary, recommended the rejection of the appropriations on these accounts, and the retention of only the items relating to the repairs of existing buildings and the erection of new ones. The Governor pointed out the inadequate character of such a measure, and urged the necessity of having a medical staff in readiness, but the Assembly approved the recommendations of the Standing Committee and voted only 7,026 *yen*.

THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

Writing under this heading, the *Nippon* deprecates the proposed alliance with England, and strongly criticises its countrymen's tendency to attach undue importance to the Siberian Railway from a military point of view and to regard the completion of the line as a direct menace to the safety of the country. In the *Nippon's* opinion, such a view is quite erroneous. The Siberian Railway may be considered in the same light as the Suez Canal. The primary object of the railway may be military, but, after all, it is a highway between Europe and Asia that Russia cannot monopolize for her own purposes. From the very necessity of maintaining it, she will have to throw it open for the use of all nations. There are, continues the *Nippon*, two forces of exactly opposite character at work in human society; namely, a tendency to promote the universal brotherhood of mankind, and a propensity among the nations to fight with each other. The opening of the great trans-Asian railway may doubtless serve the purposes of the latter proclivity, but the line must not on that account be regarded with dislike and apprehension, since it will certainly, at the same time, facilitate the federation of mankind. The *Nippon* refers to the history of the Suez Canal, and severely criticises the conduct of the English Government which employed various devices to prevent the digging of that waterway. Great Britain doubtless feared that the opening of the canal would endanger her Empire of India by providing a route for Russia and France to send their forces eastward. But the result has not justified that apprehension. England is now repeating her mistake in taking an alarmist view of the Siberian Railway. It may, perhaps, suit her purpose to represent the Northern Power as entirely engrossed by the ambition of military conquest, but it can hardly make for Japan's interest to take such a view of Russia's position. It is Japan's mission to convert the Siberian Railway into a means of consolidating the peace of the world. Passing, then, to the question of a foreign alliance, the *Nippon* observes that although the recent diplomatic episode has placed Russia in a position of antagonism to this country, it is important to keep the permanent policy of the empire distinct from temporary considerations. The permanent policy that Japan ought to pursue is to be self-reliant and to uphold the peace of the East. With that aim constantly in sight, it is necessary for her to hold herself aloof from either Russia or England, and to pursue an independent line of action. Instead of dreading, as some elder politicians do in imitation of English newspapers, the completion of the Siberian Railway, Japanese should think how they can turn the new line to their own advantage. One of the best measures they could take would be the construction of a railway running northward from either Fusan or Jinsen to some point on the Siberian line. What is more dangerous to the peace of the Orient than the Siberian Railway, is the big fleet that England keeps in these waters; while the Russian Railway is capable of promoting the common interests of the world, the British fleet in the East can serve no such useful purpose. It is a standing menace to the peace of the Orient. Especially dangerous will be the presence of this fleet when it has the island of Chusan, at the mouth of the Yangtze, for a base. "Speaking frankly," says our contemporary, "Japan ought to take the position of a neutral arbitrator between England and Russia, the two Powers destined to disturb the peace of the East. As to the Siberian Railway, its results will be at least in part like those of the Suez Canal. If anything can endanger the peace of the East, it is certainly the presence of an overwhelming fleet incapable of performing any generally useful function. The acquisition of a station at the mouth of the Yangtze by such a fleet is far more dangerous than the seizure by Russia of a port in the Gulf of Pechili."

DINNER AT THE BRITISH LEGATION.

Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires entertained Admiral Buller, the new Commander-in-Chief on the China and Japan Station, at dinner on the evening of the 1st inst. The guests were Their Excellencies Count Ito, Minister-President of State; Count Saigo, Minister of State for the Navy; Marquis Saionji, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs; Viscount Enomoto, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce; Baron von Gutschmid, Representative of Germany; Mr. E. Dun, Representative of the United States; M. Hitrovo, Representative of Russia; M. Harmand, Representative of France; Count de Bylandt, Representative of the Netherlands; Vice-Admiral Ito; Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of Ceremonies; and Mr. Hara; Vice-Minister of State for War; Mr. Nagasaki, Private Secretary to the Minister of the Imperial Household; Captain Login, R.N.; Mr. Pullen, Lieut. H. Bradshaw, R.N., Mr. R. Paget, Mr. J. H. Gubbins, Mr. J. H. Longford, and Mr. H. G. Parlett.

THE SZECHUAN OUTRAGES.

It is difficult to make out exactly how many missionary establishments have been destroyed in Szechuen. A correspondent of the *China Gazette*, writing from Chungking under date of June 3rd, says:—

The riot, which began at Cheng-tu on 28th May with the destruction of the Canadian Hospital and Mission houses, has since become more disastrous. The mob proceeded to the other Mission houses and have now completely destroyed the China Inland Mission, the American Methodist Episcopal, and the Roman Catholic Mission houses in the city. After three or four days rioting it would appear the Viceroy woke up to his responsibilities, as on Saturday, 1st June, the fifth day from beginning of the riot, a telegram arrived saying "Viceroy now acting." It is probable he waited till he was poked up from Pekin by the action of the British Minister. (Fancy the British Minister poking up anything!)

The Missionaries are still in the Chengtu yamên and are well. A messenger is now on his way to this city with full particulars.

Late news has just come to hand saying the ladies and children are on board boats on their way to Chungking.

A lying Chinese "Service" telegram has been put in circulation starting that the remains of a mutilated male child was found in the ruins of the Mission houses.

This story went all through the province like a firebrand, and is the current report in this city.

The authorities in this city are on the *qui vive*, and spies are out ready to report the first indications of disturbance.

We publish the above verbatim, noting, however, that the silly and wholly unjust allusion to the British Minister discredits the whole of the details. According to the same journal, M. Gerard, the French Representative in Pekin, has taken a very firm course with the Chinese Government. Given *carte blanc* by the Cabinet in Paris, and having a considerable naval force to support his demands, he presented an ultimatum covering not only the Szechuan outrages, but also a number of claims that had been outstanding for some 20 years. Everything was acceded to within the specified time "Amongst the points insisted upon," we read, "are the trial of Liu, the Viceroy of Szechuan, and of all the officials implicated in the recent outrages, before a tribunal at which a French Commissioner will sit; the reinstatement of all French Missions in the places from which they have been driven out in recent years, and the rebuilding of their premises by the Chinese Government. The Missions on the Thibetan frontier are included in the claim." It is extremely difficult to credit the statement that the Viceroy and the officials of Szechuan are to be tried before a tribunal at which a French Commissioner will sit, but we give the account for what it may be worth.

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AN INTERESTING POLITICAL CASE.

The suit instituted against the projectors of the anti-Cabinet agitation, who are charged with violating the Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations, came up for hearing before Judge Yoshii Ryukichi in the Shiba District Court at 9 a.m. on the 29th ultimo. The prosecution was conducted by Public Procurator Matsuda Komao. The defendants were Messrs. Suzuki Shigetoo, Ozaki Yukio, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Taguchi Ukichi, Shiga Shigetaka, and Kudo Kokan. This last named gentleman was unable to attend on account of sickness. With the exception of Mr. Shiga, the accused are all members of House of Representatives. Counsel for the accused were Messrs. Numata Ugenta, Matoba Heiji, Maruyama Meisei, Moriya Konosuke, Matsuo Seijiro, Minato Sengo, and Amano Kinosuke. The court is reported to have been full of eager spectators. The accused were examined one after another in the order mentioned above. In the course of their examination, they sought to ventilate their sentiments about the question of the return of Liaotung, and the Judge's firm suppression of all political digressions evoked loud protests from the barristers engaged, who are all zealous politicians in favour of the agitation out of which the present case originated. The facts elicited are that conferences were held at the Atago-kan on the 1st, 4th, 7th, and 15th of June; that these conferences were attended by from twenty to thirty persons; that at the meeting on the 7th a manifesto was discussed, which was finally adopted at the meeting on the 15th. The accused contended that those conferences were spontaneous gatherings of men who held the same views on certain political questions, that no body could be called a projector, and that the manifesto was not drawn up by any particular person or persons, being simply a spontaneous expression of views held in common by all present. The Public Procurator argued that the facts of the case plainly showed that the accused had really organized a political association, and contended that their negligence to give notice of the fact to the police within three days was a violation of Art. XXI. of the Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations. Counsel for the accused urged that the politicians who assembled at the Atago-Kan had not organized any political association, because they did not either assume any collective name or establish any head-quarters. The Public Procurator, however, thought that a collective name and head-quarters are not essentials of a political association which begins its existence so soon as a number of men unite to take common action on a political question. It was 2.30 p.m. when the trial came to a close, and the Judge announced that judgment would be given at 9 a.m. on the 1st of July.

A singular coincidence is noticed about this case. One of the accused, Mr. Suyehiro, happens to be the introducer in the Diet of the very Law under which he has been now arraigned before a court of law. He is compared to Eto Shimpei, the celebrated rebel, who was beheaded under the very criminal code that he had caused to be compiled in his capacity of Minister of Justice.

The case against the projectors of the anti-Cabinet agitation came to a close on the 29th ultimo, as already related by us, and judgment was delivered on the 1st instant. The defendants, Messrs. Suzuki Shigetoo, Ozaki Yukio, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Taguchi Ukichi, Shiga Shigetaka, and Kudo Kokan, were pronounced guilty of violating the provisions of the Law of Public Meeting and Political Association, in that they had organized a political party and held meetings without complying with the prescribed formalities as to notice and registration. They were fined 20 *yen* each. The action of the police in preventing the continuance of the new party's meetings has thus been endorsed by the finding of a Court of Law.

ANTI-CABINET POLITICAL MEETING IN THE KINKI-KAN.

The anti-Cabinet political meeting held yesterday in the Kinki-Kan, Kanda, was a disappointment both to the speakers and to the audience. Thirteen orators appeared on the platform, but one after another their speeches were interrupted by the police as calculated to disturb public tranquillity. Evidently the police were under instructions to deal summarily with the meeting, for a word or hint hostile to the Cabinet at once evoked a mandate of suspension. Intrinsically the meeting was of no particular interest, but it served as an indication of the Government's resolve to adopt the most determined measures for suppressing the unreasonable agitation fomented by these politicians.

The big hall of the Kinki-Kan was crowded to overflowing. There must have been fully 2,000 hearers, a number due in great part, doubtless, to the fact that no fee was charged for admission, for since the projectors foresaw that their speeches would be quickly suspended by the Police, they deemed it unfair to exact any payment from the audience.

Mr. Iwasaki Manjiro, an ex-M.P. and a deserter from the camp of the Radicals, spoke first. His topic was "A Problem;" but when, after making a few preliminary remarks, he proceeded to observe that the Cabinet had incurred a grave responsibility in connection with the return of the Liaotung peninsula, and must be held accountable for the act, a police-inspector sitting close behind him ordered him to cease his oration.

Next appeared Mr. Takata Sanaye, a Progressionist Member of Parliament, whose reputation is in the ascendant. He took for his theme the "Diplomacy of Count Ito," but in less than five minutes after he had appeared on the platform, he was directed to withdraw, though the precise nature of his objectionable language could not be discerned from the place where our reporter sat. We pass over the speeches, or rather the few words, delivered by the next two speakers, who were cut short on the threshold of their attempt, and come to the address of Mr. Mori Hajime, a member of the Tokyo bar. He professed not to offer any opinion of his own, but undertook to read a few quotations from the lectures of the celebrated Austrian publicist, Stein. Producing a book translated into Japanese, he observed that, as Count Ito himself had written a preface to the work, he must be held to have recognised the opinions of the Austrian jurisconsult. One of the quotations was to the effect that the ruler of a state must be held infallible in matters of diplomacy, and that when any of his subjects are discontented with diplomatic measure taken by the Government, the Ministers of the Crown must be called upon to answer for it. So soon as Mr. Mori proceeded to apply this principle to the case of Japan, he was saved the trouble of continuing his speech.

Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, a member of Parliament for a section of Tokyo and the editor of the *Keisai Zasshi*, followed Mr. Mori. On ascending the platform he was greeted with loud applause. "Thirty-four years ago," observed this much respected politician and economist, "when the Porte oppressed the Bulgarian Christians, Mr. Gladstone raised his voice loudly against the Government of the day for not interfering in favour of the oppressed people, and delivered burning speeches at numerous places in the United Kingdom. Public sentiment being thus roused against the Disraeli Cabinet, it was at last overthrown, and succeeded by a Cabinet with Mr. Gladstone at its head. The course pursued on that occasion by the celebrated English statesman was so thoroughly appreciated by the University of Glasgow that he was elected Rector of that seat of learning. Let us turn now to Japan, and consider how matters stand here. The slightest movement unfriendly to the Government is dealt with in an unsparing manner, and politicians engaged in it are subjected to the most vexatious process of espionage. Is this not derogatory to the Government?" This last expression being considered injurious to public tranquillity, Mr. Taguchi was directed to resume his seat. Mr. Ozaki Yukio, one of the most celebrated Progressionist members of Parliament, next appeared on the platform, and attempted to speak about the relation between Military Strength and Diplomacy. He observed that, it being impossible for any nation to make its military defences sufficiently strong to cope with more than one of its possible enemies—the national finances not permitting greater effort—Japan must keep that point in view, and must remember that it is the function of diplomacy to supplement insufficiency in the military defences. But in that very respect Japan was conspicuously weak. Her diplomacy was still in its childhood, because she had not hitherto experienced any need of diplomatic skill. Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu were still pupils in the school of diplomacy for—Here the inspector ordered Mr. Ozaki to refrain from further remarks. Mr. Kokubo Kihichi, an ex-M.P. and now chairman of the Local Assembly of Ibaraki, appeared on the platform, after another speaker hed been cut short for referring to the return of the Liaotung Peninsula. Mr. Kokubo commenced thus:—"Why are the Japanese Army and Navy so strong? Because they are thoroughly imbued with the spirit of loyalty to the Court. The preservation of that spirit is therefore essential to the strength of the Empire. To preserve it, the Government must strive to keep the Court out of the sphere of politics; must be ready to hold itself answerable for any administrative or diplomatic mistake, must refrain from the slightest attempt to shelter itself behind the ægis of the Sovereign. The incorporation of the Liaotung peninsula into the dominion of Japan was necessary for securing the integrity of Korea, and for maintaining her independence against aggressive designs on the part of either Russia or China. Why was that peninsula returned? Do the Cabinet Ministers hold themselves responsible for it?" Here the speaker received his *quietus*.

Mr. Shiga ascended the platform amid cheers. The title of his subject was, "Three questions of the day;" that is to say, (1) skill in diplomacy, (2) rectitude in diplomacy, and (3) the Emperor's solicitude. He proceeded to dilate on each of these points, but when, in connection with the first, he referred to the return of the peninsula, he was stopped by the Inspector.

Mr. Hatoyama, M.P. for a section of Tokyo, and a noted Progressionist, followed Mr. Shiga. After a few preliminary remarks, he began to read the various Imperial Rescripts issued in connection with the Treaty of Peace, but when he commenced to read the definition of the boundaries of that portion of Manchuria originally ceded by China to Japan, the Police ordered him to proceed no further. Thereupon the audience seemed to become incensed at what they considered a display of excessive severity on the part of the Police. Several began to ask in loud tones why the recital of the text of official documents published by the Government itself should be considered injurious to public peace, and presently the whole audience stood up, clamouring for an explanation. It was a critical moment. A little thing would have precipitated a collision between the hot-headed men and the Police on duty, but the latter, who, evidently apprehensive of some such incident, had attended in force, succeeded in silencing the malcontents.

Mr. Koizuka, a Progressionist member of Parliament, spoke last, but he was interrupted so soon as he began to refer to the peninsula. The names of many other politicians were placarded as intending speakers, but the projectors thought it useless to continue the proceedings, it being evident that the Police were resolved to suspend every address before any comments essential to the agitation could be made.

The meeting opened at half-past 1 p.m. and closed two hours later. It was understood to have been organized by the so-called Strong Policy Party, but we have to note the singular fact that not one politician belonging either to

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the National Unionists or the Constitutional Reformists put in an appearance. It was practically an assembly of Progressionists (*Kaishin-to*) only.

THE MILITARY COOLIES AFFAIR.

The suit instituted in the Shiba Peace Court by a section of the military coolies against the contractors that engaged them—the Hosho-gumi—has been decided in favour of the plaintiffs, and the defendants have been ordered to pay to each coolie a sum of over 17 *yen*, with costs. The application made by the plaintiffs' advocate with regard to the temporary distraint of the property of the President of the Hosho-gumi was also approved by the Court, and sheriffs proceeded, on the day of the decision, to the President's house and executed this part of the judgment. Whether the defendants will submit to the award of the Court is not yet clear. The decision was received with unbounded joy by the plaintiffs, several of whom were present in the body of the Court. They executed a kind of dance of victory outside the building. Their success has inspired new courage in the other coolies, who at first consulted to compromise the trouble for a sum of less than 2 *yen* each. They also now purpose seeking satisfaction by the aid of the law.

The disturbances caused by *soshi* the other day in connection with this affair was incorretly described in our previous statement. The *soshi* were not instigated by the litigants, as then alleged. Their actions had its origin in another cause. It appears that when the coolies that had determined to seek satisfaction by force were clamorously pushing their claim, the President of the Hosho-gumi engaged the services of a number of *soshi*, promising that if they induced the coolies to listen to reason, they should receive a certain sum of money. The *soshi* did succeed, but when they came to distribute the reward, they could not agree about the amount falling to each one's share. A quarrel ensued, and the dissatisfied *soshi* loudly called upon the President to adjudicate their claims. Failing to obtain satisfaction from him, they decided to appeal to force, the result being a general *fracas*. We wonder whether the law can not interfere to prevent the employment of *soshi*. Their avowed avocation is recourse to physical force. For any other purpose they are absolutely useless. Any person employing them, must therefore do so with the object of taking the law into his own hands. That kind of thing should not be permitted in any country where the preservation of public peace and good order is duly considered. Why is it permitted in Japan? If the *soshi* found no employers they would soon die of inanition.

The coolies, engaged by other contractors, that accompanied the First Division—as did those of the Hosho-gumi—being also dissatisfied with the treatment accorded to them by their employers, have resolved, in consideration of the issue of the present case, to appeal to the law for redress. Those of the Yamato-gumi lodged a complaint before the same Court a few days ago against their employers, and following in their wake the coolies of three other firms are about to do the same. The number of contracting companies that supplied coolies to the Tokyo corps was six, and each of them has been, or is about to be, involved in lawsuits. It seems not improbable that the complication may extend to all the contracting firms throughout the country, or that the affair will assume very large dimensions. It is certainly not an edifying spectacle by way of sequel to a victorious war, but nobody will pity the unscrupulous contractors who have sought to rob men that rendered stout service to their country.

According to a Reuter's telegram to the Hongkong papers, Sir W. V. Harcourt and the Ministry entirely shared the responsibility with Mr. Campbell Bannerman on the Army vote, which virtually amounting to a vote of censure, compelled the Government to resign.

COUNT INOUYE INTERVIEWED.

Count Inouye, Japanese Minister to Korea, was interviewed by a representative of the *Kobe Yushin Nippo*, during his sojourn in Kobe *en route* for Tokyo. We cannot vouch for the accuracy of the account published by our contemporary, but we produce its substance for what it may be worth. Speaking first, of Boku Eiko, Count Inouye denied the truth of the rumour that he had turned into an enemy of Japan, and that he had established relations with a certain foreign Minister. He is, said the Count, the same Boku that he was some years ago; but being young and rash, he is very liable to commit blunders. During his long exile in Japan, he experienced great hardships, but did not cultivate his mind by study; his only knowledge of western things having been obtained by intercourse with politicians of various schools. His ideas are therefore necessarily vague and unsettled. On his assumption of an important post in Korea, he at once proceeded to put into practice the dreams formed during his sojourn in Japan; and he is so sanguine in his hope of regenerating Korea that he expects to attain that object in the short space of three or four years. Under these circumstances, it is unavoidable that he should come into serious collision with his colleagues. Though open to the charge of being ignorant, superficial, and rash, he must be acquitted of ingratitude to Japan. As to his relations with the Queen, his object is doubtless to use her as an instrument. But in Count Inouye's opinion, she is the ablest person in Korea, and is more likely to use Boku than to be used by him. Count Inouye more than once strongly warned Boku against the inadvisability of maintaining intimate connections with her, but his advice was not accepted.

Concerning his future course of action, Count Inouye did not impart much information to his visitor. But he is reported to have led the latter to understand that Korea should not be abandoned to herself, and that probably it might become incumbent upon him to go to Korea once more and labour for the benefit of that country. The *Yushin's* representative states that, whatever may be the opinion of the Cabinet, Count Inouye seemed willing to cross the sea once more. In spite of the report about his sickness, he is described as looking healthy and strong.

Alluding to the Korean Queen, Count Inouye did not hesitate to pronounce her the ablest person in the whole country. She is often accused of meddling with politics, but that is an inevitable result of her vast superiority in statesmanship to all the Ministers of the Crown. She is well versed in Chinese learning, and possesses wonderful tact and address. Her manner of treating her subjects as well as the foreign diplomats elicited the unmeasured admiration of Count Inouye. Her strength lies in her power to win the confidence of everybody coming into contact with her, even men of great ability and sagacity finding it very difficult to resist her power of persuasion. On the occasion of Count Inouye's audience with the King immediately after his arrival in Korea, the Queen heard what passed between the two from behind a screen in the next chamber. Having listened for some time, she accosted Count Inouye, and, after expressing her regret that the immemorial usage of the country did not permit her to talk with him face to face, thanked him for the genuine interest he had shown in the welfare of the Kingdom, and presented him with a small pouch of gold brocade made by her own hands, a distinction that she never bestows except upon her best friends. The Japanese Minister observed with a smile that his body was a little too large to be conveniently packed into the pouch; upon which the Queen assured him of the absence of any sinister meaning in the gift and begged him to accept it.

Speaking of Korean statesmen, Count Inouye fails to find any essential difference between them in point of ability. They are equally distinguished by crass ignorance. A suggestive anecdote is told about an interview between Count Inouye and the Tai Wön-kun in the latter's palace of Un-yön, the Tai Wön-kun being then Regent of the kingdom. The Japanese Minister desired to explain his views in the presence of the Tai Wön-kun and the Ministers of State. The Regent objected to this proposal saying that, the Ministers of State being forbidden to take seats in his presence, he would be sorry to cause them to stand while the Japanese Minister was pleased to expatiate upon his ideas. But Count Inouye was not to be put off by such excuses, and as the result of his persistent application, the Tai Wön-kun had to give way, though at the conference he proposed to sit separately behind a screen. At the same interview, the old statesman asked Count Inouye if he liked pictures; to which the latter replied that he was fond of pictures if they were good. Then the Tai Wön-kun promised to paint a picture of an orchid for his guest, but the latter declined the offer, bluntly saying that he did not care for such a thing, having already seen plenty of his host's pictures of orchids. Somewhat put out by this, the Tai Wön-kun offered to entertain Count Inouye at dinner. This, too, was declined by the Count, who told his host that he had come to Korea not to get pictures or entertainments but to assist the country in consolidating its independence, and that, consequently, the best present to him would be the adoption of his views.

The leaders of the Tonghaks, though ignorant like the rest of the Koreans, are stated by Count Inouye to have been men of some ability and great force of character. Count Inouye tried, as far as he could, to save the lives of these men, but they put so little value upon their own lives that they had to be sentenced to death.

He next referred to the intolerable annoyance caused to him and the members of the Korean Cabinet by Japanese adventurers who swarmed in Söul. They had various plans and schemes which they sought to have adopted by the Korean Government, and they demanded special consideration on the ground that they were subjects of an Empire to whose exertions Korea owed her independence. One had a big plan of agricultural reform, another insisted on the adoption of his educational schemes, a third advocated the establishment of banks. But they had no idea as to the method of carrying out their projects.

Lastly, speaking of the Chinese merchants in Korea, Count Inouye expressed surprise at the rapid rate of their increase since the restoration of peace. Though they had gained the victory in the war, the Japanese were about to be defeated in commerce. Count Inouye thinks that there is a natural affinity of character between the Chinese and the Koreans. They get on very amicably with each other. Moreover, the Chinese merchants are zealous and persevering; they cannot help prospering. The Japanese, on the other hand, always treat the Koreans with contempt, a tendency that has increased since the war. Under these circumstances, Japanese merchants trading in the interior of the peninsula can not sucessfully compete with the Chinese. Count Inouye then alluded to an evil that saps the energy of the Japanese residents in Korea, namely, the presence of Japanese women of ill fame, increasing in number month after month. He thinks that the removal of this evil is one of the most important measures for the development of Japanese commerce in Korea.

AUDIENCE OF THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

The Foreign Representatives and the Staffs of the Legations were received in audience by His Majesty the Emperor on the 29th ultimo, for the purpose of congratulating His Majesty on the return of the Imperial Court to the capital. It seems to have been originally contemplated that the whole of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique should be received together, in which case the duty of congratulating the Emperor on behalf of the various States represented would have fallen on the Doyen, Baron von Gutschmid. But His Majesty having signified a desire to receive the Legations separately, the programme was modified in that sense.

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RETROSPECTIVE OBSERVATIONS.

Under the above heading, Mr. Ozaki Yukio, the well-known Progressionist member of the Diet, contributes an interesting article to the June number of the *Taiyo*. Notwithstanding the recent date of the publication, it is evident that the essay was written just after the conclusion of the Peace Treaty at Shimonoseki, and before the combined protest of the three European Powers against the possession by Japan of the Liaotung peninsula became known to the public; for not only does the author make no reference to that important affair, but in one place he speaks of the cession of the district as if it were an accomplished fact. This much must be premised in order to understand the essay clearly.

Mr. Ozaki's comments on the wonderful success of the Japanese arms, and its causes, need not be noticed, for the topic is somewhat hackneyed and his observations contain nothing new. There is, however, one point worthy of reference in his remarks upon the Japanese nation's unprecedented unanimity of view with respect to the war. It was this union of hearts, among other circumstances that so powerfully contributed to the brilliant victories of the Japanese forces on land and sea. Indeed, the readiness with which the Japanese, whatever be their internal dissensions and mutual animosities, can unite against a foreign foe, is one of the most remarkable traits of their national character. The Chinese Representative in Japan previously to the breaking out of the war, is understood to have assured Viceroy Li that, in the present state of party politics in this country, the Cabinet would be incapable of declaring war against a foreign country, and that, even if it did so it, would be unable to obtain the support of the people. He did not know the character of the Japanese, and his mistake proved disastrous for his country. The point, however, that we desire to notice is not the remarkable capacity of the Japanese for union, but the inference suggested by the circumstance. We have pointed out in these columns time and again the great influence exercised on the minds of the Japanese by the fashion of the hour. This truth is recognized by Mr. Ozaki. He says that, although patriotism was at the bottom of the marked power of combination shown by the Japanese during the war, their unanimity was part of the result of the national propensity to follow the fashion. There must have been some who secretly condemned the war whether from selfish considerations, or from abhorrence of war in general, or from reasons of policy, or from reverence for the sages and philosophers of ancient China. But no section of these persons dared to ventilate their opinion: they feared to differ from what was fashionable in society. Perhaps Mr. Ozaki goes a little too far in discussing this feature of the national character, but we are constrained to think that there is much truth in his remarks, and it is well that attention should be directed to the matter by a writer of his eminence and weight.

He then proceeds to review the different stages through which the attitude of Japan's mind toward foreign countries has passed since the Restoration. He discovers four distinct stages; namely, first, the age of self-conceit; secondly, the age of self-humiliation; thirdly, the age of reaction; and fourthly, the age of conscious strength. During the age of self-conceit, extending from the Restoration to the return of the Iwakura Mission from the West in 1873, the Japanese imagined themselves a very strong nation and were ambitious of entering upon a career of continental conquest. They also thought that they could easily accomplish the object of Treaty Revision. Iwakura and his fellow-envoys came back strongly impressed with the splendour of European civilization, and their return is said to have marked the inauguration of an era of self-humiliation, which reached its highest point in 1885-1886. During this period, the consciousness of their inferiority in civilization and power led the Japanese to over-estimate the superiority of European peoples. Mr. Ozaki contends that this tendency was originated and encouraged by those in office. Whenever any influential functionary showed symptoms of revolt against the fashion, he was at once ordered to make a tour in Europe and America. A large number of officials were in this way sent to the Occident, the idea being that they would thus discover the folly of opposing the process of denationalization then going on in their country under official patronage. But singularly enough, it was principally by these officials, on their return, that a powerful reaction was inaugurated against the indiscriminate introduction of European customs and institutions. The reaction was in harmony with the spirit of the time. It soon became the ruling characteristic of the third period, extending from 1885-1886 to the beginning of the recent war. Unquestionally it pushed the people to some extravagant extremes but that it proved, on the whole, distinctly beneficial, is beyond question. The final period of conscious strength commenced, according to Mr. Ozaki, a little previously to the recent war, as may be seen from the unanimity of all the political parties in the beginning of last summer as to the necessity of a decided policy toward Korea, even at the risk of war with China. Fortunately the war did not take place in any of the preceding periods, that of self-humiliation, for instance, since then the nation could not have been so perfectly united. Another happy circumstance about the war is that it broke out at a time when the national coffers contained a surplus of 26 million *yen*, in consequence of administrative reforms carried out in deference to the suggestions of the Opposition parties.

Mr. Ozaki further considers the position occupied by Japan among the nations of the world after her victories over China. If European Powers misunderstood China before the war, they were equally ill-informed as to the true character of Japan. Consequently when hostilities broke out between the two empires, they all believed that the smaller State would prove no match for the larger. Here, however, Mr. Ozaki shows himself the victim of a curious delusion. He maintains that the Russian press opposed the cession of territory on the mainland of China, apparently indifferent to the offence they thus gave to the Japanese, because they believed China to be the more formidable Power. Assuredly the prevailing interpretation of the utterances of the Russian press is quite the reverse of that suggested by Mr. Ozaki. Japan, he proceeds to say, now holds a unique position in the East, and in proportion to the rise of her prestige, she has excited the envy and dislike of European Powers. She is, therefore, in a situation of immense difficulty. But she is able to take care of herself. Her Military and Naval forces are sufficient to defy the combination of any two great Powers, a declaration that at once establishes Mr. Ozaki's title to be counted a leader of thought in this era of "conscious strength." His chief anxiety is about the future of China. She is decrepit and corrupt, and what is more, her decrepitude and corruption have been disclosed to European Powers. That disclosure no less than the discovery of a new Power in Japan, will impart a fresh and vigorous impetus to Europe's mania for territorial aggrandizement in the East, and facilities for the gratification of the mania will probably be afforded by China herself. In her impotent ignorance, she may entrust to Europeans the task of reform and reorganization within her borders. Another danger is the rise of domestic insurrections, such as the Central Government may find itself incompetent to suppress. Thus, unless the keenest possible watch be kept by Japan over the course of events in the East, and prompt action be taken in case of emergency, Mr. Ozaki fears that China, one of these days, may pass out of the hands of Asiatic races. In conclusion, he strongly urges the Administration to avail itself of the present unique opportunity for removing the evils of personal influence, and he recommends a firm union between the Government and the people for carrying out the important measures that demand immediate attention.

FORMOSA NEWS.

We are without any further news from Formosa. Assuming that the Second Brigade of the Guards left Port Arthur on the 15th ult. for Tainan, intelligence of their arrival there may be expected very soon. It would seem that the Black Flag leader Liu has his headquarters at Tainan, and that he is resolved to offer a stubborn resistance. It will be interesting to see whether this redoubtable chieftain can induce his men to fight better than their compatriots did in the northern part of the island. A correspondent of the *Hongkong Daily Press*, writing from Tainan, under date of June 17th, says:—

Affairs here assumed such a serious aspect on Thursday afternoon, the 13th inst., owing to the threatening attitude of the Black Flags, that Captain Winsloe, of H.M.S. *Spartan*, decided to send to Hongkong for assistance. Accordingly arrangements were made to despatch the steamer *Wenchow*, in port at the time, to Amoy with telegrams for the Commodore, and she left on Friday evening, returning here on Sunday morning. All feel under great obligation to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, for allowing the *Wenchow* to proceed. On Sunday morning the strain was much intensified by a demand from the rebels that the British guard should be withdrawn. Without more assistance it is doubtful if the fifty odd men in the settlement could have held their own against an organised attack, and the situation became very grave. To the satisfaction of everyone H.M.S. *Rainbow* appeared on the horizon coming at full-speed, and she dropped anchor at 3 p.m., just forty-five hours from the time the *Wenchow* left this for Amoy, which speaks well for all concerned in this work of relief. Great excitement prevailed when it was reported that the forts were clearing for action, and that the *Rainbow* and *Spartan* were both ready to reply if attacked. Mr. Hurt, H.M. Consul, promptly interviewed an officer in charge of a detachment of Black Flags, who said that the *Rainbow* was Japanese and that they were determined to fire. On receiving a guarantee from the Consul that such was not the case, a messenger was despatched to the fort with instructions to stay proceedings. General Liu was then notified that the marines could not be withdrawn and that further reinforcements would be landed. Just before dark, in order to avoid too much display, 60 marines were landed under the command of Captains Shubrik and Brabazon, and 25 blue jackets under the command of Lieut. Grouse. It was feared that resistance would be offered, but all were safely landed on the bund by eight o'clock and billeted in different parts of the settlement.

Utter confusion prevails, and the steamers *Whampoa*, *Wenchow*, and *Bygdo* are all detained owing to the scarcity of boats and coolies to work cargo. It is hoped that actual danger is now past, but, of course, there will be further trouble when the Japanese arrive. The fort fired at a Japanese cruiser last week, without taking effect, and it appears certain that Liu is determined to oppose the invading force when they come to take possession.

All ladies and children are on board the steamer *Bygdo* in the roadstead.

In the same journal of the 21st June we find the following:—

By telegram received by the Naval Authorities from Formosa yesterday morning, *vid* Amoy, the situation in Anping remain unchanged. H.M.S. *Redbreast* having coaled at Amoy was to return to Anping yesterday evening. The Douglas steamer *Hailoong* brings confirmatory news of the peace which has been established at Tamsui by the Japanese. Trade is being carried on as formerly. At first there was a slight hitch, as the Chinese showed much reluctance to pay duties in conformity with the Japanese tariff, but the difficulty was overcome by the Chinese paying the duties "under protest." Several missionary ladies left Tainanfoo in the *Bygdo* and landed at Amoy, while the daughters of Dr. Myers, of Tainanfoo, left that port in H.M.S. *Tweed*. Many refugee soldiers also left in the *Bygdo* and were conveyed to Amoy.

The latest letters from Taipeh, published in Japanese papers, are dated June 23rd. At that date, no report had yet been received from a detachment sent on the 19th ultimo to reduce Sin-chuh, a town 40 miles south of Taipeh, as the crow flies. This force consisted of a battalion of the 2nd Regiment and two companies, in all 1,200 strong. Before its despatch, a company had been sent on a reconnoitering

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expedition. It proceeded, despite great difficulties, to a point within sight of the town of Sin-chuh, but owing to the enemy's strength it could not push any farther. This party brought back intelligence, obtained from Chinese spies, that the enemy's forces in Sin-chuh aggregated about 2,000. It was also ascertained that the insurgents were hourly expecting the arrival of Liu, at the head of five battalians of infantry, which he had collected in Chang-hua. The reconnoitering company was repeatedly surrounded by bodies of insurgents, but always succeeded in extricating itself by a bold charge.

It is believed by the correspondents that the town of Sin-chuh must have been occupied by the Japanese troops on the 22nd or 23rd of June, but telegraphic communication had been interrupted by the insurgents, who also threatened to cut the commissariat line in the rear of the advancing detachment. It was necessary in consequence, to send a company by way of reinforcement to an intermediate station.

From Kelung comes a report that the insurgents are mustering in force in the vicinity of the place where the Japanese army originally landed. Scouts sent to that locality are said to have come back with news that the rebels had mustered there in considerable numbers.

No report has been received about the movements of the Second Brigade of the Imperial Guards, which was sent to the south of the island, leaving Port Arthur on the 15th ultimo.

The following telegram, signed by Governor-General Viscount Kabayama and dated Tamsui 2 p.m. July 2nd, has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo:—

"Reports thus far received about the movements of the enemy in the direction of Sin-chu are as follow. The enemy's leader, Liu, fled from Sin-chu to Chang-hwa on the 22nd of June, at the head of 1,000 troops. The leader of a hostile force, 1,000 strong, that came to the defence of Sin-chu from the direction of Miao-li on the 25th ultimo, was named Ko Nanken (?). In the vicinity of Heong-san are stationed four or five hundred of the enemy, and a body of raw recruits occupies a position mid-way between Takoham and Sin-chu. The villages in this neighbourhood are the quarters of a race of volunteers called *Hakka*, who cause much annoyance to the people of the locality. It is reported that 2,000 of these volunteers are at Sin-bu and in its vicinity, and that another large force of them is assembled in the neighbourhood of Miao-li. These troops are young recruits marked on their breasts with the ideographs 義民 (volunteers). Men not thus marked are not allowed to go about, and are sometimes shot down. These troops are under the command of Wa Teisai and two other leaders. The volunteers recruited from the vicinity of Miao-li are stationed at Sin-bu and Miao-li. These are the men that threaten to cut our commissariat line. They hide themselves in the villages and make raids from thence. In Tai-nan and its vicinity, Liu Yung-fu is at the head of over 10,000 troops. He is reported to have issued a proclamation promising the people immunity from taxation for three years, and to be otherwise endevouring to win their good will. He seems to be engaged in adopting various defensive measures."

KOREAN NEWS.

Latest intelligence from Korea points to a cooling of the alleged friendship between Boku Eiko and the Queen. That of course, would mean the decline of Boku's influence in the Government. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the following telegrams were received in the Capital on Saturday last:—

The attempt to displace the guards of the Palace by troops trained under the new system has given offence to the King, who indignantly declared that it was an act of disloyalty to change the existing regulations and remove His Majesty's body guards. Premier Boku Teiyo thereupon tendered his resignation. On the following day, Boku Eiko had an audience with the King, and his explanations seem to have somewhat soothed the latter's wrath. The situation is uncertain.

Of late the relations between the Queen and Boku Eiko are not satisfactory; and the King is also inclined to treat him with less consideration. A crisis is impending in the political situation.

The telegram does not give the date of the incident about the Palace Guards, but it must have been a recent occurence.

According to a letter from Söul, a party antagonistic to Japan has arisen in the Korean Government. This party nominally advocates the study of the English language, but its real object is believed to be opposition to Japanese influence. It includes officials that have visited Europe or America. Boku Eiko, who is now believed to be friendly to Japan, heads the other party which insists upon the utility of the Japanese language as the medium through which modern civilization must be imbibed by the Koreans. *En passant*, it my be noticed that the schools conducted by Japanese in Söul are in a prosperous condition. The ex-Minister-President, Kim Koshu, is reported to be effectively promoting the success of the schools.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun's* correspondent states that Mr. Sassa Tomofusa, M.P., and Mr. Shiba Shiro, M.P., who had gone to Korea for the special purpose of ascertaining the truth about the alleged combination between Boku Eiko and the Russian Minister, paid a visit to the latter on the 15th of June. The following dialogue is said to have taken place between M. Waeber and his guests:—

M. Waeber—As your country has had long intercourse with Korea, the historical relations between the two States include several unhappy episodes. It is well that you should endeavour to effect reforms in Korea, but there is danger that your friendly intentions may cause bad feelings among the people of the country. Japan would do well to be careful in her work of reform here.

Mr. Sassa—Japan's endeavours to regenerate Korea have received the recognition of the world. I do not know what Koreans of the lower class may think, but I am sure that all Koreans having the least sense and judgment appreciate the kindly motives of Japan. History proves that, in spite of one or two unpleasant incidents in their past intercourse, the Japanese and Korean nations have been on friendly terms. Whatever feelings of umbrage may have remained in Korean minds, are now entirely dissipated. Allow me, therefore, to ask you to entertain no uneasiness on Japan's account.

Mr. Shiba—The latest newspapers from Europe contain a statement that your country intends to acquire in the East a port open during all seasons of the year. May I ask you whether there is any truth in that report?

Mr. Waeber—There is no truth in that. Such statements may perhaps be found in English papers. The English are very cunning. They always say bad things about us in their papers, and thereby inflict no small injury upon Russia. The story that Russia intends to obtain such a port is a canard manufactured by the English. Russia does not pursue an aggressive policy. You know that she had not invaded any country during the past ten years. You may conclude from this that Russia has no ambition either to make any conquest or to obtain a port in these waters.

The Russian Minister is represented as having then proceeded to criticise the policy of the English Government. How accurately the interview is reported we can not say of course.

The *Kokkai's* correspondent states that there is a tendency in the Korean Government to dislike the Japanese Advisers. He further mentioned that a large number of Occidental adventurers have come to Söul to get positions in the Korean service.

Söul correspondents of the Tokyo papers report that the new Local Government System was promulgated in the *Official Gazette* of the 20th ult. The country is divided into twenty-three administrative parts under the name of Prefectures (*Fu*), and each Prefecture is subdivided into a number of Districts (*Gun*). In consequence of this reform many local officials will be deprived of their position, and will go to swell the ranks of the anti-Japanese faction.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent states that the actual income of the Government this year will fall far short of the amount estimated. The total Income in the Budget for the current year is 4,468,000 *yen*, of which 3,000,000 *yen* represents the sum borrowed from Japan, the rest being the produce of the land tax, miscellaneous taxes, the tax on ginseng, and customs duties. The machinery for collecting taxes being extremely incomplete, it is expected that it will be impossible to obtain the estimated sum from that source.

The *Kokkai's* correspondent mentions the organization of an association called the *Chosen Kyokai*, composed of the higher officials of the Korean Government and the leading Japanese residents. The object of the association is to promote friendly intercourse between Koreans and Japanese. The first meeting of the association was to have taken place on the 23rd ultimo, when all the Ministers of State were expected to be present.

As an illustration of the absurd rumours circulated in Korea, it is reported that the priests of the mountains expect that an army of half a million braves will be sent next Spring by the Ming Emperor for the rescue of Korea. They do not even know that the Ming dynasty ceased to rule in China three centuries ago.

The number of Korean students sent to Japan since the inauguration of the new régime must be nearly two hundred. The latest intelligence states that several ladies of rank will soon come to Tokyo to learn the art of sewing and the culture of silkworms. The mother and the wife of Li Keikan, the Assistant Chief of Police, are stated be among the number. On their arrival in Tokyo, they will stay for some time with the wife of Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Japanese Adviser to the Korean Government.

The correspondents concur in stating that the relations between Boku Eiko and the Queen are becoming more and more strained. Her Majesty is reported to be engaged in the formation of a Bin (Ming) faction. Bin Eitatsu and Bin Eikan, who are out of office, are said to be acting in close concert with the Queen. A large number of the officials of the Household Department, such as Li Gakukin, Boku Yowa, Kin Shitetsu, and so forth, are believed to belong to the same coterie. Prince Wi-Hwa, Korean Ambassador charged with the duty of expressing thanks to the Japanese Emperor for His Majesty's generous assistance, and Ko Eiki, Korean Minister to Japan, were to leave Söul on the 26th or 27th ultimo.

THE JAPANESE MINISTER TO CHINA.

Letters from correspondents that accompanied Mr. Hayashi to China have just been published in Tokyo. From them we learn that the warship *Izumi Kan*, with the Japanese Minister on board, leaving Port Arthur on 3 p.m. on the 13th ultimo, reached Taku at 11 a.m. the following day. The number of the party was increased at Port Arthur by the addition of Captain Y. Inouye, Imperial Navy, Mr. T. Takasu, a Student Interpreter, and a servant. Before reaching Taku, at about a quarter to four in the morning, the *Izumi* grounded on a shoal, but was soon afloat again and resumed her voyage without damage. On account of her draught, however, she had to drop anchor about 15 miles from the mouth of the Pei-ho, where she was soon besieged by a number of Chinese boats offering vegetables and other things for sale, but neither the Japanese gun-boat *Chokai*, which had been sent to the Pei-ho previously, nor any Chinese launch came out to convey the Minister's party up the river. Early on the morning of the 15th, however, a Chinese launch arrived with two officials on board, who placed their vessel at the service of the Japanese Minister. The party embarked in her at 7 a.m., when a salute was fired by the *Izumi*, and soon afterwards by the Taku forts. At Taku the steamboat was met by two launches specially sent by Viceroy Li to carry the Japanese Mission to Tientsin. Here also the Japanese gunboat *Chokai* was found at anchor. The party then proceeded up the river in the two launches escorted by the *Chokai*. A little way up, a salute with bamboo rockets was fired from

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the left bank, and presently the *Chokai* had to anchor in the middle of the stream, the state of the tide not permitting her to proceed any farther. Shortly before 5 p.m. on the 15th instant, the launches reached Tientsin. On the wharf an escort of some twenty soldiers awaited the coming of the Minister, and accompanied him to the Japanese Consulate, the Minister and Consul Arakawa riding in palanquins, and the rest of the party walking. The road was lined on both sides by a crowd of Chinamen, who were kept in good order by police constables. At the Consulate, another body of twenty soldiers were found acting as guards. The Consulate was in good order, not so much as a pane of glass having been broken. The Japanese Minister and a portion of his suite, including Captain Inouye, I.J.N., Lieut.-Colonel Kamio, I.J.A., and Secretaries Kawasaki, Tei, and Nakajima, took lodgings at the Astor House. The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent says that at the Astor House were staying Mr. Stephen Hart, who had been found by the Japanese army at Port Arthur when it fell into their hands, and Mr. Howie, whose disreputable conduct has made his name a by-word. On the 16th, the Japanese Minister and Consul paid a visit to Viceroy Li, who is said to have treated them with marked consideration. The Viceroy, according to Chinese custom, asked Mr. Hayashi's age, and congratulated him on his brilliant prospects. On the 17th, Mr. Hayashi, Consul Arakawa, Captain Inouye, Lieut.-Colonel Kamio, and Commander Hosoya of the *Chokai Kan*, were entertained at tiffin by the American Consul, Mr. Read. A number of officers from the U.S.S. *Monocacy* were also present. At 4 p.m. on the same day, the Japanese Minister received at the Consulate a visit from Viceroy Li, who came in great state accompanied by the Taotai, Messrs. Wu Ting-fang, Lo Fung-lo and others, and escorted by over a hundred mounted guards. At the interview, which lasted about an hour, there were present on the Japanese side, besides Mr. Hayashi, Consul Arakawa, Lieut.-Colonel Kamio, and Commander Hosoya. Student Interpreters Koroku and Takasu left Tientsin for Pekin on the 17th, the Viceroy sending two military guards to escort them. None of the letters state when Mr. Hayashi was to go up to the Capital. In addition to the Japanese gunboat *Chokai*, there were at Tientsin the U.S.S. *Monocacy*, H.B.M.S. *Swift*, and the Chinese gunboat *Chen-Hai*. Some of the correspondents say that the Viceroy Li is apparently as influential as ever. A private letter, published in the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, states that, when Mr. Hayashi announced his intention of going to Pekin, the Viceroy earnestly begged him to defer his journey for the present, in as much as the people, being still in a state of excitement, might insult him. The writer of this letter seems to be a Naval officer of the *Izumi Kan*. He says that, on the occasion of his proceeding to Tientsin in a steam launch on the 17th ultimo, an old Chinaman ran along the bank of the river with a spear in his hand pursuing the Japanese boat. He further alleged that Mr. Detring visited the *Chokai*, and requested the Captain to leave Tientsin, but on what grounds the request was preferred we are not told. Probably it was because the presence of the Japanese ship seemed calculated to excite the Chinese mob. The request was not complied with. The *Izumi Kan* left Taku on the 19th and reached Port Arthur the following day.

MRS. DRAPER'S BLIND SCHOOL.

"Great oaks from little acorns grow," was a favourite copy-book heading of the later seventies. An hour spent in the rooms at 35, Umegai-cho, Yokohama, a scholastic establishment conducted under the superintendence of Mrs. Draper for the benefit of the indigent blind of Yokohama, induces one to hope the old aphorism possesses a prophetic truth which may be exemplified in the career lying before this modest undertaking. There are upwards of 150,000 blind folk in the Empire of Japan, and of this vast total Yokohama is the *habitat* of 500. Mrs. Draper's school, an entirely undenominational affair, started three years ago with one pupil: to-day it has over 30. The system adopted is the Braille, by which the blind are taught to read and write by raised characters — characters punctured on thick paper in an arrangement of six dots, or less, somewhat after the style of the Morse Code of telegraphy. Besides this, instruction is afforded in the arts of acupuncture and massage. Instruction is also afforded orally; and pathetically sweet is the chanting of the Ten Commandments, the Lord Prayer, or even a dozen aphorisms of Confucius by a class of blind Japanese. It is Mrs. Draper's ambition that the thirty pupils at present in the school should become teachers and instructors to their blind brethren in Japan, so that the good work may spread like a ripple in the water, ever widening, ever increasing the sphere of its good influence. There are four qualified teachers now engaged in the school, and, if funds would allow, more pupils could be gathered in: but at present pecuniary resources are limited, and reluctantly Mrs. Draper finds it necessary to "cut her garment according to her cloth." We feel sure that when the good work she is doing among the blind of Yokohama is known to the outside world, many contributions will flow into her treasury, and she will be able to extend the scope of her labours. On Tuesday week, July 9th, the School will appear at the Van Schaick Hall and go though some exercises preparatory to breaking-up for the summer. In the meantime, any readers in Yokohama who may desire the services of a clean and expert *amma*, would do well to engage one from the school, and so help forward the good work. The address is Sudzuki Kakujiro, 40, Nichome, Hagoromocho.

COLLISION AT MOJI.

The singularly fortunate record of the Japanese naval and transport services during the war has been broken by a collision that occurred at Moji on the 28th ultimo. At 6.30 p.m. on that day, as the *Moji Maru* was entering Moji harbour, she was carried by the tide which happened to be racing very strongly at the time—into collision with the *Toyo Maru*. The latter vessel was lying at anchor. The *Moji* was struck aft on the starboard side, and received such damage that the water poured into her cabin, and she sank by the stern in from 6 to 7 fathoms. The water does not appear to have got into her engine-room, and at the date of latest advices every effort was being made to keep her from being flooded forward. Her injuries do not appear to be very extensive, and there is every hope of saving her. The *Moji Maru* is a steamer belonging to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. She was built at Newcastle in 1877, and is an iron vessel of 2,111 tons displacement. The *Toyo Maru* belongs to Mr. Hamanaka Hachisaburo of Kobe. She is a steamer of 2,497 tons, and was built at Glasgow in 1873.

ORDERS FROM FRANCE FOR TEXTILE FABRICS.

The work done by Japanese weavers surprises even severe foreign critics, says the *Jiji*. The cheapness of manufacture, the skill of the mechanics, the delicate finish of the productions of the loom, and the refined taste displayed in the designs all combine to elicit admiration. The exportation of textile fabrics has developed greatly during the last few years, and lately large orders have been received by Japanese weavers from merchants in Lyons—the world's centre for textile fabrics—who seem to have discerned the excellence of Japanese silk materials. The chief point in the orders is to the effect that if the Japanese weavers bind themselves to sell certain goods to them only, they wish to conclude a contract for such goods for a stipulated period of time. The Japanese are willing to consent to this condition provided that the terms are satisfactory. They are now carrying on negotiations with the Lyons merchants in connection with this point. It seems strange, at first, to think that the merchants of Lyons should have conceived the idea of purchasing a large amount of Japanese fabrics, but a little thought makes the matter clear. The produce of the Lyons looms sent yearly to the East totals a large figure, and the merchants of that city most likely think that Japanese fabrics are most suited for the purpose. Some day or other, therefore, Japanese silks may appear in the Oriental market with the Lyons label attached to them. At any rate, the prospects of the Japanese weaving industry seem very bright.

CONSCIENCE.

The writer of "Our Handbook," in the *Referee*, recently allowed his thoughts to run upon the subject of "conscience," which, he concluded, "is a habit of mind created by the circumstances of a people or a race, and varying, therefore, according to circumstances." In the course of his dissertation we find the following paragraph:—

> In support of this definition one may point to the difference between the sort of conscience known to the Greek schools from which the principles of our philosophy are derived, and the conscience of nineteenth-century England. We have incorporated in our modern conscience a deal of Christian doctrine quite foreign to the civilised Pagan mind. Not only is this divergence shown between the ancient Greeks and ourselves, it is discovered in a marked form between ourselves and other civilised communities that have not been subjected to the same course of educational and religious discipline. That reminds me! I dined the other night with a gentleman, who, two years ago, was travelling in Japan, and who had some curious first-hand information to give me of the Japanese. At the best hotel in Tokyo a young lady was told off on his arrival to act as his companion during his stay. For this service he was charged in the bill one *yen* per day—say three shillings, or three and sixpence. He challenged the item, but was assured that it was entirely regular. What was still more astonishing, in a private house, to which he had letters of introduction, he was shown the same gracious attention, except, of course, that it was entirely gratis. Such things commend themselves to the Japanese conscience, but would not, I fear, secure the approbation of Mrs. Grundy. Yet I am not sure that the practical difference in the morals of the East and the West is mainly one of form. What happens to a travelling young Englishman who, instead of going to Tokyo, puts up, say, at the Grand Hotel, Paris, on his first visit to that city? There is no geisha girl told off for his entertainment by the hotel authorities, and there is no charge in the bill that the British Matron need object to. But after dinner our traveller betakes himself, according to the season, to the Jardin de Paris, the Folies-Bergère, the Casino de Paris, or, mayhap, the Moulin Rouge, and I do not know that morality is the gainer.

The curious thing about this illustration from life in Japan is its absolute falsehood. There could be no more baseless lie conceived than the story told by the "gentleman" who travelled in Japan two years ago. He never had "a young lady told off, on his arrival at the best hotel in Tokyo, to act as his companion during his stay." He never was charged "one *yen* per day for her in his bill." He never "challenged the item," or was "assured that it was entirely regular." He never had "the same gracious attention paid to him, entirely gratis, in a private house." In brief, he told five large lies to his guest of the *Referee*, and the latter most innocently proceeded to deduce from them some interesting conceptions of Japanese "conscience," whereas he ought really to have discussed them in connection with the conscience of travellers, a curious faculty that does not appear to have changed in any material respect since the days of Mendez Pinto.

THE small Messageries Fluviales steamer *Météore*, plying between Hanoi and Namdinh, was sunk by the Chinese river steamer *Kianpinh* in the Hanoi river on the 11th June, with 23 passengers, of whom all were saved except four. She was struck on the port side, and sank in ten minutes.

RIOT AT NANAO, NOTO PROVINCE.

Particulars of a riot that occurred at Nanao, Noto Province, about the middle of this month, are now given by the vernacular papers. The cause of such disorderly conduct on the part of the poor inhabitants of the town was dissatisfaction against a rice broker, one Hinome Masakichi, whom they suspected as having engrossed rice and thus caused an appreciation of the price of their food stuff. At first the disturbers of the peace sent deputies to the rice-broker to apprise him of their distress and ask him to discontinue his speculative proceedings. The broker being absent, the deputies submitted the case to his wife and left the house peacefully, some policemen that had attended to provide against any accident having also assured the deputies that their cause would be furthered so far as circumstances might permit. Next day, it was rumoured that the poor people would come to the broker's house in large numbers to renew their demand, and to compel attention to it even by force. The rumour proved true, for in the evening of the same day some scores of young men assembled in front of the broker's house, making a loud din. One of them rushed into the shop, seized a brazier, and hurled it into the inner room. Thereat the others followed that leader into the house and threw down every article of furniture they could lay hands upon. In the meanwhile, according to an apparently preconcerted plan, about 200 people came to swell the number of intruders and the work of smashing furniture was kept up for about half an hour. Three constables then arrived upon the scene to restore order, but to no purpose. The rioters not only refused to attend to the remonstrances of the constables, but even abused them for having failed to fulfill the promise made on the preceding day. Some even had the audacity to strike down the lanterns that the constables carried, and others, principally women, went up to the constables, exclaiming, "Give us food." The light of the lanterns and that in the house having been totally extinguished, wrecking went on with more and more violence, and the attempted restraint of the constables was entirely disregarded. A portion of the mob proceeded towards the granary of Mr. Hinome, situated some distance away in the town, and there the violence was renewed. In the meanwhile, the Chief of the Town Police arrived at the head of a few constables and tried to restore order with drawn sabres. This frightened the mob at first, but only for a short while. They surged back soon after, and pressed the constables to kill them, declaring that it mattered little whether they died on the edge of the sword or of starvation. The police being at a loss how to deal with such desperate fellows, the Inspector had recourse to peaceful measures, and offered his assurances to the mob that on the following day steps of such a nature as to satisfy them would be taken. Two or three leading inhabitants of the town also came to the spot and remonstrated with the rioters, urging them to discontinue such lawless conduct. The mob, by this time tired by their exertions, promised to leave the matter in the hands of the Inspector of Police and the influential inhabitants of the town, and dispersed after loud and prolonged cheers. It was now past midnight. On their way home from the scene of violence, the rioters called at the Town Office, demanded an interview with a petty clerk that had charge of the office for the night, and reprimanded him for the Town Office's negligence to give relief to the needy out of the Pauper's Fund. They next visited the Headman of the town, and required him to promise that no time should be lost in giving relief out of the fund, to which the Headman replied that the matter should be considered the next morning. As to the casualties that occurred in connection with the riot, we learn nothing, and it may therefore be inferred that there was nothing serious. The next morning, about a dozen men, believed to be the ringleaders of the affair, were sumanoned before the Police Office and severely reprimanded. A meeting of the City Assembly was also held to consider the question of distributing the relief fund, and the local Rice Exchange was closed. There the matter ended, so far as our information goes.

CHINESE ITEMS.

The Korean correspondent of the *North China Daily News* writes :—

Inouye left Chemulpo for Japan on the 11th of June by the *Chowchowfu*. He is very angry with the Koreans and especially with Pakyengho. This individual has turned his back on the Japanese and is now smiling on the Russians or any foreigners who are willing to be pleased at his smiles. It is worth while, perhaps, to compare this correspondent's statements with what Count Inouye says himself. So far from being "angry with the Koreans, and especially with Pak Yengho" (Boku Eiko), the Count defends Pak's conduct, and declares that he has acted in a proper and conscientious manner. So far from accusing Pak of "turning his back upon the Japanese and smiling on the Russians," Count Inouye says :—

Boku Eiko is neither a saint nor a man of surpassing ability and courage. But, thanks to his experience while an exile in a foreign country, he is intelligent for a person of princely birth. At all events he may be regarded as a Korean of capacity. The rumours about his intrigues with Russia and his ingratitude to Japan, may be traced to the chagrin of disappointed Japanese. Reasons why he is unpopular in the Japanese settlement have already been explained. He is frequently admitted to the presence of the Queen, because his title of *Kinryô-i* gives him free access to the Court. The Queen also seems to regard him as a man of some utility. To speak frankly, he is not to be compared with Her Majesty in sagacity. I used to give him warning, and he on his part came to seek my counsel whenever any question of importance demanded his attention. He never failed to do so while I was in Sôul. It is true that he has of late become very powerful in the Korean Government, but there is no truth in the imputation that he has turned his back on Japan. Apart from the disappointed section among the Japanese residents, there is a party of Koreans, both in and out of Government, who are opposed to Boku. He may have been indiscreet, but I cannot believe that he is guilty of the charges brought against him by his enemies.

We do not know whether the present correspondent of our Shanghai contemporary is the same writer whose accounts of affairs during the early stages of the China-Japan war made him a general laughing-stock. But if that remarkable observer has been succeeded by some one else, his mantle seems to have fallen on his successor.

Particulars of the Chêngtu outrages are beginning to be published by the Shanghai journals. We take the following from the Chungking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* :—

On the 28th of May, the fifth of the fifth moon, a riot occurred at the premises of the Canadian Methodist Mission, their hospital, dispensary, and chapel being looted and burned. Although the mob were kept at bay for an hour or two, and although *yaméns* were near and soldiers' barracks were about five minutes' walk away, no attention was paid to requests for assistance. After resting for the night, the mob began the next day, and when the day was ended nothing remained of the eleven places of the Protestant and Roman Catholic Missions. In every case the officials made a mere pretence of protection or flatly refused it. All took their cue from the Viceroy who had been degraded and seemed to think nothing worse could befal him. His hostility to foreigners has been notorious for several years, and he seems to have intended to give a parting hit as he was about to leave. Even when the flames were bursting out of the premises of the Roman Catholic Bishop, a stone's throw away, he lifted not a finger to help, merely remarking that this was a calamity for his successors to attend to. There is a mass of harrowing details which I cannot stop to give. No doubt you will have heard them more fully from some one at or near the scene of trouble. Ladies with their little ones climbed over back walls and hid for hours in the dirtiest holes. When discovered there were cases where ransoms were paid by both foreigners and native Christians. There were cases of flight from one Mission to another, only to be mobbed and compelled to flee again. The members of the American Methodist Episcopal Mission climbed by a ladder over a wall to a neighbour's and remained twelve hours in a dirty little loft, watching at the distance of six feet the destruction of their property. Some of the Canadian Methodist missionaries who sought protection at the soldiers' barracks were driven out, one of the ladies with her little ones being kicked by the brutal soldiers. At length all took refuge at the *yamén* of the District Magistrate. This is now the twelfth day and they are still there without so much as a change of clothing. There are nearly a score of them, men and women, and a large number of small children. We do not know certainly about the Roman Catholics.

In the meantime the contagion is daily spreading. Yesterday we learned that Kiatingfu and Yachoufu had met the same fate as Chêngtu. Yachou is about 100 miles west of Kiating. The report is that the missionaries there have been beaten. Some of the Kiating missionaries took refuge in the *yamên* and some got away on boats and have arrived at Chungking. As at Chêngtu, so at Kianting, the officials would render no assistance until the mob had done their work. The presence of students for the examinations furnished unlimited material for a mob. The Kianting riot occurred on the 4th of June, just a week after the work began at Chêngtu. The Yachou riot was earlier than the Kiating one, but we have not the particulars. Other smaller cities have met the same fate, and the list is almost daily increasing. Much apprehension is felt for the missionaries of the China Inland Mission scattered in several stations over the Chêngtu plain, away from water and telegraph communication.

When the Kiating refugees passed Suichou they found most of the missionaries on boats a few miles below awaiting developments. The city had been placarded, but there the officials were vigilant and patrolling the streets.

Of course Chungking is not a little stirred by the riot news from elsewhere; but the Taotai is friendly and is apparently doing his best to keep order. It is impossible to tell what may be the end of it all. There are about a score of stations in the province occupied by Protestant missionaries, who number about 140, including both sexes The Catholics are almost everywhere.

We cannot tell when the ball set rolling by the Viceroy will stop. If the foreign governments do not take stringent measures there may be a clean sweep of the whole province. People are saying that the Emperor has ordered the Viceroy to drive out all the foreigners, beginning at Chêngtu.

A private letter from Chungking, dated the 8th of June, says the riot appears to have been almost altogether a matter of looting :—

"The Viceroy," continues the writer, "had plenty of notice, and I believe could have stopped the row had he wished to do so. As it was, he allowed the Roman Catholic Mission, separated from his own *yamên* by a narrow lane only, to burn without an attempt to save it. We think that if he gets his deserts he will finish up without his head. If he didn't instigate the row he did nothing whatever to stop it, and appears to have treated the foreigners as shabbily as he could.

It will be observed that the tone of this correspondence does not justify the violent diatribes against the Viceroy of Szechuen penned by some critics in the foreign press of Shanghai. A private letter from a Chêngtu missionary throws some interesting light on the details and origin of the trouble :—

We escaped the riot by about two hours and a half, in this way. We left the city at four o'clock p.m. on the 28th. We could not have left the next day at all as it was the big Dragon feast, and at four o'clock of the 29th our compounds were burnt to the ground, that is, the dwellings, schools, and chapel in one, and adjoining was the hospital. From our place they went to the C.I.M., carrying off every stick on the place. The compound where the ladies of our W.M.S. lived was also rioted, the ladies going over the wall into a neighbour's. Next morning they began with the M.E. Mission, cleaning it out completely, even to the walls and the leaves on the trees. The new house belonging to our mission that Mr. Hartnull was living in was also looted and burned, Mrs. Hartnull escaping to the C.I.M. after being driven with the W.M.S. ladies out of their house. The Catholics had five different stations, at one of which was a cathedral two hundred and seventy feet long, or rather the whole building in which the cathedral was that length. All these different places are utterly wiped out. All the foreigners are at the *yamên* of one of the magistrates. The *Fu* himself came and looked at the work of destruction going on, then got into his chair and had not gone forty yards before they were at it again. I don't know whether or not you know that in Chêngtu we have two *Hsiens* who manage the city's affairs, each in his own district which are quite distinct

the one from the other. Well, a curious fact in connection with the American missionaries is, that they were taken to the magistrate on our side, out of their own district entirely, as if it were a well-planned scheme between them that the foreigners should be collected in one place. They may have been liberated by this time and on their way down the river, for all we know, but Hartnull says the rumour there is that no foreigner will be allowed to leave the city. We don't know whether to believe this or not. But it does not seem reasonable to watch the city gates, when they are all in one room at the *yamên*. Mrs. Stevenson and Mrs. Kilborn with four children crawled out on to the street through a hole in the big hospital gate that the mob was breaking in. And this so upset the rioters that it gave them a chance to escape. They tried several houses, as well as the fort near by, but were driven off each place, one of the soldiers kicking Mrs. Stevenson and driving them off with curses. These women with the children wandered about the city wall till midnight, then went to the C.I.M. till the early morning when the mob reached there. Of course we sent a messenger to the capital at once, and now we are anxiously awaiting developments. The Endicotts leave for down river early Monday morning; another family leaves for the Suifu mountains the next day. But the doctor will remain here for the present. And of course I remain with him. We are making all preparations for a hurried departure, and we have a good strong rope, which we will use to let ourselves down over the wall if they make any fuss in the night. The city is full of students who are just going into their examinations, and when they come out, they may make a fuss, and it is well to be prepared. Endicott takes most of the silver and all the deeds of the various properties with him to Chungking, and perhaps farther. . . I had what might have been a serious thing happen to me some time ago. I had operated on a woman in confinement. . . As a result of the care they get in their homes, she had a good deal of temperature and I went to see her twice a day for over a week, generally paying my own chair hire. She got almost well, and I did not see her for five or six days, when they sent for me and I found general pelvic peritonitis. I did all I could for her at the time, but she was vomiting everything and I saw she could not live. The child, however, was thriving. That evening I saw her again and for the awful pain I gave her morphine injection. She died somewhere about seven or half past, and at eleven o'clock at night they sent for me. I went, taking a couple of assistants, and as it was only about half-a-mile I walked. A very casual examination convinced me that she was dead, and as soon as I said so, the husband sprang and barred the door and would not let me out. I shook him up pretty lively and he opened the door, and I sent my second assistant on ahead with my grip, keeping the teacher with me. No sooner did we get out of the court-yard on to the street than he was after me and begging me to give his wife some foreign medicine and cure her. He called out two or three times and men came running out of all the houses round, putting on their clothes as they came. In a very few minutes I had a crowd of nearly fifty, and this man began to catch hold of me in a way I did not like. I told him if he came to the hospital next day I would talk to him. But he would not listen. He then caught hold of me by the collar of my flannel shirt in a way that was anything but gentle, but I made no resistance. At last his hold loosened a little and at the same time a man hit me from behind and ran sideways. I broke from the fellow that held me and caught the other fellow firmly and knocked him endways, and it felt good too. The crowd calling out "Strike the foreigner!" "Kill the foreigner!" and getting larger and larger every minute, determined me to make a run for it, which I did, with the whole pack after me like devils. I soon saw that I could out-run them, and kept ahead of them, till I overtook my assistant with my grip, and I made him travel I can tell you. He got the street gates open for me. And we soon got to the hospital; that was shut of course, and it seemed like an eternity before the man opened it. I handn't time to shut it before they were at the gate, and, throwing themselves against it, forced it open. Not a man would help. I caught the ringleader, and half dragged, half carried him into the hospital, then dropped him as I saw no one was trying to shut the gate, and people still coming in, though it was now midnight. I got them out all except the dead woman's husband, and I wanted to keep him, but as I was trying to put up the bars he caught me by the knees and dragged me down and fled. I lost my hat and walking stick I took with me, and will never see them again, of course. After getting the gate shut I went up to the house, washed the blood out of my eyes, from a cut head, then went back and opened the gate and went out, but could not see anybody that looked like the man I wanted. Next day, of course, we took up the matter and brought it to the notice of the officials, but they have done very little in the matter. They held an inquest on the corpse, and for a couple of days the whole section was in an uproar, thousands of people going to see her, if you can believe our servants. On top of this affair came all kinds of extravagant rumours of what I had done to her—cutting her open, etc. People going past our doors would say, "Burn out the foreigners" and such like remarks, and still we thought nothing particular of it. Stories about four of us going to carry a large stone full of gold that was in the river outside the East gate were started and for days you couldn't get near the place for the throng going a foot and in chairs to see it. The huge stone cone outside the West gate has spoken and told the people that all the dry weather was on account of the foreigners and next year we were going to take the whole province. Such stories as these evidently inflamed the people, and when the city was crowded at feast time, the whole thing broke out. You cannot calculate the harm to the mission work at present, to say nothing of the monetary loss. This will be a thing for the home offices to settle through Pekin, which will take time. Meanwhile, there will be nothing done in Chêngtu, and perhaps in the whole province. . .

The above should be supplemented by the statement of a Chêngtu Chinese correspondent of the *Shênpao*:—

The Canadian Mission had been in existence in Chêngtu for several years. In the 4th moon of this year (May) a certain native woman in the city happened to be dangerously ill through childbirth and in consequence her family engaged the services of a foreign doctor. It was not a success, and the woman died. The family of the dead woman laid the blame upon the foreign doctor and from this time forth false rumours began gradually to be spread about impugning the honesty of the missionaries. Anonymous placards also began to be posted up traducing and libelling the foreign missions, the most serious charges accusing the foreigners of killing young boys to obtain certain drugs and in some cases actually eating them. The missionaries therefore reported the matter to the local authorities requesting them to issue counter-proclamations denying such charges and forbidding the posting of such libels in the future. But it must be confessed that the authorities paid no attention to the protestations of the missionaries. It is a popular custom handed down by tradition in Chêngtu for the people of the city and suburban villages to gather in large numbers at the military assembly grounds at the East gate of the city on the 5th day of the 5th moon (28th of May this year) or Dragon Festival, and forming into parties of hundreds and even a thousand or so, to pelt greem plums at each other: the rich providing this sort of ammunition which is given free to those who wish to join the sports. It unluckily happened that a female convert in charge of several native pupils of the mission schools also went to view the sports there. During the fun a plum accidentally hit the woman, which being taken as premeditated was at once resented by her. A wordy war resulted. This attracted a crowd and the woman fearing the consequence began to leave the grounds with her youthful charges, pursued by a mob of young rowdies. She was apparently recognised as a convert, and the people being already inflamed against the missionaries by the placards, the crowd began to be hostile; but before they could catch hold of the woman she and the children got inside the mission compound and the gates were at once shut upon the mob outside. Hereupon a number of them began to call out that the foreigners had kidnapped some children and demanded that they should be given up to the people. The mob gathering in size became bolder and succeeded at last in breaking down the heavy entrance gates of the compound. They then made a rush inside, eager to plunder and pillage whatever they could lay their hands upon. By the time the mandarins and their runners made their appearance on the scene the hospital and chapel had already been burned down. On the 29th and 30th of May (the 6th and 7th of the 5th Moon) the other Protestant missions were wrecked and pillaged in succession by the rowdies and desperadoes, winding up with the tearing down and burning of the Roman Catholic Church and houses situated within a stone's throw of the Viceroy's *yamên*. Although in a capital like Chêngtu there is a large army and the various *yamêns* have a strong force of runners and thief takers, they made only a hollow show of pretence when ordered to suppress the riot, preferring to remain spectators. But the most extraordinary thing was the production by the rioters of a dead man's head, two hands, and some human bones which they carried to the *Chehsien's yamên* charging the foreigners with having murdered the man, declaring that they had dug them out of the mission compounds. I wonder where they managed to get these gruesome objects. They also daubed the walls of the mission houses with blood, saying that this was a proof that people had been murdered by the foreigners. With regard to the missionaries, young and old, a number of them were compelled to fly for their lives and crouch under the city walls exposed to the dews of heaven for a night. The next day they were temporarily domiciled in the *yamên* of the Huayang *Chehsien*. As for the missionary buildings and chapels there is not a single one now left in Chêngtu. The desolation is complete. It is also reported that soon after the news of the Chêngtu riots was spread into the inland towns the mobs of the districts of Hsinchin and Pengshan followed suit, and the objectionable rumours which had inflamed the populace of Chêngtu are now being disseminated in the lower portions of the Yangtze valley. The affair has become such a grave problem that the future can be only a matter of conjecture."

All these details do not bear out the wholesale charges so freely preferred against the Viceroy and officials of Szechuen. A medical mishap and a misdirected and misunderstood pelting of green plums appear to have been the petty causes that led to the razing of mission buildings and cathedrals, the sending of international ultimatums, and the employment of gunboats and men-of-war. Is it possible for foreigners to live in the interior of China without the constant recurrence of these serious incidents? So ignorant and prejudiced are the Chinese people that every-day happenings, wholly insignificant in themselves, may at any moment become the origin of riot and mob violence.

The sufferings of the ladies and children confined in the *Yamên* at Chêngtu for nearly three weeks, with the thermometer ranging from 91° to 97° in the shade, and without any proper supplies of food and clothing, must have been terrible.

The Kiangsu riots, regarded at first as a second Taiping Rebellion in embryo, seem to have subsided completely. The quondam rebels are now quietly pursuing their usual agricultural avocations.

We take the following paragraph from the *China Gazette* of the 21st of June:—

We are able to confirm our news of last night respecting the completion of the Russian loan of 100 million Kuping taels to China. The final documents were sent into the Russian Legation at Pekin yesterday, all duly signed and sealed. The documents were really signed the previous day. The loan is given to China in the name of the Imperial Russian Government, and is issued at 93%, 4% interest and 1% *amortissement* (sinking fund). We have good reason to believe that the Chinese Legation in Paris will notify the Japanese Legation in that city that 50 million taels lies to its credit in the Bank of France, and the question is then, whether this Japanese Government will immediately convert that sum into gold. The other 50 millions, we are inclined to think, will be paid over, by order of the German Syndicate, in Tientsin in silver. But these details are not yet quite settled and the problem of exchange which, meanwhile, remains, is thereby again enormously disturbed. We have further good reason to believe that the Russian Government has insisted upon the principle being conceded by China that, as Russia makes and guarantees the loan, a Russian official should have a voice in the administration at the I. M. Customs, should it be deemed necessary. But as long as Sir Robert Hart remains at the head of that service, it is not likely that any such appointment will be made, though it is provided for.

The same journal writes in a very alarmist strain about China's temper toward Japan. It alleges that instructions have been sent from Pekin to the effect that the new Japanese Minister must on no account be suffered to proceed to the capital, the idea underlying this injunction being that as the Viceroy Li was not allowed to go to the place where the Imperial Court had located itself in Japan, neither should Mr. Hayashi be permitted to go to Pekin. We read in the same columns that every possible obstacle will be thrown in the way of the negotiation of the commercial treaty between the two empires, and that a large party of politicians in Pekin are anxious to precipitate another rupture. We do not, for our own part, share these views.

ONE OF ENGLAND'S CRITICS.

THE majority of our English readers will be disposed to treat the *Nippon's* article, translated elsewhere in our columns, after the manner of the United States Senator, who answered an elaborate oratorical assault by a wave of his hand and a disyllabic interjection. But the luxury of indifference cannot always be enjoyed. The *Nippon*, being a journal of uncompromising and extreme views, commands the attention always attracted by violence, and there consequently rests upon us an obligation to expose the fallacy of some of its assertions. It is not easy, we confess, to deal seriously with such trivialities, but very probably the comments of many foreigners on Japanese affairs seem just as shallow and insignificant to Japanese readers as do the *Nippon's* criticisms to us, and if neither side can boast any marked superiority of knowledge or discernment, it is as well that each should treat the other's misconceptions with consideration.

That while poets and philanthropists dream of the federation of nations, the nations themselves "snarl at each other's heels," is about the only proposition we can endorse among those advanced by the *Nippon*. Otherwise we venture to think that our contemporary is entirely "off the track." Its comparison of the Siberian Railway with the Suez Canal seems particularly fallacious. England has often been blamed by philosophers and sentimentalists because she threw obstacles in the path of the projectors of the Suez Canal. Probably she deserves some blame. But if she does, it is not because her political instinct was at fault, but because she lost for a moment the full trust in herself without which the cares of her vast empire would crush her incontinently. She might have had faith that if the command of the Suez Canal were essential to the integrity of her dominions, she would manage somehow to obtain command of it. But for a moment she forgot her own history, and tried to protect herself by exclusiveness. Not the smallest miscalculation was she guilty of, however, when she foresaw that the Suez Canal in the hands of a foreign Power would seriously compromise her hold upon India. Suppose that it were now in the hands of France, for example, how fatally weak a link would exist in the world-encircling chain of Great Britain's possessions! The *Nippon*, thinks that England's forecast was false; that a path to promote the world's intercourse was mistaken by her for a way to warfare. It is true that the Suez Canal has assumed the former character. But why has it assumed it? Simply because it is under British control. Wherever England plants her foot, thither she frankly invites the nations to follow. That is the secret of her unique success as a colonizer. She acquires not to monopolise, but to develop. The competition that she invites creates an atmosphere of effort that can never exist where exclusiveness is counted the first privilege of ownership. She has contributed more to the "brotherhood of mankind" than have all the other nations together. Yet the *Nippon* talks as though she had sinned in that very respect, and inferentially accuses her of repeating in the case of the Siberian Railway the misconception that inspired her hostility to the Suez Canal scheme. There is no comparison. England's paramount control of the Suez Canal guarantees its universal accessibility for all the purposes of legitimate commerce. Russia's paramount control of the Siberian Railway guarantees its universal inaccessibility for purposes of commerce, and its exclusive employment for military objects should occasion arise. The Japanese newspaper charges its English contemporaries with writing in a blindly alarmist strain about the contingencies incidental to the conclusion of the Siberian Railway. If there has been any exaggeration of the kind, Japanese journals have been the exaggerators. During the past three years they have written as though the opening of the Siberian Raill way must shift the commercial centre of gravity, make Japan the *entrepôt* of a vast trade, and, at the same time, expose her to a perpetual menace of aggression from the north. To-day, the *Nippon* itself writes as though the new line were destined to become the main artery connecting the hearts of Occidental and Orienta- commerce. It will be nothing of the kind. The rich Ussuri regions may be tapped by it, but as a carrier of merchandise coming eastward from non-Russian Europe, it will play no considerable part. What it may do, what it probably will do, is to bring Russia's military base within negotiable distance of the Pacific coast. The great Northern Power, with such a line in its hands, will be able, provided that it can proceed leisurely, to assemble and equip a large army on the frontiers of Korea and Manchuria. We need not discuss what that would signify. Japan understands it already. What it certainly does not signify is that the Siberian Railway will prove a means of "consolidating the brotherhood of mankind."

The *Nippon* further declares that the maintenance of a powerful British fleet in Eastern waters is a far greater menace to the tranquillity of the Orient than would be a completed Siberian Railway. May we be permitted to ask, then, why the *Nippon* and its vernacular contemporaries constantly urge the increase of the Japanese Navy to a size at least equal to that of the two strongest foreign squadrons in these waters combined. The answer will doubtless be that Japan's fleet is intended simply for defensive purposes. So is Great Britain's. England has to protect her commerce and her colonies in the East. Insufficient preparations for defence would invite the very danger that the *Nippon* dreads. If the sentiment of the Japanese nation be truly reflected in the columns of the *Nippon*—a hypothesis that we do not for a moment entertain—then the British Squadron in these waters is not nearly large enough. If Japan can not trust England, neither can England trust Japan. If Japan thinks that Russia's southward expansion is less dangerous to this empire than England's northward growth, then England knows what she has to anticipate, and will obey the first law of nature, the law of self-protection. The *Nippon* has always been generally anti-foreign and particularly anti-English. It is also, in our opinion, emphatically anti-Japanese.

THE WEIHAIWEI SALUTE.

A CORRESPONDENT, "A.E.B.," re-opens the subject of the celebrated Weihaiwei salute. He evidently believes that the *Alacrity* saluted Vice-Admiral ITO'S flag before 8 a.m. on the 10th of August, and he asks us to define more accurately the expression, "about 8 a.m." used in the detailed account of the affair published in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of November 24th. It really seems as though this business were destined to remain perpetually shrouded in mystery. The story originally circulated was that the *Mercury's* salute had been fired before sun-rise, thus rousing the garrison of Weihaiwei, and rendering abortive the torpedo attack contemplated by the Japanese squadron under cover of darkness. This tale, as we pointed out at the time, was inherently impossible. Salutes are never fired before daylight. In point of fact, it mattered not the least, so far as concerned the success of the Japanese attack, whether the *Alacrity's* salute on the morning of August 10th was fired after or before sun-rise, inasmuch as the Peiyang Squadron, the sole object of the projected torpedo enterprise, was not in Weihaiwei at the time. But apart from that circumstance—vital as it is in its bearing upon the charge brought against the British man-of-war that she played into the hands of the Chinese—no one, we presume, can possibly imagine that Admiral FREMANTLE would have lost the use of his senses so far as to direct that a salute should be fired from his ship before the day had broken. Such a conception being obviously absurd, and it being further certain that no procedure on the part of the *Alacrity* could have mischievously interfered between the Japanese squadron and a number of Chinese vessels not present at the time, we really see very little use in discussing whether the saluting took place before or after 8 o'clock. Still, as we are now confronted by a marked discrepancy of assertion, and since our own accuracy is strongly impugned, we shall devote a few lines to the matter. But we

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must premise that "A.E.B." does not quote us correctly. He writes:—"You yourself said that the salute took place before the cannonading from the Chinese forts began." We did not say so. What we said was:—"At about 8.40 a.m., the Third Japanese Division, being then 5 or 6 miles distant from the British man-of-war, began to exchange shots with the eastern batteries." At what hour the batteries themselves first began to throw shells at the Japanese ships we do not know. It may have been 7 a.m., as our correspondent says. Our account referred to the time when the ships began to reply, and that, we believe, was at about 8.40 a.m., or some thirty minutes after the *Alacrity* and *Matsushima* had exchanged salutes. We may now say at once that our account of the *Alacrity's* doings, as published in the *Weekly Mail* on November the 24th, was taken from a written statement penned by Admiral FREMANTLE himself and placed at our disposal. The Admiral, believing that a torpedo surprise was contemplated, kept well outside the Japanese Squadron until after day-light. Then he saw the whole squadron standing in towards Weihaiwei, "and a gallant sight it was," he wrote, "in the bright sunshine of an early summer morning." By and by, he gave orders to steer for Chefoo, and went below himself for a short time. At 7.15 a.m. he came on deck again. The Japanese ships were then hull down, but thinking that it would be as well to see the end of the affair, the Admiral put the *Alacrity* about and steamed back towards Weihaiwei, keeping nearer the shore than he had been on his previous course. Owing to this latter fact, and to an unexpected manœuvre on the part of a division of the Japanese Squadron, the *Alacrity* found herself close to the latter, and her Captain asked the Admiral whether he should salute. He received a reply in the affirmative, and the salute was accordingly fired and answered, the time being a few minutes past 8 o'clock. Such are the facts, our authority for them being Admiral FREMANTLE himself. "A.E.B." must not suppose that when we said "about 8 o'clock," we could possibly have meant "before 7." The *Alacrity's* salute according to our information, was fired after, not before, 8 o'clock. As for "the recognised rule that no salutes are fired before 8 o'clock in the morning," we must be permitted to observe that Admiral FREMANTLE'S familiarity with such rules may be taken for granted. It seems almost frivolous to discuss whether or no the Commander-in-Chief of the British Squadron in these waters acted in accordance with the A.B.C. of his profession. Our correspondent further informs us that our phrase, "it would have been a palpable discourtesy not to salute under the circumstances," has become a standing joke among naval men. Well, we are quite willing to be a "standing joke" in respect of our views on international courtesy as practised in the British Navy, when Admiral FREMANTLE'S procedure forms the basis of our opinion.

The queerest thing about the whole affair is that Flag-Lieutenant OGILVIE, writing to the *Naval and Military Record*, denies the firing of any salute at all on August 10th, and alleges that only on two occasions—November 3rd and November 24th—during the whole war were salutes interchanged by Admiral FREMANTLE and Admiral ITO. Yet we have it on the written statement of Admira. FREMANTLE himself that the *Alacrity* saluted the *Matsushima* on August 10th. Perhaps this strange discrepancy is to be referred to the fact that the *Alacrity* is said not to have been flying the British Admiral's flag on the occasion of the Weihaiwei affair. But we can only conjecture.

Two things seem to us to be clearly established; the first, on the testimony of both sides, the second on the strength of Admiral FREMANTLE'S written statement. They are, first, that at whatever time the salute was fired on the morning of August 10th, it could not have marred the Japanese torpedo programme, since there were no Chinese ships in Weihaiwei to be torpedoed; secondly, that the *Alacrity's* salute was fired after 8 o'clock in the morning.

THE CHISHIMA-RAVENNA CASE.

WE understand that Mr. M. KIRKWOOD, legal adviser to the Japanese Government, upon whom has devolved the duty of controlling and managing the appeal from the Judgment of the Supreme Court in Shanghai in the *Chishima-Ravenna* case, and by whom solicitors and counsel were retained and instructed, received on the 4th instant a telegram from London to the effect that their Lordships of the Privy Council (the LORD CHANCELLOR, Lords WATSON, MACNAUGHTEN, DAVEY, HOBHOUSE, SHAND, and Sir R. COUCH), gave their decision on the 3rd instant, advising HER MAJESTY to reverse the judgment of the Shanghai Supreme Court, and to allow the Appellant Japanese Government its costs in all courts. The ground on which their Lordships based their decision was that the British Courts in Japan have no jurisdiction to entertain a counter-claim in any suit against a Japanese plaintiff. The question had been discussed more than once in these columns long before the *Chishima-Ravenna* collision took place, and our contention always was that the Order in Council imposing upon Japanese plaintiffs in a British Court the obligation of submitting to the jurisdiction of the Court in respect of a counter-claim, was *ultra vires*. The line of reasoning upon which this conclusion was based takes the form of a simple syllogism:—The jurisdiction referred to in Orders in Council being acquired by treaty, must never exceed the provisions of the treaty; the treaty provides that all suits in which Japanese subjects in Japan are defendants shall be heard by Japanese Courts; therefore, a counter-claim by a British subject against a Japanese can not be heard in a British Court in Japan. A Japanese subject has a right, by treaty, to sue a British subject in Japan before a British Court, and the Court has no competence to hamper the enjoyment of that right by imposing conditions not contemplated in the treaty. That, as our readers doubtless remember, was the main point involved in the appeal just decided. The other incidental points were, first, that even if a British Court in Japan had jurisdiction to entertain a counter-claim in the case of an action brought by an ordinary Japanese plaintiff, it could not entertain the counter-claim in the present case, since the Japanese Government was the plaintiff, and since, according to Japanese law, the Government is not responsible for the wrongful acts of its servants; secondly, that, having regard to the place of collision, Japanese law must be applied; and thirdly, that no counter-claim could be brought where no direct action would lie. On the main point now decided in the Japanese Government's favour both the Court for Japan and the Supreme Court in Shanghai gave judgment against the Government, in spite of the strenuous and able pleading of Mr. KIRKWOOD before the latter tribunal. It must be very pleasant to that gentleman to know that every head of argument on which he relied before the Shanghai Supreme Court, and indeed his whole line of reasoning, were adopted by Mr. COHEN, Q.C., and Mr. FINDLAY, Q.C., the learned leaders for the Japanese Government before the Privy Council, and that no fresh arguments were adduced by them; for such, we understand, was the case. It must further be very satisfactory to the Japanese Government to find that, not to any fault of advice or advocacy, but only a mistaken view of the Treaties and Orders in Council, as well as of international law, must be attributed the unfortunate judgment of the Court in Shanghai, which provoked so much comment and caused such long and costly litigation. On the other hand, the Peninsular and Oriental Company are to be sincerely sympathised with. Acting under excellent legal advice, following the procedure plainly indicated by an Order in Council, and having had their case admirably presented by Mr. J. F. LOWDER in Yokohama and Shanghai, and by counsel of the highest eminence at home, they find themselves condemned, at this initiatory stage of the proceedings, to pay costs that probably amount to a great part of their counter-claim.

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The Privy Council having decided the main question in favour of the Japanese Government, it was not necessary for their Lordships to deal with the incidental points. We feel assured, however, that they took care to guard against the possibility of the opinions expressed by the Judges in Shanghai being elevated hereafter to the rank of precedents.

The decision in this appeal is of great importance, not only to Japan, but to every country where the QUEEN exercises extraterritorial jurisdiction under treaties and Orders in Council similar to those applicable in Japan's case. It is our privilege to believe that, so far as concerns the assurance of obtaining justice, no suitor can suffer by submitting to the jurisdiction of a British tribunal under any circumstances. The principle involved in this particular case, however, belongs rather to the realm of international law, and we may frankly congratulate the Japanese Government and its legal advisers upon their complete and unqualified success.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE WEIHAIWEI AFFAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of June 20th, I noticed a letter from Lieut. Ed. D. Ogilvie, in which he passes over in silence the "saluting canard" of August last. Your *Weekly* of November 24th, however, established the following points:—

The *Mercury* was watching the movements of the Japanese squadron since the preceding evening, and since daylight manœuvred in such a way that at a certain moment she found herself very close to the Japanese flagship.

To quote from your article, "it would have been a palpable discourtesy not to salute." Allow me to say in passing that this phrase has become a standing joke among naval men. I will not discuss your opinion on international courtesy, all I wish to do is to fix the actual hour at which the salute was fired.

You said "that was *about* 8 am." The recognised rule is that no salutes are fired before 8 o'clock in the morning, and I am sure had you been certain of the hour that, writing with an accuracy which you guaranteed again and again, you would have said "that was *after* 8 am." Your *about* appeared to me so lacking in precision that my curiosity was excited and I tried to inform myself upon the subject. I have just received reliable information from China and Japan which leads me to believe that the Chinese forts opened fire at 7 a.m. Now, you yourself said that the salute took place before this cannonading began; then, at what time was your "*about*"?

It will not be difficult for you to substantiate definitely the facts, which now belong to history and, in so doing, you will oblige,

Yours sincerely, A.E.B.

Tokyo, June 28th, 1895.

POOR STRATEGY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In his letter of June 26th to the *Mail*, Mr. E. W. Barrett endeavours to turn aside attention from his misdeeds by methods which in some parts of the world may be thought ingenious, but which no one in the country whose "civilization," as he asserts, is "overestimated," will regard as praiseworthy or even honourable.

He begins by pleading that "the American correspondent does not write his own headlines." The intention of this remark is to make it appear that the offensive statements attributed to him were not his own writing, but were prefixed as headlines, by some other person, to the letter of which complaint is made. If this is not the purpose, Mr. Barrett might as well have said—"The American correspondent does not use Chinese ideographs," or "The American correspondent cannot fly." He wishes your readers to believe that at least some of the shameful accusations brought against my countrymen were invented as headlines in the United States, not sent by himself from Japan. As a matter of fact, every one of the extracts given in my previous communication was from the body of the letter signed by Mr. Barrett, and published in the San Francisco *Examiner*. I did not copy, nor think of copying, a single headline. This is the first example of what I venture to call Mr. Barrett's poor strategy.

In the next place, he says:—"The statement of what I believed to be facts were taken from the *Japan Mail* of April 20th and from an article in the *North China Daily News* of a previous date." I think the English of this sentence is faulty, but I am quoting Mr. Barrett, and at any rate the meaning is plain. He wishes to have it understood that he is supported by two authorities,—one of them a very good one, which would not be likely willfully to misrepresent the Japanese. The *North China Daily News* is not within my reach, but I have taken pains to find the article in the *Japan Mail* to which he refers. Permit me to recall the charges made by Mr. Barrett to the defamation of our soldiers and people:—

1.—"The last battle of the war between Japan and China at Tienchwangtai resulted in a butchery equalling the atrocities at Port Arthur."

2.—"It demonstrated that the common soldiers of both Oriental races are as bloodthirsty and as brutal as the American Indians."

3.—"The Custer massacre was not more horrible than the slaughter of Chinese by Japanese at Tienchwangtai."

4.—"The wounded were dispatched on the field in the American Indian style."

5.—"Letters from eye-witnesses describe the butchery as horrible."

6.—"After bayonneting the wounded on the field, the Japanese entered the town and killed every Chinaman who offered resistance."

7.—"The civilization of Japan has been overestimated."

Now, Mr. Editor, what will be thought of Mr. Barrett when it is known that not one of these allegations appears in the *Mail's* article, and that nothing resembling them can be found there? The very strongest statement made is this: "There appear to be valid grounds for concluding that some of the wounded were killed by the victors, and the question arises, was this an act of wanton cruelty, or does some extenuating explanation offer." There is nothing about "atrocities," "slaughter," "massacre," "barbarism," or "bayonneting." These words are not used. Nor are the soldiers described as "bloodthirsty', or "brutal." American Indians, to whom Mr. Barrett is so fond of comparing the Japanese, do not appear anywhere in the *Mail*. Nor are there any letters from eye-witnesses "describing the butchery as horrible." The only letter mentioned is from a correspondent who explains that the Chinese were treated mercifully, except in cases were their own behaviour made generosity impossible. The whole tone of the article is directly opposed to that of Mr. Barrett's writing. Yet he claims to be justified by the *Japan Mail*. I call that another example of poor strategy. The authorities upon which he relies are reduced to one; and I have now my own opinion as to the accuracy of his alleged quotations from even that source.

Again, Mr. Barrett seems to have an idea that he can weaken my rebuke by affecting to disbelieve that I am a Japanese, and intimating that he is assailed by some personal enemy in disguise; as if the question of his misconduct depended upon the nationality of the person who calls him to account. It is true that I am a Japanese; but what Mr. Barrett has done would be none the less heartless and wanton if I were a Frenchman, an American, or a Hindoo. I am sorry to say that few foreigners care enough about the abusive things written against us to take the trouble of denying them. We must begin to look after our own reputation if we wish to keep it from being unjustly attacked. But it is evidently Mr. Barrett's opinion that by throwing a doubt upon the truthfulness of my signature he can open a new subject of inquiry, and thus escape some of the censure that is his due. And this, in my judgment, is a third example of poor strategy.

With regard to my selections from Mr. Barrett's correspondence, he asserts that they were "garbled extracts from a garbled report of what I did write to my own paper, the *Atlanta Constitution*, which was printed in other American newspapers." This seems to mean that he sent his letter to the *Atlanta Constitution*, that other papers copied it from that journal and mutilated it in doing so; and that I further mutilated these "garbled" versions before presenting them to the readers of the *Mail*. It is a serious charge. If it could be sustained, I should be proved a dishonest trickster. If it can not be sustained, I will leave others to find a fitting designation for my accuser. Now we shall see. Mr. Barrett's letter was dated April 25th. It arrived in San Francisco on May 12th, and was immediately published in the *Examiner* of that city, with his name appended. It contained every one of the statements which I reproduced in my former communication to the *Mail*, and which are repeated above, without alteration in the slightest particular. The copy of the newspaper in which they appeared is at your disposal, Mr. Editor, whenever you may desire to inspect it, and you will see that my extracts are literal transcripts. What Mr. Barrett expects to accomplish in declaring that I had "garbled" his language, I cannot understand. But in saying that he thus gives an additional example of poor strategy, I think that I keep well within the bounds of moderation.

Mr. Barrett calls attention to one or two compliments which he condescendingly pays in his San Francisco letter to the "upper classes" of the Japanese. It probably would not occur to him that the flatteries of a writer who professes to know all about the Japanese character after a sojourn of ten days in this country are scarcely less offensive than his denunciations. Nothing is more disgusting to a sensible Japanese than to be patted on the back by superficial people whose judgment he despises. But praises, even if clumsily expressed, can do us no great harm, whereas such misrepresentations as this correspondent is guilty of may give us an evil repute all over the earth. It is for this reason that several Japanese, of whom I am one, have resolved to keep watch upon foreign periodicals, and when we discover unjustifiable attempts to discredit our country, like this in which Mr. Barrett is engaged, to do all in our humble power to expose them and counteract their bad effect. It is not a pleasant duty, but it ought not to be avoided, and I thank you sincerely, Mr. Editor, for allowing me the opportunity of performing it in this instance. Trusting that it will be entirely unnecessary to tax your courtesy further,

I am, Sir, yours gratefully,

A JAPANESE.

June 28th, 1895.

STRAY BULLETS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I read with some surprise in your issue of 26th ult., the paragraph under the heading of "Proposed revival of a dangerous nuisance," for before penning the paragraph I think you should have consulted with some of the gentlemen interested, who would willingly have explained under what conditions it is proposed to reopen the range and what rifle shooting through a screen is.

For years rifle shooting was enjoyed here by the members of both the Tir Suisse and the Yokohama Rifle Association without a single accident. The stray shots referred to in your paragraph were from squads of men landed from some of the men-of-war in port for rifle practice, as was proved by the government stamp on the base of the bullets picked up.

I enclose a rough sketch of the part of the range it is proposed to reopen, and will explain what rifle shooting through a screen is. To begin with, there will be but one range to be shot from, say 300 yards at the firing point, and immediately in front of the marksmen is a high bullet proof screen; in the screen are apertures or "doors" for each target, and from the sketch enclosed you will see that these "doors" are so arranged that it is impossible for any bullet to go over or wide of the butts,—any bullet fired high or wide *must* find its billet in the "screen." I may add that rifle shooting on this principle was carried on for years at Mukugaoka, and this place was practically surrounded by houses, being just close to the pond at Uyeno.

Mothers, children, nurses, and all others may still enjoy their rambles on or around the Racecourse in absolute safety from bullets; in fact they will be as safe there as on the Bluff or in the Settlement.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

MARKSMAN.

Yokohama, July 2nd, 1895.

THE SHIMONOSEKI INCIDENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a leading article published in the *Japan Mail* of June 12th, you offer a criticism on

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the Special Correspondent of the *China Mail*, who speaks of a want of decent feeling among the Japanese people at the outrage upon Li Hung-chang. As a further evidence that your criticism is deserved, I enclose an article written in English for the *Kokumin-no Tomo*. The author of the article is Prof. T. Iyenaga, who holds the chair of History in the Keiogi-jiku.

Yours, &c.,
D.

June 20th, 1895.

On the Shimonoseki Incident.

The excitement of the nation occasioned by the Shimonoseki incident—the inflicting of a wound by Koyama on the Chinese Plenipotentiary Li Hung-chang—seems to be over, or is, at least, growing less. The time is drawing near when we can and ought to examine with cool minds the causes which resulted in such a sad phenomenon, and consider the ways of avoiding its reappearance. It will not be enough to say that Koyama was a lunatic, a fanatic, a mad and crazy fellow, and the work of such a being cannot, like some of the natural phenomena, be forecast or avoided, and console ourselves by reminding ourselves that such an act is not of infrequent occurrence even in the civilized countries of the West. The bad impression which the Shimonoseki accident created upon the foreign nations may not be so serious, not of so wide a dimension, as was once feared; the outcry of the foreign critics which the event has raised against the so-called skin-deep civilization of our people will be greatly modified, when the true nature of the case and the national feeling respecting it be known to them. Nevertheless the fact—that a hand, a Japanese hand, was raised against the Chinese Peace Envoy, that it was an outright breach of the law of nations will remain written forever on the pages of history. We can never forget the simple fact that the doer of the outrageous deed, Koyama, is one of our countrymen, a member of our community, stained our national honour, disgraced our country, and brought, to a certain extent, suspicion and ill-will of uninformed foreigners towards our good fellow citizens.

Nor is the case of Koyama an isolated one. There was a few years ago the case of Tsuda Sanzo, and years ago the cases of Kurushima, of Nishino, of Shimada, and his fellow workers. All these human phenomena, which, like volcanic eruptions, occasionally burst forth, and strike terror into our hearts, must have their hidden source of action in some of the crevices of the strata through which flows the current of our national thought. Whether the sword of the assassin be drawn against his own countrymen or against foreigners, it matters not, it must have the same spring, the same motive of action. To discover such causes, which are surely many and also complicated,—complicated as the constitution of the human mind and that of the social fabric,—is not an easy task, and even after they are seen, it is still more difficult to state them, lest it might offend the feelings of a certain class of people. But let us be frank, and have the boldness of our convictions. Among the causes may be numbered the excitable temperament, and uneven balanced nature of the brains of some of our countrymen, but the real and chief causes, it seems to me, are:

1. The way in which the *soshi* have been allowed to play their rôle recently on the political stage.

2. The old principle of Feudalism, which still lingers in the head of the conservative class.

3. The inadequacy of the Chinese doctrines of loyalty, patriotism, and morality, to meet the moral demands of our people in the present status of our national growth.

The way in which the *soshi* have been allowed to keep their wretched and mischievous existence in our political society have always appeared to me strange. It is needless for me to recount here what damage the *soshi* have done. Professing to be the mouth-pieces of liberty, they have been its chief enemies. Acting as the tools and instruments of politicians, they have obstructed the march of constitutionalism. Threatening with blows, if their wishes were not complied with, they have carried terror into the hearts of peaceful citizens. Living like parasites, they have sucked out the juices of the plant they live on. They have been the hotbeds where germinated with mushroom growth all sorts of distorted political plants,—distorted Patriotism, distorted Liberty. Full of these distorted ideas; they are men of ambition, of strong passion, of physical strength, it is not unnatural that they should plan to distinguish themselves by some feat, and, as no avenue of honourable career is open before them, to celebrate and immortalize their names by braving their lives, and hitting a mark of the State which will send a thrill of awe and amazement throughout the Empire and probably throughout the world. It is thus that the *soshi* turn themselves into bravoes. It was thus that the swords ran through the bodies of the lamented Okubo and Mori. It was thus that Count Okuma lost a leg, that Count Itagaki and others endangered their lives. It was thus that Li Hung-chang was wounded. Such heinous crimes as these seem to them as nothing but the acts of true patriotism and honour. That no one but these ruffians are responsible for this monstrous deed no intelligent person will hesitate to declare. And yet, philosophically considered, are not these misconceptions, these distorted ideas of patriotism and of loyalty, which give birth to the actions of these men, the result, in a certain degree, of education, of the historical growth, of the principles and teachings which once ruled our society, and with which our youths have hitherto bred.

The old feudal principle of complete devotion to a feudal lord, to live and die for him and for him alone, to have his joys and sorrows, his friends and enemies, to sacrifice, if necessary, our lives, our home, our property for his cause, to consider as our sacred and first duty to avenge his murder or his wrongs with whatever means in our power,—this old spirit of the *samurai* has, in certain respects, the nobleness of character, which naturally extorts our praise, and is well worth its life of many hundred years during our feudal period. But this same principle, when misguided and misapplied in this enlightened age of ours, when carried to its extreme, converts into evil, into lawlessness and crime, not to say of provincialism and bigotry. Again the Chinese doctrines of loyalty, patriotism, and morality, which since their importation have moulded our public opinion and guided our conduct of life during our past absolute monarchical age, however they might contain large amounts of truth, however they might have done good in the old times, are certainly inadequate to rule us in our constitutional age. And, moreover, among these Chinese doctrines and feudal principles, or in what might be called hybrid Chino-feudal principles, are contained the seed which, in an immature mind, ferments into a poison, some teachings, which as their natural conclusion, will lead us to justify the crime of certain murder, namely the assassination of the high officials or men whom the assassins consider as tyrants, oppressors, or evil-doers of the State,—nay, not only to justify us for such crimes but to deem them as the acts of patriotism, of loyalty, and of high morality. When we examine the letters or utterances of the perpetrators of those crimes hitherto committed, do we not always find them announcing and boasting that, from the pure motive of loyalty and patriotism, they have done their work. If there is nothing in some of the current opinions and doctrines to back them in their declarations and deeds, how can they, without shame and fear, stand before the public and declare themselves so boldly? Do they not think as finding their precedents in our history, or in that of China? Do they not deem themselves as ranking among the patriots and loyal subjects, who have saved their country and their lord by similar deeds? Do they not consider themselves as enrolled among those immortal heroes, as the forty-seven *ronins*, upon whom we have heaped honours and praises, whose shrines are brightened by ever-burning lights, and are the resort of thousands of pilgrims every year? And are not, in fact those murderers Shimada, Nishino, and others, upon whom we ought to look with the utmost detestation and horror, and whose remains ought to have been scattered to the four winds, enshrined in tombs, and have become objects, it is strange to say, of adoration and worship! Can we say, in face of these facts, that the spring of those atrocious acts is wholly in the constitution of their abnormal brains, and not in a tributary of the old current of our national thought, in some of the old feudal principles and Chinese doctrines?

If such are the true causes which result in those murderous deeds which greatly reflect upon our national honour, here also shall we find our effective remedy. The old garbs of feudal principle and Chinese doctrines were fine and well suited in their days. But they are too old, too rotten, to clothe us to-day. The times have changed. We have outgrown the old society of feudalism and of absolute monarchy. In our constitutional age, we need new garbs, new principles. It is time for us to uproot the rotten parts of the old principles of society, and to supplant them with modern, healthy, liberal thoughts. The time is past when we were taught to worship our king as a supernatural being. The time is come when we adore our Emperor as the personification of the sovereign state, as the incarnation of law in him, when it must be clearly understood that a breach of the law of the country, of the law of nations, which our Emperor respects, is an act of violation against him, and against the country. The time is come when every member of our community should understand that true patriotism lies in the performance of the duty allotted to him in his own sphere, in being an industrious, lawful, peaceful, at the same time brave citizen. That the diffusion of modern liberal ideas is of the first importance, is the most effective means of preventing those crimes of Koyama, Tsuda Sanzo, and others, needs no further remark. The second measure of importance will be the complete expulsion of the *soshi* from our political arena. Our public opinion must be strong enough to crush such scandalous human existence. It must come to be considered as a great shame for politicians to use such rascals as the instruments of furthering their political designs. The third is that strong measures must be adopted not only to punish those assassins, but to show clearly the indignation of the nation against them. The burning of incense by ignorant people before their tombs, or any such sign of respect paid to their remains, must be strictly forbidden by law.

In conclusion, whatever may have been the causes which produced such an incident as that of Shimonoseki, it teaches us how delicate, how wonderful is the mechanism of an organized State, how its composite elements, when individually considered, however unrelated they may seem to an organized whole, how even one of these elements may inflict, when it touches us how one man may raise or spoil the honour of the State, and change the course of history. It teaches us how closely we are as a nation related to one another, how the interests and welfare of the nation depend upon the well-being of individuals, and hence how important is the national education. It teaches us how powerful in its influence, how weighty in its consequences, are the ideas which mould and guide the public mind, and hence how careful we must be of the intellectual and moral atmosphere in which we move and have our being.

CRICKET.

YOKOHAMA VERSUS THE FLEET.

An all-day match was played on Saturday between a local eleven and a team from Her Majesty's Fleet, and resulted in a win for the Y.C. & A.C., by 27 runs on the first innings. The day opened bright and breezy, but as the afternoon drew on the heavens clouded over, and the match concluded under leaden skies. The Fleet went in to bat, Arbuthnot and Thring defending against the bowling of Walford and Philip. Thring was the first to score a couple off Walford. In the next over he obtained another couple from the same bowler, while Arbuthnot obtained a 3 and a single from Walford, Philip's first two overs being maidens. Five more runs were made off Walford and then White relieved him. In this bowler's third over Arbuthnot went under, and the score stood, 27—1—9. Upon Powlett joining Thring a long stand was made the newcomer staying in until 69 were registered, then he was clean bowled by Denne: 69—2—26. Dr. Harries was caught by Kenyon off Denne before he had broken his duck: 69—3—0; and Keary had only added a single when Denne found his wickets: 70—4—1. Fitzherbert, who followed, put up a ball, which Kenyon held; meanwhile, Thring had scored another two: 72—5—0. Hale, who took the vacant crease, made a little better stand, and succeeded in knocking up 7—including one to the boundary for 4—ere he was caught by Mair, 87—6—7. Keys scored two singles and was then held by Philip. Thring had been quietly getting runs during all these changes, and when Keys left the field the score stood, 100—7—2. After this the end came quickly; Denne scattered Thring's wickets, White bowled Compton and Steel—the score still sticking at the century—and Reinold carried out his bat without scoring. Denne's bowling analysis was: 55 balls, 32 runs, 2 maidens 7 wickets, and 2 wides; not a bad performance for a hot June day.

Crawford and White opened for Yokohama, but the latter made only a short stay, being cleaned bowled by Powlett in the fourth over: 1—1—5. Denne succeeded and opened in dashing style with a boundary hit, this was followed by a single and another boundary; then Arbuthnot stopped what looked like a brilliant career, the ball breaking off the bat on to the wickets: 17—2—9. Crawford had quickly settled down to his usual play, cutting to leg, and when Walford joined him the score began to mount steadily but surely. At 81 the partnership was sundered, Walford playing a ball right into Arbuthnot's hands: 81—3—36. The retiring batsman's score included 3 fours, 1 three, and 5 twos. Crawford did not remain long after losing Walford, for at 84, Fitzherbert caught him prettily off Powlett: 84—4—33. Johnson was dismissed without scoring, then Tyng and Bugbird came together, and before the former was bowled the score lacked but two of the Navy's total. Kenyon next joined Bugbird, and by some careful play the result was soon placed beyond question, the score being taken to 126 before a separation was brought about. The next three men added nothing to the score, and the innings closed for 127, Bugbird carrying out his bat for a capital 21. It was now about half-past four o'clock, and after a few minutes the Fleet went in again. In their second venture they compiled 90 for eight wickets, of which Fitzherbert made 38. A naval band was in attendance and played a capital selection of music, greatly to the delight of the many ladies who graced the match with their presence during the afternoon. Scores:—

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Fitzherbert, b. Powlett	33
Mr. F. H. White, b. Powlett	5
Mr. G. Denne, b. Arbuthnot	9
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. Arbuthnot, b. Powlett	30
Rev. T. S. Tyng, b. Arbuthnot	8
Mr. C. K. Johnson, c. Arbuthnot, b. Powlett	0
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, not out	21
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, b. Harries	12
Mr. G. Philip, c. Powlett, b. Thring	0
Mr. H. R. Mair, c. and b. Harries	0
Mr. M. Kingdon, b. Harries	0
b. 2, l.b. 1	3
	127

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Arbuthnot	110	49	8	2
Mr. Powlett	85	45	2	4
Mr. Reinold	20	6	2	—
Mr. Thring	35	14	2	1
Mr. Compton	15	10	1	—
Mr. Hale	20	7	1	—
Mr. Harries	11	2	1	3

THE FLEET.

1ST INNINGS.		2ND INNINGS.	
Lieut. Sir R. K. Arbuthnot, b. White	9	c. Kenyon, b. White	2
Lieut. W. H. Thring, b. Denne	49	not out	10
Lieut. F. A. Powlett, b. Denne	26	c. Crawford, b. White	7
Dr. H. Harries, c. Kenyon, b. Denne	0	not out	3
Com. J. W. Keary, b. Denne	1		
Lieut. Fitzherbert, c. Kenyon, b. Denne	0	b. Philip	38
Lieut. E. M. Hale, c. Mair, b. Denne	7	b. White	3
Mr. J. A. Keys, c. Philip, b. Denne	2	c. and b. Philip	3
Mr. W. B. Compton, b. White	0	st. Kenyon, b. White	5
Mr. H. A. Reinold, not out	0	b. White	0
Mr. J. M. Steel, b. White	0	st. Kenyon, b. White	5
b. 3, l.b. 1, w. 2	6	b. 4, l.b. 2, w. 2	8
	100		90

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	1ST INNINGS.					2ND INNINGS.				
	B.	R.	M.	W.	WD.	B.	R.	M.	W.	WD.
Mr. Walford	15	13	—	—	—					
Mr. Philip	50	25	3	—	—	35	19	1	2	2
Mr. White	78	24	3	2	—	100	57	6	6	—
Mr. Denne	55	32	2	7	2	35	19	—	—	—
Mr. Johnson						25	7	3	—	—

THE FLEET VERSUS YOKOHAMA.

The return match, Fleet versus an Eleven of the Y.C. & A.C., took place on Thursday, and proved another win for Yokohama, this time by 66½ runs. Notwithstanding the heavy soaking the ground had undergone during the preceding three days,

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the wicket was in very good condition, though at the start the ball hung somewhat. The Fleet won the toss and put in the local players. Dickinson and Denne went out first to defend against the bowling of Arbuthnot and Powlett. The light was terribly bad, the sun though hidden behind fleecy white clouds, diffusing a nasty glare. To this must be attributed the disastrous opening of the Yokohama team: within about five minutes of commencing three wickets fell for two runs, both White and Denne being dismissed by Arbuthnot without breaking their ducks. This must surely be a record in the history of the Club. Upon Walford joining Dickinson, Yokohama's hopes began to ascend a little, though the fielding and bowling of the Navy's representatives were not to be trifled with. At 50 Dickinson was caught by Noble: 50-4-29. Crawford filled the vacancy and opened with a dash, making 19 in couples and fours, before scoring one single. Meanwhile, Noble had caught Walford: 52-5-13. Soon after an adjournment was made for tiffin. Healing and Crawford went out together upon play being resumed, and Healing stayed until 103 was telegraphed. He made the biggest hit of the day during his innings, sending the ball outside the ground for 6: after which he was caught by Powlett, 103-7-18. Kenyon was the only other man to get into double figures, scoring a useful 13, not out. The innings closed for 140, which included only eight extras.

The Navy did not show to the advantage expected when they went in to bat, all their wickets falling within a couple of hours for 84, though the light and ground had much improved. Three players only got into double figures;—Thring 10, Fitzherbert 12, and Veale 10. Lias and Denne's bowling averages both read well—Lias bowling 90 balls for 24 runs and 4 wickets; Denne 33 balls, 20 runs, 4 wickets. The extras, however, doubled the Navy's and one over, being just 17. Yokohama in their second innings made 142 for two wickets, Dickinson being not out, 57, and Kenyon 1, not out, when the stumps were drawn. A band was in attendance, and many ladies graced the game with their presence both morning and afternoon. Scores:—

YOKOHAMA.

1ST INNINGS.		2ND INNINGS.	
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, c. Noble, b. Arbuthnot	39	not out	57
Mr. G. Denne, b. Arbuthnot ...	0		
Mr. F. E. White., b. Arbuthnot..	0	st. Fitzherbert, b. Arbuthnot	42
Mr. F. Murray, b. Powlett ...	1		
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. Noble, b. Blount	13		
Mr. K. F. Crawford, l.b.w., b. Thring	40	c. Thring, b. Powlett...	33
Mr. E. Morriss, b. Powlett ...	9		
Mr. L. J. Healing, c. Powlett, b. Fergusson	18		
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, not out ...	13	not out	1
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Arbuthnot ...	9		
Mr. G. Philip, b. Fergusson ...	0		
b. 6, l.b. 1, w. 1...	8	b. 8, l.b. 1	9
	140		142

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	1ST INNINGS. B.	R.	M.	W.	WDS.	2ND INNINGS. B.	R.	M.	W.	WDS.
Mr. Arbuthnot	65	28	3	4	—	55	42	—	1	—
Mr. Powlett ...	80	33	4	2	—	50	15	—	1	—
Mr. Veale ...	15	12	1	—	—	50	18	3	—	—
Mr. Blount ...	20	7	1	4	1	30	12	—	—	1
Mr. Fergusson	47	26	3	2	—	30	20	—	—	—
Mr. Thring ...	40	26	—	1	—	20	16	1	—	—
Mr. Hale ...						15	11	1	—	—

THE FLEET.

Lieut. W. C. H. Thring, l.b.w., b. Lias	10
Mr. F. B. Noble, c. Crawford, b. Murray	3
Lieut. F. A. Powlett, b. Murray	5
Lieut. R. K. Arbuthnot, b. Lias	2
Lieut. E. S. Fitzherbert, st. Dickinson, b. Lias	10
Lieut. H. R. Veale, l.b.w., b. Lias,...	18
Lieut. E. M. Hale, b. Denne	1
Mr. W. J. A. Kennedy, b. Denne	9
Com. Keary, c. Healing, b. Denne	6
Lieut. Fergusson, c. Morriss, b. Denne	3
Mr. G. R. Blount, not out	0
b. 13, l.b. 2, w. 2	17
	84

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WDS.
Mr. Murray ...	60	23	2	3	2
Mr. Lias	90	24	3	4	—
Mr. Denne ...	33	20	2	4	—

"THE FOURTH."

The sun, which has been playing truant for several days past, came out in all his splendour on Thursday, in honour of the Fourth of July, the national holiday of citizens of the United States of America. From an early hour bombs and firecrackers were discharged in the Settlement and from ships in the harbour. Bunting was liberally displayed from the business houses in the Settlement, and at private residences on the Bluff; and in the evening the U.S. Naval Hospital and the Grand Hotel were profusely decorated with lanterns. At noon a salute of 21 guns was fired by the warships in harbour, these comprising the U.S.S. *Baltimore*, H.M.S. *Centurion*, *Undaunted*, *Edgar*, *Leander*, *Alacrity*, H.I.R.M.S. *Kasbuynik* and *Manjur*, and the French flagship *Bayard*. All these ships, as well as many merchant vessels, were dressed rainbow fashion. A cricket-match took place during the day, in which team from H.M. Fleet was worsted by the Y.C. & A.C. by 66 runs. The sailing race resulted in a win for *Maid Marion* after a good struggle. As night drew on crowds collected on the Bund to witness the display of fireworks, which were discharged from floats moored opposite the Grand Hotel. The set pieces were very fine. Several of the warships were illuminated and let off rockets and other fireworks. A procession of boats gaily hung with lanterns, and carrying a band, was towed round the shipping between 9 and 10 o'clock, creating a pleasing effect. A model of the *Baltimore*, which was taken round the harbour during the day, created quite a sensation, so beautifully finished was it in detail. Admiral Carpenter received during the afternoon on board his flagship, the *Baltimore*, and nearly the whole of the American community were present.

Owing to the weight of the boys and men who climbed up on to the iron palisading of the Grand Hotel (on the side nearest Farsari's) the whole structure was pulled down during the evening. Fortunately nobody was hurt.

SILK SHIPMENTS.

Mr. Geo. H. Allcock, over date July 1, 1895, issues the following statistics:—

SILK SHIPPERS FROM YOKOHAMA FOR SEASON 1894-95.

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	5,070
Chauvin, Chevalier & Co.	943
C. & J. Trading Co., Limited	540
Cornes & Co.	50
Dourille, P.	770
Fraser, Farley & Co.	819
Frazar & Co.	110
Gouilloud, L.	72
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	3,338
Merian, J. R. & Co.	132
Middleton & Co.	365
Nabholz & Osenbrüggen	3,342
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	3,173
Reimers, O. & Co.	1,521
Robinson & Co.	1,889
Schoene, F.	476
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	12,516
Sieber & Co.	3,425
Smith, Baker & Co.	20
Strachan, W. M. & Co.	772
Varenne & Co.	1,608
Vidal, Jose	3
Vivanti Bros.	3,605
Yokohama Kiito Gomei-Kwaisha	5,563
Doshin Kwaisha	1,274
Total ..... Bales	51,396

AGAINST FOR SEASONS.

1893-91. Bales.	1891-92. Bales.	1892-93 Bales.	1893-94. Bales.	1894-95. Bales.
England . 105...	116...	79...	250...	50
The Continent.....15,209...	18,890...	19,328...	24,425...	22,601
The United States ...18,343...	30,035...	27,448...	12,342...	28,745
38,657...	46,041...	46,855...	44,017...	51,396

1889-90.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1886-87.
35,505 Bls....	41,264 Bls....	38,958 Bls....	26,370 Bls.
1885-86.	1884-85.	1883-84.	1882-83.
25,884 Bls....	25,402 Bls....	29,967 Bls....	28,716 Bls.

	Bales.
Japanese Shipments. Season 1880/81...	2,940
Japanese Shipments. Season 1881/82...	5,089
Japanese Shipments. Season 1882/83...	3,740
Japanese Shipments. Season 1883/84...	6,348
Japanese Shipments. Season 1884/85...	5,641
Japanese Shipments. Season 1885/86...	3,933
Japanese Shipments. Season 1886/87...	3,758
Japanese Shipments. Season 1887/88...	3,680
Japanese Shipments. Season 1888/89...	2,826
Japanese Shipments. Season 1889/90...	2,495
Japanese Shipments. Ssason 1890/91...	2,710
Japanese Shipments. Season 1891/92...	4,396
Japansse Shipments. Season 1892/93...	4,012
Japanese Shipments. Season 1893/94...	5,153
Japanese Shipments. Seasou 1894/95...	6,837

The Silk Season is computed from 1st July to 30th June.

Continental shipments include optional ones, *i.e.* for the Continent or London.

Weight of Bales shipped season 1994/95=52,533 Piculs.

SILK SHIPPERS FROM YOKOHAMA TO THE UNITED STATES ONLY: 1894-95.

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	3,682
C. & J. Trading Co., Limited	540
Fraser, Farley & Co.	819
Frazar & Co.	110
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	2,651
Middleton & Co.	365
Nabholz and Osenbrüggen	943
Pila, Ulysse & Co.	1,431
Reimers, O. & Co.	186
Robison & Co.	67
Siber, Brennwald & Co.	6,308
Sieber & Co.	1,305
Smith, Baker & Co.	20
Strachan, W. M. & Co.	263
Vivanti Bros.	3,605
Yokohama Kiito Gomei-Kwaisha	5,179
Doshin Kaisha	1,271
Total	28,745

AGAINST FOR SEASONS.

1894-95.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1889-90.
28,745 Bls....	27,448 Bls....	30,035 Bls....	18,343 Bls....	20,377 Bls.
1888-89.	1887-88.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.
19,921 Bls....	20,964 Bls....	14,001 Bls. ..	15,034 Bls....	11,143 Bls.

YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

(CRIMINAL SECTION.)

Before Judge KATSUURA and Associate Judges MIYAJIMA and OHASHI.

SATURDAY, 29th JUNE, 1895.

THE BARRADAS CASE.

Judgment in the case of Augusto C. Barradas and Morikawa Ginnosuke, charged with having attempted to obtain money under false pretences, was given by the Court this morning.

The Judge first stated that the evidence showed that Morikawa Ginnosuke first swindled his friends in July last when he obtained *yen* 6, pretending to pay that sum for a translation of an inventory of the property, whereas he explained the matter to Barradas in Japanese without the aid of an English translation. Secondly, Morikawa fraudulently obtained *yen* 30, under the false pretence that he had paid that sum to Barradas as a portion of the expenses of a dinner given at the Kaiko-ro to persons that had been asked to raise a loan of *yen* 100,000 from a foreigner. Morikawa next obtained *yen* 40 for expenses of inspecting the mine in Toyama Prefecture, and then *yen* 20, which he alleged was for some presents to Barradas. Finally, Morikawa attempted to obtain *yen* 324, which he stated had been paid by Barradas to Fonseca in connection with the loan. These circumstances having raised the suspicions of the borrowers, they distrusted Morikawa and the latter failed to accomplish his nefarious design. The above facts being proved by the evidence of witnesses, the Court sentenced Morikawa to major confinement for one year and six months, a fine of twenty *yen*, and to police supervision for six months and costs of Court, in accordance with Section 390 of the Criminal Code. Evidence that Barradas was associated with Morikawa being wanting, the accused, Barradas, was found not guilty and acquitted.

THE RHEINGOLD CASE.

MR. ENSLIE'S AWARD AND THE REASONS.

The finding in this case was delivered by Mr. Enslie in H.B.M's. Court at Kobe on Tuesday morning. He said:—Whereas a certain Charter Party was on the 10th day of November, 1894, signed by Messrs. Faber and Voigt of Kobe as agents for the master and owners of the German steamship *Rheingold* and Mr. Matahachiro Tachikawa, also of Kobe; and whereas certain disputes and differences have arisen and are still existing between the parties aforesaid with regard to an alleged breach of the said Charter Party; and whereas the *Chiji* of Hiogo Ken and and the Imperial German Consul for Hiogo and Osaka, respectively acting under instructions from His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs and from the Imperial German Minister at Tokio, have requested me, James Joseph Enslie, of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister at-Law, to undertake the duties of Umpire in the disputes and differences aforsaid, it being distinctly understood and agreed upon that my decision as Umpire shall be final and without appeal; and

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whereas subsequently the *Chiji* of Hiogo Ken and the Imperial German Consul for Hiogo and Osaka, acting under the instructions aforesaid have requested me to undertake the duties of sole Arbitrator in the said disputes and differences; and whereas Counsel for the parties in the said disputes and differences have drawn up and submitted to me certain issues, to the following effect:

1.—Whether a breach of Article 7 of the aforesaid Charter Party was committed by the Captain of the steamer *Rheingold*, and if so what amount of damages is payable in respect thereof.

2.—Whether a breach of Article 10 of the aforesaid Charter party was committed by the Charterer, and if so, what amount of damages is payable in respect thereof;

Now I, the said sole Arbitrator, having, with the knowledge and consent of Her Britannic Majesty's Minister at Tokyo, taken upon myself the burthen of this reference, and having duly weighed and considered the several allegations of the said parties and of their witnesses, and also the proofs, vouchers and documents which have been given in evidence before me, do hereby make and publish my award in writing of and concerning the matters above referred to me, in manner following, that is to say:—

(1).—A breach of Article 7 of the Charter Party dated the 10th day of November, 1894, made between Messrs. Faber and Voigt, of No. 25, Settlement, Kobe, as Agents for the steamship *Rheingold* and Mr. Tachikawa Matahachiro, was committed by the master of the said steamship.

(2).—The charterer was by reason of the default of the master of the steamship *Rheingold* relieved of the obligation imposed on him by clause 10 of the Charter Party.

(3).—Losses have been caused to Mr. Tachikawa Matahachiro by reason of the said default.

(4).—The following sums of money are due and payable by the master and owners of the S.S. *Rheingold* to Mr. Tachikawa Matahachiro by way of damages and other compensation.

Claim No. 1.—Making and fixing accommodation for about 1,200 passengers on S.S. *Rheingold*.....	$1,818.00
Claim No. 2.—Items A—G inclusive ...	676.12
Claim No. 3.—Penalty paid on freight and passenger contracts to Kofuji Shoten	4,500.00
Claim No. 4.—Travelling expenses only allowed	195.41
Claim No. 5.—Eleven days' freight 11 to 21st Feb. last	1,613.33
Claim No. 6.—Admitted	1,000.00
Claim No. 7.—Item C. telegrams	70.00
Item E. Provisions for Compradores	20.00
Item F. Salary of 5 Compradores...	50.00
Item G. Sampan hire.....	5.00
Item H. Commissions, etc.	204.00
Item I. Customs fee	25.00
Claim No. 8.—Item B. Coolie hire	89.62
Item C. Lighterage.....	54.50
Item D. Landing and Carriage to Godowns	49.36

(5).—The following sum of money is due and payable by Mr. Tachikawa Matahachiro to the Master and Owners of the S.S. *Rheingold*:

Consular fees, 41.81.

And I award and direct that the Master and Owners of the S.S. *Rheingold* do pay all reasonable costs incidental to this Arbitration to be taxed if necessary and on application by me.

And I award and direct that all sums of money due by or to the parties under this award shall be forthwith paid out of the monies now deposited with me in this arbitration, and that the balance, if any, shall be paid to him or them to whom the same shall be lawfully due.

And I award, order, and determine that the said damages and the several matters and things awarded and directed to be done by or with regard to the parties to this reference, respectively as aforesaid, shall respectively be paid, received, done, accepted, and taken as and for full discharge and satisfaction, and as a final end and determination of the several matters aforesaid, and in difference between the parties referred to me.

In witness whereof I, the said James Joseph Enslie, have hereunto set my hand this second day of July one thousand eight hundred and ninety five.

(Sgd.) J. J. ENSLIE.

Witness to the signature of
James Joseph Enslie.
ERNEST A. GRIFFITHS.

* * * * *

REASONS.

As the proceedings in this arbitration have, at my suggestion, in which Counsel for both parties acquiesced, been of a public character, it is quite unnecessary, in stating the reasons for my award, to refer at any great length to the evidence on which it is based.

It is proper to state that in arriving at my decision I have been guided by the broad business principles enunciated at various times by eminent men, whose opinions are held in high esteem in commercial circles and have been invariably received with great respect throughout the civilised world.

During the course of these remarks I shall, when occasion requires, quote from those views in support of the conclusion I have arrived at.

The matter referred to me for arbitration is an alleged breach of a Charter Party, and the damage, if any, resulting therefrom. On the 10th of November, 1894, a Charter Party was signed by Messrs. Faber and Voigt of Kobe as agents for Captain and Owners of the German steamer *Rheingold*, and Mr. Matahachiro Tachikawa therein described as the Charterer.

The following is the substance of portions of that document, material to this arbitration:—

Par. 1.—The steamer in every respect thoroughly seaworthy, with necessary officers and crew, and so maintained by the owners during the continuance of the charter, shall between 25th Novr. and about 10th Decr. 1894 be placed at the disposal of the charterer or his agents for voyages on the coast of Japan.

Par. 2.—The entire capacity of the vessel shall be placed during a period of 5 months at the disposal of the charterer, with power to re-let the ship in whole or part.

Par. 3.—Charterer shall provide fuel for the steamer, and be entitled to lay a 'tween deck and or a lower deck at his own expense for passengers.

Par. 4.—Exception clause as to the Act of God, perils of the sea, etc., and every danger and accident to hull and machinery, of whatsoever kind or nature.

Par. 7.—Time consumed in repairing any accident to hull or machinery if exceeding 24 hours shall be deducted from the time of the charter: in which case the Captain must previously notify Charterer or his Agents that he will require more than 24 hours to complete repairs.

Par. 9.—Charterer to be allowed to load passengers.

Par. 10.—Charter money 4,400 yen per month, payable every half month in advance at Kobe.

Par. 11.—Captain and owners to have a lien on cargo for charter money.

Par. 22.—Disputes to be settled by arbitration at Kobe.

Par. 23.—Damages for non-performance to be the estimated amount of loss and payable as liquidated damages by the party delinquent to the party observant.

Added paragraph.—A deposit of 1,000 silver yen to remain with steamer's agents at Kobe during running of the charter.

The charter actually commenced on 3rd December, 1894, and consequently expired on 3rd May last. Some days consumed in repairs being allowed the last payment was made on 8th February last, the next one falling due on 25th of that month. As to the nature of the charter, the witness for the owners, Mr. Clement, said in his examination in chief:—"The charter is a time-charter. A time-charter is one which is closed by time, also called a monthly charter, being usually paid by the month. It is paid for either half-monthly or monthly, in advance. The charterer has to take care of the ship as far as loading and discharge of cargo is concerned; he furnishes coal, etc., as ordered by the Captain. The steamer furnishes provisions and engine room stores only. For dispatch of steamer the Captain looks for orders to charterer, who also pays the necessary advances to the Captain as required at various ports."

From this it is evident that the instrument under consideration is a time-charter, in which notwithstanding the temporary rights of the charterer to have his goods loaded and conveyed in the vessel, the ownership remains in the original owners, and, through the Master and crew, who continue to be their servants, the possession of the ship also. There is here no demise of the ship itself either express or implied. It amounts to nothing more than a grant to the charterer of the right to have his cargo conveyed in the ship, while the ship continues, through the Master and crew, in possession of the owner, they remaining his servants.

The charterer availed himself of the rights conferred by Clause 2 of the Charter Party and promptly transferred the rights he had obtained in the ship to Shohachi Nishitani as sub-charterer. The Agents and Master of the *Rheingold* have throughout been aware of this, and there is abundant evidence that they consented to this arrangement and that they have always treated the sub-charterer in every respect as a principal in the daily transaction of all business matters. It is perfectly clear to me that Mr. Tachikawa's principal if not sole object in chartering the *Rheingold*, was to sub-let the ship. The acts of the Captain show unmistakably that he was aware of this fact. Mr. Tachikawa is accountable to Mr. Nishitani; the former of course looks to the Captain and Owners of the steamer *Rheingold*.

In pursuance of the Charter, the steamer arrived at Fushiki on the North-West coast of the island of Niphon, with the supercargo of the sub-charterer on board. After discharging, and while other cargo was being put on board by the supercargo, the loading was, about noon on the 11th of February last, stopped by the Captain on account of a leak in the after peak tank. He, the Captain, stated in his examination-in-chief that he told Mr. Koto, the compradore and interpreter then on board, it was better to stop loading to avoid damage to the cargo, and to save expenses, perhaps having to again take out the merchandise, because, as he says.—"I had to observe where the leak properly was." Mr. Koto, on the other hand, states that when he asked the Captain why he stopped the loading, the latter said he had forgotten one thing at Kobe, therefore he had to telegraph; and when Mr. Koto asked him what he should say to Mr. Kano, the agent for the sub-charterer, the Captain told him to say that the loading had been stopped by the Captain's orders.

In this connection, the evidence shows that though repeatedly applied to by the sub-charterer, through his agents, for explanation and written notice, nothing was given till the evening of 12th of February, when an interview took place on board and the Captain finally gave the sub-charterer's agent the following letter:—

Fushiki, 11th February, 1895.

To the Sub-Charterer
Mr. NISHIYA SHOHACHI.

DEAR SIR,—Please take notice that on my order I was compelled by some reason of the ship to stop loading cargo this date noon, and shall give immediate further notice what will be done as soon as I have received answer about my telegram as instructions for me from Europe.

W. G. BAHLS,
Master of S.S. *Rheingold*.

With regard to the date of this letter, Captain Bahls says it was written on the evening of the 12th, but dated the 11th in compliance with a request made by the sub-charterer's agent. Mr. Kano expressed much dissatisfaction at the vagueness of the notice, and the expression,—"by some reason of the ship," and, having repeatedly pressed the master for something more definite, Captain Bahls stated that he remembered saying in reply:—'You want me to answer at once, I cannot do so, as I may have to go back to Kobe, according to the answer from home."

As regards notice by the Master of the *Rheingold*, it is urged on behalf of the Charterer, that the proper form under the Charter Party was one in writing. There is ambiguity in paragraph seven of that instrument as to the form of notice to be given by the Master. It is a well approved rule that where the parties to a document have used language which admits of two constructions, the one contrary to the apparent general intent, and the other consistent with it, the latter shall be observed to be the true construction. Moreover, ambiguity may be explained by the conduct of the parties.

I find the present intention to have been that written notice should be given, and that for the following reasons:—

(1)—Captain Bahls gave written notice on a previous occasion, when on the 23rd of January last he, in Kobe, informed the sub-charterer that the vessel would be put on the slip.

(2).—In his examination in chief, Captain Bahls says:—"At first I did not notify the sub-charterers in writing because I did not know what was the matter, and because I had to observe and find out where the leak was.

(3).—In the absence of written notice it would be difficult, if not impossible, to correctly assess the time allowance to which the charterer would on occasion be entitled under clause seven.

Exception was also taken to the vagueness of the original verbal and the ultimate written notice. A limited knowledge of the English language, and the inability to obtain cement, as alleged by Cap. Bahls, are in no way valid reasons for not giving intelligible explanations as to the stopping of work on board ship. Moreover, in giving notice on the former occasion, referred to above, the Master's action was satisfactorily explained. Captain Bahls telegraphed to his Owners somewhere about 4 p.m. on February 11th. The exact nature of the leak was discovered about 3 p.m. on the 12th. The Master is uncertain whether he obtained cement on the morning of the 12th or the morning of the 13th, but he is very clear on the following point, namely, that after the Engineer had tried to chisel

the leak tight on the 12th, the repairs commenced at about 6 a.m. on the 13th, and took about four hours to complete.

The reply from Europe was received at the Fushiki Telegraph Office at 9.30 a.m. on the 13th, as marked on the message put in as an exhibit. The necessary repairs were therefore begun 3½ hours before the Owners' instructions reached the town of Fushiki. The witness, Mr. Caswell, a member of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, called on behalf of the Captain and Owners of the S.S. *Rheingold*, says that he is an Engineer, and that he made a report for the Bureau Veritas on the machinery of the ship in January last. In cross-examination he stated :—" I have not seen the leak. I had been told the leak was in the after tank, I do not think it a place where any very bad leakage could take place." There is nothing before me to warrant the conclusion other than that the leak was of no great importance.

Eminent exponents of the legal and equitable principles, which must govern business transactions, hold that ship owners are liable for accidents occurring on the vogage of a ship, such as damage done by the explosion of a boiler, the bursting of a screw shaft made by one of the best firms, no flaw having been discovered until laid bare by the breaking of the shaft. It has been urged that the leak in the after peak tank was a peril of the sea. I do not hold that view; it is not one of those dangers peculiarly incident to being on or passing over the seas.

Paragraph 4 of the Charter Party is a very sweeping clause, in favour of the ship owner as regards the Act of God, Restraint of Princes, Enemies, Fire, and every other danger and accident to hull and machinery and perils of the sea and navigation of every kind and nature.

The evidence before me does not, however, show that the Master acted with necessary, reasonable diligence in the matter of discovery of the exact nature of the leak, nor in the repairing of it; neither did he in my opinion take such steps as a prudent man would have in the interests of all concerned in the venture.

On receipt of the written notice, the agent of the sub-charterer informed the Captain that he had committed a breach of the Charter Party and that he would be held responsible for all damages. A Charter Party is originally made with a view to carrying out a commercial project, which may be frustrated by an unreasonably prolonged delay; and the parties must be considered to have entered into it contemplating that a delay might have that effect. An enforced interruption of the loading will not excuse that charterer from completing it, unless the effect has been to change the commercial character of the voyage. On the other hand, a Master is justified in reasonable delay to ascertain the nature of a danger, a reasonable delay to avoid it, or to consult his Owners if communication with them is possible. If the Master delays unreasonably, or to a greater extent than a prudent man under the circumstances would, the cargo owner's position depends on whether the delay is so unreasonable as to put an end to the contract from a commercial point of view. The Captain was aware of the nature of the engagements of the sub-charterer, he knew that arrangements had been made to carry cargo and passengers. The advisability of communicating with the owner, must be estimated by a consideration of the facts rendering immediate action necessary, and of the delay resulting from an attempt to make such communication. I am distinctly of opinion that the despatch of the telegram to the owners caused much loss of valuable time, that immediate action was necessary and possible and that there was unreasonable delay in the repairing of the leak, rendering it impossible for the charterer to carry out his engagement.

With regard to damages for breach of contract, it is a universally recognised principle that every wrong-doer is responsible for the natural consequences of his civil wrong, and for those only; for such he must make fair compensation to the injured. Damages must be the immediate result of the act complained of; if they be not the proximate, natural and ordinary consequences of the wrong-doer, they are too remote. The damages alleged, must fairly, reasonably, and naturally arise from the breach; it therefore follows that damage resulting indirectly from a wrong-doer to another is not recoverable.

Damages for breach of the Charter Party are assessed upon the same principles as damages for breach of other contracts. They must have arisen in the usual course of things from the breach itself, or have reasonably been in the contemplation of the parties at the time they made the contract, as the probable result of the breach of it, and they must have been sustained.

These well established rules have been followed in deciding the amount of damage payable to the Charterer.

Claim. 1.—$1,818.—By reason of the breach committed, the fittings for the accommodation of passengers could not be used; loss was caused and the compensation payable is the expense incurred.

Claim 2.—Items A to G have been proved, not so item H.

Claim 3.—$4,500—This sum is the amount of penalty payable by the party delinquent to the party observant in the matter of four contracts entered into between the sub charterer and the Kofugi Shoten. The sub-charterer's breach of these contracts was the direct and immediate result of the default committed by the Master of the *Rheingold*.

Claim 4.—I have some knowledge of the manners and customs of this country and of the business habits of its people. I am aware that entertaining is largely done in connection with business transactions, and Mr. Nishitani is doubtless quite justified in placing great confidence in Mr. Kano. As regards third parties, however, the items for hotel expenses, entertainments, and telegrams appearing in this claim cannot be admitted owing to the absence of proof positive of their correctness. Sundry items for travelling expenses, amounting to $195.41, are allowed, as it is not infrequently impossible to produce vouchers for expenditure of that description.

Claim 5.—Eleven days' freight 11th to 21st February last—$1,613.33. It appears that on the 8th of February, one half month's charter-money was paid in advance, and under the terms of the award this amount of charter money is returnable. I do not admit the correctness of the amount claimed, but I am precluded from awarding a larger sum than that which is thought to be recovered. Items A. and B. are disallowed as they ought to have been claimed on the various occasions on which half monthly payments in advance on account of charter money were being made. Moreover, I have not been able to satisfy myself that these amounts are now properly due.

Claim 6.—This item has been admitted.

Claim 7.- Items A. and B. are disallowed, because the steamer continued to be at the disposal of the Charterer until the 11th of February last. It is, moreover, in evidence that cargo from Kobe was being discharged at Fushiki up to about noon on February 11th. Item D. is also disallowed owing to absence of proof. The other items are allowed.

Claim 8.—Items A. and E.—$2,250 and $25. These are disallowed owing to want of proof. The other items are admitted.

Claim 9.—Eminent authorities hold that profits or advantages, which are the direct and immediate fruits of a contract entered into between the parties, are part and parcel of the contract itself, entering into and constituting a portion of its very elements; they are something stipulated for, the right of the enjoyment of which is just as clear and plain as the fulfilment of any other stipulation. They are presumed to have been taken into consideration and deliberated upon before the contract was made, and formed, perhaps, the only inducement to the arrangement. It is not to be denied that there are, on the other hand, profits or gains derivable from a contract, which are uniformly refuted as too contingent and speculative in their nature, and too dependent upon the fluctuations of markets and the chances of business to enter into a safe and reasonable estimate of damages. This distinction has reference to what are commonly termed primary and secondary profits. To the latter class belong the estimated results of the voyages from Aomori and Fushiki, $7,331.19. They cannot be allowed.

Claim 10.—Coal remaining on board the *Rheingold*, $440. Evidence on this point is altogether vague and unsatisfactory. The amount is disallowed.

The Master's claim, for Consular Fees paid, is allowed under clause 3 of the Charter Party.

The Master's claims for fresh water are disallowed, there being no evidence to show that this was required for the passengers under clause 3 of the Charter Party.—*Kobe Herald.*

MINISTER KURINO.

JAPAN'S REPRESENTATIVE INTERVIEWED UPON THE WAR AND ASIATIC MATTERS IN GENERAL.

There is no abler diplomat in Washington than His Excellency Mr. Shinichiro Kurino, the Minister from Japan. He came to the capital at the beginning of the war between his country and China, and he has handled Japanese affairs in a masterly manner. He is a man of broad culture, is full of ideas, and he is less backward in expressing his opinions than many of the others of the Diplomatic Corps. He is a man of social qualities, and his functions at the Legation have been among the most noted given there. Straight, well formed, and dignified, he has the features and complexion of a Japanese, but his personal appearance is such as would command attention in any company.

He is a man of wide experience. His father was one of the most prominent of the Samurai in the service of Prince Kuroda, and when that prince in 1874 sent a number of Japanese youths to America to be educated, Mr. Kurino was among them. He went to school in Boston and graduated there at the Cambridge Law School about 1881. He then went back to Japan and entered the Foreign Office or Department of State. He has been connected with this office in different positions from that time until now, when he has come to the United States to represent his country at, perhaps, the most critical time in its history. He was for a time chief of the Bureau of International Telegraphs, and as such was sent to Europe not long ago to an international conference on the subject. He has at different times been sent to Korea on diplomatic business, and he was there in 1882, and in 1884 when the revolution occurred, and he was again in Korea just before the opening of the present war, having been sent there to report to the government as to the situation. Knowing, as he does, all about his own country, and having had a long experience as to all matters connected with China, there is no man in the world who is better fitted to discuss the present situation in the Far East. I called upon him the other day at the Legation and had a long talk regarding the settlement of the war and its effect upon Japan and the nations of the West. The talk was entirely a personal one, and Minister Kurino was very particular to state that his views were those of an individual, that he spoke only for himself, and not the Japanese Government.

WHAT JAPAN GOT BY THE WAR.

One of my first questions was as to what Japan got by the war, and as to what changes the war would make on the face of Asia.

He replied :—" It will make changes of a very important description in Asia. Japan will, of course, have the Island of Formosa, but as regards the occupation of the mainland of China or any portion of it, the matter now being the subject of negotiation of the most delicate nature, it would hardly be proper for me to express an opinion on the subject.

" There is one thing, however, that I would like to say, and that is as to the assertion which seems to have gained some credence that the Japanese nation are eager to aggrandize themselves by the acquisition of foreign territory. We are not land crazy, and we have never striven for colonial acquisition. Whatever concessions we may have gained from China in this direction are the legitimate results of the struggle we have waged with her, either in the extension of territory which our geographical position renders natural or proper, or by its acquisition for purposss of necessary defence against future attacks."

THE ISLAND OF FORMOSA.

" How about Formosa, your Excellency?" I asked. "Does Japan gain much by its acquisition?"

" I think it does," replied the Minister. " Formosa is essentially a part of a long train of the Japanese islands. These run from Yezo down to Nagasaki, then break out a little further below in the Loo Choo Islands. Formosa is a natural part of this chain. The island can hardly be called a Chinese province, except in name. Its Chinese population is not large, and a great many of the inhabitants are savages, who live by hunting, and who have long been a menace to all strangers shipwrecked on their coasts. They have in the past killed Japanese, French, English, and Americans, and it is said that they eat part of the bodies of their enemies.

" They are not cannibals in the ordinary sense of the world, but they celebrate their victories by feasts of this kind. They tattoo their faces and skin, and they are divided up into tribes. These men are very fierce, and the Japanese, in taking the island, will control them. Under the Chinese rule they have been allowed do as they pleased. You remember, in 1872, a Japanese crew which was shipwrecked on their coasts was slaughtered by them. We sent an embassy to Pekin and demanded redress, and that the offenders be given up to justice. The Tsung-li Yamên, or Bureau of Foreign Affairs, said they could not restrain the savages. Our embassy then replied that if they would give the Japanese permission to do so they would control them. This was acceded to, and an expedition was sent from Japan to Formosa. The savages were conquered and subdued. Our men began to make some improvements, and we instituted a government over the parts we had

conquered. The Chinese at once became alarmed, and they demanded that the Japanese leave Formosa. They were so earnest about it that they paid the Japanese the sum of 500,000 taels in order to get them to go. In the presentation of the money, it was put on the ground that the Japanese had done work to the amount money in given road, building, &c."

RICHNESS OF THE ISLAND.

"Is Formosa a rich country?"

"Yes. It is very rich," was the reply. "It has been at times called the granary of China. It produces the finest tea, and the Formosa tea commands the highest price in China. It yields great quantities of rice. It has valuable forests, and it is said to contain fine sugar growing territory. It has coal, and its mineral resources are as yet undeveloped. A chain of mountains runs through the island, but it has large alluvial plains, and it is well watered. It is, indeed, a very valuable acquisition."

"What will the Japanese do with it?"

"I do not know," replied the minister.

"But I presume it will be colonized and developed. The government will probably offer extraordinary inducements to the people to emigrate to it. Japanese capital will be organized to develop its resources, and it may be that the Japanese of the Sandwich Islands will come to Formosa and be induced to go into sugar raising there. They know all about the business, you know, from their employment in Hawaii, and they will probably be glad to make the change. The Japanese government has hitherto endeavoured to promote the colonization of the Island of Yezo with some degree of success, but private enterprise, from lack of capital, and, perhaps, partly for climatic reasons, has not done so well there. Formosa will prove a more tempting field for immigration, especially to the inhabitants of southern Japan."

WILL JAPAN MONOPOLIZE KOREA.

"I suppose the Japanese will monopolize all concessions which may be given out for the development of Korea," said I.

"No, I think not," replied the minister. "It is not the intention of Japan to ask for any special favours for herself or for her people in Korea. The citizens of European nations and those of the United States will have the same chance to get concessions there as will the Japanese. The probability is that the Japanese will not invest much in Korea, and that they will turn their attention more to Formosa. What Japan has done in this respect is to make such concessions possible. In the past the Chinese Minister Yuan took care to prevent such concessions. I know that several big contracts were about to be let at different times to American capitalists when, for some mysterious cause, they were broken off at the last moment. I have been told that the Chinese Minister was this cause."

KOREA'S OPPORTUNITY.

"What has Japan done for Korea?" I asked.

"She has established her independence and given her a chance to do everything for herself," was Minister Kurino's reply. "From now on it can have the right to send ministers to such foreign counties as it pleases, and it will take its place throughout the world as an independent nation. As to its future, Japan expects Korea to work that out herself. She will be ready to advise and assist, if called upon, and she has given a list of reforms to the King which she thinks should be inaugurated. The King has promised to do this, but politics are in such a condition, and the state of society is such, that his power is very limited. Already the nobles of country are clogging his efforts in this direction in many ways. The officials of Korea are degraded and corrupt. They have been living off the people, and they dislike to give up their power. The Augean stables of Korea cannot be cleansed in a day, but Japan has laid out the plan, and if the Koreans follow it they will eventually become civilized."

"Give me some of the reforms which Japan advises the Koreans to make."

"They are many," replied Mr. Kurino. "They are being introduced into Korea at the instigation and under the supervision of Count Inouye, and, if the country and the people will adopt them, they will lead to a thorough reorganization of the government and to the prosperity of the people.

WHAT JAPAN HAS DONE.

"What has Japan done as to carrying out these reforms?"

"It has made it possible for the Koreans to carry them out if they will," replied Minister Kurino. "They are having the advice and assistance of one of the ablest men of the Far East. No statesman stands higher in my country than Count Inouye. He ranks with Count Ito as one of the greatest of our statesmen. He has held the most important positions in our government. He is one of the chief advisers of the Emperor, and he sacrificed a great deal when he stepped down from his high position and took the office of Minister to Korea, in order that he might be able to help them in the work of civilization. Count Inouye signed the first treaty of peace which Japan made with Korea, about twenty years ago, and he was connected with the country in nearly every movement in which Japan has been connected with it since then. The most of the reforms which have been proposed to the Koreans have been suggested by Count Inouye. He has been the adviser of the King and the Cabinet in carrying out these new ideas since the Chinese were driven out of the country. He gives advice, but he believes that Korea should act for herself."

"Then, it is not the intention of Japan to make Korea in any respect tributary to her?"

"Not in the least," replied Mr. Kurino. "The administration is left entirely with the Koreans. The King, the Queen, and the Tai Wön-kun, or the King's father, are all concerned in the new administration. A new Cabinet has been organized, and it contains ten members now instead of six, as before. It has its Ministers of Finance, War, Education, and Foreign Affairs. It has its Secretary of Justice, and its Secretary of the Interior, and other officials, just as the Japanese Cabinet has. The Cabinet consult with Count Inouye, and some of them undoubtedly wish to see Korea modernized. Others do not, and the desire for personal aggrandizement and personal profit is a strong element in every question."

WHAT THE WORLD GAINS.

"What has Japan done for the world in this war?"

"I think it has done a good deal," replied the Minister. "It has made a number of experiments in the art of war which will benefit the other nations in their wars of the future. It has tested the value of modern ships and guns. It has given the world a number of new avenues of trade in China. By the terms of peace, as I have seen them, the Chinese now agree to allow all kinds of machinery to be imported into their country. They consent to allow foreigners to establish and to engage in manufacturing industries. Japan did not ask these things solely for herself. She demanded them for the world, and they are more to the advantage of the United States and Europe than they will be to Japan. We do not as yet, make machinery for export. It is doubtful whether we ever will. The Americans make some of the best machinery in the world, and one of their chief articles of export is machinery. On the above lines such development as occurs in China will be largely through Europe and America. The other concessions demanded of China were also fully as valuable for the United States and Europe as for Japan. Take the deepening of the river which leads to Shanghai. The ships of all the world will sail up that river, and the opening of the new ports will give the whole world access to vast cities and to millions of people. The new territory opened to trade by this treaty is one of the richest of the Chinese empire. It comprises a number of cities and towns. It contains, it is said, a population of nearly 200,000,000, and a vast trade ought to be developed up to Chun-king, and foreigners will be able to go further into China than they ever have before.

"Tell me something about our new treaty with Japan. Does it give the Americans many more advantages than they now have?"

"Yes, indeed," replied the Minister. "By it citizens of the United States can go to any part of Japan and engage in business. They can establish manufactures and trade directly with the people. Heretofore they have been confined to the open ports, and the most of their business had to be done through the Japanese Government. They can now lease property, and from now on Japan will be open to American manufactures."

AMERICAN CAPITAL IN JAPAN.

"Is Japan a good field for the investment of American capital?"

"In some respects, I think, yes. Factories could be built by foreigners in Japan to use Japanese labour to make articles for export to America. The Japanese buy a great deal of machinery, and more American machinery should be shipped to Japan. What the United States needs to do business with us is lower freight rates. As it is, we use millions of dollars' worth of your cotton every year. Our cotton mills are rapidly increasing, and our consumption of American cotton will increase, as it is of a special kind, and we need it to mix with the cheaper cottons which we get from China and India. At present, however, it comes to us via Liverpool. If the Pacific lines would make special rates it could be shipped by San Francisco. If the Nicaragua Canal is opened the United States will probably ship direct through it. I am surprised that Americans do not study the Japanese market. The people here are so rich and they have such a vast trade among themselves that they have not yet began to consider the trade outside of their own boundaries. In order to do business with Japanese your merchants and factories must study the Japanese people and their wants, and when they do that they will probably supply them with many other things than machinery."

THE JAPANESE AS MACHINISTS.

"Can the Japanese use machinery equally well with the people of the United States?"

"Yes," was the reply. "The Japanese are a nation of mechanics. They take naturally to machinery and use it gladly. All over Japan foreign labour saving inventions are creeping in. Silk is now reeled and woven by machinery. We make our own railroad cars, and we have made some locomotives. Nearly all the arms and munitions of war which were used during the recent campaigns with China were made in Japan, and we are almost doubling our cotton machinery every year.

ASIATIC LABOUR.

"What do you think of the future of the Asiatic labour market in competition with ours? Can we successfully compete with you?"

"On our own ground, perhaps not," was the reply. "But I see nothing to alarm the American labourer in the possibilities of the future. You have been competing here for years with the cheapest labour of Europe. You have had the Belgians and the Germans to fight, and you have conquered again and again. The Americans are people of wonderfully inventive brains. No matter how cheap the labour of the rest of the world is in any line of work, the American gets up a machine which will do it cheaper; and you have such vast aggregations of capital that you can organize undertakings on a scale which is practically beyond competition. Take your great iron works. Take the Carnegie works, for instance. They buy in such vast quantities that they can cut all expenses, outside of those of labour, to the minimum. I believe the Americans will always hold their own. They cannot work so cheaply nor live so cheaply as we do, but they can turn out a greater product. Another thing is that there is bound to be a great demand from Asia for American raw materials. Cotton is one of these and lumber is another. As to machinery—I doubt whether we will ever be a great machine making nation. We have plenty of coal, and we ship vast quantities of it to China and India. We have not yet, however, discovered large enough deposits of iron to make us hope that we will manufacture much machinery. The iron we have is of a very fine quality, but so far it has not been discovered in large quantities. It may be that we will find mines in Yezo."

"What about the future civilization of Japan? Will it be purely occidental?"

"No, I think not. It will be a combination of the best of the Occident and Orient adapted to fit the Japanese character and needs. We find this so in many lines. There is a strong tendency in Japan to stick to the old things wherever they are best, and in some directions I have no doubt that the old is the better."

RELIGION IN JAPAN.

"How about religion in Japan? What are the missionaries doing, and is there any prospect of Christianity ever becoming the religion of the Japanesn people?"

"Who can tell?" replied the Minister. "The Japanese are fanatically wedded to their old beliefs. Many of the better classes, and notably those who have travelled much in Christian countries, are practically agnostics so far as either Buddhism or Christianity is concerned. They might be called free-thinkers.

"The missionaries have done a great work in Japan. They have made many converts and it is a curious thing that the Japanese Christians prefer to have their own churches, and to be independent of the foreigners. They like to map out their own religious lines, and to pray and think for themselves. You remember the discussion of the Briggs question, which tore the Presbyterian churches of the United States almost asunder some time ago. This question found its way out to Japan and the native Christian pastors got together and discussed it. They shook the dust out of the Thirty-nine Articles, and they were by far more rigid than the opponents of Dr. Briggs in their ideas of liberality. I think there is a possibility that the Christian religion may at some time so grow as to be one of the great religions of Japan. Already some of the Christian churches have been discussing the sending of native Japanese Christian missionaries to Korea and China."

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS.

"By the way, your Excellency, returning to the war question, how about the Sandwich Islands? Is it true that the Japanese are seeking to acquire them?"

"No; emphatically no," replied Minister Kumino.

"How about the possibility of a union of the Asiatic nations as against the Occidental ones?"

"There may be, but it depends entirely upon circumstances, the force of which cannot at present be accurately estimated, and concerning which, therefore, it cannot at present be safe to make any prediction."—*New York Herald.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, June 30.

The following Ministerial appointments are announced :—

Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, Secretary of State for India.

The Marquis of LANSDOWNE, Secretary of State for War.

Sir MATTHEW WHITE RIDLEY, Secretary of State for Home Affairs.

Lord CROSS, Lord Privy Seal.

The Rt. Hon. C. T. RITCHIE, President of the Board of Trade.

Lord ASHBOURNE, Lord Chancellor.

The Earl of CADOGAN, Viceroy of Ireland.

Lord BURLEIGH, Secretary of State for Scotland.

London, July 5.

The Chinese loan for one million sterling floated in London has been covered ten times. The Russo-Chinese loan has been signed in Pekin, but the details of the agreement are not yet made known.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, July 2.

H.B.M.'s Consul delivered the award in the "Rheingold" arbitration case to-day. The verdict was against the ship, which has been ordered to pay about $9,250 to the Japanese charterers, besides the cost of the arbitration.

Hakodate, July 3.

Yesterday the schooner *Arctic* arrived here with 219 sealskins, and the *Louise Olsen* with 628.

Hakodate, July 5.

The Italian cruiser *Cristoforo Colombo* arrived here to-day.

[FROM N.-C. DAILY NEWS.]

London, June 27.

Relations are strained between Bulgaria and Turkey owing to the latter's warning to the Bulgarians to abstain from agitation in Macedonia.

Mr. Chamberlain, in his Election Address, states that the Unionists were absolutely agreed to discard the wild constitutional changes planned by the late Government, and to devote their attention to social reform and to the safe-guarding of the defensive resources of the Empire.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS).

Söul, June 27.

Boku Tei-yo, Minister President, has resigned.

Prince Wi-hwa, Korea's Ambassador Extraordinary to Japan, will leave here on July 4th.

Nagoya. June 29.

The Chief of the Third Army Division has visited the Town Office, and stated that no soldiers belonging to that Division will be present at any welcome-home prepared by officials and residents.

The following telegram, dispatched by the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* in Söul, has been received by the Home Department.

Söul, July 2.

From the 26th ult. up to the 30th ult. 11 Japanese soldiers and coolies were attacked by cholera in the neighbourhood of Wiju, where 159 Koreans have succumbed to the malady. Of the Japanese patients, 4 have died. A Korean has died at Seshisen. Major Isomura, at Wiju, states that one Japanese coolie was affected and 61 Koreans died of cholera there up to the 1st inst.

Shimonoseki, July 5.

A British man-of-war passed here for the west to-day.

The *Tosa Maru*, which arrived here yesterday, will proceed to Talien to convey a detachment of the Imperial Guards to Formosa.

The two following telegrams have been received by the Yokohama Specie Bank.

London, July 3.

The Chartered Bank has offered to raise the Six per cent. Chinese loan bonds to the amount of £1,000,000 at the market issue of £106.

London, July 4.

The Chinese loan is covered ten times, and is issued at £109. The overplus of money seeking investment on the London market is said to be the reason for this result.

Shimonoseki, July 5.

The *Fusan Maru*, *Soyoku Maru* and *Hinode Maru* arrived at the Hikoshima Quarantine Station yesterday, and the *Toyei Maru* passed here last night. The *Hokushin Maru* and *Katsuyama Maru* passed here this morning, and the *Kumamoto Maru* arrived here shortly before noon. The *Hikoyamá Maru* passed here about the same time. They were fully loaded with troops.

Aomori, July 5.

Owing to the recent severe rains some of the rivers have done damage in various parts of this Prefecture.

Fukuoka, July 4.

Captain Koshi, of the Infantry, committed suicide this morning.

Sapporo, July 5.

In consequence of the overflowing of rivers caused by the heavy rains, which occurred on the 3rd inst., damage was done to the railway between Muroran and Oiwake, and railway communication has been interrupted since yesterday morning.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season : and re-opens on Thursday 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 183.

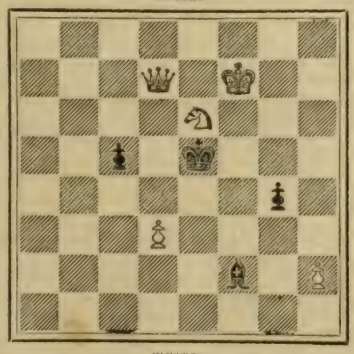
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to K 4	1—K × B
2—Kt to Q 6 ch.	2—K to B 5
3—Q to K 2, mate	
	if 2—K to Q 5
3—Kt to Q 7, mate	
	1—P × B
2—Kt to B 3 (double ch.)	2—K moves
3—Q to Kt 8, mate	
	1—Kt to Kt 3
2—B × P (Q 6)	2—Kt to B 5 ch.
3—Kt × Kt, mate.	

Correct solutions received from Omega, Kr., W.H.S., E.D., Digamma, J.D., and E. J. King.

PROBLEM No. 185.

By JAN PILNACECK.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

VIENNA TOURNAMENT.

A contest between the players in the Austrian capital was begun in April and finished in May. A notable feature in the tourney was the reappearance of some players who had been apparently in retirement for some few years, *e.g.* Englisch, Judd, Meitner, and Weiss. We reprint an excellent game between Meitner and Judd, drawing especial attention to the end-play. Black gives a classical example of how to nurse and queen a pawn. The notes are by Mr. Max Judd, who during his long sojourn at St. Louis, Mo., has evidently not allowed his Chess-talent to remain altogether idle.

GAME No. 289.

Played in the Vienna Tournament, April, 1895.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Dr. Meitner.	BLACK. Mr. Max Judd.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Q Kt to B 3	3—K Kt to B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 5	5—K Kt to Q 2
6—B takes B	6—Q takes B
7—Q to Q 2	7—P to Q R 3
8—Q Kt to K 2	8—P to Q B 4
9—P to Q B 3	9—Kt to Q B 3
10—P to K B 4	10—Castles
11—Kt to B 3	11—P to B 3
12—Kt to Kt 3	12—K B P takes P
13—B P takes K P	13—P to Q Kt 4
14—B to K 2	14—Kt to Kt 3
15—P to Q Kt 3	15—B to Q 2
16—Castles K R	16—B to K sq.
17—Kt to Kt 5	17—B to Kt 3
18—B to Kt 4	18—R takes R ch.
19—R takes R	19—Kt to Q sq.
20—B to R 5	20—B takes B
21—Kt takes B	21—P to R 3
22—Kt to R 3	22—P takes P
23—P takes P	23—R to B sq.
24—Q to B 4	24—Kt to Q 2
25—Q to Kt 4	25—R to B 2
26—Kt (R 5) to B 4	26—Kt to B sq.
27—Kt to Kt 6	27—Kt takes Kt
28—Q takes Kt	28—Kt to B 3
29—Kt to B 4	29—Kt takes Q P
30—Kt to R 5	30—K to R sq.
31—Kt to B 6	31—P takes Kt
32—P takes P	32—Q to B 2
33—Q takes P ch.	33—K to Kt sq.
34—Q to Kt 5 ch.	34—K to B sq.
35—Q to K 5	35—Kt to B 3
36—Q to Q 6 ch.	36—K to K sq.
37—R to Q B sq.	37—Q to Q 2
38—P to B 7 ch.	38—K takes P
39—Q takes Q ch. (a)	39—R takes Q
40—R takes Kt	40—R to R 2
41—K to B 2	41—K to B 3
42—K to K 3	42—K to K 4
43—R to B sq.	43—P to R 4
44—K to Q 3	44—R to K B 2
45—R to K sq. ch.	45—K to Q 3
46—P to K Kt 4	46—R to K R 2
47—R to K 2	47—R to R 6 ch.
48—K to Q 2	48—P to K 4
49—P to Kt 5	49—R to R 4
50—R to Kt 2	50—K to K 3
51—K to K 2	51—K to B 2
52—K to B 3	52—K to Kt 3
53—R to Q 2	53—P to K 5 ch.
54—K to K 3	54—R takes Kt P
55—K to Q 4	55—K to B 4
56—R to B 2 ch. (b)	56—K to K 3 (c)
57—R to B 8	57—R to Kt 7
58—R to K 8 ch.	58—K to Q 2
59—R to K 5	59—R to Q 7 ch.
60—K to B 5	60—P to R 5
61—P takes P	61—P takes P
62—P to K R 4	62—P to R 6
63—P to R 5	63—R takes P
64—K takes P	64—R to Q 7 ch.
65—K to B 4	65—P to R 7
66—R to Q R 5	66—K to K 3 (d)
67—R to R 7	67—K to K 4
68—K to B 3	68—R to R 7
69—P to R 6	69—R takes P
70—R takes P	70—R to R 6 ch.
71—K to B 4	71—K to B 5
72—R to R 8	72—R to Q 6
73—R to K R 8	73—R to Q 2
74—R to B 8 ch.	74—K to K 6
75—R to K 8	75—K to B 6
76—R to B 8 ch.	76—K to K 7
77—K to B 3	77—P to K 6
78—R to K 8	78—K to B 7
79—R to B 8 ch.	79—K to K 8
80—R to K 8	80—P to K 7
81—K to B 2	81—R to Q 5
82—K to B 3	82—R to K B 5
83—K to Q 3	83—R to B 6 ch.
84—K to B 2	84—K to B 8
85—K to Q 2	85—R to B 7 & wins.

(a) Both short of time. White could win by R to K B sq. ch
(b) If K x P, K to B 5 dis ch would soon win for Black.
(c) K to Kt 5 would be stronger,
(d) P to K 6 would win quicker. Supposing 66....., P to K 6; 67—K to B 3, R to R 2; 68—K to Q 3, P to K 7, 69—K to Q 2, P Queens ch; 70—K x Q, P to R 8, Q ch, 71—R x Q, R to R 8 ch and wins the R and the game.

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Problem Chess.

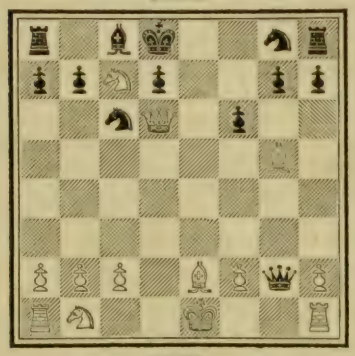
The game given below illustrates the proposition maintained by Mr. Mason, that skill in designing and solving problems does not necessarily develop quickness of insight in play over the board. Herr J. Dobrusky, who had the White men, is a celebrated problemist at Prague, and the game was given in *The Times* as an example of his high chess skill. Yet both the player and the annotator twice overlooked a mate in two moves:—

Game No. 290.

THE SCOTCH GAME.

WHITE. Herr Dobrusky.	BLACK. Herr N.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Q to R 5
5—Kt to Kt 5	5—Q takes K P ch.
6—B to K 2	6—B to Q 3
7—Q takes B	7—Q takes K Kt P
8—Kt takes P ch.	8—K to Q sq.
9—B to Kt 5 ch.	9—P to B 3 (a)

BLACK.



WHITE.

10—Kt to Q B 3 (b)	10—Q takes R ch.
11—K to Q 2	11—Q takes R
12—Kt from B 3 to Q 5 (c)	12—K Kt to K 2
13—B takes P	13—P takes B
14—Kt to K 6 ch.	14—K to K sq.
15—B to R 5 ch.	15—Kt to Kt 3
16—Kt to Kt 7 ch.	16—K to B 2
17—Q takes B P ch.	17—K to Kt sq.
18—Kt to B 5	

And Herr Dobrusky wins.

NOTES.

(a) A blunder. Black's only resource was to take the Bishop.
(b) Overlooking the following mate in two:—10 Kt to K 6 ch, K to K sq; 11 Q to K B 8 mate.
(c) *The Times* annotator says:—"White appears to miss a direct mate here by 11 Q to B 8 ch, K takes Kt; 13 Kt to Q 5 ch, K to Kt sq; 14 Q to Q 6 mate. But his continuation leads to a most remarkable, though not quite original, finish." The annotator again overlooks the mate in two which has been already pointed out.

Tobacco and Chess.

The game published below was played recently in the Colonies. Many highly entertaining and instructive positions will be found in this *partie*.

Game No. 291.

VIENNA GAME.

WHITE. H. Taylour.	BLACK. S. Henderson.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—Kt to K B 3 (a)
3—Kt to Q B 3 (b)	3—P to Q 4
4—P to Q 3	4—Q P takes P
5—B P takes P	5—Kt to Kt 5
6—P to Q 4 (c)	6—P to K 6
7—B to B 4!	7—B to Kt 5 (d)
8—Q to B 3	8—Q takes P (e)
9—Q takes P (f)	9—K to Q sq.
10—K Kt to K 2 (g)	10—Q takes K P
11—P to Q R 3?	11—R to B sq.
12—Q to Q 5 ch.	12—B to Q 3
13—P to R 3	13—Q to B 3
14—Kt to K 4 (h)	14—Q to R 3
15—Kt takes B	15—P takes Kt
16—Kt to Kt 3	16—Q to B 5!
17—Kt to K 4	17—Kt to B 7
18—Kt takes P (i)	18—Kt takes R
19—Kt to B 5 dis. ch. (j)	19—Kt to Q 2
20—B takes P (k)	20—Q takes Kt
21—Castles Q R	21—Q takes Q
22—B takes Q	22—Kt to Kt 6
23—B to Kt 5 ch.	23—R to B 3
24—B takes R	24—P takes B
25—R to Q 3	25—Kt to R 4
26—P to K Kt 3	26—K to K 2

White resigns (l).

(a) Seldom played, but not a bad move. Steinitz adopted it in his last match with Tschigorin.
(b) Or 3, P takes P—Kt takes P. 4. Kt to K B 3, &c.
(c) Obvious, but inferior to 6, Kt takes P—Kt takes K P. 7. P to Q 4—Kt to Kt 3. 8, Kt to K B 3—Q to K 2. 9, B to Q 3—P to K B 4, &c.
(d) The right move here is 7, Kt takes K P.
(e) Extremely risky; here, also, Kt takes K P seems the proper play; *e.g.*, 8, Kt takes K P. 9, Q takes K P—Castles, with a good game, for if 10, P takes Kt, Black recovers the piece by 10, Q to R 5 ch, &c.
(f) We like 9, B takes P ch better.
(g) 10. Kt to B 3—B takes Kt ch. 11. K to K 2 is a variation worth working out by the student.
(h) If 14. P takes Kt, Black mates by 14. Q to B 7 ch, 15. K to Q 1—Q to B 8, &c. The situation hereabouts is complex.
(i) Better would have been 18. Kt takes Kt—P takes Kt ch. 16. K to B 1 with a good game.
If 18. Q takes Kt ch. 19. K to Q 1—B to B 4. 20. B to Q 3, and White is better off than in the actual game.
(j) The position promises more than it performs for White. Seemingly good is 19. Kt to B 7 d. ch—19. K to B 2. 20, Q to B 5 ch—Kt to B 3, and White dare not take R on account of B to Kt 5. Nor does 19. Kt takes P d. ch relieve White as K to B 2 is a winning answer.
(k) An error which destroys any chance of saving White's game. He should have taken K P with Kt.
(l) The recorder of this game, referring to Mr. Taylour's recent abandonment of smoking, quaintly concludes his record with the remark:—"White's play has not the energy and skill which the use of nicotine begets."

Chess—"Gossip."

There has been much merriment at the Montreal Chess Club over the question raised by Gossip as to whether a man may or may not talk while he is playing chess. Someone expressed the opinion that a player who said nothing during a game except check, check, check, must be an "unspeakable Turk." Someone else resented this remark as being a slander on the Turk, and was moved to write the following set of occasional verses:—

"The grim unutterable Turk is but
A shadow to the human wreck,
Who, playing chess, can utter naught
But, now and then, a 'check.'

"His visage sour is framed between
Two bloodless hands; his scrawny neck
Is full of wasted vocal chords
That only croak a 'check.'

"His back is bent just like a 'C.'
Of that he doth but little reck;
He only lives to move a piece,
And then to howl a 'check.'

"What Turk so void of soul as this,
On bloody field or pirate deck?
No fiend can beat the silent fiend
Who speaks not but to 'check'!"

Gossip resented the publication of these verses in the *Montreal Daily Herald* as being a "malicious and brutal attack upon him," and presently instituted a suit *in forma pauperis* for libel against the offending journal, assessing the damage which he had sustained at 375 dollars. Meanwhile he went away from Montreal, and when last heard of was at Buffalo. The *Baltimore News* remarks that it has transpired that Gossip "has travelled in Turkey; that he regards that country as highly civilised; that he has written reams of letters to different persons adducing incontrovertible evidence—*a*, that his visage is not sour; *b*, that his neck is not scrawny; *c*, that his vocal chords are not wasted; *d*, that his back is not bent; and *e*, that he himself is not a Turk." It is only natural, then, that the Canadian people should have been interested in the question, "Upon whom is the libel?"

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, July 7th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, July 11th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Monday, July 8th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, July 10th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 11th.¶
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, July 22nd.**
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, July 11th.

* *Empress of India* left Vancouver on June 25th. † *Peru* left San Francisco on June 24th. ‡ *Siam* (with English mail) left Hongkong on June 30th. ‖ *Hohenzollern* left Hongkong on July 4th. ¶ *Yarra* (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 4th. ** *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, July 7th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 8th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, July 12th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, July 12th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, July 13th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 20th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 27th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 30th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,985, G. Gratton, 29th June,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,973, Houston, 30th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 30th June,—Kobe 29th June, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 30th June,—Hongkong viâ ports, 21st June, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, Farquhar, 1st July,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 1st July,—San Francisco 15th June, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 1st July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jane Gray, American schooner, 107, E. W. Funcke, 1st July,—North Pacific, 1,117 Seals.—E. W. Funcke.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andreff, 1st July,—Kobe 30th June.

Helene Rickmers, German steamer, 2,034, C. Hess, 2nd July,—Hongkong, General.—Order.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, Bannister, 3rd July,—Fushiki and Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, Murray, 3rd July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 4th July,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenartney, British steamer, 1,943, J. McGregor, 5th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Iltis (4), German gunboat, Captain Ingenohl, 5th July,—Kobe 3rd July.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 5th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 28th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,836, Cunningham, 5th July,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,548, Edwards, 5th July,—Ujina, Ballast.—Naval Department.

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 6th July,—Yokkaichi 5th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Alderley, British steamer, 1,626, D. Nicholas, 29th June,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 29th June,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 29th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nestor, British steamer, 1,658, Asquith, 1st July,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Erato, German steamer, 1,926, Ostermann, 1st July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Arcona (18), German cruiser, Captain Hoffmeyer, 2nd July,—Kobe.

Cristoforo Colombo (10), Italian cruiser, Captain Gavotte, 2nd July,—Kobe.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,973, Houston, 2nd July,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 3rd July,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Mutsu Maru, Japanese steamer, 552, Nakajima, 4th July,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Allen, 4th July,—Formosa Stores.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 5th July,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 5th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, W. G. Bannister, 5th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, Murray, 5th July,—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Brulin, 5th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 6th July,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Cramley, Mr. King, Mr. Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Farley, Miss Farley, Mr. Way, R.N., Mrs. Way, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Tohenochi, Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz, Mr. F. C. Nagle, Mr. A. McGlew, Judge J. C. Grubbe, Mr. Mathews, Miss Wainright, Miss Adams, Miss Pakenham, Miss Jones, Master Pakenham, Misses Ekstrand (2), Mrs. Drummond and child, Mr. Redwood, Mrs. Church and 2 servants, Mr. Risk, and Mr. J. Graham in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Wm. H. Crawford, Mr. Nathan Bentz, Mrs. Bentz, Mr. Stephen Bonsal, Lieut. Chas.

INTERNET ARCHIVE
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Rees, Mrs. Rees and son, Mr. Y. Uchida, Mr. E. Gillet, Mr. T. F. Dunn, Mr. C. Jameson, Mrs. Jameson and son, and Miss Monroe in cabin. For Hongkong :—Mr. Jacob Gundling and Mr. T. G. Gowland in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. T. Mitchell, R.N., Mr. L. de Castro Palomino, Dr. Abercombie, Rev. Dr. Fulkerson, Miss Tucker, Miss Seeds, Miss H. M. Lansing, Miss M. E. Duryea, Miss Bogel, Miss de Berigny, Mrs. Dithlefsen, and Miss Dithlefson in cabin. For San Francisco :—Mr. and Mrs. Ho Tung and cousin in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco :—Mr. J. N. Boyd, Mr. H. Burkhardt, Mr. C. F. Cartledge, Mrs. Alexander Center, Mrs. W. L. Chapman, Mr. D. P. B. Conkling, Mrs. C. Walter Crosby, Dr. Chas. B. Davies, Mr. Francisco de A. Freixas y Freixas, Mrs. James Jones, Mr. Gaston Kahn, Mr. C. V. Ladd, Rt. Rev. Bishop and Mrs. John McKim and 3 children, Mrs. A. S. Moore, Mr. D. Perkins, Miss M. Richardson, Mr. Charles Ross, Mrs. T. M. Schumacher, Senator L. O. Smith, and Miss E. C. Smith in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco :—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CLEVELAND.	BALTIMORE.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	2,084	1,506	2,378	—	—	—	5,968
Hyogo	80	—	—	—	—	—	80
Yokohama	4,357	297	1,059	—	—	980	6,693
Hongkong	345	—	—	—	—	—	345
Foochow	791	4,037	—	—	2,031	—	6,859
Total	7,657	5,840	3,437	—	2,031	980	19,945

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	47	—	47
Hongkong	—	205	—	205
Yokohama	—	212	—	212
Total	—	464	—	464

Per British steamer *Eskdale*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C. :—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	SAN FRANCISCO AND PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	2,413	4,414	4,772	—	11,599
Yokohama	2,651	12,984	7,790	28	25,453
Total	5,064	17,398	12,562	28	35,052

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL
Yokohama	80	—	80
Total	80	—	80

RATES.

Tea	1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk	3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement	$11 Gold per ton.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Wm. Ward, reports :—Left Hongkong the 28th June at 1.58 p.m. Arrived at Nagasaki the 1st July at 11.28 p.m. and left the 2nd at 10.15 p.m. Arrived at Kobe the 4th at 3.16 a.m. and left the same day at 3.45 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 5th July ; had light winds and pleasant weather.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Still in the doldrums and very little if any improvement. Beyond actual necessities, buyers will not, or cannot, operate ; and the money market appears to be as tight as ever.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 14 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.24
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PIECE. 7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.80 to 0.95
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.15

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.50 to 42.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.50
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

No change worth noting of any description whatever. Sales of damaged cargo ex steamer *Eton* are said to interfere with the regular trade.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.30 to 3.35
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.35 to 3.40
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.30 to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.40 to 4.60
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.65 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.55 to 1.60

KEROSENE.

Quotations as before. Rumours are again rife of decrease in the output of Pensylvania wells ; but Oil continues to arrive here all the same, and buyers are not to be frightened into heavy operations at present.

American	$2.40 to 2.50
Russian	2.30 to 2.40
Langkat	1.90 to 2.00

SUGAR.

Brown—Some business doing at quotations but the market is not very lively. White unchanged in tone.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.40
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.00 to 3.50
White Java and Penang	6.20 to 6.50
White Refined	6.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Business has continued at full rates and a parcel of Mino (extra) fine-size is said to have been done at $930. We leave other quotations unchanged, but they are strong and tending upward.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	None
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	840 to 850

WASTE SILK.

No change during the week. Holders find that they can do little towards raising prices and will probably frighten buyers out of the market should they attempt such a course.

QUOTATIONS.—(OLD WASTE.)

Pierced Cocoons—Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Filature, Best	$115 to 120
Noshi-ito—Filature, Good	105 to 110
Noshi-ito—Filature, Medium	95 to 100
Noshi-ito—Oshu, Good to Best	90 to 110
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Shinshu, Medium	50 to 65
Noshi-ito—Bushu, Good to Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Best	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Good	—
Noshi-ito—Joshu, Ordinary	50 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best selected	90 to 100
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	80 to 85
Kibiso—Oshu, Good to Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Best	—
Kibiso—Shinshu, Seconds	—
Kibiso—Joshu, Good to Fair	26 to 22½
Kibiso—Joshu, Middlingto Common	20 to 17½
Kibiso—Hachoji, Good to Fair	20 to 18
Kibiso—Hachoji, Medium to Low	16 to 15
Kibiso—Neri, Good to Common	10 to 6
Mawata—Good to Best	—

TEA.

A fair amount of business, at quotations. Buyers grumble at the quality, but have to take what there is, or stay out of the market altogether. Export opportunities are plentiful this year. The steamer *Eskdale* had a large quantity, and the ship *S. P. Hitchcock* sails on Sunday with a full cargo.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated slightly during the week, but closes firm at undermentioned rates.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1⅝
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2 @ 1/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅛ @ ¼
On Paris—Bank sight	2.68
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.73 @ 4
On Hongkong—Bank sight	¾% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	194½
— Private 30 days' sight	197
On America—Bank Bills on demand	51¾
— Private 30 days' sight	53
— — 4 months' sight	53¾
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16
— Private 4 months' sight	2.23
Bar Silver (London)	30½

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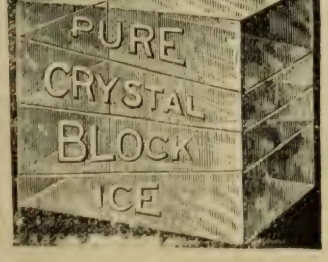

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September 29th, 1894.

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SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In I short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 13TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Korean Minister with his *suite* has arrived in Japan.

VISCOUNT TORIO has resigned his seat in the House of Peers.

COLONEL FUKUSHIMA returned to Tokyo on the 7th from Formosa.

THE "Neptune" Cup has been won this year by the *Maid Marion*.

THE Empress has presented 1,650 bandages to the Hiroshima Military Hospital.

IT is stated that the Government has decided to dispatch another Brigade to Formosa.

THE trouble between the returned military coolies and their contractors still continues.

THE Tokyo Electric Light Co., have declared a dividend of 8 per cent. for the half-year.

MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE'S company open a short season at the Public Hall to-night.

COUNT INOUYE returns to Korea on the 15th with full powers to deal with Korean questions and complications.

THE "Baltimore" Ministrel troupe entertained a large house at the Public Hall on Monday.

OVER ten 17 c.m. and 28 c.m. guns captured at Port Arthur were lately brought to Yokosuka.

THE weather has been showery and very cold for the time of year for the greater part of the week.

PAK YONGHYO (Boku Eiko) has fallen from office through some Palace intrigue, and fled the country.

TWO Chinamen, both British subjects, have won cases brought by them in the British Court this week.

THERE has been no cricket this week owing to the exigencies of the outgoing and incoming mails.

THE Kyoto Electric Light Company declare a dividend of 18 per cent. per annum for the past half-year.

THE Tokyo Rice Exchange has declared a divided for the half-year at the rate of 30 per cent.

IT is stated that the Tai Wŏn-kun refuses to attend Court, though repeatedly commanded to do so by the King of Korea.

MANY changes are being made in the *personnel* of the Korean Cabinet, owing to the late intrigues, but Sŏul remains tranquil.

PRINCE WI-HWA, who was to specially convey the thanks of the King of Korea to the Emperor of Japan, has resigned the position.

NEWS from Formosa is very scanty, but important intelligence is hourly expected from Anping and its immediate neighbourhood.

ONE thousand military coolies left Moji on the 5th inst. for Formosa. Some 1,500 other coolies will shortly leave there for the south.

THE students of the Nobles' School for Boys will shortly leave the capital to spend the summer vacation at Katase near Enoshima.

FORTY-SEVEN miners were drowned through the flooding of the Komatsu coal-mine at Yugetamura Tagawa-gun, Fukuoka Prefecture, on July 9.

TELEGRAPHIC service between Japan and Korea, which was interrupted between Izuhara and Gonoura for some time, was resumed on the 8th inst.

RELIGIOUS services for the repose of the souls of Yokohama soldiers who died during the past war, took place at the Noge Shrine, Yokohama, on Sunday last.

MESSRS. CORNES & Co. have won the case brought by them against Kimura Riyemon, a yarn merchant of Yokohama. Defendant is ordered to pay *yen* 29,528.

FOUR surveyors, who were sent from Headquarters with a party of soldiers dispatched to occupy the Pescadores, completed the survey of the islands on the 17th ult.

THE boycott of Chinese dealers by Japanese commission merchants at Yokohama still continues. Several small Japanese dealers have been fined during the week for breaking their faith with the boycotting Guilds.

MR. HISAMIZU SABURO, Japanese Consul at Chefoo, Mr. A. Marks, Japanese Honorary Consul at Melbourne, and Mr. Grasmann, German Instructor in the Agricultural College, were received in audience by the Emperor at the Palace on the 8th inst.

THE Chinese population in Japan at the end of May last was as follows:—8 in Tokyo, 28 in Hokkaido; 10 in Osaka; 1,391 in Kanagawa; 645 in Hyogo; 401 in Nagasaki; total, 2,574.

THE closing exercises of Mrs. Draper's School for the Blind attracted a large audience at the Van Schaick Hall on Tuesday afternoon. Signorina Belinfante sang two songs during the proceedings.

DURING June last the Osaka Mint struck coins to the following amounts:—5-*yen* gold pieces, *yen* 80,000; one-*yen* silver pieces, 1,370,000; 20-*sen* silver pieces, *yen* 400,241; and 10-*sen* silver pieces, *yen* 224,000.

REUTER telegraphs:—Bulgaria has demanded an explanation from the Porte of the orders that have been given to the Commander at Adrianople, in Turkey, to act on his own initiative on the Bulgarian frontier, and has intimated that Bulgaria will be obliged to adopt military measures on her own side. The Porte has made an amicable reply. The China loan, which is not redeemable for thirty-six years, will be secured by the Customs, and Russia undertakes to make good the payments should China fail. Lord Selborne has has been appointed Under-Secretary for the Colonies. The House of Lords has read for the second time Lord Ripon's Bill enabling the Colonies to deal with the alteration of boundaries and annexations, all cases of which now require a special Act of Parliament. The British Parliament has been dissolved, and the new House is summoned for the 12th August. The majority of the elections will take place on the Saturday preceding; the London elections are fixed for the Monday.

THERE is not much improvement in the Import trade, which is nearly as feeble all round as it was a week ago. The only Yarns movable are doubles, singles being entirely neglected. There has been considerable business in heavy Shirtings, but others are not looked at, nor has anything been done in other descriptions of Grey Cloth. Holders of Victoria Lawns having given way in price, have managed to clear out a few thousand pieces, but there has been no demand for Fancy Cottons of any kind. Woollens are dull, though there has been an enquiry for Unions and similar cloth. The Metal trade is somewhat miscellaneous, for while manufactured Iron is dull and Plates are lower, Pig Iron is in demand at better rates. There has not been much done in Wire Nails, but fair prices have been obtained for the lots moved off. Tin Plates have been offered at a considerable reduction on recent rates without result, and the stock is heavy and neglected. The Sugar market has not improved, Takao sorts being in little request, the parcels taken being mostly Canton and Manila brands, the former commanding rather more money. White Sugars are quiet, without change in value. Prices of Raw Silk, having been rushed up, are now feeling the reaction, and buyers are not so anxious to go on for Europe, though sorts suitable for the U.S. trade are without much alteration, as the competition for the best chops of Joshu re-reels continues. There has been a small business in old Waste, and of the 5,000 piculs remaining there is nothing choice. There has been a fair daily Tea trade, and prices have been well maintained. Settlements exceed those at same date last season by several thousand piculs, and shipping opportunities have been more than sufficient for all requirements. Fluctuations in Exchange have been slight, and rates remain about the same.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Korean question has been the principal topic of discussion in the press during the week. The incident that excited so much attention here seems, after all, to have had little or no connection with the suspected *entente* between the Queen and the Russian Legation. Of course, the exact state of affairs is not yet known, but whatever may be the truth about Pak and his intended victim, it is probable that the incident has not seriously disturbed the balance between the party in favour of progress and the party opposed to reform. Political power is stated to be in the hands of Kim Koshu, Yu Kitsu-ei, and other politicians of the former school. The comments of the vernacular papers on the subject have already been reproduced separately. They do not, on the whole, betray any marked sympathy with the fallen Korean Minister of Home Affairs, not because he was recently understood to have acted in an unfriendly manner towards the Japanese, but because the facts about him in the present drama are still uncertain. It is even rumoured that some of his Japanese friends contemplate the advisability of pursuading him to go to America instead of taking refuge in this country. Count Inouye's prompt departure for Söul has been viewed with evident relief and satisfaction even by the organs of the extreme sections of the Opposition. It is reported by some journals that the Count's stay in the Korean Capital will be only temporary, and that he will return again after placing the diplomatic affairs of the peninsula on a definite and permanent basis. Some go so far as to predict that his successor, in that case, will be Lieut.-General Viscount Miura, popularly known as "the Buddhist Soldier," on account of his strong zeal for that religion.

* * *

Questions of foreign policy still continue to engage the attention of the metropolitan editors. The drifting away of Germany from Russia and France, the reviving strength of the Triple Alliance, and the probable change of English foreign policy—such are the principal subjects of discussion in this field. Special importance is attached to Germany's failure to interpose between Russia and France with the object of loosening the tie that binds the two countries. This phase of European politics has considerable interest for the Japanese, who now believe it likely that, in the settlement of the Liaotung question with China, they need not be under any further apprehension of united interference by the three Powers. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, for instance, after briefly reviewing the present state of politics in Europe, proceeds in the following strain :—"The German Emperor has declared himself the supporter of peace, and the new Premier of Austria is in favour of strengthening the Dreibund. If Signior Crispi should find a way to manage the new Italian Parliament, and Lord Salisbury should succeed in obtaining a working majority in the coming general elections, these statesmen will certainly cöoperate for the maintenance of peace in Europe. We sincerely hope that their object may be attained. As to the Far Eastern Question, now that the so-called Triple Alliance has ceased to exist, we are convinced that at least one of the Powers recently forming that alliance, will join a combination tending to check the towering ambition of Russia in this part of the world. It is to be hoped that Japan may be allowed a free hand to settle the questions pending between herself and China. We do not think that the Powers will be able to meddle with the matter any more. After making suitable arrangements with China about these problems, Japan will not fail to consult her friends in connection with the permanent policy of the future."

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* writes in a similar spirit. It says :—"The Triple Alliance between Russia, Germany, and France has come to an end. The question is, how far Germany, since she has said good-bye to Russia and France, will be prepared to cöoperate with England in isolating her northern neighbour. This question has very important bearing upon the determination of the future policy of Japan. We have little doubt that the Cabinet has already a diplomatic victory in view. No apprehensions need be entertained as to demonstrations made by Russia."

* * *

The *Nippon* takes much pains to remind its countrymen of the importance of clearly bearing in mind the distinction between the permanent policy of the country, which is based upon its natural position and history, and the temporary policy, which is dictated by the ever changing aspect of its relations with other states. In our contemporary's opinion, the permanent policy of Japan ought to be a defensive attitude in the north and an aggressive attitude in the south. The abandonment of Saghalien shortly after the Restoration, and the return of Liaotung recently —these events, though apparently forced upon the empire by external influence, were really natural results of Japan's geographical position. The inevitable tendency of Japan is to develop in a southerly direction. On these assumptions the *Nippon* more than hints that Japan's natural and permanent ally should be Russia, and that her enemies will be England, France, and Spain. The defence of Hokkaido and the maintenance of Japan's influence in Korea—these, says our contemporary, are the only points of possible friction between this empire and Russia. But in Hokkaido and Korea Japan's position will be simply defensive, whereas in the south she will strive to consolidate and extend her spheres of influence, and it is not difficult to foresee with what countries she must find herself face to face in that direction. The *Nippon* is not unaware of the necessity of pursuing a special and temporary policy to suit a temporary state of things, but contends that a temporary policy should not be suffered to blind the nation to the permanent policy dictated by natural considerations.

* * *

The projectors of the now collapsed anti-Cabinet agitation loudly complain of the indifference of the political public about the rigorous or, as they declare, despotic and unconstitutional measures pursued by the Authorities for the suppression of the movement. These measures are noticed by every paper, but are usually dismissed with a word or two of faint censure. In some cases, even such criticisms are dispensed with. So marked a want of sympathy with their cause is, of course, very provoking to the originators of the ill-starred agitation. Mr. Suyehiro vents his feelings on this topic in the editorial columns of the *Kokkai*. He profoundly deplores the indifference of his countrymen to the arbitrary measures taken by the Government in restricting liberty of speech and public meeting,—measures which, he declares, surpass in severity even those that the Authorities used to follow in pre-constitution days. He professes to be at a complete loss to understand why the Cabinet takes such despotic steps at a juncture like the present, when harmony between the Government and the people is of imperative necessity. With singular blindness he overlooks the fact that the agitation fomented so largely by himself, the agitation necessitating recourse to the measures complained of, was aimed at rendering that very harmony impossible. But it is perhaps too much to expect an impartial survey of the situation from a politician smarting under a recent and signal defeat.

* * *

The apparent tardiness of military operations in Formosa causes some uneasiness to the public. The insurgents in that island are too numerous and are spread over too large an area to be quickly suppressed by a force not more than 12,000 strong, especially as the troops have to feel their way carefully, the topography of the island being almost entirely unknown to them. There is no doubt that a fresh Brigade of about 3,000 strong having been shipped from the Chinchow peninsula a few days ago, the reduction of the remaining portions of the island will be speedily accomplished. Writing on this topic, the *Kokumin Shimbun* urges the importance of taking prompt measures for restoring order in Formosa. It thinks that Spain, which once appealed to France and Russia to interfere in connection with the cession of the island to Japan, is even now waiting for a favourable opportunity to repeat her request. It will suit Russia's interest to have Japan's hands fully occupied by complications in the south, while the French Minister of Foreign Affairs is resolved to give effective assistance to Russia about the Liaotung question. Our contemporary, consequently, thinks it important that the pacification of Formosa should be proceeded with vigorously. It recommends the Government to place the island for the present under a military administration.

* * *

The *Choya Shimbun* seems to express the sentiment of the public in general, when it criticises the tendency of some party politicians to give undue prominence to so-called Ministerial Responsibility. Our contemporary does not think it wrong to discuss the question of Ministerial responsibility in connection with the return of the Liaotung peninsula, but it cannot approve the conduct of politicians that concentrate their whole attention on that problem to the exclusion of far more important matters relating to the development of the country's military and commercial resources.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo*, in a series of articles, strongly criticises the narrow ideas entertained by some educationists on the subject of moral instruction in schools. It deprecates the policy of giving exclusive importance to narrow and exaggerated ideas of loyalty and patriotism, which very often form the basis of the text books on morality. Ideas of loyalty and patriotism ought to conform to the altered conditions of society; or else they will have the effect of preventing a healthy national growth.

THE SHIMONOSEKI CONFERENCE.

We observe that several foreign local journals are accepting with absolute confidence minutes of the Shimonoseki Conference published by the *Peking and Tientsin Times*. Doubtless the Tientsin paper received these minutes from the Viceroy's Yamên, and that they are correct in the main we do not question. But it should be noticed that they have not been submitted to both parties concerned in the conference, and can not consequently be regarded as altogether correct. All points of vital importance, when reduced to writing, were examined by the Plenipotentiaries of the two Powers, but the other portions of the Conference did not receive such treatment, and the Chinese version of them, transcribed more or less from memory, must not be taken as absolutely trustworthy. We call attention to this very manifest point because some of our Far-Eastern contemporaries have evidently failed to observe it, and are treating *ex-parte* minutes as though they were exhaustive records of everything that passed at the Conference.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A MARE'S NEST.

"AN accidental, but important discovery, is announced," writes a *Daily News'* correspondent at Yokohama. "It must have occurred to many of your readers that, although the fights in Manchuria have been called very severe, the Japanese losses have invariably been few, and those of the Chinese very heavy. Much of this disparity has been due to bad marksmanship on the part of the Chinese, but a part of the immunity has been owing to the fact that to keep out the cold the Japanese wore a quantity of floss silk under their clothes. This is a very light and flexible material, and in many cases has acted as a bullet-proof shield. It is important enough to deserve attention at the hands of the British military authorities"! There can be no doubt that floss-silk is a "light and flexible material," but can any one imagine that the large force sent to China from Japan protected their bodies and limbs from Chinese bullets by encasing themselves in "floss silk"? And

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is it not a fact that all the Japanese troops in action from Asan to Yingkow had much the same experience as to Chinese bullets? Many men have returned from China who were engaged with the Chinese at moderately close quarters in the exchange of compliments at rifle practice, and they declare that the Chinese bullets fell at their feet after striking them fully and fairly. At first this was a matter of great surprise, but was subsequently clearly explained. The "floss silk" story is absurd. All the "floss silk" in Japan for the last ten years would not have sufficed for the purpose alleged by the *Daily News'* correspondent for one tithe of the Japanese army, even supposing the properties attributed to it are correct. Many Japanese have testified to having been struck on the hands and face by Chinese bullets, receiving no more than contusions, and to having picked up the missiles on occasion. Still more frequently was this the case when bullets struck them on belts, boots, and even clothing. This puzzled the men, and became a matter of comment, and on the subject cropping up one night round a camp fire it was explained by an English officer, who had collected, after the previous day's engagement, cartridge cases bearing the date of 1872. He had also found cartridges that had been "pulled" upon without exploding and had been thrown away, the contents of which when placed upon a plate with fire applied failed even to "burn." Is it any wonder that there was no "penetration" of the bullets discharged, when the cartridge did explode, by powder 23 years old? This is the explanation of the *Daily News* man's "floss silk" mare's nest. "It is," he says, "important enough to deserve attention at the hands of the British military authorities."

EVADING THE LAW.

"THE *Siam Free Press*," writes the *Hongkong Telegraph*, "has it on the best authority that the radicals of Japan will drive a coach and four through the provisions of the Imperial Peace Preservation Ordinance by publishing a paper outside Japan. Our Bangkok contemporary says that it is "credibly informed that Bangkok has been selected for the honour of being the birthplace of the new paper, which will probably see the light of day in the course of next month. The plant as well as the staff are now (22nd June) on their way to Bangkok, and in view of the fact that the paper will be edited by a couple of keen Japanese barristers of the Inns of Court, we shall most probably have a lively political time to break the uninterrupted monotony of our existence in this land of 'white elephants.'" This is all very fine, but the Siam journal forgets that the projected newspaper's sphere of influence may be effectually circumscribed by an order interdicting its passage through the Japanese post. That has happened to journals started under similar circumstances before.

THE BALTIMORE MINSTRELS.

A VERY diversified programme was presented by the Minstrel troupe of the U.S. Flagship *Baltimore* at the Public Hall on Monday evening, and was gone through in a manner which evidently delighted the large audience. The proceeds of the concert were to be devoted to the funds of the Ladies' Benevolent Society and the Yokohama Charity Organisation, two local charities deserving of all support. The songs sung and the jokes sent circulating during the evening were strongly intermingled with up-to-date allusions drawn from topical and local sources, and several quite brought down the house. A boxing match between F. McKenny and J. W. Angus provided an interesting interlude between the songs. O'Neil and Sullivan made a hit with "The very latest," and in responding to a recall promised, in ryhme, to induce the troupe to give another entertainment in Yokohama, which we hope will happen. "The Regular Army, O" was another amusing song. In a musical sketch entitled "The Dutch Applicant," some splendid violin and flute solos were introduced by C. W. Hindley and O. C. Bergmann respectively. These were veritable musical gems, and the performers were recalled. After a song and dance by P. Kenney, a pantomimic sketch was given. It was called "Love under difficulties," and the dumb show work of *Pierrot* (V. Bertoni), was exceedingly good. The *Miss Clementine* of C. Goss was also most attractive both in make-up and gesture. The entertainment concluded with a tableau introducing the Goddess of Liberty attired in the colours of "Old Glory" and supported by a sailor and a soldier of the U.S. service.

AN ADVENTUROUS FAMILY.

A WONDERFUL little schooner, named the *Kuisiloff*, put in an appearance at Manila on the 16th June, says the *China Mail*, having come from Honolulu to Marianas and thence to Manila. From the story of her Captain (Frederick Vehling, a German by birth but a naturalized American), it would appear that the voyage was a most eventful one. The dimensions of the little craft are—45 feet in length, 9 feet beam, and 4 feet depth of hold; displacement 15 tons. The crew of the schooner is composed of the Captain, his wife, and five children (two daughters and three sons) the eldest of whom is scarcely 11 years of age, and the youngest 4 years. All hands assisted in the management of the vessel, and, as their father asserts, every one of them is a good sailor!

NAVAL MOVEMENTS.

THE French man-of-war *Forfait* arrived at Woosung on Thursday evening, June 27th, and the French gunboat *Comète* was ordered to Ichang. H.M.S. *Rattler* left Shanghai on Saturday, June 29th, for Chefoo to relieve the *Daphne* due there shortly to take the place of the *Porpoise*, which leaves there to join the Admiral at Yokohama, and afterwards proceeds to change places with the *Caroline* in Behring Sea. The *Firebrand* is ordered from Hankow to Kiukiang and the *Esk* leaves there shortly for Chinkiang. The Spanish man-of-war *Uolla* has gone to Taku.

THE "RHEINGOLD" CASE.

MR. ENSLIE'S award in the *Rheingold* case, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, will be a serious blow to the unfortunate captain and owners of the vessel, who, including the thousand dollars admitted and deducting the $41.81 due to them, have to pay $10,328.53 to the charterers. Altogether it is calculated that counting the loss caused by the delay of the vessel here for seven or eight weeks, during which time she was earning nothing, this unfortunate dispute will cost the owners some twenty-five thousand dollars.

SZECHUAN.

SAYS the *N. C. Daily News* of June 27th:—M. Gérard, the French Minister at Pekin, has succeeded in procuring the issue of an Imperial decree, ordering the immediate settlement of the Szechuan outrages. Meanwhile, the French Squadron, to which M. Guillien, First Interpreter of the French Consulate-General here, is temporarily attached, has gone to patrol the Yangtze, and will stay *en route* at the principal ports long enough to make an impression on the officials.

CARBINE.

THE Orient liner *Orizaba*, from Australia, was expected at Tilbury on May 24th. So much the better for the world-renowned stallion Carbine, purchased for a large sum by the Duke of Portland. The horse was insured at Lloyd's for twelve months including the voyage from Australia to this country by Messrs. Malcolm MacIntyre & Co. for £13,000 at 10 guineas per cent. Carbine was well, on the vessel's arrival at Naples, and "in splendid condition" when the steamer called at Plymouth on May 23rd.

THE "VALKYRIE."

THE new *Valkyrie* is finished. Her length on the water line is 19ft., and over all 130ft. In tonnage she will slightly exceed the *Ailsa*, and thus be the largest racing cutter afloat. Moreover, she will have a larger spread of canvas than even the *Ailsa*, which was supposed to have the record in that respect. In model the new *Valkyrie* is an improved edition of the *Britannia*, from whose performances George Watson has gained some lessons. She is built of yellow metal planked at bottom with American elm and at top with yellow pine. She is not, however, as ready for sea as the *Ailsa* was when put into the water, and will not have her rigging and outfit complete for another fortnight or so. Internally she is very lightly fitted up, with no more accommodation than is necessary for the business of racing.

THE TRANS-PACIFIC TRADE.

THERE is a report, says a Vancouver paper, that the vessels of Mr. Alfred Holt's "Ocean" line of steamships, which trade between Liverpool and ports in the Orient, will cross the Pacific, take a ballasting of ore at Vancouver and then fill up at San Francisco for the United Kingdom. While this may not be an improbable arrangement in the future for this or some other line, there is not, as far as we can ascertain, any foundation for the statement that definite arrangements have been made.

A BLOATED PLURALIST.

A MINIATURE Lord-High-Everything is to be found in the Australian Civil Service in the person of Mr. F. W. Myles, of Bowen, Queensland. Mr. Myles holds no less than twenty-one offices, including that of police magistrate, gold warden, land commissioner, clerk of petty sessions, registrar of deaths, and so forth, receiving for the whole lot the total pay of £330 per year. This beats Hongkong's record of "acting" appointments hollow.

TOKAIDO RAILWAY.

AN alteration will be made in the time table of the Tokaido Railway on and after the 12th inst. According to the proposed change the down-train from Shimbashi, which heretofore started at 5.50 a.m., will leave at 5.20 a.m., and the 8.05 a.m. train from Shimbashi will run down to Nagoya: An up-train from Kozu will start at 7.05 a.m. instead of 7.10 a.m., and a new train will leave Kozu at 8.08 a.m. for Shimbashi..

HOME NEWS.

THE latest papers from Canada bring news up to the eve of the dissolution of Parliament. The Government were evidently caught napping when the vote on the ammunition reserves was taken, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, the Secretary for War, being engaged in conversation in the Lobby at the time. Much personal sympathy is extended by all parties in the press towards the late Secretary for War.

CHOLERA ON BOARD THE "MOUNT LEBANON."

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun* states that Mr. James Tasker, 2nd engineer of the *Mount Lebanon*, was attacked by cholera on the 6th inst. while the steamer was putting into Yokohama. The ship at once proceeded to Nagahama Quarantine Station where the patient was removed to the epidemic hospital, and the ship was quarantined.

A TYPHOON.

THE steamer *Queen Victoria*, upon arriving at Kobe on Thursday, reported passing through a heavy typhoon after leaving Hongkong on the 25th ult. She lost a lot of deck gear, the bridge ladders, and 364 cases of cocoa-nut oil.

THE SPRING CROP OF SILK.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* has collected reports on the Spring crop of silk cocoons from all parts of the country. These reports agree in announcing an unusually good crop, the rate of increase as compared with last year, ranging between 10 and 50 per cent. The localities reporting 50 per cent. increase are Higashi-Kasugai and Toyohara in Owari, Ryugasaki in Hitachi, Date-gun in Iwashiro, and Nagaoka in Echigo. The average seems to be from 20 to 30 per cent. As to the silk producing quality of the cocoons, the returns are not so favourable. In several localities, the yield is expected to be decidely inferior to that of last year's cocoons. But even this factor seems to show an increase, on the whole, though not in the same proportion as the increase of the cocoons.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

Twenty-six members of the Diet belonging to different sections of the Opposition held a réunion at the Kôyo-kan, Shiba, on the 4th instant. Conspicuous among those present were Messrs Shimada Saburo, Ozaki Yukio, Taguchi Ukichi, Kusumoto Masataka, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Ohigashi Gitetsu, Nakamura Yaroku, and Junkai Ki. As had been anticipated, it was not a social réunion, but in reality an attempt to review the recently suppressed agitation against the Cabinet on the question of Liaotung. They resolved to organize an association called the *Chuo Giin-kai* (Central Association of Members of the Diet), which is to meet every Monday at the Atago-kan to deliberate upon various questions connected with the Diet. It will probably share the same fate as its predecessor. The meeting of the 4th instant was attended by one Radical, Mr. Shigeoka Kunguro, but it must not be inferred from this that the resuscitated agitation has the sympathy of the Radical Party, for the meeting at the Koyo-kan had been publicly described as a social réunion. No National Unionist was present.

Concerning the position of the Radical Party, there is a rumour that it finds itself now in a difficult dilemma. The leading members of the Party are opposed to the course pursued by the Progressionists and others on the question of the return of Liaotung. But the younger Radicals, namely, those that have no seats in the Diet, are more or less in favour of the anti-Cabinet agitation. A number of them recently presented a memorial to the Standing Committee of the Party, strongly urging the importance of joining the agitation. The Standing Committee could not disregard this representation, because, so rumour says, it was secretly supported by some Radicals having seats in the Diet. The results of the meeting held by the Committee a few days ago to consider the matter have not been made public. Some papers believe that it was decided to take the sense of the whole Party on the question, and Mr. Shigeoka's presence at the Koyo-kan réunion on the 4th instant is adduced as a proof that the attitude of the Radicals toward the anti-Cabinet movement is becoming more and more favourable. But for certain good reasons we are disposed to regard such versions of the Radical Party's position as apocryphal. They are probably fabricated by men who wish to pursuade the public that the ill-starred agitation is making headway in political circles.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has not yet given up the hope of seeing its dream of a *Genkun Naikaku* carried into practice. It is perfectly aware of the difficulties that would, under ordinary circumstances, oppose the administrative union of the elder statesmen. But it holds that public necessity should over rule all other considerations at a juncture like the present, when every lover of the country should care for nothing except the permanent interests of the nation. These statesmen are compared to the leading actors of the day, Danjuro, Kikugoro, Sadanji, and so forth, each a consummate master of his art, but incapable of giving the full satisfaction to an audience without the cöoperation of the rest. Our contemporary is at a loss to understand why men like Counts Ito, Inouye, Okuma, and Itagaki can not cast aside the restraints of petty personal considerations. Even looking at the matter from the standpoint of individual considerations, the *Jiji* is convinced that it is best for these statesmen to combine. The remaining years of their political life are already numbered. Sooner or later they must give way to the younger generation, members of which are already pressing hard upon them. Hence, in our contemporary's opinion, the present is probably the last opportunity for them to be reunited and to bequeath to posterity an unmistakable proof of their disinterested devotion to the interests of the country.

Our criticism of the contradictory and somewhat ambiguous attitude of the *Kokumin Shimbun* on the question of foreign policy (*Japan Mail* of July 6th), has elicited the following reply:—"In our eyes there is neither England nor Russia. We do not necessarily regard England as an ally, neither do we necessarily look upon Russia as an enemy, so we do not take Russia for an ally. What we care for are the interests and dignity of Great Japan. Where our country's interests and dignity are at stake, we do not mind whether our antagonist is England or Russia. Neither hostility nor friendship is solicited by Japan; it is those Powers that either court the friendship or invite the enmity of Japan." That is exactly what we assumed to be the attitude of a section of the writers on our contemporary's staff. The fact that another section of the staff is in favour of a Russian alliance stands undenied.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has taken a singular line of action in connection with the suppression of Mr. Shimada's speech, at a recent lecture meeting. Our contemporary originally charged the police inspectors with having stopped Mr. Shimada's speech while he was reading an Imperial Rescript. The chief of the Kanda Police Office thereupon required the *Mainichi* to publish a statement denying the charge. According to the Newspaper Regulations, the *Mainichi* ought to have published the statement, but it refused point blank to do so, at the same time repeating in an angry tone its former charge against the police. It is now understood that the police authorities will institute a prosecution against the paper. *Apropos* the conduct of the police at the aforesaid lecture meeting, some politicians threaten to make it a subject of discussion in the coming session of the Diet.

The alarming news from Korea is the absorbing topic of discussion in the Capital. Although the incident is in itself of minor importance, being merely an episode in the interminable war of factions for which Söul is infamous, a great deal of anxiety is felt and expressed about the consequences of the re-establishment of the Queen's influence in Korean politics. The Government is urged by papers of all parties to take prompt and decided steps to deal with the new situation of affairs in the peninsula. How critical the situation is believed to be, is proved by the effect that has been produced upon the Stock Exchange. The state of feeling there is reported to resemble that which prevailed about this time last year, just before the commencement of the Chinese war. Now that Count Inouye is about to return to his post at Söul, we have little doubt that he will soon restore things at least to the position in which he left them three weeks ago.

It is now widely rumoured in the capital that the much talked-of extraordinary session of the Diet will soon become a fact. The Military and Naval measures in the course of elaboration in the Cabinet will shortly be matured, and an Edict summoning the Diet for an extraordinary session will then be issued, fixing the date of assembly at two weeks from the day of the issue of the Edict. We publish this report for what it may be worth.

We hear little about the anti-Cabinet agitation. Meetings are occasionally held by the projectors of the ill-fated movement, but they seem to be merely devices for keeping up an appearance of continued vitality. The force of circumstances is irresistibly against the agitators.

A CORRECTION.

We find that in our article last week on the *Chishima-Ravenna* Appeal, we were guilty of an error. We wrote:—"On the main point now decided in the Japanese Government's favour, both the Court for Japan and the Supreme Court in Shanghai gave judgment against the Government," whereas we ought to have written:—"On the main point now decided in the Japanese Government's favour, the Court for Japan gave no decision for reasons stated in its judgment, but the Supreme Court in Shanghai gave judgment against the Government." We must apologise to the Court for Japan for inadvertently misrepresenting the position taken by it.

KOREAN NEWS.

The ceremony of inaugurating the *Chosen Kyokai* (Korean Society) was celebrated at the Nam-pyŏl palace on the 23rd ultimo. The event proved an entire success. There were present 150 Koreans and more than 100 Japanese. Mr. Enami Tetsuo addressed the meeting on behalf of the Japanese originators of the Society, briefly recounting the circumstances connected with its origin and constitution. An exactly similar speech was delivered by Mr. Kim Jinshoku, Director of the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department, as representative of the Korean originators. At the instance of Mr. An Keiju, Vice-Minister of Finance, Mr. Kim Inshoku, Minister of Foreign Affairs, was unanimously voted chairman of the meeting. At first he sought to decline the honour, but was finally induced to take the chair. The regulations of the Society were then submitted for deliberation, the draft in Korean being read by Mr. Gen Ô-un, Translator in the Foreign Office, but the Japanese draft was left unread. The regulations were at once voted without debate. The Chairman then invited the meeting to proceed to the election of officers of the Society, with the exception of the President, but Mr. An Keiju proposed that the officers be nominated by Mr. Boku Eiko, Minister of Home Affairs, and the latter at once nominated Mr. Kim Inshoten to be Vice-President; Messrs. Yu Kitsu-ei, In Chiko, An Keiju, Ken Zaiko, Cho Juo, Li In-yo, Li Sai-yen, Wu Hanzen, Ko Tetsu, Ren Chubo, Tei Heika, Sugimura Fukashi, Uchida Sadatsuchi, Okamoto Ryunosuke, Ishizuka Eizo, Tsuneya Seifuku, Hozumi Torakuro, Kunitomo Shigeakira, and Enami Tetsuo to be the Councillors; and Messrs. Kim Jinshoku, Gen O-un, and Aoyama Kokei to be Managers, which nominations were accepted by all present with evident satisfaction. This completed the organization of the Society. Speeches were then delivered by several members. Mr. In Chiko, Vice-Minister of Education, who is reputed to be one of the most promising young officials in Söul, spoke first. He drew attention to the necesssity of encouraging a simple, industrious, and healthy mode of life among his countrymen. He was followed by Mr. Kunitomo, who discussed the situation of affairs in the East and emphasized the importance of close friendship between Japan and Korea. Mr. Yamada Itaro referred to the Toho Kyokai (Oriental Association) in Tokyo, and suggested the advisability of establishing relations between the two institutions, since their aims had much in common. The proposal was favourably entertained by the meeting, Mr. Yu Kitsu-ei, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, warmly seconding it. The whole party were then photographed on a hill in the rear of the Palace, after which they sat down to well furnished tables. In the course of the dinner the Vice-President, Kim Inshoku, called for three cheers for Korea, Japan, and the Society, and the invitation evoked an enthusiastic response. From the success of the meeting, it may be inferred that the misunderstanding between Boku's faction and the Japanese residents has been completely cleared up.

The Korean Government is reported to have made it known in the *Official Gazette* that, besides the Infantry, there shall be created three battalions of Engineers, and a battalion each of Artillery and Commissariat.

The Bin partisans, who are opposed to the present régime, are said to be increasing in the Court. Recently a bureau was created in the Household Department, and it is now filled with men who were dismissed at the time of the inauguration of the new state of affairs last year. The Queen is thus endeavouring to collect about her the friends and supporters of her family.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent states that General Le Gendre, who recently returned to Söul, is now a frequent visitor at the Court.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which has shown much industry of late in reproducing the utterances of the Russian press on the Korean question, writes in a recent issue in the following strain:—"There are Russian journals that vehemently criticise Japan's conduct in Korea,

alleging that the Japanese are behaving as though the peninsular kingdom were either an occupied territory or a dependency. These journals urge their Government to adopt the policy of expelling the Japanese from the peninsula. Even the less violent newspapers insist upon the withdrawal of the Japanese troops. We do not believe that these expressions of opinion are taken into serious consideration by the Russian Government; but we cannot dismiss than so easily. It is customary for the Russians to advocate a protectorate over Korea, on the ground that Russia has the greatest interests in the peninsula. Such a pretension is too extravagant to be seriously noticed. Should Korea be unable to maintain her independence and should it consequently become necessary to place her under the protection of the Power possessing the largest interests in her fate, such Power is assuredly Japan. Russian territory, it is true, lies contiguous with Korea through a short distance in Ham-gyŏng-do. But there is not one Russian merchant resident in the Kingdom, and Russia's share in Korean trade is infinitesimal. The suppression of the Tonghaks, the expulsion of the Chinese, and the advice and assistance rendered in connection with internal reforms—these are but the latest instances in which Japan has spent both money and labour for the benefit of the peninsular kingdom. Russia has done nothing of the sort. If Russia can say that her interests are large in Korea because her ambition is to obtain a part of the peninsula, how much more important must be the interests of Japan which desires the independence of Korea as a bulwark and as a means of self-preservation? Whether Korea has capacity to be independent or whether she will have to be placed under the protection of a foreign Power, is a question that we do not propose to discuss here. But if a protectorate be at all necessary, it should never be a Russian protectorate: Korea's protector must be Japan. This Empire has endeavoured during the past twenty years to preserve the independence of Korea, originally by introducing her to the outside world and since last year by inaugurating political and economic reforms. The efforts made in the latter respect have not yet been crowned with complete success, the time occupied in the work being too brief. But, so far as concerns foreign relations, Korea has been made an independent country. It was China's attempt to re-assert her suzeranity over the peninsula that led to the recent war. It was also ostensibly for the purpose of safe-guarding Korea's independence that Russia opened diplomatic communications with Japan just before the outbreak as well as before the cessation of the war. Japan, of course, agreed to the preservation of Korean independence. It would, therefore, be a breach of faith as much on the part of Russia as on that of Japan, did either country place Korea under its protection. Supposing that Korea were found wanting in the qualities essential to independence, it would be proper that Japan and Russia should take concerted action about the settlement of the question. As Japan will not solve the problem according to her own will, neither must Russia essay anything of the kind. In taking concerted action, Japan will respect Russia's interests (however small they may be) and in like manner Russia should pay due regard to the interests of Japan. But that is only after it shall have been decided that Korea is positively incapable of maintaining her independence. For our own part, we believe her to be incapable, but Count Inouye thinks that Korean independence is not hopeless. Should the Government concur in his view, it ought to continue its present policy of giving advice and guidance to the little Kingdom, and should that policy succeed, Korea ought to be placed in the same position as that occupied in Europe by Switzerland and Belgium. The neutrality of these European States is possible only because they have the qualities essential for independence. Should Korea ever prove herself capable of independence, it would then be Japan's duty to invite the other Powers to join in guaranteeing her neutrality. Such is the brightest future to which the Koreans can aspire. Should however, our prediction unfortunately prove true, and Korea be found incapable of existing independently, it would be well to reduce her to a state resembling that of Egypt. What England is to Egypt, or France to Annam, or Russia to Bokhara, that certainly must be the attitude toward Korea of the country possessing the largest interest in her fate. We think it necessary that Japan should keep this fact in view. As to the question of the presence of Japanese troops in Korea, it must be borne in mind that, in the present state of things, a long time must elapse before Korea can complete the organization of her army, and that in the meanwhile the presence of our troops is a condition indispensable to the maintenance of tranquillity in the peninsula. If the Powers recognize that the maintenance of tranquillity in Korea is one of the most important securities of Oriental peace, they ought to approve the stationing of Japanese troops in the peninsula after the war, just as they did not object to their presence there before the war. In short, Japan cannot withdraw her troops from Korea in view of their importance as factors making for the peace of the East. The excellent discipline of our troops in Korea at first astonished the Chinese and afterwards extorted the admiration of Europeans. But the Empire that has paramount interests in the peninsnla ought to be prēeminently careful to win the good-will of the people. We hope that no pains will be spared by the officers in command of the Japanese forces in Korea to keep their men under the strictest restraint. With reference to the civilian roughs that commit violent deeds in Korea, they are the worst enemies of Japanese interests. We are convinced that the Government will take all possible means to sweep away these mischievous folks."

Very disquieting telegrams were received yesterday from Korea. The first, dated Söul, 7th instant, 10.50 a.m., says that on the night of the 6th, the Queen endeavoured to effect the arrest of Pak Yonhyo (Boku Eiko), Minister of Home Affairs, but that he escaped to Chemulpho. The telegram adds that the other Ministers were holding a conference in the Japanese Legation. This intelligence appears in the *Jiji Shimpo*, which journal conjectures that the Queen's attempt to seize Pak was the first overt step in her programme for recovering the reins of administration.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a telegram dated 1.20 p.m. on the same day (7th), which says that Pak has been arrested; that the men of his party have dispersed; that some of them have been seized, and that the Opposition have suddenly developed great strength. It is further stated that stones were thrown at the Japanese Legation on the night of the 6th, but that the Japanese Settlement is well guarded and safe.

Concerning the fall of Pak Yonghyo (Boku Eiko), Minister of Home Affairs, and his faction, various opinions are advanced. The most plausible explanation seems to be that the events just telegraphed from Söul were the result of the conflict for some time in progress between the Queen and Pak. Little credence is attached to an allegation of treason on the part of Pak. Documentary evidence, which, according to one telegram, is stated to be in the King's possession,—namely, an account of a written conversation between Pak and a Japanese,—is evidently apocryphal. In the first place, Pak speaks Japanese almost as fluently as his mother tongue, and consequently there would have been no necessity for him to carry on a conversation with any of his Japanese friends in written Chinese. Secondly, the particular Japanese now in question, Sasaki Tomizo, a man from the Prefecture of Akita, is a youth of no repute not even known to have been acquainted with Pak. And finally, even granting that a written conversation of a compromising nature did take place between the two men, it is not probable that slips on which such dangerous words had been transcribed, would have been suffered by Pak to be carried away.

Telegrams are contradictory about the fate of Pak, some stating that he was arrested while on his way to Jinsen, while others assert that he reached that port in safety and arranged to take passage for Japan by a steamer leaving on the night of the 7th, before he was apprehended. The latter version is believed to be more trustworthy.

As to the train of circumstances that led to the present episode, much light is thrown on the subject by an interview with Mr. Yamada Itaro, reported in the *Kokkai*. Mr. Yamada went to Söul, in company with Messrs. Sassa and Shiba, to ascertain the truth about Pak's position. He remained for a short time after his companions had left for home, staying in Söul until the 28th ultimo. He is not at all surprised by the alarming telegrams from Korea, for he professes to have foreseen that things would come to such a pass. "To put it," he says, "in two words, this is the result of a conflict between the Court and the Cabinet, or more correctly between the Queen and Pak. Our countrymen recently accused Pak of an anti-Japanese tendency, but in that they were unjust. About the time of the return of Count Inouye, the conservative and progressive elements in the Korean Cabinet agreed to unite in the work of reform. At that time Pak was of opinion that true reforms were impossible until the Queen had been removed from the political sphere. In order to effect that, he thought it necessary to replace the Court Guards, who are the Queen's main supporters, by troops drilled under the new system. The matter was proposed to the king by the Prime Minister, but the change of Palace guards was vetoed by the Queen. The Cabinet Ministers, however, persisted in their demand for the measure, and the Premier, finding himself in a difficult position, resigned. This was the first occasion of an open rupture between the Queen and Pak Yonghyo. Soon another event precipitated a final collision between the two, namely, the establishment of the *Chosen Kyokai* (Korean Society). The Queen regarded this association in the light of a demonstration against herself, and some of the foreign Ministers also looked upon it with suspicion. Thinking it high time to take some decided step, the Queen appointed sixteen Court Councillors from amoug the Ming (Bin) faction, and with the support of these partisans, her influence soon became irresistably strong." Thus, at the time when Mr. Yamada left Söul, namely June 28th, the situation was already critical. When he called on Pak the preceding day to bid him farewell, the Minister of Home Affairs is reported to have said:—"Your countrymen have charged me with cōoperating with the Queen, but nothing is farther from the truth. It is my resolution to devote my whole energy to the solution of the present difficulties by restraining the Queen from interference in politics, and by placing an impassable gulf between the Household Department and the Cabinet. Then, and then only, will it be possible to effect internal reforms. Can that be accomplished, I am indifferent about my personal safety."

With regard to the question of Palace Guards, the present force consists of 1,000 men said to have been drilled according to an antiquated system by an American officer. It had been arranged, with the King's sanction, that these troops should be replaced by new soldiers trained under Japanese officers. The change was to have taken place in the month of May, but the Queen strenuously resisted the project, well knowing that it would be highly disadvantageous to her interests.

Great impatience is shown by the vernacular press to discover what course the Japanese Government intends to take in the present Korean complication. It is stated by some papers that Count Inouye will once more go to Söul. All the journals urge the Cabinet to adopt prompt and resolute measures to cope with the situation.

The following telegram, dated Söul 3.35 p.m., July 7th, is published by the *Kokumin Shimbun*:—"It was An Keiju, the new Police Inspector General, that went to arrest Pak. The latter, learning the fate that threatened him, fled to Jinsen. A party of 20 constables soon followed him as did also two companies of troops drilled under the new system. Simultaneously with his flight to Jinsen, a part of the Japanese troops

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marched down to the same place, while the rest were held in readiness for any emergency, sentinels being posted at various important positions. Pak's partisans have all left the capital. A party of American marines started for Söul immediately after the news of the incident had been received. A Cabinet meeting was convened, and was attended by Yu Kitsu-ei, Kim Koshu, and others. Kim Koshu will probably be appointed Minister President of State. Yu Kitsu-ei has been appointed acting Minister of Home Affairs, and all the important posts in the different Departments of State have been filled by partisans of the Ming faction. Jo Kohan, Minister of Justice, and Shin Kizen, Minister of War, have been deprived of their offices. Ko Keikan has been placed in command of the troops trained under the new system. The affair originated in a jesting remark made by Sasaki Tomizo in a conversation with Sai Koyeki, to the effect that Boku Eiko had a plan to surround the palace with Japanese troops and depose the Queen. Sasaki Tomezo, Ogawa Minoru, Kuroda Takuma, and a few others have been ordered to leave the country."

Little further news of importance has been received from Korea. Pak and his fellow fugitives are said to have fled from Söul in foreign clothes and taken a launch for Ninsen at Yongsan, about two miles from the capital.

As to Sasaki Tomezo, whose careless talk with a certain official unfriendly to Pak is alleged to have been the principal cause of the present incident, it is stated, on the authority of Messrs. Sassa and Shiba, that he had a grudge against the fallen Minister of Home Affairs because the latter persistently refused to see him. Messrs. Sassa and Shiba were repeatedly called on by Sasaki, while they were in Söul, and they say that he was always alluding to Pak in the most resentful terms, vowing, on the last occasion they saw him, to be revenged on the haughty Korean Minister of State. It is not impossible, according to some critics, that Sasaki invented a baseless calumny against Pak, and that the tale was at once carried to the Queen, who was glad to be supplied with a pretext for effecting the downfall of her enemy. But for our part, we can not be content with such an explanation.

With regard to Ogawa Minoru, who has been ordered to leave Korea or Söul by the Japanese Consul, it is stated that he was an old resident in the Korean capital, and that he there enjoyed close relations with several native officials of influence, especially An Keiju, the new Police Inspector-General. An was supposed to be a partisan of Pak, but it is believed by men versed in Korean affairs that he was all the while in secret communication with the Queen's party. It is further believed that Ogawa was mixed up in the plot against Pak. There is another Japanese adventurer, Kuroda Takuma by name, whose continued residence in Korea has been forbidden. He was probably connected with the affair, but nothing is known either about his antecedents or about his doings in Söul.

According to a telegram received by the *Jiji Shimpo*, it appears that the direction of affairs in Söul is in the hands of Kim Koshu and Yu Kitsu-yei. Kim Koshu was formerly Minister President of State, which position he had to resign on account of the strong opposition of the now fallen Minister of Home Affairs. It is believed that Kim is a great admirer of Count Inouye, and he has always been regarded as a genuine friend of Japan. But constancy is a rare virtue among Korean statesmen, and no one can say positively how much Kim's political views may have changed since his retirement. At all events, it seems likely that the accusation against Pak was not dictated by any deeply planned political scheme to overthrow Japanese influence. All intelligence agrees in stating that no excitement prevails in Söul. It remains to be seen whether Pak was sinned against or sinning. We incline to the latter view, however. He saw the imminence of his political enemies' advent to power, and he attempted to strike at the source of the danger. That is our own inference, however. We admit that materials for forming a decided estimate are still wanting.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The increase of banking corporations is one of the most conspicuous features in the Japanese economic world. At the end of 1892, the number of private banks was 270, but it increased to 604 at the close of the succeeding year. Thereafter the increase has been at least equally great. The following table shows the private banks established in the City of Osaka during the two years ending February, 1895:—

Name.	Capital. yen.	Date of Establishment.
Osaka Ginko.....	200,000.....	March, 1893.
Sakai Kyoritsu Ginko.	50,000.....	June, 1893.
Omi Ginko	500,000.....	March, 1894.
Nippon Shokin Ginko.	500,000.....	July, 1894.
Osaka Shogyo Ginko..	300,000.....	July, 1894.
Hirano Ginko	50,000.....	July, 1894.
Inouye Ginko	500,000.....	August, 1894.
Meiji Ginko	300,000.....	August, 1894.
Churitsu Ginko	1,000,000.....	October, 1894.
Namba Ginko	50,000.....	October, 1894.
Churitsu Chochiku Ginko	50,000..	November, 1894.
Hirano Shochiku Ginko	30,000..	November, 1894.
Sekizen Domei Ginko.	500,000..	December, 1894.
Temma Ginko	100,000..	February, 1895.
Total .....14.....	4,130,000	

The *Shogyo Shimpo*, from which we quote these figures, states that the tendency of private banks to grow in number has become even more marked since the restoration of peace.

The marine insurance companies sustained such losses during the first six months of the present year that some of them find it impossible to declare a dividend. Their misfortune was due to the frequency of shipwrecks among vessels engaged as transports or on foreign lines. Of the ships injured or destroyed in Korean waters and in the Yellow Sea, the majority were owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which usually insure their own vessels. Consequently, the insurance company's losses extended only to the cargoes. But despite that saving clause the result makes a large hole in the income of the companies. It is generally feared that the insurance companies will have a hard time of it during the next few years, for the sudden increase of the mercantile marine is destined to cause keen competition between the different steamship companies, and such rivalry can not fail to increase the perils of navagation. Moreover, such an increase of ships necessitates the employment of unskilled navigators and crews. There are consequently apprehensions that during the next few years the risks of marine insurance will be greatly augmented.

That a number of capitalists in Tokyo have under contemplation the organization of a company to develop the resources of Formosa, has already been mentioned in these columns. As a preliminary measure, they have formed an association called the *Taiwan Kogyo-kai*, for the purpose of making investigations about the present condition and future prospects of the different kinds of industries in the island. Commissioners will shortly be despatched thither for the purpose. The enterprises under contemplation are the growing of sugar, camphor, and tea, and the working of coal mines. Of these the camphor industry is stated to be most popular. Among the supporters of the scheme may be mentioned Messrs. Amemiya Keijiro, Tanaka Heihachi, Abe Hikotaro, Inouye Kakugoro, and Yokoyama Magoichiro.

THE "RÉVUE FRANCAISE."

A correspondent, whose address we have unfortunately mislaid, recently questioned us with reference to the existence of a French journal or periodical in Japan. The only one now in existence is the *Révue Française du Japon*, published under the patronage of the Society of the French Language, the office being at the *Wa-Futsu Horitsu Gakko*, Kojimachi-ku, Fujimicho, Rokuchome, No. 16, Tokyo. The magazine is one of the very best publications of its class that have ever appeared in Japan.

RUSSIAN SENTIMENT TOWARD JAPAN DURING THE LATE WAR.

Mr. Kanbe Oichi, who started for Russia last winter, carrying with him specimens of black tea manufactured by the Kyushu tea men, returned home about the middle of the month, and has conveyed to several of his friends, who in their turn communicated to the vernacular press, an account of his experiences among the Russians. While busily soliciting, in St. Petersburg, orders for Japanese black tea, news constantly reached the Russian capital about the victories won by the Japanese Army and Navy. Wherever he went he found the topic earnestly discussed, and question after question was put to him about Japan and the Japanese. It may easily be conjectured that his answers were not unfavourable to Japan. Especially he was careful to impress upon his hearers the fact that Japanese soldiers and marines are deeply imbued with sentiments of patriotism and loyalty, and are ready to sacrifice their lives for the sake of their country and Emperor, in all of which points the Chinese, who join the Army solely from mercenary motives, offer a striking contrast. These expositions seem to have been well received. Everywhere Mr. Kanbe found a cordial welcome, and the specimens that he carried with him were soon exhausted; moreover, he obtained quite a number of orders for tea. During his sojourn in St. Petersburg, news arrived that the great Chinese strongholds of Port Arthur and Weihaiwei had fallen into the hands of the Japanese, that they had crossed the river Liao and marched upon Yingkow, and that Formosa had also been taken by them.

His mission—he had been sent, as stated above, by the Kyushu Tea Guild to show samples of tea and get as many orders as possible—having been satisfactorily accomplished, he left the Russian capital for Odessa, whence he took passage in the Russian steamer *Moscow*, and started for home in the early part of March. The steamer, being one of the Volunteer Fleet, was manned by naval officers or seamen on the retired list. She carried about 700 colonial troops destined to settle in Siberia. In the course of the voyage a religious feast was held, to which Mr. Kanbe was invited. From the captain down to the sailors, the whole crew effusively congratulated him on the victories won by Japan, and became so excited over the matter that several of them shouldered their guest and cheered him enthusiastically.

Three days later the ship reached Singapore. It was May 3rd. The captain then told Mr. Kanbe that as Russia, Germany, and France, had conjointly objected to the cession of the Liaotung peninsula to Japan, hostilities might break out between the three Powers and Japan, and that the ship, though originally bound for Nagasaki, had been ordered to proceed direct to Vladivostock. He therefore advised Mr. Kanbe to leave the ship at Singapore, but on reconsideration he withdrew that advice, and said that since, in the event of war breaking out, the ship might be captured by the Japanese before reaching Vladivostock, he hoped that Mr. Kanbe would stay on board so as to act as interpreter in the event of such a contingency. Under any circumstances, his remaining on board until the vessel reached Vladivostock was much to be desired, as he was well acquainted with Siberia, and would be of great service to the Russian Government after he reached that place. Mr. Kanbe concluded that as the ship had to call at Hongkong to coal, he could leave her there, and he accordingly signified his willingness to proceed in her. Thenceforth, however, his treatment by the crew underwent a marked change. They studiously tried to avoid his company, and when the vessel reached Hongkong, he was only too glad to get away from her. The story does not appear to possess any special value or significance, but it is told by the vernacular press evidently as an indication of the change that has come over Russian sentiment toward Japan since the association of the three Powers and the cropping up to the Liaotung question.

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COUNT OKUMA ON THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES.

Among the many utterances put into Count Okuma's mouth by interviewers and published in the columns of the vernacular press, one rather curious statement appeared in the *Chuo Shimbun* of the 27th and 28th ultimo. We translate it verbatim :—"The British Minister, Sir Harry Parkes, was not a man of learning, in the foreign sense of the term, but his abilities were such as to qualify him even for a seat in the English Cabinet. He was originally a student-interpreter. A man of high courage and dignity, his deeds in China won for him the applause of his nationals. Among all the British Representatives that have been in Japan, not one could compare with him. Mr. Trench, for example, who recently went home, was nothing more than a good man. When pushed hard in a controversy, he would seem almost ready to weep, and would sit with his eyes fixed sorrowfully on the table, so that his *vis-à-vis* felt reluctant to press the discussion. Mr. Fraser, his predecessor, though learned, was not a diplomat. His abilities were literary and artistic only. Mr. Satow, who is soon to arrive, can not, of course, be classed with Sir Harry Parkes, but is probably one of the ablest of the British Ministers we have hitherto had. He, too, was a student-interpreter originally and acted in the capacity of interpreter for Sir Harry Parkes. An old resident of Japan, skilled in the Japanese language, and in Japanese lore, translator of the *Kojiki*, well versed in Chinese literature, his knowledge in these respects is something very different from the rough acquaintance that men like myself have of Western languages and literaure. In pre-Restoration days, he with Sir Harry Parkes, mixed freely with the *Daimyo*, and *Hatamoto*, and acquired the pure, high-class dialect of the *Yedokko*. The United States Representative, Mr. Dun, has lived for 20 years in Japan and is almost like a Japanese. Of the foreign Representatives now in Japan, the Russian Minister, Mr. Hitrovo, is the ablest. He gave many proofs of his talents in the Balkan Peninsula, and he shares with Mr. Waeber, Russian Minister in Söul, the reputation of being a first-rate diplomatist. Mr. Waeber has not yet been much spoken of, but he and his wife make an exceptional couple, of whom much will one day be heard. As for the Japanese Representative in Söul, there is no occasion to send a man of such high reputation as Count Inouye to succeed the latter. A fairly clever man that has risen from student rank will suffice. Diplomacy is not an affair of learning : it is a special talent. A man like Sir Harry Parkes, even if he never read a volume on international law, had a special talent that made him the first diplomat in the East."

THE MONETARY SYSTEM INVESTIGATION COUNCIL.

A report embodying the results of the labours of the Monetary System Investigation Council having been completed by Mr. Hayakawa Senkichiro, the Manager of the Council, was submitted for the approval of the Council at its meeting of the 3rd instant. The report was immediately voted correct, and was presented by Viscount Tani, President of the Council, to Mr. Tajiri Inajiro, Vice-Minister of State for Finance, Count Matsukata, Minister of Finance, not then happening to be in the Department. Mr. Tajiri read a letter from Count Matsukata, thanking the members of the Council for the conscientious diligence they had shown in the discharge of their duties, and Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, President of the Yokohama Specie Bank, thanked Viscount Tani, in the name of the members of the Council, for the able manner in which he had directed their proceedings. The publication of the report is looked forward to with much interest.

The word "honeymoon" is derived from the German, and has its significance from the fact that the Germans formerly drank mead—a sweet liquid made of honey—for thirty days after the wedding.

THE JAPANESE MINISTER TO CHINA.

A second batch of letters from correspondents accompanying Mr. Hayashi, have just been received in Tokyo. On June 18th, the Japanese Minister visited H.B.M.'s ship *Swift* and the British Consulate in Tientsin, while Secretary Kawasaki and Lieut.-Colonel Kamio visited the French Consulate. The following day, about 8 a.m., the Japanese Minister and his party left Tientsin for the Capital by a train of boats, nine in all, under guard of two gun-boats, one leading and the other bringing up the rear. The party were escorted to the wharf by a guard of 32 braves. Immediately after the embarkation, the gun-boats escorting the flotilla fired a salute. Seven of the boats were occupied by the party, and two carried provisions. Each boat was provided with a Chinese cook who had been in the service of Japanese and, consequently, knew how to prepare food according to Japanese taste. None of the correspondents say that these boats were placed at the service of Mr. Hayashi and suite by Viceroy Li, but such appears to have been the case. The gun-boats were armed with brass mortars and had 12 soldiers on board.

The voyage up the Pei-ho took about seventy-five hours. Leaving Tientsin at about 8 a.m. on June 19th they reached Tungchow at about noon on the 22nd. When the boats were moored in the evening—they did not move during the night probably from considerations of safety—the gun-boats always fired salutes and landed the soldiers, who kept watch on shore, beating gongs and occasionally firing rifles to frighten away the banditti with whom these regions are supposed to be infested.

At Tungchow Mr. Hayashi, Secretaries Nakajima, Tei, and Kawasaki, Captain Inouye, I.J.N., and Lieut-Colonel Kamio took chairs, while the rest of the party, including the newspaper correspondents, proceeded on donkeys. The correspondents seem to have been struck with the grandeur of the walls of Pekin, but their surprise was still more excited by the filth and dust-storms within the walls. On reaching the Legation, they found it guarded by ten constables. A student interpreter from the United States Legation was there to welcome the Minister.

On the 23rd, namely the day following that on which he reached Pekin, Mr. Hayashi called on the American Legation. On the 25th, he visited the Tsung-li Yamên, accompanied by Secretaries Tei and Kawasaki, Captain Inouye, and Lieut.-Colonel Kamio. The outer gate was guarded by a large body of constables. The Ministers of State came to the inner gate to welcome Mr. Hayashi, and he was received at the doorway by His Imperial Highness Prince Kung. Tea and cake were served. The interview being merely a formality, no business was brought up for discussion, and Mr. Hayashi soon took his leave, escorted to the door by Prince Kung, and to the inner gate by the other Ministers of State. On leaving the Tsung-li Yamên, he visited the British, French, German, and other Legations.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent draws attention to a marked contrast between the treatment of Mr. Hayashi by the Viceroy Li and by the Pekin Cabinet. The former did everything in his power to show respect to the Japanese Representative, by sending steam-launches to convey him to Tientsin, providing him with body-guards, and so forth, but the Pekin Government did not even send an official to Tungchow to welcome him. We (*Japan Mail*) do not attach much importance to this difference. It is not the custom of the Pekin Government to show courtesies of the nature alluded to by the *Jiji Shimpo*. We may mention, too, that the bandits in the regions along the Peiho are a novelty. We have never heard of any foreigners being molested by such gentry, and we have ourselves travelled frequently by boat on the Peiho without ever suspecting, or being led to suspect, the proximity of bandits.

THE WAR AND THE MERCANTILE MARINE.

The recent war with China has more than doubled the mercantile marine of Japan. Before the war, the total tonnage of the country's merchant steamships was between 150,000 and 160,000 tons. Since the outbreak of the war, more than 160,000 tons have been added, so that the aggregate is now more th an300,000 tons. A table published by the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* shows the names, tonnage, horse-power, and owners of the new ships of above 1,000 tons capacity registered during the ten months ending April last :—

Name.	Registered Tonnage.	Nominal H. P.	Owner.
Otaru Maru	2,507	400	War Department.
Kokura Maru	2,567	400	War Department.
Fusan Maru	1,541	300	War Department.
Sakura Maru	1,827	400	War Department.
Izumi Maru	1,999	350	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Fukuoka Maru	1,662	300	War Department.
Shinshu Maru	2,577	326	Mr. Kishimoto Gohei.
Ujina Maru	1,496	400	War Department.
Shibata Maru	2,714	750	War Department.
Matsuyama Maru.	1,934	600	Naval Department.
Toyohashi Maru	1,870	650	Naval Department.
Soya Maru	1,069	153	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Edo Maru	1,723	144	Mr. Hiromi Nisaburo.
Doyo Maru	2,131	207	Doyo Shosen Kaisha.
Yamaguchi Maru	3,033	750	Naval Department.
Oyo Maru	1,892	175	Seiko Kaisha.
Tateyama Maru	2,162.	250	Mr. Baba Michihisa.
Kagoshima Maru.	4,130	600	Naval Department.
Yamato Maru	1,656	332	Seiko Kaisha.
Konoura Maru	2,406	202	Mr. Ukon Gonyemon.
Kinshu Maru	2,312	750	War Department.
Shin-yu Maru	2,835	397	Mr. Fusata Kyubei.
Hino Maru	2,083	251	Chu-etsu Kisen Kaisha.
Fukui Maru	2,815	241	Mr. Ukon Gonyemon.
Jinsen Maru	1,433	300	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Eijo Maru	1,534	221	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tairen Maru	2,791	270	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Heijo Maru	1,828	329	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ikai Maru	1,907	335	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
No. II. Kannon Maru	1,606	216	Mr. Oaki Kikusaburo.
Shigaura Maru	2,616	250	Mr. K. Minamishima.
Moji Maru	1,569	234	Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hakusan Maru	2,193	240	Mr. Saba Michihisa.
Suyehiro Maru	1,044	240	Mr. Nakai Jiai.
Total, 34	61,272	11,632	

Of these ships, those registered in the names of the War and Naval Departments are to be handed over when they are no longer needed for transport purposes. From the extraordinary increase in the tonnage of the mercantile marine, it is anticipated that close competition will ensue in the coast-wise carrying trade at the release of the transports from Government service. An inevitable consequence will be that the larger steamship companies, as the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, will open new lines to foreign ports. The matter is now engaging the serious attention of these companies, and it is believed that the Diet will vote subsides for the new routes.

In expectation of the keen competition that is sure to take place before long in the maritime carrying trade, shipowners, appreciating the necessity of union among themselves against the large companies, have just organized a combination named the Japan Marine Navigation League (*Nippon Kaiun Domei-kai*). The principal projector of the league is said to be Mr. Hamanaka Hachisaburo of Osaka. The League is divided into two sections, the Eastern and the Western. The committee of the Eastern consists of Messrs. Asano Soichiro, Baba Michihisa, Minamishima Kansaku, and Oaki Kikusaburo ; and that of the Western, of Messrs. Hamanaka Hachisaburo, Hiromi Nisaburo, Oya Shichibei, and Ukon Gonzaemon. The principal members of the League recently held a meeting in the Osaka Hotel, Osaka, and adopted the following resolutions :—

1.—That the League shall have nothing to do with sailing vessels.

2.—That the expenses of the League be borne by its members at the rate of less than 1 *sen* per ton of the vessels in their possession.

3.—That captains of the second class at present in charge of ships below 500 tons shall be transferred to ships between 500 and 1,000 tons.

4.—That the existing lines in home waters shall be extended to Shanghai.

5.—That engineers of the second class who have taken charge of engines of and above 150 horse-power for upwards of two years, shall be raised to be first engineers.

6.—That a petition shall be presented to the

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Department of Communications respecting the amendment of the regulations for the inspection of vessels.

7.—That the views of the Authorities be ascertained with respect to the repairs of the transports after they cease to be required for public service.

"RAILWAY MANNERS."

Under the above heading, a correspondent signing himself "English Tourist" sends an indignant letter to one of our local contemporaries. He complains in bitter terms of four lads, apparently American, whose conduct he designates, "rude, mischievous, dangerous, and very ill-mannered." They put their wet, dirty boots on the cushions; they left the doors open; they threw pieces of paper about; they pushed away the clogs of a dozing Japanese, and they jumped off the train as it was travelling at a speed of 6 miles an hour. How they managed the last feat we fail to understand, since they alighted on a station platform and we have never heard of trains in Japan entering a station at a speed of 6 miles per hour. Be that as it may, however, it does seem that this "Tourist"—who, by the way, calls himself "English" while claiming co-nationality with American boys—is a decidedly stiff-backed person. Was he never a boy, as boys go in England and America? If he was, surely the offences that he charges, with such solemn rhetoric, against the four lads ought not to seem so very heinous. They do not sound particularly terrible in the telling, though the narrator's intention is evidently not to blame for that, and we are strongly disposed to suspect that the lads—quick as all boys always are to detect priggish tendencies—played a part, at any rate, of their farce for the edification of this special tourist. We don't mean to approve such practices, but we certainly do not think them worthy of so much fuss and censure.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

Some changes have been effected in the internal regulations of the Yokohama Specie Bank, in pursuance of resolutions adopted at the general meeting of the Bank held in March last. Hitherto the salaries of officials were fixed at extremely low rates, their principal income consisting of the rewards allowed them out of the profits of the Bank. Under the old system, the nominal salary of the President was 80 *yen* per month, and that of the Managers 60 *yen*, while the lowest servant of the bank received only 6 *yen*. Their annual salaries were less than one-half of their income in the shape of rewards. But from the 1st instant a new arrangement has been adopted. Rewards are no longer to be allowed, and the scale of the salaries has been correspondingly raised. The President will receive 350 *yen* monthly, the Vice President and Managers 250, and the Assistant Managers, 200. The rest of the officials are divided into ten classes, the names of the newly created sections and their heads being as follow:—Foreign Section, Mr. Totsugu Hyokichi; Domestic Section, Mr. Aoki Naoto; Correspondence Section, Mr. Noritake Kotaro; Book-Keeping Section, Mr. Sawai Muneyuki; Mortgage Section, Mr. Ogawa Komakitsu; and Financial Section, Mr. Takahashi Masanobu. Three new Assistant Managers have been appointed; they are Messrs. Yamakawa Yuki, Kawashima Chunosuke, and Totsugu Hyokichi. The officials of the bank are not required under the new system to make a deposit of shares as security. But they are required, in proportion to their salaries, to contribute to a common fund which will be kept by the Bank as security against losses caused by their mistakes. Rules have also been established for giving gratuities to officials on their leaving the service. For instance, those that have been in service for upwards of five years will receive a sum equivalent to four months' salary, while those that have served upwards of ten years will be entitled to ten month's salary.

MRS. DRAPER'S BLIND SCHOOL.

The closing exercises of Mrs. Draper's Blind School, took place in the Van Schaick Hall on Tuesday afternoon, in the presence of a large assembly. After an introductory prayer by the Rev. E. S. Booth, some students of the Ferris Seminary sang "My Dream," the solo being taken by Miss Hayashi Sada. The rendering of this song was very sweet. Miss Griffin next contributed a pianoforte solo, after which Dr. Meacham read the School report. He stated that the scholars now number 37. One of the most notable effects upon the pupils attending the school, was their conversion to personal cleanliness, a quality almost unknown to some of them on their first appearance. He mentioned that the pupils experienced some persecution from their fellows, upon first attending the school, but this had now died away. As an instance of the interest taken by the blind in the work of the institution the report noted that on one occasion 60 blind people attended the Bible meeting. Signorina Belinfante, who takes warm interest in all work connected with the blind, then sang "Daddy," in a manner all her own, and won warm applause; Mrs. McIvor accompanied her. A short programme was then gone through by the pupils of the Blind School. Shotaro Nagaoka, a little bind boy, read an essay on "Blindness," in the Japanese language, which he himself had written. The same small fellow and a girl named Tsuru Yoshizawa, sang "We will gather at the river"; then a dialogue on the benefits of a Christian education was given by two lads. A koto quintette with flute obbligato, "Rokudan," was excellently well given, after which a young girl sang a short Japanese song. This concluded the School's contribution towards the programme. Signorina Belinfante next gave an exquisite rendering of "The Valley by the Sea," and secured an encore, but owing to the state of her throat had reluctantly to decline. Bishop Walden then addressed a few words to the meeting. He said that the education and care of the blind was one of the brightest outgrowths of our civilization. Anything that tended to broaden the sphere of the minds of poor folk so afflicted was worthy of support, and he hoped that success would attend the labours of the School for the Blind started in Yokohama by Mrs. Draper. By the work thus done in a small way here something was accomplished towards raising the thousands of Japanese blind, whose lives were verily cast within the shadow, towards a higher and a broader life.—(Applause.) A pianoforte solo by Miss Moulton followed, and then the Rev. H. Loomis pronounced the Benediction.

COUNT INOUYE.

When Count Inouye returned to Japan there was a tendency in certain quarters to adversely criticise his conduct while in Korea, but fuller acquaintance with the actual state of affairs in the peninsular kingdom has, it seems, convinced these critics that the course adopted by the veteran statesman was the wisest under the circumstances, and that he is best qualified to take charge of the Empire's interests in that country. For the past few days the press has been unanimous in urging him to cross the sea once more. It is reported in some papers that he has converted the Cabinet to a resolute line of policy in Korea, the evident pre-supposition being that the Ministry were in favour of letting the little Kingdom alone. We believe ourselves justified in saying, however, that the Cabinet's policy toward Korea has been fixed from the commencement of the recent war, and that the position obtained by the country in the peninsula in consequence of that war does not permit any change of front on the part of Japan. If, contrary to general expectation, Count Inouye goes again to Söul, it is not because the Cabinet has decided upon any new line of action, but simply because he is deemed the best man to complete the work begun by him in Korea. We are disposed to think, however, that although no change of general policy has taken place, the Counts' return to Söul depended, in great part, upon the establishment of a clear understanding between the Tokyo Cabinet and himself as to the means that may be employed in pursing that policy, and as to the measure of freedom exercisable by him. It is impossible not to admire his intrepidity and patriotism in undertaking such a task. Able to command any official position at home that might suit his taste, he has nevertheless consented to descend from the high place of a Minister of State to that of a Minister Plenipotentiary, and to set his hand to a work from which credit can hardly be won, discredit easily.

JAPANESE TROOPS IN KOREA.

Concerning the presence of Japanese troops in Korea, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has the following note:—"Japanese troops were first sent to Korea in virtue of the Chemulpo treaty of 1882 and for the purpose of protecting our Legation and Consulates. They subsequently continued in that country in consequence of the formation of an offensive and defensive alliance between Japan and Korea against their common foe, China, and also in consequence of a request from the Korean Government that they should be employed to put down the Tonghak rebellion. That alliance has already ceased to exist, and the Tonghaks have been subdued. But the Korean Government feared that, the organization of its own Army being still incomplete, the withdrawal of the Japanese soldiers might be followed by a revival of the Tonghak disturbance. Therefore it applied to Japan that her troops might remain in the peninsula, for the purpose of maintaining peace and tranquillity. The application was granted by the Japanese Government. This was about the time of the return of Count Inouye. Mr. Kim, the Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs, probably alluded to that circumstance, when he recently stated that the Korean Government could not very well request the withdrawal of the Japanese forces immediately after their continued presence had been solicited." *Apropos* the Japanese troops in Korea, their exact strength is not known, but we shall not be far from truth if we put it at a little less than 5,000. Of late it has been widely rumoured that the withdrawal of these forces is demanded by Russia. Whatever may be the truth of that report, it seems certain that Japan will not be easily induced to recall troops from the peninsular Kingdom.

THE POLITICAL CASE IN THE APPEAL COURT.

The defendants in the political case connected with the anti-Cabinet agitation having appealed against the decision of the Court of Conciliation, the appeal came up for hearing before Judge Saito in the Tokyo Local Court on the 10th inst. Judges Tsuda and Takahashi sat as assistants; and the prosecution was conducted by Public Procurator Nakanokoji. Of the appellants, there were present Messrs. Suzuki Shigetoo, Ozaki Yukio, Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Taguchi Ukichi, and Shiga Shigetaka, but Mr. Kudo Kokan was unable to attend on account of sickness. Counsel for the appellants were Messrs. Numata Ugenta, Matoba Heiji, Maruyama Meisei, Moriya Konosuke, Minato Sengo, Matsuo Seijiro, and Amano Kinosuke. Police Sergeant Oshima of the Shiba Police Office attended as witness for the prosecution. The evidence given by him was vague and unsatisfactory. His statements were inadequate to establish the point that he had in view, namely, that the appellants were the projectors of a political association. However, his testimony proved of secondary importance, since the principal point to be determined was, not whether the appellants were projectors, but whether the combination of which they were certainly the leading members had the essence of a political association. The arguments advanced on both sides were, for the most part, a repetition of those employed in the lower court; the appellants contending that the absence of any collective name, official head-

quarters, and internal regulations proved that no political association had been formed; while the Public Procurator insisted that such things were not the essentials of a political association, which must be considered to have come into existence as soon as a number of men agreed to take concerted action for a common political object. With regard to the point that the appellants had played the part of, and been regarded as, the originators of the political association, much discussion took place. The appellants and their Counsel maintained that their capacity corresponded exactly with that of the other men that held conferences at the Atagokan, and that the meetings there were spontaneous gatherings of persons having similar views on a certain political subject. The Public Procurator pointed out that the appellants were the guiding spirits of the movement, since it was always they that took the trouble of communicating with the different parties and arranging the dates and places of conference. The trial lasted from 8.20 a.m. until 4 p.m., with a recess of an hour at noon. Decision was reserved. The Court is said to have been full of spectators. A large number of people had assembled in front of the building long before the hour fixed for the hearing of the case, but the constables astutely opened a door leading to a courtyard connected with a chamber other than that in which the proceedings were to take place. This ruse proved completely successful. The crowd having been all decoyed into the spacious enclosure, were easily kept in good order and afterwards admitted into the court-room one after another without the slightest confusion.

THE "CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" CASE.

Judge Jamieson, in giving his decision in the *Chishima-Ravenna* suit, in the Supreme Court of Shanghai, said:—"If this Court has jurisdiction in the suit at all, must it not be taken that the plaintiff comes in on the same terms as he comes in to any Court in Her Majesty's dominion, that is, as submitting to the jurisdiction of the Court, so that all proper orders may be made against him, and thus enable the Court to do complete justice between the parties?" This view of the matter, though at the first blush it commends itself to common sense, totally ignores the fact that the British Courts in Japan are of limited jurisdiction, the limits being determined by the Treaty. Judge Jamieson apparently places the British tribunals in Japan on the same footing with British tribunals in any part of Her Majesty's dominions, and consequently argues that if a foreigner avails himself of the privilege of seeking redress at the hands of such tribunals, he must submit in every respect to their procedure. That idea was very summarily disposed of by the Lords of the Privy Council. Sir R. Webster, who appeared for the respondents, said that when a Japanese availed himself of the privilege of going to the British Court, he must be taken as submitting entirely to its jurisdiction. The Lord Chancellor interposed:—"Don't talk about 'privilege'; it is his right to go there." And Lord Watson added:—"It is a fetter imposed on him. Without this fetter he could sue the British subject in the Japanese Courts." As for the theory advanced by Mr. Francis, Q.C., that the Queen has inherent jurisdiction, their Lordships pooh-poohed it, and emphatically maintained that whatever jurisdiction her Majesty has, is obtained from the Treaty.

THE COTTON SPINNING INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

A writer on the staff of the *Chuo Shimpo* has collected a mass of interesting material about the history and the present condition of the cotton spinning industry in Japan. His interesting account of the origin of the earliest spinning factory established in Kagoshima more than forty years ago by the greatest of feudal princes in modern times, Shimazu Harihisa, has already been reproduced is these columns (*Japan Mail*, July 6th, 1895). The man that turned his attention to this industry after the Satsuma Prince, was Mr. Kajima Mambei of Tokyo, who set up a factory at Oji in 1867, while the country was still disturbed by the war of the Restoration. The machines were of the ring pattern, and the number of spindles was 720. The factory was called Oji Boseki-jo. This was the parent of the present Tokyo Spinning Factory.

These were the only spinning factories until 1879, in which year two others were established by the Government in Aichi and Tochigi. Four more were established in 1880, four in 1881, one in 1882, one in 1883, and one in 1884. These factories, 17 in all, have since been handed over to private companies and are now in a thriving condition. Their names, and their present number of spindles, are as follow:—

	Spindles.
Aichi Boseki Kaisha (Aichi)	2,000
Shinfozuke Boseki Kaisha (Tochigi)	2,040
Okayama Boseki Kaisha (Okayama)	15,960
Watanabe Boseki Kaisha (Yamanashi)	2,000
Yamato Boseki Kaisha (Nara)	2,000
Miye Boseki Kaisha (Miye)	51,408
Kuwabara Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	2,000
Tomashima Boseki Kaisha (Okayama)	1,326
Shinomura Boseki Kaisha (Okayama)	1,608
Shimada Boseki Kaisha (Shizuoka)	3,136
Miyagi Boseki Kaisha (Miyagi)	2,000
Hiroshima Boseki Kaisha (Hiroshima)	5,500
Totomi Boyeki Kaisha (Shizuoka)	2,000
Total	92,978

The industry has since made striding progress, a large number of private factories having been established. The following table includes both the factories already in operation and those in course of erection, exclusive of those mentioned above:—

	Spindles.
Nagoya Boseki Kaisha (Aichi)	14,032
Osaka Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	56,336
Nagasaki Boseki Kaisha (Nagasaki)	4,144
Dojima Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	10,208
Owari Boseki Kaisha (Aichi)	30,712
Temma Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	15,288
Tokyo Boseki Kaisha (Tokyo)	30,032
Naniwa Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	24,024
Hirano Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	27,648
Yawata Boseki Kaisha (Kyoto)	3,338
Fujii Boseki-jo (Kyoto)	1,136
Uwa Boseki Kaisha (Ehime)	4,120
Kurashita Boseki-jo (Okayama)	15,480
Wakayama Boseki Kaisha (Wakayama)	16,028
Himeji Boseki Kaisha (Hyogo)	4,128
Imamiya Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	14,924
Kanakin Seishoku Kaisha (Osaka)	28,492
Settsu Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	50,000
Kanegafuchi Boseki Kaisha (Tokyo) (Inclusive of its Branch at Hyogo.)	82,000
Miike Boseki Kaisha (Fukuoka)	31,104
Kurume Boseki Kaisha (Fukuoka)	15,144
Amagasaki Boseki Kaisha (Hyogo)	27,036
Shôtoshima Boseki Kaisha (Kagawa)	3,500
Senshu Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	19,264
Kofu Boseki Kaisha (Yamanashi)	2,064
Fukushima Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	11,592
Fukuyama Boseki Kaisha (Hiroshima)	7,680
Iyo Boseki Kaisha (Ehime)	6,376
Matsuyama Boseki Kaisha (Ehime)	4,993
Yamashiro Boseki Kaisha (Kyoto)	2,152
Nippon Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	44,160
Meiji Boyeki Keisha (Osaka)	7,634
Ajino Boseki Kaisha (Okayama)	2,000
Ise Boseki Kaisha (Miye)	2,029
Kasaoka Boseki Kaisha (Miye)	4,992
Onaki-kawa Mempu Kaisha (Tokyo)	4,060
Koriyama Boseki Kaisha (Nara)	10,368
Sakai Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	5,376
Noda Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	5,000
Temma Orimono Kaisha (Osaka)	2,064
Kashiwazaki Boseki Kaisha (Okayama)	2,000
Tsushima Boseki Kaisha (Aichi)	19,600
Awaji Boseki Kwaisha (Hyogo)	5,000
Kishiwada Boseki Kaisha (Osaka)	11,136
Kumamoto Boseki Kaisha (Kumamoto)	5,000
Hanyo Boseki Kaisha (Hyogo)	2,164
Shokufu Boseki Kaisha (Wakayama)	5,696
Takaoka Boseki Kaisha (Toyama)	10,000
	711,322

The aggregate number of spindles both in operation and in course of being set up, is put by the writer at 819,115, of which 580,564 represent those in actual operation.

THE KOREAN QUESTION AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

The Japanese papers are as usual united in urging the Government to pursue a firm line of policy in Korea. They also call upon the Cabinet to send Count Inouye back to Söul without a moment's delay. The fall of Pak is regarded as the result of a *coup d'état* on the part of the Queen and the Ming faction. Such a feat, the metropolitan journals assert, would have been impossible had Count Inouye been at his post, and consequently his immediate departure for the peninsula is earnestly desired by the friends as well as the foes of the Ministry. There is a strong tendency on the part of the Tokyo press to suspect that Russia may be at the bottom of the whole affair. But whatever be the true cause of the incident, all publicists call upon all their countrymen to watch the movements of Russia, for it is with her that Japan will ultimately have to deal in the solution of the Korean problem. Not a step is to be yielded to the Northern Power in the settlement of this question, so write all the papers. We give the gist of a few of their articles.

The *Chuo Shimbun* has little doubt that the trouble orginated in the Queen's ambition to put the political power into the hands of the Ming family. Our contemporary also entertains a suspicion that the Queen may have been instigated by the diplomats of a certain State which has repeatedly played a similar game in the Balkan peninsula. "Russian journals," says the *Chuo*, "urge their Government to place Korea under its protection, and maintain that the present is the best opportunity to consummate such a policy. Journalistic discussions of that nature need not be considered seriously, but should Russia attempt to carry out such a scheme, Japan must by all means oppose it, and accomplish her object of preserving the integrity of Korea."

The *Nippon* observes that Japan has undertaken the task of Korean regeneration not only for the benefit of Korea but also in the interests of Japan. The Koreans requested Japan to quell their domestic disturbances and reform their administration, and Japan, in compliance with that request, has spent and is spending a large amount of labour and money. Thus it is claimed that she has a right to interfere in the internal affairs of the Kingdom, a right recognized by all the civilized countries of the World. In discharging the obligations created by this right of interference, Japan has to consider two things, namely, the Ming faction and Russian influence. The present revival of the former's activity may perhaps be owing to the secret assistance of the Russian Minister. Our contemporary professes not to credit the rumoured connection between the Russian Legation and the Ming faction, but at any rate thinks that the first step Count Inouye ought to take on reaching Söul is the elimination of Ming elements from the Korean Government and the restoration of Pak to influence. Sould the Korean Court insist on the maintenance of the Mings in power, that, says the *Nippon*, must be regarded as a declaration of animosity against Japan on the part of Korea, for the Mings have always proved hostile to this country.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* is not so narrow-minded as the above quoted journal. It thinks that Japan ought to support whatever Korean statesmen may be deemed capable of preserving the independence of the Kingdom, be they Mings, or Kims, or a Pak, for the only object aimed at by this empire is to create in the peninsula a bulwark for Japan's defence. "Should Korea prove herself so fickle as to be instigated by a foreign Power into demanding the withdrawal of the Japanese troops, Japan ought not only to reject such a demand, but to decline to recede, however slightly, from her present position in that country. On the contrary, she should increase her foot-hold in the peninsula." Our contemporary states that there are men who advocate the despatch of fresh troops to Korea, but it is inclined to think that the present state of affairs does not

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necessitate such a step. If more troops be needed, they can be sent at any moment.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* recommends all classes of the people to unite in supporting the Government's policy in Korea.

The *Kokkai* writes at follows:—"If the Korean Court should ever assign all the administrative posts to the Mings, and, breaking away from Japan, form an alliance with Russia, our country ought to take proper measures to chastise such ingratitude. In that event, it might become necessary to declare a protectorate over the peninsula. But before proceeding to that extremity a proper opportunity must be looked for, and success would require an unusual amount of caution and wisdom. For the present, our Korean policy should be to avoid all extreme measures. At the same time it is important that the management of the foreign policy of Korea should be brought under the control of the Japanese Minister." Unless the greatest vigilance be exercised by Japan, our contemporary fears that the peninsula may fall into the hands of Russia.

THE "NIPPON" AND THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

The *Nippon* still refuses to admit that the principal use of the Siberian Railway from an international point of view will be military. Our contemporary writes as follows in its issue of Sunday last:—"We thank the editor of the *Japan Mail* for sparing nearly two columns in yesterday's issue of his paper to discuss our views on the Siberian Railway. He attempts to prove the military character of the line by quoting the remarks of a Russian General that "the railway is · · · · of great significance especially from a military point of view." But such a line of argument is incapable of solving our doubts. What tactician would not utilize a railway for the purpose of transporting troops? The General's observations were doubtless made from this standpoint. As to "Russia in Central Asia," to which the editor directs our attention, we beg to assure him that the work is an old acquaintance. Were not a large number of merchant vessels employed for military purposes as transports in the latest war? Are not the mercantile ships of the *Empress* type under contract, in the editor's own country, to serve military purposes in time of war? An undertaking of the magnitude of the Siberian Railway can never be in its character either wholly commercial or wholly military. Our editor, however, regards the line as being almost entirely devoted to the purposes of Russia's aggressive policy. May we not infer then that he labours under the influence of Russo-phobia? There is another thing we should like to ask him: Supposing that Russia is wedded to a policy of aggrandizement, is there any proof that England is not pursuing a similar policy?"

Our contemporary is an adept at propounding questions. Will he, then, allow us to ask one in turn, namely, how is the trans-Caspian railway to serve as a tradal route between Europe and the Far East? The *Nippon* has classed the line in the same category with the Suez Canal as an international carrier. If it will explain exactly how a ton of goods can be carried by the railway from, say, Germany to Japan, more cheaply or more conveniently than by already existing routes, we shall be in a better position to appreciate its contention. As to commerce between Russia in Asia—especially the Ussuri regions—and the Far East, we have already recognised the uses of the railway, and we are quite prepared to admit that had no such prospect been in sight, the line would not have been built. But it appears unnecessary to pursue the subject in the present strain. We can only hope that the *Nippon's* utopian views will not be rudely dispelled. To the question whether England does not pursue a policy of aggrandizement as keenly as Russia, we have only to answer that it is entirely irrelevant.

CHINESE ITEMS.

The horrors that happen in China owing to the operation of uncivilized laws are illustrated by a story from Chinkiang:—

A dreadful murder was committed some time ago near my house. The victim was a young Shantung man, and no clue to the murderer has been discovered. The pernicious law that the man at whose door or on whose property the corpse is found is responsible for the crime until the murderer is found produced its ghastly results in this case. For three days this wretched creature lay in the open field naked, the hot blazing sun on one day and a pouring rain on another putrefying his wounds, and producing untold agony. When my colleague and myself found him he was still alive; his head, on which the wounds had been made was covered with thousands of the horrible products of swarms of flies. His eyes were gone—eaten away. In his agony too he had beaten hard the ground for several yards and his mouth was filled with mud. We washed his wounds and carried him to a place of shelter, but he died that night.

Japanese journals have been speaking of the anxiety felt by cotton-spinning industrials in this country lest enterprising Englishmen should start factories in China, under the clause in the Shimonoseki Treaty that removes all difficulties in the way of importing machinery or carring on manufacturing industries in China. That this anxiety is well founded the following paragraph from the *North China Daily News* demonstrates:—

We understand on the very best authority that Messrs. Holliday, Wise and Co. are maturing a scheme for a large Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company in Shanghai, which will shortly be laid before the public. They propose to act as General Managers under a Board of Directors, and to run the Mill on the Indian system, with the strictest economy, receiving a small commission as agents for the sale of the products, and looking mainly for their remuneration to a share in the realised profits. The fact that they have consented to act also as agents for Messrs. Platt Bros. of Oldham, the well-known machinery makers, puts them in an excellent position, and they trust to get some of the mercantile community here to accept seats on the Board of the Company.

The following Imperial rescript issued by the Chinese Emperor is very suggestive:—

With reference to the terms of the new Treaty, we are certain that both Liu K'un-yi and Wang Wênshao feel as we do that the cession of two slices of our territory and the payment of two hundred million taels as an indemnity are terms which are extremely hard to grant: but the *Wojén* (Japanese) vaunting in their previous succession of victories are resolute in their declaration that unless we grant these terms they will not cease in their hostile operations against us. Granted then that hostilities recommence what are the probabilities? The enemy will attack Liaoyang and Moukden in the north, and westwards they will attack Pekin. For the past few days we have been deluged with memorials from the various officers of our Court and the country in which they unanimously declare that we ought by no means to ratify the new treaty. Their arguments as a rule have all been based on unrefutable grounds; but they have left out of their calculations the extreme importance of Liaoyang, Moukden, and Pekin and the necessity of providing for their safety and inviolability. If then we refuse to ratify the treaty hostilities will recommence at once. In such a crisis if we be not sure of the ability of our troops to repulse the enemy, disaster to the country will be instantaneous. Furthermore, there will then be no chance of returning to the *status in quo*. In Liu K'un-yi's last memorial, telegraphed to us dealing with the terms of the Treaty, he states that "even if our armies be not victorious he will still be able to prolong and drag on the war;" while Wang Wênshao declares in his memorial that the army corps of Nieh Shih-chêng, Provincial Commander-in-Chief of Chihli, "is in very good condition and state of preparation," and that they will be "able to give a good account of themselves against the enemy." But the present crisis is one that does not admit of procrastination but requires instant decision. The question is, shall there be peace or war? The supreme importance of the question admits of no delay and we direct Liu K'un-yi (as generalissimo) and Wang Wêng-shao (as Chief Commissioner of Supplies) to give us an answer in plain Yes or No what it shall be. They are to give earnest consideration to the present state of affairs; they are to scan minutely the condition of the various army corps in the field; whether these troops can be relied upon in the event of fighting being resumed, or not, and then report to us frankly what each individually thinks after he shall have weighed carefully the *pros* and *cons* for peace or war. We forbid the said Viceroys to return enigmatic answers to our question, and try to shirk the responsibility of the future consequences of their advice.

By way of corollary to the above we append another paragraph from the *North China Daily News*:—

According to a native telegram from Pekin, the Emperor has sanctioned the Viceroy Liu K'un-yi's memorial for the formation of a standing army for Chihli and the Manchurian provinces. It is to be divided into four army corps of 20,000 men each, cavalry, artillery, and infantry, to be commanded by Liu K'un-yi, as Generalissimo, the Tartar-General E-k'ô-t'ang-â and the Chinese Generals Sung Ch'ing and Nieh Shih-ch'eng, Provincial Commanders-in-Chief of Szechuan and Chihli, respectively. Two army corps under the first and last named officers are to be quartered in the country inside of the Great Wall, while Generals E-k'ô-tangà and Sung Ch'ing will command in Manchuria. This army is to be formed and drilled after the German pattern.

The *North China Daily News'* correspondent in Tientsin says that "Mr. Arakawa has settled down in the Consulate and the Japanese are to be met with all over the place, even in the heart of the city. Most of them, officials and tradespeople, have been in Tientsin before, and their old friends and clients are all glad to see them back again. It is surprising to see the absence of all resentment on the part of the Chinese."

The following two telegrams have been published in Shanghai:—

Hongkong, June 29th.

Admiral Buller has ordered the withdrawal of the force of marines and bluejackets landed in South Formosa, and of all foreigners. There is utter consternation among the foreign merchants, who find it impossible to comply with the order. It is hoped that some other Foreign Power will come to their protection. The position of the community is most critical.

Hongkong, July 1st.

In spite of the British Minister's telegram to retain the force landed at Anping, the marines have been withdrawn, and the community remain in a situation more than critical.

It is impossible to understand the intelligence given in these telegrams. We do not believe it.

We find the following telegram in the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

Tamsui, 29th June.

Advices from Teckcham of the 22nd, state that after fighting near Totaiken on the 21st and near Teckcham on the 22nd, the city of Teckcham, the capital of the Hsinchu district, was taken by the Japanese. Over one hundred Chinese were killed, and eighteen Japanese killed and wounded. The Chinese made a stout resistance between Tiengliek and Teckcham.

[Teckcham is a town in North Formosa, some forty miles south-west of Taipehfu.—Ed.]

Here is an advertisement of much interest to Japanese:—

Share List Closes in Shanghai at noon on July 20th, 1895.

PROSPECTUS.

THE EWO COTTON SPINNING AND WEAVING CO., LD.

Incorporated under Companies' Ordinances 1865 to 1890 of Hongkong, whereby the liability of Members is limited to the value of their Shares.

CAPITAL: TLS. 1,000,000, DIVIDED INTO 10,000 SHARES OF TLS. 100 EACH

(with power to increase),

Of which it is proposed to issue at present only 7,500, and of this number of Shares 5,500 have already been allotted by the promoters, leaving a remainder of 2,000 Shares which are now offered for public subscription. On this issue of 2,000 Shares Tls. 10 to be paid on application, Tls. 15 on allotment, and Tls. 75 in three subsequent calls of Tls. 25 each at three, six, and nine months respectively.

GENERAL MANAGERS.

Messrs. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.

PROVISIONAL CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

A. P. MACEWEN, Esq.
(or the senior representative of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.).

MAX ADLER, Esq., of Messrs. Reiss & Co.
JOHN PRENTICE, Esq., of Messrs. Boyd & Co., L'd.
TA FONG, Esq. (President Piece Goods Guild),
TEE SAN, Esq. (President Silk Guild).

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BANKERS.
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
LEGAL ADVISERS.
Messrs. Dowdall and Hanson.

THE Company has been under contemplation since 1893, but permission has hitherto been denied Foreigners to import Machinery, and the development of the enterprise has thus been checked. The continued exertions of H.E. the British Minister at Peking have at length been attended by success, a shipment of Machinery imported by the promoters to test their rights having, after nine months' persuasion, been passed by the I. M. Customs and admitted without obstruction. The Company is formed to take advantage of the increasing demand on this market for coarse counts of Cotton Yarn by erecting, to begin with, a Spinning Mill of about 28,000 Spindles, and availing of an abundant supply of locally grown Cotton and plentiful cheap labour, a Yarn can be produced which will command a ready sale at handsome profits.

Had such an enterprise as the present been advanced three years ago the attendant results would have been matters of uncertainty, whereas the working results of the 65,000 Spindles now running in Shanghai reduce conjectures to certainties and warrant an assurance of substantial profits on the investment. Basing calculations upon the average cost of raw material during the last two years, the lowest price at which locally Spun Yarn has sold since its introduction, and after making provision for the most liberal estimate of working expenses calculated on the experience of existing Mills, and writing off 10% per annum from value of Machinery, a handsome net profit on the Capital proposed may be accepted as a reliable computation of results.

In further evidence of the money making capabilities of local Cotton Spinning industries it may be mentioned that the published accounts of the various Native-owned Mills in Japan report an average dividend of over 15%. These Mills are very largely dependent for their supplies upon China grown Cotton, which pays an export duty of roughly 4%, and an import duty in Japan of 2% to 3%, together with packing, transport expenses, etc., making in all fully 7½%. The export of Cotton to Japan amounts to half a million piculs annually.

The management and direction of the Company will be in the hands of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., as General Managers, but subject to the supervision of a Consulting Committee, consisting at first of the Members of the Provisional Committee, whose names are stated above.

The promoters propose to purchase the very best Spinning Machinery, but no contracts of any kind have been entered into, nor has land yet been acquired, although the refusal of one or two desirable sites has been obtained.

Copies of the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company can be inspected by intending Subscribers at the Offices of the Company.

Application for shares must be made to the Bankers of the Company who will grant receipts for the deposits accompanying same, and from whom copies of this Prospectus may be obtained.

If the number of Shares applied for by any one applicant be not allotted, the surplus of the amount paid on deposit will be appropriated towards the sum due on allotment.

Where no allotment is made, the deposit will be returned in full.

Shanghai, 1st July, 1895.

Commenting on the above the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—

On our front page will be found the prospectus of the first Cotton Mill in China started by foreigners, and under foreign control; for though the promoters have thought it well to put two Chinese on the provisional committee, the control of the mill will be entirely in foreign hands. It is appropriate that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., who have fought the machinery question so long, should be first in the field with a foreign mill. The eager demand for shares in this enterprise is shown by the fact that only 2,000 shares out of the 7,500 to be first issued remain to be allotted, and we cannot doubt that in the able hands of the leading firm in China the Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ld., will be a conspicuous success.

"It appears," says the leading Shanghai paper, "that Germany is to be partially repaid for the assistance she gave China by backing-up Russia by getting the loan of £15,000,000, which the Chinese government has declined to settle with Russia. It is understood that Mr. Rehders, the Manager here of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank, has gone up North as representative of a syndicate of German bankers, to settle this loan."

The Shanghai papers just to hand do not contain much about the Szechuan riots: The following paragraph gives the gist of all that seems to be known with reference to the escape of the missionaries:—

The story of the riots which have taken place in the last two or three weeks would fill a volume and will be told much better by those who participated in them. There have been thrilling escapes, but we are thankful to say that thus far no lives have been reported lost. One party of missionaries were escorted on board a raft in the dead of night by Chinese soldiers. Later they ran away from their dangerous escort and a less dangerous mob, themselves navigating the raft when necessary. The first city they passed had already been visited by a riot. There is no place where it is safe to touch the shore. They send a messenger ahead and learn of the clean sweep at Kiating and sweep out into the Min river and escape the crowds lining the city walls waiting for them. At the next place the rioting is just in progress. At Suifu they learn that there has been trouble and take the boat into their own hands when their boatman is determined to bring them up to shore. Twenty miles below they are visited by pirates in broad daylight. A couple of shots from a rifle frighten them away when they are trying to unship the rudder. At this place the previous night one of their associates while lying to waiting for them had his boat visited by robbers armed with knives and other weapons who stripped him of everything. His life is threatened, and jumping in the water he hides himself under the boat as long as he can hold his breath while they are trying to stab him. Then he makes his way to the shore and the ringleader intercedes for him, or rather he is given a respite. Later, when they are off their guard, he jumps on the boat and pushes off in the darkness. At length all arrived at Chungking. This morning between thirty and forty are leaving for down river ports, and many more are leaving soon. The Chêngtu refugees, who have to run the gauntlet of the dangerous river are anxiously expected daily. Chungking still holds and the officials are vigilant, but it is thought best to send away the women and children.

Jingals are evidently coming into fashion again in China. "According to an official report of the Board of War," says the *N.-C. Daily News*, "there were manufactured up to the 4th moon (May), in the Liangkiang, Liangkuang, Hukuang, Min-Ché, Chihli, Shantung, and Hunan provinces no less than 112,874 *taits'iang*, or the ridiculous "two men breech-loading jingals" invented at Nanking during the recent war, or an average of a little over 10,000 pieces for each of these provinces. Owing to the reputed superior carrying power of these *taits'iang* over the modern weapons bought from Europe, the Board of War has ordered the provinces above named to manufacture another 200,000 for distribution throughout the twenty-two provinces of the Empire. These weapons are a little over nine feet in length and have a bore a little less than an inch in diameter. It is intended to use cordite for the cartridges as soon as a sufficient quantity can be made in the various arsenals."

It seems that the action of Admiral Buller, in withdrawing the force of marines and blue-jackets from Anping, was dictated by the imminence of a Japanese attack on the Black Flags in that vicinity. In the *North China Daily News* of the 2nd inst., we find the following:—

The Shanghai Branch of the China Association announce for general information that having regard to the exceedingly unsatisfactory news from Formosa, enquiry was made to the Hongkong Branch for particulars in reference to the order said to have been issued by Admiral Buller; whether any steps had been taken in the interests of all concerned; and for any further available information.

The reply from Hongkong is as follows:—Information has been received that Japanese forces about to attack Anping, the head-quarters of the Black Flags. The English and German Admirals advised their nationals to leave in view of proposed attack. Nothing else can be done. Had communicated with Sir N. R. O'Conor previously as to position.

Another telegram from Hongkong, of the same date, says that the Imperial Maritime Customs at Anping have closed their doors and that all trade is suspended. The foreign community was safe at that date.

"It is reported from reliable sources at Tientsin," says the leading Shanghai journal, "that the Viceroy Li Hung-chang has sent up the names of four of his *protégés* for selection by the Emperor for the post of his Majesty's chief representative at the Court of Tokyo. They are Hu Yü-fên, Chief Commissioner of the Peiyang Commissariat and Commandant of the Tingwu Brigade (Major von Hanneken's); Wu Ting-fang (Ng Choy) Chief Director of the N.C. Railway: Lo Fêng-loh, Chief Naval Secretary to the Viceroy of Chihli; and Hsü Hsin-chai, formerly *Chargé d'Affaires* at Lima, Peru, and for the last few years the Viceroy Li's private secretary and writer of memorials to the Throne—a very important post. All but one are Taotais, and have in addition the red brevet button of the 2nd rank, while the first-named was Judge of Kuangsi and is now eligible for a Treasurer's post. Lord Li's name has been mentioned in this connection, but he is too well known to the Court as a Japanese sympathiser to make it safe to recommend him, and by the Viceroy his uncle especially." With regard to Hu Yü-fen, mentioned here, we read that "the native papers state that he has memorialized the Throne recommending the immediate sanctioning by the Emperor of a government bank, opening of mines throughout the whole empire, railways from north to south and east to west, and the establishment of military, naval, and scientific colleges in all the provincial capitals and large seaport towns, etc. The Emperor, we now learn by wire from Peking, has submitted the memorial to the "Six Boards and Nine Ministries of the Empire and intends to be guided by their report." It is to be feared that by the time the memorial has run the gauntlet of the Six Boards and Nine Ministries, it will be in a very attenuated condition.

In connection with the Szechuan outrages a meeting of American citizens was held on the 1st of July in the vestry of Union Chapel, Shanghai. Among these present was Mr. Consul-General Jernigan, who spoke, as usual, vigorously and to the point, urging his nationals not to trust to any strangers, but to form a committee themselves for the purpose of ascertaining exactly what had happened in Szechuan, so that the plain facts might be dispassionately laid before the United States Government. The result of the meeting was the appointment of the following five gentlemen as a committee of investigation: the Rev. Dr. Boone, the Rev. Dr. Bryan, the Rev. Dr. G. F. Fitch, the Rev. J. R. Hykes, and the Rev. Dr. C. F. Reid. Apparently the points to be investigated are, first, the property destroyed; secondly, its value; and thirdly, whether its destruction could have been prevented by a proper exercise of official authority.

A correspondent writing to the *N.C. Daily News* from Chungking, under date of June 19th, says:—

The Chêngtu missionaries have mostly arrived and are just leaving for down-river ports. They suffered much while in the yamên for ten days and during the nine days' journey to this place on account of lack of clothing and the common necessaries of life. There have been trying experiences which we will leave to the sufferers to relate. While they were in the yamên all possible was done for them by way of providing food, etc. They were taken away in the dead of night, the city gates being opened especially for them. Both the District Magistrate and the Viceroy provided them a guard on the journey to this place. It is true they were treated as prisoners, but refugees could not be choosers. The weather was hot, they were crowded insufferably on the boats, and could only get Chinese food. On their arrival the Chungking ladies relieved them somewhat with supplies of food and clothing.

The following appears in the Pekin *Official Gazette*:—

THE OFFICERS OF THE PEIYANG FLEET.

Wang Wên-shao, Governor-General of the Yünkuei provinces, Acting Viceroy of Chihli, and Acting Imperial High Commissioner of the Peiyang Defences, presents the report of a casual investigation made by his deputies into the circumstances which led to the loss of the Peiyang fleet and the results of an *ex parte* examination of the officers of the said fleet, together with the

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penalties which he considers some of them richly deserve. It seems that the Peiyang fleet was lost owing to the successive captures by the enemy of Port Arthur, Weihaiwei, and Liukung Island. It was therefore incumbent to examine into the number of officers, high and low, who had lost their lives fighting against the enemy in order to recommend the posthumous honours each of them deserved and the amount of government gratuities due their families. To do so it was necessary to gather together the Captains and Commanders of such ships of the fleet as had remained at their posts to the last and examine them and their principal officers, and furthermore to find out who among them had deserted or run away and were still at large, in order that their case might be considered and the adequate penalties meted out to them. In this manner the disgraceful affair might be wound up and also serve as an example governing similar cases in the future, so that it might not be said that the affair been passed over without a just and impartial enquiry made into the circumstances which led to the loss of the said fleet. Under these circumstances memorialist accordingly deputed Chu Hsing-jui, the Taotai in charge of the pay office of the coast defence administration and recently appointed Tientsin Taotai, and the expectant Taotai Liu Ch'i-tung, to join the Board of Enquiry consisting of such of the high provincial authorities of Chihli as were at Tientsin at the time, to examine the officers of the Peiyang fleet in the manner noted above. The following facts were then elicited which memorialist now embodies in the present memorial:—The Peiyang fleet was under an Admiral, and subject entirely to the said Admiral's control. Thus it lay solely with him to despatch or retain any vessel of the fleet at his pleasure. In the 1st moon of the present year (January-February, 1895) the *Wojên* (Japanese) attacked Weihaiwei which fell into their hands and thus drove the entire Peiyang fleet for cover under Liukung Island. Although it lay with the Admiral to direct defensive or offensive operations, still it was under the circumstances also clearly the duty of Liu Kuo-siang, Yeh Chu-kuei and others, as Captains of the *Tsiyuen*, etc., and chiefs in command of their vessels, to lead their men bravely against the enemy if they found their Admiral wanting. These officers had risen up to their present rank either from a very low social status, or as graduates of the Foochow navy academy had been promoted to their commands; but all had participated in the Imperial bounty: hence when the island was besieged; when the last reserve of ammunition had been fired; and when all was lost, it was clearly their duty not to survive them. Such indeed were Tai Chung-ch'ien (Taotai and Commandant of the Suiking Brigade on the mainland); Chang Wen hsüen (Brigadier-General in command of the Liukungtao forts); Liu Pu-ch'an (Commodore of the right squadron, *Tingyuen*) and Yang Yung-lin (acting Commodore of the left squadron, *Chenyuen*). These heroic officers, loyal to their sovereign, refused to survive their defeat; they held life light as a feather as compared with patriotism and honour. But the others, commanding as they did over a dozen huge ships-of-war gathered in defence of a stronghold, could have turned fiercely against the enemy as a wild animal at bay; with the force at their command they could have attempted to restore the day by desperate bravery; they could have bored holes in their ships and sunk them rather than give them up whole and safe into the hands of the enemy; all this they could have done, but instead, we find them cling dishonorably to life. Captains and Commanders indeed, but shipless, because surrendered to the enemy. What a vast difference when compared with the loyalty and heroism of the ancients! Nor can the utmost leniency free them of blame. As for such men as the expectant Taotais Ma Fu-hêng, Nin Ch'an-pin, and Yeu Tao-hung although they tried to find subterfuges in declaring that their duties were civil and that they were not commanders of war-vessels, etc., yet as chiefs of the naval and military secretariats, commandants of torpedo corps, etc., they had it in their power in times of peace to use their influence with the fleet for good, and hence they cannot escape from well-deserved censure. As for Ts'ai T'in-kan and other commanders of the torpedo boat fleet who ran away before the fall of Liukungtao and whose whereabouts is still unknown, their crime is greater than all the rest, and it is necessary to make out a list of the deserters in order that they may be summarily dealt with whenever captured in the future. While those who met their deaths or were wounded fighting the enemy their cases shall be carefully sought out and memorialist will present a memorial separately on their behalf. In conclusion, considering that the Peiyang fleet was organised eleven years ago, it must be admitted that officers and men fought well and successfully at the battle of Tatungk'ou (mouth of Yalu) but upon the fall of Port Arthur their martial spirit apparently went down and enthusiasm was at its lowest ebb. With the loss of Weihaiwei all heart was lost and nothing could be done with the crews of the ships. As our country must in the near future reorganise and build again its navy it is necessary to institute a regular tribunal of enquiry of this nature in order to govern the conduct of the officers and men of the future navy. The following is the list of the commanding officers denounced:—Liu Kuo-siang, steel cruiser *Tsiyuen*; Yeh Chu-kuei, protected cruiser *Chingyueu*; K'ew Pow-jin, protected cruiser *Laiyuen*; Li Ho, belted cruiser, *Pingyuen*; Lin Yün-ch'i, wooden corvette *Weiyuen*; Li Ting-sin, second in command, Admiral's flagship, *Tingynen*; Ho P'ing chang, second in command, Commodore's flagship, *Chenyuen*; Lin Wen-pin, *Chenchung*; Huang Mingch'in, *Chenpien*; Ch'en Chenpei *Chentung*; P'an Chaopei, *Chensi*; Lan Chien-ch'ü, *Chennan*; Lü Wenching, *Chenpei*; the last six being Armstrong steel mosquito boats. The civil officers with military power, hereby denounced are Ma Fu-heng, unattached expectant Taotai, Chief of the naval secretariat and Civil Commandant of the Fish Torpedo battalion; Niu Ch'angpin, attached expectant Taotai, commissioner of the Weihaiwei military and naval secretariat, and civil commandant of the submarine mines brigade at the east entrance; and Yen Tao-heng, Shantung expectant Taotai, and civil aide-de-camp of the Peiyang Admiral. The above officers are all recommended to be temporarily deprived of their rank to await trial by a regularly constituted court. As for the torpedo boat officers T'sai Ting kan, commander of the 1st squadron (left wing); Liu Fang-fu, commander of the 2nd squadron (right wing); and Ts'so Shang-pao, commander of the 3rd squadron (right wing) with six other commanders of torpedo boats, these all ran away on the 7th of February upon the fall of the Weihaiwei mainland forts, but being pursued by the enemy's cruisers and finding escape by sea impossible ran their boats ashore and so escaped. It is recommended that they be instantly cashiered and when captured be summarily decapitated. It is claimed also that some of the officers of the torpedo boats attached to the ironclad *Tingyuen* and *Chengyuen* escaped with the others at the same time. Memorialist will investigate their case and report later on.—*Rescript: Read.*

The Rev. B. Ririe, of the China Inland Mission, has written an account of the rioting in Kiatking. It seems to have been a most casual kind of affair. Bills were posted ere morning in various parts of the city inviting the people to gather and beat the foreigners. The latter thereupon made preparations to depart, and some idle folks, attracted by these doings, assembled near the house of Doctors Hart and Hare. Trouble ensued with the gate keeper and he left his post, the two docters also effecting their exit by a back-door. The place being thus abandoned to the mercy of the crowd, looting commenced in a nonchalant, leisurely fashion. Mr. Ririe, called to the spot, found people strolling off with all sorts of articles, most of which they complacently surrendered when invited to do. By and by the magistrate arrived with some soldiers and then Mr. Ririe left for his own home. There the inmates—among them his own wife—appear to have kept him locked out until they had comfortably effected their escape, Mr. Ririe, meanwhile, holding precarious converse with a rapidly increasing crowd. When he was admitted, the mob followed, and began to loot complacently, Mr. Ririe looking on and giving information as to the uses of the things stolen. Once a couple of men took it into their heads to try how much pressure he could bear on his girdle, but friendly citizens saved him from being cut in two. The whole story reads like a narrative of altogether secondary interest to the narrator, whose chattels and person were nevertheless subjected to very inconvenient usage. Finally, Mr. Ririe went into hiding until dark, and in the dead of night he and his fellow-missionaries, including ladies, repaired to the magistrate's Yamên, where they found "the officials most kind," and "a beautiful cottage and garden at the back of the Yamên" ready to receive them. This is how Mr. Ririe concludes his apathetic tale:—

It just seems as if the Lord had been making ready for us, for the cottage was just completed for the Magistrate's son to live in, but he willingly gave it up to us.

To day we hear reports that they want to capture foreigners also, and that some bands of robbers have followed the two Doctors and Mr. Beauman down the river. I do not, however, fear for them; nor do I fear a bit for ourselves here. I believe the Lord has inclined the hearts of the city people towards us. It is people from Chêngtu and students for examination that have caused all the trouble. I do not think *any blame* can be attached to the Magistrates. They have done their best here under the circumstances, and it is a cause for much thanksgiving that so many have saved their lives.

However much we may regret the suffering caused by anxiety and loss of goods and the hindrance to the work, yet I cannot say personally that I feel sorry for these riots. We were able to show the people that we can "take joyfully the spoiling of our goods." We have also been drawn nearer the people. I never knew I had so many friends in Kiating till yesterday. The Christians and servants have stood by us like bricks throughout; not only that, but the neighbours also could not have shown us greater kindness. We hope to stay on here and keep up connection with Yachou and Chêngtu. I hear Mr. and Mrs. Squire, and the Misses Naess Nilson, and Hol are safe. We rather fear for Suifu, as the examinations begin there in about a fortnight. Our street chapel has also been wrecked, as has the large Roman Catholic house outside the city. I hear they captured a quantity of silver there; that will sharpen their appetites for silver. A number of people are going to see the wrecked houses, but otherwise all is quiet to-day—a calm after the storm. There are rumours of trouble at Yachu, but we don't know the truth. I am writing this letter with the end of a chopstick, because I have lost my pen and pencils.

Pray for poor China!

We take the following from the *China Mail* of the 3rd instant:—

THE DILEMMA AT ANPING.

SIR N. O'CONOR AND ADMIRAL BULLER AT CROSS PURPOSES.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Anping, July 1.

Under instructions from Admiral Buller the British forces ashore and afloat have been withdrawn. The Admiral has also advised most urgently the withdrawal of the Foreign communities, but *none* have left. Sir N. O'Conor, the Minister at Pekin, wired to Consul Hurst that he had advised the Admiral *not* to evacuate Anping, but as no contrary instructions had been received from the Admiral by the Senior Naval Officer he could do nothing but obey his original instructions.

There need be no anxiety about our safety; I expect the men-of-war will be ordered back again.

Later.—I think, after all, the British force will remain, as a wire has just come (*per* man-of-war from Amoy) sent by the Minister at Pekin, saying he has ordered the Admiral *not* to withdraw.

Hongkong, July 3rd.

It is reported from Amoy, on the authority of British naval officers just arrived there from South Formosa, that the Japanese Army landed a few days ago forty miles North of Taiwanfoo, intending to close round the Black Flags and "finish them off" without giving them a chance of retreating to the hills to carry on an annoying brigandge for years as in Tonkin. Certainly there is now not much sign of any Japanese army near Tamsui or Keelung; and the force which is reported to have been fighting the Chinese at Tekchain is only a small portion of the army.

The Foreigners at Anping are believed to be removing to Takow, where they will have the *Tweed* to protect them. This is not matter of much difficulty. Anping cannot be always defended in the South-west monsoon. Even the little *Thales*, which goes there regularly during summer, has often to hurry away to the Pescadores for shelter; and at such a time of course the Black Flags would have matters all their own way.

It is believed that the Japanese Government has come to an understanding with the British Minister to get the foreigners out of the way if possible while the Black Flags are being reduced to reason.

Another story is that the British guard and gunboats were withdrawn for fear of "irritating" the Black Flags!

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THE "NIPPON" ON RUSSIA AND ENGLAND.

IN reply to our criticism of its article on the subject of the Siberian Railway, the *Nippon* assures us that its object in discussing the subject was not to deprecate the proposed alliance with England, but simply to correct erroneous views entertained by its countrymen respecting the results of the completion of the great trans-Asian line. Our contemporary is of course aware of the fact that the completion of the line will add largely to the power of Russia in the East, but it contends that the peaceful uses of the new highway must not, on that account, be lost sight off. Since there is no possibility of preventing the construction of the railway, it behoves Japan, in addition to adopting such measures as may be necessary for self-defence, to take, at the same time, steps for securing as large a share as possible of the commercial advantages derivable from the new highway between Europe and Asia. Such, the *Nippon* claims, was the object of its essay. Any reference made to the policy pursued by England with regard to the Suez Canal, was for the purpose of exposing the fallacious notions that pervert the judgments of its countrymen concerning the Siberian Railway. It believes that these notions originated with the English, whom it declares to be "the only nation opposed to the Siberian Railway." "We knew, from the outset," writes the *Nippon*, "that our article on the Siberian Railway would not please Englishmen, but we never entertained any hostile feeling toward them. Neither have we the slightest intention to advocate an alliance between Japan and Russia. Much less did we entertain the faintest idea of making the article an attack upon the proposed alliance with England." Japan's foreign policy remains independent as ever. Japan does not regard England with animosity because England was unfair to her in some stages of her recent war; neither does she look upon Russia as an enemy because the latter objected to her permanent occupation of Liaotung, for the foreign policy of a country must be shaped in accordance with mature consideration for its permanent interests. The *Nippon* professes to make no distinction between England and Russia. It says:—"We are informed that the countries peopled by white races are all civilized, and that Christian nations all love peace. Well, let us apply this standard to Europeans and Americans and make no distinction between the different nations of the West. If England's control of the Suez Canal is beneficial to the cause of civilization, so must be Russia's possession of the Siberian Railway; for these two peoples are equally white in race and Christian in religion. The *Mail* only confirms our opinion, when it tells us that 'England's paramount control of the Suez Canal guarantees its universal accessibility for all the purposes of legitimate commerce.' We esteem England and Russia equally as enlightened countries, and make no distinction in their relative degree of civilization. Under these circumstances, we have no motive to be anti-English. The *Mail* need be under no uneasiness in that respect." Such is the gist of the *Nippon's* leader of Wednesday last.

In an editorial note in its issue of the preceding day, our contemporary writes as follows:—"The *Japan Mail's* criticisms of our article on the Siberian Railway are not satisfactory. Its lengthy arguments may be reduced to a declaration that the railway in question will not become a highway of commerce between the East and the West, but will be used only for Russia's military purposes. We have heard this opinion for a long time, but we regret to say that no sufficient reasons have thus far been adduced to establish it. The *Mail* probably entertains that view under the influence of a dread of Russia—a sentiment that seems to be almost hereditary with Englishmen. If it is not so, we challenge our contemporary to set forth the bases of its opinion."

We (*Japan Mail*) are glad to have elicited from the *Nippon* a frank expression of opinions that certainly could not have been gathered from its previous writings. As to the commercial functions likely to be discharged by the trans-Asian railway, it should not be necessary to remind our contemporary that where a water route comes into competition with a land route, the former is invariably preferred for goods traffic. This will hold with special force in the case of the Siberian railway, since the trouble and expense of carrying goods to and from its termini will be almost, if not altogether, as great as the cost and labour of carrying the same goods from their original point of departure to their final destination *viâ* the Suez Canal. Besides, another important consideration must be taken into account: Russia's commercial policy precludes all hope that the management of the Siberian Railway will be adapted to grant general facilities for carrying other nation's goods. If the line can be made an instrument for differentiating against other peoples, and placing their trade at a disadvantage compared with Russian trade, that will be the dominant policy of the directors. We are not attempting to blame Russia when we make these assertions. She has her own ideas, and is perfectly entitled to maintain and act upon them. The facts alone concern us.

With regard to the *Nippon's* allegation that the military character of the line is a chimera inspired by England's hereditary dread of Russia, we reply very simply that in this matter England has merely accepted the definition given by the Russians themselves. We recommend for our contemporary's perusal that far-seeing and lucid work "Russia in Central Asia." It will there be found related how Russian illustrated journals, in publishing pictures of the line and its surroundings, invariably used the head-line "On the Road to India;" how General SOBOLEFF, one of Russia's foremost tacticians, hailed the Transcaspian Railway as a factor rendering possible a Russian campaign across the Indus; and how General PRJEVALSKI wrote of the line:—"Altogether the railway is a bold undertaking, of great significance, especially from a military point of view." It is not, therefore, by England's distrust of Russia, however justified that sentiment may be, that the chief rôle of the railway is estimated; it is by the statements of its projectors themselves and by the sentiment of the Russian nation. If Japan regards the railway simply in the light of an aid to the "federation of mankind," she will awaken one morning to find that she has been sleeping in a fool's paradise.

We do not know whether our countrymen will feel complimented on learning that the *Nippon* gives them the credit of being as enlightened, and of standing on the some plane of civilization, as the Russians. At all events, it is not our business to discuss the justice of the dictum.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

AT a Cabinet Meeting held on the afternoon of the 9th inst., it was decided that Count INOUYE should return to Korea. This may be assumed to mean that the Japanese Government have resolved to have recourse to more determined methods than those hitherto adopted by their Representative in Söul. Count INOUYE is not the kind of statesman to attempt the achievement of great results with manifestly inadequate resources. His consent to return to Söul must be interpreted in the sense that having acquired full knowledge of the difficulties lying in the path of Korean reform, he has stipulated for, and obtained, authority to deal with them in a thorough manner. He is to leave Tokyo, we understand, on the 13th instant. During the brief period of his absence from Söul, affairs there have assumed a grave aspect. The central figure of the reform party, PAK YONGHYO, is a fugitive, and the political power has fallen into the hands of the conservative faction, in the persons of the BIN family. By some writers these events are assumed to signify a revolt against Japanese influence, and the undoing of whatever part of the work of regeneration had been accomplished. Information obtained from trustworthy sources does not confirm that view. The truth appears to be that PAK YONGHYO has been plotting on his own account. The gratitude he owed to Japan for kindnesses received during years of refuge within her borders, and the prin-

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ciples of civilization studied by him throughout those years, ought to have served as a guarantee against his relapse into the paths of intrigue and treachery. But there has not yet been found a single Korean capable of acting up to even moderately high standards of morality amid a Korean environment. PAK, when he succeeded in attaining a position of public responsibility, found himself tainted by the disrepute of his futile conspiracy nine years previously. He was still "PAK the rebel" in the eyes of the people, and to obtain influence proportionate to his position in the State, he saw no means except those commonly resorted to in Korea, namely, to attract friends by creating for them opportunities of peculation, and to overthrow enemies by intrigue. The BIN family were his unrelenting foes, and QUEEN, as the chief personage of that family, was a constant object of dread to him. When, therefore, it began recently to be evident that HER MAJESTY had conceived, and was casting about for means to give effect to, a project of restoring the BINS to power, PAK understood that he must close with his enemies, and either overthrow them finally or be himself overthrown. We do not yet know the details of his programme or how far he carried it out. But there is little question that he directed his plots primarily against the QUEEN, and that his intention was to remove her, whether from the throne or from the world we can not tell. Happily the QUEEN discovered his plot and adopted vigorous measures of repression, with the result that PAK and his chief accomplices have been obliged to fly, and the principal offices of State are in the hands of the BIN family. PAK is said to have been associated with two Japanese, whose names are not yet known. He has escaped from Chemulpho in a Japanese ship, but whether he will this time find a sanctuary in Japan is more than doubtful. His crime, if it was of the character assigned to it by the best information now obtainable, cannot be classed as political. It was conceived in the interests of personal ambition. Desirous of placing his own tenure of power on a strong basis, and seeing himself threatened by the ascendency of his sworn enemies, he resorted to criminal devices. Such a malefactor does not merit sanctuary in any civilized country. Japan, above all, can not afford to invite the suspicions that would attach to her protection of him. We trust, however, that it will be found possible to guard his wife and children against the barbarous Korean law by which every member of a family is implicated in the crime of its head. The new criminal code, recently promulgated, corrects that terrible abuse, but will the provisions of the code receive practical recognition at such a time?

We have spoken here as though PAK alone were to blame. But who can say whether he was a plotter or a counter-plotter; whether he obeyed instincts of self-protection or motives of self-aggrandisement? For some time the public has known that schemes, for the recall of the BIN family to power, were on the *tapis* in Söul. Among all the officials under whose extortions and tyrannies the unhappy Korean people have groaned, the palm of evil repute belongs to the BINS. Were the influences that restored them to power purely Korean influences, or have we to infer the existence of foreign instigation? For the moment this riddle must be left unsolved, but unless the Japanese are far less astute than we suppose them to be, they understand very well that in educating Korea's capacity for independence, they have to reckon with obstructive factors and embarrassing intrigues not wholly of Korean origin.

THE SHIMONOSEKI INDEMNITY.

WE must apologise to a correspondent, whose letter we publish elsewhere, for leaving his question so long unanswered, but to reply satisfactorily involved reference to State Papers not in our possession at the moment. The whole story of the Shimonoseki affair is contained in the British Blue Books, and has been over and over again recounted in the columns of local newspapers with at least sufficient accuracy to remove all justification for the curiously erroneous account of which our correspondent encloses a copy. Since, however, such mistaken views appear still to prevail in some quarters, we proceed to recount the story as briefly as possible, supporting each statement by quotations from State Papers.

The events that led to the Shimonoseki incident may be dismissed in a few words. Certain merchant vessels of France, of America, and of Holland, having been fired upon from batteries erected by the Choshu Clan at the Shimonoseki entrance to the Inland Sea, and it having been found impossible to obtain a satisfactory settlement of the affair by negotiating with the SHOGUN'S Government in Yedo (Tokyo), the Treaty Powers resolved to send a naval force to Shimonoseki, for the purpose of chastising Choshu, and obtaining guarantees against the recurrence of similar outrages. The force consisted of 9 British ships and a battalion of the Royal Marines; 3 French ships; 4 Dutch ships, and 1 American ship, 17 in all.[1] After a brief engagement, the Choshu batteries were destroyed, the magazines blown up, the whole of the guns, amounting to 65 pieces of ordnance, that had formed the armament, were embarked in the ships of the squadron, and, finally, an agreement was signed by Choshu representatives, the 3rd Article of which declared "that a ransom should be paid for the town of Shimonoseki, which had been spared, although it fired upon the ships and therefore might have been destroyed," and that, further, the whole expenses of the expedition should be paid by Choshu, the amount of the ransom and the expenses to be fixed by the foreign Ministers in Tokyo.[2] The question of the amount of the ransom and of the expenses had then to be determined. Before any decision could be come to, the Government of the TAIKUN in Tokyo agreed to take upon itself the whole of the pecuniary responsibility,[3] and without loss of time negotiations were commenced on that understanding. The British Representative maintained, from the first, that tradal advantages ought to be sought in preference to a monetary exaction, and further suggested that the latter should be put at such an amount as would clearly demonstrate to the SHOGUN'S Government the desirability of avoiding payment by means of some other concession,[4] in which line of policy the QUEEN'S Government concurred,[5] and, at their instance, the Governments of France, Holland, and the United States

[1] The British ships were, the *Euryalus, Tartar, Conquerer, Barrosa, Leopard, Argus, Perseus Coquette*, and *Bouncer*; the French, the *Semiramis, Dupleix*, and *Tancrède*; the Dutch, the *Metalen Kruis, D'Jambi, Amsterdam*, and *Medusa*; and the American, a chartered steamer, the *Takiang*, having on board an officer, a party of men, and a gun from the U.S. corvette *James Town*.

[2] "On the 14th instant (*i.e.* 14th Sept., 1864) the Minister of the Prince of Nagato agreed to the terms proposed by the Admiral (Sir Augustus Kuper) for a permanent cessation of hostilities, which were reduced to writing and signed by the Minister. The ratification by the Prince was received on the 16th, by the hands of one of the Ministers. By this document the Prince of Nagato engages:—

1. * * * * * *
2. * * * * * *

3. That a ransom shall be paid for the town of Shimonoseki, which has been spared, although it fired upon the ships and therefore might have been destroyed. He further engaged to pay the whole expenses of the expedition; agreeing to abide by the decision of the Foreign Ministers at Yeddo, with regard to these two points." (Despatch from Sir R. Alcock to Earl Russell, dated Sept. 28th, 1864.)

[3] "In reference to the convention entered into by Vice-Admiral Kuper, by which it was stipulated that the Prince of Nagato should pay a ransom for Shimonoseki and an indemnity to cover all the expenses of the expedition, the Taikun's Government has offered to take upon itself the whole of the claims preferred by the four Treaty Powers for the past acts of aggression on the part of the Prince of Choshu, and either to liquidate such amount as shall be finally agreed on, or to open a port—Shimonoseki or some more eligible port in the vicinity of the Straits—at the option of the Treaty Powers." (Sir R. Alcock to Earl Russell, Sept. 28th, 1864.)

[4] "I shall be glad to receive your Lordship's instruction upon this point (the question of a monetary payment or alternative concessions), and, in the meanwhile, no indemnities will be exacted by me, nor, I think, by any of my colleagues. It may be necessary, in the progress of the negotiations to fix some amount as due or payable, in order to show what material advantages will accrue to the *Taikun* by its not being exacted in money payment. * * * I can only say that, if the result of these negotiations should be the ratification of the Treaties by the Mikado, and their acceptance by him and the Damios who now render all peaceable or profitable relations both difficult and precarious, it would be worth more to Great Britain and all Treaty Powers having any material interest here, than many millions of dollars, or any sum that could be extorted from the Taikun." (Sir R. Alcock to Earl Russell, September 28th 1864.)

[5] "In your despatch of the 28th of September, you requested to be instructed whether, in lieu of any pecuniary ransom for the town of Shimono-

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concurred also.[6] On the 22nd of October, 1863, a conference took place in Yokohama between a Japanese Plenipotentiary and the Representatives of Great Britain, France, the United States of America, and the Netherlands. At this conference the sum payable by the SHOGUN'S Government was fixed at 3 million dollars. There never was any pretence that such an amount had been expended on account of the expedition. The bases on which the claim was determined were, first, the payment of indemnities to France, Holland, and the United States on account of past aggressions by Choshu against ships of those Powers; secondly, a ransom for Shimonoseki; and thirdly, the defraying of expenses entailed by the operations of the allied squadrons.[7] So little idea was entertained of establishing equality between the amount demanded and the expenses actually incurred, that there were included in the former three payments of unknown magnitude to be made to France, Holland, and the United States on account of Choshu's previous aggressions against their ships.[8] While mulcting the SHOGUN'S Government in such a heavy sum, the Foreign Representatives placed it clearly on record that the receipt of money was not their object, and that an extension of tradal privileges would be preferred by them.[9] With regard to the division of the money, should it be ultimately exacted, it was suggested by the Representatives of the four Powers that, after deducting a sum separately payable to France, Holland, and the United States, on account of previous acts of aggression against their flags, the remainder might be divided in the proportion of the forces of each Power engaged at Shimonoseki.[10] On the transmission of the Convention to the Governments concerned, France and Holland declared unwillingness to substitute tradal concessions for a monetary payment,[11] and the Japanese Government, on their side, decided that, since the state of their country's domestic affairs did not permit of the immediate opening of a port on the Inland Sea, the three million dollars should be paid in full. They asked, however, that instead of paying by half-yearly instalments, a year's interval should be allowed to separate each payment.[12] In forwarding this decision and request to London, the QUEEN'S Representative in Japan (Mr. WINCHESTER) strongly urged the impoverished state of the TAIKUN'S resources, and suggested that, after satisfying the special claims of France, Holland, and the United States, the remainder of the indemnity should be remitted in consideration of general tradal advantages being secured.[13] These advantages he subsequently defined as, first, the opening of Hiogo on the 1st of January 1866, instead of the 1st of January 1868, as originally agreed; secondly, that the MIKADO should give his written adhesion to the Treaties; and thirdly, that the tariff be revised on a basis of 5 per cent. The British Government adopted this suggestion, and recommended it for the favourable consideration of the other three Governments,[14] but the Governments of France and the Netherlands did not approve of the idea.[15] Ultimately, however, it was agreed that the question should be submitted to the consideration of the Representatives of the four Powers in Japan, and Sir HARRY PARKES having been instructed in that sense, succeeded in persuading his colleagues to cöoperate with him in the policy of seeking to have the above three conditions substituted for the payment of two-thirds of the indemnity.[16] The TAIKUN and his Ministers being then absent in Osaka, Sir HARRY PARKES conceived the idea of a naval demonstration in Osaka Bay, for the dual purpose of conducting the negotiations under imposing circumstances, and of making a display of the force at the command of the Foreign Representatives. Accordingly, a united squadron of 9 vessels (5 British, 3 French, and 1 Dutch) left Yokohama on November 1st, 1865, having on board the Representatives of the Four Powers, and negotiations were commenced on the explicit basis that the sanction of the Treaties by the MIKADO, the immediate opening of Hiogo and Osaka, and the revision of the tariff, should be considered as equivalents for the remission of two-thirds of the indemnity.[17] After debates extending over several days, two out of the above three conditions were accepted by the Japanese Government, but they declared their inability to fully secure foreign life and property were Hiogo and Osaka immediately opened. Despite this compliance with two out of three conditions, however, the whole of the indemnity was exacted, a transaction

seki, and of any indemnity to cover the expenses of the late expedition against the Prince of Nagato, Her Majesty's Government would be willing to accept the opening to foreign trade of the port of Shimonoseki, or of some more eligible port in the vicinity of the Straits; and I have to acquaint you in reply that Her Majesty's Government are willing to renounce any money payment if greater or equal advantages can be secured by stipulations to be obtained from the Taikun or the Mikado." (Earl Russell to Sir R. Alcock, Dec. 3rd, 1864.)

[6] Vide despatches from Earl Russell to Earl Cowley; from Mr. Drouyn de Lhuys to Earl Cowley; from Mr. Burnley to Mr. Seward; from Mr. Seward to Mr. Burnley, &c.

[7] "The amount payable to the four Powers is fixed at 3,000,000 dollars. This sum to include all claims, of whatever nature, for past aggressions on the part of the Prince of Nagato, whether indemnities, ransom of Shimonoseki, or expenses entailed by the operations of the allied squadrons." (Art. I. Convention between the Taikun's Government and the Four Powers. Dated 22nd of October, 1864.)

[8] "As such sum" (*i.e.* $140,000 previously demanded by the French Emperor on account of the attack by Choshu upon the *Kienchang*), "or a larger one may be justly claimed" (by France), "and as the Governments of the United States and the Netherlands are justly entitled to like indemnities for more serious attacks on national and merchant ships of those countries by the same Prince, it is reserved for those Governments to decide if any and what indemnities from the said gross amount" (of 3 million dollars) "to be paid by the Japanese Government shall be paid therefor," (Memorandum attached to the Convention of October 22nd, 1864.)

[9] "Inasmuch as the receipt of money has never been the object of the said Powers, but the establishment of better relations with Japan, and the desire to place these on a more satisfactory and mutually advantageous footing is still the leading object in view, therefore, if His Majesty the Taikun wishes to offer in lieu of payment of the sum claimed, and as a material compensation for loss and injury sustained, the opening of Shimonoseki, or some other eligible port in the Inland Sea, it shall be at the option of the said foreign Governments to accept the same, or insist on the payment of the indemnity in money," &c. (Art. III. Convention of October 22nd, 1864.)

[10] In the event of the Treaty Powers electing payment in money, and a repartition becoming necessary among them of the whole amount of 3,000,000 dollars, a Memorandum has been annexed, signed by the four Representatives, declaring that, in respect to indemnities for all interior acts of the Prince of Nagato in firing upon the ships and flags of the Treaty Powers, they have assumed as a basis the amount of indemnity fixed at Paris by the Government of the Emperor for their share, namely, 140,000 dollars. If, therefore, France should adhere to this amount, as can hardly be otherwise, I conceive, and the other two Powers claim a like amount, the total for indemnities for acts antecedent to the expedition will be under 500,000 dollars (that is, 420,000 dollars) leaving 2,500,000 for division," &c. (Sir R. Alcock to Earl Russell, October 28th, 1864.)

[11] "It would appear, however, that the Government of the Emperor of the French do not feel disposed to renounce their claim to the indemnity money; and that the Netherlands Government concurs in that opinion." (Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce, March 30th, 1865.)

[12] "Now if, in lieu thereof, a new port were opened, the difficulties between the two countries (Japan and the West) would greatly increase, and for this reason we have, after mature deliberation, decided for the latter alternative, namely, the payment of the indemnity." (The Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs to Mr. Winchester, April 6th, 1865.)

[13] While I feel satisfied that the Japanese Government, rather than consent to the opening of Shimonoseki as a Damio port, would assume for a time the responsibility of the indemnity, even were it double the amount, the known state of the finances of the Taikunate, impoverished by considerable sums paid to the Mikado as the price of abandoning Choshu, induce me to believe that the obligation to pay so large an indemnity as 3,000,000 dollars would be a very grievous burden. . . . Enough is known to satisfy us that the resources of the Japanese Government, so far as the power of making large money payments is concerned, must be very limited.

[14] "Her Majesty's Government are inclined to consider that the general interests of trade and of foreign relations with Japan would be best consulted by an arrangement which should absolve the Government of the Taikun from two-thirds of the whole sum of 3,000,000 dollars payable under the agreement of 1864" (500,000 was on the point of being paid, and another like sum would be paid in the course of six months); "provided, 1st, that the port of Hiogo and the city of Osaka are opened for the trade and residence of the subjects of the Treaty Powers on the 1st of January, 1866; 2ndly, that the sanction of the Mikado is formally given to the Treaties already concluded by the Taikun with the Treaty Powers; and, 3rdly, that the duties on imports into Japan are generally reduced to 5 per cent., and shall in no case exceed 10 per cent." (Earl Russell to Sir F. Bruce, July 12th, 1865, and Earl Russell to Earl Cowley, same date.)

[15] "Your Lordship having apprised me, in your despatch of the 8th of April, that the views of the French and Netherlands Governments were averse to the renunciation of a money payment in favour of a port," &c. (Sir H. Parkes to Earl Russell. August 25th, 1865.)

[16] Being agreed, therefore, that it was desirable to obtain the above-mentioned conditions in lieu of two-thirds of the indemnity, it remained for us to consider how the necessary negotiation could best be undertaken, in view of the absence of the Taikun and his principal Ministers at Osaka. (Sir H. Parkes to Earl Russell, Oct. 13th, 1865.)

[17] "The proposals of the four Powers to accept the sanction of the Treaties by the Mikado, the immediate opening of Hiogo and Osaka, and the revision of the tariff, as equivalents for the remission of two-thirds of the indemnity, have been clearly placed before the Ministers of the Taikun." (Sir Harry Parkes, on board the *Princes Royal*, to Earl Russell, Nov. 14th, 1865.)

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constituting one of the least creditable incidents of foreign intercourse with Japan.[18] The Foreign Representatives themselves acknowledged that the opening of Hiogo and Osaka would not have been safe, and that they had secured "by far the most valuable of the conditions they were instructed to accept in exchange for two-thirds of the indemnity," yet not a dollar of indemnity was remitted.[19] We come now, finally, to the partition of the indemnity. In the first place, a sum of 420,000 dollars had to be subtracted for the purpose of a special payment of $140,000 each to France, Holland, and the United States, on account of previous outrages against their ships. There remained, therefore, a sum of $2,580,000,—namely, the ransom of the town of Shimonoseki and a payment to cover the expenses of the expedition—to be divided among the four Powers. The French Government thought that the division should be made on the basis of the forces sent by each Power to the attack of Shimonoseki, but the American Government contended that, as the general cöoperation of all the four Powers must necessarily have had great and equal weight, if not in the actual operations, at all events in the measures that preceded and followed them, the principle of equal shares should be adopted. England at once accepted America's suggestion though she alone suffered by it.[20] It is of interest to note here what share would have fallen to each Power had the partition been in accordance with the number of ships, and what share each actually received :—

	Share according to number of ships.	Share actually received.	Loss or Gain.
Great Britain ...	$1,365,883	$645,000	—$720,883
France	$ 455,294	$645,000	+$189 706
Holland.....	$ 607,059	$645,000	+ $37,941
United States ...	$ 151,764	$645,000	+$493,236

This calculation is only an approximation : to obtain accurate results, the numbers of men and guns should be taken into account, but we are without data for that purpose. The table conveys, however, a sufficiently close idea of the sacrifice made by England and of the gains that consequently accrued to other Powers.

It will be perceived that the above account is in exact accord with British official documents, careful reference to which is made throughout. We need scarcely point out that the story quoted by our correspondent abounds with the grossest misrepresentations and blunders. It is not true that "the Powers took the leinent course of imposing no fine :" they exacted a ransom for the town of Shimonoseki. It is not true that they "contented themselves by coming to a unanimous agreement that they should be indemnified by being recouped their actual expenses incurred in redressing the outrages :" their actual expenses formed only a portion of the sum demanded. It is not true that Great Britain's expenses were ascertained to be $1,500,000 and those of the United States only $40,000 : no such calculation appears in any official document. It is not true that America "clamoured for an equal division of the indemnity." It is not true that "there was no pacifying America, except by agreeing to its over-reaching claim." America never "clamoured," nor ever required to be pacified. The first suggestion made by her on the subject was at once accepted by Great Britain: It is not true that "Great Britain was induced to surrender to America half the amount which was due to herself :" the sum that she agreed to forego was divided among the other three Powers in varying proportions. It is not true that a "flagrant injustice was perpetrated on England :" HER MAJESTY'S Government, as a point of far-seeing and prudent policy, agreed readily to America's suggestion, and even endorsed its propriety. It is not true that, in subsequently restoring her share, America made any reduction on account of the expenses incurred by her. She retained the sum of $140,000 that had been specially paid to her, in common with France and Holland, by way of indemnity for outrages prior to the Shimonoseki expedition, and she restored the whole sum of $645,000 that she had received as her common share at the time of the partition. No less than eight falsehoods are contained in the story.

[18] "I beg your Lordship to observe that the sanction to the Treaties and the revision of the tariff, these being two of the three conditions for which her Majesty's Government were willing to relinquish two-thirds of the indemnity due under the Convention of October 22nd, 1864, have been obtained." (Sir Harry Parkes to Earl Russell, Nov. 25th, 1865.)

[19] "I have acted throughout in concurrence with colleagues who, with long experience of the subject, held the decided opinion that the confirmation of the Treaties by the Mikado formed by far the most valuable of conditions we were instructed to accept in exchange for two-thirds of the indemnity. My colleagues were also as clearly persuaded that while the neighbourhood of Hiogo and Osaka continues to be the scene of military movements and political agitation, those places could not be occupied by foreign merchants without considerable risk. If, however, we have not secured the opening of these places, which, apart from the considerations above mentioned, we could not insist upon while the Japanese Government preferred so decidedly the payment of the indemnity, we have, on the other hand, relinquished no portion of that money, although two of the three conditions we were willing to receive in exchange have been secured." (Sir Harry Parkes to Earl Russell, Nov. 28th, 1865.)

[20] "M. Drouyn de Lhuys suggests that the division should be made according to the proportion the forces of each Power in Japan bore to the aggregate force of the four. The United States Minister, on the other hand, is understood to contend that as the general cöoperation of all the four Powers must necessarily have had great and equal weight, if not in the actual operations, at all events, in the measures which preceded them, and afterwards in turning the result to good account, it would be fair to look upon the several Powers contributing in an equal degree to the success of the common cause, and therefore as entitled to share equally in the indemnity which the Japanese Government agreed to pay. Her Majesty's Government are not indisposed to concur in this view of the question. It cannot be doubted that the joint action of all the Powers collectively afforded, and still affords, the surest means of producing a most salutary effect on the Japanese Government and people, who would be only too glad to detect and would certainly take advantage of the slightest indication of the existence of a separate interest among them. The American principle of partition will secure to France a larger share of the indemnity than she would obtain under the principle of division suggested by M. Drouyn de Lhuys, while Holland and the United States would be benefitted by it in a still greater degree. England alone would be required to make a sacrifice, but Her Majesty's Government will consent to do so, if only to mark their conviction of the community of interest which the four Powers have in Japan, and as an evidence of their hope and desire that that community of interest will be the principle by which the conduct of all of them will invariably be regulated in that distant and peculiar country." (Earl of Clarendon to Earl Cowley, January 1st 1866.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

CHRISTIAN WORK FOR THE JAPANESE ARMY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A meeting of the Local Committee for Yokohama, appointed some time since, for receiving and forwarding funds to the Central Committee for the carrying forward of Christian Work for the Japanese Army was held this afternoon, at which were present Rev. Dr. G. Meacham, and Rev. Messrs. E. S. Booth, and J. L. Dearing. The report of the Treasurer, showing that the sum of $296.59 had been received and forwarded to the Central Committee was received, audited, and approved. While it was not though best to publish the list of subscribers, the accounts are open for inspection to any one who may wish to see them.

Yours very sincerely,

JOHN L. DEARING,
Treasurer.

July, 8th, 1895.

THE SHIMONOSEKI INCIDENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The recent visit of Mr. Northrop to this country resuscitated the question of the Shimonoseki Indemnity and evoked an apparently erroneous account of that page of history. I append the account, and beg of you, in the interests of truth, to either correct or confirm it.

Your obedient servant, AN AMERICAN.

Yokohama, June 20th, 1895.

The Japanese having without any provocation, or shadow of excuse, fired on a number of passing foreign ships from shore batteries at Shimonoseki, that was an outrage which imperatively called for measures being jointly taken by England, France, America, and Holland by way of punishment, and in order to prevent anything of the sort being again attempted. The action taken was as a matter of course, attended with considerable expense, and was crowned by success. The Representatives of the Powers mentioned, took the lenient course of imposing no fine, which they would have been fully justified in doing, for such unwarrantable acts of aggression, though lives were lost, but contented themselves by coming to a unanimous agreement that the Powers should be indemnified by being recouped their actual expenses incurred in redressing the outrages. When these were ascertained, the money spent by Great Britain, which furnished by far the largest part of the force employed, was found to amount to $1,500,000, whilst that of the United States was only $40,000, for it had but one chartered vessel in the engagement, and the balance of the $3,000,000 was devoted to the expenses incurred by France and Holland. On this equitable basis the whole affair was supposed to be satisfactorily disposed of. Presently, however, America, upon the frivolous pretence that as its "flag" was engaged, began to clamour for an equal division of indemnity amongst the four Powers interested; but it had no shadow of right to a fourth share, for the sum paid was not a fine, only a simple reimbursement of expenses incurred, yet as there was no pacifying America, except by agreeing to its overreaching claim, ultimately Great Btitain was induced, in order to secure future united action amongst the Powers in the East, to surrender to America half the amount which was due to itself, and thus America received $710,000 more than it had any shadow or right to, at the expense of Great Britain, which was subjected in consequence, to a loss of $750,000. Some years passed after this flagrant injustice had been perpetrated on England, when a number of American schoolmasters in Japanese employment affected to wake up to the fact, that America had profited at the expense of poor, suffering Japan, by pocketing so much more than the expenses which it had to incur by reason of the outrage. The sacred cause of education was to be advanced by the money in excess being refunded, to be laid out in employing more schoolasters and more school books from the United States; so an agitation was got up there, and lobbying resorted to. * * * * * *

On receipt of the excessive share of the indemnity which America succeeded in getting hold of, as the money was not capable of being classed as revenue, it was invested in six per cent. war bonds, and when the Legislature yielded to the cry which had been got up for the return of the

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money,—less actual expenses incurred,—the original basis on which the indemnity had been calculated—the amount of interest which had accrued on the bonds, which had likewise been kept apart in the treasury, was found to exceed the sum invested in the bonds, but the interest was kept back by the United States, though if Japan could be considered to be entitled to the principal, the interest must be adjudged to belong to it also. Farther, the original legitimate claim of $40,000 had become swollen to $120,000, presumably by the accretion of interest, so that the return vouchsafed to Japan was, say $630,000. It thus appears in consequence of what we have narrated, that England suffered by American overreaching to the extent of $750,000, and Japan did not get returned the accrued interest on the bonds which represented say some $650,000 (more or less). Thus both Great Britain and Japan have a right to consider themselves unjustly dealt with by America.

PRIZE-DAY AT YOKOHAMA SCHOOL.

The combined Prize-giving Day of the Winton House School for Boys (conducted by Mr. G. J. H. Schurr, B.A.), and the Girls' High School (conducted by Mrs. Cahusac), passed off most successfully on Saturday in the large school-room of the latter institution. This room was draped with flags of various nations, and on the wall at the back of the speakers' dais was hung a floral scroll done in hydrangeas, bearing the letters, "W.H.;" on the wall at the other end hung a device of similar form, only the letters of this were "G.H.S." There was a very large attendance of parents and friends, and among others present we noticed the Rev. E. C. and Mrs. Irwine, Mr. and Mrs. Lindsley, the Rev. A. F. King Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fraser, Rev. L. B. Cholmondeley, Mr. R. Home Cook, and many others.

Mr. J. F. LOWDER occupied the Chair and introduced Mr. Schurr, whose friendship, he said, he had only recently made. A man was to be judged by his works, and since entering the room that afternoon he (the speaker) had been shown some papers which had rather astonished him as to the extent of the work which Mr. Shurr had mapped out for himself. Mr. Schurr had, indeed, undertaken a task which few would have had the courage to take in hand, considering the past history of Schools in Yokohama. Mr. Lowder then referred to the extensive lists of subjects set forth in the curriculum and to the teaching staff of Winton House School, and then went on to remark that the gathering that day was a joint celebration, being also the first public appearance of Mrs. Cahusac, who had started the Girls' High School only a few months previously. Residents of Yokohama well knew that they had for a long time past felt the want of such an institution as this, where they could send their children for their education. Many attempts had been made in in the past, and each one had failed. The most energetic attempt, and perhaps the greatest failure, had been the starting of the Victoria Public School, in which every one of them took a great interest—not only everyone of those present that day, but every single member of the community of whatsoever nationality. It could not possibly have had a better start than it did, and perhaps its dissolution was all the more painful because of the great promise of its beginning. The real reason for its stoppage he need not perhaps state in so many words: but his opinion was that it carried with it at its birth the seeds of its own dissolution. That was what was called an open secret. That secret Mr. Schurr had read as easily as any one who runs might read; and he was therefore determined to carry on his own institution on the old-fashioned lines of an English school, not attempting that which was impossible. From that alone the speaker was at all events bold enough to augur—but even if his augury might not turn out correct he was sure they would all join him in hoping that this school would be a permanent success. —(Loud applause.)

(Mr. SCHURR then stepped forward and said—Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: In drawing up a report of my school since its commencement, I have to review a period of rather over a year. For it was in April, 1894, that I opened school with six boys—not a very large number, but as large as I could expect at that time. With the next term, in September, I opened with 13 boys, and before Christmas this number had increased to 19. After Christmas I commenced again with 27 boys, and since then my numbers have gone steadily up to their present total of 32. This gradual increase is very encouraging to me in my work, because I hope I may consider that it shows the appreciation of my (educational) efforts by the people of Yokohama, as my school has become better known to them. My aim has been, and is, to provide a thoroughly sound education, after the model of the best English traditions, which I trust the long training and experience I had in the old country has fitted me to undertake. As most of you know, I am greatly indebted to Mr. Irwine for his kind help in teaching when I first started the school, and for the support since then which he has never withdrawn; I am at present ably assisted by Mrs. Schurr, who received a special training as a teacher in England, and in March I was fortunate in securing the services of Madame Salabelle, who takes charge of the French. Madame Salabelle is so well known to you all from her long residence in Yokohama that I need not expatiate upon the value of her assistance in my work. The subjects taught in my school are: English in its various branches, Arithmetic, Algebra and Geometry, Latin, French, and German. We have also a Drawing Class conducted by Mrs. Schurr, who holds South Kensington certificates in that subject, and not long since I started a short-hand class under Mr. A. F. Cahusac's care. Our school is divided, as a rule, into three classes, so that each boy may get a better share of individual attention than is possible in a large class. In this way, whilst I myself take the chief care of the elder boys, Mrs. Schurr gives the small boys a good grounding, and Madame Salabelle takes a French class, I make it a point, by frequent change of classes, and by the combination of classes at times when the subjects admit of it, of teaching each class myself in different subjects several times a week, so that all the boys come constantly under my own personal attention. I have thought it advisable to enter thus fully into my methods of teaching, as this is the first time that I have had an opportunity of making a public report on my school. With regard to the prizes, they have been decided by the term's marks and by the marks obtained in the examination, with the results of which we are well satisfied. We have small examinations at the end of each month, but this has been on a larger scale. There is no need for me to make a full report of the results of this examination, as that will appear from the prizes, consisting of books and cards, which will shortly be distributed. But I wish to congratulate the boys upon the very marked improvement in the style of their papers, particularly neatness, a result that is mainly attributable to the great care taken by Mrs. Schurr with them during the term. I may also mention that though Master Halstead Lindsley's marks give him only the third place in the examination, he would have obtained better marks if he had not ommitted one or two of the subjects taken by the other boys. The same might be said of Caryl Hill, Harold Irwine, Kuhn, Van Smith, and Chope. The apparent injustice which arises from this, can only be obviated by all the boys in a class learning every subject taught in that class, but such a blissful state of things can hardly be looked for in Yokohama. After a passiag reference to the boys who had left or were leaving the School, the Head Master concluded:—I may say that as the school has so largely increased, I have been looking for larger premises, and I hope that by next year I may be able to open school on a more central site, in a school-room the plans of which I shall have drawn up after my own designs. These things take time to accomplish, and it is not so easy to find the accommodation in the way of ground and premises generally that one wants in Yokohama. I trust that my efforts to improve the condition of the school will result in my numbers being further increased, and that the people of Yokohama by thus continuing to support my school, will enable me the continue to increase its efficiency, to which end my best efforts will always be directed. Before sitting down Mr. Schurr desired to correct a misconception which had arisen from mere fact of his having combined his prize-giving with that of Mrs. Cahusac's. There was not to be any combining of the schools: it was quite out of the question.—(Loud applause.)

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE next rose. He said he had been asked by Mrs. Cahusac to read a short report which she had drawn up about the work in her school. This he did with the greatest of pleasure. The report was as follows:—"Having had the School for only a little over two months, it is a very short period to make a report upon. But I may say that I think there is a very nice spirit among the girls in school; they work together in friendly rivalry, and I am pleased with the progress they have made in various subjects during this term, and therefore I have given a few prizes as an encouragement, and Miss Leach has kindly added two more for her class. Besides the usual English subjects, the course of study has extended over Geography, English History, Ancient History, Arithmetic, Science, and French. Nearly all the elder girls have now also begun German with me, and we have a Calisthenics Class conducted by Miss Leach, which I consider very good for the girls, and which I am glad to find is popular. For drawing I have secured the services of Mrs. Schurr, who has passed several South Kensington examinations. In the recent Monthly Examination some good papers were shown up. Nora Griffin comes out top of the list, and has the distinction of being first in every paper, getting over 90 per cent. in three papers, being first in every paper; but several others did good papers, viz., Mabel Moulton second in Roman History and Botany, Ethel Fraser second in English History and Dictation, and Hilda Watson in English Grammar. Miss Leach also gives me a good report of the French. In the Term marks, Ethel Fraser was first, and Nettie McCance, but for being away the last week, should have been second. Florence Wales deserves mention for the marked general improvement she has shown, and Nina Orloff, and Nettie McCance have done well in music; Nina Orloff has also taste for drawing. Amongst the younger children, Mabel Wallace comes out first, she works well and steadily; Charlie Wallace is second, he also works well. Cassie Cook and Vera Irwine have not so many marks in the examination, as they did not come so early in the morning, but they too have done well in the Term's work, and Cassie and Vera are improving in music. Cassie Cook shows also a good deal of taste for drawing. Gerald Irwine is first in his class, and has much improved in reading and writing. I should like to add one word about my staff. I feel myself most fortunate in this respect, with Miss Leach taking the French, Miss Griffin for Arithmetic and Grammar, and Miss Wilkin having charge of the little ones, and I desire to express my thanks for the zeal and efficiency with which they have assisted me, and seconded my efforts in every way." Continuing, Mr. Irwine remarked that the capabilities of the teaching staff of the Girl's High School left nothing to be desired. The community was fortunate to possessing in this School and in Mr. Schurr's Boys School, teachers like Mrs. Cahusac and Mr. Schurr of long previous school experience, and both of them excellent linguists, especially in German, which they spoke fluently. For French Madame Salabelle and Miss Leach possess a complete acquaintance, conversational and literary, while Miss Griffin was a most thorough instructress in arithmetical subjects, and Miss Wilkin has an admirable method with the little ones, and the power of gaining their affections, which in the speaker's experience, was only bestowed by children upon zealous and competent teachers. In short, the schools exactly met the purposes for which they were required, and were thoroughly modern and efficient.—(Loud applause.)

The following programme was then admirably rendered by the pupils of both schools:—

PROGRAMME.

Pianoforte Duet ... ... Miss C. and Master H. Cook.
"The Inchcape Rock" ... ... Master L. Graham.
"A Leap for Life" ... ... Master P. Moss.
French Recitation... ... ... Misses Fraser and H. Watson.
"Sennacherib"... ... ... Master S. Kuhn.
Pianoforte Duet ... ... Miss N. Orloff and Master H. Cook.
"Daybreak" ... ... Master T. Lindsley.
French Recitation ... ... Several Children.
"Truth" ... ... Miss H. Watson.
"The Combat" ... ... Masters C. Hill and H. Irwine.
"A Tea-party" ... ... Masters M. Fraser and P. Hill.
French Recitation... ... ... Four Boys.
"Robert of Sicily" ... ... Miss N. Griffin.
"Lochinvar" ... ... Masters W. Carst and J. Chope.
"Suppose" ... ... Master C. Pulford.
French Recitation ... ... Master Jack Chope.
Pianoforte Solo ... ... Miss N. Orloff.
"A Boy's Aspirations" ... ... Three Boys.
"Mercy" ... ... Miss E. Fraser.
"Kept In" ... ... Master P. Hill.
"The Jackdaw of Rheims" ... ... Miss M. Moulton.
Pianoforte Solo ... ... Miss N. Orloff.

The Rev. L. B. CHOLMONDELEY, at the conclusion of the recitations, expressed the pleasure which had been given to himself and the Rev. A. F. King to come down from Tokyo that day to be present at the prize-giving. He was about the first person who had welcomed Mr. Schurr to Japan. He wished him good-luck then, and his regret was very great when Mr. Schurr left Tokyo to came down to Yokohama; now he again took the opportunity of wishing Mr. Schurr good-luck, and he only expressed the hope of all present when he said that he desired to see his school increase in numbers and prosperity.—(Loud applause.)

Mr. LOWDER next distributed the awards, accompanying each with most appropriate remarks.

PRIZE LIST.

CLASS I.

Albert Austen—First in the School. Prize for Class I. Cards for proficiency in Arithmetic and Algebra, Scripture, French, German, Short-hand.

Halstead Lindsley—Mathematical prize. Euclid (Books I. to IV.). Cards for Scripture, French, and improvement in English Composition.

Thayer Lindsley—Cards for Arithmetic and Algebra, Scripture, French, Short-hand.

Samuel Kuhn—Card for Arithmetic.

Van Smith—Cards for improvement in French and writing.

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CLASS II:

Caryl Hill—Cards for French, Improvement in writing.
Henry Cook—Prize, First in Class. Cards for Arithmatic and French.
Harold Irwine—Card for improved writing.
William Carst—Card for improved writing,
Jack Chope—Cards for French and Arithmetic.
George Moss—Card for Scripture,

CLASS III.

Teddie Moss—Cards for marked improvement in Scripture, English Composition, and English History.

Charlie Roth—Cards for improvement in History and Composition.

Willie Graham—Prize for being first in Term's marks. Card for Arithmetic.

CLASS IV.

Osborn Bramhall—Cards for first in Term's marks, Scripture, Writing, and Reading.

Cyril Pulford—Prize for being first in examination, Cards for Arithmeric and Scripture.

Paul Hill—Cards for Scripture, Reading, and second place in examination.
Malcolm Fraser—Cards for Reading and Writing.
Vernon Hill—Card for Scripture.

GIRL'S PRIZES.

Class I.—First Prize, Leonora Griffin.
Class II.—First Prize, Mabel Wallace.
Class III.—First Prize, Gerald Irwine.
French Prizes—First Division, E. Fraser; Second Division, Mina Orloff; 3rd Division, Vera Irwine.
Progress in French—Cassie Cook, Mabel Wallace, Charles Wallace, and Gerald Irwine.

Mr. LOWDER, in returning thanks for the admirable manner in which the girls and boys' had rendered the various items on the programme entrusted to their care, said he would take advantange of his position that day to say a few words to all the pupils, but more particularly to the boys.—(Applause.) He often met, on his way down to office, the pupils of Winton House on their way to school. He often wondered what they were thinking about, and no doubt they sometimes wondered what he was thinking about. Well, he would tell them what he had been thinking about that afternoon. Their little entertainment that day had turned his thoughts back to the days when he was about their age and a schoolboy at home in England. One of the earliest recollections of his school-days, and one which remained vividly clear to this day, was a motto sculptured upon the old time-worn cloister of his *alma mater*. It consisted of but five words, yet short as it was he would recommend it to the boys gathered before him, as a precept which they could follow with all advantage. The motto was, "Fear God, honour the King." They should fear no one on earth, but God, and they should pay all reverence to the rightful ruler of whatever country they might be living in. That was the King they should honour. Many of those present that day might, in after life, come to live in countries where there was no King, but to them the generic meaning of the term King was the ruler who had been elected by the sovereign people to rule over them and carry out their lawful behests.—(Loud applause.) Secondly, he would give them this advice, if you cannot speak well of another fellow do not speak at all. Eaves-droppers, tale-bearers, back-biters, bullies, sneaks, were detestible people; never condescend, my dear boys, to that. Above all, lead cleanly lives and keep the commandments. All this seems very simple and easy to carry out, but he warned them that nothing worth achieving in this world was easy. They were often confronted with difficulties now, and they would have many difficulties to contend with in the future, but no matter how appalling they might seem, they were never to run away. Difficulties were made to be overcome. Should the difficulty, however, be more than they could properly deal with themselves, then like manly fellows they should not be ashamed to ask for assistance from those older and wiser than themselves. Perhaps they would find that they could not even then surmount the difficulty: then they must remember the words of a great writer, "Successes rise phœnix-like from failures." That they had all been working hard during school-hours he had noticed from the prize-list, and he hoped they played hard when in the play-ground. Having worked hard in school they honestly earned their play time, and he counselled them when in the play-ground to play fair. No doubt in the coming winter they would meet, on their way to school, two gentlemen on their way to office. They had done so in the preceding winter and had often snowballed those gentlemen. Now one of the gentleman was himself. He thoroughly enjoyed the game and understood why they pelted him. They wanted to make him angry. Now he never got angry, so their labour was useless. His companion, however, who was a large and a very strong man, did get angry, very angry indeed, when they snowballed him. Therefore he would ask the boys, when they met him (the speaker) next winter, when the snow was on the ground, to let him go and confine their attentions to the other gentleman.—(Loud applause, mingled with hearty laughter.)

Cheers were then given for Mr. and Mrs. Schurr, Mrs. Cahusac, and Mr. Lowder; after which the company adjourned for refreshments.

THE PELAGIC SEALING SEASON ON THE COAST OF JAPAN.

The sealing season on the coast of Japan being now over all the schooners engaged in the business have returned and sailed again for northern waters. The results of the season's catch have fallen very short of expectations, owing to the continuance of strong winds in the early and best part of the season, during which hunting operations could not be carried on, and although a fair amount of work was done during the latter part of the season the number of seals taken is far short of that of last year. The sealers on the coast of British Columbia have been equally unfortunate from the same cause, having had to contend against the severest gales ever experienced on that coast, with the result that the British Columbia catch is small compared with that of previous years. Seals were found to be plentiful, both here and on the other side, the weather alone preventing operations being carried on. Those engaged in the business now look forward to making fair catches on the northern trip, but even if the vessels make as good an average in the north as in former years there will still be a great shortage in the total catch for the season, and the only consolation for those engaged in the industry is that prices at present ruling are much higher than those of last season.

The following is a comparative statement of the skins taken on the coast of Japan this year and last by the British Columbia schooners:—

	1895.	1894.
Diana	812	1,961
Rosie Olsen	627	1,043
Viva	601	1,437
Casco	1,309	1,926
Agnes McDonald	710	1,707
E. B. Marvin	946	2,118
Geneva	1,137	1,092
C. G. Cox	906	1,947
Ocean Belle	1,056	530
Umbrina	1,187	2,558
Sadie Turple	749	1,783
Annie E. Paint	1,124	1,497
City of San Diego	370	1,304
Mary Ellen	797	1,909
Vera	853	1,075
Mermaid	1,156	1,603
Total	14,340	25,490

The catches of these sixteen schooners this season compared with last thus show a difference of 11,150 skins.

There was an equal disparity between the catches of the American schooners this year and last. The following are the figures for 1895:—

Sophie Sutherland.	193	J. Eppinger	785
Penelope	210	Alton	299
Josephine	306	Rattler	345
Louise Olsen	627	Jane Gray	1,128
Emma Louise	168	Mattie Dyer	661
Therese	388	Ida Etta	575
Anaconda	182	Bonanza	250
M. M. Morell	331	E. E. Webster	766
W. Ainsworth	915		
Hermann	465		9,206

The British Columbian schooners *Pioneer* (847), *Borealis* (733), and *Mascott* (787)—total, 2,367 skins, were not on this coast last year.

The Yokohama schooners' returns are:—*Arctic* (220), *Retriever* (562), *Golden Fleece* (642)—total 1,424.

The catch of the foreign sealing fleet on the coast of Japan for 1895 is:—

	Skins.
British Columbian schooners	16,707
American schooners	9,206
Yokohama schooners	1,424
	27,337

The sealing industry of Japan is gradually growing and should in a few years become an important business. The few schooners from Hakodate this year did fairly well, and some of them made as good catches as the more experienced British and American craft. Some ill-feeling, it is said, has been caused by Japan's refusal to enter into an agreement to prohibit pelagic sealing on the high sea off her coasts. Such a course could hardly be expected from Japan, apart from the fact that such methods are inconsistent with Japanese ideas of justice, to say nothing of establishing the precedent that a nation or combination of nations can close the high seas to the prosecution of a merely commercial pursuit when no national emergency justifies the action. The Japanese Government granted special concessions to encourage their people to invest money in the sealing industry, and this has already been done, so that the authorities could not now consistently agree to close the Pacific Ocean. In the interest of those Japanese who have invested capital in sealing vessels, the Government should do all in its power to protect the seals in their rookeries so that they may remain undisturbed during the breeding time, and permit pelagic sealing only. The rookeries in the possession of Japan have almost been destroyed through the exterminating raids made upon them by foreign hunters in years gone by, but not entirely so; in fact, if properly protected, in a very few years the recuperative power of these animals to restock the once swarming rookeries belonging to Japan would become apparent, and a valuable article of commerce be preserved from extinction to the benefit of those Japanese engaged in the pursuit of the fur seal, for there is no reason why, with a little experience, the schooners under the Rising Sun flag should not do as well as the best of the British or American craft. The course the Government of Japan has thought proper to adopt in this matter has been in the interest of its people, and has not been influenced by the action of other countries.

HAKODATE.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

Hakodate, July 4.

We have had exceptionally fine weather for the last two weeks and the health of the town is perfect. Yet, as cholera is making its way down south, the local authorities here have taken every precautionary measure and have had all drains cleaned and disinfected. To-day a change has set in and it is blowing quite a storm, with heavy rain.

Last week an inquest was held at the British Consulate on the body of Barney Neilson, aged 34, a Norwegian seaman belonging to the British schooner *E. B. Marvin*, who was found drowned in the harbour near one of the landing places. The night before he had been drinking rather heavily, and from the evidence of the doctor, police, and one of his shipmates, it appeared that the man had probably fallen into the water. The jury returned a verdict of "accidental death."

The Rt. Rev. Bishop Evington arrived here last week, and is now making a tour of the English missions in the Hokkaido.

THE PORT ARTHUR AFFAIR.

We have received "Appendix I. Foreign Relations of the United States, 1894," from which we extract the following:—

Mr. DUN to Mr. GRESHAM.

No. 90.] Legation of the United States,
Tokyo, Japan, January, 7, 1895. (Received January 29.)

Sir,—Referring to my dispatch of date December 20, 1894, relative to the Port Arthur affair, I have the honour to inclose herewith an extract from a personal letter to me from Lieut. M. J. O'Brien, military attaché of this Legation, Kinchou, China, December 28, 1894, giving an account of the unfortunate circumstances attending the capture of Port Arthur by the Japanese forces.

Lieutenant O'Brien's statement corresponds with a statement made by Colonel de Wogack, Russian military agent to Japan and China; also with that of Mr. George W. Conner, an American in command of a Japanese transport, who was present at the taking of Port Arthur.

From the statements of these gentlemen it appears to be clear that there was a slaughter of Chinese soldiers at Port Arthur on the 21st of November, 1894, but that the horrors reported by Mr. Creelman in his communication to the *New York World* as having taken place subsequent to that date are not true, and that the impression Mr. Creelman's reports are prone to convey is a gross exaggeration of the truth.

I have, etc., EDWIN DUN.

[Inclosure in No. 90.]

Kin-chou, Liau-Tung Province, China,
December 28, 1894.

Dear Mr. Dun,—As to the unfortunate circumstances at Port Arthur, I can only say what I saw of it, of course; but I am sorry to say that even that little is such as to lay the army open to the most severe censure, especially as it was quite different from what one should have expected from

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Marshal Oyama's proclamation. I have seen myself a number of cases of the killing of men who not only could have been made prisoners without resistance, but who were plainly unarmed and in a position of most humble surrender. I have also seen a number of bodies whose hands were tied behind their backs. I have seen bodies very much mutilated and bearing wounds indicating that they were killed with the bayonet, when I know beyond question that where they lie there was no resistance. I have seen these things, not as a result of going around for the purpose of seeing horrors, but in the ordinary course of my observation of the battle and of trips to the forts and main points of interest. I heard talk here among the correspondents of atrocities committed on the 22d and 23d of November. Of these I know nothing whatever. I did not see any atrocities on those days. I heard some firing in the hills around the town, but saw no act of violence on either of those days. I was about the town most of the 22d and during the afternoon of the 23d, but saw no new acts of war or pillage, except the looting of the houses and stores. That went on until there was really nothing much left to loot.

I find some excuse for the acts of the 21st in the barbarities committed by the Chinese. The mutilated heads of some Japanese captives were hung on some small trees at the entrance of the town, and this sight must have enraged the troops. Again, I doubt if the Japanese for a moment thought they were going to have such an easy task in taking the town and sea forts. When they advanced through the town it is my belief that they were momentarily looking for the resistance, and with such an idea began to clear the way, with the result that the troops soon got out of hand and made an unnecessary slaughter. I do not think this excuse sufficient, but it ought to be borne in mind that such occurrences happen in all armies and it is hardly fair to expect miracles of the Japanese. At the same time such acts have always met with censure, and so must this case.

To anybody who has—as I have since I joined this army—seen the kindness, courtesy, and gentle ways of the Japanese, the recollection of Port Arthur is especially unpleasant. Up to that time the behaviour of the army toward the poor people of this country was all that anybody could have wished. Since that time such has also been the case as far as I know. Here at Kin-chou the Japanese have treated the Chinese in the most kind and fair way. Everything that could be done had been done to quiet the Chinese and to insure a just and fair treatment to them. Markets have been opened and fair prices have always been paid. There is no lawlessness and no sign of ill treatment. In truth, I think these Chinese are now better off than they have ever been in their lives, and I think they appreciate the fact.

In view of these facts, I can not but feel that the acts of this army at Port Arthur ought not to be remembered and its acts at other times forgotten. There may have been special causes leading up to the affair at Port Arthur of which I am not aware. I have no doubt that exaggerated reports have been sent, but not having seen them I am not able to make any criticism of them. I have not up to this time made any report of this phase of the battle, and do so now only because I judge from your letter that reports of it have come to your ears and you may desire more solid foundation for any expression of view which might become necessary hereafter.

I have been very kindly and courteously treated by all the Japanese officers I have met. To Field-Marshal Oyama and his staff I am indebted for many comforts, all the more appreciated because of the especially friendly spirit in which they have been extended. To General Kawakami and his subordinates at Hiroshima I am also under many obligations. In fact, I cheerfully bear testimony to the fact that such general kindness and thoughtfulness is more than I could fairly have expected from any army in the world.

Yours very truly, M. J. O'BRIEN.

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

The following speech was delivered by Sir Edwin Arnold, K.C.I.E., C.S.I. (Officer of the Order of the Rising Sun of Japan), at the annual banquet of the Japan Society at the Hotel Métropole, London, on May 22nd:—

Your Excellency, my Lords, Ladies, and Gentlemen:—The great and grave distinction has been laid upon me this evening of proposing before your honourable Society the health of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan. By your enthusiastic reception of the very mention of my toast I perceive, what was indeed well known to me, that no eloquence will be needed to recommend to you that august and victorious name! Yet the occasion upon which we meet, thus to offer our united homage to His Imperial Majesty, and to convey to him and to his nation our good-wishes, is so unique and memorable that I ask permission to dwell upon it briefly, in words earnest but measured.

Thirty-one years ago, the combined fleets of England, France, Holland, and the United States unjustly bombarded Shimonoseki. Thirty-one days ago, more or less, at the same spot, a treaty of peace was concluded between Japan and China, terminating, in lasting glory and vast imperial advantages for the Island Empire, a war which within nine months, has laid the colossal fabric of the Middle Kingdom at the feet of Japan, and advanced Japan herself at one step to imperial sisterhood and equality with the first class Western Powers. Those allied cannon-shots awakened indeed to a new and mighty life, a Nation, always gifted and capable, but destined henceforward, as I believe, to immense duties and unknown developments. Within the compass of a single reign, which we all here, I am sure, pray may be long and prosperously continued, the world has witnessed Japan first swiftly adapting to her ancient civilization, with a wonderful intelligence, the methods of modern science, and next employing them with so much skill, energy, valour, and foresight that her enemies have had no time to thwart her, while even her friends have found their highest expectations outstripped.

In what, then, resides the secret of such an amazing achievement? I venture to answer, unhesitatingly, in those national Japanese principles and qualities of which His Majesty the Emperor of Japan is the living and visible embodiment. If this had been a triumph only of mechanical equipments, of mere belligerent force over multitudinous feebleness, I, and you, would not be to-day full of thankfulness for the result, and of fresh affection for the fair land of Dai Nippon. But it has been the triumph of those enduring and most precious human virtues, which are named Loyalty, Patriotism, Self-devotion, Fidelity, and Faith; and these have had—from the very beginning of the Meiji Era—their concentration and consecration in the august person of His Imperial Majesty. At Hiroshima, amidst his Ministers and warriors, he has himself conducted this prodigious conflict, albeit, as is known in his heart, a lover of peace admirably linking by all his words and deeds, the majestic traditions of an immemorial dynasty, with the duties of a modern Sovereign. His proclamations, resolute in times of effort, magnanimous and moderate in the hour of success, have alternately animated or tranquillized his faithful people. By his side, too, that most noble and gentle example of all her countrywomen, the Empress, has tenderly aided him and the nation. Out of a hundred instances of Her Majesty's compassionate and noble nature I will only mention how she lately appeared with words of comfort and pity among the sick Chinese prisoners at Tokyo, and how, with her own hands, she wrought bandages for the hurt of H.E. the Chinese Envoy, deplorably wounded. Rendered irresistible by those Japanese virtues of which I have spoken, and surrounded as he is by such sagacious men of State, as my honoured friends Count Ito, Viscounts Mutsu and Aoki, Count Yamagata, and others, of whom we behold indeed, here, to-night a most accomplished and amiable representative in His Excellency our President—the Emperor's Army and Navy have gained all these astounding victories, thereby opening a new volume of the history of Asia.

I shall not, in this company, touch upon politics, nor even speak of what has followed after the peace of Shimonoseki, farther than to remark that in the intervention of the Three Powers may certainly be seen a magnificent tribute to the new greatness and strength of Japan, and that we may also recognize in the wisdom and self-restraint of the Emperor's partial compliance with their desires a guarantee of the future well-being of Japan al most more convincing than her victories. I am beyond measure glad that, in this year of trial, England was first of all and foremost to carry out Treaty Revision, and has next most wisely and properly abstained from joining the ill-assorted Powers in their recent action. My hope is that those unmistakeable demonstrations of British good-will may form the foundation of a lasting friendship between Japan and England, since our political interests are and will be the same, since our inevitable opponents are identical, and since the rivalries which may arise in commerce do not affect that mission which East and West must now share of filling the Pacific Ocean with new life, and of re-organizing Asia.

There is no need to counsel the counsellors of Japan. Under their noble Emperor they will raise her Navy to a commanding standard; they will make a veritable treasure-house of beautiful and fertile Formosa; they will heal the wounds of war with happy traffic, and they will know how to keep with prudence and firmness what is valuable in all they have won by valour, while China herself must by-and-by profit by the stern lesson she has received. They will be vigilant and judicious, bearing in mind their own old proverb, *Katte kabuto no o-wo shimeru*, which I may be allowed to translate, "In the hour of victory, tighten the straps of your helmets!" Your Excellency, My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, with these inadequate but very sincere words of admiration and attachment, I give you the health of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan; recommending my toast to the utmost honours which your generous enthusiasm and cordial goodwill can bestow upon it.

JAPANESE TOPICS IN AUSTRALIA.

BY JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, May 30th.

The fiscal struggle now taking place in New South Wales is destined to largely influence the future course of trade between Japan and Australia. New South Wales is essentially a free trade country, exporting raw produce in large quantities, and taking manufactured goods in exchange. Like the other Australian Colonies, New South Wales finds the heavy cost of labour and uncertainty of the labour supply a formidable obstacle to the development of manufacturing industries on an extensive scale, but it has been sought in Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, South Australia, and New Zealand to foster native manufacturing industries by the imposition of heavy duties on imported articles, but its cannot be said that the system has been successful to any marked extent, for even with the import duties added to the selling prices, imported goods are often found competing with articles locally produced. At the present moment silk dressing-gowns from Japan are being sold in Sydney and Melbourne at rates considerably below those charged by local producers. Until within the last few years, the New South Wales tariff was one of the lightest character, forming no real burden on the import trade. But suddenly the late Ministry of that colony changed all this, by the impositions of duties on all the leading articles of import. Although the new duties were lighter than in Victoria and elsewhere, they have proved exceedingly irksome, and there has been strong feeling in favour of their immediate removal. Mr. Reid, the present Premier, was elected on the distinct understanding that he would support a free trade policy. This is what he is now doing. He purposes removing most of the duties at the end of June, those remaining to be gradually abolished. This would make Sydney an absolutely free port, but Mr. Reid's policy is opposed by Sir Henry Parkes on the ground that nothing should be done until Australian federation has become an accomplished fact, a result not likely to be achieved during the present century. To this end he has joined with Sir George R. Dibbs, the ex-Premier, in endeavouring to oust Mr. Reid from the premiership, but hitherto without avail. It seems strange, however, that Sir Henry Parkes should take the ground he has, for the various colonial tariffs are aimed as much at restricting intercolonial trade as at diminishing that of an international character. Should Mr. Reid succeed in giving effect to his free trade policy, it will lead to a great expansion of trade between Australia, Japan, China, and other oriental countries, at present impossible by reason of the one-sided nature of the business, as pointed out by Mr. A. Marks to the Australian merchants who besought his assistance in the work of opening Japanese markets for Australian produce.

Mr. Jerome Dyer has returned from his visit to Japan, and in the course of an interview with the representative of an Adelaide paper, he referred to a letter published in one of the Sydney Journals. "Among other misstatements," said Mr. Dyer, "the writer falsely asserts that I advised the Japanese to have nothing to do with the Europeans in Japan. This is so grossly untrue, and is so evidently meant to depreciate the good work which I know I have done, that I feel a simple denunciation of this writer's untruthfulness is all he is worth. On the other hand, *The Daily Telegraph* is right in saying that my mission was not regarded favourably by the European element in Japan. When there last year I saw much more of the Europeans than of the Japanese, and so did the Victorian Government agents. We were practically told by the European merchants that they could order little of our goods, for there was no demand. 'Create a demand,' said some of them to me, 'and we'll order soon enough.' In

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fact, every other European in Japan is an agent for some European or American house, and therefore antagonistic to us in a great measure. Being the bearer of letters to the Japanese Government, and of a present to the Emperor from the Government of Victoria, I had necessarily to go straight to the capital, where I naturally met only Japanese and their commercial chambers. I had then to choose between these shrewd people and the European element in the treaty ports; for so great is the friction, owing entirely to the latter's fault, that had I neglected the Japanese and shown a partiality for the foreigners I would have met with only the same reception and success which all past Australian visitors have received. Still, I always referred, when practicable, in my addresses, to the obligation which the Japanese should be under to the Europeans for developing their country's trade and the Japanese have always admitted it. But they declare very emphatically that the foreigners (Europeans) residing in Japan, in their consistent and over-apparent hostility and unfriendliness, will not give them an opportunity of showing and proving their indebtedness, and they further declare that they (the Europeans) are making the breach wider every day. This sounds very ominous, and should prove a warning to the Europeans. They are behaving very foolishly, if one is to judge by their bitter, openly-expressed views, and by the views of the European settlement papers. The Home Office is a aware of this, and has shown its opinion in its recent actions. The whole story is too long to recount here, but I can tell it when necessary. It is a melancholy one, and the pith of it all lies in the disappointed expectations of the majority of the Europeans in Japan." Mr. Dyer's letter has naturally produced a marked impression in the Australian mercantile world.

The *South Australian Advertiser*, alludes to the recent industrial and commercial developments in Japan. It says, after describing the encouragement which His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government has extended to those engaged in the work of pushing Japanese commerce in every possible direction, that,—"already the forests of chimney stacks and clouds of smoke in some important centres reminds the visitor of Manchester or Birmingham. Having a practically unlimited supply of coal, excellent facilities for water carriage, and an industrious people who will work long hours for next to nothing a day, raw materials of certain kinds can be dealt with on terms which threaten to drive the British mill-owner to despair. In the list of imports for the latest available period raw cotton comes first; sugar, including molasses and syrup, second; and woollen materials third. Animal products, such as hides and leather hold a prominent place. These facts are exceedingly suggestive. Japanese cotton goods are already affecting the markets, and the manufacture of woollens is advancing with rapid strides. The import of wool from Australia last year was considerably more than half as much again as compared with that of the year before. Hitherto the woollen goods used in Japan have been almost exclusively imported, but the introduction of local manufactures at a cheaper rate will promptly augment the demand. Australian wool is admittedly finer, and also cheaper in the end, than the Chinese and Indian varieties. The new steam service is expressly designed to cheapen freights, which will give our flockmasters a better chance. The activity, intelligence, and enterprise which the Japanese are manifesting in industrial affairs bid fair to make the "land of the rising sun" the Britain of the East. It will become a manufacturing nation drawing its raw materials and a portion of its food supply from other lands. Many of the commodities it needs, including beef, wheat, wool, and wine, may be regarded as not only Australian staples but specialities. We can meet the demand or such articles, though we may not be able to export the manufactured products on satisfactory terms. It is evident, therefore, that the commercial development of Japan and the expressed desire to foster Australian trade may have an important bearing on some of our leading industries.

Dr. Cecil F. Davenport, of the London Missionary Society's station at Chung-king, and other visitors from China, are singularly unanimous in their remarks concerning the ignorance prevailing in China with respect to the war. Dr. Davenport said that the great bulk of the Chinese nation was ignorant of the fact that a war was being actively engaged in. Even a few miles out of Shanghai the inhabitants knew nothing of the war. It was to the advantage of the mandarins to keep the people in ignorance in order that they might deal with them as they liked. It was only the high officials and upper classes who were made aware of the existence of war. As soon as the populace was levied for the cost of the war he anticipated trouble. One of two things, in his opinion, would then happen—either there would be an internal rebellion, or the war with Japan would be renewed.

The Chinese in Australia continue to display the utmost apathy with respect to the Japanese successes; nor do they evince the slightest hostility towards the Japanese residents in Sydney and elsewhere. They seem to take everything as a matter of course.

The movements of Russia in connection with the treaty concluded between Japan and China continue to be closely watched in Australia. The *Sydney Morning Herald*, taking Mr. Henry Norman's *In the Far East* as a text, says:—"At the present moment Great Britain would not be at all inclined to precipitate a general European war because of possibilities in the Far East, nor can Japan be ready for any overt action. Nevertheless, it is self-evident that if Japan and China ever should act in unision their aid to resist the Russian advance would be of prime importance to Great Britain, and while England has hitherto indulged in the belief that China would be the principal power, there would be no difficulty in recognising the leadership of Japan. "Alluding to the motives which are prompting Russia in its antagonism to Japan, the *Herald* points out that they have their origon in the necesity for having an open port at the end of the great Siberian line, and that the only two ports available" are Port Lazareff, on the east coast of Korea, and Port Arthur, splendidly situated for naval command on the Liautung peninsula, commanding the Yellow Sea, and with free access to the Pacific Ocean. "The probability is," says the *Herald*, "that Russia will occupy Port Arthur herself at no distant date, and hence her decision not to allow the Japanese to retain possession. She will endeavour to induce China to put herself under the protection of the Czar, Russia guaranteeing immunity from Japanese aggression and receiving the provinces which would give her for the first time in her history a magnificent open seaboard. And if China will not make a bargain or a peaceful surrender, why, Russia, with French aid, might take the territory when she is ready, China, Japan, and even England notwithstanding. To-day it may be said that the rival powers of the Far East are Japan and Russia, and that the immediate problem of the Far East is the answer which China will make to these two powers. Will she work with Russia to keep Japan down, or will she join with Japan to save the remainder of Asia for the Asiatics, Great Britain possibly helping in order to check the Cossack march?"

Alluding to the Chinese loan, the *Sydney Morning Herald* declares that Russia and France are looking after it, and then proceeds to ask,—"What security has China to offer? Hitherto she has floated her trumpery loans, amounting to £6,000,000 before the war, upon the security of her Customs revenue, this revenue being a semi-independent "Imperial service," officered and conducted by Sir Robert Hart; but the Customs revenue amounts only to £3,600,000 per annum, and is wholly insufficient for the purpose of a loan of the magnitude now talked about. Even if it could be doubled by new taxes it would be insufficient. And yet it is not for a moment to be supposed that France and Russia will give their aid to a loan the interest on which might be paid or not paid according to the discretion or the ability of the corrupt and ignorant Mandarins, whose life is spent in extorting from those below them and in defrauding those above. Such a loan may be the commencement of a protectorate of some kind. It gives the great powers the right to advise or to interfere, with what result may be seen in the Egypt of to-day. Egypt became a European province in one sense when Ismail made his plunge into debt; and when China puts herself in pawn to the West the consequences, if not so complete, may be equally momentous. Possibly we may yet see European "residents" or commissioners in Pekin. Trade concessions now refused are sure to be demanded with authority, and so the day of China as a hermit nation may quickly pass away." The opinions thus expressed are largely shared by other Australian journals, and there is a widely spread conviction, that we are on the eve of fresh developments in connection with the late war.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, July 8.

The China loan, which is not redeemable for thirty-six years, will be secured by the Customs, and Russia undertakes to make good the payments should China fail.

Lord Selborne has been appointed Under Secretary for the Colonies.

London, July 9.

Parliament has been dissolved, and the new House is summoned for the 12th August. The majority of the elections will take place on the Saturday preceding; the London elections are fixed for the Monday.

(From the "N-C Daily News")

London, July 3.

A successful result of the negotiations for the Chinese Loan is new expected, enabling the Chinese to receive the amount by December.

A Chinese six per cent Loan of a million (sterling) is to be issued shortly in London at 106. This will not affect the Russian Loan.

Mr. Balfour stated in the House that the hoped the Dissolution of Parliament will take place on Monday next. The reserve of ammunition is to be increased at once, and the votes on account for the public Services have been adopted.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Michael E. Hicks-Beach, M.P. for Bristol, in a speech to the electors, stated that the policy of the Government was directly opposed to that of its predecessors, that it would be mainly constructive, in the direction of social reform, and that the Exchequer would be not unheedful of the demands of the War Office.

London, July 4.

Turkey has replied in the most amiable way to the explanation demanded by Bulgaria as reported on the 2nd of July.

The French have attacked a Hova position at Beritzova, *en route* to the capital of Madagascar, and captured two camps and a great quantity of stores. The Hova were routed with heavy loss, the loss on the French side being trifling.

Cambridge has won the odd event in the Inter-University Athletic Sports.

London, July 5.

The new *Valkyrie* is proving a complete disappointment.

The result of the "Princess of Wales Stakes" is as follows:—

Mr. Henry Milner's Le Var	1
Mr. Leopold de Rothschild's Utica	2
Mr. Henry Milner's None the Wiser	3

(From Japanese Papers).

Söul, July 10.

At a meeting of the Cabinet, held last night in the presence of the King, His Majesty announced that the appointment of Cabinet Minister and officials of *Chokunin* rank would be determined by himself instead of through the Cabinet.

The Korean Government has granted *yen* 300, accompanied with an Imperial Rescript, to Sasaki Tomezo, in recognition of services rendered by him in the Pak plot.

Some officials in the Korean Government propose appointing Sasaki a councillor.

Shimonoseki, July 11.

A Söul correspondent, under date the 29th ult., states that the King has not accepted the resignation of Boku Teiyo, the Premier, but the latter is strongly determined to withdraw from the Government. It is stated that if Boku Teiyo retires from the Cabinet his successor will be appointed from among the Ming family. The resignation of Boku Teiyo may be regarded as a result of the fall of Pak.

A Söul correspondent, writing on the 2nd inst., announces that cholera is very prevalent at Wiju, where about sixty deaths are daily reported.

Shimonoseki, July 11.

It is stated that the *Chinyen go*, formerly *Chin-yuen*, will remain at Nagasaki for three days, and the general public will be allowed to to visit her.

Aomori, July 11.

Some experts have arrived to survey the site of the proposed forts at Tsugaru Strait.

Kobe, July 11.

The Korean Minister arrived here by the *Suruga Maru* to-day, and put up at the Nishimura Hotel.

Shanghai, July 11.

A Pekin telegram, which reached here to-day, states that the Pekin Government has appointed Yü Ko Chinese Minister to Japan, and the matter is said to have been reported to the Japanese Government.

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Kobe, July 12.

The Italian men-of-war *Umbria* has arrived here from Nagasaki.

Nagasaki July 12.

The French ship *Bayard* and the *Duguay Trouin* have arrived here.

Fusan, July 12.

Pak, ex-Minister of Home Affairs in Korea, left here for Ujina by the *Fujigawa Maru* at 5 o'clock this morning.

Hiroshima, July 12.

The *Yokohama Maru* proceeded to Kobe this morning. She is to take Count Inouye to Jinsen.

Shanghai, July 12.

France has obtained the consent of the Chinese Government to her demand to cede a portion of territory bordering on Annam.

The British Gunboat *Linnet*, which left Anping on the 7th inst., has arrived with a report that Anping is quiet, and no disturbance has been created by the Black Flags. The *Rainbow* and *Redbreast* were staying at Anping, and another war ship at Takow.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 184.

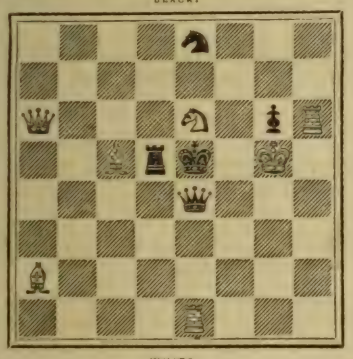
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to Q Kt 7	1—Anything
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct solutions received from Digamma, Kr., W.H.S., Shogi, J.D., and E. J. King.

Problem No. 186.

By C. A. Gilberg, New York.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

In the *Birmingham Weekly Mercury* of Saturday, January 12, the diagram of a very stiff four-mover was printed, the publication of the solution of which was purposely delayed for several weeks in order that "plucky solvers, who dislike to be beaten," might have ample time to conquer the position without help. Six weeks later the editor reported that he had just had a quite unique experience. A cablegram asking for the solution (reply prepaid) had reached him from Kutais, the capital of a Trans-Caucasian province that lies between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. The cablegram was from Prince Constantine, of Oldenbourg, who is in command of a regiment of Russian Guards. His request had been promptly complied with.

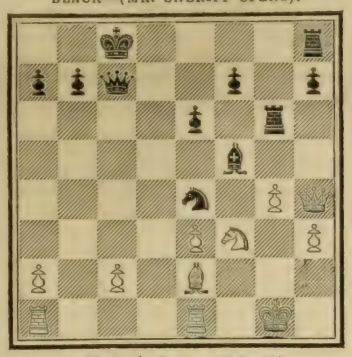
The *Saturday Review* gives the following as the laws which decide what is admissible and what is inadmissible in a chess problem. "There must be nothing on the board which is not necessary to the solution either for active cōoperation or for obstruction. White can have only one first or key move; for more than one way of setting to work would argue an excess of force. For a similar reason, because it is better to win by strategy than by force, White must not on his first move either take a piece or give a check. To do either of these things would not be fighting a duel, but finishing off a prostrate enemy. The best problems are those in which the triumph of strategy over force is most conspicuous. The stronger Black's position seems to be at first sight, the more credit there is in beating him; though, of course, it is also more creditable to give a weak enemy his quietus full, fair, and fetysly* than to bungle in despatching him. Thus it may be a very fine problem to mate in two moves when it would be both easy and inelegant to wind up the business in three or four."

End Game No. 28.

SCOTTISH CHESS.

Mr. Sheriff Spens is one of the most brilliant players over the Border. The following diagram shows position in a fine game awarded a special £5 prize:—

BLACK—(MR. SHERIFF SPENS).



WHITE—(MR. D. FORSYTH).

Here Black (to move) played the fine move R to R 3, which wins in all variations.

Chess in New York.

The Manhattan Club seems to be unfortunate in its matches this season. It lost against Brooklyn some time ago and last month had to succumb to the Franklin Club of Philadelphia. We reprint the three best games, our esteemed contributor "Digamma" furnishing us with the score.

Game No. 289.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. De Visser.	BLACK. Young.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—B takes B
6—Kt to K B 3	6—Castles
7—B to Q 3	7—P to B 4
8—P to K 5	8—B to K 2
9—P to K R 4	9—P to B 4
10—P takes P e p	10—B takes P
11—B takes P ch.	11—K takes B
12—Kt to Kt 5 ch.	12—K to R 3
13—P to B 4	13—Q to K sq.
14—Kt to K 2	14—Kt to B 3
15—P to Q B 3	15—B to Q 2
16—P to K Kt 4	16—P takes P
17—P takes P	17—B takes Kt
18—Q to Q 3	18—P to K Kt 3
19—R P takes B ch.	19—K to Kt 2
20—Castles Q R	20—R to R sq.
21—Kt to Kt 3	21—Q to B 2
22—K R to B sq.	22—Q R to Q B sq.
23—K to Kt sq.	23—Q to K 2
24—Q to K 3	24—R to R 7
25—Q to Kt sq.	25—R to R 5
26—Kt to K 2	26—Q R to K R sq.
27—Kt to B sq.	27—Kt to Q sq.
28—K R to K sq.	28—Q to B sq.
29—Kt to Q 3	29—B to Kt 4
30—Kt to B 5	30—Q takes P
31—R takes P	31—R to R 8
32—Q takes R	32—R takes Q
33—R takes R	33—Q takes Q P
34—R to K 7 ch.	34—K to B sq.
35—R to Q B 7	35—P to Kt 3
36—R to B sq. ch.	36—B takes R
37—Kt to Q 7 ch.	37—K to K 2
38—Resigns.	

Game No. 290.

PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Rocamora.	BLACK. Shipley.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt takes P	3—P to Q 3
4—Kt to K B 3	4—Kt takes P
5—P to Q 4	5—P to Q 4
6—B to Q 3	6—B to K 2
7—Castles	7—Q Kt to B 3
8—R to K sq.	8—B to K Kt 5
9—P to B 3	9—P to B 4
10—Q Kt to Q 2	10—Castles
11—Kt to B sq.	11—K to R sq.
12—Kt to Kt 3	12—B to R 5
13—B to K B 4	13—P to K Kt 4
14—B to Q B sq.	14—Kt takes K B P
15—K takes Kt	15—P to B 5
16—R to R sq.	16—Q to Q 3
17—P to K R 3	17—P takes Kt ch.
18—K to Kt sq.	18—B takes Kt
19—P takes B	19—P to Kt 7
20—R to R 2	20—Q R to K sq.
21—B to Q 2	21—B to B 7 ch.
22—K takes P	22—Q to Kt 6 ch.
23—K to R sq.	23—R to K 8
24—Resigns.	

* "And Frensch sche spak ful faire and fetysly,
After the scole of Stratford atte Bowe."
—Chaucer: "The Prologue," 124-125.

Game No. 291.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Neumann.	BLACK. Jasnogrodsky.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Q Kt to Q 2	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to K 5	4—K Kt to Q 2
5—B to Q 3	5—P to Q B 4
6—P to Q B 3	6—Kt to Q B 3
7—Kt to K 2	7—Q to Kt 3
8—Kt to K B 3	8—B to K 2
9—Castles	9—Castles
10—Kt to K B 4	10—R to K sq.
11—B to B 2	11—Kt to B sq.
12—Kt to R 5	12—P takes P
13—P takes P	13—B to Q 2
14—Q to Q 2	14—K R to B sq.
15—Kt takes Kt P	15—Kt takes Q P
16—Kt takes Kt	16—K takes Kt
17—Kt to K B 3	17—K to Kt sq.
18—B to Kt sq.	18—Q to Kt 5
19—Q to R 6	19—Q to Kt 5
20—Kt to Kt 5	20—B takes Kt
21—B takes B	21—B to Kt 4
22—P to K R 3	22—Resigns.

The Evans Gambit.

This old favourite has been receiving fresh attention of late. We reprint from an Australian exchange a fine game, in which White has apparently struck out a new and brilliant line of play. We follow this up with a dictum of the great Steinitz which, however, seems to have been speedily upset.

Game No. 292.

The following game is one of two played by correspondence between the Rev. A. Miller, of Sydney, and Messrs. Hodgkinson, M'Clelland, and Bruce, of Nowra. Mr. Miller, in following a "book" variation of the Evans, was met with a series of brilliant sacrifices not provided for by chess theorists:—

WHITE. Nowra.	BLACK. A. Miller.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—Castles (a)	6—Kt to B 3 (b)
7—P to Q 4	7—Castles.
8—P takes P	8—K Kt takes P
9—B to Q 5	9—Kt to B 4 (c)
10—Kt to Kt 5	10—P to K R 3
11—Q to R 5 (d)	11—P takes Kt
12—Q B takes P (e)	12—Kt to K 2
13—P to K B 4	13—Kt to K 3
14—P to B 5!	14—Kt to Q B 4
15—P to B 6!!	15—Kt to K 3
16—R to B 3	16—R to K sq.
17—R to R 3	17—B to Kt 3 ch.
18—K to R sq.	18—K to B sq.
19—B takes Kt	19—Kt to Kt 3
20—Q to B 8 ch.	20—Kt takes Q
21—R takes Kt, mate.	

(a) Authorities still differ on the merits of this move, and 6—P to Q 4. Tchigorin, the greatest living exponent of the Evans, plays the text move.

(b) We like 6—P to Q 3.

(c) Superior to taking the Pawn with either B or Kt.

(d) Mason's "Art of Chess," p. 267, gives the following variation:—11—Kt takes P—R takes Kt, 12—B takes R ch—K takes B, 13—Q to Q 5 ch—Kt to K 3, 14—P to K B 4—Q to B sq. and the two pieces ought to win for Black against the Rook. The bold sacrifice of the Kt by 11—Q to R 5, which seems to win for White against any defence is new to us. Perhaps our Nowra friends will inform us if 11—Q to R 5 is of local invention or otherwise.

(e) Further comment is needless. The White allies play to the end admirably, and Mr. Miller's defence, though unavailing, seems the best at his command.

Some amusement was created in New York chess circles a few weeks ago by the publication in the New York *Sun* of an article, copyrighted by Steinitz, in which Steinitz made the claim that he had by accident "discovered the move that would make all Evans gambit players bite the dust." After the moves—1 P to K 4, P to K 4—2 K Kt to B 3, Q Kt to B 3;—3 B to B 4, B to B 4;—4 P to Q Kt 4, B x P;—5 P to B 3, B to R 4;—6 P to Q 4, P x P—7 Castles, Kt to B 3;—8 B to R 3, Kt x P;—9 Q to Kt 3 he points out that the next should be Kt Kt 4 as the exchange of knights, followed by B x P ch., would not merely do no harm

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but Black's K, would stand safer; the Q being out in the field for a king's side or centre attack, Black retaining the enormous majority of four pawns to one on the Q's side, as against three to two of the opponents on the other wing, which should make a win an easy matter for Black. Mr. Steinitz was, however, dumfounded to learn within a comparatively few hours after the publication of his article that his move was of no avail, as White's rejoinder B x P ch., followed by R to K sq ch., wins the Q, and the game.

GAME No. 293.

The following game played between J. P. Morgan (White) and W. P. Shipley (Black) is taken from an American paper:—

STEINITZ GAMBIT.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 4	3—P takes P
4—P to Q 4	4—Q to R 5 ch.
5—K to K 2	5—P to Q Kt 3
6—Kt to Kt 5	6—Kt to B 3 (a)
7—Kt to K B 3	7—Q to Kt 5
8—Kt takes P ch.	8—K to Q sq.
9—Kt takes R	9—Kt takes K P
10—P to Q B 4	10—B to Kt 5
11—Q to R 4 (b)	11—Kt takes Q P ch.
12—K to Q sq.	12—Kt to B 7 mate.

(a) This move is the invention of Mr. D. N. Martinez, of Philadelphia, and gives Black a strong game; this is the first game in which the move has been tried in actual play.
(b) Fearing Black's threatened R to K sq. The game was, however, lost to White after Black's 10th move.

GAME No. 294.

The following game, says the author of "The Art of Chess," was recently developed by Mr. Wordsworth Donisthorpe (White):—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to B 3	3—P to Q 3
4—P to Q 4	4—B to Kt 5
5—B to K 3	5—P to B 4
6—P to Q 5	6—P takes P
7—Q Kt takes P	7—Q Kt to K 2
8—P to B 4	8—Kt to K B 3
9—Kt takes Kt	9—P takes Kt
10—P to K R 3	10—B to Q 2 (?)
11—Kt to R 4	11—Kt to Kt 3
12—B to Q 3!	12—Kt takes Kt?
13—Q to R 5 ch.	13—Kt to Kt 3
14—B takes Kt ch.	14—K to K 2?

White mates in two moves.

Brevity and brilliancy with a vengeance. Altogether worthy of the good old times.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, July 22nd.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 13th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, July 19th.‖
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 16th.¶
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Sunday, July 28th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 30th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 1st.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 7th.

† *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 3rd. ‡ *Ancona* left Nagasaki on July 9th. ‖ *Calédonien* left Hongkong on July 9th. ¶ *China* (with French mail) left Hongkong on July 9th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, July 14th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 20th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 20th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 27th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 30th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 2nd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Aug. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 7th July,—Vancouver, B.C., 24th June, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Hertha, German steamer, 1,662, F. von Binger, 7th July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Gilsland, British steamer, 1,367, Brabyn, 7th July, —Middlesboro', General.—Order.

Nuestro Senora de Loreto, Spanish steamer, 1,050, C. de Suzartiaya, 7th July,—Manila, General.—Browne & Co.

Telamon, British steamer, 1,555, Purdy, 8th July, —Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Byers, 9th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 9th July,—Hongkong 4th July, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 9th July,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 22nd June, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Petrel (4), U.S. gunboat, Captain Emons, 9th July,—Kobe 8th July.

Siam, British steamer, 1,897, E. G. Andrews, 9th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 30th June, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 10th July,—San Francisco 24th June, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain C. L. Burr, 10th July,—Kobe.

Queen Victoria, British steamer, 1,365, Guthrie, 10th July,—Manila viâ Kobe, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 11th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 3rd July, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 12th July,—Marseilles viâ ports, Mails and General. —Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 6th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Centurion (14), flagship, Captain Spencer H. M. Login, 6th July,—Hakodate.

Edgar (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Henderson, 6th July,—Hakodate.

Undaunted (12), cruiser, Captain Halifax, 6th July,—Hakodate.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Metaxa, 6th July, —Hakodate.

Rasboynik (12), Russian cruiser, Captain J. C. Grigorovitch, 6th July,—Hakodate.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 7th July,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Commander Francis G. De Lisle, 8th July,—Hakodate.

Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Chouneur, 8th July,—Nagasaki.

Helene Rickmers, German steamer, 2,034, C. Hess, 8th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 8th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Benledi, British steamer, 1,481, Farquhar, 9th July, —London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Byers, 9th July,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hanson, 9th July,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—A. E. Fisher.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 9th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

S. P. Hitchcock, American ship, 2,178, E. V. Gates, 10th July,—San Francisco, Tea.—Southern Pacific Co.

Glenartney, British steamer, 1,942, J. McGregor, 10th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Nuestra Senora de Loreta, Spanish steamer, 1,050, C. de Suzartiaya, 10th July,—Manila viâ ports, General.—Browne & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 11th July,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 12th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Telamon, British steamer, 1,555, Purdy, 12th July, —London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 12th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Colonel T. Amano, Mr. N. J. Ten Bosch, Mr. Bevier, Professor J. H. Biles, Miss Biles, Mr. and Mrs. N. Bowdwitch, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bryant, Mr. E. K. Charrington, Sir Fielding Clarke, Lady Clarke, Mr. C. W. Collier, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Johnstone, Mr. F. Gebhardt, Mr. Horikoshi, Mr. J. W. Hulse, Mr. J. H. Kobayashi, Mr. F. Kochler, Mr. Larial, Mrs. Leonard, Mr. K. Nakamura, Captain C. Cunliffe-Owen, R.A., Mr. Johan Paris, Mr. and Mrs. Redding and children, Mr. Reaggi, Don Jose de la Rica, Mr. Sieppel, Mr. Takimura, Captain and Mrs. E. W. Very, Mr. H. Wiechert, Mrs. A. D. Woodsworth and daughter, and Mr. M. Yamanouchi in cabin; 7 passengers in second class, and 70 Chinese and 4 Japanese in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. P. Stollberg, Mr. K. Takahashi, Dr. Kawase, Dr. Kondo, Mr. Carlos Pereira, Mr. Fritz Kolberg, and Mr. and Mrs. Adler in cabin.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Crew, Mrs. J. H. Laughlin and child, Miss R. Stanleigh, Mr. J. H. Mitchell, and Mr. A. Stewart in cabin; 6 Japanese and 13 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—Miss Augusta Dickerson, Mr. G. E. Potts, and Mr. H. A. Kenaricks in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Harder, Mr. and Mrs. Neave, Mr. O. d'Oliveira, Lieut. de Carvalhoes, Mr. T. Dickson, Jun., Rev. and Mrs. Fix, Mr. and Miss Remedios, Mr. Digley, Lord Connyngham, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas and child, Mrs. Spry, Mrs. Mast and 2 daughters, Mr. Sim Kye Pong, Mr. C. H. Sim, Mr. T. Hance, Mr. J. McLachlan, Mr. H. J. J. Chambers, Mr. W. J. Vine, Mr. A. W. Rash, Mr. M. A. Mosle, Mr. A. Price, Mrs. Jones and daughter, Mrs. and Miss Wilcockson, Mrs. Schlichling, Mrs. Rehders, 3 children, and nurse, Captain and Madame Flenrac, 2 children, and governess, Mrs. Chalfont and 2 children, Mrs. Lane, Mr. T. Ferguson, Mr. P. B. Nash, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Weir, and child, Mr. P. L. Pontalis, Mr. A. de M. Grancey, Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, Mr. H. W. Listler, Lieut. G. W. Brown, Lieut. Hutchinson, Captain Lilier, Miss Tennant, Miss Kidwell, Mrs. Fulkerson and 2 children, Mr. C. la Vaulx, Mrs. Crawe and child, Master Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. Alpine and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Price, Miss Holland, Miss McCleneghan, Miss Fugill, Rev. Warren, Rev. C. Warren, Bishop Bickersteth, Mrs. and Miss Lange, Miss Vincent, Mr. and Mrs. White, Mr. A. P. Whitney, Jun., Mr. C. W. Dimock, Mr. and Mrs. Pors, 2 children, and nurse, Mr. G. Sale, Mr. Hasche, Mrs. Denig and child, Mr. E. Passe, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. C. L. Barrow, Mr. Staunton, Baron Von Wauldthausen, and Mr. Hannah in cabin; 24 passengers in second class, and 6 native servants and 203 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Dumoulin, Mr. Weiss, Prince Belozersky, Mrs. Twentyman and family, Mrs. Groundwater, Mrs. Petersen and 2 children, Mr. Dennial, Mrs. Ramson and child, Mrs. Gaillard, Mr. Collins and family, Mr. Baillie and family, Mr. Viez, Mrs. Limby and family, Rev. Partridge, Mr. Gordon and family, Mr. Inouye, Mr. Cholmeley, Mr. Montgomery, Mr. Armdale, Mr. Saddlesmuth, Mr. Durand, Mr. Dunstable, Mr. Western, Misses Hawthorne, Ripley, Booth, Tasselli, Brion, Mr. Apcar, and Mr. H. Goldstein in cabin; 12 passengers in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. H. L. Dover, Mr. F. J. Organ, Major F. C. Farmer, Mr. M. Risk, Mrs. and Miss McCance, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Whitehead, Mr. W. M. Redwood, Mrs. E. F. Metcalfe, Miss Eldridge, Mr. J. S. Metcalfe, Mr. A. J. McGlew, Dr. F. Metcalfe, Mr. Go Chut Yun, Mr. Kwong Man Wing, Mr. Ming On, Mr. D. Macdonald, Mr. Chee San, and Mr. A. R. Whitney in cabin; 11 men, R.N., in third class, and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. F. R. Jenkens, Mrs. C. Jenkens and infant, Mr. J. Murphy, Dr. and Mrs. F. L. Dibble, Mr. S. J. Smith, Mr. W. E. Porter, Mr. O. Hailey, Mr. Geo. D. Nicol, Mr. E. Larodre, Mr. E. W. Barrett, Mr. W. A. Boord, Mr. and Mrs. Ho Tung and lady friend, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Mercer, Rev. and Mrs. V. E. Hedburg and two infants, Mr. Geo. Thompson, and Mr. F. C. Hagle in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. W. Humphreys, Mrs. and Miss W. G. Humphreys, Miss Stephens, Mr. J. Gregory, Miss L. Thomas, Mr. Tanabe, Miss Stewart, Mrs. Smedley and family, Mr. H. Kessler, Mr. and Mrs. Kuhn, Mr. L. D. Abraham, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Captain Thomas, Captain J. W. Lee, Mr. E. J. Cowan, Mr. and Mrs. Goffinet, Mr. J. C. Arter, Mr. and Mrs. Galy and child, Mr. Marchman, Lieut. P. G. Davies, Madame Huart and child, Mr. Bybird, and Mr. A. L. Robinson in cabin; Mr. and Mrs. C. Gesbirel in second class, and Mr. Wilson's betto in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Grassmann and children, Dr. Riess, Rev. J. Lindsay Patton, Mr. Th. Blacklock, Mr. Mocker, Captain R. Dowling, Captain Alex. Keith, and Mr. H. Isono in cabin; 2 Europeans and one Japanese in third class, and 9 Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. F. Angus, Captain A.

INTERNET ARCHIVE
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Banarchon, Mr. Bash, Mr. Wesley Bick, Mrs. Wesley Bick and 2 children, Mr. Henry Binley, Mr. Blankenburg, Lieut. Guy. W. Brown, U.S.N., Lieut.-Colonel Candau, Mrs. Candau, Mr. Jno. H. F. Carey, Lieut. Cavalhars, Mrs. Chalfant and 2 children, Mr. H. J. J. Chambers, Mr. G. R. Clover, Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, Captain J. G. Cox, Mr. H. Dancocks, Mrs. Fairclough, Mr. T. Ferguson, Rev. Mr. Fix, Mrs. Fix, Capt. de Fleurac, Madame de Fleurac, 2 children, and governess, Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Mr. A. E. Garnier, Mr. A. de Mandat Grancey, Mr. T. A. W. Hance, Mr. W. A. Hewett, Miss J. M. Holland, Dr. Horder, Mrs. Horder, Lieut. B. F. Hutchinson, U.S.N., Mr. H. Jaeger, Mr. Kennedy, Mons. V. de Laguerie, Mrs. Lane, Captain V. Lilier, I.R.N., Mr. Listler, Mr. R. W. Lomax, Mr. J. McLachlan, Mr. Menanda, Hon. G. Mills, Mr. Herbert Moore, Mr. P. B. Nash, Mr. Neave, Mrs. Neave, Lieut. N. J. O'Brien, Mr. O. de Oliveira, Mr. P. Lefevre Pontalis, Mr. Ernest Possé, Mr. W. V. Pratt, Mrs. H. B. Price, Count Carlo Raggio, Mr. J. G. Shortall, Mr. C. H. Sim, Mr. Staunton, Mr. J. H. Symington, Miss O'Brien Taylor, Miss A. C. Tennent, Mr. Uhrlaub, Baron von Wauldthausen, Mr. Thomas Weir, Mrs. Thomas Weir, and child, Miss Weir, and Mr. H. Whistler in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Asloun*, for Portland, Or. :—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Hamilton.	New York.	Chicago.	Omaha.	Toronto.	Dubuque.	Buffalo.	Salt Lake City.	Grand Rapids.	Other Cities.	Totals.
Shanghai..	—	—	15,910	1,044	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7 16,061
Amoy	156	—	2,317	22	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2,485
Hyogo.....	—	—	1,710	2,361	—	—	—	—	—	—	406	3,477
Yokohama	914	589	1,749	2,256	506	328	385	355	591	320	1,746	9,739
Total ...	1,070	589	22,586	4,673	506	328	385	355	591	320	2,259	32,662

SILK.

	New York.	Totals.
Hongkong.....	50	50
Total	50	50

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Silk, 222 bales; Waste Silk, 125 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu :—

TEA.

	San Francisco.	New York.	Chicago.	Montreal.	St. Louis.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hyogo	324	1,135	2,163	—	346	—	3,968
Yokohama.	1,759	582	718	385	—	—	3,444
Hongkong.	356	—	—	—	—	—	356
Amoy	978	1,170	—	—	—	—	2,148
Total ..	3,417	2,887	2,881	385	346	—	9,916

SILK.

	San Francisco.	New York.	Hartford.	Total.
Hongkong	—	358	—	358
Yokohama	—	359	—	359
Total	—	717	—	717

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 114 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 429 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain D. E. Friele, reports :—Left San Francisco the 24th June at 4 p.m.; had foggy weather across, with variable winds. Arrived at Yokohama the 10th July at 8.30 a.m. Time, 14 days, 16 hours, 30 min.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A very feeble trade all round. Yarn—Doubles continue to move, but Singles are neglected. Shirtings—9lb. firm with some considerable business, 8¼lb. dull and depressed. Nothing doing in other descriptions of Grey Cloth. Victoria Lawns—Holders have given way in price and thus managed to move a few thousand pieces. No movement in Turkey Reds or other Fancy Cottons. Woollens—Italian Cloth dull again, while there is some out-of-season enquiry for Union and similar Cloth.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	Per Piece.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb. 38¼ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb. 38¼ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb. 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	Per Yard. 0.16 to 0.22
	Per Piece.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches..	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.15

WOOLLENS.

	Per Yard.
Flannel.....	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches.....	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	Per Picul.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium.....	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold.....	41.50 to 42.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.50
	Per Bale.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Manufactured Iron dull and Plates are lower. Pig is in demand and holders have secured better prices. Wire Nails in fair current demand at quotations without much life. Tin Plates over done, stock too heavy, and prices have fallen about 10 per cent. without inducing business of any moment.

	Per Picul.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch.....	$3.30 to 3.35
Flat Bars, ½ inch.....	3.35 to 3.40
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.30 to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.25 to 5.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

Prices are still called nominal and are now said to be weak. Part of the recent arrivals of Russian oil goes on to Kobe. Present stock here is 850,000 cases—two-thirds American, one-third Russian.

American	$2.40 to 2.50
Russian	2.30 to 2.40
Langkat.....	1.90 to 2.00

SUGAR.

A fair amount of business has been done, principally in Manila and Canton sorts. The latter are slightly dearer in price, but arrivals of the former by steamer prevent any improvement in values. In Takao sorts nothing done and prices nominal. White quiet, with quotations as last week.

	Per Picul.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.10 to 3.60
White Java and Penang	6.20 to 6.50
White Refined	6.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Prices have apparently been rushed up too far and too quickly. Europe has accordingly backed out, and fine sizes are quiet, prices for these tending downwards. American sorts maintain their course so far, and there is considerable competition for the favourite marks of Joshu Re-reels. Coarse filatures appear dear at present figures, seeing that the so-called Shinshu filatures are at present reeled from alien cocoons.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers.....	$900 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den...	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	870 to 890
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.....	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers.....	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	880 to 890
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers.....	890 to 900
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers.....	860 to 870
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers.....	830 to 840

WASTE SILK.

Small business in old waste. Remaining stock (about 5,000 piculs) is chiefly mixed and poor quality, but holders are firm, and there is nothing to tempt buyers. Quotations withdrawn pending transactions in new staple.

TEA.

A fair daily trade, and prices have been well maintained. Stock remains at about 7,000 piculs, and the export will show some increase when the details of shipments by *Empress of India* and ship *S. P. Hitchcock* are complete. Settlements to date are between 3,000 and 4,000 piculs more than last season, and shipping opportunities are now unusually plentiful.

	Per Picul.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has only fluctuated slightly, and rates are fairly firm at the close.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅛
— — Bills on demand.....	2/1⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅞
— Private 4 months' sight ...	2/2⅛
— — 6 months' sight ...	2/2¼
On Paris—Bank sight	2.68
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ...	2.74
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	⅞% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	¼% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71¾
— Private 10 days' sight.	72¾
On India—Bank sight	194½
— Private 30 days' sight.....	197
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	52
— Private 30 days' sight..	53
— — 4 months' sight	53¾
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16
— Private 4 months' sight...	2.23
Bar Silver (London).....	30½

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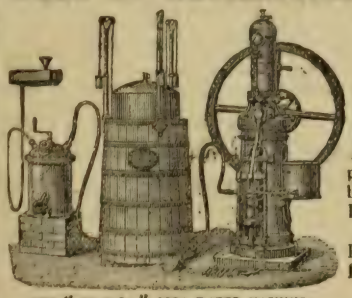

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"VAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 20TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PAK and two other Korean refugees have reached Tokyo.

THE *Bon matsuri* was a very quiet affair in Yokohama this year.

IT is stated that a Government Iron Factory will be established at Moji.

A SHORT earthquake shock was experienced in Yokohama on Wednesday evening.

CHOLERA is raging at Söul, Jinsen, and Wiju; it has been stamped out at the Pescadores.

THE authorities proposed to enforce the Admonition Law against the disorderly military coolies.

THE *Chishima-Ravenna* case is set down for hearing in H.B.M. Court for Japan, for October 14th.

THE diving and swimming competitions of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place on Tuesday, in dull, cheerless weather. Ross, last year's winner, again pulled off the Quarter Mile Handicap.

THE closing exercises of Mrs. Draper's Blind School have led to the augmentation of its funds by $111.75.

MR. KUSAKA YOSHIO, Governor of Fukushima, has been appointed a Resident Minister (unattached).

FORTY-SEVEN politicians of the Opposition are about to stump the country in support of the anti-Cabinet agitation.

THE half-yearly returns of the Foreign trade of Japan show an increase of 12,719,332 *yen*, in exports and imports.

YÜ KËNG, a Manchu, and a protégé of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, has been appointed Chinese Minister to Japan.

THE Hirano Cotton Spinning Co., Osaka, has declared a dividend of 20 per cent. per annum for the past half-year.

A BASEBALL naval nine met a shore team on the Cricket-ground on Monday, and came out the victors by five runs.

COUNT AND COUNTESS INOUYE, left Yokohama on Sunday for Korea. They passed through the Straits of Shimonoseki on Thursday.

THE *Moji Maru*, which was lately damaged and partially sunk by the *Toyo Maru* at Shimonoseki, was floated on the 12th inst.

KAWAKAMI OTOJIRO, leader of the *soshi* actors, will leave for America in September next to inquire into theatrical matters there.

VISCOUNT MIURA, who is spoken of as the successor to Count Inouye in Korea, is expected to leave Tokyo for the peninsula in August.

A SPINNING factory with a plant of 30,000 spindles, and with its motive power supplied by water is to be started in the Hakone district.

A COMMEMORATIVE stone was placed in position at the new French Consulate on Sunday, the Russian Consul assisting at the interesting ceremony.

MR. KUSUMOTO MASATAKA, President of the Lower House, will, it is expected, be shortly made a Baron, and given a post as Court Councillor.

A VERY uninteresting game of cricket was played on the 13th inst. It was a bowler's day, one man taking seven wickets at a cost of two runs apiece.

MR. MIYOSHI GAKU, a *shizoku* of Gifu, has had the degree of doctor of philosophy (*Rigaku-hakase*) conferred on him by the Minister of Education.

THE French National Holiday on Sunday last passed off very quietly. At half-past twelve the Russian warship *Mandjur* fired a complimentary salute.

THE "Baltimore" Minstrels' Entertainment cleared $303, which has been given to the Ladies' Benevolent Society and the Yokohama Charity Organization.

A PARTY of fifty-five physicians and nurses belonging to the Red Cross Society of Japan left the capital for Formosa on the 13th inst. to join the Imperial Guards.

MR. HANABUSA, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, has been appointed Chief of the Bureau of Court Auditors, Viscount Tanaka, a Court Councillor and Chief of the Bureau of Court Auditors, succeeding him as Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household.

MAJOR-GENERAL FUKUHARA, who has been staying at Chinchow for some time, was attacked by cholera there on the 11th instant, and died the following day.

THE Grace Hawthorne Company has been attracting good houses to the Public Hall during the week. "Lady Windermere's Fan," was their best all round performance.

THE subjugation of Formosa progresses slowly, strong opposition being encountered, and the transport of troops by sea to the south of the island being rendered almost impossible by the monsoon.

THE boycott of Chinese in Yokohama has entered a new phase. Some Japanese caught dealing with the Chinese firms have been violently assaulted by the guards set to watch and prevent such proceedings.

CHOLERA now prevails in 26 different localities, but has not developed great force anywhere, owing to the strenuous efforts of the sanitary authorities. The total number of seizures up to the 17th instant was 7,305, and the number of deaths 4,376, a rate of mortality amounting to 60 per cent.

REUTER telegraphs that the British elections are going in favour of the Unionists: and that there is little excitement in the country. Sir Wm. Vernon Harcount has been defeated at Derby; Mr. A. J. Balfour is rëelected by large majority at Manchester. Lord Knutsford, Secretary of State for the Colonies, and the Rt. Hon. H. Matthews, Q.C., Home Secretary in the last Cabinet of Lord Salisbury, have been created Viscounts, and Sir Henry James has been raised to the Peerage. Sir Richard Webster has been made Attorney-General, the post he held in Lord Salisbury's last administration. An Italian squadron of ten men-of-war has arrived at Portsmouth, where they met with a most hearty reception. The railway between Pretoria and Delagoa Bay has been opened. The correspondent of the *Standard* at Berlin positively re-affirms that the extension of the Siberian Railway through Manchuria has been definitely agreed upon.

THE usual slackness that takes place during the *Bon* festival has added its quota to the dullness of the Import trade, and Yarns and Grey Cloths have been in so little request that the business has hardly been sufficient to test prices. Fancy Cottons are neglected, but a weakening of prices for Turkey Reds has led to some small transactions. There is nothing doing in Woollens, and the trade is not likely to revive for some time. There is nothing to report in the Metal trade. The deliveries of Kerosene continue fair. A large sale of "Comet" is reported, but we cannot confirm the transaction. There is a current business in Sugar at late rates, and a fair amount of stock to work upon. Since last week, prices for Raw Silk have fallen, and some large parcels have been taken, holders being prepared to go on at current rates, and at the end of the week quite an extensive business was put through at somewhat reduced figures. Very little done in Waste Silk, holders entertaining an exaggerated idea of the value of the poor stuff forming the greater part of the stock on hand. There has been considerable activity in the Tea trade, full prices being paid, and holders still remain strong for the leaf on offer, which does not total a great amount. Exchange has been fairly steady, and rates close without much alteration.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The extreme sections of the Opposition are still making desperate attempts to foment agitation on the subject of the return of Liaotung. The politicians of this coterie are about to undertake a lecture tour through the Provinces of the North-East, and afterwards along the Tokaido. But this device does not seem likely to serve their purpose except, perhaps, as a means of keeping up an appearance of activity. Their organs in Tokyo continue to complain about the public's want of sympathy with their cause. The *Kokkai*, which used to be a moderate and reasonable paper, but which, under the editorship of Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, is rapidly becoming an organ of the Cabinet's bitterest enemies, makes a strong appeal to the people in the provinces to render support to the Opposition politicians, who are about to engage in a death struggle with the Government in the coming session of the Diet. Our contemporary alleges that the policy proposed by these politicians has elicited most hearty sympathy among the citizens of Tokyo, but complains that no enthusiasm has thus far been manifested by the people in the country. The latter are, therefore, earnestly counselled to imitate the conduct of their fellow countrymen in the capital and extend whole-hearted support to their Representatives, for without such support the Diet will be powerless in the impending contest with the Cabinet. Appearances indicate that the provincial population is following the example of the Capital in wisely keeping aloof from the inconsiderate agitation projected by the Progressionists and their allies.

* * *

The Radical Party's positive declaration of opposition to any collision with the Cabinet on the Liaotung question, and the news that a similar attitude will be maintained by the National Unionists, have been severe blows to the Progressionists and their allies. The exasperated organs of the extremists are trying to discredit the Radicals and the National Unionists by denouncing them as tools of those in power and as traitors to the people's cause. The Radical organ, the *Jiyu Shimbun*, by way of reply to its Party's detractors, writes as follows:—"The Radical Party has decided upon a definite course of action. Formerly criticised as being extreme and violent, our Party now enjoys a reputation for moderation and practicality. Some people say that the Radical Party has lost its bones. We need scarcely reply to such an error. Our critics seem incapable of perceiving that the exigencies of the time do not permit rash and fickle conduct; neither can they understand the true nature of the policy adopted by our Party for the future development of Japan as a great Power." We may note, here that the *Jiyu* does not always write in this tone. It is eminently inconsistent and extravagant, and we are very often tempted to doubt whether it has any intimate connection with the great Party it professes to represent. The Radical leaders would do well either to effect thorough changes in the editorial staff of the *Jiyu*, or to establish an entirely new organ. There is no reason why a Party like the *Jiyu-to* should not be able to maintain a creditable journalistic representative.

* * *

The apprehension that their victories in China might make the Japanese overbearing in their conduct toward foreigners, has been proved to lack foundation. But it could scarcely have been expected that they could be entirely proof against the temptation to form a more or less extravagant estimate of their country's wealth and power. This tendency, though not yet very marked, offers a theme for timely warnings by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Nippon*. The *Nichi Nichi* remarks that the sudden prominence attained by this country as a civilized military Power, and the extravagant style in which Japan is praised and admired by the Occidental press, are calculated to be anything but beneficial to the Japanese themselves, who may thus be induced to entertain too high an opinion of their capacities. The great noise made in Europe and America about Japan, only shows how low she had formerly been rated abroad. Her present reputation is a reaction against the extremely poor position she formerly held in the estimation of foreign nations. The Japanese are earnestly recommended to regard the empty praises of the west at their true value, and guard against the ruinous vices of pride and extravagance. The *Nichi Nichi* notes that no tendency to form a mistaken and exaggerated estimate of their country's real power is observable among the officers and men in the Army and Navy, or among those that have had any share in the control of diplomatic affairs. Such a mistake is limited to men that have had nothing to do either with fighting or with diplomacy. These persons are recommended to carefully peruse the Imperial Rescripts issued immediately after the war, in which His Majesty enjoins moderation and perseverance. Many important measures have to be carried out before Japan can truly lay claim to the position of a first class Power. To be satisfied with what she has already achieved is to remain small and comparatively insignificant.

* * *

The *Nippon* writes in a similar strain, though from a different standpoint. It seems to believe that the Government, or at least the principal members of it, are in danger of being unduly puffed up by the favourable notice given to this country in the West. The signal successes obtained by Japan have doubtless caused astonishment abroad. But that sentiment will certainly be followed by a reaction when Europeans and Americans are thoroughly awakened to the weakness of China. Moreover, the *Nippon* thinks that the praises showered upon Japan by European journals are not necessarily expression of the true opinions entertained by the writers about Japanese civilization and strength. "Are they not the Russians that say the ugliest things about our country, and do not the English papers, on the whole, show a disposition to praise and admire us? It is not difficult to perceive that international denunciation or admiration is really a matter of accident." With this enigmatical comment, the *Nippon* advises its countrymen to devote their energy to the increase of the national strength without paying the slightest attention to what outsiders may say about them.

* * *

The Korean question continues to occupy a prominent position in the columns of the metropolitan papers. Articles on this subject contain little that calls for special notice. On the whole they are a repetition of what has always been urged by the press. It is, however, worth while to summarize briefly a series of articles in the *Jiji Shimpo*. In the first of these, our contemporary deeply regrets that the Japanese in Korea are prone to be overbearing and rough towards Koreans, some of the younger bloods even offering insults to Korean Ministers of State. The *Jiji* earnestly recommends its countrymen in the peninsula to be more considerate and self-respecting in their behaviour. At the same time it urges the Japanese Government to delegate to Consuls in Korea fuller authority to deal with the *soshi* that seem to be swarming in Söul. In a second article, the difficult situation of the Korean Government is pointed out, and compared with that existing in Japan in pre-Restoration days. Our contempory thinks it a mistake to regard the task of Korean regeneration as hopeless, for just as Japan successfully emerged from the ordeal, Korea may finally prove herself capable of independence and progress. Patience and perseverance are strongly recommended to all concerned with the difficult task. In the third and last article, the *Jiji* discusses the importance of promoting education in Korea. While slowly but steadily assisting the Korean Government in the task of general reform, Japan should pay special attention to the question of education. There are various methods of infusing knowledge into Korean minds; such, for instance, as the establishment of common schools, the publication of newspapers, the inauguration of public lectures, and so forth. But the most effective plan would be to send students to Japan and have them educated according to modern systems. The number of Korean students now in Japan is a little over a hundred. The *Jiji* thinks that at least a thousand should be sent here, and it recommends that they be educated at the expense of Japan. Estimating the annual expense at 200 *yen* per student, the total sum required would be only 200,000 *yen*, an amount that Japan can very well spare for the sake of her poverty-stricken neighbour. Petty as the outlay would be, its results would be large, and Japan would be more than recompensed by the strengthening of her position in Korea, politically and commercially. The *Jiji* writes very warmly about this matter.

* * *

The report that Russia and France have obtained from China promises of cessions of territory in consideration of certain diplomatic services rendered by them, has not been left unnoticed by the Japanese press. Complete credence is not attached to the story, but the metropolitan papers, strange to say, see nothing improbable in it. They declare, however, that apart from the disastrous consequences of such transactions to China herself, Japan and other Powers have an undoubted right to protest against any proceedings of the kind on the part of Russia and France. Should the intelligence prove true, the Japanese Government is urgently called upon to enter a formal protest against the fulfillment of China's promises. One journal, the *Choya Shimbun*, seems to entertain little doubt about the truth of the report. The assembling of the British fleet at Wladivostock is connected by our contemporary with a diplomatic complication said to have arisen between England and Russia in consequence of the latter's attempt to obtain a large slice of land in Kashgar. Russia, in the *Choya's* opinion, will not surrender such a prize easily, and the course of the negotiations on the subject is likely to be fraught with serious danger to the peace of the East.

* * *

The *Nippon*, the *Mainichi*, and the *Kokkai* urge the Government to be quick in suppressing the insurgents in Formosa. The *Mainichi* suggests that the Japanese troops in Formosa are not fired by the ambition that made their comrades in the north so strong—namely the desire to get to Pekin. That, our contemporary thinks, accounts in a measure for the tardiness shown in the reduction of the island. The *Kokkai* directs its attention to the question of the development of Formosa's commercial and industral resources. Much of the trade of island is in the hands of foreigners. Our contemporary believes that keen competion is inevitable between them and the Japanese, and that victory will ultimately rest with the latter. But in order to secure such a result, the *Kokkai* thinks it necessary that the Japanese should be early in the field. It urges the Government to remove the restrictions now placed upon the emigration of private individuals to Formosa.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

POLITICAL ECONOMY IN JAPAN.

WORKS on Political Economy were the first to be translated into Japanese after the Restoration. Japanese students of this science can now study in their own language the works of most of the leading European and American writers, especially those of England and the United States. The latest addition to the Japanese literature of Economy is a translation of the "Philosophy of Wealth," by Professor J. B. Clark, of Amherst, Mass. The translation is by Mr. Hamada Bunkichi, of the Aoyama Ei-Wa Gakko, under the general superintendence of Prof. J. O. Spencer of the same institution. The price being only 28 *sen*, this valuable work is brought within reach of every student. It has a brief but interesting sketch of the American author, and an equally interesting preface

by Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, Editor of the *Keizai Zasshi*. Mr. Taguchi welcomes the translation. He begs leave to differ from the author on a few points, especially in connection with free competition, but on the whole he regards the work in the light of an inestimable reinforcement of his own school of Economics. He is especially delighted with Professor Clark's definition of Political Economy as the science of wealth, and his criticism of the prevalent erroneous notions of the English school of writers on this subject. One of the principal complaints of Mr. Taguchi against the English economists is that they are not consistent and thorough-going in their advocacy of the doctrine of Free Trade, because they admit the necessity of protection in new countries. It is owing to this circumstance, says Mr. Taguchi, that Japanese disciples of the English writers very often turn out Protectionists of the most advanced type. A devoted advocate of Free Trade, Mr. Taguchi thinks it necessary to counteract the influence of the English school of economists in Japan.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE No. 110, dated the 15th instant, announces that some changes have been made in the amounts of pensions attached to the Order of the Golden Kite. The following table shows the new and the old scale :—

	New Scale. Yen.	Old Scale. Yen.
First class	1,500	900
Second class	1,000	650
Third class	700	400
Fourth class	500	210
Fifth class	300	140
Sixth class	200	90
Seventh class	100	65

These changes have been made in order to preserve a due ratio between the pensions attached to this Order and those attached to the Order of the Rising Sun.

EMIGRATION AT RANDOM.

WE translate the following from the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* :—

We are told by statisticians of unquestioned learning and profound research that the world is rapidly increasing in the number of those who dwell under the style of "human beings" upon its surface. If we remember correctly, it is calculated that $1\frac{1}{2}$ human beings die in each second of time, while $1\frac{3}{16}$ are born. Moreover, as sanitation is making vast and rapid progress, hygiene better understood now than ever before, and the medical science learning each year to cope more and more successfully with diseases that have hitherto decimated mankind, the average duration of human life is unquestionably growing greater. In a word, life is prolonged to an average extent unknown to history hitherto, while, as a whole, each generation is far more numerous than the last, far healthier, and far better able to struggle with the great problem of existence. Under these circumstances, as Camille Flammarion, the great French astronomer, has recently predicted, a time will come when the products of the earth as we now know them will cease to be sufficient nourishment for the teeming, seething multitudes which will encumber the earth's surface. Even now the great mammals and reptiles are fast disappearing under the masterful approach and attack of conquering man; the extinction of the fur-seal is only a question of a few years; the buffalo, once the lord of the American plains, has entirely disappeared, only a few private herds being kept in the parks of wealthy land-owners; the Australian kangaroo is doomed to speedy extinction; the elephant, greatest and most sagacious of terrestrial mammals, is on "its last legs" in Africa, where indiscriminate slaughter for the sake of ivory (the commercial demand for which is always getting larger, despite the adventitious aid of celluloid and the ivory-like fruit of certain South American trees) goes on unrestricted; the whale, the greatest and least well protected mammal of our age—which will be known as the "whale age" in the zoological history of the future—is being driven from its time-honoured haunts, and it rapidly becoming scarcer; the whole race of beautiful African antelopes is nearing an end; and so on with scores of other animals, who have paid with their lives the fact of their usefulness to man from an economic standpoint, or else the fact of their impeding the supreme, selfish and wholly hard-hearted, matter-of-fact spread of the human race. The mountains are being denuded of their forests. In the United States the relentless axe of the settler combined with vast forest conflagrations started by some unfortunate spark from his nomadic hearth, have denuded enormous tracts of territory of their once luxuriant growth of tree-life, wholly changing, in some cases, the climatic aspects of the country, and making a dry, arid soil where once was a fertile and rich earth. The stores of coal, the fossil forests of bygone ages, have been treated in a no less thoughtless manner. They have been wasted in a thousand thoughtless ways, and the race will in a few centuries more have completely exhausted this precious deposit of light and heat, necessitating the use of other, not so easily obtainable fuel. And just at this point I cannot refrain from inveighing against the indiscriminate export of coal from Japan, alien though this be to my theme. Readily obtainable wealth is always most tempting to us frail men; and so one can sympathise with the owners of local coal-mines in attempting to find—as indeed they readily do—a market for the precious black diamonds outside the borders of this Empire. But as it has been proved, time and again, that the coal deposits of Japan are by no means of enormous magnitude, and that, even under favourable circumstances, it can hardly be expected that they should last for more than a century or thereabouts, I hold that it is a most short-sighted and unpatriotic proceeding to sell Japanese coal recklessly to extra-territorial consumers. The great-grand-children of the present generation will have to rue the greed and covetousness of their progenitors if this sort of thing is permitted to go on undisturbed.

In the foregoing there is ample reason, for one thing, for the territorial greed so conspicuously characteristic of European nations. They may seek—indeed they do so seek—to cover their annexations with the cloak of civilization, alleging either that they take this or that less powerful nation because of the misrule prevalent within its borders; or because they desire to teach it civilization; or perhaps because some one more of their adventurous subjects has been maltreated within its limits and the wholly preposterous and absurdly enormous indemnity claimed is not promptly forthcoming. There is no lack of excuses when a man is determined to act according to his pleasure, be that pleasure justifiable or not; and how much more in the case of a powerful European nation, always ready to enforce its arguments with shot and shell. The process is well put in the words of an intelligent Chinaman :—"The methods employed by you foreigners," he exclaimed, "are childishly simple, they all end in one thing: territorial annexation. First some missionaries come as the pioneers of civilization. They mean well, I do not doubt, but this is the beginning of the end; for soon a consul comes to look after the missionaries; then a gunboat to look after the consul—and there you are!" But unjust as European methods in this direction certainly are—flagrant breaches of international law and the rights of the individual—they are undoubtedly dictated by the fact that the growing home-populations require broader fields and newer pastures. The policy which dictates the seizure of this or that group of islands is not so much one of duplicity as it is one of actual necessity. The overflowing millions in the home-land must find some outlet, where the struggle for existence is less fierce and competition less keen. In some cases, however, I am quite willing to admit, the greed for territory is not the result of such inevitable circumstances. The population of France, for example, is almost stationary: the growth is so slow that the Government has enacted provisions which really amount to a premium on immorality or illegitimately begotten children. A husbandless mother—of whom there are tens of thousands in the fair Republic—is certain to receive 10 francs each month for every son she begets, no matter who the father is. Her only duty is to give this son up to the military forces of the Government so soon as he arrives at the weapon-bearing age. And yet, in spite of all this, France is insatiable in her territorial greed. She will have Madagascar, regardless of the fact that her vast Cochin Chinese possessions are sparsely inhabited and inflict a huge annual loss on the Treasury; she would have Formosa and wrest that fair Island from its geographically and historically righteous lords, the Japanese. Russia is not one whit less culpable in this matter; if anything her methods are harsher, more tyrannical, more inexcusable. If nothing else, let Japan teach the French that she, albeit until recently flippantly called an "uncivilized nation," will never use her power to seize from the weak their proper belongings; that she will grasp no territory but that won as the guerdon of a righteous war; that in her dealings with all Eastern Asiatic nations, she means to be, and seeks to be, just.

One of the most interesting phases of Japan's modern regeneration is to be found in the sudden and surprising increase in her population. It has been often alleged that "soap and Western civilization" are absolutely poisonous to non-developed or semi-barbaric nations. It has proved true in the case of the Australian aborigines, the Tasmanians, Maoris, Hawaiians, North American Indians, and a host of other mentally retrogressive or unprogressive peoples. But as far as Japan is concerned, contact with the outer world has meant popular emancipation from shackles of galling caste and prejudice; "soap," or personal cleanliness in other words, is one of the most eminent characteristics of the Japanese. Individually as well as a race they are the cleanest of clean nations, and may well, in this respect, teach Europe and America a needed lesson. While as for what the Western world terms "civilisation," Japan has shown in the recent war with China qualities for which we might vainly seek in more than half of the haughty little kingdoms and empires of Europe. So instead of suffering from her contact with the Occident, Japan has markedly increased in strength in every direction. It follows that this Island Empire is growing slowly but surely too small in its dimensions for the numbers that dwell within its borders. There must be an outlet.

I need not here dwell on the various and mistaken attempts to colonise Hokkaido; yet I cannot refrain from making a passing reference to Lieut. Gunji's brave, though from a foreign standpoint visionary scheme, with regard to the Southernmost Kuriles (Chishima). The Japanese although they have the blood of hardy northerners in their veins, are not, in my humble opinion, constitutionally fitted for prolonged sojourn and exhausting labour in a cold climate. There is too much of the tropic in their natures to let them grow acclimatized amidst the rigours of a semi-arctic winter. Now that Formosa has become once again—for I hold, in common with certain Japanese historiographers, that the greatest of Japan's female monarchs was originally the sovereign of a certain easily definable tract in Southern Formosa—the prospects of emigration to that island are much more promising; under Japanese administration and with Japanese colonists Formosa's great potential wealth ought to make the island the most precious possession of the Crown. Yet the object of the present article is not to invite attention to the "Beautiful Island;" it is rather to show that emigration to Mexico and particularly to the great Peninsula opposite that Republic, is not consistent with either reason or even the dictates of ordinary prudence. During my last sojourn in the United States, I not only heard these matters thoroughly discussed, but had opportunities to thoroughly acquaint myself with the nature of the territory which seems to be the "happy hunting-ground" of speculators and emigration-visionaries. I refer to that great stretch of land marked on the map as "Lower California," and which on nearly every but an ordnance map, we shall find delineated as a blank space, something like certain interior parts of Africa—without rivers, mountains, or towns.

In order to treat this subject with clearness and justice, let us for a moment examine two points :—(1) the condition of Southern California from the emigrants' point of view; and (2) the condition of the Japanese now actually resident in that part of the world.

1.—It is quite true that as we travel southwards along the littoral of Southern California we come across many prosperous towns, great vineyards, and excellent pasture lands. We find the flourishing cities of Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, San Luis, and San Diego. But on advancing towards the interior we shall find, outside of a tropic and almost unbearable heat, a strange aridity of the soil—a desert bordering on a paradise. Irrigation is the first and greatest problem of settlers. With plenty of water, tens of thousands of acres that have lain waste for centuries, indeed perhaps for thousands of years, have been reclaimed and now form one of the "garden spots" of the world. But the difficulty in obtaining a sufficiency of water is vast and well-nigh insurmountable; possible indeed only to united capital of great dimensions and forming an undertaking of gigantic magnitude. Port Yuma, on the Colorado River, at the juncture of the borders of the States of California and Arizona and of Mexico, is notorious as being the hottest and most insalubrious of military posts. In its way it is the counterpart of Fort Aamca in British India—a place cursed alike by gods and men. To give a sportive example of the torrid heat of this place, a certain story is well-known in American military circles. It is narrated that a very wicked soldier once died at Port Yuma. Of course his soul travelled at once to the infernal regions, represented as being a lake of fire. But his friends were surprised at

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receiving a telegram from him from hell, begging them to send him some blankets, as the temperature in the infernal regions was incomparably colder than that of Fort Yuma! We have, then, already two very objectionable features, the lack of water and an unusually high temperature. To these should be added two other decided drawbacks, the enmity of the local settlers, and the rapacity and greed of those engaged in the sale or transfer of real estate. That the former presents a well-nigh insurmountable obstacle—no matter what may be urged to the contrary—is the unfortunate experience of those who have chosen this part of the world as a home. For in speaking of Japanese emigrants, I do not refer to such as are going out to foreign lands under contract or with the positive assurance of a monthly stipend; true emigrants I take to be those who go to win a livelihood from the soil of their adoption; agriculturists in particular, and then craftsmen and artisans of various kinds. As agriculturists, some of the readers of this magazine may know that Japanese emigrants have proved dismal failures in California, simply because of the intense race-feeling against Mongolians, with whom, though quite unjustifiably, the Japanese are confounded by ignorant Americans. Of course, there are occupations —steady work often—open to Japanese fruit-pickers who are, on account of their steadiness and diligence, preferred even to Caucasians; but when it comes to fields tilled, sown, and reaped by Japanese hands for Japanese profit, the experiment has been proved a failure. And while I am on this subject I cannot refrain from repeating here what I have so often written in English and American journals as well as declaimed from the lecturer's stand: I cannot and do not approve of impecunious Japanese youths travelling to the United States to serve in a menial capacity, as cooks, waiters, household servants. It is inevitable that they should do this, under the circumstances; but I hold that for the majority of the Japanese in California to be menials is equivalent to giving the American people a very poor idea of Japanese society and to accustom Westerners in general to look down upon the race. There are now over 3,000 Japanese in San Francisco alone, and examination will show that by far the majority of these hard-working men are nothing better than servants. Is takes years to escape from this thraldom, and while in it there is the constant likelihood of the bread-winner becoming contaminating by the evils of the low-class people with whom his lot necessarily throws him. Surely Japanese youths do not wish to rank in American esteem on the same level with Chinamen, low Irish, and starveling emigrants from the petty European States! These reflections being us to the second point; the condition of the Japanese now actually in California. In my opinion—I trust I may be mistaken, but I base it on trustworthy information as well as personal inspection—the lot of the Japanese in that state is far from enviable. There are, I am happy to acknowledge, exceptions to the general rule; but as a class the Japanese rank low. This is not as it should be! A nation which can produce a Kitasato, an Odera, or a Yamaji, should not be confounded with money-grubbing Chinamen or place-seeking Irish! Japanese students have, in several cases, left enviable records behind them in the best American scholastic institutions; they have won name and fame under adverse circumstances, and often while struggling up through the direst poverty. Then surely it must be a blow to Japanese self-esteem to find their brethren in San Francisco striving with indigent Chinese to obtain positions as servants and scullions. To me, with my intense love for Japan and admiration for her greatness, such things have always caused a sense of bitter injustice somewhere.

Leaving the State of California, let us go a step farther south, to that strange and great peninsula know as Lower California—Mexican territory indeed, but wholly Californian in general aspects. Roughly speaking the length is about 1,600 kilometres (say 650 miles), with a breadth of 150 miles at the broadest and 50 miles at the narrowest portion. The Tropic of Cancer runs through the southernmost portion. Lying between the 22 and 32 degrees of latitude, one would naturally expect to find the peninsula one of the garden spots of the world. Moreover, this expectation is strengthened by the fact that the "Gulf of California," which lies between the Peninsula and the Mexican Mainland, is filled with delightful and luxuriantly verdant little islands, a mass of tropic floral beauty that has hardly a counterpart in any quarter of the globe. Similarly if we look at the West Coast we find about midway up and close to the coast the fine island of Cerros; somewhat farther away to the north and west lies Guadalupe Island, once a noted sea-station of those Spanish galleons, half-piratical and wholly unscrupulous, which were, two or three centuries ago, the undisputed naval monarch of the Pacific Ocean. Despite all these pleasing indications on either side of the Peninsula, its true inland character is amply and promptly demonstrated by two fatal phenomena just beyond the Californian border. Directly Northwest of Fort Yuma, which, as already explained, lies close to the Mexican frontier and a little to the east of the border-line of the Peninsula, is a lake known as the "Great Dry Lake," whose scanty waters fail to give life to the arid ground around it. Farther north again lies another "Dry Lake," just below the 35th parallel of latitude. Here the whole country presents a mass of burnt-out water-courses, and a sparse vegetation wherein only cacti are conspicuous—a plant ever indicative of a dry and sandy subsoil with rare rainfall. These are more than sufficient hints as to what is to be expected in the peninsula. It has, indeed, never been thoroughly explored, but we know none the less that beyond the fertile fringe of the sea-coast it is an arid land, parched for water, with a tropic temperature, and wholly unfit for human habitation under present conditions. And yet this forbidding ground was, during my last sojourn in the United States, about to fall into the hands of a syndicate desirous of causing Japanese to settle there! Indeed, I was approached on the subject and offers of a favourable nature were held out if I should join in the scheme. At first, I will frankly confess, the prospect dazzled me, for I saw that I might easily do the work required. But further inquiries showed that the land was absolutely unsuited for the purpose intended; that it might serve to kill off Japan's surplus population, but never to find them new homes. I learned, too, that several fruitless attempts had been made to colonize certain portions of the peninsula, but the reports on these attempts were of the most discouraging nature. And so I would here most forcibly dissuade all intending emigrants, both now and in future, from having aught to do with "Lower California." No place in "Darkest Africa" could, in my opinion, be more forbidding and hopeless than this Peninsula. There are, of course, some few fertile tracts, but these are far between and more than damned by the proximity of waste deserts unsuited for agricultural purposes: the home of the venomous *Crotalers horridus*, the dreaded rattlesnake whose bite is death in torments. Even the Indians fear these untrodden wilds, and where they go is often wholly unsuited to people of alien blood. It is possible, though I do not think it at all probable, that some settlements of fishers on the west coast might do well; people who depend on the sea for their food, and not on the land. But even in this case it is to be feared that the absence of good drinking water would prove a fatal drawback. At any rate I sincerely hope that the experiment will not be made on the bodies of Japanese citizens, who surely deserve a better fate than that of struggling against such obstacles in a strange land. We come finally to Mexico. Here, I know, I am treading on very delicate ground. I have been in that land, but personally know very little of it. Only a few days ago, however, I was speaking to a gentleman who had resided in the Republic for a long number of years, and was gratified to learn that his decided opinion was the counterpart of mine, in a word: Mexico is not suited for Japanese emigration! It would carry me beyond the limits of the present article were I to attempt to set forth the many and weighty seasons which have led me to form this opinion; but is none the less an opinion which, after mature consideration, I see no reason to alter. Once again, I would warn against indiscriminate emigration to this part of the world! Emigration at random is a thing which never pays. If done at all it should be done systematically, and not until the further possible inquiries have been made. Is this, then, the case with Mexico? Are the founders and supporters of that Emigration Society—and among them are gentlemen whose very names are synonymous with honesty, real patriotism, and commercial energy —quite sure that the land is all that it is represented to be? Tumuli have been found on the Mexican coast containing the bones and armour of Japanese warriors of ancient times, some adventurous spirits who had either found their way across the broad Pacific or else who had been driven thither by adverse winds and the well-known current that sweeps thither, south of the Hawaiian Archipelago. There are graves enough; no one cares to see fresh tombs of Japanese in that land! I would urge a much more thorough investigation into the subject; I would urge a much better understanding of the Mexican laws, and a definite reply as to whether Japanese citizens can live there with the same amount of freedom that they have enjoyed in their own country. And if, after all, some batches of emigrants do find their way to the Mexican shores, let us, I beg, await the result of their sojourn, of their labours, of their experience, before the irretrievable step is taken of sending large numbers of innocent people to a land of which they know practically nothing and where they will be compelled to live under surroundings wholly different from those to which they have been accustomed in Japan. Look at the disastrous result of the emigration scheme to New Caledonia! Everything was done on the part of the promoters of the scheme, both in France and Japan, to insure the safety and welfare of the emigrants. But has not disease carried off a large percentage of those who found their way thither and is the scheme not now confessedly impracticable and a huge failure? And who, pray, is responsible for the loss of life attendant upon this mistake? Who is responsible for the misery it has entailed upon several scores of Japanese citizens? The error lay in not ascertaining beforehand whether the climate and the environment would be suitable to Japanese. Has this point been ascertained with regard to the Mexican scheme? For it does not follow that where Spaniards may live Japanese can flourish also. The two peoples are entirely different. There is a variety of fever known to the medical world as the "Mexican fever," of malarial origin and almost ineradicable from the system of the sufferer. Putting other considerations aside, who is so bold as to declare that the Japanese will prove less liable to contract this wasting disease than some of their unfortunate brethren proved in the case of the deadly dysentery of New Caledonia? Are the emigrants to go to the Republic in the capacity of coolies? If not, before they make up their mind to try their fortunes in a new world, it certainly is before all things necessary to prove beyond the possibility of error or misconception that the land will be the Paradise they expect and not a yawning grave! Mexico is a beautiful country, a wilderness of fruit and flowers—but beneath that verdant coronal lurk diseases to which only the hardened, attenuated frames of the natives —those degenerate offspring of the highly civilized Aztecs and Toltepecs—refuse to succumb. No; I cannot believe that Mexico will prove a substitute even for the poorest but in Japan. In conclusion, I would add that the question of emigration to foreign lands is no longer the burning question it was last year. Formosa is now to be colonized and brought into a new era: one of a glory far eclipsing that of her ancient, honourable past. There is still something to be done in Hokkaido, if only maladministration and unscrupulous interference with or neglect of the wishes and needs of emigrants be avoided. The Pescadores are a mere fleck on the ocean, yet they can and will give occupation to the hardy Japanese fishermen of the southern provinces. Let these places be well populated first and brought under the civilizing influences of enlightened Japan. We need not trouble ourselves about Lower California, Mexico, or Peru at present!

THE "BIRKHALL" SUNK BY COLLISION.

A SERIOUS accident happened at Woosung at 6.20 p.m. on July 10th, when the steamer *Birkhall*, at anchor between the Lighthouse and the Prince's Jetty, was waiting for troops. The Chinese man-of-war *Wantai*, when getting under way on the ebb tide, with a pilot on board, took a sheer to starboard, and Captain Yung, seeing the danger, rang his engines full speed astern, but it was too late to avoid the collision, and she rammed the *Birkhall* just abaft the mainmast on the port side, sinking her in about a quarter of an hour. Fortunately nobody was drowned, but two of the *Birkhall's* crew were injured. Nobody saved anything. The *Wantai*, directly the accident happened, lowered all her boats, despatched them to the sinking vessel, and rendered all assistance possible, and great credit is due to Captain Yung, who is a stranger in these waters, for the efficient way in which he acted. The P. & O. steamer *Khedive* also rendered prompt assistance. The *Birkhall* lies in five fathoms just abreast of the Prince's Wharf. The pilot on board the *Wantai* at the time of the collision, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, was a native employed by the Nanyang squadron to pilot their vessel in and out. When he saw that a collision was inevitable, he tried to jump overboard and drown himself, and is now under arrest on board the *Wantai*. Capt. Yung, of this vessel, has only recently joined her. He was one of the American students educated at Yale University, and at the Battle of the Min in 1884, he was a lieutenant on board one of the vessels sunk by the French. When

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the Captains of the Nanyang squadron resigned during the recent war, owing to it having been rumoured that their ships were to proceed north to fight the Japanese, Captain Young volunteered, and was appointed to the command of the *Wantai*. The *Birkhall*, according to *Lloyd's Register*, is an iron vessel of 1,447 tons gross and 937 net. She was built at Aberdeen in 1878 and has five bulkheads. Her dimensions are:—Length 250ft. 6in., beam 32ft. 3in. and depth 17ft. 5in. Her engines are 140 h.p. nominal.

THE JAPANESE LEGATION IN PEKIN.

THE Pekin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, writes under date of the 5th instant:—

The Japanese Minister and suite reached Pekin on Saturday evening, the 22nd of June. They were received by Mr. Cheshire of the U.S. Legation and one other resident. They paid their visit to the Tsung-li Yamên on the 25th and were well received and the Prince (Kung) and several Ministers repaid the visit at the Japanese Legation on the 27th. After paying their visits to the Tsung-li Yamên, the Japanese called round on all the Legations and also on Sir Robert Hart. The time of the Imperial audience is fixed for Sunday the 7th in the Wên-hua-tien, when the Minister and four of his suite are to be presented The Japanese suite consists of a naval and military attaché, a native Esculapius (who speaks German), a first secretary who speaks French; the Minister himself speaks English without the slightest accent. Japan reflects great credit upon herself by such a fortunate selection—she shows to China what she should do and knowing, foreign relations and having lived in Europe the Japanese officials cannot but impress the conservative Chinese officials favourably and lead them in the path of progress. China has not yet appointed a Minister to represent her at Tokyo. He has important duties to perform, as the treaty regarding the retrocession of Liaotung is to be negotiated at Tokyo by Count Ito and the Chinese Minister, and if China has any sense of her own dignity she will appoint a man capable of carrying through unaided these and all other negotiations. The case of the Minister to Japan is somewhat different from those sent to the West. There they are ignorant of the languages and employ legal advisers and secretaries of the countries to which they are accredited and who keep them from committing mistakes. They are the eyes, ears, and mouth, hands and feet of the Minister. The Minister to Japan speaks or at least writes the language of his own country which the Japanese understand, he is usually unaided in his official deliberations; he must necessarily be placed at a great disadvantage *vis-à-vis* the Japanese Ministers, who are all practical statesmen, and he will cut but a sorry figure among his colleagues from Western countries. Among the Japanese suite are two smart young fellows who are acting as correspondents for the three native papers, the *Kokumin*, the *Nichi Nichi*, and the *Jiji*. What a lesson for China in all this!

KOBE NEWS.

KOBE requires a new cemetery. The Cemetery Committee of the Municipal Council report that the space available in the present Burial Ground will, at the existing rate of mortality, be sufficient for the next two years. Should, however, the number of foreign residents sensibly increase or any special fatality be experienced, it is quite possible that fresh provision may be required at even an earlier period. The matter is to be referred to the Japanese Authorities.

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The Municipal lock-up appears, from a discussion in the Kobe Municipal Council, to be insufficient in point of accommodation and efficiency. Mr. Enslie remarked that it was attributable to the shipping particularly that they had a greatly increased number of prisoners shut up from time to time in the Municipal cells. During the last twelve months there had been 120 prisoners, and unfortunately he, as British Consul, was the largest contributor. He had committed 86. Originally the building was simply intended as a lock-up; now he suggested that the Police Committee might report at some future meeting whether it was not possible to institute some more rigorous system of supervision. The prisoners were locked up at night and released during the day-time; from 6.30 in the morning till 6 at night in winter and 7 in summer, their movements were entirely free (within the prison precincts). Thus the penalty inflicted was reduced to a minimum under these inevitable circumstances. Mr. St. John Brown was not in favour of spending Municipal money upon the gaol, and the subject dropped.

GRADUATION AT THE GAKUSHU-IN.

THE graduation exercises of the Gakushu-In (Nobles' School for Boys) took place on the 15th instant at the Akasaka Detached Palace, which was specially arranged for the purpose. The certificates were handed to the successful boys by Prince Konoye, President of the institution, who also delivered an instructive address to the graduates. He was thanked by the representatives of the Higher, Middle, and Preparatory Courses. A cold collation was then served to the guests, among whom were H.I.H. Prince Kanin Kotohito, Count Saigo, Minister, and Rear-Admiral Ito, Vice-Minister of the Navy; Vice-Admiral Ito, Chief of the Bureau of Naval Command; Lieut.-General Yamaji, Commander-in-Chief of the First Army Division; Mr. Makino, Vice-Minister of Education; Count Higashikuze, Vice-President of the Privy Council; Viscount Soga, Mr. Hanabusa, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household; Mr. Hamao, President of the Imperial University; Mr. Kiba, Chief of the Bureau of General School Affairs; Prince Tokugawa, Marquises Daigo and Soga, and others.

DEPARTURE OF COUNT INOUYE.

THE Japanese Minister to Korea and Countess Inouye left Shinagawa at 6.25 a.m. yesterday. Amongst those who assembled at the station to bid them farewell, were Viscount Enomoto, Count Matsukata, Marquis Saionji, Viscount Sugi, Mr. Hanabusa, Mr. Ito Miyoji, Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, Mr. Okuda, Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives; the Vice-Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Army, Navy, Finance, Justice, Home Affairs, Communications, and Agriculture and Commerce, and many other leading officials of various Departments. Counts Ito, Yamagata, Kuroda, and Saigo, Viscount Nomura, Lieut.-General Miura, and a few others accompanied them to Yokohama, where they went on board the M.M. steamer *Yarra*.

MR. HUBBARD.

HERE is a column from the *Nashville Banner* that may be re-published without comment:—

So eloquent and so well-known a man as ex-Minister Hubbard, lecturing on so interesting a subject as Japan, should have had a larger audience at the Tabernacle last night, but for some undefined reason the Nashville public did not exhibit its usual appreciation of such an entertainment, and those who had the pleasure and profit of listening to the distinguished Texan were few in number.

The lecturer has an exceptionally fine voice, and he bore out fully the generous reputation for command of language and a rare gift of humour that has long distinguished him in his own State, and exhibitions of which have occasionally been vouchsafed the outer world.

Ex-Gov. Hubbard presided over the Democratic National Convention which nominated Mr. Cleveland for the presidency in 1884 as its temporary Chairman, and he was afterwards remembered by the President in the bestowal of the Japan mission. In his lecture last night he described the voyage to Japan, the midnight wreck on the coast of that country which the ship conveying the Minister suffered, the prompt rescue by the very efficient Japanese life-saving-service and the cordial and hospital welcome that was accorded the rescued. He dwelt on the fact that the people of Japan have an affectionate esteem for the United States. The perennial verdure of Japan, its brilliant and multiform flora, which the frost, strangely, does not destroy, and the happy effects produced by the artistic and beauty-loving motives of its people were well described.

Minister Hubbard's official position brought him into a close relation with the Court and the prominent men of Japan whose fame had reached the outside during the recent war with China, and he gave some interesting character sketches of these interesting personages, including the young Emperor. He made some very humorous touches in describing the earthquakes they have in Japan.

A strong plea was made for closer commercial relations with Japan and the necessity of completing the Nicaragua Canal with that end in view. Japan in the future, he said, will buy a large portion of the cotton crop produced in the South. Since Japan's conquest of China thousands of miles of railroads will be built in the latter country, and all the steel and iron for the purpose would be furnished from America if the Nicaragua Canal were in operation.

The lecturer was quite severe in his criticism of those European powers whose intervention robbed Japan of the full fruits of her conquest of China.

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The following communication was handed to the *Banner* to-day by a missionary to Japan:—

It is most gratifying to all interested in the expansion of our trade with the Orient that ex-Gov. Hubbard, former United States Minister to Japan, is now delivering his lectures in the principal cities of our country.

His residence in the far East, his high position as the representative of our government, the friendly confidence and high respect won from the leading statesmen of the new Japan, all qualify him to speak as an authority upon the important question of our future commercial relations with Japan and China. I would that every Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade through this Southland could hear him upon the Nicaraguan Canal. He advocates the broad policy of international Christian comity and close commercial alliance with Japan.

He sees clearly that Japan and China must have cotton, iron, and steel, and that we are naturally in position to furnish these products. Our languishing cotton business would find an almost unlimited market if only that canal were cut through, placing all our South Atlantic and Gulf ports in direct connection with the Orient. As it now is, we are playing second fiddle to England and other European powers. To all personally acquainted with ex-Gov. Hubbard it is no surprise that he should have made so efficient and popular a Minister of the American government at the Court of Japan, or won the universal respect of his own people.

THE "NEW YORK TRIBUNE" AND THE WAR.

THE *New York Tribune* is exceedingly complimentary to Japan, as witness the following article:—

The world learned several new lessons in warfare from the recent struggle between Japan and China, and now the settlement of peace is equally instructive. Not in the memory of man has any other conquering Power imposed such terms upon its fallen foe. The rule has been that "to the victor belong the spoils," and usually the spoils have been taken in a manner calculated to humiliate the beaten nation as much as possible. Germany insisted upon marching her victorious legions through the streets of Paris, and crowned her Emperor in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles. France showed no generosity to Siam. Russia simply swallowed Turkestan, and would have done the same thing with Turkey had not England interfered. And as for England, a successful war means conquest and annexation every time. Japan, too, might have followed the same stern course. There was nothing to prevent her from taking Pekin and dictating terms of peace within the innermost precincts of the Forbidden City. Instead, she called a halt to her armies, and held upon her own soil the council for peace; and the whole tone of the negotiations was that of a conference between equals, instead of between victor and vanquished.

The terms of peace are, of course, favourable to Japan. But in no respect are they unduly humiliating to China; and they secure—apart, of course, from the indemnity and the cession of Formosa—no advantages for Japan which are not also freely extended to all the world. Korea must be independent; that is an international gain. China must relax some of her barbarous laws toward all foreigners as well as Japanese. China must open her harbours and rivers to the commerce not of Japan alone but of the world. China must permit the introduction of machinery, not merely from the shops of Japan, but from those of England and Germany and America as well. Japan, in brief, has simply done what for many years the European Powers have wanted to do, but have been too jealous of each other to do, she has "opened" China. But she has done so not as England or Germany or Russia would have done, for exclusive selfish gain, but for the common gain of the whole world.

In taking Formosa and some minor islands for her own she has, of course, effected some important self-aggrandizement But she has taken lands which geographically form a natural part of her Empire, and over which China's authority has been little more than nominal. The report that she will make Formosa autonomous is, if true, exceedingly interesting. That is not the way in which a conquered province is usually disposed of. A military dictatorship or a Crown colony system would seem more in order. But in this, as well as in the rest of the case, Japan sets a new example to the world. It may be that through her extraordinary political genius she will be able to make that savage and anarchic island peacefully self-governing, as she has within a few years transformed her own ancient despotism into a free representative government. She has done so many extraordinary things that it will not do to pronounce even this impossible.

But what a spectacle it all is! A few years ago, actually down to twelve months back, the European Powers were looking patronizingly upon Japan as an inferior nation existing only upon their sufferance, to be "worked" for their profit, and one day entirely disposed of as they pleased. Now, Japan takes rank as a first-class Power, and they must form a triple or quadruple league of self-defence against her, lest she take it in hand to dispose as she pleases of their Asian interests. It is the most striking example of the revivication of dead bones the world has ever seen.

A MYSTERIOUS AFFAIR.

WHILE the *Kohei-go*, formerly the *Kwang-ping*, now at Kure, was making a trial run along the coast of Kiushu on the 1st inst. an explosion of gunpowder took place in the furnace room. Seven persons were severely burnt, of whom five died the same day, and the other two are not expected to recover. The explosion originated among the coal in which the Chinese are supposed to have concealed some powder before the ship was handed over to the Japanese.

U.S.S. "BALTIMORE" MINSTRELS.

THE enjoyable and successful entertainment given by the "Baltimore" Minstrels in the Public Hall on the 8th inst., resulted in a net profit of $303, which has been most generously handed over by Mr. Charles Goss, the energetic Secretary of the Minstrels, to the Rev. E.

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Champneys Irwine for equal distribution between the Ladies' Benevolent Association and the Yokohama Charity Organization. The Committees of the Ladies' Benevolent Association and of the Yokohama Charity Organization now desire to express their cordial thanks to the U.S.S. *Baltimore* for this handsome addition to their funds, and for the kindly and spontaneous interest evinced by the U.S. Flagship in the relief of suffering and distress in the port.

A NON-CHRISTIAN STATE.

HERE is a passage affording much matter for thought. We take it from a review of Mr. H. Norman's latest work, "Problems of the Far East," the reviewer being the Honorable Reginald Brett, and the medium of publication, the *Contemporary Review*:—

Hitherto civilisation and Christianity have been held to be synonymous terms in the political vocabulary of Western Europeans, and although the Turks were at one time a military danger to Europe, and at all times a military force of some magnitude, they have never been admitted into the inner circle of civilised Christian States. For the first time since the reign of Charlemagne the Christian nations of Europe are beholding the rise of a powerful State that is, at the same time, highly civilised and not Christian. Side by side with the decay of Christian faith in England, in France, and in Germany, it is a portent full of significance. Those who amuse themselves by finding special characteristics in the arbitrary division of time into centuries, and who have faith in Christianity as a living force, may well look forward to the twentieth century with anxiety and alarm. Possibly Christ as a civilising missionary may have flufilled his predestined work in the history of human development. It is certain, as Mr. Norman points out, that in Asia a nation has arisen most highly civilised, powerful as a fighting force, and morally the equal of European States, with noble ideals that are not Christian ideals, and governed by sentiments and conceptions that have little in common with those of the New or even the Old Testament. In Howell's "State Trials" Lord Coke laid down as an axiom of law that, "if a king come to a Christian kingdom by conquest, he may at his pleasure alter and change the laws of that kingdom," but "if a Christian king should conquer a kingdom of an infidel, and bring them under his subjection, then *ipso facto* the laws of the infidel are abrogated, *for that they be not only against Christianity, but against the law of God and of Nature contained in the Decalogue.*" It is useless to endeavour to imagine the state of Lord Coke's mind had he been confronted with Mr. Norman's description of this infidel race of Japanese governed by "laws which will bear comparison with any in existence."

THE MINING FATALITY.

DETAILS of the terrible accident that took place at the Komatsu coal mine at Yugetamura, Tagawa-gun, Fukuoka Prefecture, on the 9th inst., show that the mine is owned by Mr. Katayama Itsuta, of Yugeta, and from sixty to seventy workmen were daily employed in mining coal. The accident occurred shortly before noon, and out of a little over sixty men, who were then working in the mine, forty-nine were buried beneath the *débris*. The recent persistent rains are said to have been the cause of the collapse of the roof. The extent of the land that fell in was very great, and the water poured through the breach so quickly that no means were available to rescue the imprisoned miners. It is stated that it will require forty days to pump the water from the mine, and sixty days to remove the *débris*. The loss caused by the accident is estimated at *yen* 80,000.

THE "YEBISU BEER" COMPANY.

THE half-yearly general meeting of shareholders of the Japan Beer Brewing Co., Tokyo, took place on the 13th inst. The receipts during the first half of this year amounted to *yen* 141,701.121, and the expenses to *yen* 118,707.715, leaving a profit of *yen* 22,993.406, to which *yen* 3,048.094 brought over from the previous account was added, making a total of *yen* 26,041.500. *Yen* 5,240 was deducted for the payment of expenses defrayed in starting the company, *yen* 1,300 added to the reserve fund, *yen* 3,900 voted as remuneration to officers, and *yen* 13,650 distributed among the shareholders as a dividend at the rate of 13 per cent. per annum, *yen* 1,951.500 being carried forward to the new account. The shareholders have agreed to add *yen* 300,000 to the capital.

FIRST CLASS MEDAL AWARDED.

IT is gratifying to learn that a first-class medal has been awarded at the Kyoto Exhibition for an article manufactured in Yokohama, namely, "Kirin Beer." This is not the first time, however, that the local company has scored in the matter of awards, for beside the *Jiji Shimpo* medal, one was awarded at the Tokyo Exhibition for the excellence of the "Kirin" brew.

SIR WILLIAM HARCOURT'S DEFEAT.

AT the last general elections Mr. Thomas Roe and Sir William Harcourt were returned for Derby by a majority of over 1,700 votes, and in the bye-election of August 24th, 1892, after taking office, Sir Wm. Vernon Harcourt was re-elected by a majority of nearly 5,000 votes. Mr. Balfour's majority at the last election was barely 400.

A STRANGE DISCOVERY.

IT is stated in the *Kokkai*, that a report reached the Office of Command in the First Army Division, from Shimonoseki on the 13th inst., to the effect that two men-of-war, one torpedo-boat and one transport have been discovered stranded in an unfrequented bay in the neighbourhood of Yingkow, and that the remains of over forty Chinese were on board the ships.

ARRIVAL OF PAK IN TOKYO.

THE three Korean refugees, Pak, Shin O-ki, and Li Kei-kan, arrived at Shinagawa on Thursday by a train which reached there at 4.52 p.m. The were accompanied by Messrs. Sasa Tomofusa and Shiba Shiro, who proceeded to Shimonoseki to receive the party. The Koreans put up at the residence of Mr. Fukuzawa at Mita.

LIGHTING THE COASTS.

AMONG the lighthouses to be erected during the present year, towers and machinery for Sado, Himezaki, Sakatajima in Ugo Province, and Sakawa in Hoki Province, have been completed at the Government factory in Yokohama, and will be forwarded to their respective sites at no distant date.

SCHEME OF RELIEF FOR THE DISTRESSED FAMILIES OF THOSE KILLED IN WAR.

THE following subscriptions have been received:

Mr. E. Dunn.....	$25.00	Captain Brinkley	$10.00
Mr. G. Lowther..	20.00	Mr. J. Conder ...	5.00
Captain Munter..	10.00	Mr. A. Macmillan	5.00
Mr. W. H. Stone	10.00	Mr. C. Giussani..	10.00

MRS. DRAPER'S BLIND SCHOOL.

MRS. DRAPER begs to tender her thanks to those interested in the welfare of her School for the Blind for their assistance, and to inform them that the collection at its closing exercises and subsequent gifts amounted to 111.75 *yen*.

THE "CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" CASE.

THE hearing of this case in H.B.M. Court has been set down for the 14th of October next.

COUNT INOUYE AT KOBE.

Count and Countess Inouye reached Kobe on the 15th instant at 9 a.m. Landing immediately, they proceeded to the villa of Mr. Fujita at Suwayama. They were met at the wharf by a large number of distinguished persons, including the new Korean Minister to Japan, Mr. Ko Eiki. Among the visitors on the 15th, may be mentioned Viscount Shinagawa, Governor Su, the Korean Minister, Governor Kinoshita, of Yamanashi, and a number of the leading merchants of Osaka. The Countess being indisposed, Dr. Yoshida of Osaka was sent for, but her case does not seem to have been at all serious, for the doctor did not think it necessary to advise her to postpone her journey to Korea. The Count and Countess left Kobe by the *Yokohama Maru* on the morning of the 16th. The party received an increment in Kobe in the persons of Baron Kikkawa, Major Watanabe, and Mr. Kamada Eikichi of the Keiwo Gijuku. Baron Kikkawa and Mr. Kamada are going to Korea in a private capacity, but Major Watanabe is charged with official business. While at Kobe, Count Inouye is stated to have been called on by Sai Chinkan, former Korean Police Chief of Ninsen, who has fled from his country in connection with the Pak incident. But the Count refused to see him. The *Yokohama* reached Shimonoseki on the morning of the 17th, and left there for Ninsen at 3 p.m. the same day.

JUSTICE AND ITS EXPONENTS.

Here is a paragraph originally published in a Kobe journal, and reproduced in Yokohama, as are all paragraphs, without exception, that tend to injure Japan's reputation:—

As the *Mail* has been pleased to place on record its confidence that their Lordships of the Privy Council have taken care "to guard against the possibility of the opinions expressed by the Judges in Shanghai being elevated hereafter to the rank of precedents," it may not be out of place to express the hope that note has been taken of the flagrant injustice of the position in which the P. and O. S. N. Company is placed by being arbitrarily precluded by Japanese law from prosecuting the Government for the loss sustained, as the Company contends, by the wrongful act of the Government's servants who were navigating the *Chishima Kan* at the time of the collision. The Government is competent to prosecute the Peninsular and Oriental Company, but it takes care by laws of its own creation to place itself beyond the reach of litigation directed against itself. It is able to strike, but it takes good care to hide itself behind its own laws when an attempt is made to strike back. This may be law — Japanese law;—it is not justice.

The writer of the above paragraph will perhaps be surprised to learn that the law against which he so vehemently inveighs is precisely the same in England as in Japan. In neither country can the Sovereign—otherwise the Government—be sued in his own Courts for the wrongful act of his subjects. Hence, if the Peninsular and Oriental Company be the victims of an injustice because they are precluded from bringing an action against the Japanese Government in Japan for the wrongful act of a Japanese man-of-war, equally would the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, for example, be the victims of a precisely similar injustice did they seek to obtain redress in an English Court for the running down of one of their steamers by a British man-of-war.

But, in point of fact, the alleged injustice is purely a figment of the paragraphist's imagination. There is in reality no injustice at all. The Peninsular and Oriental Company can not lay their action against the Japanese Government, any more than the Nippon Yusen Kaisha could lay theirs against the British Government. But each alike can sue the officer in command of the man-of-war. It is merely a question of procedure. So much for "the flagrant injustice of the position in which the Peninsular and Oriental Company is placed."

Another singular contention advanced in connection with the *Chishima-Ravenna* case is that the Peninsular and Oriental Company is placed at a great disadvantage by not being allowed to bring its counter-claim in a British Court, since the maritime law administered by Japanese tribunals, before which the counter-claim would have to be preferred, is German law. Now, inasmuch as English law and German law differ not a whit in respect of condemning a ship convicted of faulty navigation to make good the damage inflicted by it upon another ship in a collision, the critics must refer to the case where both ships are proved to be in fault. Let us, then, reduce the "disadvantage" to arithmetic. According to English law, when each ship is found to have been in fault, the damages suffered by both are lumped, and each is condemned to pay a moiety. According to German law, each ship in a similar case pays its own damages. In the present instance the Japanese Government claim $850,000 for the loss of the *Chishima*, and the Peninsular and Oriental Company claim $100,000 for injury suffered by the *Ravenna*. Hence, in a British Court, supposing that both ships were adjudged to have committed an error of navigation, the Peninsular and Oriental Company would have to pay $475,000, whereas in a Japanese Court, under similar circumstances, they would not be required to pay anything at all. We do not know that the law administered by Japanese maritime Courts is German law, but supposing that it is, the disadvantage suffered by the Peninsular and Oriental Company in consequence, does not present itself very clearly.

THE *Pingsuey*, with thefirst Hankow teas, has arrived home after a passage of 35 days 14 hours from Woosung. The *Moyune's* best record was 35 days in 1893.

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KOREAN NEWS.

The latest letters from Japanese correspondents in Sōul contain some interesting references to the condition of affairs just before the flight of Pak and his friends. It appears that Pak's position had been growing more and more isolated. The Queen is reported to have recently addressed a note to the Russian Minister asking his assistance in her project of dismissing Pak from the Cabinet and counteracting Japanese influence. The *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent states that Mr. Waeber one evening called at the Japanese Legation and showed the Queen's letter to Mr. Sugimura, the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires*. This story is inherently incredible, but it is narrated by some other correspondents also. Whatever may be the truth of the report, it seems to have been widely circulated in Sōul, and was no doubt brought to the notice of Pak and his partisans. Not the Queen alone was antagonistic to Pak; he is said to have gradually lost the sympathy of many of his colleagues also. The party opposed to him is composed of various elements. Some are genuine followers of the Queen, others are hostile to him on the ground of his partiality for Japan, and others have turned against him because of being disappointed in their schemes of personal ambition. Diverse as their motives are, these opponents of Pak naturally look up to the Queen as their leader. Under such circumstances, Pak seems to have thought it necessary to take some decisive measures to recover his lost prestige and influence.

Concerning the foreign Representatives in Sōul, the Japanese correspondents state that those of England and America are on the whole neutral, but that the latter sometimes shows a tendency to cōoperate with the Russian Minister, probably not because he is unfriendly to Japan, but because he is anxious to protect the interests of his nationals in Sōul.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun's* correspondent mentions the names of the Japanese in the service of the Korean Government. They are more than forty in all. They are distributed as follows:—Cabinet, Mr. Ishizuka Eizo, with three assistants; Department of Home Affairs, Messrs Saito Shuichiro and Oba Kanichi, with five assistants; the Department of Finance, Mr. Nio Koreshige, with seven assistants; Department of Education, three Instructors with three assistants; Department of Agriculture and Commerce, Messrs Yamada Yukisuke and Hasegawa Yoshinosuke, with four assistants; Department of War, Lieut.-Colonel Kusunose and Mr. Okamoto Ryunosuke with five assistants; Department of Justice, Mr. Hoshi Toru, with five assistants; Household Department, Mr. Okamoto Ryunosuke; and the Metropolitan Police Office, Mr. Takehisa Kokuzo with one assistant. It is stated that a strong desire prevails among the partisans of the Queen to dismiss the Japanese advisers and employ in their stead Europeans and Americans.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun's* correspondent states that negotiations for the opening of the ports of Chin-nam-pho, in Phyōng-an-do, and Mokpho, in Chŏl-la-do, for foreign trade are on the point of being brought to a satisfactory issue, and that some Europeans or Americans are already taking steps to purchase land in those places. The Japanese merchants at Fusan are opposed to the opening at Mokpho, for much of the trade at present passing through their hands will be diverted to the new port. They held meetings at the Chamber of Commerce, and, in its name, invited the cōoperation of their countrymen at Ninsen in making a protest against the proposed opening of the new port. But the Japanese merchants in Ninsen declined to join in the protest, on the ground that the opening of Mokpho, though it may injuriously affect individual interests, is calculated to promote the trade between Korea and their own country.

Mr. Eduard Chiossone is now at Sōul, having been invited by the Korean Government to superintend the establishment of a printing bureau, but Ministerial changes and scarcity of money are said to make it probable that the enterprise will not be undertaken for some time.

The circumstances connected with the recent Pak incident are thus narrated by the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent:—Sasaki Tomezo, a Japanese *soshi*, was intimate with Sai Koyeki, a dependent of the ex-Minister of Home Affairs. A few days previous to the latter's flight, Sasaki visited his friend Sai, who was then engaged with two other guests. Sasaki, thinking that these Koreans were all dependents of Pak, at once commenced with them a written conversation on all sorts of topics in the most unreserved manner. In the course of the conversation, he told the Koreans in a joking way that their chief Pak was plotting deadly treason against the Queen; that his application for the service of a company of Japanese soldiers having been peremptorily fused by Mr. Sugimura, the Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires*, he was then in the act of collecting a number of Japanese *soshi*, and that a great event was sure to happen in a few days. Sai being an indifferent student of Chinese, could not thoroughly understand what Sasaki had written down, but the two other Koreans were better educated, and not appreciating that they were deceived by the Japanese youth, the news caused them profound surprise. As soon as Sasaki had taken his leave, they asked for the scrip and hastily went away together. They showed the paper to Shin Seiki and and Shin Kijin, both high functionaries of State, who ridiculed the idea of treason by Pak and paid no serious attention to the matter. But the two detectives, for such seems to have been their position, next called on Chin Shohun, and he, being a person of weak judgment at once believed the story and hastened to the Palace to represent the matter to the King and Queen. This was on the afternoon of the 6th instant. The detectives had already carried the information to Kim Koshu, ex-Minister President of State, who at once sent a note to Chin, informing him of the alleged plot. This note reached Chin during an audience with the King, and the exact coincidence of the two reports, one coming direct from the detectives and the other from Kim, was considered conclusive. A Cabinet Council was hastily summoned. It was attended by Kim Koshu, Yu Kitsu-ei, and a few other influential men, in addition to the ministers. Tho conference lasted 12 hours, from 4 p.m. on the 7th to 4 a.m. the following day. Li In-yo, Police Superintendent, was required to attend the Palace, but did not obey the mandate though it was repeated five times. Ultimately he concealed himself. An Keiju, Vice-Minister of Finance, was then sent for. He, too, hesitated to obey, evidently suspecting that something has gone wrong. But at last he took courage and attended the Court, when, contrary to his apprehensions, he was appointed by the King himself to be Police Superintendent and ordered to proceed to Pak's mansion to secure his person. On the evening of the 6th, the Palace being then in great confusion, Pak was dining with Mr. Saito Shuichiro, Adviser to the Cabinet, at the latter's residence. He went home at 10, and soon retired to bed, entirely unconscious of the danger impending. But he had not been long in bed, when news of the commotion reached him. He at once decided to fly, and hastily arranging his domestic affairs, clothed himself in a European costume and left the city on horseback. He was just in time, for soon after his departure, his house was surrounded by a strong force of constables under Police-Superintendent An. The disappointed police then went to the Japanese Legation and inquired if Pak had not come there. While these fruitless inquiries were proceeding in the capital, Pak rode to Yong-san, where he immediately took a steam-launch to Inchhŏn (Ninsen). At Inchhŏn, a number of Korean constables were watching on the wharf when the steam-launch carrying Pak slowly entered the port. The fugitives had no alternative but to face the danger. They boldly landed under the very noses of the police, who are said to have withdrawn to a distance and suffered them to pass.

Accepting the advice of Kim Koshu, the King issued a proclamation on the 7th instant, announcing the detection of a treasonable plot by Pak, Minister of Home Affairs, and declaring that, with the exception of the arch-traitor, no other person should be prosecuted. The Japanese correspondents are not sure about the political situation of Kim Koshu, Yu Kitsu-ei, and others who have now the direction of affairs in their hands, but they believe that these officials are not in league with the Queen. On the contrary, the so-called European language party—namely those opposed to the ascendency of Japanese influence and consequently in sympathy with the Queen—are stated to be taking steps to subvert the influence of Kum, Yu, and others. These statesmen through not on good terms with the fallen Minister of Home Affairs, are still genuinely devoted to the cause of progress and reform, and are by no means willing to become subservient to the Queen. They are said to have endeavoured to recall the Tai Wŏn-kun to power with the view of restraining the Queen. The ex-Regent, however, refused to stir except on condition that his grandson, now undergoing penal sentence, were pardoned, and the Cabinet seem to have been unwilling to agree to that proposal.

Pak's family are said to be hiding in the house of a friend. The Government do not apparently contemplate recourse to the barbarous practice of punishing a whole family for the crime of one its members.

The Koreans are circulating various absurd rumours about the incident. They allege, for its example, that Japan instigated Pak to the murderous plot, and that Japanese troops protected him in his flight. In point of fact, a company of Japanese troops stationed in Sōul was marched to Yong-san on the very morning of Pak's escape from the capital. But the *Jiji's* correspondent explains that these troops marched out for the purpose of manœuvres and that their movements had no connection whatever with Pak.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent states that on the evening of the 6th, the Korean Government addressed a note to the Russian and American Ministers, announcing the intended arrest of Pak and asking for the landing of marines in case of emergency. The Korean Minister of Foreign Affairs is reported to have called at the Japanese Legation and requested Mr. Sugimura to afford no protection to Pak, should he apply for it.

THE WEATHER.

The present extraordinary cool weather is attracting much attention. The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes the following figures showing the average temperatures of the four days from the 10th to 13th of July, during the past six years:—

Year.	July 10th. C.°	July 11th. C.°	July 12th. C.°	July 13th. C.°
1890	19.8	22.2	24 3	25.8
1891	23.1	25.7	27.7	28.0
1892	25.3	26 3	26.2	26.5
1893	24 9	26.9	27.3	26.1
1894	26.4	26 5	25 9	25.9
1895	22.6	21.6	19.7	19.3

According to investigations made at the Central Meteorological Observatory, the maximum and minimum temperatures for the first ten days of July during the past 18 years were from 26 to 29 degrees (C.), and from 19 to 20 degrees, respectively. The corresponding figures for this year are stated to be 18 degrees and 15.5 degrees. The highest temperature registered this year was 32.5 degrees (C.), on the 20th of June. As to the cause of the present remarkable coolness, the *Kokumin*, on the authority of the Meteorological Observatory, says that it is attributable partly to rain and partly to low atmospheric pressure in the south of Japan. The centre of low pressure shifted at one time from Kagoshima to somewhere off the coast of Wakayama, but returned to the vicinity of Kagoshima, where it now remains. It must be confessed that such an explanation conveys very little information. But with regard to abnormal natural phenomena, the most that our savants can tell us, as a rule, is that they are abnormal. We fear that each of these unseasonable days inflicts a loss of many millions on the rice-farmers of Japan.

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FORMOSA NEWS.

No report has yet been published as to the movements of the Second Brigade of the Imperial Guards detailed for operations in the south of Formosa. It is known that the Brigade was at Kelung on the 26th of last month, and the inference is that it left that place without delay by transports for the south. This force, about 6,000, is not considered strong enough for the speedy subjugation of the insurgents in the south. Consequently, another mixed brigade, about 3,000 strong, formed out of the troops of the Second (Sendai) Division now stationed in the Chinchow peninsula, has been shipped for Formosa. A letter from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent, dated Taipeh, June 30th, says that some transports were to leave Tamsui for the south on July 1st. We therefore conclude that the operations in the south must have been vigorously commenced by this time, and that a definite report may be looked for in a few days.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent, Mr. Ishizuka, has written a number of very interesting letters describing the movements of the Regiment sent to attack the insurgents at Sin-chuh. He makes frequent allusions to a Mr. Davidson, described as the correspondent of the *New York Herald*, who accompanied the expedition. We reproduce the gist of these letters. At 3 a.m. on June 19th a detachment, consisting of a battalion of the 2nd Regiment and two companies, Engineers and Artillery, assembled outside the north-gate of Taipeh, whence an advance was made southward, toward Sin-chuh, along the railway. Sin-chuh is a small walled town about 50 miles south of Taipeh. The first day's march was entirely uneventful, the people along the road being peaceful and well affected towards their new masters. The detachment rested that night at a place about 16 miles from Taipeh. The road lay between well cultivated rice fields and among mountains covered with bamboo groves.

The march was resumed on the 20th at 5 a.m. and the troops passed that night at Tiongleck, in a district peopled by colonists from Canton, whose customs and manners are said to differ in many respects from those of other localities in Formosa. While the principal part of the detachment halted, reconnoitering parties of cavalry were despatched in different directions. From their reports it was ascertained that a body of insurgents was stationed to the south-west.

On the 21st, the vanguard of the detachment moved out of Tiongleck along the railway at a little past 5 a.m. At several places, sleepers had been removed and large holes dug in the road by the insurgents to obstruct the progress of the Japanese. A few miles from the halting place of the preceding night, a skirmish took place between the mounted scouts and a party of insurgents, but the former being quickly supported by a company of infantry, the insurgents were put to flight after a fight of about half an hour. There was a Buddhist temple in a village near the scene of this struggle. A board over the gate showed that the temple had served as a branch office of the Chinese volunteers. All the houses in the village had been deserted by their occupants, who no doubt belonged to the volunteer corps. In many of the houses were found rifles, ammunition, and other weapons of war. At this place, the detachment was divided into three columns, one to proceed along the railway, and the two others along the table lands on the right and left. At a short distance from the village, a party of insurgents appeared on a hill in front of the advancing columns of the Japanese, and at once began to pour down showers of bullets. The Japanese troops, however, being about 1,000 metres from the enemy, did not reply but sat down to lunch behind the embankments of the railway. Meanwhile, a party of artillery planted a battery of mountain-pieces and a few well aimed shells completely dispersed the insurgents. The next village was reached at 8 p.m. It had already been deserted by the insurgents, but parties of the latter being observed in the neighbouring villages, the troops encamped in the open air on a table-land to the left of the railway station. There a report was received that a force of the enemy was encamped in a village nearer to the sea shore, and a small detachment of some 60 men was sent to disperse them. The insurgents, however, defended themselves so stoutly that they could not be dislodged from the village until the following morning, the fighting being kept up during the whole night.

On the 22nd, the troops left their encampment at 4.40 a.m. The advance guard soon came into collision with the insurgents, who fired from behind the thick groves. Being quickly expelled from their position they again collected on the top of a hill to the south-east, where they appeared to receive constant re-inforcements, and, opening fire, gave every indication of making a resolute stand. A few rounds from machine guns proved too much for them, however, and they were put to flight without much difficulty. On reaching Sin-chuh, the subjective point of the expedition, the Japanese found the gates all closed, but they were disappointed by the absence of any enemy. The walls were scaled and the gates opened without much difficulty. Masses of stones had been collected inside of the gates to prevent their being pushed open. The houses were all closed and the inhabitants kept carefully out of sight. A thorough search of every house was afterwards made, and more than 10 soldiers hiding indoors were made prisoners. The town of Sin-chuh thus came into complete possession of the Japanese at 11.45 a.m. The greater part of the insurgents had left the place for Tainan on the preceding day, under the command of Wu. About two battalions, however, under the well known land-owner Lin, remained there till about 11 o'clock that morning, when, hearing of the approach of the Japanese, they fled in great confusion. The expedition had thus far cost the Japanese 11 men, of whom 8 were killed.

But although Sin-chuh was occupied without resistance, the insurgents made repeated attempts to recover possession of it. On the 25th at 10.50 a.m. a party of insurgents about 500 or 700 strong appeared on the heights to the south-west of the western gate, and opened fire upon an outpost. It is stated that three of the insurgent officers were on horse-back and had umbrellas. The little band of Japanese soldiers reinforced by 30 men, bravely held their ground against the enemy until a company of Infantry and a party of Artillery with guns came up to relieve them. In a short time, mountain pieces were also placed in position, and these, together with the machine guns, made things too hot for the insurgents. Instead of beating a retreat, however, they simply took up positions screened from bullets, so that a party of Infantry had to be ordered to dislodge them. The insurgents, seeing this move, boldly came down from the eminence they had hitherto occupied and took up a position in a village at its foot, where they were charged by the Japanese and soon driven off *pêle-mêle*. It was then 1.50 p.m. The engagement had lasted about three hours. Soon afterwards, the insurgents rallied, and this time appeared on a hill facing the southern gate. Mountain pieces and machine guns again put them to flight, and they were pursued by a squadron of cavalry. In the fighting that day, a large number of the insurgents were killed and wounded, but there was no loss on the Japanese side.

A Sergeant of Cavalry, who was charged with the duty of carrying a report of the expedition to head-quarters at Tai-peh-fu, was attacked by a party of insurgents at a distance of about 6,000 metres from Sin-chuh on the 24th of June. He and a private were killed, but their corpses were recovered by a company that went to their rescue. The Japanese commissariat lines were cut at several places and a number of soldiers and coolies were killed and wounded. On the 23rd, the Commissariat station at Tiongleck was attacked by a strong body of insurgents and a company of Infantry posted there for the protection of the place had a hard time of it. The insurgents were finally beaten back, after keeping up the attack for more than four hours. Nothing is said about losses on either side

A company of the 1st Regiment, charged with the protection of a provision train, was attacked by the insurgents in the vicinity of a place that we fail to identify, on the 25th. The insurgents fired from the houses, and it was found necessary to set fire to the village. The loss on the Japanese side was 2 killed and 8 wounded.

On the 28th, two companies were despatched from Sin-chuh to occupy Anping (?). That place was discovered to be held by a large body of the enemy, and after a few skirmishes, the Japanese retreated.

There appears to be some confusion in the names of the places where the above operations took place. It will be observed that the Japanese account makes Sinchuh the objective point of the force sent southward from Taipeh, and describes the capture of that place on the 22nd of June. But a telegram sent from Tamsui to Hongkong, and reproduced in these columns on the 10th instant, says that Teukchan (or Teckcham) was the place taken on the 22nd of June. The most accurate map in public possession in that recently compiled by the Japanese. According to it, Teukchan in the name of a place on the sea-coast 6 miles from Sinchuh. But both accounts agree in stating that the place captured was the capital of the province called Sinchuh (or Hsinchu), and as the names of the provinces—or divisions—in Formosa are the same as those of their chief towns, we have very little doubt that the nomenclature of the Japanese account in correct. But it is an obvious absurdity to speak of Anping's being reconnoitered from Sinchuh, the two places being about 150 miles apart.

The latest intelligence from Formosa is contained in a telegram from the Governor-General's Chief of Staff, dated at Taipeh, 8.50 p.m. on the 11th inst. It says that about 700 insurgents attacked Shinchuh on the 10th inst., and came into collision with a force of Japanese under Colonel Sakai. The insurgents were routed with a loss of about 200 killed and wounded, and 113 taken prisoners. The casualties on the Japanese side were 3 killed and 8 wounded. It is evident that the Chinese in the province of Sinchuh have more stomach for fighting than their countrymen had in Korea, Manchuria, or Shantung. But the results achieved by them are equally paltry, and their tale of casualties bears the same extravagant ratio to the losses inflicted by them on their foes.

The dates of the above telegram's despatch from Taipeh and receipt in Tokyo show that the Pescadores cable must now be open to the Japanese. It is decidedly quick work to have news in Tokyo on the 12th of an engagement fought at a place 40 miles south of Taipeh on the 10th.

The tardiness of the reduction of the southern part of Formosa has been explained. The following extract from a private letter, dated Kelung 6th instant, published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, unravels the mystery:—"There are now in port the war vessels *Matsushima*, *Naniwa*, *Takachiho*, and *Yayeyama*, and more than ten transports. The lattter came here with the troops of the Second Brigade of the Guards. The original plan had been to land these forces in the vicinity of Anping, and the landing was about to be commenced when the monsoon began to blow. The monsoon will not stop till the end of September. Consequently, landing in the south had to be given up, and the transports all returned to this port, the decision being to put them ashore here and march them southward overland. It is believed that the Brigade has by this time advanced as far as Sin-chuh." The letter does not state when the troops landed at Kelung, but that defect is supplied by the *Kokkai's* correspondent, who says that the debarkation took place on the 3rd instant.

Concerning the movement of the Second Brigade, a certain personage—presumably a responsible official—who has just arrived from Taipeh, is represented as having made the following statement to a reporter of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*:—"The Second Brigade of

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the Imperial Guards, in their march to the south, will endeavour to extirpate the insurgents. They will, consequently, advance along the mountain sides, instead of the railway line, and hunt the rebels out of the hills, where alone they can make any resistance, being utterly incapable of fighting in the open." The same authority further states:—"The Chinese forces stationed in the north where the Japanese first landed were about 30,000 strong. More than 10,000 of them have been transported in Japanese ships to China. These being raw recruits from Canton, could be easily dealt with. But the half-civilized tribes and the aborigines are more turbulent and fierce. Liu's army is reported to consist partly of the half-civilized tribes. It may, therefore, be expected that his forces will resist to the last. They are of course no match for the well disciplined and brave Guards, but they may cause much trouble." Concerning the difficulty of maintaining peace and tranquillity in Formosa, the same person says that even the so-called semi-civilized tribes inhabiting the hills to the east of Tai-peh eat human flesh, while the Chinese emigrants living in the plains below are scarcely less barbarous. The villagers have guns and ammunition, and constantly menace Japanese commissiarat trains and even small parties of scouts. It is reported that a band of them recently attempted to rob a fort at Tamsui. To deprive the villagers of their weapons would be to expose them to the immense risk of being plundered and butchered by their fierce neighbours. Consequently, to maintain order necessitates the stationing of strong parties of gendarmes and police among the natives. The police and gendarmes now in Formosa are not numerous enough to meet the requirements of the case, and it therefore becomes necessary to use a large portion of the troops for that purpose. These circumstances, combined with the absence of any roads worthy of the name, account for the tardy subjugation of the island.

The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent learns from a trustworthy source that the Chief of the Black Flags, Liu Yung-fu, has his head-quarters at Tainan, but that he is constantly coming and going between Anping, Takao, and Tainan. The force under his immediate command is about 3,000 strong.

Dysentery, cholera, *kakke*, and fever are the most prevalent diseases among the Japanese troops. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent describes the condition of the contagions diseases hospital at Kelung. The buildings have been only partially completed, and are not yet floored. The patients, consequently, lie on the ground with mats and blankets under them. There were 700 of them when the correspondent visited the hospital. The doctors were complaining of the scarcity of proper food for the patients, it being almost impossible to procure eggs and fowls.

Among the many proofs of stubborn courage shown by the insurgents of Formosa, perhaps the most remarkable was the conduct of a small body, about 200 strong, who had their head-quarters at a place called Anping-chen, a short distance to the south-east of Tiong-lik, between Tai-peh and Sin-chuh. The connection between the two last places being frequently threatened by determined bands of insurgents, Major Miki was ordered to seek out their stronghold and extirpate them. As the result of reconnoissances made by him, it was discovered that the enemy's stronghold consisted of two strongly built brick houses surrounded on all sides by thick groves of bamboos, at Anping-chen. The Major attacked this position on the 28th ultimo, but the enemy defended themselves so well, firing through holes in the walls of the houses, that the Japanese officer, in view of the waste of life that must be caused by storming the stronghold, decided to retreat, and bring artillery to bear on the houses. The attack was repeated on the 2nd instant. The outer works, consisting of a circle of bamboo fences with a thick backing of fire-proof bricks, were taken without much difficulty. But the insurgents in the houses kept up a well aimed fire throughout the whole day, notwithstanding that several holes were blown open in the walls. The Japanese troops careless of the enemy's deadly fire, approached the houses, but it would evidently have been madness to attempt an entry through the holes in the walls so long as the defenders were able to pour a rain of bullets on all the approaches. Once more the Japanese retreated, not, however, before one of the gates had been blown up, killing four of the insurgents posted in its vicinity. The next day, the Japanese again marched against the stronghold, when they found it entirely deserted by its doughty defenders. The houses contained a large number of corpses. The Japanese loss was 11 killed and 20 wounded.

Another small body of insurgents were stationed at a place a short distance from Sin-chuh. A company of troops with two mountain guns, were sent to the attack of the post on the 4th inst. The enemy fired from houses in the village, which, consequently had to be burned down. On the insurgents retreating into their barracks, a plunging fire was poured upon them from a neighbouring elevation, with the result that seventeen were shot down, and the rest took to flight.

With the reduction of these two places, the communications between Sin-chuh and Tai-peh were completely secured against interruption by the insurgents, and the railway having been repaired by the Engineering Corps, trains are said to have commenced running between the two places from the 7th instant.

The Governor-General, Viscount Kabayama, is reported to have sent a note to Liu Yung-fu advising him to surrender.

AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE DIET.

The public taking it for granted that the Cabinet has decided upon convoking an extraordinary session of the Diet, speculations are rife as to the measures to be introduced by the Government and the probable attitude of the Houses. The Progressionists and other extreme politicians of the Opposition predict a a serious collision between the Diet and the Cabinet on the question of the Liaotung Peninsula. But their hope, as we have all along maintained, seems destined to be signally disappointed. The Radicals decided to stand strictly aloof from any steps calculated to injure the harmony between the Government and the Diet, and an exactly similar line of conduct was adopted at a recent meeting of the National Unionists. A section of the Constitutional Reform Party are also understood to be in favour of the same policy, and most of the so-called Independents may safely be classed in the category of moderates. Thus the uncompromising enemies of the Government will be in a hopeless minority, scarcely one-third of the House.

Nothing is known as to the date of convocation or the duration of the session. But it is generally believed that the Houses will probably be summoned either at the end of August or in the beginning of September, and that the session will last about two weeks.

As to the financial measures to be submitted in the Extraordinary Diet, the *Jiji Shimpo* estimates that the amount of increase to be made in expenditures on account of various Military and Naval measures will be about 12 or 13 million *yen*. According to our contemporary's information, the Government's intention is to obtain that sum by an increase of the tax on *saké*, and by placing to the credit of the Treasury the Trade Tax that has hitherto formed part of the Local Income. Simultaneously with the increase of the tax on *saké*, the same rate of tax will be levied upon *saké* brewed for domestic use and not for sale, which has hitherto been exempted from any impost.

SURGEON-CAPTAIN M. T. YARR, now attached to the Coldstream Guards, and who was once in Hongkong, has been appointed Physician to the Crown Prince of Siam, and will be seconded in the Army for five years from the date of taking up the post.

THE NEW TARIFF CONVENTION.

The new Tariff Convention, between Great Britain and Japan, which was to have been negotiated within six months after the signature of the Revised Treaty, has been concluded and received the signatures of the Delegates on the morning of the 15th instant.

THE DOWNFALL OF PAK YONG-HO.

(FROM OUR SÖUL CORRESPONDENT.)

The fall of this celebrated Minister was to none more apparent, possibly, than to himself. The tide was setting for some days and weeks against him. He came to Korea, as the world well knows, under the protection of the Japanese. He was placed in power by them and maintained there through their influence. Naturally the Japanese expected much from him. He disappointed them in a position he took when certain concessions were under consideration. I am inclined to think his position on those points was correct, but his friends to whom he owed his position did not like it and there was a perceptible coolness between him and them. If I am correctly informed there was no open rupture, but the Home Minister not finding himself in favour, sought by various means to secure a firmer foothold in the royal palace. An "understanding" between him and Her Majesty the Queen is reported to have been effected. How true this is I do not know, and simply give it as one of the many rumours afloat this morning. The Queen however, was too shrewd for him, and the alliance did not prove satisfactory, which should not be surprising to any one. Defeated in the Palace, Pak turned again to the Japanese, who did not receive him with much demonstration of joy, it seems. He had the rashness, so Madam Rumour tells us, to make certain unwise promises (I put it very mildly as I do not know and do not care to believe he made them), and when these were repeated in the Palace, the King ordered the arrest on a charge of "conspiracy" of his Home Minister. Conspiracy is such a common word in use here that we naturally begin to suspect its use. The party not in power is apt to be the "traitorous" one.

Pak knew what was on deck. He laid aside his Korean clothing, put on his foreign suit and left—nobody at this writing knows—for parts unknown. He went out of the South Gate in the early morning of June 7th, Sunday. An attempt was made by the Korean police to arrest him, but according to Korean report they only secured the groom and the horse. Other rumours say the Japanese soldiers resisted and that there was danger of bloodshed for a little while. Towards noon it was stated that a company of Korean soldiers or policemen were sent after the fugitive, but they have not succeeded in finding his whereabouts.

The impression here is that the Home Minister managed to get away in good time not only for his country's good but for his own as well. He has failed twice; "his return to power will be attended with much difficulty," to quote a Korean's remark.

His associate, the Minister of the Law Department, while dismissed from office, is still in the city, and the opinion is general that he is not implicated in the schemes which caused the downfall of Pak Yong-ho.

The first question asked naturally is: What effect will these Cabinet changes have upon the cause of reform? I can only answer I hope it will not put back the cause of genuine reform, and I do not think it will. The men appointed to fill the vacant portfolios are men of pronounced views on reform. The policy inaugurated by Count Inouye I think will stand. There will be changes in some particulars, but it is not likely that the Government can or will go back to the old ruts from which it has been lifted during the past year.

Söul, July 8th, 1895.

Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

MR. OISHI ON AN ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

Mr. Oishi Masami, formerly Japanese Minister to Korea, has expressed to a representative of the *Kokkai* his ideas on the subject of an Anglo-Japanese Alliance. He regrets to observe that Japanese politicians usually take very narrow views of the Korean Question. They seem to think that the problem is to be solved locally; that is to say in Korea, and they concentrate their attention upon the petty incidents of party strife in Söul. Mr. Oishi denies that the problem can be solved in Söul; he is persuaded that it must be handled in Tokyo. Hence he fails to understand why a statesman of first-rate capacity like Count Inouye should be sent to the peninsula. It would be sufficient according to his ideas, to appoint to Korea a man of moderate capacity and to place him under constant telegraphic instructions from Tokyo. Whether Japan will or will not be able to maintain her position in Korea, depends upon her situation *vis-à-vis* Russia, her only real rival in that quarter. She had to yield to the "friendly warning" of the three Powers in regard to the Liaotung Peninsula, because her fighting capacity was not equal to that of the Triple Alliance. So what is wanted for the maintenance of her supremacy in Korea is a decided superiority of fighting power over Russia. To secure that end, Mr. Oishi thinks it necessary to form an alliance with England. As to the contention that Japan ought to aim at keeping aloof from any European combination, he of course considers nothing more desirable than that she should be able single-handed to defy Russia and the latter's possible allies. But he sees plainly that such a project offers very little prospect of success. If Japan increases her Navy and Army, her opponents will do the same, and the relative positions can never be radically changed. But will England entertain the idea of an alliance with Japan? Mr. Oishi is strongly inclined to answer in the affirmative. From the past policy of the Conservative party, and from the present state of affairs in Great Britain, he infers that the Salisbury Cabinet will endeavour to be on good terms with Germany and Italy, thereby maintaining the supremacy in the Mediterranean and preventing the southward advance of Russia in Europe, and that in the East attempts will be made to keep intact the friendship between Japan and China and to assist the former in opposing the aggrandizement of the great Northern Power. An alliance with Japan would be, in Mr. Oishi's opinion, at least as profitable to England as to Japan, and he is persuaded that the astute statesmen in London will not be slow to avail themselves of the present unique opportunity to establish a definite understanding between the two countries. He recently received a letter from a foreign friend in Shanghai informing him that Russia contemplates the occupation of Port Hamilton as soon as the Japanese troops shall have evacuated the Liaotung Peninsula. Although not placing any credence in this story, he reminds his countrymen that the situation may become at any moment critical, for he believes that the Russians are capable of any intrigue or scheme, however unworthy, should it suit their selfish purposes.

In an interview with a reporter of the *Chuo Shimbun*, Mr. Oishi calls the attention of the Government to the importance of protesting against the reported cession of Chinese territory to Russia and France as the price of their service in connection with the Shimonoseki Treaty. He speaks in high terms of the keenness of the new English Government, which is said to have remonstrated against the measure in question. Should the report about the cession of territory be true, both Russia and France will be proved guilty of mean and despicable trickery against Japan, since while they advised her to renounce her legitimate prize of war on the ground that its retention would be injurious to the peace of the Orient, they were exacting as the price of their advice, slices of Chinese territory for themselves. Mr. Oishi urges the Government in that case to advise Russia and France to desist from such a high-handed proceeding, and, if the advice be unheeded, then to announce the resuscitation of the provision in the Shimonoseki Treaty relating to the cession of the Liaotung peninsula. While taking these steps on the one hand, the Japanese Cabinet is recommended, on the other, to warn China against the disastrous course attributed to her, and to come to a definite understanding with England for the settlement of this and other problems demanding prompt solution.

We (*Japan Mail*) attach no credence whatever to the rumour that either France or Russia has attempted to pursue the tortuous course of aggrandisement attributed to them by rumour. Great and self-respecting Powers are not to be suspected of traffic so contemptible. Moreover, their association with Germany has to be remembered. Even supposing—as we do not for a moment suppose—that the Cabinets of Paris and St. Petersburg were capable of such trickery, Germany assuredly would not lend the weight of her adhesion to a scheme materially beneficial to her allies alone and morally disgraceful to herself. We do not mean to set up any comparison whatever between the standards of international morality adopted by the three states. What we mean is simply that when three great Powers form an alliance for a specific purpose, two of the allies can not separate themselves from the third with the object of deriving special advantages from the achievement of their common purpose.

THE FRENCH NATIONAL FÊTE.

A very interesting ceremony took place at the new French Consulate on Sunday morning, when advantage was taken of the French National Fête Day to put in position a commemorative stone in the handsome pile of buildings now being erected at the foot of Camp Hill. Nearly all the members of the French community had gathered by 10.30 o'clock, when M. Klobukowski, the Consul-General for France, called for a toast in honour of the President of the Republic, M. Faure, and also for His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, accompanying each with a neat little speech. The toasts having been duly drunk in champagne, the Consul-General, in eloquent terms, referred to the anniversary which they as Frenchmen were commemorating. M. Klobukowski then went on to remark upon the change in the French Government's policy in regard to the building of suitable Consulates in the Far East, a welcome change which had led to the erection of new Consulates at Shanghai, Söul, Yokohama, and elsewhere. Prince Labanow de Rostow, H.I.R.M., Consul at Yokohama, next addressed the assembly. He said he could not lay claim to such a proficiency in the French language as the last speaker had so splendidly exhibited; he regretted his lack of polish and ease in speaking, which had lent such a charm to M. Klobukowski's glowing phrases, but he should feel it an honour if they would permit him to lay one trowel-full of cement along the setting of the stone which they were putting in place that day. This gracefully worded compliment, set in the courtly language of *la belle France*, was greeted with enthusiastic cheers, repeated again and again. The stone was then put in position, and after a few further interchanges of compliments, the ceremony terminated.

At half-past twelve o'clock the Russian gunboat *Mandjur*, one of the few ships in harbour fully dressed, fired a salute. The tricolour waved from many flagstaffs and houses on the Bluff and in the Settlement; Dr. Mécre displayed a brilliant array of lanterns, all appropriated coloured and arranged; the Messageries Maritimes also hung out a festive display, and other French houses on the Bund were similarly decorated.

PERSONAL.

Towards the close of last century, a blind youth of seventeen, the son of a poor peasant in the village of Kochidani, in Echigo, made a pilgrimage to Yedo, the seat of the Shogunate Government, then in the zenith of its power and glory. When he arrived in the town, he had only 300 *momme* (about a penny), in the form of iron cash. But his heart was big with ambition. Moneyless and friendless, he wandered from street to street until, exhausted by incessant walking and benumbed by the biting cold of a winter night, he fell in the snow in front of a gentleman's mansion. Early in the morning, the master of the house, Ishizaka Sotetsu, one of the Shogun's favourite physicians, setting out to visit the Court, found the lad lying senseless in the snow. He caused him to be carried in and cared for. Otani, as the wanderer was called, remained at his benefactor's house for several days, which period he turned to good account. Gambling was almost publicly practised by the servants of the *samurai* at that period, and Ishizaka's people were no exception to the rule. Hearing them thus engaged night after night, Otani conceived the idea of increasing his capital by lending it at a high rate of interest to the gamblers. Starting with only 300 *momme*, he soon found himself in possession of a *ryo* and a half. Learning of this proceeding, Ishizaka gave the youth a similar sum, and he then took leave of his benefactor with sufficient means to set up on his own account, for 3 *ryo* was a considerable sum in those days. By industry, frugality, and perseverance, he prospered so remarkably that, in the course of time, he became a millionaire. His principal business seems to have been that of money-lending. On his death-bed, he called his sons to his side, and told them to bring all the promissary notes from the strong-box. These he bundled together and committed to the flames, telling his astonished sons to think of his origin and make their fortunes for themselves. Higo, the youngest of these sons, was subsequently the father of seven sons, of whom the youngest, Sayemontaro, was adopted into the family of Katsu, a retainer of the Shogun. His son is the present Count Katsu, one of the most respected men in Japan.

Lieut.-General Viscount Miura is believed on all sides to be the most probable successor to Count Inouye, Minister to Korea. Viscount Miura is a native of Choshu, and enjoys the reputation of being a brave soldier and a profound Buddhist scholar. He is certainly a man of great ability, but he has hitherto stood almost wholly aloof from politics, having led a retired and studious life for the past six years. Pak, the fallen Korean Minister of Home Affairs, is stated to be a warm admirer of the Viscount, and is believed to have repeatedly requested him to come over and assist the King in the capacity of adviser. But the Viscount did not entertain the idea. It is reported that he will go to Söul at either the end of this month or the beginning of next.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is now generally believed that the Cabinet has decided to convene an extraordinary session of the Diet, and that an Imperial Proclamation will be issued early in August summoning the Peers and Representatives to assemble in Tokyo within two weeks. A precedent having been established by the extraordinary session of last Autumn at Hiroshima, it is held that the provision in the Law of the Houses (Article I.) requiring the issue of the Proclamation and the meeting of the Diet to be separated by an interval of at least forty days, applies only to an ordinary session. Concerning this alleged decision of the Cabinet, various conjectures are hazarded. Some people say that the convocation of an extraordinary session was one of the three conditions upon which Count Matsukata consented to reconsider his intended resignation; the two other conditions being the appointment of Count Okuma to a Ministerial post, and the nomination of the principal politicians of the

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Opposition to Local Governorships. Other persons maintain that the Government has always had the idea of convening an extraordinary session, and that nothing has deterred it from doing so except the apprehension of a collision with the Opposition on the subject of the Liaotung Peninsula. It having become plain, however, that the Liaotung question will not precipitate any serious crisis, since the Opposition's project has no chance of obtaining a majority in the Diet, the Cabinet has decided to convene an extraordinary session. We reproduce these rumours for what they may be worth.

The extreme section of the Opposition, namely, the projectors of the suppressed anti-Cabinet agitation, are to hold a grand lecture meeting at the Kinki-kan, Kanda, on the 17th instant. It is advertised that as many as forty-seven distinguished speakers will appear. Forty-seven is a striking number; a number sacred in Japanese ears as recalling the great historical drama of the Loyal Ronins. Is it by mere accident that such a number appears upon the programme of the agitators?

Concerning the question of taxation, the *Chuo Shimbun* mentions a rumour that the Cabinet Ministers are not in favour of any immediate increase, and that they propose to leave the matter untouched for some years to come, meanwhile meeting the increased demand for money by raising a loan. The rumour adds that this plan is likely to obtain the approval of the Radical Party. It has hitherto been supposed that the Government was in favour of increasing the taxes on *saké* and tobacco. Our contemporary, however, seems to believe that the Ministers have changed their minds. Whatever may be the attitude of the Government on this question, it seems certain that none of the Opposition parties is ready to take any initiatory step for the increase of taxes; they are too apprehensive of offending their constituencies.

Much anxiety is entertained about the future of the Korean students in Japan, who number more than 200. They were sent to this country at the instance of Pak, the ex-Minister of Home Affairs, and it is believe that the disgrace of that official may induce the Korean Government either to recall the students or to stop all remittances for their support. Similar incidents have happened more than once in the past. In anticipation of such a contingency, a certain Mr. Oye, a Korean refugee, who has been living in Japan for a long time, is said to be eliciting the assistance of some influential Japanese. The faculty of the *Keio Jijuku*, where most of these students are staying, have sent Mr. Kamada, a warden of that institution, to Korea to ascertain the views of the Söul Government, and, if possible, to secure continued support for the young Koreans.

The Radicals of Kyoto, Osaka, Gifu, Aichi, and the adjacent localities recently held a conference at Nagoya and adopted a resolution, in which severe strictures were passed on the irresponsible conduct of politicians endeavouring to stir up popular excitement with reference to the Liaotung peninsula and in which was recorded their (the Radical's) opinion that public and legislative attention should be devoted to Naval, Military, and industrial questions, now of most urgent importance to the country. The resolution has been forwarded to the head-quarters of the Party in Tokyo.

The conduct of a section of the Radical Party that recently manifested a tendency to cöoperate with the Progressionists, gave rise to rumours that the *Jiyu-to* was on the brink of a serious dissension. But the impetuous youths of the Party seem to have been successfully brought under control, and it is now generally understood that the Party is unanimously pledged to a policy of abstention from all anti-Cabinet agitations. A few days ago, the principal members held a conference at their head-quarters, to consider a Manifesto. The document will not be published in full till its final approval by a general meeting of the Radicals shortly to be convened for the purpose. The general tone, however, is believed to be moderate and reasonable. According to information gathered by certain journals as to its contents, the Radicals are not completely satisfied with the manner in which the Liaotung question has been handled, but they are at the same time sensible that under the circumstances it was perhaps impossible to pursue any other course. Even if the Cabinet be blameworthy, however, the present is not, in their opinion, a time to discuss such a subject. They counsel the devotion of the Party's energy to the question of Military and Naval augmentation. The Manifesto, it is said, will be published before long.

It is said that among the measures to be submitted to the extraordinary session of the Diet, in the event of its convocation, there will be included a Bill for the establishment of an Iron Foundry. The details of the Bill are now in process of elaboration by competent experts, and the work will be placed under official control, with a capital of 6,000,000 *yen*, to be paid up in four years.

The law-suits instituted by dismissed military coolies against their contractors have all resulted in the disgraceful defeat of the latter. Unscrupulous contractors that robbed the poor hard-working coolies of a portion of their legitimate earnings deserve all the public censure they are now receiving. As to the allegation that some Army Pay-masters were implicated in the matter, no proof is forthcoming, and the public shows no inclination to credit such stories.

Viscount Takashima, ex-Minister of War, was regarded by most of the Opposition papers as the principal instigator of Count Matsukata's intended resignation. There seems to have been no truth whatever in that story, though in in point of fact Viscount Takashima, being a close friend of Count Matsukata's, might have been suspected of taking such a course. It may be assumed that the Count's presence in the Cabinet will deter all opposition on the part of the soldier-politician. Whenever there is talk the Viscount is supposed to be at work. He is in short regarded as a short of a political barometer. So long as he remains quiet, people think that the so-called non-military section of the Clan statesmen—namely those now in power—may be at ease, with regard, at any rate, to intrigues and opposition from the military section. In this context some persons seem to attach importance to a statement recently made by the Viscount to a representative of the *Hochi Shimbun*, namely, that he is on the best of terms with Count Ito, and that he always converses with the Premier in the frankest and most unreserved manner.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

It has already been mentioned that the Monetary System Investigation Council decided that the time had not yet come to introduce any change in the monetary system of the country. But a large minority was in favour of the introduction of a gold standard. It is now reported that a similar view is held by the leading members of the Radical Party. The subject has been under investigation during the past few years in the political bureau of that party. It is true that the Radicals are opposed to any immediate change, but they are reported to be of opinion that the adoption of a gold standard should be the aim of the nation's financiers. On the other hand, it is stated that Mr. Taguchi, editor of the *Keizai Zasshi*, and Prof. Wadagaki, of the Imperial University, contemplate the formation of a society for the promotion of bimetallism, and that their project is supported by a large number of bankers.

Much speculation is hazarded as to the probable crop of rice. The interval of ten days from the 11th to the 20th of July, termed *hassen*, constitutes one of the most important periods in the growth of the rice plants, and conseqnently the state of the weather during that interval is regarded by the farmers as a sure indication of the probable yield. Cool and rainy weather during the *hassen* is believed to stunt the growth of the young rice plants so seriously that the injury can never be completely compensated by fine weather during the rest of the season. Considerable anxiety is, therefore, caused by the present state of the weather.

The fact that, in anticipation of keen competition in the business of marine transportation, a number of individual shipowners have organized a league, has already been mentioned in these columns. It is now reported that some of the more influential of these shipowners contemplate the establishment of a large joint stock steamship navigation company. Mr. Asano Soichiro, of Tokyo, and Mr. Hirose, of Osaka, are stated to be the principal projectors. They hope, it is said, to obtain a substantial subsidy from the State. Ship-owners are evidently puzzled what to do with the steamers that they purchased for the immediate purpose of chartering them to the Government as transports. Several of these vessels are old and unfit for use on long routes, as they consume a large quantity of coal.

The Nippon Ginko (Bank of Japan) has just lowered its rates of interest. The reason seems to be two-fold, first to stimulate the revival of trade, and secondly, to find employment for large sums of money lying unused in the vaults of the bank. A considerable portion of the money placed to the credit of the Military authorities to meet war expenses, remains unemployed and is being gradually paid back to the Bank. It is stated, for instance, that in the case of the First Division alone, the sums thus refunded to the Bank amount to over a million *yen*. The Bank's example will be followed by the other banks sooner or later, but for the present no such tendency is noticed.

Several banks and companies have just declared dividends for the past half-year. The Tokyo Stock Exchange has declared 40 per cent. per annum; the Mitsui Ginko, 8 per cent.; the Tokyo Spinning Company, 9 per cent.; the Tokyo Commercial Bank, 7⅛ per cent.; the Tokyo Tramway Company, 22 per cent.; the Tokyo Rice Exchange, 30 per cent.; and the Tokyo Electric Light Company, 8 per cent.

DECISION IN THE POLITICAL CASE.

The Tokyo Local Court gave judgment in the appealed political case on the 11th instant. The decision of the Shiba District Court was partially reversed, Messrs. Suzuki Shigetoo, Kudo Kokan, and Ozaki Yukio being sentenced to a fine of 20 *yen* each, while Messrs. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Shigetaka, and Taguchi Ukichi were acquitted on the ground of insufficient evidence to substantiate the charge that they acted as originators or officials of the association. Messrs. Suzuki, Kudo, and Ozaki are reported to contemplate a further appeal to the Tokyo Court of Cassation.

TEUKCHAM AND SINCHU.

A correspondent writes:—"With reference to the account in the *Japan Mail* (13th instant) of operations in Formosa, you may be interested to know that Teukcham and Sinchu *are* one and the same place. Teukcham was the usual native name, dating a good way back, while Sinchu was the name bestowed by officialdom in Mandarin Chinese. In the vagaries of Chinese dialects, I believe that the native 'Teuk' or 'Tiek' and the Mandarin 'chu' are represented by the same character. Somewhat similarly associated are the native 'Toa-hung' and the Mandarin 'Taotzu-yuan'; the native 'Iongliek' and the Mandarin 'Chung-li'" This information dispels the confusion caused by the Hongkong telegram speaking of "Teukcham" and the Japanese speaking of "Sinchu." But on the recently published Japanese map, the capital of the province—*i.e.* the town taken by the Japanese—is written 新竹 (Sinchu), whereas the place mentioned in the Hongkong telegram appears as 竹塹. The latter, however, is an insignificant spot on the sea-coast.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

RAILWAYS IN JAPAN.

According to statistics obtained by the *Kokumin Shimbun* from the Imperial Railway Bureau, the total mileage of railways in operation at the end of March last was 2,130 miles; that of lines under construction or projected was 1,042 miles 57 chains, and the number of railway companies was 29. The following table shows the names, capital, total mileage, and mileage open to traffic of the various lines in actual operation, State Railways being excluded :—

Name.	Capital *Yen.*	Total Mileage Miles.	Lines open for Traffic Miles.
Nippon Tetsudo	30,000,000	799.66	596.66
Sanyo Tetsudo.....	13,000,000	307.47	191.46
Kyushu Tetsudo	11,000,000	271.01	161.05
Chiku-ho Tetsudo ...	3,700,000	38.47	30.47
Sanuki Tetsudo	330,000	10.15	10.15
Kobu Tetsudo	1,350,000	27.17	27.17
Kansai Tetsudo	6,500,000	114 22	66.53
Osaka Tetsudo	3,000,000	45.25	38.48
Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo	6,500,000	204.71	204.71
Ryo-mo Tetsudo	1,500,000	52.17	52.17
Han-kai Tetsudo.....	400,000	6.13	6 13
Iyo Tetsudo	175,200	13.02	10.19
Settsu Tetsudo.....	240,000	8.35	8.35
Kushiro Tetsudo	200,000	26.67	26.67
Sano Tetsudo	145,000	23.58	23.58
Sangu Tetsudo.....	1,100,000	9.60	9 60
So-bu Tetsudo	1,200,000	31.40	31.40
Hoshu Tetsudo	2,000,000	43.65	—
Nan-wa Tetsudo	500,000	16.40	—
Kawagoye Tetsudo...	300,000	18.40	18.40
Aoume Tetsudo	100,000	13.07	11.40
Han-tan Tetsudo.....	1,000,000	30.57	23.00
Nara Tetsudo	1,000,000	25.53	—
Bo-so Tetsudo	350,000	11 75	—
Ota Tetsudo.....	170,000	12.18	—
Nan-yo Tetsudo	95,000	6.57	—
Dogo Tetsudo	38,000	3.07	—
Naniwa Tetsudo.....	250,000	8.13	—
Hatsuse Tetsudo.....	500,000	12.17	—
Total	86,643,203	2,193.12	1,549 39

With regard to State Railways, figures relating to them at the end of March last were as follow:

Line.	Capital *Yen.*	Total Mileage Miles.	Open for Traffic Miles.
Tokaido & Naoyetsu.	38,103,252	557.49	557.49
Fukushima-Hirosaki (Owu)	12,686,126	298.26	23.20
Tsuruga-Toyama (Hokuriku)	5,764,954	123.58	—
Total	56,554.332	979.33	580.69

The grand totals for both private and State lines are as follow :—

Private Lines.	Capital *Yen.*	Total Mileage Miles.	Open for Traffic Miles.
Private Lines	86,643,200	2,193.12	1,549 39
State Lines	56,554.332	979.33	580.69
Total	143,197,532	3,172.45	2,130.08

THE "NIPPON."

The *Nippon* has the following note in its issue of the 17th instant :—"On Sunday (7th) we replied to the *Mail's* criticisms of our views on the subject of the Siberian Railway. Our contemporary answered us in its issue of yesterday, sacrificing nearly half a column of its space for the purpose. We could not but peruse a note which cost the *Mail* the mature consideration and serious meditation of more than a week. It simply asks us to point out how the trans-Caspian railway can serve as a tradal route between Europe and Asia. It seems to us that this line could serve to bring Asia and Europe into a closer relationship and to promote the peace of the world, if England would only consent to the extension of her Indian railway so as to bring the two into direct connection. But this is, we regret to say, exactly what England is prevented from doing by her fear of Russia. How does that strike the *Mail*? We do not think it necessary to dilate much on this topic."

Neither do we (*Japan Mail*). The *Nippon* is wandering further and further into space. The whole question at issue is whether the Trans-Caspian Railway is likely to prove a great tradal route between Europe and the Far East, or whether it is likely to serve rather for military purposes. The *Nippon* now says that if England would connect her Indian system of railways with the Trans-Caspian Line, Asia and Europe would be brought into closer relationship and the peace of world would be promoted! It adds politely that England is afraid to make the connection. Does it amuse the *Nippon* to sneer at England? If so, it has discovered a perfectly innocuous pastime, for England has not the smallest objection to be sneered at by it. As for ourselves, we desire to explain to the *Nippon*, that if some delay occurred in noticing its previous comments, the triviality of the matter was responsible. Now that the whole discussion has been reduced by our contemporary to irrelevant persiflage, we feel justified in retiring definitely.

THE SCHOOL OF THE MORNING STAR.

The Annual Distribution of Prizes took place at the School of the Morning Star in Tokyo on the 8th instant, in the presence of a large concourse of spectators, among whom were His Grace Mgr. Osouf, the Representatives of France, Great Britain, and Italy, and many Japanese of position in official and educational spheres. The various pieces on the programme were excellently rendered, all the lads giving evidence of careful preparation. The school seems to be constantly growing in size, and we cannot but regret the illiberality that withholds from such an excellent educational institution the status of a duly recognised public school. The prizes were handed to the students by the Archbishop, the French Minister, and the British *Chargé d'Affaires*. There were too many prizes, we venture to think: were the number smaller they would be more valued, and the stimulus given by them would be keener. We append the programme :—

Chœur d'Ouverture; Gloire immortelle ... ...par Gounod.

MR. JOURDAIN S FIRST LESSONS IN USEFUL KNOWLEDGE

(Adapted from Molière.)

CHARACTERS :

Mr. Jourdain ..... G Nakayama.
Dancing-Master ..... Ch. Thorn.
Music-Master ..... H. Pitts
Fencing-Master ..... D. Ailion.
Philosopher ..... B. Dithlefsen.

Lackeys.

Le Calife de Bagdad, Ouverture ..... par Boïeldieu.
Orchestre de l'Ecole.
Der Gerettete Füngling (von Herber)..... K. Rishow.
Die Sürtenpfeife (von Bfeffel)..... { J. Jesselsen. T. Jesselsen.
Divertissement (à six mains) par Bach... { J. Mason. K. Rischow. D. Ailion.

LA TIRE-LIRE DE M. CHATFINET.

Comédie en 1 acte. en prose.

PERSONNAGES :

Chatfinet, rentier ..... V Ogawa.
Durozoir, capitaine ..... G. du Bousquet.
Baptiste, domestique ..... K. von Fallot.
Greffard ..... A. Dentici.
L'Orage par Steibelt. solo de piano ..... J. Mason.

SHINUSUEITO.

Daimyō, Rakuōkō ..... Sh. Tassei.
Shijin, Kwanchazan..... Koz. Saito.
Shinusubito, Hanawa..... Sh. Kobayashi.
Toritsugi ..... H. Kofuji.
Chœur final: La Cigale et la Fourmi..... par. W. Moreau.

DISTRIBUTION DES PRIX.

TELEGRAPHIC INFORMATION FROM FORMOSA.

In our last issue we referred to the rapidity with which telegraphic information of a raid made by Chinese insurgents against Sinchu had been received in Japan. The explanation is that the Foochow (Pagoda Anchorage) and Tamsui cable is employable for transmitting intelligence, the Japanese working at the Taipeh end, and the Chinese at Foochow. From the latter place to Nagasaki *via* Shanghai there is, of course no difficulty. It is probable, also, that as the one railway in Formosa extends from Taipeh to Sinchu, the line of telegraph along it has been brought into working order. When the Japanese get to Tainan the cable from that place to the Pescadores will presumably be available.

SEMI-ANNUAL RETURNS OF JAPANESE FOREIGN TRADE.

In spite of the war, Japan's foreign trade for the first half of the present year shows a marked increase over the corresponding period of last year, as may be seen from the following table :—

MERCHANDISE.

	First Half of 1895. Yen.	First Half of 1894. Yen.
Exports	59,444,559...	50,103,857
Imports	60,027,078...	56,648,449
Total	119,471,637...	106,752,306
Excess of Imports over Exports..	582,518...	6,544,592

SPECIE.

	Yen. (Excess of Export.)	Yen. (Excess of Import.)
Export.....	17,565,671...	15,220,783
Import.....	2,274,937...	16,016,530
Difference	15,290,634...	795,747

Thus, compared with the first six months of last year, there has been, this year, an increase of 9,340,702 *yen* in exports, and of 3,378,629 *yen* in exports, or an aggregate expansion of 12,719,332 *yen*. Another noteworthy feature is that the excess of imports over exports, which was 6,544,592 *yen* in the first half of 1894, has decreased this year to 582,518 *yen*. As to specie, the extraordinary excess of exports over imports for this year is explained by the purchase of war material from abroad. The following tables show the comparative figures for the principal articles of export and import during the six months of 1894 and 1895 :—

Exports.

	First Half, 1895. Quantity.	Value. Yen.	First Half, 1894. Quantity.	Value. Yen.
Raw Silk (catties) ...	1,787,604	24,631,359	2,034,014	24,849,735
Noshi and Waste Silk (catties)	1,848,548	3,428,319	1,697,969	2,494,695
Tea (catties	16,742,391	4,634,142	20,227,212	4,832,472
Copper, wrought and unwrought (catties)	11,485,266	2,380,224	14,104,723	2,674,867
Coal (tons).....	928,332	3,890,054	981,957	3,522,214
Habutaye (tans)	326,829	5,248,331	171,403	2,875,607
Silk Handkerchiefs (doz.)	717,674	2,184,702	645,150	1,558,852
Rice (piculs)	1,547,978	6,158,691	919,058	3,477,709
Matches (gross)	8,394,947	2,334,274	6,926,220	1,702,386
Other Articles	—	17,153,360	—	13,115,360
Total	—	59,444,559	—	50,103,857

Difference.

	Quantity.	Value. Yen:
Raw Silk (catties) ..	* 246,410	* 818,377
Noshi and Waste Silk (catties)	† 150,579	* 66,375
Tea (catties)	* 3,484,821	* 198,285
Copper, wrought and unwrought (catties)	* 2,619,457	* 294,642
Coal (tons)	* 55,625	† 368,740
Habutaye (tans)	† 155,366	† 2,372,724
Silk Handkerchiefs (doz.)	† 72,524	† 625,849
Rice (piculs)	† 628,920	† 2,680,981
Matches (gross)	† 2,168,727	† 631,888
Other Articles	—	† 4,038,199
Total.....	—	† 9,340,702

Imports.

	First Half, 1895. Quantity.	Value. Yen.	First Half, 1894. Quantity.	Value. Yen.
Cotton (catties).....	76,393,439	11,558,158	65,808,890	10,322,289
Cotton Yarn (catties)	6,197,957	2,816,218	9,817,070	4,853,596
Gray Shirtings (yards)	17,371,399	1,113,658	13,294,656	373,553
Mousseline de Laine (yards)	9,971,113	1,838,837	20,459,138	1,714,441
Italian Cloths (yards)	893,041	263,755	1,741,838	439,080
Sugar (catties)	114,091,660	5,196,472	124,943,886	6,993,118
Kerosene (gallons) ...	25,386,792	2,455,812	27,222,551	2,415,986
Rice (piculs)	544,659	1,450,282	2,232,409	5,537,983
Peas and Beans (catties)	30,825,880	674,605	97,032,875	2,050,963
Other Articles	—	32,638,988	—	21,407,436
Total	—	60,027,078	—	56,648,449

Difference.

	Quantity.	Value. Yen.
Cotton (catties).....	† 20,584,549	† 1,235,868
Cotton Yarn (catties).....	* 3,619,713	* 2,037,378
Grey Shirtings (yards)	† 4,076,749	† 740,105
Mousseline de Laine (yards)	* 487,325	† 124,396
Italian Cloths (yards)	* 348,777	* 175,124
Sugar (catties)	* 10,852,226	* 1,776,645
Kerosene (gallons)	* 1,835,759	† 39,826
Rice (piculs)	* 1,686,750	† 4,067,700
Peas and Beans (catties)	* 66,226,995	* 1,376,268
Other Articles	—	† 11,191,521
Total	—	† 3,878,629

* Denotes decrease, † increase.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, from which these figures are quoted, thinks that at the present rate the total foreign trade of the country for this year will reach 250 or 260 million *yen*. Last year, the total for the first six months was 106,751,306, and that for the latter six months, 123,965,735 *yen*, amounting altogether to more than 230 *yen*. Taking into consideration the prosperous condition of the silk trade and the general revival of business in the country, our contemporary believes that the above mentioned aggregate sum will be probably attained.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EDUCATIONAL AND LITERARY.

Summer schools have become a fixed feature in Japanese education. The Buddhist students are about to hold their fourth Summer School at the Ko-nen temple at Misaki, in the Province of Sagami. The lecturers are the Right Rev. Shimaji Mokurai, the Right Rev. Shaku So-en, Professor Murakami Sensei, Mr. Ouchi Seiran, and a few others. Among the supporters of the school, we notice the names of H.E. Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Communications, Dr. Sato, Surgeon-General of the Army, Professor Inouye Tetsujiro, of the Imperial University, Professor Nanjo Fumio, and a lot of other distinguished persons, both lay and clerical. The expense on account of board and lodging is only 14 *sen* per diem. The Christian students held their summer school in Kyoto, during the days ending July 10th, the Assemblage Hall and Divinity buildings of the Doshisha College being placed at their disposal. The President was Mr. Kosaki Hiromichi, the respected head of the Doshisha, and among the Lecturers were Professors Onishi Shuku, Morita Kumato, Ukida Kazuto, the Reverends Uyemura Masahisa and Miyagawa Tsuneteru; and Messrs. Albricht, Gulick, and Uchimura Kanzo. Two other Summer Schools are announced in the vernacular press. They are those of the To-a Gaku-in and Meiji Gikai, both private institutions in Tokyo, one devoted to the study of Chinese and Japanese literature, and the other to the study of science and national literature.

The recent war and the change produced by it in the international position of Japan, have given a powerful stimulus to the study of foreign languages. Naturally, the languages most directly affected were Korean and Chinese. The demand for a large number of interpreters of those tongues called into existence several schools in Tokyo and other large cities. This feature was more or less temporary, however, and the cessation of the war has already resulted in the disappearance of the schools. But on the whole, the study of the two languages, especially Chinese, is more popular now than it was at any time before the war. Russian is receiving a great dead of attention. There is a private institution in the Capital where that language is taught, and we understand that a project in on foot for establishing another school on a larger scale. For some years an increasing desire has manifested itself among the Japanese to know something about Russia and the Russians. Translations of the works of Russian novelists, especially those of Tolstoi, were received with favour. A fresh and powerful impetus has been given to this tendency by the turn of events during the last few months. But the language whose status has been most extensively and permanently improved is English. A universal disposition is manifested by Japanese educational institutions, Governmental and private, high and low, to give more attention and time to instruction in English. Much of this tendency is no doubt attributable to the improved and improving state of Japanese public sentiment toward Great Britain. But the principal reason is to be sought in fuller recognition of the importance of English as a medium for conducting business transactions and international intercourse. There may be occasional fluctuations in the study of English, but its position in the national education of Japan seems to be now fixed and permanent, whatever may hereafter be the political relations between the two peoples.

Students of Japanese classical literature have just been placed under a great debt of gratitude to Mr. Mozume Takami by the publication of his "Nippon Dai Jirin" (Enlarged Dictionary of the Japanese Language). During the past ten years, three dictionaries of high merit have been produced, namely, "Gen-kai" (Ocean of Words), by Mr. Otsuki Fumihiko, "Nippon Dai-Jisho," by Mr. Kamada Bimyosai, and "Kotoba-no-Hashi," by Mr. Mozume. The present volume may be regarded as an enlargement of the last mentioned work by the same author. It leaves little to be desired in the field of classical words, and is thoroughly worthy of its author's high scholarship. But, as the Editor of the *Waseda Bungaku* recently remarked, it is to be regretted that Mr. Mozume did not pay more attention to the large and valuable class of terms added to the Japanese language under the authority of such *literateurs* as Chikamatsu, Saikaku, Ikku, Samma, and others that flourished in the golden age of literature during the Tokugawa era. It is true that these words are in many cases of vulgar origin, but having once been incorporated into the language, they are entitled to find their place in any dictionary of respectable size.

The *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* advocates the advisability of furnishing *raconteurs* with interesting accounts of the more noteworthy deeds of bravery and heroism achieved by Japanese soldiers during the recent Chinese campaign. The *raconteur*, or *koshakushi*, is a great factor of popular education in Japan. Much of the historical knowledge possessed by the lower and uneducated classes in this country is derived from this unique class of public performers. The terms *koshakushi* is not exactly translated by either the English "story-teller" or the French "raconteur." Each of the foreign terms includes the Japanese *koshakushi* and *hanashika*, whereas the two are quite distinct in Japan, the *koshakushi* occupying himself with historical or legendary stories, while the *hanashika's* field is restricted to short fictitious tales calculated to excite only mirth and laughter. The *Asahi* asserts that the *hanashika* is generally in favour with the middle class, and that the *koshakushi* is patronized by artizans and working people. Incidents connected with the Chinese war have already been woven by some of the leading *koshakushi* into interesting stories, and are employed to entertain audiences night after night. Our contemporary seems to think that there is a room for improvement in this field.

Mr. Uchimura Kanzo, author of "Japan and the Japanese," is one of the most impassioned writers of his day. In the last number of the *Kokumin-nô-Tomo*, he answers the question why a great literary leader has not yet appeared to guide the Japanese in their new career of expansion and conquest. He tells his countrymen that a great writer, in the true sense of the term, can not be born except among people with high ideals and noble aspirations, and he asks his readers if such ideals and aspirations have been encouraged under the present educational system. He says that the system now in vogue has succeeded in turning out a generation of young men remarkably suited for the ordinary walks of life, patient, plodding, well-disciplined, and obedient, but that the rigid discipline of scholastic courses has crushed the spirit of independence and originality. He, therefore, insists that the public educational system should be placed on a more liberal and broader basis. He also deplores the absence of intensity of sentiment and breadth of sympathy among contemporary men of letters. "Think, feel, and live in deeper earnest; then and then only will it be possible to create a great and immortal literature."

We should very much like to have some clear statement as to what Mr. Uchimura means by "a more liberal and broader basis of education." Does he want the curricula of the schools and colleges extended so as to embrace a wider range of subjects, or would he leave the lads greater freedom of choice? Frankly speaking, we think that to formulate irresponsible platitudes is the curse of modern Japan. Politicians, philosophers, educationists, moralists—every one deals in sonorous generalities and no one desends to practical details. Mr. Uchimura is as vague as the vaguest. For the rest, had we been asked to name the most conspicuous defect of Japanese educational methods, we should have asserted without hesitation, want of discipline. Why, a short time ago, so many instances were recorded of school-boys' organizing resistance to unpopular teachers or unwelcome methods, that it seemed as though the control of the schools must pass altogether from the masters to the students. And now we have Mr. Uchimura declaring that the rigid discipline of the schools tends to cramp the scholars' minds, to flatten their bumps of ideality. At least that is what he seems to mean. But what does he really mean? Can anything be more exasperating than this nebulous grandiloquence? When we read the speeches of Japanese political agitators, ethical philosophers, or religious reformers, we are sensible of one wish only, that they would descend from the clouds of rhetoric to the solid ground of reason, and that the apprehension of affording material for criticism would seem to them less terrible than the curse of being always incomprehensible. Clear statement is an infallible accompaniment of distinct conception. If the critics and politicians of journalistic Japan really knew what they wanted, they would have less difficulty, we suspect, in imparting the knowledge to others.

THE "NIPPON-JIN."

We welcome the re-appearance of the *Nippon-jin* under the joint editorship of Mr. Shiga Taka and Mr. Miyoki Fujiro. Eight years ago, in 1888, the journal was started by a small coterie of young and ardent writers who first raised the cry of "Japan for the Japanese," which principle they clothed in the picturesque garb of *Kokusui Hoson*, or the preservation of national excellencies. The *Nippon-jin* was for some years the centre and organ of the movement originated by the projectors of the journal itself. Perhaps it is not perfectly correct to say that the movement originated in that manner, for the idea was already in the air. But to the enthusiastic editors of the *Nippon-jin* belongs the credit of having given to the sentiment definite shape and aim. In the excess of their ardour and in their inexperience, these writers repeatedly gave cause for police interference, and finally the journal had to be replaced by a magazine, the now defunct *Ajiya* (Asia). In the opening article of the resuscitated periodical, we are told that, the effect of the recent war being destined to consolidate the nationalistic movement and to open new careers for the Japanese, and these facts being appreciated, the writers on the staff of the journal laid aside their pens and followed the fortune of arms in the field. The war is now over, but certain events connected with the restoration of peace, having dissatified these literary and military men, they think it incumbent upon them to take up their pens again in order to give a timely warning to their countrymen.

The number before us contains two other leading articles, one upon the assertion of the national rights, being a refutation of various erroneous ideas connected with the subject; and the other upon the Siberian Railway, in which our contemporary takes a position somewhat similar to that assumed by the *Nippon*. We propose to review the latter article separately and more fully.

Among the contributed articles, may be mentioned the "Eastern Question," by Mr. Takahashi Kenzo, Editor-in-Chief of the *Osaka Asahi Shimbun*; the "Age of Reform," by Mr. Inukai Ki, one of the most celebrated member of the Progressionist party; and "Cosmopolitan Japanese," by Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki, a well known Christian writer.

There are several interesting literary articles, of which we may mention one on Poetry in Australia, by Mr. Shiga Shigetaka, and another as a New Tendency in Japanese Literature, by Mr. Taoka. Mr. Shiga's article is not completed, but from what has thus far appeared it seems to be a well thought-out review of the general characteristics of Australian poets. Mr. Taoka—which, by the way, seems to be an assumed name—points out that the most remarkable feature of current literature is an increase of tragic elements. A number of Chinese poems and Japanese verses by men and women of more or less repute, and a historical reminiscence of the Restoration days, by Mr. Miyake Yujiro, complete the contents of the present number.

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CHINESE ITEMS.

Full details of the withdrawal of the guard of British blue-jackets and marines from Anping are furnished by a correspondent of the *North China Daily News*. Little, however, is added to our previous knowledge. The Black Flag leader, Liu Yung-fu, had been making himself decidedly obnoxious and had been barely reduced to order, when suddenly orders were received for the withdrawal of the guard. Naturally the greatest uneasiness resulted among the community. Both Admiral Buller and Sir N. O'Conor are acquitted of all responsibility for the step. Nobody seems to understand it, however. At all events, since we know that four British vessels were subsequently ordered to remain in the vicinity of Anping, the incident of the withdrawal need cause no further concern.

From the same correspondent's letter we quote the following :—

Making every allowance for political and military exigencies it does not seem to us that the Japanese have shown that consideration for foreign interests in Formosa which might justly have been expected of them. As far as we know, they have made no effort whatever, either by quickly terminating the crisis, or even by giving some intimation of their wishes and intentions, to enable us to prepare, to some extent at least, for coming events. By their procrastination they have undoubtedly enabled the opposition in the southern two-thirds of the island to assume proportions, the inconvenience of which they are bound sooner or later to seriously appreciate. Had they made simultaneous attacks if only on the treaty ports of the island, and occupied them, it is probable, from what we now know, that the resistance would have been at its minimum, and that as in the case of the North, possession, constituting effective *pieds à terre*, would have been secured after, at most, a struggle of a day or two. Their recent disastrous experience at the north of the T'aikah river must have shown them how formidable are the obstacles which they will now have to overcome.

Liu Yung-fu, aided by the people, including all the Hakkas, has had time to organise over the whole country, a system of guerilla or "bush" warfare, which with all their resources, the Japanese must find most costly in life and time to overcome. That the latter will eventually succeed must be assumed of a nation that has done what they so recently have shown themselves capable of effecting, but when this conclusion can be arrived at, or how, is a problem on which, with the only data available, we should not like to venture a surmise.

With the typhoon season in full swing and the consequent liability to have operations abruptly interfered with, both by storms to seaward and rains on land, no doubt the difficulties are immeasurably increased.

We hear that an expedition left Port Arthur on the 13th, that is ten days ago, but we have not seen or heard anything further, and assume that the war and transport-vessels are weather-bound in the Pescadores. This inaction on the part of the Japanese, coupled with the reports of the disasters they are meeting with in the north, both at the hands of the people and of disease, has rendered popular belief in native prowess generally, and that of the Black Flags particularly, more enthusiastic than ever.

We have heard nothing of the "recent disastrous experience at the north of the T'aikah river," and it is pretty certain that the Japanese have not met with any disasters in the north. Our readers are aware that the Japanese military authorities, finding it impossible to land troops in the south of Formosa during the prevalence of the S.W. monsoon, decided to march an army overland. It is an undertaking of immense difficulty, and we can scarcely suppose that any decisive blow can be struck at the Black Flags before the closing days of this month, if so soon. There will, of course, be much discontent about the delay. Apparently the Japanese Government were not prepared for the difficulties incidental to the occupation of Formosa, and, indeed, no one else was, for the matter of that. When the public learned that Viscount Kabayama was to have at his disposal a Division of the Guards, mustering some 12,000 of all ranks, the general idea was that no such force would be needed. Now people talk of the inadequacy of the preparations. The one point not to be forgotten is that Japan could not begin to carry home her large armies from Manchuria until after the ratifications of the Shimonoseki Treaty had been exchanged, and while engaged in the former task, she must have found it exceedingly difficult to spare transports for the Formosa expedition.

Urga is a town in Mongolia thirty days' journey from Kalgan. It has a population of about ten thousand Chinese, twenty thousand Mongols, and a hundred Russians, including soldiers. A Swedish missionary proceeded thither last year for the purpose of studying Mongolian. He seems to have worn Chinese costume, and in connection with that fact the Kalgan correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes :—"Mr. Larsen naturally fraternised with the Russians and from them he learned during the winter that the Chinese government had got word of Japanese spies, dressed in Chinese garb, and living at Urga. Orders had been despatched to arrest all such, and execute them immediately. There was not a moment to lose. Mr. Larsen and his companion that night set out for Kiachta over two hundred miles away, and by making the best use of their opportunity, made it in three days. Here they secured Russian clothing and in a few days returned to Urga where they lived unmolested. As to the Japanese spies, there seems to have been only one, and he, getting wind of what was up, hastened to Kiachta, and ere long was back again, to all appearances a faithful subject of his Russian Majesty."

A foreigner "recently returned from Formosa," has stated in Shanghai that the first force of 1,000 men landed by the Japanese in Formosa were opposed by about an equal force under General Chang, and appear to have been worsted. Owing to Chang's wounds, however, the Japanese were able to push on and take Kelung. We do not think this account is trustworthy. At all events, the fact is that the Japanese actually took possession of the whole of northern Formosa without any delay suggesting a check.

The same authority is reported to have said : "However well deserved the reputation of the Japanese for cleanliness may be in their own country, they do not appear to be acting up to it in Formosa. They are disregarding the most ordinary sanitary precautions, drink the filthiest water, and in consequence are suffering acutely from disease."

We fear that this is very probably true. More than one foreign medical expert present with the Japanese armies in Formosa, stated that the sanitary arrangements made by the military authorities were lamentably defective.

A reporter of the *N.-C. Daily News* visited the "Resting House of Ambassadors" in Shanghai where H.E. Wang Chih-tsuen, Special Chinese Ambassador to the Court of St. Petersburg, was lodging on the 8th instant. Wang's ostensible mission was to congratulate the Czar on his accession, but the reporter gathered that he had also settled the Pamir question to the satisfaction of both China and Russia, "the latter being the gainer by a bit of steppe land in north-western Mongolia." Nothing could be gathered as to the rumour that Wang, while in St. Petersburg, succeeded in enlisting Russia's aid against Japan. Our readers probably remember the very portentous stories published some months ago by a Shanghai journal as to the results of Wang's mission.

A Chêngtu missionary has sent to the *N.C.-Daily News* the following translations of placards and proclamations issued before, during, and after the riots which took place on the 28th and 29th of May :—

PLACARD PUT OUT A DAY OR TWO BEFORE THE RIOTS.

"Notice is hereby given that at the present foreign barbarians, are hiring evil characters to kidnap small children that they may extract oil from them for their use. I have a female servant named Li who has personally seen this done. I therefore exhort you good people not to allow your children to go out. I hope you will act in accordance with this."

PROCLAMATION PUT OUT BY CHOU TAOTAI, A HUNAN MAN, ON MAY THE 29TH.

"At the present time we have obtained clear proof that foreigners deceive and kidnap small children. You soldiers and people must not be disturbed and excited. When the cases are brought before us we certainly will not be lenient with them."

PROCLAMATION PUT OUT BY THE VICEROY ON MAY THE 29TH.

"I, the Viceroy, have heard that yesterday at the *Tuanyang* feast, according to the custom of the province, crowds of men and women assembled to witness the scattering of fruit, and that foreigners having gone to witness it, trouble was caused and the chapels were destroyed. It is certain that evil characters have been stirring up trouble in order to steal and rob. Besides clearly searching into this matter, I have also put out a proclamation for the information of you elders, wardens, soldiers, and people. You, my good people, should each follow his own vocation, and should you have any grievance you may petition the officials of the two districts, Chêngtu and Huayang, and I will justly decide without any partiality. You may by no means recklessly help forward these evil men and get yourselves caught in a net. Let the law take its course. For those who assemble evil characters let there be no leniency. This proclamation is put forth for the information of all."

PROCLAMATION BY THE VICEROY ON MAY THE 30TH.

"Evil characters having assembled in crowds and scattered abroad evil rumours, I have already memorialised the Emperor and they may be put to death without trial."

PLACARD PUT OUT ON MAY THE 30TH.

"At the present time when Japan has usurped Chinese territory, you English, French, and Americans have looked on with hands in your sleeves. If in the future you wish to preach your doctrine in China you must drive the Japanese back to their own country. Then you will be allowed to preach your Holy Gospel throughout the country without let or hindrance."

This missionary sending the above, comments on them thus :—"So open and bold an attack by an official upon foreigners has never been known in recent times. If allowed to pass without proper punishment, it goes without saying that there will be no safety in the future for foreigners resident in these parts. The intimation of the Viceroy that the people have grievances was quite enough of a hint to the rioters. To make matters worse these proclamations were both issued on the second day of the riots. On the first day the Canadian Mission's hospital and chapel had been burned. Every official had either refused help or made a mere pretence of giving assistance. The Viceroy had allowed the Catholic Bishop's place only a stone's throw away from his *yamên*, to be destroyed without lifting a finger to prevent it. This attitude would have sufficiently shown his disposition without a proclamation."

Here is a curious fact of which nothing had been publicly heard until its appearance in the *N.-C. Daily News* of the 10th instant :—

Some time ago there was circulated at this port a rumour to the effect that H.E. Wang Chih-ts'uen, Chinese Special Envoy to St. Petersburg, had been shot at by a would-be assassin at Saigon while *en route* for Shanghai. The rumour seemed perfectly ridiculous on the face of it, it being inexplicable why any person in the French colony should entertain animosity against such a comparatively unknown mandarin as his Excellency. The *Shenpao*, however, eventually published a telegram from Hongkong purporting to confirm the news, and upon the arrival of the Envoy by the *Yarra*, a representative of this paper attempted to find out the truth of the story. It now transpires that His Excellency Wang was indeed shot at Saigon, the bullet finding a lodgment in the arm. The wound is now so inflamed that the Envoy had to send a memorial by wire to the Emperor on Mnday night asking for one month's leave in order to have the benefit of good medical advice in Shanghai.

There has been an extensive inundation at Nganlu owing to the bursting of a dam on the river. About 100 lives were lost, but happily the waters receded without being swollen—as was at one time feared—by the bursting of other dams.

The *N.-C. Daily News* editorially contradicts the statement recently published by it on the authority of a foreigner just returned from Formosa, namely, that the sanitary arrangements of the Japanese troops are bad and that they aoe drinking dirty water. Our con temporary nrw says that such is not the case ; that although the

soldiers, not being supplied with their summer kit, suffered severely at first from the heat, they are faring well at present, and are rapidly getting into trim for the work before them. The following interesting details are given in the same article :—

By the latest accounts a force of some 2,000 men which left Taipehfu in the middle of last month had reached Tekcham and established a provincial government there. The use of the railway was almost impossible, as sleepers had been removed, the line torn up in places, and attempts made to destroy the bridges. Strategically it would have been better to have despatched the force in two bodies to Tekcham by separate routes, but as the troops were not too numerous, it was decided to follow the railway track. They soon learned the character of the opposition they might expect. The field telegraph laid on the way was being frequently cut, and the Hakkas and bad characterss harassed and cut down small parties on every opportunity. Half-way to Tekcham, between 5,000 and 6,000 Chinese troops were encountered in position on one of the low hills over which the railway runs. A few shots from a machine gun, and some mountain guns dispersed them, and they withdrew inland, seizing every opportunity to attack isolated groups of the advancing Japanese. Contrary to the preconcerted plan, the Japanese decided to use the railway, with the result that a coupling broke, two or three carriages got loose and ran down a steep incline, bringing about a serious accident. About 50 or 60 were killed and wounded, and these being sent back gave rise to the rumour that the Japanese had lost heavily. Never once did the Chinese make anything like a stand, a few shells causing them to at once disperse. Though armed with serviceable weapons they lacked leadership, and in consequence could do little. Undoubtedly the chief thorn in the Japanese side is Liu Yung-fu, the Black Flag leader, but elaborate preparations are on foot which will result in his speedy discomfiture. An expeditionary corps for the south has been formed which will act in three sections. Landing either at Takao or Anping the first column will advance directly towards his stronghold. The second will act so as to cut off his retreat to the mountains, whilst the third will operate as necessary from the sea. The arrangements will be most complete, and it is confidently believed that the opposition of the Black Flags will be soon overcome. Liu Yung-fu at present has undoubted influence, but signs are not wanting to indicate that his treasury is becoming low. Only the other day some Foochow Chinese approached a foreign hong here with the request they would transmit $200,000 to Formosa. Where the money actually came from is not known, but it was intended for Liu, and the foreign firm refused to have anything to do with it.

The question has presented itself to some minds that the Japanese may have entered on an endless trouble similar to that encountered by the Dutch in Acheen, but our information points to the early overthrow of Liu Yung-fu, who is regarded as the head of the opposing elements. The Japanese evince every inclination to treat the aborigines in a generous spirit, and seem confident of conciliating them. Towards foreigners they have been particularly courteous and have done all in their power to enable business to be transacted as usual. Probably, with the speedy extinction of the existing restless spirits, Formosa under a got ahead administration will make surprising advances towards prosperity, and there are persons who believe that within the next two or three years —so rapid will the progress be—we shall find the island attracting a not inconsiderable number of tourists and "globe-trotters."

The position just now at Anping is curious. The Customs officials have left and the only remaining foreigners are the British Consul and two clerks representing Messrs. Bain & Co. The Chinese invited the latter to manage the Customs, and hand the receipts over to the Black Flag leader, but they naturally refused, and matters there are in a chaotic state.

"One of the beneficial effect of the Japanese taking possession of Formosa," says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, "will be an improvement in our storm warnings. Dr. Doberck has frequently complained of the inadequacy of the meteorological information received from Formosa, but this will now be altered. According to a vernacular contemporary the authorities have under consideration a scheme to establish a number of observatories in Formosa, namely at Kelung, Tamsui, Takao, and Panghu Island, the most important being at the Pescadores."

Mr. T. Hanbury, on the occasion of his visit to the East in 1893, presented a sum of Tls. 500 to be given as prizes for the best essays on one or all of five subjects selected by himself. Full notice was given in the Chinese papers, and, as a result, 172 essays were received, of which the two best, one the longest and the other the shortest, have been translated and published in the *North China Daily News*. The long essay is "On the strengthening of friendly relations between China and the West." It does not evince any remarkable knowledge or insight, but one paragraph in worth quoting :—

With Western nations commercial intercourse and the propagation of religion go hand-in-hand, and at the present time converts are to be found in the interior of our land where foreign trade has not yet reached. To secure friendly relations with Western nations means must be found to secure harmony between people and converts. The high provincial authorities must instruct their subordinates to notify the people that the right of propagation and perfect liberty to enter the Church are secured by Treaty. But proclamations must not take the place of protective measures and these must consist in the active co-operation of the head of the gentry and the local police. Churches and congregations should be registered, protection given to all converts and security taken from all local rowdies, and in the event of such still causing trouble, the gentry and police must be held responsible.

Wan Hang, a native of Hanyang in Anpeh competed, in 1893, for the *Chüjên* degree in Pekin and was placed 25th among 360 candidates. But a censor, however, denounced him for having bribed a proxy to get his degree for him. He was re-examined, and his caligraphy proving different from that of the previous theses, he was deprived of his degree. But he contributed 50,000 Tls. to the war fund, and took the opportunity to explain that the condemned theses had really been composed by himself, but copied out by another, Wan being incapacitated by temporary indisposition. His *Chüjên* degree is restored to him, and he is also permitted to compete for the *Chinshih* degree. Everything in China to those that can pay.

Here are some interesting figures relating to the foreign population of Shanghai :—

While the total foreign population—excluding always the French Concession—has grown from 3,821 in 1890 to 4,684 in 1895, an increase of 863, the number of adult males has only grown from 1,811 in 1890 to 2,068 in 1895, an increase of 257. The number of adult females has grown in the same time from 979 to 1,227, an increase of 248, and of children, fifteen years being taken as the limit of child-hood, from 1,031 to 1,389, an increase of 358. In 1870, a quarter of a century ago, there were 1,666 foreigners altogether in Shanghai, of whom 1,281 were adult males, 218 females, and 167 children. In 1895 there are 4,684 foreigners in all, of whom 2,068 are adult males, 1,227 females, and 1,389 children. To these 4,684 have to be added the residents on the French concession say 430, and a floating population, on vessels in harbour, amounting to 1,306, making a grand total of nearly 6,500. The floating population, it must be remembered, is also a fluctuating one.

When we come to the different nationalities that compose this motley throng of foreigners, for like the Great Twin Brethren,

> By many names men call us,
> In many lands we dwell,

we find that the British still retain their pre-eminence by a long interval. There are 1,935 British subjects in Shanghai out of the total of 4,684; and the preponderance is even more striking if we exclude the Japanese and Portuguese, an exclusion that is not quite accurate, as under Portuguese, those of European birth are not separated from their colonial brothers. But excluding those two, and the Eurasians who are this year for the first time given a line to themselves, British subjects number 1,936 out of a total of 3,443, or considerably more than half. Portuguese come next with 731. Americans come next with 328; but the Germans are running them very close, numbering now as they do 314. Then come Eurasians 260, Japanese 250 —the Japanese colony having been scattered by the war and not yet re-collected,—Spanish, chiefly from the Philippines, 154, French 138, and Indians 119; no other nationality reaching the century. It may be noted that of those under ten, there are Greeks 7, Peruvians 5, Persians 4, Egyptians 3, with one Arabian and one Korean. In all previous numberings of the people the Eurasians were included in the various nationalities of their fathers. In 1890 there were 1,514 British subjects, 564 Portuguese, 386 Japanese (of whom there were 595 in 1885), 323 Americans, 244 Germans, 229 Spanish, and 114 French, out of the total of 3,821; while in 1870, out of the total of 1,666, 894 were British subjects, 255 Americans, 158 Germans, 104 Portuguese, 46 Spanish, 16 French, and only 7 Japanese.

Under threat from Pekin of having to defray all damages out of his own pocket, being deprived of his rank and having his estates confiscated, if any more anti-foreign riots occurred in his district, Leu Ping-chang, Viceroy of Szechuen, has issued a proclamation authorizing foreigners and natives alike to kill rioters.

Another anti-Christian riot has occurred at Pingyang, a China Inland Mission Station, 33 miles south of Wenchow.

A fortnight ago, during the Dragon Boat Festival, boats belonging to two villages 30 *li* from Pingyang had a contest. One of them had to lose the day, and of course did. But what could be the cause? A Taoist priest was called in, who discovered an eyeless idol! Who could have gouged these eyes out if not a Christian? A "medium" confirmed the theory under the influence of a certain god. A band of roughs went along to the house of a prominent Christian, and threatened that if the boat failed again his house would be destroyed. That was Thursday, the 27th of June. The Magistrate was duly informed of the threat. On Saturday they began with a newly erected chapel, which was soon burnt to the ground. A literary gentleman who had been urging the mob against the Christians now fearful of the consequences, regretted the step he had taken and almost on his knees begged the rioters to desist. Their blood was up, it was too late. From one house they went to another, from that to another, until not one of the Christian' houses was left standing. Everything was deliberately taken outside and bonfired; where the house adjoined others it was destroyed, where it stood alone it was given over to the devouring element. The Christians had to flee to the city of Pingyang to the care of the missionary. Next day the rioters sought out other Christians in other villages, and continued the work of destruction. On Monday the Magistrate and the Wênchow Taotai's *Weiyuan*, who happened to be in Pingyang, went off with soldiers. Before reaching the spot a river had to be crossed. "Thousands" of people were waiting on the opposite bank; they had taken possession of the ferry boats. Later the two officials got across in other boats leaving the soldiers behind. They had a difficult task before them, so they soon gave it up and returned, after making the gentry responsible for order.

But order is not yet restored. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, saw more houses destroyed; Friday another, and Saturday another. Every Christian house that side of the river is destroyed, and the rioters are still massed together. Twenty houses are gone, twenty families driven out, and fifty-one homeless natives are residing in the missionary's house and looking to him for help. The rioters now threaten to cross the river and carry the attack further afield. Our Consul, Mr. Fox, has made strong representations to the Taotai, who sent off, it is said, 400 soldiers on Saturday morning. They had not reached Pingyang on Sunday evening, though it is only a 12 hours' journey, and report says they are resting part way, or according to another report, have been refused a passage across the Jiuan river.

The people in this city and neighbourhood extol the valour of the Pingyangites in thus boldly attacking the foreigner and his religion, and the attitude both of young and old here has during the past week become very decidedly antipathetic to every foreigner they see. The youngsters do ten times as much shouting as heretofore, and their elders are much bolder and more abusive. If the infection is not to spread prompt steps will have to be taken. Some suspect a more serious basis for the riots than mere anti-foreign prejudices.

In Szechuen the number of cities and towns where anti-foreign riots took place was 12 in all. But Chungking, the second city in the province, remained quiet. This fact is attributed to the issue of a very strongly worded proclamation by the authorities. The proclamation contains this clause :—"His Majesty has issued an edict strongly condemning the crime of burning and destroying chapels and churches belonging to foreign missionaries and we are further in the receipt of a special edict from the Emperor authorising us to summarily decapitate any person who has been arrested for the crimes mentioned above."

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TWO VOICES FROM ENGLAND.

JAPAN'S sudden promotion to the front rank of Powers and the significance of the fact from a European point of view, have not failed to attract attention among English publicists. In the June number of the *Contemporary Review* we find two essays on the subject, one from the pen of the Hon. REGINALD BRETT. the other from that of Mr. FREDERICK GREENWOOD. Both writers are men of note in the literary world, and in the domain of politics Mr. FREDERICK GREENWOOD'S name will go down to posterity as the man that suggested to Lord BEACONSFIELD the idea of purchasing the KHEDIVE'S shares in the Suez Canal. Great interest, therefore, attaches to the views advanced by such essayists. Their papers in the *Contemporary* cover much ground, but we shall confine ourselves here to one point—the question of an alliance between Great Britain and Japan.

It may be affirmed, we think, that public opinion in Japan is now divided into two camps; the one consisting of men that advocate an alliance with England; the other, of men that regard Russia as Japan's natural associate. There is an immense difference between the sizes of the two groups, the pro-English enormously out-numbering the pro-Russian. Moreover, the basis of the former's political creed is the preservation of peace, whereas the latter's avowed object is territorial aggrandisement. The advocates of an alliance with England maintain that Russia's southern expansion must be checked; that the Korean peninsula must be saved from passing under her sway; that her advance from the Yalu to the Liao and thence to Pekin must be arrested, that, in short, the *status quo* must be maintained as far as possible in the Far East. On the other hand, the exponents of an alliance with Russia, as represented in the columns of their sole newspaper organ, the *Nippon*, allege that Russian encroachments in the north need not seriously concern Japan; that the latter's unique aim should be to provide for her own growth along the line of least resistance, namely, in a southerly direction; that since such growth must involve intrusions upon the spheres of English, French, and Spanish sway, an alliance with Great Britain is out of the question, and that Japan's true policy should be to give Russia a free hand in the north in return for that Power's assistance in removing any obstacles that may present themselves to Japan's southern expansion. Ignorant that Japanese politicians are thus divided; ignorant that the notion of an alliance with either Russia or England has ever been gravely mooted in Japan, the Hon. REGINALD BRETT and Mr. FREDERICK GREENWOOD have discussed these very contingencies, and arrived at virtually the same conclusion—though from totally different points of view—namely, that England's best policy is to remain neutral. Mr. BRETT, referring to Great Britain's refusal to support Germany, Russia, and France in the protest against the Shimoseki Treaty, says that "England has been fortunately saved from an act of extraordinary weakness and folly." He is a sympathetic student of Japan's modern history. "The present year," he writes, "has witnessed the climax of one of the most extraordinary dramas in the history of mankind. In the space of a generation a mighty nation has been born, grown up, and reached man's estate; has passed from barbarism to civilization, from the darkness of CANUTE to the light of the Victorian era. National development, which, according to the experience of mankind, takes centuries to accomplish, has brought Japan out of the dark ages into the forefront of civilization within the span of one man's memory." Of course it will be understood that in quoting this synthesis we do not necessarily endorse it. Our own conviction is that the astonishment produced in the West by Japan's recent achievemente is due, in great part, to a very false estimate of the point from which she started in her race to overtake the Occident. But we are here recording Mr. BRETT'S views only. Our quotation shows that he certainly does not underrate Japan's capacities or her value as an ally. Yet he is averse to the notion of an alliance with her. Let us give his reasons in his own words :—

> If in the future of the Far East a quarrel between Russia and Japan is inevitable, it is not a quarrel in which England need have a hand, and though amity with Russia is the basis of peace for England in Europe and Asia, an offensive and defensive alliance (*i.e.* with Russia), except in face of a great common danger, is, nevertheless, a policy which, though it may suit the exigencies of an Italian adventurer, is not worthy of English statesmen. England can not afford to hang on to the skirts of either Russia or of Japan, and in this sense a neutral England means an independent England, governed by the rule of friendly service to all neighbours, but without fear or favour. It is as a trader, and not as a land-owner, that the interests of Great Britain are supreme in the Far East. * * * In commerce, in influence, England has been hitherto without a rival in the Far East. If she has now to endure the rivalry of Japan in both these peaceful spheres, military rivalry can be left to the competing forces of Japan and Russia. Russia for years has been slowly creeping towards the Southern Pacific. * * * It would seem that, just as in Europe statesmen have been employed for a century in blocking Russia out of a sea-port in the temperate zone, so in Asia a similar policy may not impossibly be advocated. In order to choke Russia with Baltic ice, south-eastern Europe has been deluged with English blood. It is to be devoutly hoped that English politicians will not think it necessary to recommence the game in the Far East. Nor will the still feebler policy obtain, let us hope, of slaughtering Japanese in Manchuria to avert—as it may be thought—the necessity of killing Russians in the Balkan Peninsula. In point of fact, such stop-gap expedients are predestined to failure. Time is on the side of Russia, and no power or combination of Powers can permanently hinder the natural outlet of Russian energy both through the Dardanelles and into the warm Pacific Ocean. Admit this, and thus the rise of Japan redressing the balance of power in the Far East, is an unmixed good for England and for mankind. Even now, in spite of mighty recent events, England is still supreme in the Far Eastern Seas, even though, in a few years, she may find a rival in Japan. The Chinese indemnity will doubtless be largely spent on ships-of-war. Masses of cheap labour and the combined enterprise of her people will enable Japan in her export trade, to compete, if not to excel, the great maritime Power of the West. If England retains the carrying trade of the Pacific, it is possibly as much as she can expect to do in the face of Japanese competition.

Such is Mr. BRETT'S counsel. Briefly stated, it amounts to this :—That England should efface herself altogether as a fighting Power; that she should leave others to battle, if they please; that she should be satisfied with playing a commercial rôle, and that even in the latter, she should quietly shrink into a narrowed sphere in the face of vigorous competition. Is that the spirit that made, or can preserve, the British empire?

Let us turn now to Mr. FREDERICK GREENWOOD. He, too, appreciates, fully appreciates, Japan's potentialities. "The armed rising of Japan," he says, "the sudden conquest of China (which means its awakening too), were never mistaken for small events, or as likely to be of merely passing consequence. That they were the beginning of a great change in the tides of commerce, and would probably end in a momentous transfer of dominion, was immediately apprehended. . . . . Though the war might almost have been a stage rehearsal for all the demand it made on the higher military qualities, those qualities were so spendidly displayed as to be a clear presage of greatness." In addition to this very flattering faith in Japan's capacities, Mr. GREENWOOD is a strong believer in alliances. For years he has been upraiding England because she stood aside from the Dreibund. In this very essay now before us he declares that the union of Germany Austria-Hungary and Italy has ceased to have any practical existence because England always stood aloof from it. "It perishes, that alliance, because of the resolute abstention policy of England, who profited almost as much from it as its sworn members." An advocate, then, of alliances and a believer in Japan's title to rank high among military and commercial States, does Mr. GREENWOOD recommend an alliance between her and Great Britain? He does not. He can scarcely conceive the serious entertainment of such a notion. He calls it "unspeakably barbarous." He cordially endorses MAINE'S dictum that "any European Power allying itself in arms with the yellow races against another European nation would play traitor to the welfare of the whole human race." To him the rise of Japan means the rise of the East against the West; a Mongol inundation of the Occident. He is shocked by a vision "of what our world and its civilization would suffer at the hands of hordes of Chinese, Japanese, Malays, equipped as were the captors of Port Arthur." "As surely," he writes, "as there can be or should be, no European partnership with these exterminating peoples, so surely must Europe keep them in check." Therefore he bitterly upbraids England because she wilfully stood aloof from a coalition of European Powers having for its object the regulation and control of Japan's ambition.

All this would be very unpleasant reading to the Japanese were Mr. GREENWOOD to be regarded as a faithful representative of British opinion or British policy. But he is not. The course advocated by him for years—association with the Triple Alliance—is precisely the course that the British Government has carefully avoided with the approval of the British nation. He now blames England for not allying herself with Russia, which country he describes as "the one great Power in Europe that we were looking to for friendship." Yet hear what he writes about Russia:—

> I suppose it has occurred to most of us that, if there be any one nation in Europe which can naturally, decently, successfully traffic in friendship with Japan, that nation is Russia. It is true that the two countries have hostile interests; but they extend over so vast and diverse an area that mutual accommodation would aggrandise both enormously at the smallest possible outlay. And who but the Russians in Europe are themselves Asiatics—a radically Asiatic people, ever pressing eastward, and with a way of dealing with Asiatics which our own proconsuls do not match in some most serviceable particulars. If, then, Japan is not to be held in by Europe at the beginning of her new career, but is to be admitted into the European system as a sort of probationer, it is obvious that Russia has a great advantage here. For, to all appearance, admission into the European system is one of the strongest of Japanese ambitions; there can be no complete and manifest satisfaction of it till Japan figures as a member of some European alliance; there is nothing in the subcutaneous barbarism of that country to offend the Russians, who massacred at Geok Tepe for as many days, though not, perhaps, with as much *sang-froid* as the Japanese at Port Arther; and, to go no further, there is the theory which we in England are so willing to blink, that nations are more disposed to make friends with those whom they fear and who can hurt them, than with those who love but do not help them. Knowing nothing about the Japanese beyond what may be gathered from books, I yet allow myself to believe that no people on the face of the earth is more likely to act upon that rule; and if so it follows from these various circumstances that a Russo-Japanese understanding is the most probable result of admitting Japan to the European system as a probationer.

Evidently he has as little genuine sympathy with Russia as with Japan. Were England to ally herself with Japan, it would be a course of treachery and wickedness against civilization; were Russia to form such an alliance, it would be natural and decent. Therefore England must try to cultivate Russia's friendship.

We reproduce these opinions without pausing to criticise them in detail, our immediate object being to show what some Englishmen are thinking, not what we think ourselves. Neither by Mr. BRETT, who counsels resignation and self-effacement, nor by Mr. GREENWOOD, who perceives no distinction between Japanese, Malays, and Chinese, can we suppose that the voice of England is echoed truly.

ART AND SCIENCE.

ALL readers of CARLYLE are familiar with the contempt with which he was in the habit of speaking of the eighteenth century. He had towards it a kind of personal grievance: he regarded it as having given birth to a gigantic, but happily unsuccessful, conspiracy to deprive man of his soul. It would be more reasonable to say that many of the philosophers of the eighteenth century, those of whom CARLYLE is especially thinking when he vents his spleen on "poorly babbling atheistic science," tried to deprive man of his body. Looking back from the height to which the lapse of another century has enabled us to climb, it is easy to detect their error; but it does not become us to despise it. In contemplating the work of men of past generations, if we could always keep present to our minds the difficulties with which they had to contend, we should be far more inclined to admire them for the great things they actually effected, than to depise them for their ommissions and their mistakes. The error of the French philosophers of the eighteenth century was a very natural one. Throwing off the trammels of mediæval superstition, by which the operations of the intellect had for centuries been confined within the narrowest limits, they burst into what may almost be called an orgy of expansive thought. Drunk with intellect as with wine, they thought that intellect comprised, or ought to comprise, the whole nature of man; and it was on this postulate, that man was, or could easily be made, an unemotional thinking machine, that they constructed their system to remodel the world. In the history of philosophic thought is recorded an earlier attempt to enthrone the intellect as supreme, an attempt similar in its essence, though differing in matters of detail. The philosophers of the Stoic school taught that the highest exercise of the reason was to suppress emotion. Still earlier, in the East, from which in the beginning all things came, we find in the philosophic aspects of Buddhism the glorification of a similar ideal; for what is Nirvana but the Apathy, Passionless, of the classical philosophers?

A century before the philosophers of France had begun to talk of the Age of Reason, England had witnessed the culmination of the Puritan movement. Widely as a movement based on religious fanaticism may appear to differ from one based on atheistic science, the two had at least this in common, that they endeavoured to starve the emotional side of man's nature. The Puritan movement was followed by a reaction towards sensualism, a reaction so gross in its character that even the most outspoken historians of modern times hesitate to sicken their readers with a faithful picture of the vices of the Restoration.

As the Puritan suppression of emotion had been practical, so the reaction against that suppression took also practical form. As on the other hand, the views of the eighteenth century materialists had been confined mainly to the sphere of thought, so the reaction against those views took a theoretical rather than a practical form. As NORDAU clearly shows in his work on "Degeneration," the Romanticist movement of Germany was one of the most remarkable manifestations of that reaction; and the Pre-Raphælite movement that later so profoundly influenced English art, was but an offshoot of German Romanticism. From these have sprung the later, even more extravagant, movement of our own time, tending to exalt art and the emotions at the expense of science and the intellect. Of many of these movements but faint echoes reach us here in the distant East, but with the character of one at least, the Æsthetic movement, the very name of which tells us than it is an apotheosis of sensation, we are all familiar. By whatever names they are known, whatever absurdities they advocate, these various *fin-de-siècle* artistic schools have at least these doctrines in common, a hatred of science and a worship of emotion. In a clever satire published a few months ago, "The Green Carnation," the doctrines of the leaders of the Æsthetic school are reflected with the most perfect accuracy. We have called the work a satire, but in truth it is merely a mirror. So astounding are the views enunciated by the real individuals who in this book are presented to us under a thin disguise, that their mere record is sufficient to create the impression of satire.

Where then does the truth lie? Is it with the men who taught that emotion exists only for the purpose of being suppressed; or is it with the moderns who teach that the only function of the intellect is to seek new fields for the enjoyment of emotion? Are the training and the exercise of the judgment the sole objects of existence; or is the æsthetic doctrine of moods the true one, and has man become rational only to learn the great truth of the supremacy of instinct? The error of the latter doctrine is so manifest that it is hardly worth refuting. The whole history of the progress of the race has been the history of the emancipation of man from the control of his appetites, and appetites are none the less appetites because we dignify the fruit of their gratification by the name of æsthetic pleasures. If we had to choose definitely between the emotionalists and the intellectualists, we should have no hesitation in casting in our lot with the latter.

No such emotional suicide is, however, necessary or even possible. History shows us with perfect clearness the folly of all such attempts. Man is not, and can never be, a purely intellectual being, such as the eighteenth century philosophers conceived him; in their sense the Age of Reason can never dawn. Intellect is, indeed, destined to assume a more and more dominant place in the direction of the human will; but man must forever remain an animal, and as an animal will forever have an emotional nature, the working of which the intellect may most wisely endeavour to moderate and to guide, but will most unwisely endeavour altogether to suppress. Nor must he despise his animal nature, and, while recognizing its potency, mortify it as a thing of evil. If he treat it as a devil, it will indeed become one, and will take a terrible revenge, as the

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whole history of asceticism will testify. Man is man, not because he has ceased to be an animal, but because he is an animal that has learned to reason. The wise man, then, will seek neither to suppress his emotions nor to make his emotions his guides. He will not despise even the pleasures of the lower senses which he shares most frankly with irrational animals, for he is aware that a certain quantity of pleasure is a necessary requisite of a healthy physical; and therefore of a healthy intellectual, life. He will cultivate as the higher pleasures of existence all those emotions which, peculiar to a highly developed intelligence, tend almost as strongly as his powers of reasoning to distinguish man from the brute; he will, that is to say, cultivate all those emotions to arouse which is the function of art: but he will cultivate them restrainedly, recognizing that one who abandons himself without reserve even to these higher emotions, deserves the censure and will suffer from the punishment that attach to the grosser type of voluptuousness. He will reverence the judgment as the loftiest element in his nature, and will shun all actions that may tend to free his instincts from rational control. And finally the wise man will reverence, even as he reverences the judgment, that emotion which, while it is in its essence a manifestation of his animal nature and in its purely animal indulgence degrades man far below the level of the unthinking brute, yet, when transfigured so as to become spiritual as well as physical, is in truth the crown and the glory of existence—the emotion of sexual love.

A FORMIDABLE INDICTMENT.

NORDAU'S work on "Degeneration" seems likely to attract, as indeed it serves to attract, a good deal of attention. The book is an essay in philosophical criticism, that is in criticism of an extremely rare and valuable kind. The writers and artists he selects for examination are those representing the various latter-day tendencies usually summed up under the conveniently vague term *fin-de-siècle*. The men, and the tendencies, have been criticised freely enough before; but the criticism, based as it was for the most part on outworn religious and social prejudices, served naturally rather to increase than to diminish the number of the adherents of the *fin-de-siècle* schools of thought. Our readers will doubtless remember the story of the particularly blatant anti-theist who was lecturing a sceptic of large views on the iniquities of the Christian religion, and how the sceptic, at the conclusion of the harangue, replied softly in the words used by AGRIPPA to PAUL, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian." Similar was the effect produced in many minds by the indiscriminate abuse showered by orthodox journals on men who represented themselves, and who were considered by their immediate followers, to be the inaugurators of a new era alike in morality and in art. It was remembered that journals of the same calibre, representing the comfortable middle-class Philistine to whom nothing is so repulsive as what BAGEHOT called "the agony of a new idea," had successively resisted all the reforms that we now consider the greatest advances of the century. It was natural to look for great things in a movement which merited the condemnation of the *Standard* and the *Spectator;* it was inevitable that many should come to regard as the apostle of a new truth a man whose writings were declared obscene by the *Saturday Review*. But the rule of admiration by contraries is not invariably safe to follow; and in their resistance to certain *fin-de-siècle* tendencies the champions of conservatism have for once in their lives been pointing out the path of true progress. It is true that, as we have already indicated, their injudicious and obviously partisan criticism served, as it usually does serve, to drive men over to the side they were condemning—we remember that an agnostic friend once told us that her first step in the direction of freedom of thought arose from a perusal of PALEY'S "Evidences of Christianity"—but still, they will have the rare pleasure, when they read NORDAU'S book, of saying to themselves, "Here at least is one case in which history has not proved us to be in the wrong."

As to the truth of the general proposition "Innovation is not always progress, but the new is often better than the old," we suppose both conservatives and reformers would find no difficulty in agreeing. The difference arises when they come to the practical application. With regard to every proposed change fanatical conservatives say: "In this instance innovation is undoubtedly not reform." With regard to every proposed change fanatical reformers say: "In this instance the new is undoubtedly better than the old." It is evident that no reasonable method of choice can be expected from zealots actuated either by a blind fondness for the old, or by an equally blind fondness for the new. What we need is some broad general test, some touchstone by the application of which we can determine whether any proposed social change, any reconstruction of our moral ideal, any radical upheaval of accepted views in literature and art, is likely to be beneficial or the reverse. And such a test modern science is happily in a position to supply. The greatest reform ever effected in ethical science has been the reorganization of our conception of duty which this century has witnessed, a reorganization rendered possible only by the theory of evolution. Now, as formerly, man's duty is to be learned by a study of his history. But in former times that history was of a few thousand years duration only, and it was a history of priestcraft, of jugglery, of superstition, of supposed revelations from a supersensual world. The idea of duty to which the study of history gave rise was blind obedience to certain definite rules, laid down, it was taught, by divine command. What we now mean by man's history is an affair of aeons; and it dates back to the very dawn of life upon the earth. And the ideal of duty which this new study of history teaches us is a progressive ideal; it urges us, guided by the true light of knowledge instead of by the *ignis fatuus* of revelation, to struggle forward unceasingly towards the evolution of a higher type. The means we are to employ in the struggle are those that history shows to have been effective in the past; they are those that led man's brute ancestor from the individualist state to the tribal state; those that led prehistoric man from the tribal state to the formation of organized social polities; those that are tending now, despite our anarchic industrial system, despite our huge armaments and other relics of savagery, to the evolution of a nobler kind of social integration, and to the formation of a vast internationl federation. Such changes cannot be brought about in a day. But when we remember the countless ages that it took to consolidate a number of wandering tribes and thus to bring about the growth of a nation, we need not think long the two or three hundred years that may yet be needed to put an end to war and to replace industrial anarchy by industrial cöoperation.

The grand ethical principle we learn from the study of human history, the touchstone by which we are to try all proposed innovations, is this:—*Anything that, without impairing man's physical or mental qualities in such a way as to unfit him as an individual in the struggle for existence, tends to help him to control his instincts by his judgment, and, further, to subordinate his individual advantage to the advantage of the race, is good: whatever tends seriously to impair the physique or the intellectual power of the individual man, whatever tends to liberate man's passions from rational control, whatever leads man to prefer his own to the general good, is evil.* There, shortly stated, is the whole doctrine of scientific ethics. It was dimly and partially seen by some of the great teachers of old, and by them, overlaid and intermixed with colossal quantities of error, was made the foundation of the leading religious systems of the world. But it was impossible of exact definition, impossible of fruitful application, before the century of DARWIN. This touchstone it is that NORDAU applies to *fin-de-siècle* literature and art, and by this he finds it condemned.

It is impossible, in the space at our

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command, to give more than the briefest outline of the general plan of his work. His aim is to show that the authors and artists he selects for criticism as characteristic of *fin-de-siècle* tendencies—of whom the principal are the Pre-Raphaelites, the French Symbolists, TOLSTOI, WAGNER, the Æsthetic school, IBSEN, NIETSCHE, and ZOLA—are all sinners and apostles of sin, when judged by the principles of scientific ethics; and that, far from being innovators, they are atavistic, that they are examples of the pathological tendency to the appearance in degenerate organisms of characteristics of a remote past in the history of the species. Especially significant "stigmata" of degeneration, one or more of which he points out in all the authors and schools named, are mysticism, which betrays a want of development of the highest powers of the judgment; emotionalism, which indicates a reversion to the primitive type in which judgment as yet was not, and the reign of instinct was supreme; and ego-mania, which is a negation of all those higher tendencies of human nature that have led to social integration. From their own testimony he convicts them, in their published works NORDAU displays the stigmata that affiliate them with the inmates of our prisons and asylums. His criticism, being scientific in character, that is, being based on principles that are the result of unprejudiced observation of a wide range of anthropological data, has a convicting force that ordinary literary criticism, dependent for its authority entirely on reference to stereotyped "rules of art" or to moss-grown "principles of absolute morality," fails utterly to convey. NORDAU'S book will succeed where the *Saturday Review* order of critic failed; it will compel all but the most infatuated admirers of these self-styled "moderns" to recognize the essentially retrogressivs, degenerate, anti-social character of *fin-de-siècle* thought.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

PHALLICISM IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Mr. Cary is kind enough to point out a slip of the pen in my last letter, "Yamada" instead of "Kanda." Well, I do not believe in the story of a phallic festival or ceremony witnessed by Mr. Buckley at Kanda. Perhaps he may have imagined he saw one.

It is true, as Mr. Cary says, that this nasty pamphlet was offered (as a university candidate's thesis) to the Faculty of Arts, Literature, and Science in the university of Chicago,—which is largely, I believe, under clerical influence. I am sorry for the Faculty that such an addess should have been offered to it. Possibly the Faculty, knowing nothing of existing conditions in Japan, supposed the work based upon veracious and impartial research,—and theses of a very poor kind are often accepted as a mere matter of form. Possibly there were Reverends in the Faculty who understood the work was being done in the interest of the missions. But even had the dissertation been offered to the best university in America, its acceptation would still, in my opinion, have reflected disgrace on that University. As for "circumscription in the circulation of an academic monograph," Mr. Cary acknowledges it has been announced for sale in one paper, and also acknowledges that I "might have seen," announcements in other papers. Well, I have. As the possibility is not denied, the names of the papers have nothing to do with the matter discussed.

Let me also point out a slip of the pen or possibly, an error of the printer, in Mr. Cary's letter, —"pseudo-critic," instead of "pseudo-cryptic" is a term familiar to writers on the subject; and I used it because feeling certain that most of Mr. Buckley's collection is not phallic at all, and that both his objects and his theories are trash. I would not deny the authenticity of the objects he obtained, or says that he obtained, from brothels. Such objects may be found, and it was not necessary to go to Yamada for them;—they have nothing to do with any form of public worship; and those "old residents" Mr. Buckley talks about could probably have told Mr. Buckley as much. That he knew what they really were, is, in my opinion, the reason why they were sought for as close to Ise as possible. "Prove that these brothel-images come from the neighbourhood of Ise; then try to identify them with the Ise cult of Shinto"—these would appear to have been the instructions given. Mr. Cary said in a previous letter that the appearance of the other objects in the collection would be, in his opinion, quite sufficient to indicate their meaning. That is a very great mistake. There is, perhaps, no country—not even China—where it is so dangerous to draw conclusions from appearances as it is in Japan. I would say that either Mr. Buckley has been imposing upon himself, or has been imposed on by the Japanese employed to assist him. I notice that the pamphlet gives no Japanese interpretation of the meanings of the objects;—indeed its author impudently confesses that he does not know the meaning of some. Neither does he give the names of various places whence he obtained his articles,—though taking care to assert that some come from brothels. What is the signification of an image?—What is the name of the god or spirit it represents?—What is the use of the object? What is the religious or superstitious idea relating to it? All these are questions any veracious worker is bound to ask, and to declare. It is not by reading Payne Knight,—a book written in the last century,—nor by reading any of the books referred to in the "bibliography" given by Mr. Buckley, that light can be thrown on such subjects in Japan. The information, to have any value, must be gained on the ground of research,—from recognized authorities, or from texts, or, in default of these, from common knowledge. That this has not even been attempted, is evidence against Mr. Buckley. He has merely paid to have obscene things collected for him, or bought articles to which he and other foolish bigots might attach imaginary obscene meaning,—an amulet with a pebble in it, two loops of grass, children's toys, and peach-candy. Where are his Japanese authorities? He has none. No man able to make real investigations of that sort, would do it except for a scientific society.

Mr. Cary considers my use of quotation-marks disingenuous. I think my quotation-marks were quite justifiable; but,—remembering the brothel-images exhibited as "Shinto-cultus implements"—the reader can judge of the "apologetic" and "charitable" spirit of Mr. Cary's own quotation from the cowardly pamphlet. Ironical apology is frequently made to fill up the space between two attacks on Shinto,—the author and his advisers being evidently afraid of showing their plan plainly enough for every critic to see at a glance.

Perhaps I should have been more careful, in dealing with prevarication, to use occasionally the word "cleric" or "clerical" instead of "missionary." Some clergymen do not like to be publicly known as "Rev." in this country; it interferes with matters they do not wish to have known. "Reverends" again, frequently deny they are missionaries,—even while doing missionaries' converting and teaching in mission schools or other schools. Reverend or non-reverened members of sects, whether abroad or at home, unite in various movements toward the carrying out of missionary projects abroad. Some of these projects,—such as the present attack upon Shinto through an obscene pamphlet,—are despicable. They are not only that—they are likely to bring about the very reverse of the object hoped for. However, I think the missionary and clerical nature of this phallic attack on the State Religion have been sufficiently shown. Mr. Cary is a "Reverend;"—"W.E.G." is the Reverend W. E. Griffis;—the Doshisha, where the plan was matured is a missionary concern;—and Mr. Buckley, ex-mission-teacher, the author of the pamphlet, is studying to become a great "reverend." All reverend people do not do these things;—but they are rarely done by men of any other class today.

Mr. Cary and four professors of the Doshisha have "agreed" (after long reflection, apparently) to say that these things from brothels, &c., exhibited by Mr. Buckley were never kept in the Doshisha, though "there is no reason why they should not have been kept in the (Doshisha's) museum of comparative religions." Is not this just as if a farmer were to say on being asked if he had a cow:—"There is no reason why I should not keep a cow in my cow-house; but I and all my hands have agreed to say that I never kept a cow in my bedroom?" Now, my first information about the collection being kept in the Doshisha *was from the Doshisha*. What Mr. Buckley has been "studying" was much more of an open secret than the Doshisha people imagined. The date of the "opening" of the museum, and of Mr. Buckley's judicious going, are no answers to my question. I asked whether Mr. Cary would deny that the objects had been kept in the museum of the Doshisha, and he knew perfectly well what I meant. His reply is that they were not kept in the Doshisha, but that there is no reason why they should not have been kept in the museum—a most disingenuous reply. Whether they were kept in the Doshisha or not, he also tells us, makes "no difference." Mr. Cary's attempt to conceal facts makes visible one large difference. Those facts show the origin of the plan to identify the State Religion with the superstitions of houses of prostitution; they also show where the plan was matured and they show the "missionary auspices" quite sufficiently for all intents and purpose. That is another difference.

I am, Sir, very truly yours, Z.
July 8th, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With reference to a communication respecting my article "Phallicism in Japan," and subscribed "Z." which appeared in your issue of May 30th, I beg to state as follows:—

The article was accepted by the Faculty of the University of Chicago as a scientific monograph in candidacy for the degree of Ph.D. (doctor of philosophy) which it, together with the usual examinations, was instrumental in securing. Its topic belongs to the new science of comparative religion, and is suitable for discussion in the transactions of some learned society, not in a daily paper. But in any case the studied personal vilification, obvious in the communication, puts it out of court for respectable discussion. Only in the interests of the uninstructed or unwary can I here so much as give a flat denial to each and all of the charges made.

Yours very truly,
EDMUND BUCKLEY, Ph.D.,
Docent in the University of Chicago.
The University of Chicago,
Chicago, Ill., June 18th, 1895.

[We must ask our correspondents to let this matter rest here.—ED. *J. M.*]

ALUMINIUM TORPEDO-BOATS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—We read in your issue of June 19th the following paragraph:—

"The French ministry are so pleased with the second class aluminium torpedo-boat that Messrs. Yarrow & Co. built for them last year that they have ordered five more."

One might be induced to think that these five new torpedo-boats belong to the same model as the one spoken of and are also built by Messrs. Yarrow & Co. Far from it, these torpedo-boats are of a different type, designed by M. Guilloux, engineer of the French Navy, and are built by Messrs. Schneider & Co., Creusot Works, France.

The only particular they share with the torpedo-boat built by Messrs. Yarrow & Co. is that, in both cases, all aluminium materials employed are exclusively made in France.

Yours truly, A. D.
Tokyo, July 15th. 1895.

KAWA BIRAKI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Could you, or any of your readers, tell me what is the origin of the annual Sumida River festival called "Kawa Biraki," to be held this year on the 20th instant?

I am, Sir, yours obediently, ENQUIRER.
Yokohama, July 18th, 1895.

JAPANESE HISTORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Can you tell me whether the articles of Professor Kume on Japanese history, which caused so much excitement a few years ago, have been translated into English or not? By so doing you will greatly oblige,

Your truly. M. L. G.
Kyoto, July 12th, 1895.

[They have not been translated so far as we know.—ED. *J. M.*]

DIGITIZED BY INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

HORSE-BREEDING IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Being attracted recently by the caption to an article in a Kobe paper, "Horse-breeding in Japan," I read it, and was intensely surprised at the statements it contained. It is such a gem that I reproduce it in full, the editorial comment as an introduction being that it "is not without interest"!

The Government decided a few weeks ago to appoint a Committee to investigate and report upon the question of horse breeding, and regulations were promulgated in the *Official Gazette*. The Committee is under the control of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. In connection with this, the following article from the *Siam Free Press* is not without interest.

So much for the editorial knowledge. But let me introduce the artist in the *Free Press*. Here he is:—

If horse-breeding in Japan has been successful in some ways, it must be said that it has been attended with much financial disaster. And the blunder committed by the government, in not supporting the breeding farms, has been brought home to the Japanese authorities by the results of the war in the lamentable lack of horses in the Empire. The earlier breeders spared no expense in the purchase of English and American stallions with excellent pedigrees, and the blending with the Japanese equine species has produced results as highly satisfactory as could be desired both in point of beauty and the speed attained at the Yokohama races. But beyond the custom of the Nippon Race Club, which has invariably ordered about thirty horses a year, the breeders have not been able to command either a sale or a good price for their colts. The result has been that the expensive scientific method of horse farming had to be abandoned, and the horses left to the care of themselves in the wilds of Hokkaido. No more fresh stallions were imported, and the consequent inbreeding has deteriorated the race so much that the half-breed races in Japan have of late been a monotonous procession. The Shimosa farm was the first to feel the deterioration, which was at first attributed to the unsuitableness of that part of the country for horse breeding. But when the hardy Hokkaidos were also found to be going a downward course, the cause was at once seen to be due to in-breeding. However, owing to the apathy of the government things were allowed to jog along, notwithstanding the grumbling of the Nippon Race Club about the miserable mob of cattle the farmers were sending season after season for racing purposes. Now that the government has fully realised the necessity of a militant power fostering the raising of horses, no doubt the old standard of colts will again be reached very soon. With commendable alacrity the government has taken the matter in hand, and has commissioned Mr. Salter, a well known importer of Australian horses into the Straits, to attend to all necessary details in the matter. So far only the entire Bannockburn has been secured, who is now on his way to Japan. It is said that this Australian horse has an excellent pedigree and a good racing record in the Colonies, though he has not been successful on the Singapore turf. No doubt other animals will be shortly secured since the Japanese now acknowledge that in the infusion of new blood lies the whole secret of the improvement of the Japan steed. Half measures will not answer in such matters, and unless the Japanese government is fully decided to spare no expense it would be much better to leave things alone. Spasmodic efforts in the long run are more expensive than a thorough plunge, and it would be a shame to let the Hokkaido and Shimosa farms, which have produced such excellent colts in their earlier days, and which would have made the fortunes of many an English breeder, to collapse for want of support.

I trust I may be pardoned if I express myself strongly, but I should like to know from the *Siam Free Press* who is the Bedlamite responsible for the foregoing paragraph. "The blunder of the Government in not supporting the breeding farms has been brought home to the Japanese authorities in the lamentable lack of horses in the Empire." But the breeding farms belonged to the Government—every one. "The earlier breeders spared no expense" (that is the Government) "in the purchase of English and American stallions with excellent pedigrees, and the blending with the Japanese species has produced results as highly satisfactory as could be desired both in point of beauty and speed attained at the Yokohama races." Here is a writer talking of "beauty and speed at Yokohama races," and "a lamentable lack of horses in the Empire"—for military purposes—in the same breath. "But beyond the custom of the Nippon Race Club, which has invariably ordered about thirty horses a year, the breeders (the Government) have not been able to command either a sale or a good price for their colts"—he does not say what they do with their fillies. As a fact, a friend of mine in Tokyo not long ago took four half-breds for which he paid *yen* 1,100—one at 400, one at 300, and two at 200 each. As a fact, also, the Nippon Race Club has never yet, either from Shimosa, Nanai, or Niicapu, had any ponies except after everybody else had taken the pick of the stock. This is obvious for two reasons—first, official influence; secondly, dollars; there are now and always have been officers who will pay double the price for horses suitable as chargers (and private gentlemen will take likely hacks at the same rate) of that offered by the Race Club, consequently the best bidders get best served, to say nothing about precedence. "The result has been that the expensive scientific method of horse farming had to be abandoned, and the horses left to the care of themselves in the wilds of Hokkaido." *Splendide mendax*. Where are the "wilds of Hokkaido?" If this writer will go to Niicapu he will find twelve hundred brood mares—a rather extensive mob of mothers, by the by, for supplying the annual string of thirty for the N.R.C. "No more fresh stallions were imported," says this Solon, "and the consequent inbreeding has deteriorated the race so much that the half-breed races in Japan have of late been a monotonous procession." What the writer means by a "monotonous procession" I will not attempt to fathom. Then it is stated that owing to the Government "apathy" things were allowed to "jog along," notwithstanding the "grumbling of the Nippon Race Club!" Then it comes about that as the Government "has fully realised the necessity of a militant power fostering the raising of horses" [the very thing the same Government has been doing—though unsuccessfully—for twenty years] "no doubt the old standard of colts will again be reached very soon." It is to be hoped that the Japanese Government in future will raise something better than "the old standard of colts" referred to above. If they do not they had better leave horse-breeding alone. Then comes what appears to be the pith of the whole business. "With commendable alacrity the Government has taken the matter in hand and has commissioned Mr. Salter, a well-known importer of horses into the Straits, to attend to all the necessary details in the matter."

But perhaps I have made a mistake in taking this writer seriously—perhaps after all he is only a penny-a-liner employed to write up Mr. Salter and his horse Bannockburn—the "entire" Bannockburn mind—Mr. Salter is not bringing a Bannockburn that has been "added to the list." It is interesting to know that the "Japanese now acknowledge that in the infusion of new blood lies the whole secret of the improvement of the Japan steed!!" The Japanese Government is also warned that unless it is "fully decided to spare no expense it would be much better to leave things alone"—that is "that the horses be left to themselves in the wilds of Hokkaido."

With the exception, perhaps, of sheep-breeding, wherein the Government has been robbed right and left, nothing that the Japanese Authorities have undertaken has been so marked by failure as horse-breeding. It has been proved beyond dispute that the native horse in Japan has not been improved during the past twenty years, and there is good reason to believe that it has deteriorated. The cause is not far to seek—I speak of a lack of improvement. From enquiries in many parts of the country, I have never been able to discover that any inducement has been held out to breeders to improve the native animal. In most cases neither the sire nor the dam is a selected animal, and when the colt is dropped, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred it is starved, and the mare is often in poor condition from the first month to the last. It is not possible under such conditions to maintain a standard, and, slowly, it may be, but certainly deterioration must be the result. The Japanese pony has some good qualities. He is hardy, and will live on coarse food and do a long day's work upon it. He is not handsome, and frequently vicious; but the latter quality—like that in every other breed of equine—is oftener the outcome of brutal treatment than inherent vice in the beast itself. He is seldom truly formed; a great disparity presenting itself between the fore and hind quarters in many instances, to the detriment of the latter, with the result that the common shape is weak loins, straight shoulders, and a heavy forehand. The feet vary much in different districts, from the big flat foot of the lowlands to the donkey-hoof of the hills, though the latter predominates; and, like most coarse breeds, they have large, unshapely heads, and thick necks furnished with extremely coarse manes. It would be no more difficult, however, to improve the Japanese pony than any other breed of animal, but it can only be done by stringent selection and proper feeding of both dam and offspring. The authorities having found a weak spot in the cavalry and transport services in the late war, will doubtless hasten to make good the defect, and it will be interesting to watch the progress made during the next few years. Were the Government inclined to incur the cost, a sufficient number of horses could be obtained from Australia to furnish every branch of the military service right out. On the other hand, a sufficient number of suitable mares might be found in Japan, which, crossed with the proper horse—this animal has, by the way, not yet been introduced into the country, so far I know, not a single specimen—would produce a breed of sufficient strength, stamina, and speed to suit all the requirements of the military service. This, however would take several years to accomplish, though it would doubtless be the best and cheapest plan. As soon as the half-bred fillies were of proper age the Japanese mares could be discarded, and in course of time the native blood could be almost eliminated from the breeding establishments.

It is hardly worth while perhaps refuting the *Siam Free Press'* statement that the mating of foreign horses and Japanese mares "has produced results as highly satisfactory as could be desired"—the thing is absurd. Many fairly good-looking animals—showy would be nearer the mark—have been produced, but the half-bred as known on the race course is not the class of horse to serve a useful purpose. Got by thoroughbred sires, he is generally leggy and lacking in bone and substance, and frequently takes so much after the dam as to be scarcely recognised as a horse of foreign extraction. In several instances within my knowledge they have proved failures as chargers, and that without being subject to hard work or heavy weights. It remains yet for horse-breeders in Japan to import the animal to nick with the native mare for the production of a class suitable for the Cavalry, Gunners, and Military Train. That a fair amount of blood should be used goes without saying, but thoroughbred sires are not required. Strange experiments have been tried in horse-breeding in Japan. Even Clydesdales have been introduced for the purpose, and the produce may be seen at Makomanai, where many other curious crosses are to be found.

The climate of Japan is quite as suitable for successful horse breeding as that of many other countries. There is good water everywhere, and though pasture land, as such, is rare, there are thousands of acres in Central and Northern Japan free from timber and not under cultivation that would make excellent pastures. Horses in Japan are generally fed upon barley, but there is better and cheaper food in the country, namely, Hokkaido oats, of which, if there were sufficient demand, any quantity could be obtained.

At the present moment the Authorities have doubtless many important matters on hand, but that is no reason why a commission should not be formed and a scheme determined upon which would place, in the shortest time possible, the remount department of the Japanese Army on a satisfactory footing.

Yours, &c.,
CHIRON.

July 15th, 1895.

CRICKET.

MR. EDWARDS' TEAM V. MR. WHITE'S TEAM.

Except for one or two smart bits of fielding, the cricket match on Saturday afternoon was devoid of interest. The heavy rains of the past week had left the ground very sticky, causing the ball to break in unaccountable fashion every now and again. Edwards' team opened the batting, Mr. Tennant and Mr. Garfit going out first to defend. They did not stay long. Three men were dismissed for 6, four for 12. Then a stand was made, Johnson not going under until he had scored 23. Murray made 14 and Edwards 15, but the rest of the team were content with single figures. The innings closed for 75. White's side made a much poorer showing, all being out for 42, and of this total 11 were byes. Murray took seven of the wickets at a cost of only two runs a piece. After a short interval, Edward's team went in again and knocked up 51, of which Murray 10, and Tennant 10, not out, were the highest scores. Lias secured eight wickets for 22 runs. Scroes.—

MR. EDWARDS' TEAM.

1ST INNINGS.		2ND INNINGS.	
Mr. Tennant, b. Lias	8	not out	10
Mr. Garfit, b. White	0	b. Lias	4
Mr. Healing, l.b.w., b. White	3	b. Lias	0
Mr. Johnson, b. White	23	c. and b. Lias	9
Mr. Murray, b. Philip	14	c. Lias, b. White	10
Mr. Young, b. Lias	0	b. Lias	5
Mr. Irwine, c. sub. b. White	0	c. Allcock, b. Lias	0
Mr. Edwards, c. Allcock, b. Pearson	15	c. and b. Lias	4
Mr. Drummond, c. Pearson, b. Lias	4	c. Black, b. Lias	5
Mr. Summers, b. Lias	3	c. Killy, b. Kingdon	0
Mr. Digby, not out	3	b. Lias	0
Mr. Dickinson, c. White, b. Philip	0		
Extras	8	Extras	4
	75		51

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	1ST INNINGS. B.	R.	M.	W.	WDS.	2ND INNINGS. B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Lias	60	35	1	4	—	60	22	2	8
Mr. White	40	23	2	4	2	25	15	1	1
Mr. Philip	29	10	—	2	—	25	9	1	—
Mr. Pearson.	5	—	1	1	1				
Mr. Kingdon						7	1	—	1

MR. WHITE'S TEAM.

Mr. Kilby, c. Young, b. Murray	0
Mr. Allcock, b. Edwards	4
Mr. Pearson, c. Healing, b. Edwards	0
Mr Conyngham, b. Edwards	8
Mr. Kingdon, b. Murray	1
Mr. Todd, b. Murray	1
Mr. Lias, b. Murray	1
Mr. Black, c. Young, b. Murray	1
Mr. White, not out	9
Mr. Kenyon, b. Murray	0
Mr. Philip, b. Murray	6
Extras	11
	42

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	R.	R.	M.	W.	NO BALL.
Mr. Murray	50	14	2	7	—
Mr. Edwards	45	17	2	3	1

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

BASEBALL.

YOKOHAMA VERSUS A NAVAL NINE.

A very interesting game of baseball was played on Monday afternoon between nine from the U.S.S. *Baltimore* and a team of the Y.C. & A.C., assisted by a pitcher and a catcher from the U.S.S. *Petrel*. In the first innings both sides made three runs each; the second innings produced nothing. The innings following the sailors made two runs and the local players five. In the fourth, the visitors assumed the lead and were never caught, the game concluding in seven innings, Navy 20, Yokohama 15. Edwards in the left field made two splendid catches, and White's fielding from the centre was extremely neat. Howard had wretched luck. Twice he had got as far as third base, only to be robbed of the run through the following man being caught out. Many amusing incidents occurred during the course of play, particularly when the Navy men were coaching each other and endeavouring to "rattle" the pitcher; wherein the Irishmen had considerably the advantage in the matter of phrasing ironical asides. The band of the *Baltimore* was in attendance and played a capital selection of music. The score was as follows:—

U.S. Navy.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs
1.—Angus	3B	4	2
2.—McKelvey	R3	1	4
3.—McCarthy	1B	4	1
4.—Nelson	2B	2	2
5.—Townsend	C	2	3
6.—Ahearn	LF	1	4
7.—Donnely	SS	2	4
8.—Gooley	CF	2	1
9.—Poyne	P	2	0
Total		20	21

Yokohama.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs
1.—Merriman	2B	3	2
2.—Stokes	SS	4	1
3.—Mohun	P	2	3
4.—Brown	C	2	2
5.—Tilden	1B	1	2
6.—Edwards	LF	2	2
7.—White	CF	1	3
8.—Howard	RF	0	2
9.—Mansfield	3B	0	4
Total		15	21

Innings.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Navy	3	0	2	7	0	1	1	=20
Yokohama	3	0	5	4	1	0	2	=15

LAWN TENNIS.

The following tennis handicap has been drawn up in the Y.C. & A.C.:—

SINGLE LIMIT HANDICAP.

	First Tie.	Second Tie.	Third Tie.	Fourth Tie.	Final.
Morriss	Bye				
Balden					
Healing					
Wilson					
Kenny					
Pinckney					
Mollison					
Page					
Gresson					
Murray	Bye				
Gillet					
Tennant					
James					
Lay					
Stokes					
Garfit					
Sutter					

Class.			
— 6	Pinckney	—	15
— 6	Page	—	15
— 6	Sutter	—	15
— 3	Murray, Gillett, Balden, Morriss	—	3/6 15
— 1	Wilson, Mollison	—	1/6 15
0	James, Gresson	Scratch.	
+ 3	Garfit, Stokes	+	3/6 15
+ 6	Healing, Lay, Kenny, Tennant	+	15

Single Limit Handicap for Silver Challenge Cup. 1st and 2nd Rounds to be played off by 1st August.

Best of 5 sets to be played in all cases, as this handicap is practically a championship competition.

Handicappers { H. PINCKNEY. W. F. PAGE. H. V. DICKINSON.

SWIMMING AND DIVING COMPETITIONS.

The swimming races and diving competitions of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place on Tuesday evening in anything but pleasant weather. A cool breeze was blowing from the nor'eastward underneath a sky of grey and slate-coloured clouds, while the water was scarcely at an agreeable temperature. Nevertheless, the competitions were all well contested. Campbell won two of the diving events, and Ross, last year's winner, again pulled off the Quarter Mile and the 100 yards open to non-winners. H. Goddard made the best time in the first 100 yards race, 1m. 35 secs., the other 100 yards taking 1m. 43 secs., but then the men had been engaged in several of the previous events. The boys' race was a gamely fought out affair, Harold Irwine winning after a splendid struggle with John Drummond. The time too, 1m. 24 secs. for 75 yards was not at all bad considering the current that was setting across the course. The officers of the day were, Mr. Rickett Captain; Dr. Wheeler, Mr. C. K. M. Martin, and Mr. J. T. Boag, Judges; Mr. F. J. Hall, Secretary. List of events:—

RUNNING HEADERS OFF TOP OF BARGE.

W. W. Campbell, 1; P. S. Bent, 2; A. L. Mottu, 3; H. S. Goddard and W. Goddard.

Points were given for take-off, entry, and recovery. Campbell obtained 45, Bent, 42; and Mottu 40, which give an indication of the closeness of the competition.

100 YARDS SWIMMING RACE.

H. Goddard, 1; A. L. Mottu, 2; H. S. Goddard.

H. Goddard lead from the beginning, and steered the best course. The other two collided soon after the start, but it made little difference in the end. H. Goddard won by 20 yards. Time, 1m. 35 secs.

RUNNING HEADERS OFF SPRING BOARD.

W. W. Campbell, 1; P. S. Bent, 2; A. L. Mottu, 3; H. Goddard; W. Goddard; P. E. Webb.

This was again a keen contest. Campbell secured 50 points, Bent 49, and Mottu 42. Campbell and Bent tied for the neatest dive, and then dived again for a special prize, which the former won easily by 58 to 53 points.

QUARTER MILE SWIMMING RACE.

R. C. Ross, scratch, 1; H. B. Poole, 25 secs, 2; H. Goddard, 25 secs.; N. J. Sargent, 25 secs.

H. Goddard was the first to touch the pontoon on the first journey out, being followed by Poole and Sargent; Ross next. Poole then took the lead, and passed the end of the Barge a little ahead of Ross. At this point Sargent dropped out. In rounding the barge at the further end Poole took the shortest curve and led away on the second outward journey, but Ross was not far behind. Goddard now dropped out, leaving the race to Poole and Ross. Coming down for home the scratch man pulled up and passed Poole, finally winning by about 9 yards. Time, 9 mins. 38 secs.

STANDING HEADERS OFF TOP OF BARGE.

P. S. Bent, 1; W. W. Campbell, 2; H. S. Goddard and A. L. Mottu, tied for third place; W. Goddard and P. E. Webb.

The winner scored 37, Campbell 36, and the third placed men 32 points.

75 YARDS, BOYS UNDER 16.

Harold Irwine, 5 secs., 1; John Drummond, 2 secs., 2; Samuel Kuhn, scratch.

The issue was undecided until almost the last ten yards, then Irwine got away and won. Time, 1m. 24 secs.

STEEPLECHASE.

G. Hood, 1; P. E. Webb, 2; N. J. Sargent; W. Goddard.

The competitors had to dive under the six-oared boat moored some distance away, then climb up on to a house-boat, and crawl through its windows, under and round some sampans, etc. Hood had the affair soon in hand and won easily. Webb was the only other man to finish the course. Time, 4m. 37 secs.

LONG DIVE.

W. W. Campbell, 1; H. S. Goddard, 2; N. J. Sargent.

A close win for Campbell, who was the last to rise.

100 YARDS, NON WINNERS IN JAPAN.

R. C. Ross, 1; H. B. Poole, 2.

Ross won easily, though Poole gamely stuck to the work throughout.

RUNNING HEADERS OFF BARGE.

Name.	Take off 5	Entrance. 5	Recovery. 5	Elegance. 5	Total.
P. S. Bent	4·3·4	3·3·4	4·3·3	4 3·4	42
W. W. Campbell.	4·4·4	4·4 4	2·4·4	4·4·3	45
H. S. Goddard	4·3·3	3·3·2	1.2.2	3·3·3	32
W. Goddard	2.3.2	1.1.1	0.0.0	2.2.2	16
A. L. Mottu	4·4·4	4·4·4	2.2.2	4·3·3	40

RUNNING HEADERS OFF SPRING BOARD.

P. S. Bent	4·4·5	4 4·5	4·3·4	4·4·4	49
W. W. Campbell.	5·4·5	5·5·5	4·4·2	4·4·3	50
H. S. Goddard	4·4·4	5·3 4	3·2.2	3·3·3	40
W. Goddard	2·3·4	2·3·3	3·2.2	2.2.3	31
A. L. Mottu	3·4·4	3·4·5	3·3·2	3·4·4	42
P. E. Webb	2.1.2	1.1.1	1.2.2	1.1.1	16

P. S. Bent and W. W. Campbell, having tied for best dive with 18 each, dived again as under:

P. S. Bent	5·5 5	4·4·5	4·4·3	5·4·5	53
W. W. Campbell.	5·5·5	5·5·5	4·5·5	5·4·5	58

STANDING HEADERS OFF BARGE.

P. S. Bent	—	4 5·4	4·3·4	4·4·5	37
W. W. Campbell.	—	3·5·4	5·3·3	4·5·4	36
H. S. Goddard	—	4 5·5	2.3.3	3·4 3	32
W. Goddard	—	2.2.2	1.1.2	2.2.3	17
A. L. Mottu	—	4·5·4	3·3·3	4·3·3	32
P. E. Webb	—	4·4·2	1.2.1	2.2.2	20

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The 12th session of the Japan Annual Conference of the M.E. Church opened in Goucher Hall, Aoyama Gakuin, at 8.30 a.m. on July 11th, Bishop Walden presiding. The Missionaries present included Rev. Messrs. J. H. Carrell, J. C. Davison, J. Soper, C. Bishop, J. G. Cleveland, J. W. Wadman, H. W. Swartsz, D. S. Spencer, J. Wier, B. Chappell, R. P. Alexander, H. B. Schwartsz, W. S. Warden, E. R. Fulkerson, H. B. Johnson, Jennie S. Vail, S. Ogata, J. O. Spencer, G. F. Draper—with M. S. Vail and J. F. Belknap on furlough in U.S.A.

Besides these, the Conference is composed of 41 regular Japanese Pastors. The Probationers number upwards of 20 more. The Ladies Conference of the W.F.M.S. convenes at the same place and time, and a large number of them were present at the opening services.

After the usual devotional exercises, the Bishop proceeded to administer the Lord's Sacrament. His remarks were exceedingly appropriate and impressive. He was assisted in the ceremony by the Presiding Elders. These Elders afterwards occupied seats on the platform behind the presiding officer. They consist of Messrs. Carrell, Davison, Soper, Cleveland, Spencer (D.S.), Schwartsz and Messrs. Ogata, Kurimura, and Matsumoto. After the administration of the Holy Communion, the Conference proceeded to organize. Mr. H. B. Johnson was re-elected English Secretary, and named H. W. Swartsz as his assistant.

H. Yamaka, being elected Japanese Secretary, chose U. Bessho as his helper. Mr. G. F. Draper was honoured with the office of Statistical Secretary and C. Nakada was his assistant. Dr. Takasugi was named as Interpreter, succeeding to the place which S. Ogata has admirably filled for years. The last election, being that of E. R. Fulkerson to the office of Treasurer with E. Aibara as assistant having been accomplished, the Bishop briefly but eloquently addressed the assembly. He spoke of the growth of the Church, the prosperity of Missions, the interest of the Church at home in the youthful Church of Japan, after which he pointed out very clearly and impressively the duties and responsibilities now devolving upon the members of the Conference and indicated the true spirit with which these duties should be performed. After the usual announcements, the Conference adjourned at 12 noon.

Friday, July 12th.

The conference session opened at the usual hour, Bishop Walden in the church. For 30 minutes a prayer service was held in which a large number participated. After the reading of the minutes, the Bishop made a brief address on the nature, power, and scope of prayer, and urged upon the Pastors the necessity of maintaining the various means of grace. The Presiding Elders presented through their Secretary, J. Soper, the report on nominations.

The following Committees were raised:—

BIBLE CAUSE.—B. Chappell, R. Ushijima, S. Konosuke.

CHURCH EXTENSION.—S. Ogata, K. Nakada, T. Hasegawa, J. G. Cleveland.

CONFERENCE RELATION.—C. Nakayama, E. Aibara, M. Yamaka.

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DISTRICT CONFERENCE RECORDS.—T. Takami, K. Ichiku, J. W. Wadman.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE.—T. Ikeda, H. Yamaka, U. Bessho, H. B. Johnson, and E. R. Fulkeson.

EPWORTH LEAGUE.—W. Ishikawa, J. Ito, R. P. Alexander.

SABBATH OBSERVANCE.—B. Omuki, C. Nagano, M. Iinuma, W. S. Worden.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.— H. W. Swartz, I. Honda, K. Kato.

TEMPERANCE.—K. Miyama, S. Kokita, E. Hirano, T. Soper.

TRACT.—I. Kikuchi, I. Otake, G. Tanaka.

FRATERNAL RELATION.—J. W. Wadman, Y. Honda, T. Hasegawa.

The various District Conferences, of which there are nine, were then requested to present the names of the delegates elected to confer as advisory members of the Cabinet in the work of making financial estimates for the evangelistic work of the coming year. According to what is designated the "Leonard Plan" of Self support, a certain lump sum is given as an appropriation for the work and it is the duty of this United Board to distribute this sum as the work requires. The following delegates were named: M. Yamaka, T. Takami, C. Nakayama, H. Yamaka, T. Ikeda, K. Miyama, W. Ishikawa, E. Aibara.

The Presiding Elders were then called upon to read their reports. The conference listened with a great deal of interest to these interesting papers setting forth the results of the year's work. The statistics are not yet fully to hand, but we may safely predict that there has been a general advance all along the line.

Saturday, July 13th.

The Conference opened this morning as usual. Thirty minutes were spent in prayer and praise, at the close of which the Bishop addressed the Conference upon the subject of Church Polity and Government. His remarks were exceedingly practical and helpful. The Disciplinary Question regarding the Character and Work of the Elders being called, the Presiding Elders answered, and each one responded to the Bishop's questions. Ten young men then presented themselves as candidates for full connection into the Conference and ordination as Deacons. After the President had addressed them in a very suitable manner, one or two of the Brethern offered prayer in behalf of these young men about to assume solemn obligations. The Committee on Examination reported and the Candidates were all re-commended. Their Ordination will take place on Sabbath afternoon.

The Committee on Fraternal Communications dispatched the following telegram to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church now in session in Nagoya.

"The Japan Conference of the M.E. Church now in session to the General Synod of the Presbyterian Church in session in Nagoya, Loving Greeting. May the Divine Father sanctify you, His Sons." A suitable reply was received and read to the Conference.

Rev. Y. Yoshioka, President of the Kobe School of the M.E. Church South, and Mr. Aoyama, of the Presbyterian Church South, were introduced to the Conference.

The Presiding Elders nominated a Committees on Memorials, and also named a Conference Board of Stewards. The Treasure called for an audit committee, which was grated.

In the afternoon session the Disciplinary Question regarding the character and work of the Deacons was dealt with, and under this head two young men were continued in their former studies, having to failed fully average up to the standard of studies. It is pleasing to see how vigorously the rules in connection with these examinations are enforced.

Ten o'clock on Monday was fixed as the Order of the Day for Election of Delegates to the General Conference, which convenes next spring in U.S.A. A great deal of interest prevails in connection with this election. The church in Jagan is entitled to send two delegates—one clerical, one lay. The laymen held a meeting this afternoon but did not reach a decision: "To be or not to be that is the question."

At the close of this afternoon's Session, a social meeting was held and the members of both the Annual and Womens' Conferences very heartily participated.

The Ladies have elected Mrs. (Bishop) Walden as their President, Miss Russell and Miss Spencer, Vice-Presidents, Miss Bancus, Secretary, Miss Heaton, Treasurer. We learn that very harmonious and profitable sessions are being held in the spacious rooms of the Girls' School on the same compound. The Missionaries, male and female, all eat together on the clubbing-plan, and thus are enabled to consult with each other freely regarding the work in general as well as to cultivate friendly and harmonious feeling.

Monday, July 15th.

The Conference opened as usual this morning. The Bishop made a brief address on the nature of Public Worship, after which Rev. Y. Yoshioka of M. E. Church, South, was introduced and spoke in a very interesting manner. The order of the day being called, the Conference proceeded to elect their Delegates to General Conference. On Saturday the Laymen had met and elected Mr. T. Ando as the Lay Delegate and Dr. E. Asada as alternate. The Conference ordered that the first ballot be simply a nominating vote.

The first ballot was as follows:—

	Votes.		Votes.
Rev. Y. Honda	33	Rev. D. S. Spencer	2
Rev. I. H. Correll	12	Rev. S. Ogata	1
Rev. J. Soper	7	Rev. H. Yamaka	1
Rev. J. C. Davison	2		

The second ballot:—

Rev. Y. Honda	36	Rev. I. H. Correll	13
Rev. J. Soper	9		

Rev. Y. Honda, D.D., was then declared elected. The Conference next proceeded to elect an alternate, and Rev. J. Soper was elected with Rev. I. H. Correll closely following.

The Bishop announced that the Book Concern of New York had sent a draft of $477.00 gold as a dividend. The Conference ordered the amount to be deposited in favour of the Worn-out Preachers' and Widows' Funds.

Rev. H. Loomis, representing the American Bible Society, was introduced, and briefly addressed the Conference, to which the bishop responded. The Under graduates in the Third Year's Course were then called upon one by one, their examinations marks read out, their character and work examined, and were advanced to the Fourth Year. The class consisted of twelve promising young men. Rev. K. Toyama, of the Canada Methodist Church, and Mr. Y. Yamaji, editor of the "Gokyo" were introduced and briefly addressed the conference. Rev. Y. Honda replied.

The conference then adjourned with the benediction. In the afternoon the anniversary of the W.F.M.S. was held. The annual conference attended in a body. Mrs. (Bishop) Walden presided and Miss Spencer acted as interpreter. After singing and prayer and reading of the scripture by Miss Ieda, the general report of the woman's work for the year was read by Miss Ishikawa. This report was listened to with a great deal of interest by the large audience present. Miss K. Yamada then made a very earnest address—speaking of the spirit and motive which should animate the workers. Misses Alling and Griffiths, and Messrs. Correll and D. S. Spencer and the Bishop spoke of the relation between the work of the Parent Board and the W.F.M.S. He also referred in eloquent terms to the place and privilege of Methodism in Japan. The service closed with a hymn and prayer.

The following is an outline of the Sermon preached by Bishop Walden before the Annual Conference of the M. E. Church at Aoyama, Tokyo, on Sunday July 14, 1895.

Text.—1 Cor. 2: 4th and 5th verses.

Paul's method of preaching was not in man's wisdom, but words revealed to man by God's Spirit. We should study Paul as the model Preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. He could point with pride to the fact that he had been a student brought up at the feet of Gamaliel, the greatest teacher of the age, but he did not rely on the wisdom of the schools. Though learned in all the sciences and philosophies of his day, yet he depended upon the wisdom revealed to him by the Spirit. He laid aside his preparation as an Israelite in order to glory in the Cross of Christ. Every preacher called to the ministry of the truth must seek to fashion himself after this great model. He must seek as Paul did to be filled with the messages of the spirit, or he shall fail to fulfil the purpose to which he is called.

Important and powerful as truth is, it alone is not sufficient. The Holy Spirit must take the truth and apply to the heart and consciences of men: and this is what Paul means when he says that the Holy Spirit dwells within to the dividing apart, cutting asunder, of soul and spirit. We may illustrate our preaching by the facts of science and history, but only as we rely upon the presence and power of the Spirit, may we hope to see the truth go home to the hearts and consciences of men. We rejoice in the fact that the Holy Ghost has always been in the world since the Day of Pentecost, and just as far as we rely upon the promise of our Heavenly Father, may we be filled with His inspiration and power. Our Blessed Heavenly Father is more willing to give His Spirit to us than parents are to give good gifts unto their children. Let us never go into the pulpit without realizing this fact in our deepest consciousness.

What then is the object of preaching? We must so present the Gospel that the faith of the people may not rest in the power of man's wisdom but in the power of God's wisdom. Man's wisdom is mighty. The physical and intellectual achievements of the age attest this fact. We are living in an age pregnant with mighty thought issuing forth into useful invention. But man's wisdom, while it has its own place in life, society, and civilization, is not adapted to solve the problem of the human soul. When we ask "What am I?—Where am I going?" these deep questions of the human soul, man's wisdom cannot given satisfactory answers. Science spans rivers, navigates oceans, but cannot satisfy the longing of the hearts for God. We recognize the results of science and hasten to use these results, but these investigations and results can never save the soul of sinful man. I have examined the teachings of other religions, of Buddhism, &c., &c., and while I find that these teachings contain germs of truth, yet they are largely the result of man's wisdom, and hence can never satisfy our soul's longings. Man can only be saved by and though power. We see power manifested all about us. In the natural forces, physical forces, in the sweep of civilization, in the growth and development of science. This world is full of force. Nothing can be gained without power. If then our material circumstances and mental growth are conditioned upon the operation of power, does it seem strange that the salvation of the soul should be conditioned upon power? We can only be saved from sin and death by the power of God. We can easily see that force can only be applied in harmony with the laws which govern it in order to gain the desired end. We must adjust force to machinery in order to utilize it. Steam cannot turn water-wheels, water cannot drive pistons; machinery must be adapted to these forces. The world is a reservoir of force. And this force has resulted in benefits in proportion as man has adapted machinery to the same. We must apply power in harmony with laws and conditions. How have we anything to show, to prove, that spiritual power, the power of God, has been brought nigh to us? We can point to the incarnation of the Blessed Son of God—"the divine-human"—as the manifestation of God's power. We can also point to thousands of men and women whose lives have been rescued from sin and death by the power of the Gospel, which is able to save to the very uttermost all those who come with God by Christ. Our faith therefore most stand in the power of God. And we need this power of the spirit as the central force of our work, of our life, of our churches, in in order that men may be led out of darkness into light and life.

Man is conscious of having violated the law of God. This is true of man at all times and in all places. When there is violation of law there must be either penalty or pardon. Sin is such a terrible thing that wherever there is sin there must be punishment or pardon. The law of God is eternal and the violation of that law must be attended with an eternal penalty. Paul realized when he cried then, "Oh wretched man that I am who shall deliver me from the body of this death?"

The question as regards the proper punishment of the violation of law has been a very important one for years and years. It is still a puzzling question. In England 100 years ago 60 crimes were punished with death. At the present time only two. If then man is so undecided as to the proper penalty for the violation of human law, how can we judge of the proper punishment for the transgression of the Divine law! God alone can fix this punishment. But in his wonderous law and mercy he has provided an atonement by His only Son, Jesus Christ, by which man may escape this penalty and obtain eternal life.

Pardon is not the mere play of sentiment. When the Emperor of Japan pardons a criminal it is not the result of sentiment. He pardons by the exercise of his authority. So when God pardons you and me, he does so because he has the authority and right to do so. Our pardon is to obtained by and faith in and through the power of God. Salvation to not merely a manifestation of God's love but of God's power. Oh! let us never forget the great condescending love of God when he bent from his throne on high and spoke peace to our never-dying souls. When the Emperor pardons a criminal, it does not change the nature of the man but simply his relation to society. He goes out into society with

NOTE.—Hon. T. Ando, the lay Delegate to the General Conference in U.S.A., is the ex-Consul-General of Hawaii and at present one of the Heads of the Government emigration office in Tokyo. He is also President of the Tokyo Temperance Society.

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his old nature unchanged. When we receive the pardon of God it not only changes our relation but changes our nature as well. We become new creatures. And this new creation is by, and through, and in the power of God. And after this conversion, we must be day by day trained and nurtured, and developed into spiritual manhood and womanhood by the same power. Paul cried: —"Who is sufficient for these things?" and then he exclaimed, "Our sufficiency is of God;" only by his power can we be strengthened and kept. By this power, furthermore, we may expect a complete salvation, a perfect salvation. The time is coming when the whole of man's nature will be saved. Christ's resurrection and ascension is the pledge of our resurrection and glorification. These mortal bodies of ours shall be quickened by the spirit of God. When Christ appears he shall be like Him; we shall see Him as He is. We cannot explain it fully, but it shall be ours by the promise and power of God. Our faith stands in the power of God. We preach a Gospel—not of man's wisdan—but a Gospel full of the power of God. Oh! let us open our marts to-day and pray that the Holy Ghost may fill us and that we may go forth to preach Christ in the demonstration and power of the same. Amen.

Tuesday, July 16th.

The Conference opened as usual this morning. The minutes were read and approved. The Conference Treasurer submitted his report, which showed a Balance of $1,318 50 on Deposit in favour of the Worn-out Preachers and Widows Fund. The Bishop then made a brief address to the Conference on the Service of Song.

The class of Probationers in the 1st year were passed to the 2nd year.

T. Sunamoto and S. Ukai were announced as transferred from the California Conference to the Japan Conference.

The question as regards the place of holding the next Annual Conference being called, the following places were named:—Aoyama, Nagasaki, Nagoya, and Yokohama.

Aoyama was finally voted. The matter of Conference Entertainment Committee was deferred. Several committees were called but few were ready to report. The Presiding Elders were requested to name Fraternal Delegates to the several Methodist Bodies.

The Committee on the Bible Cause reported and their report was adopted. Likewise that of the Committee on District Conference Records.

The report of the Committee on Tracts caused considerable discussion. It was finally adopted. The Committee on Temperance reported. This afternoon the various committee are busily at work and the Bishop and the Presiding Elders are in session.

The Ladies are also engaged to-day in deciding on their appointments. Several changes are expected to take place in their work and appointments.

Wednesday, July 17th.

The Conference opened as usual with devotional exercises, the reading of the minutes, and arranging of unfinished business. The Bishop occupied 20 minutes in an address on the Business man from a Christian standpoint. He spoke of the use and power of money and the duty of Christians to give of their means for the maintenance of the Gospel.

Upon the representation of the Bishop in the case of Rev. D. Bunker, J. W. Wadman moved that he be transferred from the Ohio Conference and ordained Elder in the Korean Mission.

The order of the day being the consideration of one or two Constitutional questions, the Secretaries read those resolutions and the Conference proceeded to vote. The resolution referring to the admission of women as members of the General Conference was referred back to the General Conference for further consideration.

E. Aibara moved a vote of thanks to J. C. Davison, through whose imdefatigable efforts the New Hymn Book of 430 numbers has been recently published. The resolution was passed with a rising and enthusiastic vote. Mr. Davison responded.

The president of the Kobe College of the M. E. Church South, addressed the Conference and requested the Bishop to station some preachers at posts in the south, which greatly need the Gospel.

The Treasurer then submitted his report. The monies collected during the year for the various benevolent purposes are as follows:—

For Foreign Missions	191.88
For Home Missions	456.66
Church Extension	81.32
Education	86.59
Bible and Tract Cause	50.66
Other Collections	110.55
Total	991.05

This amount does not include Pastoral Support.

The report on Temperence was read and adopted. H. B. Schwartz moved that this Conference pledge its support to the Tokyo Temperance Society, *Kuni-no-Hikari*. The Committee on Education also reported. The Conference adjourned.

This afternoon the Bishop has a Conference of Consulation with the Japanese Members of the Conference. At 4 p.m., the Committee on estimates will meet. It is expected that the Conference will close some time to-morrow.

JAPANESE TOPICS IN AUSTRALIA.

By John Plummer, M.J.S.

Sydney, June 6th.

Although the immediate interest occasioned by the recent war has naturally declined in Australia, there still exists much speculation with respect to its possible results, especially so far as the action of Russia is concerned. Judging from some extracts from the Japanese native press which have found their way into the Australian papers, it would appear that in many parts of Japan there exists an impression that public sympathy in Australia is largely on the side of the Chinese. But such is not the case. The prevalent feeling is rather one of bewilderment at the sudden and unexpected development of Japanese enterprise and energy, combined with a kind of secret hope that it may possibly lead to an effectual check being placed upon the Russian progress towards Chinese and Japanese waters, which is regarded as a menace to the security of Australia. At the same time were it not for a knowledge of the conflicting interests of Russia and Japan, the occupation of Formosa would have become regarded with distrust in Australia, where many of the colonists view it as being the first step in the Japanese advance towards their shores. The resistance offered by the Formosans has led to numerous expressions of Colonial opinion, the prevalent idea being that the island will prove a thorn in the side of Japan. The *Sydney Daily Telegraph* says:—"The Japanese, having won Formosa from China on far-of fields, are now compelled to make the treaty good by force of arms, and there is a strong probablility that their effort to do so will involve them in one of those desperate 'little wars' which are not infrequently the price of new territory. The Formosans are a mixed people, 'rude in peace and rough in war,' noted in the past for piracy and turbulence, who have given the Chinese Government quite as much trouble as dominion over them was worth. They are strengthened, too, by the militant spirit of the Black Flags, men who are more or less trained to arms, and who are of a kind with the Chinese soldiers who threatened to shoot the captain of the transport *Kowshing* if he surrendered to the Japanese cruiser which subsequently sank the transport. We get flashes of patriotism like this from the Chinese soldiery occasionally, which mean that in a country of Formosa's geographical peculiarity little short of extermination will effect subjugation. Japan will conquer the island, no doubt, and having done that she will have to garrison it, to withstand the guerilla tactics of natives and Chinese, and in short to stamp out all that remains of Formosa as it has been since the Dutch were driven from it. The material has yet to be supplied for the most interesting chapter in the history of Japan's upheaval —her experiences in colonisation."

Alluding to the declaration of a republic in Formosa, the *Sydney Morning Herald* remarks that "there is something odd and highly un-Mongolian about that Republic of Formosa which was so suddenly organised as a means of resisting the occupation of the island by the Japanese. We are now told that the republic is distasteful to the Formosan people. If the people of Formosa do not want the republic the question is who does want it? All that we have been told on the matter is that the Chinese Governor on receiving orders to hand over the place to Japan promptly declared the island a republic, and himself its President. In this capacity he commands an army of 100,000 men. Formosa has doubtless for some time been more or less subject to Japanese influence, if only in the form of repulsion towards the island empire. Can it be that the people of Formosa want to show that they, too, have adopted Western ideas and a perfectly up-to-date Western civilisation? But why a republic—a form of government which is naturally distasteful to an Asiatic race? In trying to find some explanation of what is mysterious in this affair, we naturally cast about for analogies that might in some way help us. The one which most readily present itself is that of Hawaii, which lately exchanged its state as a monarchy for that of a republic. That change is known to have been not wholly unassisted by alien influence. Can it be that the new President of the Republic of Formosa has a Prime Minister who speaks Chinese with a strong American accent? Or does the Prime Minister's name end in 'off' or 'owski?' There must be more than fairly meets the eye in what is going on in Formosa. Our interest in the matter is that if Japan, as doubtless she will, establishes her powe rin that island it brings her some hundred miles nearer to Australia, and if it should be some other Power who gets there, it will be of some interest to us to know who it is to be."

Increased attention is being given in Australia to Japanese industrial capabilities, by the systematic manner in which the agents of Japanese firms are canvassing for orders for various kinds of goods hitherto obtained principally from the United Kingdom, Germany, and America. Many articles sold in Sydney and Melbourne as of British manufacture are of Japanese origin, and it is not unlikely that before the close of the century, the majority of Australian newspapers will be printed on paper made in Japan. The Japanese certainly have a fair chance of becoming the great paper-makers of the world. Even the photographic papers from Tokyo and elsewhere are fully as good as any of the same class imported from Europe and America.

Whether Australian wine will find a market or not in Japan, is a question at present engaging the attention of Australian vine-growers. Mr. A. Marks, the courteous Consular representative of His Imperial Japanese Majesty in Melbourne, in the course of an interview with a reporter of the *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, said that the Australians had a lot to learn in the manufacture of wine before they could successfully compete with other places in that industry. In other countries where they manufactured wine great care was exercised in giving it an attractive appearance, besides attending to the quality. The finest kind of bottles were used, and the capsuling was made very neat. In Victoria he (Mr. Marks) noticed that a good quality of wine was placed in an inferior bottle, and the capsules were very carelessly arranged. If attractively prepared, it was possible that a fair amount of trade might be done with Japan. Subsequent to the departure of Mr. Marks from Sydney, Mr. Innes, a Sydney wine merchant, who has had considerable experience of wine production in Europe, was interviewed by one of the staff of the *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, and remarked in reply to a question by the latter, there was a great deal of truth in the statement that made by Mr. Marks as to the unattractive appearance of some of the wine. The careless capsuling, however, was explained by the fact that many of the vine-growers who manufactured a first-class wine did nut understand the art of properly capsuling it. That which was purchased by the merchants in bulk, and subsequently bottled, was equal in "get up" to French wine. In France the wine was never shipped by the vine-growers themselves, but was bought by the wine merchants, who bottled it. In reply to the question—"Dealing more particularly with the prospects of a trade with Japan, have you ever exported any wine to that country?" Mr. Innes said—"Yes; I sent about 100 gallons there some time ago. The consignment was a fairly profitable one and consisted chiefly of cheap red wines. The Japanese, however, seemed to prefer the French wines, as they were cheaper, although the quality was not equal to the Australian wines. In fact, many people who are competent to express an opinion say that our colonial wines are superor to Californian wines. The Riverina district is specially suited for the production of sweet wines, a class that would suit the Japanese, and if sufficient trade could be secured, they might be produced at a price that no part of the world could compete against. One mistake made with regard to the export trade that is done in wine is the fact of it, in many instances, being sent away just immediately after manufacture. If a few years were allowed for the wine to mature, it would be superior to any wine that can be produced in Europe. As I said before, however, the class of wine to suit Japan is a sweet wine, and in the colonies at present the demand for that particular sort exceeds the supply. Before any great stimulus can be given to the manufacture of the kind that can be profitably exported, a good market will have to be found, as vine-growers are somewhat timid at establishing vineyards for the production of a class of wine the consumption of which is likely to be limited."

While there exists a largely increased knowledge of Japanese naval and military resources and industrial capabilities, the real life and character of Japan at the present moment is as a sealed book to the great bulk of the English-speaking population, notwithstanding the numerous descriptive articles which have appeared from time to time in British and American newspapers and magazines. The

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popular idea of Japan and everything Japanese is largely based on the narratives of visitors in former years or of globe-trotters who imagine that three or four days in a country is sufficient to enable them to become acquainted with everything to be learnt concerning it. In Melbourne a fine collection of Japanese coloured photographs, portraying Japanese scenery, buildings, industrial occupations, and the leading features of everyday life in Japan, has been attracting thousands of interested spectators, and the remarks made by many of these emphatically illustrates the educational value of these displays. In the Victorian capital, at least, it is beginning to be recognised that the Japanese have a right to be regarded as one of the most civilised and progressive of modern peoples.

The effects of the Australian poll-tax on Chinese immigrants is shown by the fact that of the 23,122 Chinese who arrived in Sydney Harbour during the last seven years, only 252 were landed at Sydney. These 252 were represented by 221 naturalised British subjects, four British born, 10 returned on exemption permits, 16 paid each £100, and one is in gaol. Other returns show that the Chinese population in Australia is fast diminishing.

LETTER FROM PARIS.

(From our Correspondent).

Paris, June 8th.

The diplomatic world is in a kind of flutter, due to the grave out-look of the Eastern question—the old anxiety. In the Clubs there is a good deal of head-shaking, and the incredulous, who do not put their faith in princes and potentates, assert that the Sultan would not heard the triple alliance—England, France, and Russia—if he had not very well founded doubts as to the sincerity of that union, and of its keeping together till Armenia was securely protected for the future. It is easy to bombard Jeddah—that appears to be a periodical necessity for the moral sanitation of the natives. The collective attacks on the allies in question, are too methodically strategic, display an occult organization so superior to the ordinary tactics of the Porte, as to justify suspicion. A naval demonstration in the Bosphorus? But would Russia and France join in the "firing party," if necessary to open the Sultan's eyes, or leave that work to England, and sail away—Alexandria like! Or, if Russia and France joined in the work, and their ships cast anchor before Constantinople, they might take into their heads to remain there till the Bulgarian and Egyptian questions were settled, and the Dardenelles made as free as the Straits of Dover or of the Sound. This time the Sick Man is really sick, and Surgeon Russia has been called in to prescribe—his processes are proverbially summary.

The International Miners' Congress just held here demonstrates the valuable influence of Anglo-Saxon common sense. It was the sixth congress, and as compared with the first suggested order, method, and practical aim, replacing chaos. Of the 76 delegates from Miners' Syndicates and Federations, Great Britain sent 36, the *pro rata* representation of its associated members. The others were French, Belgian, and German delegates. As a general remark, the Belgian and French delegates are deeply tinged with socialism, harmlessly wild, and undangerously impracticable. The Germans are divided more upon theories and principles than actual facts—the British stick to the latter, and aim to minimize obstacles by united efforts inspired by self-help. Their idea, their attitude, their hostility to demolish till sure of being able to reconstruct, have told, and still tell on their continental *confrères*, who have a marked tendency to introduce extreme politics and national rivalry into the discussions—but less so than heretofore, because the English delegates view all that fire-works as waste of time and as alienating public sympathy from their demanded reforms.

Congresses at large commence to recognize the dawning truth that as consumers the public have a very potent, though not syndicated, voice in the programmes of social economy; a rise of two pence per bag in the price of coals comes home to every man's bosom and business, as much as an increase of a penny in the price of the loaf. The great question at the miners' congress was not the legal fixing of 8 hours a day work for pit men, nor yet compensation by employers for injuries sustained by their operatives while on actual duty. The French delegates added a rider, to prove their sense of justice towards the capitalist, that he was not to make compensation in case a workman committed suicide while at labour. One hardly expected a breadwinner, with a wife and children, would, in order to secure their support, indulge in a header into a vat of boiling soap; plunge into a glass furnace, or throw himself into, or under, moving machinery. Even Jean Jacques Rousseau's system was better; when his mistress Thérese presented him with a little stranger, he sent the baby to the almshouse to be reared. But to the main question, the over-production of coal. Till miners had the whip hand to restrict the out-put of coal by working shorter hours, and fewer days in the week, but guaranteed the living wage to actual current wants, the miners' condition could not be radically ameliorated. But neither colliery owners nor colliers are likely to fall into line on the plethoric extraction of coal. The German delegates object to miners forming "rings," as they protest against mine owners organizing "trusts." The French and Belgian representatives, oblivious that it required six days to make the world and all there in is, would regulate the over-production of coal in a few hours, by nominating an International Coal Minister to shut down too prolific pits. No statue book will ever rule that when a man's business is prosperous he must stop to allow weaklings to creep to the front. The triple alliance applied that doctrine to Japan, and are surprised the Japanese do not honour them for that signal service by baptizing captured Chinese ironclads after the disinterested trinitarians.

So the Formosa Republic did not live the life even of the rose. Clearly the Celestials are not yet ripe for liberty, equality, &c., &c. The French must feel annoyed at the rapid and dashing capture of Kelung by the Japanese, which defied Admiral Courbet. The Japanese have not allowing the grass to grow under their feet; they are already laying down keels for additions to their splendid Mercantile Marine, and have sent orders to Clyde and Newcastle firms for the construction of four transport ships, and six up-to-date swift cruisers. The belief of Westerns is next to unanimous that China will move hand-in-hand with Japan, as France does with Russia.

Parisians are more occupied in seeking a run into the country, than with any other subject. They have discovered fresh air—which costs nothing—as Dumas père discovered the Mediterranean. At Whitsuntide there was a general stampede to rail or bicycle as far as possible from the capital, and so escape the odours that infect its atmosphere with a serious persistency. The stenches destroy the pleasure of strolling, during the shades of evening, along the Boulevards, or lounging in the foreground of a café to see the world pass by. There is not much fresh air to be found now in the suburbs; the regions are all built upon; St. Cloud and St. Germain are no longer the country; they must be left far behind, if green fields are to be reached. There are no more picnic parties, in the sense of bringing the "materials" with you; the excursionist seeks his ease at his inn. There are well nigh 40,000 taxed bicyclists in Paris and its suburbs; on a holiday all these are set loose, and wheeled 30 to 40 miles into the country; the riders, lunch and repose, and then spin back to dine in the city. That is the trend of outdoor pleasure now. Age has even been drawn into the vortex of bicyclism. The iron horse has killed the piano; booksellers assert it is doing the same for their wares, and the theatres hold it responsible for the emptiness of their benches. The bicycle is effecting other changes; it enables a pater-familias to reside in the cheaper suburbs, to ride on the cycle to business or office, save tram and rail fare, and secure improved health into the bargain.

Of all the humourous expedients for evicting the English from Egypt, an expedient that of course makes them still greater a fixture, is the calling in of the aid of the Fine Arts. A native artist has executed a picture and made it a present, not to the Louvre but to the Chamber of Deputies, with the usual "high falutin" letter to the president. The subject is France, asked, "as the liberator of nations, to deliver Egypt," not from Napoleon I. but the English. It appears that the people of Egypt are again in bondage, &c. It is an amusing skit. Imagine the House of Commons being presented with a tableau, the "Holders of Egyptian Stock, and the emancipated Fellaheen, emploring England, the mother of Nations," not to evacuate the valley, and so cause the value of Egyptian bonds to fall 50 per cent., a crop of Arabi Pachas to rise up to sweep away the Khedive, and to bring back the old Turkish party to lash the poor cultivator, and allow the Land of Goshen to be the parade-ground for every European intrigue. "Egypt for the Egyptians," with England for their tutor—that's the solution.

It was in 1795 that the system of numbering houses was first adopted, and Berlin claims that honour, and will celebrate it in a few weeks by a centennial fête. And when the anniversary for hall door knockers and door bells? Berlin is far behind American cities in numbering houses. The peculiarity about the numbers of Paris houses is the draw back of not being able to discover the figures: they are like the laws of Draco, so high as to be invisible. If you wish to find out a number, you will have to back into the middle of the roadway, to take in the façade of the house, and run the chance of being crushed by a vehicle, or, retrace your steps till the number of another mansion be found, and then count the houses till the one you seek be run down. As a rule it may be said shop sign boards in Paris exhibit no number.

If the English navy be "mistress of the seas," that of France is "master of the dry land." Thus the journal *Le Jour* announces in fat type that the "French fleet has arrived at Madrid." And when the British fleet at Versailles, Berlin, or Sheffield?

The French press is discussing the question, if an alliance really exists between France and Russia. Deputy Delafosse, an able man, does not believe in the existence of a treaty. So long as the two powers find it to be their interest to stable their horses together, they have no need of any parchment deeds; they run together so far, and have very few points of friction for their diplomacy. So long as the French will not invade Moscow, or Russia quarter herself in Constantinople, even with France and England, to be rejoined in time by Germany, Austria, and Italy, they can live in peace. England has no treaty with Italy, but the first shot fired in the Mediterranean, would make these powers allies. Then the French receive 240 millions of francs a year from Russia, as interest on money loaned. That alone ought to make them lovers.

A big petition has been addressed to the Chamber calling upon it to impose a tax on bachelors, equal at least to what the married man is forced to expend on dutiable articles for his establishment. The petitioners leave it to the sagacity of their Solons how to arrange the matter—which is prudence. Bachelors reply, we are willing to wed if the State secures us the means of supporting a wife and rearing a family. Others say, they have contracted a "free marriage," that neither State nor church recognize, but which costs them very dear to maintain. There is another financial peril; the number of young women who decline to wed, and prefer to live alone, or associated in house-keeping with one of their own sex.

The journals that sell best in Paris are those devoted to horse-racing and bicycling; they accept none but technical advertisements, and refuse the best "penny awful" stories.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, July 12.

The members in 138 constituencies have been returned unopposed. During the elections the candidates were divided simply as Unionists or Liberals, a more precise sub-division of the parties being reserved. Twenty-nine Unionists, four Liberals, and three Parnellites have been elected.

London, July 15.

Further returns show that ninety-six Unionists and ten Liberals have been elected, the gains now being Unionists eight, Liberal one [a seat formerly occupied by a Unionist]. Sir William Vernon Harcourt and Mr. Thomas Roe, the former Liberal members for the Borough of Derby, have been jointly defeated there by a majority of 1,700. Mr. Arthur J. Balfour has been reëlected for East Manchester by an increased majority.

London, July 16.

The Unionists returned number 162, with a gain of 20 seats, and 17 Liberals have been elected, with a gain of two seats. There have also been one labour candidate and eight Irish members elected.

London, July 17.

There have been 221 Unionists returned, with a gain of 34 seats, and 37 Liberals have been elected with a gain of nine seats. The returns also include four Parnellites and thirteen anti-Parnellites.

London, July 18.

The Unionist gains are 52, and the Liberals ten.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

(From the "China Mail.")

London, July 7.

The Naval Manœuvres have been postponed for a week to enable the crews to vote at the forthcoming elections.

The *Novoe Vremya* urges the Government not to complete the delimitation of the Pamir boundary until Chinese questions are settled, and adds that it must be demonstrated to Great Britain that friendly relations with Russia depend upon mutual concessions.

(From Tonkin Papers.)

Paris, July 1.

In the Chamber of Deputies, M. Jaurès questioned the Ministers on their policy towards the Socialists. M. Ribot in replying maintained an attitude of resistance to Socialism, and the Chamber passed a vote of confidence in the Cabinet by 332 to 83 votes.

Paris, July 2.

Fire broke out at the Ateliers Godillot, and destroyed twelve large establishments, doing damage estimated at eight million francs. The fire caused a fearful panic. About a dozen persons were seriously injured, and a fireman lost his life.

General Duchesne has occupied Tsarsoatra, south of Suberbieville. There was no loss on the French side.

Prince Bismarck is seriously ill.

The vote of five million francs additional for Tonkin was passed by 275 to 157.

The *Figaro* states that M. Rousseau (present Governor of Indo-China) has applied for an investigation of the conduct of M. de Lanessan (the late Governor). M. de Lanessan has published a reply challenging inquiry, and denying the allegations made in the *Figaro*.

(From N.-C. Daily News.)

London, July 8.

Prior to the proroguing of Parliament Lord Salisbury delivered in the House of Lord a manifesto defending the Lords, and declaring that the Government's policy was to do their utmost to mitigate the misery of the millions of people who depended on agriculture for their living. The manifesto especially demanded deep attention to reforms in taxation, facilities for transport, and the creation of small holdings, which would do much to bring about relief. Moreover, the Poor Law required revision.

London, July 9.

The *Journal de St. Pétersbourg*, in discussing the Chinese Loan, disavows any political advantage, ascribing it to Russia's desire to maintain friendly relations with her great neighbour.

London, July 11.

The position assumed by King Menelek of Abyssinia is becoming more markedly hostile to the Italians, and he has imprisoned Engineer Capucci, on suspicion of the latter having been in communication with General Baratieri.

Pekin, July 11.

Yü Kêng, a Manchu and a *protégé* of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, was appointed Minister to Japan this morning by the Emperor. He was nominated, last month, to the Swatow Taotaiship but this post will now be given to Lu Yuan-ting, an expectant Taotai of Kiangsu and at one time Shanghai magistrate.

(From Japanese Papers).

Kobe, July 15.

Count Inouye arrived here by the *Yurra* at 9 o'clock this morning, and put up at the villa of Mr. Fujita. He will leave for Korea by the *Yokohama Maru* to-morrow. Mr. Ko Yei-ki, Korean Minister to Japan, who is on his way to Tokyo, visited the Count.

Söul, July 16.

In Yo-kyu has been appointed Minister of the Royal Household.

Kobe, July 16.

Count Inouye and party left for Korea by the *Yokohama Maru* this morning. Mr. Sufu, Governor of Hyogo; Ko Yei-ki, Korean Minister to Japan, and many other persons assembled to bid them farewell.

Viscount Shinagawa and Mr. Furusawa, Governor of Nara, arrived here yesterday, and interviewed Count Inouye.

Nagasaki, July 16.

The Russian ship *Kraysser* left here for the China Sea to-day. She will probably go to Shanghai.

Shimonoseki, July 15.

The *Fujigawa Maru*, with Pak and two other Korean officials on board, has arrived here. She was carefully guarded while in this port. The steamer has gone on to Ujina.

Shimonoseki, July 16.

Lieut.-General Nakamura and Major Saito, Imperial Chamberlains, who have been ordered to proceed to Formosa to visit the Japanese soldiers and marines there, reached here to-day on their way to the island.

The *Moji Maru* leaves here for Kure to-day.

Kyoto, July 16.

The Rt. Rev. Kokei, Superintendent of the Higashi Hongan Temple, is being sued for damages, his carriage having fatally wounded an individual.

Kyoto, July 18.

Ko Yei-ki, the Korean Minister, left for Tokyo by the 8.40 a.m. train.

Söul, July 19.

Boku Tei-yo, the Premier, has again tendered his resignation.

Osaka, July 19.

About one-third of the Drainage Scheme for this city has been completed, but some residents hold that the whole scheme is in complete, and over forty of the discontented citizens have assembled and decided to effect a more careful inspection of the work. They intend to press the commissioners to hold themselves responsible for any defects.

Söul, July 19.

Count Inouye, Japanese Minister to Korea, arrived at Ninsen to-day, and will enter the capital to-morrow.

Mitsugahama, July 19.

The captured Chinese ship *Chinhoku-go* arrived here last night. Many spectators visited her.

Nagoya, July 19.

Some military coolies have brought an action against the Aichi-gumi, demanding further payment of wages.

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE.

The following is the report for June of Mr. J. R. Ford, of Macquarie Place, Sydney, N.S.W.:—

Wool.—This being the off season the quantity coming forward is limited indeed, and sales irregular. The regular sales will commence in September and manufacturers will do well by letting me have their orders in and with complete banking arrangements as per advertisement.

Current quotations in the Sydney market are as follow:—

	Superior.		Good.		Medium.		Inferior.	
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greasy Fleece	None Offering.		6½ to 7		5 to 6		3½ to 4½	
Greasy Lambs			5 to 5½		4 to 4½		2 to 3½	
Greasy Pieces			5 to 5½		3½ to 4½		2½ to 3½	
Greasy Bellies			3 to 4		2½ to 2½		1½ to 2	
Greasy Crossbred			6 to 6½		5 to 5½		4 to 4½	
Washed Fleece			8 to 9		7 to 7½		6 to 6½	
Scoured Fleece			11 to 12½		9 to 10½		8 to 8½	
Scoured Pieces			8½ to 9½		7½ to 8½		6 to 7½	
Scoured Bellies			7 to 8½		6 to 6½		4 to 5½	
Scoured Locks			5 to 5½		4½ to 4½		3 to 4	

Sheepskins.—Full Wools, 4½d. to 5d., Medium 3½d. to 4d., short 2½d. to 3½d., Crossbreds full Wools 4½d. to 5d., Medium 3½d. to 4d., short 2d. to 3d.

Tallow.—Prime Mutton £20.10.0 to £21, Medium £19.15.0 to £20.5.0, Prime Mixed £19.5.0 to £19.15.0, Medium Mixed £18.10.0 to £19; Prime Beef £19.0.0 to £19.10.0, Medium Beef £18.5.0 to £18.15.0, Broken small and Inferior £17.0.0 to £18.5.0 per ton.

Hides.—Very firm. Dry 2½d. to 3½d.; Green, 3d. to 3½d.; superior 4d. per pound.

Horse Hides.—From 5/ to 8/ each.

Shank Bones.—From £3.12.6 to £4.17.6 per ton.

Common Bones.—From £2. to £2.15.0 per ton.

Horns.—From £10.0 to £2.7.6 per 100.

Marsupial Skins are in strong demand, with an upward tendency in prices, more especially for Kangaroo, Wallaby, Opposum, Platypus, and Bear Skins.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 185.

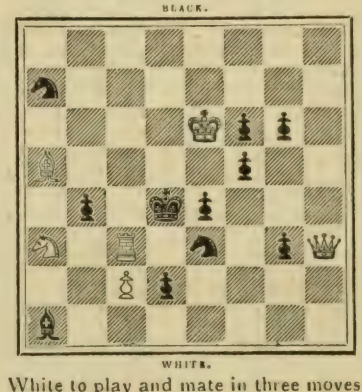
White.	Black.
1—Q to Q B 6	1—B to K 6
2—Kt to B 4	2—K × Kt
3—Q to K B 6, mate	
	1—B to Q 5
2—Q to Q B 7 ch.	2—K to Q 4
3—Kt to B 4, mate	
	if 2—K to B 4
3—Q to K B 4, mate	
	1—B to Kt 8
2—K to K 7	2—Anything
3—Q to K 4, mate	
	1—P to B 5
2—P × P	2—Anything
3—Q to Q 5, mate.	

Other variations and continuations are obvious.

Correct solutions received from Digamma, Kr., Shogi, W.H.S., E. J. King, and J.D.

Problem No. 187.

By Karel Traxler.



White to play and mate in three moves.

Game No. 295.

The following interesting game was played by correspondence between Herr Schallopp, of Steglitz, and M. Tabuntschikoff, of Gatchina, Russia. It illustrates a theoretical question which has arisen in the recent New York Tournament, when Hymes made against Steinitz what was supposed to be a new move. Herr Schallopp made it in 1893. The introduction and notes are by Mr. Hoffer, from the *Standard*.

"Ruy Lopez."

White. E. Schallopp.	Black. B. Tabuntschikoff.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—P to Q 3
5—P to Q 4	5—B to Q 2
6—Castles	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Kt 3	7—Kt takes P
8—Kt takes Kt	8—P takes Kt
9—P to Q B 3 (a)	9—P takes P (b)
10—Kt takes P (c)	10—Kt to B 3 (d)
11—P to B 4	11—P to Kt 5 (e)
12—Kt to Q 5	12—P to B 3 (f)
13—Kt takes Kt ch.	13—P takes Kt (g)
14—Q to R 5	14—Q to K 2
15—B to Q 2	15—Q R to Kt sq.
16—Q R to K sq.	16—R to Kt 4
17—P to K 5	17—K to Q sq.
18—B to B 4	18—P to Q 4 (h)
19—B takes R	19—R P takes B
20—P takes P	20—Q takes P
21—P to B 5 (i)	21—P to R 3
22—B to B 4	22—B to B 4 ch.
23—K to R sq.	23—B to Q 3
24—B to Kt 3	24—K to B sq.
25—Q to Kt 4	25—P to B 4
26—Q to B 4	26—Q to Q Kt 3
27—R to K 7	27—P to B 3
28—K R to K sq.	28—P to R 4 (j)
29—R takes B	29—K takes R
30—R to K 6	30—Q takes R

And White mates in four moves.

(a) Obviously if 9—Q takes P, then P to B 4; 10 Queen moves, 9 to B 5 would win a piece. The text move was made in the recent New York Tournament by Hymes against Steinitz, and the game resulted in a draw. It was thought generally that Hymes was the first to introduce this excellent move, but in reality it was Herr Schallopp.

(b) Best. If Kt to B 3, then 10—P takes P, and Black could not reply 10—Kt takes P because of 11—B to Q 5.
(c) Hymes played here 10—Q to Q 5, and the game was given up as drawn after a repetition of B to K 3; and 11—Q to B 6 ch. Herr Schallopp saw the draw combination well enough; but he was not satisfied with such a barren result, judging rightly that the attack should yield more.
(d) Somewhat better would have been B to K 3; but after 11—P to B 4, White would still have the better developed game.
(e) B to Kt 5; 12—Q to K sq., B to K 2 would not be satisfactory either.
(f) If Kt takes P, then 13—Q to B 2, Kt to B 4; 14—R to K sq. ch., B to K 3; 15—P to B 5, and wins.
(g) If Q takes Kt, then 14—P to K 5; Q to Kt 3; 15—P to B 5, B takes P; 16—Q to B 3, B to K 5; 17—B takes P ch., K to Q sq.; 18—Q to K R 3, and wins.
(h) The sacrifice of the exchange seems to be the lesser evil.
(i) A powerful move. If Q takes Kt P, then 22—B to B 4, Q to Kt 2; 23—P to B 6, Q to Kt 3; 24—Q to K 5 and wins.
(j) If B to K 4, then 20—K R takes B, P takes B; 30—Q takes K P, R to B sq.; 31—Q takes P and wins.
(k) As follows:—31—Q to B 7 ch., K to K sq.; 32—P takes Q, &c. A remarkably fine game on the part of Herr Schallopp

Game No. 296.

Below follows the score of a consultation game, recently played been Lipschutz and Lee and Showalter and Schmitz at the Manhattan Chess Club, with comments by J. D. Elwell.

VIENNA OPENING.

WHITE. L. and L.	BLACK. S. and S.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—Kt to K B 3 (a)
3—P to K Kt 3 (b)	3—B to B 4
4—B to Kt 2	4—Kt to B 3
5—K Kt to K 2	5—P to Q R 3 (c)
6—P to Q 3	6—Kt to K Kt 5 (d)
7—Castles.	7—P to K R 4
8—P to K R 3	8—P to R 5 (e)
9—P takes Kt	9—P takes P
10—P to Kt 5 (f)	10—P takes P ch
11—R takes P	11—P to Q 3
12—Kt to Q 5	12—B takes R ch (g)
13—K takes B	13—B to Kt 5
14—P to B 3 (h)	14—Q to Q 2
15—B to K 3	15—Castles Q R
16—Q to B 2 (i)	16—P to K B 4
17—P takes P en. p.	17—P takes P
18—R to K Kt sq. (j)	18—P to K B 4
19—P takes P (k)	19—Q takes P ch
20—K to K sq.	20—R to R 7 (l)
21—Kt to Kt 3	21—Q to K 3
22—Kt to B sq. (m)	22—K R to R sq.
23—B to K 4	23—Q to K Kt sq
24—Q to R 4 (n)	24—Q to B 2 (o)
25—Kt to Kt 4 (p)	25—R to R 6 (q)
26—K to Q 2	26—R takes B
27—Kt takes R	27—Q to B 7 ch
28—K to B sq.	28—Q takes Kt ch
29—Resigns	

NOTES.

(a) This counter attack in defence is probably best. Black's other moves are 2 B to B 4 and 2—Kt to Q B 3, both of which seem to give White some advantage in attack over the ordinary Giuoco Piano, because his K R and K B come into early play.
(b) A favorable continuation with L. Paulsen.
(c) In the game Bardeleben v. Shiffers (Breslau, 1889), the former played at this point P to Q 3. The text move is made in order to save the B from exchange with White's Q Kt. White, however, can only capture the B by a considerable disarrangement of his queen's side pawns.
(d) A strong attack, but somewhat premature, the Q P being unmoved.
(e) Here in a game between Mieses and Dr. Tarrasch the doctor retreated his Kt to R 3.
(f) He might also have played 10 Kt takes P, Q to R 5; 11 Kt R 5, giving back the piece in order to close the rook's file, but this would hardly have been as good.
(g) Black seems to have nothing better, although it deprives him of a good attacking piece.
(h) Loss of time; B to K 3 at once should have been played.
(i) On general principles Q to Q 2 would have been better and would not later have led White astray.
(j) The obvious move, which gives White a strong position with material to the good.
(k) Kt to B 6 for the purpose of exchanging it for the adverse B was worth considering.
(l) Not so productive of results as was hoped and Black is presently forced to retreat home.
(m) Protecting the Kt at Q 5 as well as driving the R.
(n) Threatening in connection with the two bishops and knight a strong queen side attack. The queen, however, was needed for the protection of the White king.
(o) A move, the strength of which is revealed by Black's twenty-fifth move.
(p) White, being pressed for time, entirely overlooked the coming coup. Kt to Kt 6 ch., followed by B takes Kt and Q takes B, would have prevented the immediate catastrophe which follows.
(q) Immediately fatal to White. Black now threatens Q takes Kt ch.

Game No. 297.

SALVIO-COCHRANE GAMBIT.

WHITE. Tschigorin.	BLACK. Winawer.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Q to R 5 ch.
6—K to B sq.	6—P to B 6
7—P to Q 4	7—Kt to K B 3
8—Kt to B 3	8—P takes P ch.
9—K takes P	9—Q to R 6 ch.
10—K to Kt sq.	10—P to Q 4
11—B takes P	11—Kt takes B
12—Kt takes Kt	12—B to Q 3
13—Q to K sq.	13—Kt to Q 2
14—Kt takes Kt	14—B takes Kt
15—P to K 5	15—Castles Q R
16—P takes B	16—Q R to K sq.
17—Q to R 5 and White wins.	

Game No. 298.

A game played between Paul Morphy and De Riviere in Paris in 1863 has recently come to light, and as everything pertaining to Morphy is of interest to chess players the score of the game is reproduced herewith.

WHITE. De Riviere.	BLACK. Morphy.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to K R 3	6—P to K R 3
7—P to Q Kt 4	7—B to Kt 3
8—P to Q R 4	8—P to Q R 3
9—Kt to R 3	9—Castles
10—Kt to B 2	10—B to K 3
11—Q to K 2	11—P to Q 4
12—P takes P	12—B takes P
13—Castles	13—P to K 5
14—B takes B	14—Q takes B
15—P takes P	15—Kt takes K P
16—P to B 4	16—Kt to Kt 6
17—P takes Q	17—Kt takes Q ch.
18—K to R 2	18—Kt to K 2
19—R to K sq.	19—Kt takes B
20—R takes Q Kt	20—Kt to Q 6
21—P to R 5	21—B to R 2
22—P to Kt 3	22—K R to K sq.
23—R takes P	23—R to K 7
24—K Kt to Q 4	24—R×P ch. & wins.

Brilliant Brevities.

We print below two bright pretty games suitable for the hot season, and think they will give our readers pleasure.

Game No. 299.

CENTRE GAMBIT.

WHITE. Mr. Potter.	BLACK. Mr. ——
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—B to Q B 4	3—P to Q B 4
4—Kt to K B 3	4—P to Q 3
5—Castles	5—Kt to Q B 3
6—P to B 3	6—P to Q 6
7—R to K sq.	7—B to Kt 5
8—P to K 5	8—Kt takes P
9—Kt takes Kt	9—B takes Q
10—B to Q Kt 5 ch.	10—K to K 2
11—B to Kt 5 ch.	11—P to B 3
12—Kt to Kt 6 double ch.	12—K to B 2
13—Kt takes R mate.	

Game No. 300.

QUEEN'S PAWN GAME.

WHITE. Mason.	BLACK. Tschigorin.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—B to B 4	2—P to Q B 4
3—B takes Kt	3—R takes B
4—P takes P	4—Q to R 4 ch.
5—Kt to Q B 3	5—P to K 3
6—P to Kt 4	6—B takes P
7—P takes P	7—Kt to B 3
8—B to Kt 5 ch.	8—K to K 2
9—Kt to B 3	9—Kt takes P
10—Q to Q 2	10—Kt takes Kt
11—Q to Kt 5 ch.	11—P to B 3
12—Q takes B ch.	12—K to B 2
13—B to K 8 ch.	13—Resigns.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Monday, July 22nd.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 30th.†
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 29th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 28th.§
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 1st.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 2nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 7th.

* *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on July 3rd. † *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on July 13th. ‡ *Empress of China* left Vancouver on July 15th. § *Verona* left Hongkong on July 19th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Gerda*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, July 20th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, July 27th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, July 27th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 30th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 2nd.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 3rd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Aug. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 13th July, —Kobe 12th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 13th July, —Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 14th July,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 14th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 5th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Decima, German steamer, 1,125, Baumeister, 14th July,—Kobe 13th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Ningchow, British steamer, 1,735, Sommers, 14th July,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.
Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Dowling, 14th July, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 14th July,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.
Nicolai I. (20), Russian flagship, 15th July,—Chefoo.
Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 15th July.—Kobe 14th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 15th July,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.
Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, R. Irving, 16th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Arroyo, British steamer, 1,970, R. Samuel, 16th July,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Bonnington, British steamer, 1,976, Leighton, 17th July,—Takao, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, Cormack, 17th July,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Orono, British steamer, 1,320, Hancock, 17th July, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 17th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 9th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Orestes, British steamer, 2,879, Pulford, 18th July, —Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, R. Cowie, 19th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Energia, British steamer, 2,036, Saw, 19th July, —Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Calédonien, French steamer, 2,500, Bevilaque, 19th July,—Marseilles 9th June, Hongkong 9th July, Shanghai 13th, Nagasaki 15th, and Kobe 18th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.
Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, F. J. Brown, 19th July,—Ujina viâ Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Wright, 19th July, —New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.
Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 20th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 13th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 14th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hertha, German steamer, 1,662, F. von Binger, 14th July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.
Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 14th July, —Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.
Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 14th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Siam, British steamer, 1,897, E. G. Andrews, 14th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General. —P. & O. S.N. Co.
Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 14th July,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General. —Messageries Maritimes Co.
Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain C. L. Burr, 15th July,—Hakodate.
Rosary, British steamer, 1,620, Dowling, 15th July, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 16th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Decima, German steamer, 1,325, Christiansen, 16th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, Irving, 18th July, —Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 18th July,—Kobe viâ Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Strathfillan, British steamer, 2,206, Wm. Osborne, 18th July,—Kobe, Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Jane Gray, American schooner, 107, S. H. Burtis, 18th July,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Strathness, British steamer, 1,987, W. Durdin, 19th July,—Kobe, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 20th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Arroyo, British steamer, 1,970, R. Samuel, 20th July,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 20th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Strang, Mr. and Mrs. Tidy, Miss Fitzgerald, Mr. and Mrs. Whitehead, Messrs. J. G. Doering, Ming On, W. F. Mitchell, A. J. Easton, and Kennedy in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Rev. J. F. W. Gompertz, Mr. F. H. Bugbird, Mr. Polianasky, Mr. W. Thompson, Mr. M. Mess, Mr. P. Jordansky, Mr. John Andrew, Mr. A. Donald, Mr. W. Smith, Rev. J. H. Peter, Rev. W. L. Curtis, Mr. Geo. McGregor, Mr. B. Roth, Mr. H. J. Marshall, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Rev. A. D. Hail, Mr. H. A. Meyer, Mr. C. Mosle, Mr. S. Kinoshita, Mr. S. Okada, Mr. H. W. Bird, Mr. M. A. Mosle, Mrs. A. Sharp and son, Miss Butler, Miss Stuart, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. J. Cantlie, Miss Wells, Miss Orkamp, Miss Howard, Miss Bosanquet, Miss Jackson, Mrs. J. Peter, Miss Peter, Miss Peter, Mrs. W. L. Curtis, Miss Benedict, Captain and Mrs. Kenderdine and 2 children, Rev. and Mrs. G. E. Woodhull and 2 children, and Mr. and Mrs. G. Galy and child in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. W. P. White, Miss Burdick, Miss Swinnly, Mrs. Hale, Miss Hale, Miss Morgan, Lieut. T. H. Stevens, and Mr. A. Champin in cabin.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Grunnwald, Mr. Oscar Bagger, Mr. Moulton, Mr. Yamata Kanegoro, Lieutenant Campbell, Miss Guifort, Mr. J. Keswick, Mrs. Drumont and 2 children, Mr. Lattimore and boy, Mrs. Lee, Mr. Banker, Mrs. Morgan and child, Mr. Holliday and boy, Mrs. L. Stanley, Mrs. Margaret Holm, Mrs. Ernusna Lyon, Mr. John Northey, Mr. Klatt, Mr. B. Franklin, Mr. Ernst Von Studnitz, Mr. W. Clarke, Mrs. Noroshima Otomi, Mr. and Mrs. Nimondt and child, Mr. and Mrs. Flood, Mr. Muraour, Miss Steward, Mr. G. Lindsay Patton, Mrs. De Ath and child, Mrs. Fisher and child, Mr. A. L. Kuck, Mr. F. Danckuverts, Mr. W. Heinan, Mr. J. Hall, Mr. Da Fomero, Mr. W. Tallers, Mr. and Mrs. Parkers, Miss Pyles, Miss Walter, and Mrs. Huhold in cabin; Mrs. Morgan's amah, one seaman, and 5 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—His Excellency Count Inouye, Countess Inouye, Major Watanabe, Mrs. E. H. Smith, Messrs. L. Muraour, F. Huber, E. W. Dimock, de Lago, Danckwerts, Lieno, Pors, T. F. Dunn, Futagaki, Kamada, Watanabe, Yamazaki, Tajima, G. Kanerollo, G. Stauveiro, Miss Naess, Messrs. Lim Kye Pang, J. Mitchell, J. Bruine, Magnan, Foyu, Mr. and Mrs. Maquiera and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. Payn, Lieut.-Colonel Chard, Mr. T. Futaki, Mr. and Mrs. de Garcia, Mrs. Andoyer and child, and Mr. P. Chiron in cabin; 15 natives in steerage.

Per British steamer *Siam*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Diss and Mr. A. King in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 124 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 68 bales.

Per British steamer *Siam*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Waste Silk, 9 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A quiet week. The annual *Bon-matsuri* monopolised the attention of Japanese dealers and consumers. Probably more trade will be apparent next week. Yarn and Grey Cloth—Nominally unchanged, but nothing doing to test the market. Fancies—A little weakness in Turkey Reds has led to some trifling sales. Woollens—Nothing done, market very dull.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9 lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7 lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.15

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.50 to 42.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.50
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Nothing to report, the market seems to be quietly slumbering through the *Bon* festivities.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.30 to 3.35
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3.35 to 3.40
Round and square up to ⅞ inch	3.30 to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.25 to 5.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

A good deal of mystery continues to envelop this market. A sale of 20,000 cases Comet is reported at $2.25, but it seems to require confirmation. Deliveries continue fair for the time of year.

American	$2.30 to 2.40
Russian	2.30 to 2.40
Langkat	1.90 to 2.00

SUGAR.

Some current business passing in Manila and Canton at about previous quotations. In Formosa sorts there has been no business; the steamer *Bonnington* has brought up about 50,000 piculs, so there is now a fair stock to work upon as soon as buyers are ready to operate.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.10 to 3.60
White Java and Penang	6.20 to 6.50
White Refined	6.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Prices have experienced the inevitable fall. Buyers operated to a fair extent as the market declined and holders are willing to go on at last prices, and perhaps would not refuse a further reduction. At closing, a large business has been done for outgoing steamers, buyers operating freely at the reduced quotations.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

In this market holders do not appear to realise their position. With a poor and ill-assorted stock they are surprisingly firm in their attitude, and in consequence are able to make very few sales.

TEA.

An active trade in the Medium grades, and prices are firm at last quotations, holders being strong. Settlements to date are now quite 5,000 piculs over last season. The stock is not heavy, being about 8,000 piculs, mostly average grade.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange is fairly steady, with little alteration in rates.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/1¾
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2¼
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅜
On Paris—Bank sight	2.68
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.75
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅞ % p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	¼ % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71¼
— Private 10 days' sight.	72¼
On India—Bank sight	194½
— Private 30 days' sight	197
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	52¼
— Private 30 days' sight	53¼
— — 4 months' sight	54
On Germany—Bank sight	2.17
— Private 4 months' sight	2.24
Bar Silver (London)	30½

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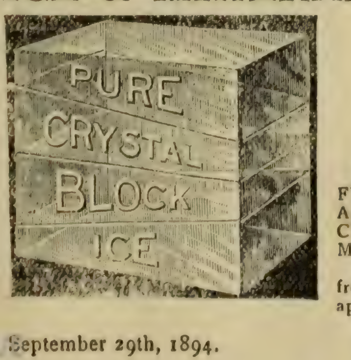

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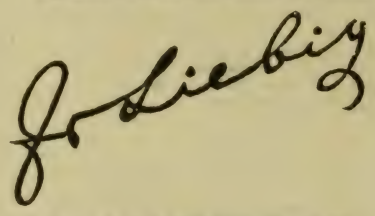

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"VAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 27TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

On the 20th inst., at No. 18B, Tsukiji, Tokyo, the wife of RANSFORD S. MILLER of a daughter.

DEATH.

On the morning of Tuesday, July 23rd, at Mita, Tokyo, from failure of the heart, after diphtheria, HARRIET JANE (Janet), second daughter of Rev. Arthur Lloyd, aged eleven years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE British fleet has left Hakodate for a cruise further north.

THE Duke of Abruzzi has arrived in Sōul, on his tour through the East.

CHOLERA is still spreading, the latest returns show 5,693 deaths and 9,362 cases.

ONE hundred and sixty students graduated at the Waseda Semmon Gakko, Count Okuma's institution, this year.

THE Grace Hawthorne Dramatic Company gave two especially good performances at the Public Hall this week, "A Woman of no Importance," and "The Second Mrs. Tanqueray." Unfortunately the support afforded was very meagre.

OVER sixty surveyors belonging to the General Staff Office left the capital on the 18th inst. to survey Formosa.

THE rainfall on Monday was something phenomenal at Yokosuka, nearly 80 millimetres falling there during twenty-four hours.

SOME of the lower lying portions of Tokyo and Yokohama were submerged on Monday evening, in consequence of the severe rainfall.

VISCOUNT MUTSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is making slow progress towards recovery, and will return to Tokyo in August next.

FROM the meagre news which has come to hand this week, the public gathers that the subjugation of Formosa is proceeding slowly but surely.

THE German Minister left the capital on the 20th inst. for Chuzenji, where he intends to remain until the middle of September next.

COLONEL SHIBANO YOSHIHIRO, Commander of the Third Regiment of Field Artillery, has been appointed Chairman of the Artillery Council.

THE number of soldiers and military employés returned from China up to the 22nd instant was 99,768, and horses brought back number 13,239.

THE Radical Party has appointed several deputies from among its leading members to proceed to the interior to hold public meetings.

A TERRIBLE railway accident, resulting in the killing or wounding of about a score of persons, occurred on the Sanyo railway on the 25th inst.

DURING the heavy gale on Monday, a small yacht broke away from its moorings in Yokohama harbour, and has not since been heard of.

SOME 700 police constables will shortly leave the capital for Formosa. The number is to be increased to 1,500 after the disturbances have been subdued.

MR. SANNOMIYA, of the Imperial Household Department, and Mrs. Sannomiya, visited Admiral Carpenter on board the U.S. flagship *Baltimore* on the 18th inst.

THE national heirlooms kept in the Shoso-In Temple at Nara will not be exposed to the sun this year, and consequently no persons will be allowed to inspect them.

THE railway track near Yamashina Station, Kyoto, was damaged on the 20th inst. owing to persistent rains, and a luggage train was derailed, some carriages being damaged and persons injured.

A HEAVY gale from the south-west swept through Japan on Wednesday and Thursday, doing a lot of damage. Many boats were wrecked along the coast, and much loss of life will, it is feared, be reported.

THE anti-Cabinet politicians are not experiencing much success in their meetings. Three thousand persons attended in Yokohama to hear their statement of the case, but no sympathy was extended toward them.

A MAN, aged about thirty years, and a woman aged 67, were run over and killed by a train on the night of the 18th inst. at Shimmeicho, Shiba, and Takinogawa, Oji, Tokyo, respectively. The man is said to have committed suicide.

THERE was a contest for a seat on the Board of Directors at the general meeting of shareholders of the Grand Hotel, Limited, on Monday, and Dr. Hall, who was beaten on the show of hands, won by a large majority on a poll being taken.

THE application of the Japan Cast Iron Foundry Co., Tokyo, to be allowed to break a portion of the agreement, by which they contracted to supply iron pipes for the Tokyo Water Works, has been rejected by the Tokyo City Council.

THE heavy rains of the past few weeks caused an undermining of the Bluff overlooking the lower end of the Motomachi, and on Monday night four Japanese houses in that locality were crushed in by a landslip. One old woman was killed, and four persons injured.

MARQUIS NABESHIMA, Grand Master of Ceremonies, was released from his post at his own request on the 23rd inst., his place being given to Mr. Sannomiya, Vice-Grand Master of Ceremonies, who has been succeeded by Marquis Tokugawa, a Master of Ceremonies.

THE dispute between Messrs. Cornes & Co. and Mr. Kimura Riyemon, which at one time threatened to develop into a boycott of the foreign firm by the Japanese dealers, has been compromised, nothwithstanding that the Chiho Saibansho found in favour of the foreign claim.

REUTER telegraphs:—The Marquis of Lorne has defeated Sir Henry Roscoe at South Manchester. Mr. Daly, who was returned for Limerick, is a dynamitard and is now in Portland Prison. Mr. H. M. Stanley, the explorer, has been elected member for Lambeth. The Rt. Hon. J. G. Shaw-Lefevre has been defeated at Central Bradford, Mr. W. S. Caine, at East Bradford, and Mr. Bright (? Mr. J. A. Bright) at South-West Manchester. General Metzinger defeated the Hovas near Tsaresoatra. The Hovas lost heavily. A quantity of provisions and munitions of war have fallen into the hands of the French, who had only two men killed and 15 wounded. The French have blown up the powder magazine of the Hovas at Farafate. The Russian journals are enthusiastic over the Chinese loan, holding that it opens up a new era for Russian politics in China.

THERE is but little to be said of the Import trade, and the market is generally suffering from considerable depression. Yarns and Cotton Piece-goods are extremely quiet, and Woollens are in similar case, buyers seemingly being scarce. The Metal trade has assumed its usual summer quiet, and except for a few necessaries, there is no enquiry. The value of Kerosene remains unchanged, with little doing, and the stock has been further increased by the arrival of a tank steamer with a large cargo from Batoum. In Sugar, a fairly current business has been done, but there appears to be no great demand forthcoming in the immediate future. There has been a moderate business in Raw Silk, but prices have been somewhat irregular, and are now considered to be down as far as they are likely to go—at least for some time. There is nothing fresh in the Waste Silk trade, and unless holders take less money than they now ask for the undesirable parcels of old fibre now on this market, it is likely to remain where it is. In the Tea trade a fairly current business on the basis of recent quotations has been done, and the settlement and export statistics to date are both in advance of those of last season. Exchange has fluctuated but little during the week, and rates are fairly steady, though the suspension of telegraphic information has caused somewhat irregular quotations.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The so-called Responsibility Question, namely, the question of the Cabinet's responsibility about the return of the Liaotung Peninsula, has not yet been suffered to sink to rest. But articles discussing it read like funeral orations rather than declarations of opinion emanating from men confident in the strength and prospects of their cause. Even the most sanguine advocates of anti-Cabinet agitation on this subject can not conceal the fact that, so far as the general public is concerned, their ardent appeals and declamations have fallen on deaf ears. It is interesting to notice the manner in which the defeat of their cause is indirectly acknowledged and explained away by the Extremist organs. The *Kokumin Shimbun* writes in the following resigned strain:—"The discussion of the Responsibility Question in the Diet next session is a duty that the people's representatives owe to the country and to the world at large. The idea of duty ought to exclude all considerations of failure or success. The object is to say in the Diet what the nation has been unable to say through the press and from the platform. The Diet's duty will have been satisfactorily discharged when it gives expression, truly and distinctly, to the sentiments and ideas of the people. The Diet need not trouble itself about the probability or improbability of passing a resolution." By the Diet is evidently meant the Extreme section of the Lower House. Certainly such utterances furnish a suggestive commentary upon the present situation of the Opposition.

* * *

The *Nippon*, which ordinarily stands aloof from party contentions, but which has enthusiastically taken up the cause of the Extremists in the present case, now warns its sympathizers against the uselessness of clinging to the Responsibility Question, not because the subject is in itself unworthy of attention, but because a truly representative system of Government is not yet in operation. It declares in ironical tones that a Responsible Ministry is a thing still in the lap of the future for Japan. In another article, the same journal observes that there is a fundamental and irreconcilable difference of political standpoint between the statesmen in power and the politicians of the Opposition. The latter habitually say that the Cabinet is morally required to do so and so, and base all their arguments on the assumption that a Ministry opposed by the majority of the people is bound to bow to popular will and retire from office. In other words, moral considerations constitute the standard by which they measure all political questions. The Government, on the other hand, in the *Nippon's* opinion, rigidly exclude moral ideas from the sphere of politics. They regard administrative power by the light of prescription, and "seem to be determined never to hand over the reins of authority except in the presence of methods such as those employed to wrest them from the hands of the Tokugawa Dynasty." Under such circumstances, our contemporary sees little use in discussing the question of Ministerial Responsibility. In plain language, the *Nippon* advocates revolutionary principles, for according to its opinion the only way for the Opposition to attain its object is by recourse to violence.

* * *

There seems to be a tendency in a certain quarter of the Opposition to seek questions other than that of the return of Liaotung as a means of measuring strength with the Government in the coming session of the Diet. The more reflecting of the Extremists must be aware of the foolishness of adhering to the unpopular question of Ministerial Responsibility. Thus the *Kokkai* suggests that the most desirable substitute would be the old question of reducing administrative expenses. The Radical Party has expressed itself strongly in favour of such a course, and it seems to have struck the wary tacticians of the Opposition that by dextrous management of this weapon, they may possibly catch the Radicals in their own snare and compel them to join a general attack against the Cabinet. At all events, such seems to be the idea of the *Kokkai*. It remarks that, in proportion as the circumstances relating to the return of Liaotung become known to the public, the interest in the Responsibility Question is destined to diminish, and that, consequently, it is not adapted for the purpose of an onset upon the Cabinet. Our contemporary then passes in review all other aggressive devices, and finally selects the much hacknied question of organizing an anti-Cabinet onslaught. Now that the nation is about to be required to bear increased burdens, it is but natural, says the *Kokkai*, that the most rigid economy should be practised by the Government. To give effect to this mode of attack, our contemporary suggests that the members of the Diet should first reduce the amount of their own yearly allowances. If they proceed in that way, the administrative economies advocated by them will seem inevitable, and the Cabinet will be placed in a serious dilemma. But here is the difficulty. The members of the Diet have always shown the keenest jealousy about their yearly allowances. Once a reduction or abolition of these allowances was proposed, but the proposal was at once rejected as being unworthy of consideration. It is not likely that the project would fare better next session. Neither is it certain that the Radicals would join any scheme of sweeping reductions advanced by the Extremists.

* * *

The question of a foreign alliance again furnishes a theme for several articles. No new feature is observable in the discussion, except, perhaps, a tendency, slight, indeed, but still perceptible, to advocate the advisability of keeping aloof from all diplomatic entanglements with European Powers. The expression of views unfavourable to an alliance with Japan by prominent writers in England seems to have stimulated a reaction from the enthusiasm with which an alliance with England was advocated in the first moments of bitter resentment against Russia, Germany, and France. This reaction is inevitable, and had been foreseen by thinking men. On the other hand, a small, yet influential, and apparently increasing, coterie of publicists had been strongly advocating an alliance with Russia, when the latter's action about the Liaotung Peninsula inspired such violent popular indignation against her that alliance could no longer be talked of. But by-and-by its supporters began to utter warnings against the danger of giving too much sway to personal feelings of resentment, and to hint that the permanent diplomatic policy of the country should not be affected by temporary causes. The present reaction, however, is but very slight, and does not seem likely to lead to any material increase in the number of those advocating a Russian alliance. The result of the reaction, so far as present indications go, appears to be limited to an increased tendency towards a policy of abstention. Moreover, the tendency does not affect the large and powerful section of educated men that urge the wisdom of close relations with England from deep and well reasoned conviction. The *Kokkai* seems to represent those in favour of a policy of absention. It observes that, if there were any necessity for an alliance with England, it was when the three Powers gave their "friendly" warning to Japan. To cry out about the need of such alliance after the final settlement of that matter is unintelligible and even childish. The *Kokkai* appears to regard it as extremely improbable that England would ever consent to form an offensive and defensive alliance with this country. England's policy has always been to stand aloof from combinations, protecting her interests and maintaining her position by skilfully playing off one Power against another. To seek an alliance with her would only be productive of injurious results, for without securing her active friendship in time of need, it would strengthen the antagonism of certain other Powers. A better policy, in the *Kokkai's* opinion would be for Japan to pursue an independant course of action, and combine, when need arises, with any Power that may happen to have a community of interests and be willing to cōoperate for a certain object.

* * *

The *Nippon* strongly criticizes the conduct of certain papers that openly advocate an alliance with England. It evidently alludes to the *Jiji Shimpo* and possibly also the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. These papers, says our contemporary, enjoy the reputation of being intimately connected with the Foreign Office. They ought, therefore, to be especially careful in discussing foreign affairs. Supposing that the Cabinet were actually in favour of an alliance with England, then it would have been the duty of its organs to keep the secret and abstain from committing themselves to any definite announcement. If, however, the idea of such an alliance be not entertained by the Government, then it was all the more incumbent upon these journals to abstain from expressing views that might be mistaken for those held by their supposed patrons. Hence, from every point of view, the enthusiastic advocacy of an alliance with England by such journals is pronounced extremely reprehensible and regrettable.

* * *

The Radical party's positive declaration of opposition to the policy of the Extremists with regard to the question of Ministerial responsibility about the return of Liaotung, continues to be much discussed journalistically. The Extremist organs, as might be expected, bitterly declaim against the Radicals, whom they call by various ugly names. Some papers have even stooped to the evil practice of circulating rumours that the Radicals have been bribed by the Cabinet. But these reports are treated with contempt by the better class of metropolitan journals. All the papers of the Opposition, however, agree in saying that the Radicals and the National Unionists constitute a definite Ministerial party. This is of course a mistake; under the present system of Government there can never be a genuine Ministerial party. Here we may notice an interesting article in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. "We do not know," says our contemporary, "whether or not the Radicals have become a Ministerial party. But seeing that, in their recently published Manifesto, they leave the task of elaborating financial measures to the Government, and declare it useless to discuss the question of the Liaotung Peninsula, they seem to have discovered the unwisdom of domestic dissensions at a juncture like the present, and to consider it necessary to cōoperate with those in power for the promotion of the national welfare. If, on this account, they are to be called a Ministerial party, we are confident that the Radicals will not object to the term, for in serving the true interests of the country they are certainly indifferent to what outsiders may say about them." The *Nichi Nichi* goes on to observe that the statesmen now in power being responsible to the Emperor alone, are not required to, and would not be justified in, attempting to maintain their position by party support. It they happen to receive the support of any party at any particular time, it is not because they have formed a party of their own, but simply because some particular party or parties happen to sympathise with the Ministerial policy. Consequently, the Government is not partial to any party, but is willing at all times to cōoperate with whatever politicians endorse its views.

* * *

The encouragement of steam navigation, the necessity of making the most of the commercial concessions obtained from China, the increase of taxation, and the situation in Korea—such are the other questions discussed in the vernacular press during the week.

The Government granted on the 25th inst. a charter to Mr. Tsukahara Shuzo and other promoters of a dock at Uraga. A charter will also be granted in a day or two to Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi and other capitalists, who propose to construct another dock in the same district. The work is to be commenced within three months from the date of the granting of permission, and must be completed in two years.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MONDAY'S STORM.

THE rain storm experienced on Monday was of a local character. In Yokosuka up till 2 p.m. 32 milimetres of rain had fallen, in Tokyo but 9, while at Choshu 32 were recorded. The storm increased in violence during the afternoon, and at 6 p.m. the record stood, Yokosuka 79, Tokyo 44, Utsunomiya 27, Numadzu 15. At 10 p.m. the report said :—Numadzu 48, Yokosuka 98, Tokyo 39, Choshi 83; and at 6 o'clock in the morning, when the storm had died away, the rain guages marked, Yokosuka 49, Tokyo 67, Utsunomiya 14, and Choshi 61. In Yokohama all the low-lying quarters were flooded, and a great deal of inconvenience was experienced by the denizens in and about Honmura road. A terrible accident took place at Nakadori Sanchome, Ishikawa, Yokohama, during the night. About half-past ten o'clock the Ishikawa Police Authorities received a report to the effect that an extensive landslip had occurred at Nakamachi, and upon arriving at the spot ascertained that the cliff near No. 16, Bluff, occupied by Mr. Kingdon, had given way near the centre, and a mass of land measuring twenty-four feet by eighteen feet had slipped bodily down on to some houses standing on No. 48, Nakamachi Sanchome. It was soon learnt that some of the inmates of the crushed houses were missing, and attention was specially directed to the house of Kubota Washizo, which had been completely covered. After a while the searchers found that Kubota's mother, Suya, aged 67, had been crushed to death. Kubota Washizo, his wife, and their employé, Yoshinosuke, also sustained slight injuries, although they ran before the house was struck. Another of the destroyed houses was occupied by the family of Ogawa Kinjiro. The constables and neighbours worked for over an hour before they succeeded in rescuing Ogawa Kinjiro's wife, Towa, and their second son, Matsugoro, who were both buried beneath the *débris*. Towa was very severely injured, but Matsugoro's wounds are not serious. Kinjiro also received severe injury, and the couple will take about a fortnight to recover. Two other houses, occupied by Ichikawa Iwataro and Ito Kakujiro, were partly damaged, and a few persons were slightly injured. The wounded are now receiving medical treatment in hospital. A house at No. 8, Tobe Itchome, was washed off its foundation by the heavy rain. Two landslips of small dimensions occurred at Isecho. About eighteen houses at Suyeyoshicho Nichome were submerged by water, and trouble occurred between the residents of Nichome and those of Sanchome when the former attempted to turn the current of water into another channel, but the police promptly suppressed the excitement. A small yacht owned by Mr. Shirley Mansfield broke loose from its moorings in the harbour, and has not yet been recovered.

* * *

In Tokyo, such low-lying places as Tangocho and Nakanosho, Akasaka; Sakuragawacho, Shiba, and Matsuhacho, Asakusa, were submerged. Two houses at Tanicho, Azabu, were damaged by a landslip. The stone wall at the U.S. Legation gave way for a length of about 36 feet. Some small damages were done in other parts.

* * *

The storm did a great deal of mischief at Yokosuka. About four o'clock yesterday morning an extensive landslip occurred on the cliff in the front of the Railway station, and five houses were buried beneath the *débris*. Men were promptly engaged to remove the fallen earth, and it was discovered that although the families of three houses escaped before the cliff fell, the others were caught. Two persons were slightly injured, but the rest were rescued with whole skins.

JAPANESE VERSUS CHINESE.

THE British steamship *Pallas*, formerly *Charters Towers* and later *Ariaki Maru*, recently left Hongkong with coal for Canton. She is rather large to get up to Canton, so she was only to go to Whampoa. She took on board at Hongkong about 150 Chinese coal-coolies. Her tallymen, and in fact the whole crew, are Japanese; and as may be expected there was no love lost between the Japanese and the Chinese on the voyage. As soon as the vessel was well away from Hongkong quarrelling began, nobody knows how—probably through more or less accidental jostling on the fore deck. Captain Murray and his officers managed to maintain order until arrival at Whampoa, when the Captain had to go on to Canton. Then the war broke out. The coal coolies, being right among their kith and kin of the cargo boats, started to avenge their country's wrongs by exterminating the *wojen*; but the plucky Japanese, fifty or sixty in all, drew together in a resolute, compact body and more than held their own. In a few minutes bamboos were banging and missiles were flying all over the ship; and little by little the handful of Japanese cleared out the crowd of Chinese, until some foreigners appeared on the scene when the disturbance subsided. Half-a-dozen Chinese had to be taken away to hospital, badly bruised and smashed up; none of the Japanese confessed to having been injured at all. It is quite clear that the Japanese easily "knocked spots off" the Chinese, though numbers were very much against them. One report says that the Japaeese used revolvers and killed four of the coolies, but this we believe is untrue; though as far as present information goes it appears as if it would have been justifiable enough, and the Japanese are not the sort of people to mince matters. The *Pallas* is expected here in two or three days.—*China Mail.*

FOOT-BINDING.

THE Society for putting an end to the terrible practice of foot-binding in China, seems to be working energetically. It has adopted the wise course of distributing literature designed to show the cruelty and folly of the five reasons given by the Chinese themselves in favour of foot-binding. From a letter sent by the Secretary of the Society to the leading Shanghai journal, we take this paragraph :—

> The people who hail our attempt with the warmest joy are undoubtedly so far the R. C. Fathers and Sisters. "No need to tell us of the sufferings of the children," said the saintly Mother Superior of the Convent at Hankow. "If you can but do anything—anything, to relieve us of this great misery of seeing their pain! Indeed—indeed, you may count us in fullest sympathy with your movement. One in ten little girls dies of foot-binding, do you say? Oh, more than that. It may not be more in Shanghai. But here it is terrible; I have seen their feet drop off. And they suffer so!" Anyone who had seen her eyes full of tears of joy, as she recognised a compatriot's name on our Committee list—"Ah! she is a good woman," she said—and listened to the rest of her conversation, which I do not feel at liberty to repeat, would have felt that all the talk about silly girls tight-lacing is out of place beside China's great curse.

MR. DE BUNSEN IN BANGKOK.

AT the close of an article which the *Siam Free Press* indites *apropos* of Mr. de Bunsen's well deserved receipt of a C.B., the writer observes :—It would perhaps be difficult to fairly summarise Mr. de Bunsen's work in Bangkok. Outwardly at least he is following the policy of his predecessors, and maintaining that policy of "masterly inactivity" which to the ordinary resident is so difficult to understand. But if Mr. de Bunsen is accurately following out his instructions, in the broad sense of the word, he is not idle in others. He is a *Chargé d'Affaires* for whom the Siamese have a profound respect, and did we even use the word fear, in the case of the Foreign Minister, we would be nearer the mark. There is probably nothing the English Representative asks that he cannot have from the Siamese, and though there are a few who might prefer Mr. Scott, yet there are none who have not a profound respect for the very clever diplomat now watching English interests in this country. Mr. de Bunsen conveys the impression of being remarkably shrewd and far-sighted, a good judge of character, and one who guards his political hand with extreme caution. His policy since he arrived in Siam shows him to be quick in grasping the situation, and rapid in divining the true tendency of the native political current. He is a genial, frank, and broad-minded man; a good sportsman, with a keen eye to the fine points of a horse; of fine physique and good presence, cultured and refined in manner; and is generally credited with being a great favourite of the English Foreign Office, and a diplomat with a brilliant future before him.

THE BOYCOTT AGAINST CHINESE.

THE methods employed by the Japanese dealers to enforce their boycott against the Chinese merchants in Yokohama, are discreditable. As is usual in this country, where any dirty work or cowardly intimidation is resorted to, the services of the ubiquitous *soshi* were requisitioned in force to prevent any infringement of the boycott by the weaker-minded members of the Guild, two of the notorious fraternity being stationed in front, or on the steps, of every Chinese hong to prevent the entry of goods. On Thursday afternoon a Japanese dealer went with his men to a Chinese hong near the Settlement Police Station with some goods, and a most disgraceful scene ensued. After the goods had been taken into the shop, the *soshi* actually entered and threw them into the middle of the street, and then, in the most insolent manner possible, drove out the Japanese dealer and his men also, thus effectually preventing the transaction of any business. This invasion of the Chinaman's premises by the *soshi* seems to have been witnessed by the police, but probably no appeal was made to them by the aggrieved persons, for they confined themselves simply to keeping the peace.

DEATH OF MME. VVE. DE LUCY-FOSSARIEU.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* records the death of Mme. Vve. de Lucy-Fossarieu, mother of the French Consul for Hyogo and Osaka, the death taking place suddenly on Monday evening, of apoplexy. Up to quite recently the deceased lady was in the enjoyment of her usual health, but the trying heat of the last two or three days must have been very prejudicial at her advanced age. The late Mme. Vve. de Lucy-Fossarieu has been a resident of Kobe for some three or four years, having arrived there with her son when he last returned from France. She was 74 years old.

A CHARGE OF EMBEZZLEMENT.

A YOUNG Japanese named Yasuda Genzo, employed by Messrs. Sale & Co., has been arrested by the police on a charge of embezzling *yen* 898 from the firm. Yasuda, when arrested, said that he had taken the money for the purpose of gambling in stocks, and that in consequence of the market falling he was unable to refund it. The major portion of the money was, however, found to have been spent in a brothel, the Saikiro, in Kanagawa. The man was transferred to the Saibansho this morning.

DEATH OF A FORMER SWISS PRESIDENT.

THE following letter has been circulated among the Consular body by Dr. Paul Ritter, Vice-Consul for Switzerland in Yokohama :—

Yokohama, 20th July, 1895.

Dear Colleagues—I regret to have to inform you that I have received a telegram from my Government announcing the death of M. Charles Schenk, "Conseiller Federal ancien Président de la Confédération." The flag of this Consulate-General will be flown at half-mast for 3 days from to-day.

THE H. AND S. BANK.

HONGKONG papers are informed by the Chief Manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank that, subject to audit, the Directors of that Corporation propose at the forthcoming meeting to declare a dividend for the half year of £1.5/- per share, place five lakhs to credit of Reserve Fund, and carry forward to next half-year about three lakhs.

SCHEME OF RELIEF FOR THE DISTRESSED FAMILIES OF THOSE KILLED IN WAR.

WE have to acknowledge the receipt of $20 for this fund from Count Orfini.

A MONUMENT is to be erected at Ujina to commemorate the triumph of the Japanese soldiers. It will cover an area of 250 *tsubo* (one *tsubo*= 6 ft. square.)

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CURRENT TOPICS.

Concerning the report that the Cabinet has decided to advise the Emperor to convene an extraordinary session of the Diet, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* does not deny it, but observes that the requisite preparations cannot be completed within a brief period, and that until their completion, no definite decision can be arrived at as to the convening of the Houses. Our contemporary fails to understand how any one can believe that the convention of an extraordinary session was insisted upon by Count Matsukata and approved by Count Ito and his colleagues. It believes that the elaboration of the Military measures will require months, and that, such being the case, there is little probability of an extraordinary session of the Diet. But the rest of the metropolitan papers, including such a well-informed journal as the *Jiji Shimpo*, seem to entertain no doubt that the step has been decided upon. Some even go so far as to assert that the Imperial Proclamation convening the extraordinary session will be issued early in the month of September.

The resolution adopted by the Radicals on the 17th instant has attracted considerable attention. The point that receives special notice is the definite declaration of their attitude toward the question of the Liaotung Peninsula. That the Radicals as a Party were not in favour of embarrassing the Government in connection with that question had been known from the first. But it was also believed that a tendency existed among the younger members of the Party to revolt against the moderate policy of their leaders, and some hope was consequently entertained by the extreme sections of the Opposition that a split might occur in the Radical camp. That hope has been entirely dashed by the unanimous adoption of the resolution of abstention. Telegrams are coming from various parts of the country to the effect that the local Radical associations completely approve the policy adopted by their leaders in Tokyo.

A writer on the staff of the *Jiji Shimpo* visited Count Itagaki and asked his views on the situation. The Radical leader explained at great length the attitude of his Party toward the Liaotung question. He regretted very much that it had been necessary to abandon permanent possession of the conquered territory, but he acknowledged that, under the circumstances, no other course could be pursued. He did not think that the three Powers would have shrunk from war, had Japan declined to accept their warning. Russia was in earnest, and Germany and France would certainly have assisted her. It was plain that they had resolved to push the matter to the bitter end, and, in Count Itagaki's opinion, Japan was not then in a condition to oppose them with any hope of success. Hence she had simply to accept their advice and settle the matter with the least possible loss of prestige. As to the criticism very often advanced by the Opposition politicians, that the Japanese Cabinet ought to have taken precautions against a possible combination of the three Powers, the Radical leader thought that in all probability there were no means of foreseeing such a combination. However, he, too, declared himself not altogether satisfied with the foreign policy of the Government, but he strongly objected to the idea of sacrificing the permanent interests of the country for the sake of this comparatively unimportant question.

Concerning the treatment to be accorded to Pak, opinion is said to differ much among his Japanese friends. Some say that, if he really be guilty of high treason, he ought to be advised to go to America. But the majority, attaching little importance to the story of his treason, seem inclined to extend their support to the unfortunate fugitives. Pak and his fellow exiles arrived in Tokyo on the 18th instant, and are now staying at Mr. Fukuzawa's house.

How many adherents the Extremists will be able to command in the next session of the Diet is a subject much speculated upon. In our opinion the number is not likely to exceed a hundred. But a certain Count—evidently the Progressionist leader—quoted by the Domestic and Foreign News Agency, puts it at 126, while the strength of the avowed Moderates is estimated at 137 (*i.e.* the Radicals and National Unionists). This Count, whoever he may be, further thinks that the 10 Neutrals will be equally divided between the two camps, but that the 27 members of the Industrial Association (*Jitsugyo Dantai*) will all give their support to the Cabinet, with probably two or three exceptions. According to this calculation, the Moderates will have have a clear majority of about 40. After the conclusion of the next session of the Diet, one or two leading members of the Radical and National Unionists, continues the same authority, will receive portfolios, but the Extremists may console themselves for their defeat that, after all, the victory of the Moderates will lead to Government by Party. We are disposed to agree with that prediction. Without looking so far ahead, however, the Count's conjecture as to the general situation in the coming session may be accepted with tolerable confidence, though his estimate of the strength of the Extremists appears to us too large.

The Radical Party has decided to send lecturers to all the provincial districts. Among the politicians named for this mission, we notice Messrs. Kataoka Kenkichi, Suzuki Jubi, Ebara Soroku, Ishizuka Juhei, and Nakano Torajiro. To-morrow, the 23rd inst., the principal members of the party will hold a meeting at the Kinki-kan, Kanda, Tokyo. Notice has also been issued to the leaders of the different local Radical associations to come up to Tokyo without delay. It may be inferred from all this that the Radicals are taking energetic measures to complete their preparations for the coming session of the Diet.

Viscount Miura has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary. For the present he will be unattached, but it is an open secret that he will before long succeed Count Inouye in Söul. The *Chuo Shimbun* publishes an account of an interview with him. The subjects discussed all related to Korea. There is little either novel or striking in the views attributed to him, except, perhaps, his opinion about faction struggles among Korean politicians. Most people regard these struggles as the curse of the peninsular kingdom, but Viscount Miura counts them an indication that there is yet hope for the independence of a nation imbued with energy sufficient to prompt such dissensions. As to reforms, he is opposed to all heroic measures, he insists that the work must progress slowly and steadily. The failure of Pak is attributed by the Viscount to his attempt to carry out once and without modification, the political ideas imbibed by him during his long sojourn in Japan. He considers Pak too simple and honest to be a successful politician.

Attempts are made by some of the extremist organs to discredit the Radicals by circulating various damaging rumours. It is stated, for example, that, as the price of their support, they have obtained a grant of 50,000 *yen* from the Government, through the medium of a certain Count; that the intercourse between the Premier and the leading members of the Party is of an intimate character, and so forth. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* even goes so far as to allege that an access of affluence is already observable in orders for new suits of clothes, redemption of articles in pawn, and payment of debts to usurers. It is also reported that the Radicals contemplate starting a new party organ, the funds necessary for the undertaking being supplied by their friends in power. The *Jiji Shimpo*, alluding to these rumours, sincerely deplores that the members of great political parties should resort to such dastardly devises in their struggles with their opponents. But the *Yomiuri* and its fellow-slanderers can point to the fact that from time immemorial several local English newspapers at the open ports have never risen to a higher level of argument than to accuse their opponents of mercenary motives. It is the old story: the influences to which a man is most susceptible himself are naturally those by which he believes others to be swayed.

All persons are agreed in believing that the Extremists will find themselves in a hopeless minority next session. But the Extremists do not seem to have entirely abandoned hope. Their organs hint that the situation may be radically changed by some unexpected turn of events. At present their only chance lies in a possible split of the Radical Party. Very probably the circulation of rumours such as those referred to in the preceding paragraph is designed to engender distrust between the simple-minded Radicals in the provinces and their leaders in the capital. The *Jiji Shimpo*, which always preaches peace and reconciliation, advises the Government to give an honest and explicit account, in the next session of the Diet, of the circumstances that led to the return of the Liaotung Peninsula, and at the same time, recommends the politicians of the Opposition to consider calmly what they intend to do in the Diet, so as to avoid the serious mistake of creating internal dissensions on account of irrevocable events. Our contemporary tells these politicians plainly that, however ardent they may be to get into office, they cannot achieve their object, for the present at least, by pulling down the Cabinet, as past experience abundantly proves. The only result of their proposed line of action will be to injure the credit of their parties. As to the Cabinet Ministers, our contemporary states that they are morally bound to give a full account of the affair to the Diet; in other words, to furnish the people's Representatives with sufficient data to form a judgment as to the policy pursued. The *Jiji* is confident that a frank and straightforward attitude on the part of the Government will have a most beneficial effect upon the House of Representatives.

The question of a foreign alliance continues to attract attention. No new feature is observable in the discussion. A small but influential section of thinkers that advocate a Russia alliance, are doing everything in their power to convince the public that England is not trustworthy as an ally. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* is one of the organs of this school. It writes as follows in a recent issue:—"The *Mail* strongly advocates a Japanese-English alliance, and its voice is echoed by the Japanese pseudo-semi-official organ. The idea has also been taken up by a school of statesmen. (By the pseudo-semi-official organ, our contemporary evidently means the *Jiji Shimpo* in distinction from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which is usually called a semi-official organ.) It is even reported that the entertainment of Count Ito and other Ministers on board the *Centurion* points to such an alliance. But is there any foundation for the report? The Russian diplomats laugh at the notion of an alliance between the two countries. We cannot say definitely whether the idea is destined to be translated into fact. But we cannot believe that England would ever be a trustworthy ally." Our contemporary then refers to the conduct of England toward China during the recent war. Notwithstanding the fact that her support was plainly desired by China, England did not so much as move a finger in behalf of that country, but so soon as it became evident that Japan was stronger, she hastened to show goodwill to this empire. "We appreciate her goodwill," says the *Kokumin*, "but no importance cannot be attached to it, when we think that it may under similar circumstances be transferred to other quarters." To the contention that for the half-hearted and neutral policy pursued by the late British Administration a more decided line of action may be substituted by the Conservative Cabinet, our contemporary replies that Lord Salisbury, who at the time of the formation of the Franco-Russian Alliance in 1891, kept aloof from the Triple Alliance, is not likely now to pursue a different policy. The *Kokumin*, goes on to translate passages from the recent articles of the Hon. Reginald Brett and Mr. Frederick Greenwood in the *Contemporary Review*. It then observes:—"The *Mail* assures us that these views do not represent British

opinion, but we are afraid that they may prove to be a faithful expression of that opinion, since England's attitude is already defensive. It will not do for Japan to commit herself to any positive step on the strength of promises that are not likely to be fulfilled." In support of its assertion that England is no longer an aggressive Power, our contemporary turns to an article in the *Statist*, calling attention to the importance of defensive works on the eastern coast of England. "It is to be observed," remarks the *Kokumin*, "that England, which has in the past always assumed an offensive attitude, is now devoting herself to the task of defending her shores at home. The article above quoted represents a section of Englishmen led by Mr. Chamberlain, and it is also a noteworthy fact that British opinion in general is now inclined to a defensive policy. When England assumes such an attitude, how can she spare energy for action in the East?"

Nothing is more amusing than the supreme assurance underlying the writing of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*—or the "Cokeyman at home," as it has been wittily designated. Our good contemporary is evidently quite pursuaded that Great Britain's alliance can be had by Japan if she merely condescends to ask for it. We regret to be obliged to tell the ineffable *Kokumin* that the greatest Power in the World, or any combination of the greatest Powers in the World, would be proud to have England for an ally, and that it has been reserved for a Japanese periodical to discover her unworthiness to stand side by side with a little Oriental State. But truly no serious attention can be claimed by a journal so extremely short-sighted as to imagine that because Great Britain is devoting some attention to her coast-defences, her offensive capacities are no longer formidable. It would be extremely unfortunae for Japan if her leaders of thought fell into such a mood as the *Kokumin's* writings reflect.

The National Unionists contemplate holding a grand conference in Tokyo, and a circular has been issued to the leading members of the Party in the provinces, desiring their immediate presence in the capital. Some persons seem to entertain a hope that the conference may lead to results more or less in favour of the Extremists. But the general line of policy to be pursued by the Party is stated to have been settled some time since, and the general conference will simply confirm the previous decision of the leaders.

Little attention is now paid by the public to the doings of the Codes Investigation Council. But the labours of that important body are making steady progress. At the last meeting held on the 23rd instant, the Chapter on Mandates was submitted for discussion. A warm debate took place, and the Council had to rise without coming to a vote. It may be stated that the portions of the Civil and Commercial Codes not yet put into operation have undergone thorough revision at the hands of a special committee appointed by the Council from among its members, and that the revised draft is now being considered by the council in full session.

The people of Kyoto are making strenuous efforts to secure a prolongation of the period originally fixed for the Exhibition. Their cause has been enthusiastically taken up by Mr. Mayeda Masana, who came to Tokyo and visited the Premier on the 22nd instant. After listening to what Mr. Mayeda had to say in favour of the proposed step, Count Ito promised to refer the matter to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. The Count seems to have been as good as his word, for on the 24th inst. Mr. Mayeda was summoned to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, but was disappointed to learn that his proposal could not be entertained by the Government. One of the most serious objections is that the purchasers of the exhibits having made their contracts on the understanding that delivery would take place at a certain date, no small inconvenience and annoyance would be caused to them should the close of the Exhibition be delayed until the end of November, as advocated by the Kyoto people. On the other hand, to give delivery of the purchased goods at the originally named date would be impracticable, since such a step would deprive the Exhibition of most of its attractions. In fact the exhibitors generally are believed to be strongly opposed to a prolongation.

Mr. Motoda Hajime, a prominent National Unionist member of the Diet, contemplates introducing, next session, a Bill for prohibiting the export of coals. According to the opinion of some experts, among others Mr. Wada Tsunashiro, formerly Director of the Imperial Mining Bureau, should the coal mines of Japan be worked at the present rate, the supply will be entirely exhausted in forty-six years. Such a result would be a fatal blow to the growth of Japanese industry, and hence Mr. Motoda proposes to stop the export of coals altogether. At present about 6½ million *yen* worth of coals are yearly exported.

COMPANIES.

The Osaka Merchant Steamship Company (Shosen Kaisha) held a general meeting at Osaka on the 20th instant. The statement of accounts for the first six months of the present year showed a gross income of 1,153,998 *yen*, and the net profit for the period was 387,599 *yen*, to which was added a sum of 101,954 *yen*, brought forward from the preceding period. After deducting 155,200 *yen* as dividend (16 per cent. per annum) and a further amount for rewards and reserves, a sum of 255,654 *yen* was carried over to the next period. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Mr. Tanaka Ichibei, President, Mr. Tanaka Tashichiro, Vice-President and Mr. Sugiyama Kobei, Director.

The Tokyo Fire Insurance Company (Tokyo Kasai Hoken Kabushiki Kaisha) held a general meeting of shareholders at the Imperial Hotel on the 21st instant, Mr. Sakaino Daikichi in the chair. The net profit for the first half of the present year was 52,884 *yen*, and a dividend was declared at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum. The election of officials resulted in the re-appointment of those now serving.

The Tokyo Bay Steam Navigation Company (Tokyo Wan Kisenkaisha) convened a general meeting of Shareholders at the Bankers' Club, Tokyo, on the 22nd instant, Mr. Mogami Goro in the chair. The net profit for the first six months of the year was 80,960 *yen*, and the rate of dividend declared was 8 per cent. per annum.

The Tokyo Gas Company's semi-annual general meeting took place at the Bankers' Club, on the 21st instant, Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi in the chair. The gross receipts for the half year were 80,638 *yen*, the net profit being 27,084 *yen*. A dividend of 14 per cent. per annum was declared.

The balance-sheet of the Tokyo Rice Warehouse Company for the first half of the present year, shows a gross revenue of 76,932 *yen*, the net profit being represented by a sum of 20,894 *yen*. The dividend was 10 per cent. per annum.

The project of establishing a sugar factory in Yayeyama, Okinawa Prefecture (Loo Choo Group), is receiving favourable consideration, and there appears to be every chance of its maturing. Among the originators are Count Goto and Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Oye Taku, Go Junzo, Kawasaki Hachiyemon, and Kato Tokusaburo. The capital is to be 200,000 *yen*. Application for a charter has already been made. Messrs. Oye, Torimi, and Nakagawa have been nominated as a Committee of Organization.

Doctor—"I would advise you, dear madame, to take frequent baths, plenty of fresh air, and dress in cool gowns." Husband (an hour later)—"What did the doctor say?" Wife—"He said I ought to go to a watering place and afterwards to the mountains, and to get some new light gowns."

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The Nippon Ginko (Bank of Japan), purposes increasing its capital of 20 million *yen* to 30 millions. This bank originally started with a capital of ten millions, which amount was doubled a few years ago. The present proposal has to be approved by the shareholders at an extraordinary meeting which will be convened in the course of next month, but it is believed that the project finds general favour. This news has had an instantaneous effect upon the price of the Bank's shares. From a quotation of 310 *yen* they at once rose to 330 *yen*. Even at the latter price there were no sellers on the 18th instant.

Steps to increase capital are not confined to the Bank of Japan. The Kyushu Railway Company proposes to add 5½ million *yen* to its capital, which will thus be brought up to 16½ millions; and the San-yo Railway Company also contemplates an increase from 5 to 6 millions. These calls for funds are required for the purpose of undertaking the construction of new lines.

The banks of Tokyo and Yokohama are said to be in favour of following the example of the Nippon Ginko, that is to say, lossening their purse strings. They had been considering the probable effects of the restoration of peace upon business and finance, and had arrived at a conclusion suggesting a policy similar to that inaugurated by the Nippon Ginko, when the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce issued Instructions to the Local Governors, telling them to warn the people against any rash tendency to engage in industrial undertakings. The bankers, in deference to this warning, hesitated to take a step capable of being interpreted in a sense contrary to the Minister's views. But being convinced of the soundness of their own opinion, now confirmed by that of the Nippon Ginko, they have decided to follow the latter's example.

The output of coal in the Ho-Chiku provinces of Kyushu during the first six months of the present year shows a great increase over that for the corresponding period of last year. The figures are as follow:—

	Catties.
January	230,487,419
February	181,157,776
March	308,592,391
April	361,445,745
May	342,460,933
June	282,397,966
Total	1,706,542,300

The figures for the first half of the five years from 1890 to 1894 inclusive, are as follows:—

1890	712,048,523
1891	970,341,871
1892	937,036,693
1893	1,026,579,747
1894	1,457,678,457

According to a report from the Japanese Consul at Söul, the rate of interest is extraordinarily high there. The rate among the Japanese is stated to be 3 per cent. per mensem, or 36 per cent. per annum, for sums below 1,000 *yen*, on the security of land or houses. For sums above 1,000 *yen*, the rate is 30 per cent. per annum. On the security of personal effects, the usual rate is from 24 to 26.4 per cent. per annum. Loans without security are obtained at rates varying from 60 to 120 per cent. per annum. The rates of interest demanded from Korean borrowers by Japanese are still higher; even the pawnbroker's rate being from 60 to 120 per cent. per annum. Interest is said to be now at its maximum point, and is expected to fall more or less with the revival of business in Japan. Of the various causes that have brought about this state of affairs, the most important are the reluctance of the Japanese to lend money in view of the tightness of the money market at home, and scarcity of money in Söul, owing to the fact that the Japanese residing there make a habit of sending home their savings.

There are two schemes for the establishment of cotton spinning factories in China, one pro-

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jected in Tokyo and the other in Osaka. The promoters of the Tokyo scheme have chosen Messrs. Hamaguchi Kichiyemon and Wada Toyoji, of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company, and Hata Zenjiro, of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, as Commissioners to make investigations in China. They are to leave Tokyo to-day (25th). The Osaka scheme will be represented for a similar purpose by Messrs. Kanazawa Nihei, of the Settsu Spinning Company, and Yamabe Takeo, of the Osaka Spinning Company. They are expected to start on their journey in a few days.

In spite of a slow improvement in the spinning industry, the factories in Osaka and its vicinity are said to have a large stock of yarns in their godowns. The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* publishes the following figures showing the value of the cotton and yarns at present in the hands of these companies :—

Company.	Cotton. Yen.	Yarn. Yen.
Osaka Boseki Kaisha.....	252,938 ...	75,036
Senshu Boseki Kaisha ...	51,258 ...	41,227
Settsu Boseki Kaisha	214,160 ...	46,983
Amagaseki Boseki Kaisha.	113,348 ...	80,666
Naniwa Boseki Kaisha ...	465,070 ...	27,334
Kishiwada Boseki Kaisha.	58,651 ...	6,825
Sakai Boseki Kaisha	38,840 ...	3,272
Koriyama Boseki Kaisha.	31,718 ...	36,625

Moreover, the Meiji Boseki Kaisha has in store cotton and yarn aggregating 82,227 *yen* in value; the Hirano Boseki Kaisha, 234,073 *yen*; and the Asahi Boseki Kaisha, 24,083 *yen*. The total value of cotton and yarn in the hands of the above mentioned companies and the different wholesale merchants in Osaka is upwards of 2,200,000 *yen*.

A project is on foot in Osaka for the utilization of the celebrated fall of Nochi, in the Province of Kii, as the motive force for the production of electricity. The idea was first seriously taken up by Mr. Awaya Shinazo, M.P., and is now believed to have the support of a large number of prominent business men. According to the present programme, a current equivalent to 15,000 horse-power in Osaka is to be produced, and the distance to be traversed by it will be about 100 miles. As to the estimated expense, 3,000,000 *yen* will be required for poles, wires, and other articles necessary for the transmission of the current, while the works at the fall will cost 2,300,000 *yen*, the aggregate estimated outlay thus being 5,300,000 *yen*. Supposing that the electricity is supplied at the annual rate of 85 *yen* for one horse-power, the total income would be 1,275,000 *yen*. The cost of maintenance being put at 530,000 *yen*, the net profit would amount to 745,000 *yen*; in other words, 14 per cent. on the capital. Considering the rapid progress of industry in Osaka and the probability that electricity will be used in the town of Wakayama also, it is believed that the horse-power would soon have to be increased to 30,000.

AN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION IN JAPAN.

The promoters of a scheme for holding an international exhibition in Tokyo are said to have recently obtained some important accessions to their ranks, and to be now tolerably confident of carrying their project into practice. The site contemplated is the large area of reclaimed land on the opposite side of the Sumida estuary looking across from Tsukiji. This land has been reclaimed in the process of dredging the place intended for the new Tokyo Harbour. It measures some 300,000 *tsubo* (250 acres), and as the work of dredging has thus far involved an outlay of only 600,000 *yen*, the City has this large tract of land for 2 *yen* per *tsubo*, probably a fifth of the price that it will command in the market when it is ready for building purposes. The position would be admirably suited for an exhibition, since barges carrying heavy goods could come right alongside. According to the present idea of the projectors, the exhibition would be held in the first year of the twentieth century, and steps are being taken to expedite the work of completing the site.

PAK YONG-HO.

The following account of Pak Yong-ho's flight and the cause of his fall was given by himself at Kobe to a representative of the *Yushin Nippo* :—

"Signs of the catastrophe had not been wanting for some time. There were suspicious circumstances at Court as, for example, an evident change in the behaviour of the king toward me. In short, it was plain that something impended. Hence I was on my guard against an emergency. Having been secretly informed by one of my sympathizers that a Royal Edict had been issued, depriving me of my portfolio of Home Affairs and ordering my apprehension, I put on an old suit of European clothes and over it an ordinary Korean costume. Taking hasty leave of my family, I galloped away to the Japanese Legation, a distance of a little over a mile. One misfortune always leads to another. I was thrown from my horse on the way and injured somewhat; I still feel the pain. Remounting with great difficulty, I reached the Japanese Legation, where I was soon afterwards joined by my friends, among them being Li Keikan and Shin Oki. I also saw Tei Rankyo, Ryu Kakuro, and Li Inko come to the Legation. I divested myself entirely of Korean garments, and obtained some additional foreign clothes from the members of the Legation. Next morning at 8 o'clock, I took leave of the Legation, accompanied by Li Keikan and Shin Oki, and walked to Yongsan. The distance is only a little over two miles, but being in a great hurry, I found the way very long. *En route*, a party of constables tried to arrest us, but being afraid to lay hands on us, they cried out to the people to seize us. A mob soon pursued us, throwing stones. We were in serious danger, but heaven did not abandon us, and we reached Yongsan in safety. A steam launch, the *Masashige Maru*, being on the point of starting for Ninsen, we took passage in her and succeeded in reaching Ninsen without any molestation, under the protection of our friends. At Ninsen we concealed ourselves in a friend's house, and having cut our hair and otherwise changed our appearance, we got on board the *Fujikawa Maru*. Constables came down to Ninsen in pursuit of us, and when we were on our way to the *Fujikawa*, our boat was surrounded by theirs. We escaped from them, however, and left Ninsen on the morning of the 8th instant. The sea being rough, the steamer stayed two days in Tsushima, so that it was midnight of the 16th before we arrived at Ujina, after submitting to sanitary inspection at Ejima.

As to the causes of my impeachment, there are many, but the principal is the Queen's ambition to place Korea once more under the sway of her party, namely the Ming. That ambition has always been entertained by Her Majesty, and she was looking about for an opportunity to carry out her scheme, when she discovered serious cause for offence in the question of the relief of the Palace Guards. I regarded the measure as of the greatest importance and decided to carry it out. The present Palace Guards are troops drilled after an old system under Russian and American officers, who had access to the Court, where they secretly exercised considerable influence. I, therefore, thought it necessary to displace the Guards by troops trained under the new system. I represented this matter more than once to Count Inouye, but I had no opportunity to carry out my project during his stay in Söul. After he had left, being convinced of the urgent necessity of the measure, I submitted it to the King and obtained His Majesty's sanction. But subsequently he ordered me to postpone the step for the present; probably he had changed his mind at the persuasion of the Queen. It was about this time that Sasaki Tomezo, who seems to have had some grudge against me, invented a tale of treason, committed it to writing, and conveyed it to my political opponents, who carried it to Court and obtained a Royal Edict ordering my arrest on a charge of treason. I do not understand Sasaki. I once met him in Kyoto while I was staying there during my former exile in Japan. After my return home, he came to Söul and wanted to see me several times, but I declined to meet him, partly because I did not entertain any specially high opinion of him and partly because I was very busy."

Pak is stated to have expressed his views on various other subjects. Concerning his own family and the family of Kim Ok-kyun, whom he was supporting, he felt perfectly sure of their safety. With regard to the postponement of the departure of Prince Wi-hwa as Special Ambassador to tender thanks to the Japanese Emperor for the assistance given to Korea in asserting and maintaining her independence, Pak said that His Highness's proposed journey to this country had aroused the suspicions of the Queen, who, under various pretexts, persuaded the King to stop the mission. He went on to speak of the creation of a new office, the *Tokushin-kan* (a sort of Court Councillor), in the Household Department. This step was taken without so much as mentioning it to the Cabinet Ministers, and the occupants of the new office are all members of the Ming faction. The *Tokushin-kan* constitutes a species of second Cabinet with the Queen at its head. Alluding to the Tai Wön-kun, Pak stated that the ex-Regent is not likely to accept office even if it were offered to him by the Cabinet, as some persons report that it will be: he is no longer the strong and daring statesman of former days. With regard to his chance of returning to Korea, the ex-Minister of Home Affairs shrugged his shoulders and said he could not tell anything about it. The Queen, he said, is a most implacable enemy: when she once takes offence she does not easily forgive. The reason why he was formerly obliged to remain so long exiled from Korea was because the Queen refused to forget what he had done in 1884. She is said to entertain a feeling of intense resentment against Major-General Oshima, and Mr. Otori, former Minister to Korea, on the ground that they caused needless disturbances in the peninsula and at Court. Speaking of his life in Söul, Pak made the following statement:—"I was exceedingly busy. That was the only reason why I was so negligent in writing to my friends in Japan. I usually rose at five o'clock in the morning, and saw visitors until about eleven, when I went to the Department of Home Affairs. Afterwards, I had to go to the Cabinet and have audience with the King, talking with His Majesty on all sorts of business. It was usually an hour or two after midnight when I returned home from the Palace. Thus I slept only about two or three hours on the average."

Pak and his fellow exiles are is now guests of Mr. Fukuzawa in Tokyo. Pak is receiving treatment at Dr. Kitazato's hospital at Hirowo, for he has long been suffering from a disease of the lungs.

KIRIN BEER AT THE KYOTO EXHIBITION.

With reference to the distinction attained by the Kirin Beer at the Kyoto Exhibition, we observe that there were only three first-class awards in the Kanagawa Section, of which one fell to the Kirin. The Asahi Beer secured a first class in the Osaka City Section, and the Yebisu Beer, a second class in the Tokyo Section. This is a well-earned and well-merited success for Kirin, and should finally settle the question—hitherto undecided according to some critics—as to the superiority of the Kirin brew to the Yebisu. We learn that the Kirin Brewery is hardly able to supply the large demand for its product, and that the money it has asked for on debentures, for increasing it cellerage and plant, is already promised, if not actually subscribed. In short, the prosperity of the Yokohama Company seems assured. Not only has it an extensive business in Japan, but it also exports to Korea, Shanghai, Hongkong, Saigon, Manila, Hanoi, Queensland, and the Straits. Such enterprises redound to the credit of Japan, as well as to that of the directors charged with their management, nor must we forget to compliment the Brewer, Mr. H. Heckert.

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COUNT OKUMA ON THE KOREAN QUESTION.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes an account of an interview with Count Okuma. The subject discussed was Korea, and the Progressionist leader is reported to have severely criticised the policy adopted by the Government toward that kingdom. "The Government," he is represented as stating, "has long pursued a wrong policy in the peninsular kingdom, but its action in recent times has been especially disfigured by blunders. The explanation is that the Government did not decide from the outset upon a definite and well matured line of procedure, but followed an irresolute, changeable, and temporizing policy. It is to be deeply regretted that Japan has thus missed her opportunity in Korea." The most important passages of the interview having been erased, it is impossible to discover exactly the policy that Count Okuma thinks ought to have been pursued last year when, after the Chinese troops had been driven away from the peninsula, the Court in Sŏul was only too willing to do as it was directed by Japan. It is not, however, difficult to form a tolerably clear idea of the line of action suggested by him. He seems to think that the Japanese Government ought to have availed itself of the opportunity to form a compact with the Korean King and to secure the persons of both the Queen and Tai Wŏn-kun—the two disturbing elements in the peninsula—with the object of holding them as hostages in Japan until the independence of the Peninsula should have been placed on a sound basis. Had such a bold line of action been adopted, the Count believes that Japan would now hold in Korea a position far different from that which she actually occupies. Another serious mistake with which the Japanese Government is charged is that it did not exact security for the loan of 3,000,000 *yen*. The Progressionist leader attaches importance to this matter, not from a business point of view, but from that of politics. Had security been obtained, it could have been used by Japan as a lever to increase her influence and expedite the work of reform in the Peninsula—"In short, the conduct of our Government towards Korea has been too lenient and magnanimous. There has been, at the same time, too much fear of other Powers. In order to effect the regeneration of Korea, the Government ought to have acted promptly and resolutely, making prisoners of * * * * * Instead of pursuing such a policy, the Government adopted the short-sighted and senseless programme of merely trying to purify the stream without removing the cause of contamination at the source. As to the possible intervention of the Powers, that contingency need not have caused alarm to the Government, for a firm front on the part of the Japanese nation would have averted any such danger. At all events, it is Japan's mission to maintain the integrity of the peninsula."

Count Okuma may be right. Boldness often succeeds where gentleness fails. But it is evident that the steps recommended by him would have been glaringly inconsistent with the theory of Korean independence. Meanwhile, we do not see that Japan has yet failed. She can not be expected to work miracles. Only in mythological times could an Augean stable loaded with centuries of refuse be cleaned out in as many months.

INDUSTRIAL REVIVAL IN JAPAN.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* rejoices to observe unmistakable signs of a revival of industry in Japan. The returning activity is most noticeable in the field of railway enterprise. Work on State lines was resumed immediately after the restoration of peace, and the Kyushu Railway Company and the Kansai Railway Company are about to extend their lines by making large additions to their capital. Similar projects are contemplated by many other companies, such, for example, as the Nippon Tetsudo, the Sanyo Tetsudo, the Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo, the So-Bu Tetsudo, and the Bo-So Tetsudo. To mention some of the projects in this category, there is a scheme in Tokyo for an electric tramway with a capital of 3,800,000 *yen*, and in the provinces adjoining the metropolis six new lines are proposed. Numerous similar projects have been formed in other parts of the country. Some of them must be expected to lead to no practical results, while a few will probably be amalgamated. How many of these proposed companies have received charters, our contemporary does not state, but it gives the number of railway companies that have obtained provisionary charters since the end of 1893, namely, twenty-seven, with an aggregate capital of 38,000,000 *yen*. As to enterprises other than railways, the Tokyo Electric Light Company has decided to increase its capital by 1,000,000 *yen*, and a similar step is under consideration by the Tokyo Warehouse Company. Many of the cotton-spinning companies contemplate large additions to the number of their spindles. Commissioners are also about to be sent to China to see what opportunity offers for the establishment of cotton factories there, and in the sphere of commerce, schemes are in the air for the establishment of large companies. From all these circumstances, the *Chugai Shogyo* is convinced that Japan is now entering upon a new era of industrial and commercial development. So far as military resources are concerned, she has shown herself a great Power, but she has yet to demonstrate her ability in the field of commerce and industry. She is now at an exceedingly important stage of her career, and our contemporary hopes that her merchants and manufacturers will fully realise the heavy responsibility resting upon their shoulders and will devote their energies to the steady and orderly progress of trade and industry.

AN IMPERIAL AUDIENCE AND ITS RESULTS.

"When Herr von Hesse-Wartegg reached Japan on his last voyage round the world," says the *Neue Zürcher Zeitung*, "he heard, during the course of an audience with the Emperor, that a war with Korea was near at hand." This audience took place in June. There was then no prospect whatever of a war with Korea and as yet only a distant prospect of a war with China. Herr von Hesse-Wartegg—he is of course responsible for the statement—gives the public plainly to understand that the Emperor informed him about an impending war. We have no hesitation whatever in asserting that the Emperor never did anything of the kind. If His Majesty addressed half-a-dozen purely conventional words to Mr. Hesse-Wartegg, it was the very utmost that he did.

Having received the above information, and been warned that "it was thus advisable to hasten his intended departure for the peninsula," Herr von Hesse-Wartegg, we are told, "at once took ship and reached his destination in the midst of Japanese transports bringing over the first regiments to Korean soil." The first regiments left Japan early in June, and it follows that our traveller reached Korea before the middle of June. "War," the account proceeds, "had broken out somewhat sooner than had been expected, and so the speaker" (we quote from the preface to Herr von Hesse-Wartegg's lecture in Zurich) "had the opportunity of seeing the two hostile armies in actual combat." Where did he see that, we wonder. There was no combat until the 29th of July, when General Oshima attacked the Chinese at Yashan. Herr von Hesse-Wartegg was not there, and he returned to Japan long before the next battle, *i.e.*, that of Ping-yang. It seems to us that the information vouchsafed to him by the Emperor and his "opportunity of seeing the two armies in actual combat," are equally apocryphal. Mistakes of that kind should be avoided by a critic undertaking to pass judgment on a nation's moral culture.

HORSE-BREEDING IN JAPAN.

Writing about the recently promulgated Regulations of the Horse Breeding Investigation Commission, the *Nogyo Zasshi* (The Agriculturist) observes that, prior to the Restoration, all the clan Governments paid special attention to the question of horse-breeding and gave encouragement and protection to enterprises of that nature. The fall of feudalism was a disastrous blow to horse-breeding, for the new Government during the first years of the present era neglected such matters, as was not unnatural in the stress of graver duties. Thus there resulted a marked deterioration in the quality of Japanese horses. In course of time the question was officially taken up, but the measures adopted have not been sufficiently consistent and thorough-going to prove practically valuable. The recent war with China, however, has brought vividly before the Government's eyes the paramount importance of the matter, and has led to the appointment of the Commision in question. Our contemporary refers briefly to what the Government of the principal countries of Europe are doing in the matter of horse-breeding, and gives some details of their breeding establishments.

As to the number of horses in Japan, the *Nogyo* publishes the following table :—

	Number of Horses.	Number of animals foaled.	Number of Deaths (including animals slaughtered for food).
1879	1,454,823	38,514	8,936
1880	1,605,543	67,256	13,211
1881	1,647,484	90,713	16,509
1882	1,640,523	87,354	15,691
1883	1,575,169	75,140	19,402
1884	1,564,993	128,657	13,187
1885	1,548,232	62,554	17,120
1886	1,537,104	73,107	73,197
1887	1,537,606	65,542	22,661
1888	1,532,799	83,120	29,689
1889	1,541,342	68,098	26,760
1890	1,546,368	61,118	25,089
1891	1,547,661	32,151	13,983
1892	1,554,667	—	—
1893	1,561 388	—	—

The slight increase in the four years from 1880 to 1893 is accounted for by a general appreciation of prices that stimulated the work of breeding. An exactly opposite state of things led to a steady decrease in the years 1884-1888. Since 1889, there has been a slight tendency in the direction of increase, but so slight as to justify the *Nogyo's* lament that the number of horses has remained almost stationary while the population has been increasing at the rate of 400,000 per year.

Our contemporary next publishes the following interesting table showing the number of horses reared for different purposes in the five years 1887-1891 :—

	Transportation.	Agriculture.	Breeding.	Total.
1887...	M. 70,920 / H. 104,337	M. 680,122 / H. 584,921	M. 80,200 / H. 17,106	M. 831,242 / H. 706,364
	175,257	1,265,043	97,306	1,537,606
1888...	M. 71,559 / H. 104,370	M. 670,201 / H. 578,568	M. 80,806 / H. 17,863	M. 824,519 / H. 708,380
	175,929	1,248,769	98,669	1,533,797
1889...	M. 81,252 / H. 112,649	M. 659,725 / H. 571,477	M. 83,993 / H. 23,065	M. 824,716 / H. 716,626
	193,901	1,234,202	106,858	1,541,342
1890...	M. 70,480 / H. 116,080	M. 672,029 / H. 562,662	M. 83,272 / H. 19,609	M. 837,685 / H. 708,083
	195,560	1,234,691	102,941	1,546,308
1891...	M. 80,704 / H. 119,068	M. 687,110 / H. 564,110	M. 76,076 / H. 19,693	M. 844,790 / H. 703,871
	199,772	1,252,220	96,009	1,547,661

Taking the figures for 1891 in the above table for the purpose of illustration, the *Nogyo* remarks that out of the total number (703,871) of horses (male) for that year, those employed for farming purposes constitute 80 per cent. of the whole, while those used for transportation and breeding are represented by 17 and 3 per cent. respectively. Thus farmsteads being the principal source from which horses for military purposes must be supplied in time of war, our contemporary calls the attention of farmers to the great importance of exerting themselves to improve the breed. At present the *Nogyo* observes with regret that, a few localities excepted, horses are looked upon by the farmers principally as instruments for converting raw material into serviceable manure and are consequently locked up in stables most of the time. Under such circumstances, it is not to be won-

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dered at that horses should steadily deteriorate in Japan. The *Nogyo* suggests that encouragement should be given to the increased use of horses for actual farming purposes, and to their subsidiary employment, in the business of transportation, by means of carts and waggons.

STEAM SERVICE TO AUSTRALIA.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* strongly advocates the speedy opening of a new steamship route to Australia under State subsidy. It set out by observing that, of all the undertakings important to Japan in her career of expansion, most urgently necessary is the development of her maritime enterprise. Of the new lines that must be opened by her, the most important are those to Europe, to America, and to Australia. There are no apparent reasons to doubt that the state of the national finances warrants the opening of these three lines simultaneously, and the *Mainichi* hopes that a Bill for subsidizing them will be submitted in the Diet next session. Should it, however, be deemed unadvisable to inaugurate the three services at the same time, our contemporary would recommend the opening of the Australian line first. It regards that line as the most promising for five reasons: first, absence of competition; secondly, the expense involved is comparatively small; thirdly, it gives facilities for emigration and colonization; fourthly, it possesses industrial advantages; and fifthly, it has "an advantage peculiar to itself," which the *Mainichi* declines to explain in the present article. In respect of expense, our contemporary is informed that according to the result of investigations conducted by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha last year, the losses incurred annually by the Company in connection with the opening of these lines without State aid would be as follow, at the rate of 12 voyages per annum:—

	Yen.
European line	437,400
American line	412,700
Australian line	90,700

The Japanese population is increasing at the rate of from 500,000 to 600,000 each year, and various fields of emigration and colonization are suggested to relieve the country of its superfluous inhabitants. Of these fields, the most promising, in the *Mainichi's* opinion, are the islands in the South Sea. "Look at the groups of islands," says our contemporary "that dot the sea to the south of Formosa. Do they not complain, as it were, of the tardiness of the Japanese incoming to colonize them?" European Powers are attempting colonization in that region, but they cannot compete successfully with Japan. Moreover, the opening of the Australian line will give a fresh stimulus to the manufacture of woollen fabrics in Japan by the importation of raw material from the Southern Continent. For these reasons our contemporary insists that whatever may be said about the other lines, the Australian service must by all means be opened at the earliest possible date.

EXTENSIVE ROBBERIES IN YOKOHAMA.

A woman named Nakayi Sudzu, 33 years of age, has been arrested by the police on a charge of committing a series of systematic robberies from M. Menil's dyeing factory. The robberies must have extended over a considerable period of time to enable the woman to collect the quantity of cuttings of *merensu* found in her possession, and which had been sent in for dyeing purposes, these filling two large boxes, two *sudzuri* (reed valises), and several bundles, some floss silk, cotton, etc. The woman was employed as overseer and had charge of the other working-girls, and thus took advantage of her position to steal stray pieces or cuttings. She was arrested while attemping to dispose of the stolen property, the suspicions of the police having been aroused at the smallness of the pieces, about 3 to 5 yards long, which she offered, and her house being searched, the discovery above mentioned resulted.

THE JAPANESE MINISTER IN PEKIN.

Japanese correspondents' letters describing the audience given to H.E. Mr. Hayashi by the Chinese Emperor on the 7th instant, have just arrived. At 9.30 on the morning of that day, a large party of mounted guards were sent to the Japanese Legation to escort the Minister to the Palace. At 10a.m., Mr. Hayashi, accompanied by Secretaries Nakajima, Tei, and Kawasaki, Captain Inouye and Lieutenant-Colonel Kamio, left the Legation in Chinese palanquins, escorted by the guards. The road was lined by a crowd of spectators. Entering by the 協和 gate and passing through the 大和 gate, the party entered a waiting room where they were received by Their Imperial Highnesses Princes Kung and Ching and the four other Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên. Prince Ching having hitherto been confined to his house by sickness, it was the first time that he had met the Japanese Minister. The audience was appointed to take place in the Wan-hwa-tien, close by where the Japanese Minister and his party were waiting. In a short time, the Emperor arrived in a palanquin painted bright yellow. Princes King and Ching were the first to be admitted to the Imperial presence, and shortly afterwards the Japanese Minister and his suite were conducted into the chamber, by the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên. Mr. Hayashi stood directly opposite the throne. On the right and left of the Emperor stood a number of military and civil functionaries. Advancing a few steps nearer to the throne, the Japanese Minister addressed His Majesty to the following effect:—

"His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, being sincerely rejoiced at the restoration of friendly relations between the two countries, has been pleased to accredit me to Your Majesty's Court. I crave Your Majesty's permission to express my sense of the honour done me in granting me the present audience and thus affording me an opportunity of presenting my credentials to Your Majesty. It is my earnest hope that hereafter the friendship between the two countries may become more and more close and intimate, and that I may long be permitted to enjoy Your Majesty's favour. I sincerely pray that Your Majesty may be blessed with a long life and a prosperous reign." This address, delivered in Japanese, was rendered into Chinese by Secretary Tei. The Emperor, in reply, said a few words to the following effect:—

"We are glad that peace has been re-established between the two countries, and we welcome your Excellency to Our Court. Two countries so near to each other ought to be always on the most intimate terms." Mr. Hayashi then handed his Letter of Credence to Prince Kung who, ascending the steps in front of the throne, presented it to the Emperor on bended knees. His Majesty respectfully took it, and having read it through, returned it to the brocade wrapper in which it had been folded. His Majesty, then entered his palanquin and was borne off, while the Japanese Minister and his suite were again conducted to the waiting-room, where they had a pleasant conversation with the two Princes and the Ministers of the Tsung-li-Yamên. This audience originated a new procedure. Formerly, in presenting a letter of credence on behalf of a foreign Minister, an Imperial Prince always approached the throne by the steps on one side, not from the front, the steps in front being reserved for Imperial feet only. This practice was repeatedly but fruitlessly remonstrated against by foreign Ministers, who rightly regard it as derogatory to the Sovereign or Chief Magistrate that they represented. The Japanese Minister seems to have successfully overcome the Chinese prejudice and established a new precedent. While conversing with the Japanese Representative in the waiting-room, the Chinese Ministers are reported to have requested Mr. Hayashi to take the first opportunity of proceeding to Tientsin and opening negotiations with the Viceroy Li and Wang Wan Shao, who have been appointed plenipotentiaries to conclude the new commercial treaty. Mr. Hayashi, on his part, is said to have strongly urged the necessity of speedily sending a Minister to Japan. It is stated that the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên seemed to believe or hope that the Liaotung question will form the subject of negotiations at Tientsin. Captain Inouye, I.J.N., and Lieut.-Colonel Kamio, as well as the Chinese Interpreters, were to leave Pekin for Tientsin on the 11th instant. At what time the Japanese Minister will follow to the same place was not known up to the time (8th and 9th instant) of despatching the Japanese letters, from which these facts have been gathered.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

A terrible railway accident occurred on the morning of the 25th instant. A train carrying upwards of 380 wounded and sick soldiers, destined for the military hospitals in Kyoto and elsewhere, left Hiroshima on the night of the 24th, and proceeded northward. After passing Mihara and while crossing a causeway, the train was exposed to the full force of a fierce gale then raging, and of the 25 carriages, 13 were overturned and hurled into the sea, dragging the engine with them. One hundred and thirty of the unfortunate soldiers were either killed or wounded.

It is stated that the Emperor and Empress have been pleased to grant *yen* 500 towards the relief of the wounded and sick soldiers, who met with the railway accident between Onomichi and Itozaki.

Of the 386 ill-fated soldiers, 49 were to be sent to Nagoya, 286 to Tokyo, and 51 to Sendai. Besides the medical assistance from Hiroshima, five physicians and some nurses of the Okayama Branch of the Red Cross Society have proceeded to the spot, and Surgeon Morinami and eight other persons of the First Army Division, Tokyo, left for Itozaki last night.

MESSRS. CORNES & CO. VERSUS MR. KIMURA.

The *Boyeki Shimbun* is correct in stating that through the exertions of Messrs. Mayekawa Torobei and Kakinuma Tanizo, of Tokyo, the parties in this case have agreed to compromise, under the conditions that Mr. Kimura takes delivery of 100 bales at the rate of *yen* 93.50 within the following 60 days, and that Messrs. Cornes & Co. pay the recent legal expenses.

THE ANTI-CABINET POLITICIANS AT THE KINKI-KAN.

The "forty-seven" politicians again attempted to address a meeting at the Kinki-kan, Kanda, on Sunday last. The principal speakers on the occasion were Messrs. Ozaki Yukio, M.P., Taguchi Ukichi, M.P., Shiga Shigeta, Takata Sanaye, M.P., Koizuka Ryu, M.P., Tsunoda Shimpei, M.P., Tanaka Shozo, M.P., Kudo Kokan, M.P., and so forth, the majority being members of the Progressionist Party. The number "forty-seven" was of course nominal. As many as nineteen, however, appeared on the platform, though none occupied it more than five or ten minutes, for nearly all alluded at the outset to a topic that they well knew to be interdicted, namely the question of the return of Liaotung. A few, however, were suffered to complete their discourse without any police interference. The object of the Opposition politicians in holding these lecture meetings is not to make converts to their political views, but to excite the sympathy of the public by inviting rigorous measures of repression on the part of the police. They are now about to rehearse the same drama in various parts of the country. What their success may be, we can not predict. But so far as the metropolitan population is concerned, their plan has been a complete failure. Indeed it may safely be asserted that their performances are viewed with supreme indifference by the citizens of the capital.

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AN ADDRESS BY HERR VON HESSE-WARTEGG ON KOREA AND THE RESULT OF THE JAPANESE-CHINESE WAR.

(Translated for the "Japan Mail" from the "Neue Zurcher Zeitung.").

On Monday evening (May 6th) the well-known traveller, Herr von Hesse-Wartegg, gave an address in the rooms of the Commercial Association, in the presence of a select and very numerous audience. A large number of merchants belonging to the younger generation were present, besides representatives of several wholesale houses. Herr von Hesse is not an orator, as indeed he himself modestly affirmed at the outset; yet he is a conversationalist of unusual merit, his method of presenting things being in the highest degree interesting and entertaining, while he possesses moreover in a marked degree the gift of vividly impressing his audience with the word-pictures of all that he has seen. When Herr von Hesse reached Japan on his last voyage round the world, he heard, during the course of an audience with the Emperor, that a war with Korea was near at hand, and that it was thus advisable to hasten his intended departure for the peninsula. The traveller at once took ship and reached his destination in the midst of Japanese transports bringing over the first regiments to Korean soil. War had broken out somewhat sooner than had been expected, and so the speaker had the opportunity of seeing the two hostile armies in actual combat. The authorities refused to grant him a passport to travel throughout the whole kingdom, from North to South; the passport which he finally obtained permitted his visiting only some of the larger towns.

At the present day Korea is still in a most deplorable condition of barbarism. It has not always been thus, however, for Korea had once a civilization, or at all events a semi-civilization. The speaker here gave a rapid historical sketch of the Manchu raids in China and the founding of the present Manchu dynasty. These free-booters would have carried their victorious arms into Korea as well as the Middle Kingdom. The palisade-barrier, protecting Northern Korea from hostile approach is now-a-days found on the map only; in reality it no longer exists. In order to protect his land from the Manchurian raiders, the then Korean King laid waste the whole territory between the palisades and the Yalu River; just as to-day the Japanese have done with all those portions of the Korean littoral which they have occupied, where there is no longer a tree, a house, or the least trace of former human habitation. Owing to this rapid seclusion of the Peninsula from the outer world as well as to the hideous rule of the mandarins, Korea was doomed to ruin. At the present day the King is surrounded with a wall of pages and mandarins, and encircled by scores of concubines. Noblemen alone are eligible for official preferment; manual labour is considered disgraceful; industrial and mercantile occupations rank about equal with that of the hangman. Officials were formerly elected for a period of three years, during which time they had to steal enough to pay for their natural existences. But since 1890 all officials are chosen for one year only, *i.e.*, they have now to make as much booty in one year as they used to do in three; and so Korea may well be called the saddest of all lands at the present day. There are no proper highroads in the Peninsula; one meets with no thoroughfares, only bridle-paths. With all this, Korea has many natural attractions; the soil is fertile and produces very much the same kind of cereals and fruits as one finds in Europe. With regard to mineral wealth, the Peninsula is peculiarly fortunate; the very rivers carry gold with them, but gold-washing is forbidden to the people. The local language resembles Chinese. A good idea of the condition of the country may be obtained from a visit to Söul, the capital, which lies about eighty kilometres east of the Yellow Sea behind a ridge of high hills, down whose precipitous sides rapid currents flow. These rivers are, at the same time, the principal thoroughfares of Söul. The first houses were built close to the river's brink, and as the population increased a second or even third house was fastened to the first, after the fashion of a swallow's nest, of course without providing for side streets or courtyards. For instance, one who lives in house No. 3 must pass through Nos. 2 and 1 before he can reach his own quarters. Seen from a distance, Söul looks like a huge graveyard filled with mounds. The whole city in nothing but a conglomeration of mud-huts. In Söul there are no churches or temples; no palaces; no theatres; no coffee-houses; no large stores. Each hut can boast of one room only. When a house gets too small for the inmates, a second is built up alongside, *à la nid d'hirondelle*. The windows are pasted over with paper, for glass is unknown to the Koreans. The inhabitants are not fond of work. Stones and beams such as are used everywhere in the construction of the native huts, are not hewn. The round stones found along a river's course are roughly placed one above the other and then bound and kept together by means of straw-ropes and mortar. The flooring is made of boughs daubed with mortar and then covered with oil-paper. Altogether, oil-paper plays a very important rôle in Korea. During the recent war the Japanese troops made extensive use of this material, especially in lining their garments. Rough, unhewn tree-trunks serve as pillars for the houses, whose roofs are made of rice-straw and daub. Every morning and evening the streets of Söul are filled with such a dense volume of smoke that it is almost impossible to see anything. Behind each house is the hearth, which has, however, no chimney; the smoke is carried off under the floor. Fire is kept up on the hearth both summer and winter, for the superstitious Koreans believe that if the fire is permitted to go out the luck and wealth of the house will depart.

It is therefore by no means pleasant to pass the summer months in a Korean dwelling; indeed, during this season of the year the natives generally sleep out of doors, wrapped in robes, so that the sleeping city gives one the impression of a vast plain of corpses. What we call "furniture" is not to be found in the Peninsula; the dwellings have nothing more than mats and a few simple stands. Pipe-stands are to be found everywhere, for the Koreans of both sexes are ardent smokers. Pillows are unknown. Like the women of Japan, the Koreans sleep on a wooden block, in order to keep from disarranging their coiffure, which is not the work of every day but is made only a few times during the course of the year. In every Korean city one meets with vast swamps, while every path or road is filled with mud-holes, so that the Kingdom should perhaps be called the dirtiest of all nations. Despite this the Koreans without exception dress in white, in a style not far different from our nightshirts. The clothes are tied together, as buttons are unknown. The stockings are sewed not knit, for the pretty art of knitting has not yet been introduced into the Peninsula; moreover these stockings are of double thickness, the space between the inner and outer stocking being filled with cotton wool. In place of shoes the natives wear a kind of wooden slipper, with high heels or cross bits of wood, which enable the wearer to labour through the innumerable mudholes without soiling his or her feet. On their heads the Koreans wear hats of enormous size, which are, however, by no means intended to act as a protection against the summer heat but are woven of a light, transparent material and serve principally to indicate the rank or dignity of the wearer. The women wear cotton jackets. Korean women do not expose their faces to the other sex; when a woman goes out she conceals her features in a kind of shawl or mantilla. All Korean women are kept on a low level; they are nothing more than the slaves of the men. Wives, mothers, and sisters are relegated to the inner apartments of the house and have very little to say to the men: daughters, for example, are never permitted to talk with their brothers. So long as a man remains a bachelor he must not cut his hair; on the whole an unmarried man is to some extent considered as irresponsible, and can not be called to account for anything he has done; and it is for these reasons that every one desires to marry as early as possible. Marriages are determined upon by the parents of the bride and bridegroom; the would-be Benedick sees his wife for the first time after the nuptials. So soon as the marriage contract is drawn up the astrologers are requested to select a lucky day for the ceremony. For the Koreans believe in ghosts and hobgoblins, in the sun, moon, and stars, and in gruesome river-gods. The former Buddhistic belief has been replaced by most nonsensical superstition. Before the marriage ceremony can take place, all the spirits have to be exorcised, and so the attendant astrologer makes the greatest possible noise and confusion in order to render all evil-disposed spirits harmless. A very curious ceremony is observed on the day preceding the marriage: the long queue is tied up in a bunch, and this is earnest of the matrimonial union. The bride's face is heavily powdered and her eyelids stuck together. For three days the bride is forbidden to speak, nor may she make any use of her eyes; she is thus handed over to the groom as an instrument without volition. On the day of the marriage the bride puts on every article of clothing that she owns or that is included in her dowry, so that she looks considerably broader than she is tall; and in this quaint condition she goes to the house of her husband. A goose is also brought hither, for this bird is the symbol of marital fidelity in Korea.[1] A ceremonial and very intricate system of mutual greeting now takes place, during the course of which much rice-wine is consumed. For three days the husband must be true to his wife; after this period he can do what and as he pleases; he can, if he chooses, take several other wives. But if the wife is untrue to her lord she is punished with horrible cruelty, for she is whipped with a kind of wooden paddle until, in many cases, the skin is torn away from the bones.

The principal food of the Koreans is boiled rice, which is consumed in enormous quantities, for the natives are great eaters. The meat which appears to be most popular is dog-flesh. The dogs intended for eating are strangled with cords, and afterwards served up either raw or boiled; moreover, the Koreans eat every part of the animal, including the intestines. Fowls are simply dipped in rice-water, then torn apart and devoured. Fish are eaten raw only, sometimes perhaps with a taste of soy, which is the favourite condiment in Japan as well. The Koreans do not eat ripe fruits; when in this condition they are considered unpalatable and thrown away, just as we do with spoiled fruits. A great delicacy is a rotten egg, something after the manner in which we prize strong-smelling cheese. The principal drink is rice-water (*sic*), milk not being liked. It is indeed only the King who drinks milk, and the solemn act of the royal milk-drinking is always officially announced in the *Official Gazette* some days beforehand. Two large bowls of milk are brought with great parade to the royal palace, and there solemnly partaken of by the King and Queen in the presence of the Court and all other dignitaries. Criminal sacrifice is still practised in the Peninsula; goats and sheep are burned as offerings to the gods.

The Koreans are extraordinarily cruel. In order to make a criminal confess they employ fearful tortures. This legalized system of torture is a grand source of revenue for the judges, as many people are willing to pay heavily for the privilege of escaping it. The corpses of those who have been executed are often cut in pieces, and the dismembered limbs of the criminal carried about the land by the executioners as a wholesome warning to all evilly-inclined persons. A favourite punishment and species of torture is the breaking of the shin-bones. Herr von Hesse-Wartegg was present on one occasion when a certain magistrate, who had defrauded the Government of millions,

[1] An idea evidently borrowed from China, where the goose is popularly believed to be monogamous.—*Translator.*

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was about to be tortured in this manner. The executioner hit with a heavy wooden mallet at the shin-bones of the delinquent but interposed his own hand between his hammer and his *protegé's* legs, so that the worthy gentleman came out scatheless after all. On the next day another man was convicted of having stolen a dog; he was punished by having his shins crushed. We see thus that even in Korea the old saying is in force, "Little thieves are hanged, while big thieves are let escape."

A peculiar kind of torture consists in hanging up the criminal or suspected person by his thumbs or big toes. We find also a method of sawing with cords, which often results in the tearing off of large pieces of flesh. But though we may with justice be horrified by a recital of these fearful tortures, still practised in Korea, we must remember that it is not so many centuries ago that just such horrors were of common occurrence in Europe, while we can gaze without any special feeling of revulsion at the instruments of torture preserved to this day in many old palaces and castles. A journey to Korea is, strictly speaking, nothing more than a retrogression into the Europe of some hundreds of years ago.

The Koreans are a tall people, of robust physique. It is not considered good form for mandarins to have a physically strong appearance, and it is thus often quite ridiculous to see how many servants are necessary to wait upon a dignitary when he appears in public. No mandarin may walk in the streets; he must either ride on horseback or be borne in a palanquin, surrounded in both cases by a small army of attendants. One servant carries his enormous visiting-cards, which are red in colour and as large as an ordinary pocket-handkerchief; this functionary is followed by pole-bearers, a placard on each pole commanding the common people to humbly yield the road to the great man. A mandarin never holds the reins of the horse he rides: they are held by running horse-boys who have to keep up with every pace of the steed, walk, trot, or gallop. One can form a fair idea, from this description, of how a cavalry attack, with the general in front, would look in Korea. Another servant carries the enormous umbrella of his lord, the insignia of his rank; others again his campaign-boots, his camp-stool, pipe, paper, rain-coat, and portmanteau. Finally, one more attendant follows with an unmentionable receptacle. The oil-paper rain-coat is an indispensable article of clothing in Korea, for the various garments are not sewed but simply stuck or glued together in several pieces; and so without the rain-coat the wearer's clothes would simply fall apart and a catastrophe ensue. Paper is not only used in the making of clothing but serves also as a medium of payment. The Korean money is extraordinarily ponderous. Silver coins are altogether unknown. The current coins have a hole in the centre and are strung on cords. Twelve francs' worth of these coins weighs about fourteen pounds, and so when Korean housewives go to market intending to spend say about fifty francs, they have to engage the services of a baggage-ass to carry their money.

At the outset of the recent Chinese-Japanese war, the sympathy of Europeans was almost entirely with the victorious Japanese. These were considered as the pioneers of civilization in Eastern Asia, and the opening up of China was expected of them. As usual, men's sympathies were with the victors. But on speaking with foreign residents of the Far East one soon learns that all European merchants are in favour of China. This is unanimously proved by not only those merchants who have resided in China but also by all those who know Japan; every man who really knows the Japanese is opposed to them. The origin of the recent war had no connection with the question of Korean independence but is to be found in Japan's desire to reach the eminence of a great political and commercial power in Eastern Asia: the desire to absorb China's commerce for her own benefit and to the injury of Europe. We can only imagine true pioneers of civilization in connection with Christianity and a certain degree of moral culture. Japan has neither. The Christian religion has made no progress in Japan, while more than a million communicants are to be found in China. Moreover, the Japanese have absolutely no morality. Their civilization is a foreign adaptation, a superficial varnish, so to speak: it is stolen from Europe. But in Eastern Asia we cannot follow a sentimental policy; our interest is determined by our commercial profits. In Europe there are whole armies of labourers who have to earn their bread in order to live; it is our duty to find a market for the output of their industry, and China is an enormous consumer of European exports. The cunning Japanese came to Europe hat in hand, visited our factories, studied our machinery, learned our arts and industries. We good-humouredly gave them access to the industrial triumphs resulting from centuries of thought and work, and in a few decades the Japanese grew as skilful as ourselves. Since this time European exports to Japan have been steadily on the decrease and have partly ceased altogether. European workmen have gone in crowds to Japan in order to teach the Japanese all our arts; after doing this, these experts were simply sent back again. Nowadays there are in Japan great industrial cities, with scores of smoking chimnies and millions of whirring spindles, with extensive spinning and weaving factories. The people are now able to imitate our most important industrial products and at one-fifth of the cost-price here. They thus undersell us by two-thirds. The low rate of labour enable them to compete successfully in every single department of the world's market. It can only cause astonishment to learn that, in Japan, female labour commands an average daily wage of from 12 to 15 centimes, and male labour a wage of 25 to 40 centimes. Our best machines and inventions have gone over to Japan, where all European industrial products are now imitated. The civilization which we find in that Empire does not proceed from the inner parts but is only an ape-like copy. All our industries are copied, and some can no longer find a market in Japan. Railway carriages, rails, locomotive engines, cannon, guns, dress materials, and, above all, silk, can be imitated in Japan for one-third of the cost-price in Europe. The Japanese even imitate and forge our trade-marks and sell their spurious goods under the name of European manufactures. The people of Japan are on the point of taking the trade of Germany and Switzerland with China out of our hands; they will shortly drive European commerce out of the Eastern Asiatic market. For their recent victories they are indebted to Germany. Their military system is German, as is also their drill. The war-plan of the Japanese was made for them by one of the chiefs of the German General Staff, who is now in command of an army corps in the vicinity of the Swiss frontier. The arsenals of Japan are constructed on the European model; experts speak of them in terms of the highest praise. In these establishments guns and other warlike munitions are now imitated, with all their most modern perfections. But the Japanese are not only faithful imitators of European industry; they do not only threaten European trade with Asia and America; they threaten our commerce even here in Europe. They can only take, and never give. They are advancing against us armed with our own weapons. Even now it is almost impossible to find any larger European city in which there are not stores for the sale of Japanese manufactures, bronzes, fans, and a thousand other little things, which are sold at surprisingly cheap prices and are thus favourites with all on account of their cheapness. The same thing will soon happen with silk. Up to the present the silk trade of China has been almost entirely in the hands of Swiss merchants; but to-day the Japanese threaten to oust them from the trade. Why, for the last three years they have actually had an establishment in Lyons, thus declaring open war with the silk industry of Europe! If the Japanese succeed in their aims, the Swiss merchants will be expelled from Eastern Asia to the last man.

This yellow invasion threatens us westwards by way of New York as well as eastwards. Our export trade to America must suffer because of Japanese competition; indeed it has already received heavy injury. Why should we therefore have any feeling of sympathy for the Japanese? The Chinaman is a straightforward merchant and honest, whereas the Japanese are the most thoroughpaced ———.[3] This is the testimony of all men of business who have had the opportunity of personally inspecting the condition of affairs in Eastern Asia. And when the Chinese come to be an industrial people they will be formidable opponents and competitors, against whom we shall be unable to make any headway.

At the close of his entertaining address, which was listened to with breathless interest, Herr von Hesse-Wartegg advised that many young and intelligent men of business should go to Eastern Asia in order to observe the condition of affairs with open eyes, so that our industries might find new markets and Switzerland receive betimes some indemnification for the injury already inflicted upon her by Japan. Loud applause rewarded the speaker for his most interesting communications, given in a light conversational style, which the audience would have gladly listened to for a longer time.

[Editorial Note from a later issue of the same Journal].

Almost simultaneously with the recent address on China (*sic*) and Japan, given in the rooms of the Commercial Union last week, a letter reached this city (Zürich) from a "merchant, now staying in Yokohama, who is highly esteemed." This letter, whose contents show a remarkable similarity to the sentiments expressed by Herr von Hesse-Wartegg, has been placed at our disposal by its addressee—a large firm in this city. We reproduce the following passages word for word: "Things here in Yokohama are going steadily from bad to worse; if affairs really are as they are supposed to be in Europe, there is no longer any reason to stay in Eastern Asia. All that we know is that the final result of this haughty war will certainly be unfavourable to us. The whole world will have to feel this. Nobody here can understand how the people at home (*i.e.* in Europe) can so admire and make such idols of the Japanese. But when these Japanese once begin to export our own manufactures to Europe, this admiration will die a natural death. All our inventions and successes are promptly and readily reproduced by these rascals,[3] and nothing hinders them from imitating what they please. There is no protection for the rights of Europeans. They either refuse to take delivery of or pay for their purchases; but when a European protests against the bad quality of goods delivered to him by Japanese, he is boycotted at once. The Japanese hate us; they only want to profit by us in order to rise above us. They don't care a rap for civilization. . . . Chinese merchants are the best kind of fellows, their simple word is better than a written contract. Japanese traders are the most foresworn liars[4] in the whole world; they promise everything and keep to nothing. In making purchases if one does not make a personal inspection of every single article, one is sure to be deceived; that's the reason why the Japanese are such adepts in bowing and scraping, to the astonishment of Europe. All our diplomacy out here is simple humbug, and our diplomats are made fools of by the Japanese."

THE RADICAL PARTY.

The Radical members of the Diet held a conference at their head-quarters in Tokyo on the 17th instant. Mr. Hayashi Yuzo was in the chair. There were present Count Itagaki, Mr. Kono Hironaka, Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, and about thirty other members of the party. The following resolution was unanimously adopted:—

In conformity with the manifesto recently made public, the following policy has been decided upon:

First, our country's position both at home and abroad is not what it was in former days. The

[3] Left blank in the original.—Translator.
[4] K..... in the original. Read *Kerle.*—*Translator.*
[5] L..... in the original. Read *Lugner.*—*Translator.*

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present prosperity of the country and the vigorous growth of the people are the results, on the one hand, of the profound wisdom with which His Imperial Majesty directs the policy of the Empire, and, on the other, of the perfect system of Constitutional Government in force. To offer constant support to the Imperial policy, and to promote the further improvement of Constitutional Government, must be a sure means to consolidate the foundations of the State and to secure the prosperity and strength of the country. Our Party, therefore, in obedience to the Imperial motives in establishing a constitutional system of Government, will endeavour to remove all obstacles from the path of perfecting that system of Government.

Secondly, the situation has of late greatly changed in Asia and Europe, and it has become impossible to maintain the peace of the East without creating some sort of relations with Europe. Our country ought, therefore, no longer to be satisfied with being a great Oriental Power; we must seek to rank among the great world Powers and must take part in maintaining the peace of the world. Our Party will make it its aim to consider the measures necessary for the attainment of the object in view.

Thirdly, the geographical position of the country urgently calls for an increase of the Navy. Moreover, all the countries of the world are devoting their energies to the augmentation of their navies, and it is incumbent upon this country to bring its Navy to a proper degree of strength. With regard to the Army, too, various measures of urgent importance invite action, such for instance, as the increase of *corps d'armée*, the construction of forts, the improvement of arms and weapons, and so forth. Our Party, consequently, makes it its object to secure the simultaneous reform and extension of the Navy and the increase and perfection of the Army.

Fourthly, it has long been the purpose of our Party to encourage industry and promote the wealth of the country, and the importance of such a policy has been increased by the existing state of things. A victorious nation ought not only to obtain honour but at the same time to secure real advantages. Our country, by its treaty with China, has obtained certain tradal advantages, but as they are to be equally enjoyed by other countries having treaty relations with China, the actual enjoyment of them by Japan entirely depends upon her own energetic exertions, without which the benefit will be wholly secured by other nations. In consequence of the recent victories achieved by Japan, she now commands the increasing respect of European and American countries, and taking advantage of this circumstance, it is important for her to adopt such measures at home as well as abroad as may contribute to the increase of the national welfare. Our Party will, therefore, pay attention to the encouragement and development of navigation, commerce, emigration, agriculture, manufactures, and so forth.

Fifthly, the increase of the country's fighting capacity and the encouragement of industry require a large amount of expenditure, which will necessitate an increase of the people's burdens. But such a result is unavoidable in developing the strength and wealth of the country. Our Party has definite views on the question as to how to obtain the required resources. But, since the matter lies within the responsibility of the Cabinet, we shall have to wait for the announcement of its proposals on the subject, when, after mature deliberation, we shall declare our opinions respecting their suitability.

Sixthly, while it is unavoidable that the expenditure of the State should be increased by the necessity for the extension of the Navy and the encouragement of industry, it is at the same time necessary that, in view of the increased burden on the people, the utmost economy should be exercised in the matter of expenditure. Our Party, therefore, aims at the curtailment of all superfluous expenses.

Seventhly, in proportion as the diplomatic relations of the country increase with other Powers, dangers and risks surrounding the country must also multiply. In times of extraordinary difficulties, an extraordinary degree of resolution must be brought to bear upon the world of internal reform, so that no precautionary measure may be neglected to provide against future contingencies. As for the return of Liaotung, it was a most regretful affair. But it being now necessary above all things to devote our attention to the measures that are to be hereafter carried out, our party is positively opposed to any step that may be calculated to create domestic dissensions and thwart the great object now kept in view by the nation. We invite all that agree with our Party on these general lines of action, to cöoperate with us in all domestic and foreign questions, it being our intention to deal with all questions in accordance with the dictates of pure patriotism and disinterested public spirit.

Eighthly, the object of Japan in the war with China was to maintain the independence of Korea. The task of consolidating Korean independence is beset with serious difficulties which necessitate an unflinching and resolute policy on the part of this country.

The points thus far mentioned constitute a general outline of the policy to be pursued by our Party. As to other questions, it has not been deemed necessary to touch upon them in this place.

Commenting on this resolution, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on the whole approves of the line of action adopted by the Radical Party. Especially is our contemporary satisfied with that party's attitude on the question of foreign policy. "The Radicals," says the *Nichi Nichi*, "recognize the necessity of increasing the burdens of the people and disapprove of domestic dissension on account of foreign policy. They advocate the completion of Military and Naval preparations, and eschew all despicable conduct, not devoting their attention to past measures of foreign policy. In these respects, they have certainly proved themselves far superior to the rest of the party politicians." Our contemporary then goes on to say that if they progress in this fashion, they may ere long prove themselves a practical political machine. As to the curtailment of superfluous expenditures, our contemporary states that no exception can be taken to the proposal, but it fears that the object of the Radical Party may probably be to repeat the policy of indiscriminate reduction that caused so much trouble in past sessions of the Diet. Should such be the case, the Radicals are asked to consider twice before entering upon such a disastrous career.

CHINESE ITEMS.

The Viceroy Chang has issued at Nanking a remarkable proclamation, containing a distinct recognition of the value of Christian missionary work:—

Missionary chapels have been established in China for a number of years and the schools and hospitals open in their connection have performed what they profess to do. In fact, as charity institutions, they are far superior to our own Chinese establishments of the same nature. If, therefore, there be any ignorant persons who should dare to collect a crowd for the purpose of creating a riot against missionary institutions, they will be instantly arrested and severely punished. This is not a mere threat, but we command all to pay earnest heed to this proclamation.

The temporary *entente* between Germany, Russia, and France in the Far East seems to have completely broken down. It is now alleged that the principal business of the German Representative in Pekin is to protest against the Diplomatic doings of his French and Russian colleagues. But his protests receive little attention. The net results of the triple alliance in Germany's case seem to be that she has thrown France and Russia into closer union than ever, that she has lost prestige in China, and that she has alienated Japanese goodwill. The last consequence, however, is not likely to be of long duration.

The demand for shares in the Shanghai cotton spinning factory, about to be started in Shanghai under the auspices of Messrs Jardine, Matheson and Co., has proved so keen that it has been decided not to reserve any of the shares; to call up the whole capital within nine months, and to increase the number of spindles to forty thousand. Meanwhile two committees of investigation have been despatched to China by manufacturers of Tokyo and Osaka, for the purpose of examining whether circumstances suggest the advisability of establishing other factories with Japanese capital and under Japanese control.

Mr. Yü Kêng, the newly appointed Chinese Representative to the Court of Japan, was Taotai-designate of an intendency in Kwangtung. The Emperor would have nominated Huang, Taotai of Shanghai, but desisted on being reminded that Huang having a mother 90 years of age, might at any moment be obliged to retire from official life for a long period of mourning. The appointment has special importance, not merely in connection with the restoration of amicable relations between the two empires, but also because there will devolve upon the new Minister the task of conducting negotiations for the restoration of the Liaotung Peninsula. China has treated this re-opening of her Legation in Tokyo with characteristic leisureliness. Had she been left to herself, she would have proceeded with still greater deliberation. For when Japan, immediately after the conclusion of place, intimated her intention of sending a Representative to Pekin, the Tsung-li Yamên urged the advisability of waiting until all outstanding questions between the two empires had been settled. Japan naturally replied that unless Ministers were appointed, there would be nobody to settle any question at all, and China, awakening to the truth of that fact, set about choosing a Representative, a process to which she devoted six weeks' thought.

Cholera prevails in Nanking. Thirty deaths are reported to have occurred in one short alley. There is no doubt that this terrible disease is indemic in China. Somewhere throughout the huge empire it rages every year, thence spreading abroad if any vehicle for its transportation offers. The bubonic plague is another disease that has now to be dreaded by all nations having intercourse with the Chinese. The wonder is that amid the inexpressible grime and putrescence of Chinese cities a host of fell maladies are not perpetually engendered.

Considering the methods adopted to work upon the passions of Chinese mobs, it is surpriving that the outrages committed are not even more terrible than they are. On Wednesday night, May 29th, twenty American, British, and French missionaries, with eleven children, took refuge in the magistrate's Yamên in Chêngtu, their homes and churches having been looted and destroyed. They had to remain there ten days, and during that time a human head and hand were nailed to the ruined gateway of a Roman Catholic compound; fresh blood was splashed on the walls of a Protestant mission above an inscription declaring that at this spot the foreigners had murdered their victims; the bones of a French Bishop, murdered 50 years ago and buried under one of the chapels, were exhumed and exposed as the remains of some unhappy Chinese sufferer at the hands of the foreign devils; human heads and limbs obtained from paupers' graves outside the city, were paraded through the streets as further evidences of butchery, soldiers being the carriers, and a dumb child imprisoned in a tin box was cleverly found under the floor of the Canadian Mission chapel, where, so the crowds were told, it had been placed by the foreigners after being drugged into dumbness. Chinese crowds must be slow to move to murderous anger or the twenty missionaries and their eleven children could never have escaped from the city alive.

During the days immediately succeeding the Szechuan outrages, it was widely bruited abroad that the French Government had taken up the matter most vigorously, giving *carte blanche* to its Representative in Pekin; that the latter had preferred sweeping claims, including the public trial of the Viceroy of Szechuan; and that a French squadron had been sent up the Yangtze to demonstrate the mood of the Cabinet in Paris. But all these statements appear to have been baseless. A squadron did indeed proceed as far as Nanking, only, however, that its commander and the officials there might exchange friendly visits, and M. Gérard in Pekin, so far from pressing inconvenient claims, left that duty to his British colleague. France, apparently, had no intention that the weightier problems of high policy then under discussion between herself and Russia on one side and China on the other, should be over-ridden by occurrences now too familiar to be exciting. Those problems were the arrangement of the Franco-Russian loan to China, and the negotiation of a convention transferring to French ownership the buffer State originally intended to remain under Chinese control for the purpose of separating British and French territory on the Upper Meikong.

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THE FAMILIES OF THOSE KILLED IN THE WAR.

IT seems advisable to say a word with respect to the Prospectus now appearing in our advertisement columns. The object of the ladies by whom the subscription has been started is to assist the distressed families of soldiers killed in action. There are already laws by which provision for such a purpose is made, but the pensions granted are not sufficient. Undoubtedly steps will be taken to amend the law, but however generous the spirit of the amendment, it is inevitable that suffering must be felt in many cases. At present the family of a deceased soldier receives a sum representing about 8 *sen* a day, and if the law be amended so as to increase that amount by 50 per cent.—which would certainly be a most liberal amendment—there would still assuredly be many instances of want. In no country do the provisions of law suffice to guard people against starvation. Ordinary instances of penury, such as exist everywhere, and seem destined to exist so long as society retains its present constitution, belong to a different category. Their claim upon charity, though recognition is never withheld from it by benevolent men, is limited by the established principle that generosity must not be perverted into a premium upon indolence and thriftlessness. No such principle applies, however, to the case of a family deprived of its bread-earner by the fate of war. There we have often to deal with distress as unmerited as it is sudden, and if ever an appeal to public sympathy be justifiable it is justified in such instances. That the duty of providing for the indigent wives or children of men killed fighting for their country, devolves primarily upon the Government, is a proposition that no one can think of denying. But a moment's reflection will show that official aid can not possibly be adapted to all the varying conditions of suffering due to such a cause. The provisions of a pension law are not elastic. They indicate a uniform scale of aid for all cases of a general character, and the succour they furnish must necessarily fall short of extreme needs. It is to assist the latter that the ladies of Tokyo are now exerting themselves. They know that under no system of laws can private charity be relieved of all responsibility, and their investigations have revealed many cases which neither the present regulations nor the amended regulations—assuming that a most liberal amendment does take place—can adequately meet. They do not, we are persuaded, address themselves to persons who have studied social conditions so imperfectly as to imagine that the law can be trusted to do everything required; and most assuredly they do not address themselves to persons who take an extravagant view of the Government's functions in order to dispense with any irksome effort on their own part. Need we say that no duty devolves upon foreigners in a matter of this kind? The Japanese Authorities and the Japanese nation may be left to take care of their own poor. But many noble experiences prove that the great majority of the foreign residents have a genuine sympathy with the sufferings and needs of the people among whom they live, and to hide from these kind-hearted folk an occasion like the present would be to show but poor appreciation of the spirit that animates them.

THE YOKOHAMA GUILD & MESSRS CORNES AND COMPANY.

THERE can be no second opinion, of course, about the matter referred to in the letter of Mr. W. W. TILL, published in our correspondence columns. Without the confirmation given by him, we could not have credited the story told by the *Mainichi Shimbun*. Messrs. CORNES AND COMPANY imported a certain quantity of goods to the order of Mr. KIMURA. On the arrival of the goods Mr. KIMURA declined to take delivery. His reasons for refusing to implement his contract not seeming valid, legal proceedings were instituted by Messrs. CORNES AND COMPANY. Thereupon the Standing Committee of the Yokohama Guild of Dealers in Yarns and Textile Fabrics, called on Messrs. CORNES AND COMPANY, told them that, according to Mr. KIMURA'S statement, the Guild unanimously endorsed the justice of his cause, and declared that unless Messrs. CORNES AND COMPANY agreed to compromise for considerably less than one-third of their claim, they should be boycotted. Messrs. CORNES AND COMPANY, to avoid further trouble and litigation, offered to be content with a moiety of their claim, but that offer not being accepted, the lawsuit proceeded, and the Court gave judgment against Mr. KIMURA on every count, ordering him to take delivery of the whole of the goods and to pay the charges demanded by Messrs. CORNES AND COMPANY. Then ensued the extraordinary and incredible issue described by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, and confirmed by Mr. TILL'S letter: the Guild decided that Messrs. CORNES & COMPANY should be boycotted. It is scarcely conceivable that any comment on these facts could be stronger than their bare statement. The action of the Yokohama Guild amounts to a distinct declaration that they have no respect for the laws of the land; that they intend to arrogate to themselves the functions of the legislature and the judiciary, and that any foreign firm declining to bow to their decisions shall be boycotted. Not a single circumstance presents itself in extenuation of the conduct of the Guild. They can not allege that any want of liberality was shown by the foreign firm. Messrs. CORNES AND COMPANY, with all the right on their side, as was subsequently established by the decision of a Japanese Court, nevertheless offered to compromise the matter for one half of their claim. The Guild, however, declined to abate one jot of their resolve—a resolved based, so far as we can see, entirely on *ex-parte* evidence. Evidently, as Mr. TILL observes, codes of law and courts to administer them become mere superfluities under such circumstances. The foreign merchant is absolutely without protection. Whether there is any ground to hope that the Japanese Guild, an association of sober business-men, will recover their senses and refrain from translating into action a vertigo so destructive of their our reputation and so insulting to the Judiciary of their country, we cannot tell. But it is evident that the foreign merchants cannot submit to such an unendurable state of affairs: they must combine for their own protection. It would be most unhappy were that course forced upon them, yet it appears inevitable. Have the Guild considered, we wonder, what they would themselves think did a body of British merchants unite to set at naught the judgment pronounced by a British law Court in favour of a Japanese plaintiff, and to boycott the successful suitor unless he consented to abandon the claims declared by the Court to be his due? The contingency is totally inconceivable to us, but the Yokohama Guild must be capable of conceiving it, since that is precisely what they are now doing themselves, *mutatis mutandis*. Have they considered, also, how foreigners can be expected to place confidence in Japanese tribunals of justice whose decisions command no sort of respect at the hands of the Japanese themselves? But truly to discuss such a matter at all is to raise it from the disgraceful depths to which it belongs.

THE CENTRAL NEWS AND ITS EXPANDERS.

WE have received from the *Shanghai Mercury* a copy of a letter addressed by it to the *China Mail* for the purpose of rebutting charges brought by the latter against the former in connection with telegraphic information during the recent war. The dispute, in so far as these two journals are concerned, presents no features of special interest. It was alleged by the *China Mail*—originally by the *Kobe Chronicle*, we think—that the Central News' telegrams to London from Japan were sent *viâ* Shanghai for the purpose of taking advantage of the press rate from that place, and that they were tapped in transit by the *Shanghai Mercury*, which acted as agent for the Central News in Shanghai. No suggestion seems to have been overtly made that this practice was

in any sense clandestine or improper. If the *Shanghai Mercury* did obtain its telegrams in that manner, not the slightest blame attaches to it. The arrangement was perfectly above board and entirely consistent with the ordinary business of journalism. There is consequently no reason to discredit the *Shanghai Mercury* on account of its share in a strictly legitimate transaction, nor do we see that any occasion existed for the denial now made by it :—"The telegrams published in the *Mercury* were received from our correspondent in Japan by special arrangement, and were not in any case re-transmitted to London." Both the *Shanghai Mercury* and the *China Mail* deserve to be congratulated for the exceptionally full and accurate information contained in their columns throughout the war, and it appears to us that if the former profited telegraphically by its editor's connection with the Central News Agency, the latter derived a cognate advantage from its correspondent's relations with a great London newspaper. But these are matters of journalistic mechanism that do not concern the public. Readers of newspapers have to look simply for full and early intelligence, and must be content to know that it has been honestly obtained. If skilful business arrangements are made for securing good telegraphic or corresponding services at a minimum expense, the public have no more right to scrutinize the methods resorted to than a buyer of beer has to inquire how many cellermen are employed at the brewery.

The fact is, however, that there lies behind this dispute between the Shanghai and the Hongkong journals, a matter of far greater moment, namely, the apparently disgraceful conduct of the Central News Agency in London. When the war commenced, the Agency was able to organize a service that secured the speedy despatch to London of all military or naval intelligence reaching Tokyo from trustworthy sources. No exceptional arrangement was necessary, if, indeed, any were possible. An active and intelligent agent, availing himself of the facilities enjoyed by newspapers generally in Japan, could obtain and forward to London all telegrams wired to Japanese Head-Quarters by the commanding or staff officers at the front ; that is to say, all telegrams describing events that had actually occurred in the campaign. This work seems to have been performed with great discernment and expedition on behalf of the Central News, so that, not only was London kept in as close touch with the progress of the fight as were the vernacular journals in Tokyo, but also the facts were collated and marshalled in such a manner as to convey an accurate and intelligible idea of the course of the war. It may be asserted, we think, with confidence that only one erroneous statement of any consequence found its way into this series of telegrams from first to last, and the circumstances under which the blunder was committed largely condone it. Had the Central News conveyed these telegrams to the British press exactly as they were transmitted, it would have outpaced all its competitive purveyors of intelligence, would have established a high reputation for accuracy and comprehensiveness, and would now stand far ahead of all rivals, secure in the confidence and patronage of the public. But it completely overreached itself. The telegrams, on arrival in London and before being handed to the press, were expanded so recklessly and ignorantly that not only was their length doubled, trebled, or even quadrupled, but also they were perverted into erroneous, and sometimes burlesque, representations of the events described. One of these telegrams, relating to the later operations at Weihaiwei, has been exposed in the columns of *The Times* in a most effective manner. Another, consisting of over a thousand words manufactured probably out of something like three hundred, perverted the attack on the eastern forts at Weihaiwei into a regular siege, spoke of Japanese batteries being erected, and talked of big guns placed in position for breaching purposes ; whereas the whole affair consisted of a field movement, without any attempt whatever to construct batteries or employ siege artillery. In this, as in other cases, the expander had not even taken the precaution to post himself in commonly familiar facts before proceeding to construct his graphic romances. Nor was this haphazard expansion the only dishonest measure adopted : the telegrams were phrased so as to convey the impression that they came from correspondents actually present at the scenes described. It is true, of course, that the telegrams did originally emanate from the field, and in forwarding them from Tokyo, their *provenance* would of course be indicated. But there is all the difference in the world between an item of intelligence commencing "Marshal NODZU telegraphs from Haicheng, under date of so and so, that, etc.," and a telegram which, under the heading "Haicheng, such and such a date," elaborates Marshal NODZU'S message and imparts to it the form of construction that would naturally be used by a news agency's correspondent. The inevitable result of such practices is that the Central News Agency is ruined. Its telegrams are henceforth excluded from all journals claiming any title to public confidence. Never was a brilliant opportunity more successfully marred by blundering unscrupulousness. But we have to note that all these things were done in London. The agents of the Central News in the Far East are absolutely free from blame. It does not appear that more accurate and carefully collected information could possibly have been furnished than was furnished from Tokyo, and certainly neither the agent in that city nor the transmitter in Shanghai is responsible for the mutilations that the telegrams subsequently underwent in London.

AN INDELIBLE STAIN.

IT looks as though the so-called "Port Arthur Atrocities" were destined to retain, for the present at all events, the exaggerated proportions given to them by sensational correspondents. Port Arthur runs through the whole of Mr. FREDERICK GREENWOOD'S essay on "the wilful isolation of England." It makes him regard the Japanese as an "exterminating people," and denounce an alliance with them as "an intolerable thought." Professor T. S. HOLLAND, again, whose impartial review of Japan's conduct throughout the war is worthy of such an eminent authority on international law, says :—"At Port Arthur, for once, there is no doubt that the behaviour of the Japanese was detestible. Much may be pardoned of what occurred when the stronghold was first entered by its assailants. If a certain number of non-uniformed coolies, or of soldiers who had thrown off their uniforms, received short shrift, when found with rifles in their hands, what was done was not without the sanction of recent European precedent. But unfortunately the Japanese, officers and men alike, were carried far beyond what could be excused even by their finding the mutilated remains of their tortured friends exposed on the gateway of the town. For four days, after the first, the massacre of non-combatants, of women, of children, was continued in cold blood, while European military *attachés* and special correspondents sickened at the wholesale murders and mutilations, which they could do nothing to prevent. It is said that at last but 36 Chinamen were left alive in the city. They had been spared only to be employed in burying their dead countrymen, and each was protected by a slip of paper fastened in his cap, with the inscription : — 'This man is not to be killed.'" Professor HOLLAND takes these "facts" from the *North American Review*. In other words, Mr. JAMES CREELMAN is his authority. Everyone acquainted with the contradictions, corrections, and *exposés* that have transpired since Mr. CREELMAN undertook his extraordinary campaign, knows how completely untrustworthy were his letters. Without going into details, however, it is essential to protest against one of the errors into which Professor HOLLAND has been misled, namely, his assertion that "for four days the massacre of women and children was continued in cold blood while European military *attachés* sickened at the wholesale murders and mutilations, which they could do nothing to prevent." Now it is positively known that there was no-

thing like a "massacre of women and children." Mr. COWEN, *The Times'* correspondent, though his original account of the affair seemed to him subsequently so exaggerated as to require large modification, nevertheless maintained from the very first his belief that the Japanese did everything they could to protect the lives of women and children, and we have it on incontrovertible evidence that a number of women were walking about the streets, unmolested and without apparent fear of molestation, on the second day after the capture of the town. In no trustworthy account is it stated that the corpses of women and children found in Port Arthur numbered more than six of the former and two of the latter—excluding those that were drowned or shot when attempting to escape by junks in company with soldiers—and there is no evidence whatever to show how these unhappy people met their deaths. Not one foreign witness can testify to having seen a woman or a child deliberately killed by a Japanese soldier after the capture of the town. Mr. COWEN tells of a trooper, apparently frenzied, who rode at two children and an old man and cut them down, but that — savage an act as it was — took place during the assault, and was, after all, the deed of one man only. There are in every army men in whom the sight of blood rouses the elementary passions beyond all restraint of discipline or humanity. Thus there is manifestly no justification whatever for the charge that "for four days after the first the massacre of women, and children was continued in cold blood." With regard, again, to the military *attachés* who are supposed to have been "sickened at the wholesale murders and mutilations," fuller investigation reveals a very different story. There were five foreign military *attachés* with the army. Of these three have publicly declared that they saw nothing of any excesses committed after the capture of the town, although they could not have failed to be cognisant of such things had they occurred on anything like the scale represented by certain newspaper correspondents. The other two have not made any public statement—or, to speak more correctly, their Government has not yet published their accounts—but we have ourselves heard them emphatically endorse the testimony of their three colleagues. Not one of them saw a woman or a child massacred, and the whole weight of their evidence goes to show that if atrocities were perpetrated on the days immediately succeeding the capture, they must have been isolated acts of insufficient magnitude to attract the attention of persons not specially seeking for sensational details. We are very thoroughly persuaded that, yielding to the fury provoked by Chinese brutalities, the Japanese soldiers gave no quarter during the afternoon and night of the attack, and that many lamentable atrocities were then perpetrated. But we are not less fully persuaded that the spirit of slaughter ceased to be practically effective, at all events to any considerable extent, during the days succeeding the capture of the town, and that at no time did any deliberate massacre of women or children take place. The subject is hackneyed, but in view of the overshadowing importance attached to it by public men in England and elsewhere, we shall not fail to re-state the truth whenever occasion arises. It is certainly worthy of note that the local foreign journals by which Mr. JAS. CREELMAN'S exaggerations were most eagerly circulated and supported, have carefully refrained from publishing the evidence adduced on the other side. Nothing could exceed the violence of their invectives against every one venturning to doubt Mr. CREELMAN'S accuracy or to say a word in defence of the Japanese troops, yet now, when the American Military Attaché whom Mr. CREELMAN falsely quoted as endorsing his inventions and hyperbole, has recorded his official dissent from such views, and when the United States Representative in Tokyo has written to his Government that "the horrors reported by Mr. CREELMAN as having taken place subsequent to the 21st of November are not true," and that "the impression Mr. CREELMAN'S reports are prone to create is a gross exaggeration of the truth," those journals maintain absolute silence, and carefully conceal from their readers every fact calculated to expose their own prejudice and credulity. It would seem that to make the truth known weighs little in their eyes compared with the satisfaction of fixing a stain upon Japan's escutcheon.

THE "KOWSHING" AFFAIR.

THERE is a rumour that the *Kowshing* incident has been closed by the British Government's conveying an intimation to the Japanese Authorities in the sense that Great Britain does not see occasion to advance any claim or assert any violation of international law in connection with the affair, and, at the same time, informing the owners of the steamer that they have no recourse except to seek indemnification from the Chinese. On inquiry we learn that this story is incorrect, so far as concerns any official intimation from the British Government to the Japanese, but there seems to be no doubt that the owners of the ship—the Indo-China Steam Navigation Company—have been instructed to prefer their claim against China, not against Japan, and it may consequently be inferred that the action of the *Naniwa Kan* in sinking the *Kowshing* is held to be consistent with the principles of international law. In discussing this question, journalists in the East have, for the most part, shown a tendency to confuse two fundamentally distinct issues, namely, the question of humanity and the question of right. It can not be denied that from a humane point of view the fate meted out to the *Kowshing* was very terrible, and that the destruction of life seems to have greatly exceeded the absolute requirements of the case. But with regard to that, there was not, and could not be, any question between the British Government and the Japanese Government. No foreign Power is endued with competence to call a State to account for the quantity of blood shed by it in fighting with another State. The only issue calling for discussion was whether Japan acted within her rights in firing upon the *Kowshing*. For our own part, we never entertained any doubt upon the subject, and it is of course a satisfaction to find that the correctness of our view is now established by the high authority of the Law Officers of the British Crown. The *Kowshing* was engaged carrying to Korea Chinese troops unquestionably destined to fight against Japan. No one has ever ventured to pretend that their transport had any other object. Japan, fully alive to the fact, and being confronted by a situation that seemed to offer no exit save an appeal to the sword, had formally warned the Pekin Government that any attempt to strengthen the Chinese forces in Korea, would be considered an act of war. China had disregarded the warning, and despatched re-inforcements. From that moment a state of war virtually existed, and Japan, by the fundamental motive of national conduct, namely, self-defence, was justified in intercepting the Chinese transports and seizing or sinking them wherever she found them. It has been urged that China had as much right as Japan to send troops to Korea. Such a contention is quite irrelevant. Suppose that England and France, for example, engaged in a dispute about the status of a certain portion of African territory to which each had free access in time of peace, and suppose that, an amicable settlement of the dispute having become apparently impossible, England warned France that any attempt on the latter's part to pour troops into the territory must be regarded as an act of war, can it be pretended for an instant that Great Britain would not have a perfect right to intercept any French troops sent to Africa subsequently to the warning, or that the peaceful accessibility of the territory prior to these complications must continue to exist after they had arisen? All this is so plain that no unprejudiced critic can deny it. China, of course, would have been equally within her rights had she conveyed a similar notice to Japan and followed it up by similar steps. Such being the case, and it being further a universally acknowledged principle of international law that the troops of a belligerent are not protected by a neutral flag, we have never been able to perceive how Great Britain could hold

Japan responsible for the sinking of the *Kowshing*. The Chinese Authorities chartered the ship for a purpose that exposed her, as they well knew, to all the risks of war, whether capture or destruction, and on them devolves the responsibility for her loss. That England will support the claim of the Indo-China S. N. Company against the Chinese Government, in pursuance of the ruling of the Law Officers of the Crown, seems to us quite as proper and quite as logical as would have been her support of the same claim against the Japanese Government had the Law Officers decided that the latter was responsible.

THE LIAOTUNG PENINSULA.

FROM a remark incidentally made by the St. Petersburg correspondent of *The Times* in connection with the Russo-Chinese loan, it seems to be inferred in some quarters that the loan is destined to redeem the Liaotung Peninsula from Japanese occupation. A rumour is also circulated in Yokohama to the effect that a sum of 7½ millions sterling has been fixed as compensation for the return of the Peninsula. The former inference and the latter story are equally erroneous. We stated, some time ago, that the terms upon which the Peninsula is to be restored to China had not yet been negotiated, and the statement holds good to-day. Whether a monetary payment by China will be among the conditions, we can not tell, but of course Japan is entitled to demand compensation in that form if she pleases. The indemnity to be paid by China can not be separated from the other terms imposed on her. It can not be treated as a thing apart. The amount was fixed not merely with reference to the expenses incurred by the victor, but also with reference to the territorial concessions made by the vanquished. Had not the cession of the Liaotung Peninsula formed part of the Treaty of Shimonoseki, the Japanese Plenipotentiaries would certainly have declined to reduce their monetary demand from 300 million taels to 200 millions. Hence it is evident that, if China recovers the Peninsula, the gains she made in other directions by her previous surrender of it must be re-considered. This principle was so fully appreciated by Germany, Russia, and France when they urged upon the Japanese Government the advisability of not holding the Peninsula, that they are understood to have proposed their own intervention with the object of securing due compensation for Japan. The offer was not accepted, however, doubtless because Japan preferred to deal direct with China, and to avoid foreign interference as far as possible. It remains to be seen what form of agreement will be elaborated by the plenipotentiaries of the two empires, who, we may note, are not yet appointed. So far as we can learn, the negotiation will take place in Tokyo after the arrival of the new Chinese Representative.

THE KIMURA-CORNES CASE.

THE pressure brought to bear upon Messrs. CORNES & CO. by the Yokohama Guild of Dealers in Yarns and Textile Fabrics has been so far successful that the British firm, rather than face the inconvenience and loss of a boycott in all the principal trading centres of Japan, have agreed to an arrangement of a somewhat one-sided character, by which they bear more than double of the loss incurred by Mr. KIMURA. This is a most unfortunate affair. As to the surrender made by Messrs. CORNES & CO., we must assume, of course, that they know their own business, and that they adopted the wisest course from the point of view of their firm's immediate convenience. But the incident has a public aspect to which it would be folly to shut our eyes. We are confronted by the fact that there exists among the Japanese merchants trading with foreigners a combination powerful enough to set at naught the decisions of a law Court, and to compel a successful foreign litigant to accept the dictates of the combination in lieu of the judgment of a legal tribunal. That, in itself, is serious enough, and it becomes much more so if we are to regard it—as appears inevitable—in the light of a result to which events have been steadily tending for several years. There is no doubt that in the early days of foreign trade with Japan, Western merchants found themselves compelled, partly by the ignorance of foreign commerce and partly by the untrustworthiness prevailing among the native traders at the open ports, to adopt business methods that must sooner or later become irksome to the Japanese. The first powerful revolt against this state of things was made in 1881, in connection with the organization of the celebrated *Ki-ito Ni-azukari-jo*, when the Japanese, by establishing a kind of silk-conditioning warehouse of their own, sought to put an end to the necessity of entrusting their silk to foreign merchants for minute examination prior to purchase. This effort failed owing to combined resistance on the part of foreigners. But the Japanese, though defeated, were not conquered. Thenceforth they went to work in a more subtle manner. They formed Guilds one after another, the avowed purpose in every case being to place tradal relations on a sounder footing, and to promote a spirit of strict probity. No exception could be taken to such a programme, but, on the other hand, any one looking below the surface, and recalling the history of the past, could scarcely fail to see that these Guilds must ultimately become instruments for utilizing the potentialities of Japanese combination to coerce the foreign merchant. That is precisely what happened. In no one instance has a Japanese Guild interfered in favour of a foreigner. Uniformly the action of the Guilds has been devoted to supporting Japanese claims, and that, too, in many cases where justice seemed to be on the foreigner's side. There is nothing surprising in such an issue. Where a fellow-national is concerned, the tendency to take his side is likely to over-ride considerations of abstract morality. But the existence of these associations and the power they wield have been rudely illustrated by the KIMURA-CORNES case, and it would be an excess of optimism to imagine that the victory won by the Guild in this instance will not inspire its members with confidence dangerous to the smooth conduct of business. As usual, the Japanese Authorities are made the objects of criticism by foreign journalists, and the incident is also employed to emphasize the unwisdom of revising the treaties. But unfortunately the boycott is a modern device that has not yet been brought within the control of the law in any country. The Government is necessarily powerless to compel a Japanese merchant, or a combination of Japanese merchants, to deal with this or that foreign firm. An attempt on the part of the Guild to obstruct the execution of the law would be a different matter. But there has been no such attempt. Messrs. CORNES and COMPANY could have recovered the full amount of their claim against Mr. KIMURA RIYEMON had they insisted upon the execution of the Court's verdict and braved the boycott threatened by the Guild. Need we point out, also, that to drag this affair into the context of treaty revision is the acme of irrelevancy. The proceedings of Japanese commercial guilds have no more connection with treaty revision than has the growth of a bamboo with the phases of the moon. Treaty revision will bring us under the jurisdiction of tribunals such as that by which the present case was decided in favour of Messrs. CORNES and COMPANY. It will not bring us under the control of guilds such as that by which the tribunal's verdict has been nullified. Evidently there is only one way to meet the situation, namely, combination on the foreign side. If that be not possible, the victory must rest permanently with the Japanese Guilds. Neither futile appeals for official aid nor silly diatribes against treaty revision will avail anything.

AN AUSTRIAN CRITIC OF JAPAN.

WE publish elsewhere a translation of a lecture delivered by HERR VON HESSE-WARTEGG in Zurich. This gentleman, whose work on Canada attracted some attention, visited Japan for a few days last summer, accompanied by his wife, the well known Madame MINNIE HAUK, whose singing has delighted so many audiences. Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG, during his brief stay in the Far East, devoted most of his time to Korea, and the lecture to which we refer is composed chiefly of his observations in that country. We shall not discuss his

description of Korean men and things, though it invites criticism in many respects. What he says about Japan has more concern for us, since it professes to be, not the result of his own experiences —which, being altogether ephemeral, could have little value—but an echo of the sentiments entertained by "all European merchants in the Far East."

Many of the assertions made by Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG are two general to be dealt with in a newspaper article. When a man accuses an entire nation of thorough-paced rascality, there is obviously no room for discussion. One or two facts may be noted, however, even in this context. It is not to be denied that in respect of commercial morality Japanese merchants used to be, and probably those in the Treaty Ports still are, inferior to the Chinese. But nothing could be more unjust than to infer the character of the Japanese nation from that of the trading class. Commerce —how often must this hacknied fact be repeated?—was formerly the most despised of all occupations in Japan. Its votaries were universally looked down upon. They were not expected to live up to any high standard of morality, and they naturally made no effort to rise above the level assigned to them by public opinion. The artisan who supported himself by manual toil ranked higher than the wealthiest merchant, and the farmer who tilled his own fields stood above either. During the past twenty-five years all this has been changed. In proportion as the vital importance of commerce has come to be recognised, the status of the merchant has improved, and there are now to be found among the traders of Japan men that formerly held leading official positions; man universally regarded with respect; men whose word is as trustworthy as that of the best of their Western *confrères*. That there has been a marked improvement, no one conversant with Japan will deny, but it is chiefly apparent in mercantile circles outside the Treaty Ports where the old traditions of distrust and the old methods of distrustful days still prevail to a great extent. On the other hand, there is no questioning the fact that the probity of the lowest classes in Japan will bear comparison with that of any nation in the world. Which of us has not again and again dropped money in our houses or overpaid our accounts only to find the former picked up and restored and the error in the latter corrected as a matter of course? So, too, we hear, time after time, of purses or articles of value that have been forgotten in *jinrikisha* and carried at once to the nearest police station, without any thought of recompense on the part of the finder. But after all, any comparison of Japan and China based on the conduct of a few merchants can scarcely be regarded in any light save that of a jest. If there is any belief universally entertained by foreigners in the East it is that the whole public service of China is honeycombed with corruption and improbity from head to foot. The money of the State is stolen to enrich individuals; the funds that should be spent on the national defences are diverted into the pockets of Governors and Viceroys; in the moment of its greatest need the country is found powerless to repel invasion because its officials everywhere sacrifice patriotism to pilfering. Can any such charges be laid at Japan's door? Do not the management of her public finances, the conduct of her public affairs, the expenditures on account of her coast defences and military and naval preparations, constitute as clean a record as that of any Western country? These are solid, incontrovertible facts, not to be weighed for a moment against petty catalogues of individual experiences. Commercial morality in the Occident itself can lay no claim to the rigidity that Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG'S informants find so conspicuously absent in Japan.

Passing to this critic's specific accusations, we find him alleging that "the origin of the recent war had no connection with the question of Korean independence, but is to be found in Japan's desire to reach the eminence of a great political and commercial Power in Eastern Asia: the desire to absorb China's commerce for her own benefit and to the injury of Europe." Accusations of this kind have been preferred, and are still preferred, by local foreign journals that seem to have only one aim, the traducing of Japan. What are the facts, as clearly shown by official documents laid before the Japanese Diet in Hiroshima? That no question was ever mooted save the question of Korean independence; that Japan, in the most amicable manner, proposed to China joint intervention to lead Korea into the paths of progress and to correct the infamous corruption and abuses sapping her national energy and converting her into an easy prey for foreign aggression; that the preservation of peace or recourse to war depended solely upon China's acquiescence in, or rejection of, this moderate proposal; that she rejected it, preferring to leave Korea in the mire of stagnation rather than to cöoperate with Japan in the civilized task of raising her from it, and believing that Japan was altogether beneath contempt as a fighting Power; that war ensued, and that, in the sequel of signal victories, Japan is devoting her best statesmanship and spending large sums to effect the regeneration of Korea. Yet Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG asks people to believe that the Korean question had no connection with the war, and that it was dictated solely by Japanese ambition! What ambition? The ambition "to absorb China's commerce for her own benefit and to the injury of Europe." If Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG had deliberately sought to make a display of ignorance and injustice, he could not have succeeded better. He is evidently unaware that no possibility exists of Japan's obtaining exclusive tradal concessions from China; that every commercial privilege granted by the Middle Kingdom to Japan, becomes immediately enjoyable by all Western Powers as a necessary consequence of the most favoured nation clause in the latter's treaties with China. Among the demands preferred by Japan to conquered China were these:—that several new ports and markets in the Middle Kingdom should be opened to commerce; that the *likin*—that perennial bugbear of trade —should be placed on a satisfactory basis; that the Woosung Bar should be dredged; that all restrictions upon the inauguration of manufacturing enterprises by foreigners in China should be removed, and so forth. Every one of these demands was calculated to promote the interests of European Powers far more than the interests of Japan. In short, Japan utilized her victories for the purpose of opening China to the trade of Europe. Yet Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG pretends that she sought to "absorb China's commerce for her own benefit and to the injury of Europe." It would be impossible to be more unjust and more careless of the truth. We have neither space nor inclination to follow such a critic through his labyrinth of prejudices and blunders. He actually pretends that China is more Christian than Japan: China that murders missionaries, burns their houses, and tears down their churches; Japan that treats them with as much consideration as though they were her own subjects. He even seems to reproach Japan because she has adopted the material features of Western civilization; after two or three weeks residence in the country he has the insolent audacity to declare that the nation has no moral culture nor any civilization except a stolen skin. We venture to assure Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG that among this people whom he vehemently denounces for utter lack of moral culture, there is not an educated man so deficient in that quality as to stand forth and publicly traduce a nation of which he knows nothing and concerning which he has not taken the trouble to learn anything.

But, after all, the whole point of the Austrian traveller's indictment lies in the fact that Japan is beginning not only to manufacture for herself articles hitherto purchased by her from Europe, but also to manufacture them so cheaply as to threaten successful competition with Europe in Chinese, and even European, markets. Well, it is true. For many years we have watched the coming of that result, and have urged, in the face of continued contradiction and vilification, that the only hope for England—in so far as her commercial relations with Japan were concerned—was to seek a market for her capital in a manufacturing country where she had hitherto found a market for her manufactured goods. Politics, however,

stood in the way, and nearly five years must still elapse before this new departure can be made on any considerable scale. We begin to doubt now whether it will ever be made. Every year that passes makes the Japanese more competent to dispense with foreign capital and foreign experience. Be that as it may, however, what fault can be justly found with the Japanese if they have been shrewd enough to acquire the ability that Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG accuses them of now possessing? He deprecates the idea of "sentiment" in matters of international policy, and then proceeds to draw up a long sentimental indictment against the Japanese because they have been so ungrateful as to learn, and profit by, the lessons offered for their instruction. Perhaps, in discussing the statements of a critic so inconsistent and inaccurate, it is scarcely worth while to point out that Japan's imports which he declares to have been "steadily on the decrease" during recent years, have, on the contrary, grown from 29½ million *yen* in 1884 to 117 millions in 1894. That is a flagrant enough error, but what is of more concern is the question, how is this industrial development of Japan to be checked, and in what respect is it a sin on her part to develop industrially? The Austrian critic appears to be aggrieved because "it is almost impossible to find any large European city in which there are not stores where Japanese manufactures, bronzes, fans, and a thousand other little things are sold at surprisingly cheap prices." Who are they that sell these things? Who are they that export them from Japan? Why, the very Europeans on whose behalf Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG utters his thoughtless warnings. They find their account in the business, and they will continue it so long as it puts money into their pockets and brings cheap and pretty articles within reach of European consumers. Germany seem to be regarded as a subject for special commiseration in view of the so-called invasion of the yellow race. By a curious process of reasoning the Japanese are proved to owe their recent victories to Germany. "Their military system is German, as is also their drill, and their war plan was made for them by one of the chiefs of the German General Staff, who is now in command of an army corps in the vicinity of the Swiss frontier." This last statement we have no hesitation in contradicting emphatically, and we do not suppose that Germany will be particularly pleased to find herself charged with such a gross breach of neutrality. But suppose that it were all true, what shall be said of China? Her fortresses were built by Germans, her forces were drilled by Germans, and throughout the war she received conspicuous assistance from Germans. Strange that if "Japan is indebted to Germany for her victories," China, which received a much larger measure of German aid, did not achieve a single success from the beginning to the end of the war. Let it be granted, however, that Germany counted for so much from a military point of view, what conceivable title does she thereby acquire to shackle Japan's industrial development? The *Gazette de Lausanne*, interpreting Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG, says:—"*L'Europe, l'Allemagne partout, ne se laissera pas faire.*" What is Germany going to do about it then, we should like to know, or Europe either, for the matter of that? Neither the rhetoric of Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG not the ugly names that he and the other writer quoted in our translation call the Japanese will effect the commercial situation one jot. The people of this country may be "thorough-paced ———," they may be "rascals," and they may be "foresworn liars," as Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG and a "highly esteemed merchant of Yokohama" allege, but their capacities and their circumstances fit them for a manufacturing career, and not all the civilized invectives of refined critics will alter the natural course of events. As for the "young and intelligent men of business" that Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG recommends to come to the East, we advise them to keep away. They will find old and more intelligent men here already, who eyes are wide open to "the condition of affairs," and who are quite able "to find new markets," if any such offer, without adventitious aid. Truly, we must apologise to our readers for devoting so much space to Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG, but it appears to us that some interest attaches to these first outcries against Japanese industrial competition. The whole secret lies there. Mr. HESSE-WARTEGG and his informants prefer the Chinese to the Japanese, not because the former have any title to such preference on moral or ethical grounds, but because, while the Japanese are rapidly becoming active rivals of Western countries in industrial and military capacity, the Chinese remain precisely the same passive Orientals that they were a century ago.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

CORNES AND COMPANY V. KIMURA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of this date I notice the translation of a paragraph from the *Mainichi Shimbun*, with reference to the trouble between Mr. Kimura Riyemon and Messrs. Cornes & Co. The information is absolutely correct, and I have much pleasure is confirming every word published by the paper in question.

My only regret is that, the information imparted being so concise, it is a pity the readers of your paper and the *Mainichi Shimbun* should be deprived of further details, so I beg, with your permission, to add a few additional facts.

The Standing Committee of the Guild called upon me during the afternoon of 6th instant. They opened proceedings with the statement that they had heard from Mr. Kimura the facts of the case and had unanimously decided I was wrong!

Under the circumstances, discussion was useless. The gentlemen, however, were kind enough "to attempt to settle the matter amicably" by informing me, that unless I agreed to Mr. Kimura's taking delivery of 35 bales at contract price and waive all charges, *no dealer would be allowed to call at my office.* My claim being for delivery of 100 bales, *plus* interest, fire insurance, and godown rent, I "declined to accept their advice." The following day (7th) I offered to withdraw the suit provided Kimura took delivery of 50 bales at contract price and paid me half interest and fire insurance; this offer was declined. Judgment was given in the Chiho Saibansho on Tuesday, 9th instant, viz.:—

> "Defendent to take delivery of the 100 bales and to pay the sum of $29,528.59, insurance, interest, and godown rent, *minus* ninety days usually allowed pending delivery."

This is what led to the meeting of "the Yokohama Guild of Yarns and Woven-goods Dealers" on the 18th inst., as per paragraph above referred to. Now, Mr. Editor, presuming you know what a "Boycott" means to a firm like that I represent in Japan, I ask you, of what use are New Codes, skilled judges, &c., &c., in this country, so far as commercial transactions are concerned?

Yours faithfully, W. W. TILL.

Yokohama, July 22nd, 1895.

PHONO-IDEOGRAMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I noticed, in a late number of the *Weekly Mail*, a reference to the revival of discussion, among Japanese scholars, of the subject of improving the national system of writing.

With your leave, I desire to present for the consideration of all who feel a genuine interest in this matter—especially of those whose nationality and other circumstances may give them influence in deciding it—a few suggestions that may possibly be of some little service in the cause of a really much-needed reform. To say nothing of the considerable aggregate saving in time and labour to the Japanese people that would be effected by the introduction of a simple system of language-characters, it appears very desirable that Japanese literature should be brought into touch with that of the remainder of the civilized world in a manner and to a degree that is really impossible, so long as the sway of the Chinese ideogram remains unbroken. Japanese may and do learn to read Western languages; but until the literature of Japan becomes equally open to Western scholars of average leisure, mutual acquaintance and confidence must be held in check.

I apprehend that the seeming collapse of the Romajikwai, after doing so much really good work, does not indicate that the problem attacked by that society is really an unsolvable one, but only that it did not happen to find the proper solution of it. Its failure may be ascribed to the neglect of certain cardinal principles, continued neglect of which will just as surely bring to naught present or future attempts in the same line. The principles in question are two in number, and their application to the present subject may be stated concretely as follows:—

1.—The new system, whatever it may be, must be intimately connected with that now in use.

2.—The word-characters used in it must be so constructed that homonyms shall in all circumstances be distinguishable from each other.

Of the above propositions, the first needs little explanation or argument. To expect a whole nation, or even a numerically important part of it, to drop what all its people have been born and bred to, and to take up suddenly a system of writing that thoroughly sets aside, in principle as well as in appearance, all that has previously been known on the subject, is to expect a miracle.

The second principle, which has been so obviously disregarded by the Romajikwai, requires more than a passing word. The neglect of it hitherto by would-be reformers has not been due to mere oversight. Rather has it been deliberately rejected, partly because of the prevalence of a mistaken theory which contradicts it, and partly, perhaps, because what it requires has been regarded as impracticable. The fact is that what, for want of a better term, may be called the philosophy of spelling, does not seem to have been properly comprehended by spelling-reformers generally speaking; and this is true not of Japan alone, but of England and America. All attempts made in the West to introduce merely phonetic spelling, have failed, and all such attempts must fail. The practice of ascribing this failure solely to public inertia affords pretty clear proof that those who take such a view of the matter have not gone to the bottom of their subject; for usage does not successfully resist innovations that are, on the

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whole, meritorious—at least, not in progressive countries.

A few definitions may at this point be useful: "A word is a significant sound, or combination of sounds." A character is a mark or group of marks, designed to represent something to the mind, through the medium of the eye. Word-characters are characters which represent words. Sound-characters are characters which represent sounds of which words are composed.

Much needless confusion in the science of orthography arises from the practice of attaching too much importance to what has been, with consequent neglect of what is. For example, because Chinese characters are derived ultimately from pictures, and constructed of graphic elements, it is easy to partially forget the important fact that they do, after they have once been learned, represent words as well as ideas. In the same way, because English word-characters can be traced back to the days when there were no dividing spaces between them—when, in fact, they did not exist *as word-characters* at all—and are constructed of sound-characters, it seems to be often forgotten that they are quite as truly units as are Chinese ideograms, and that to the ordinary reader they appear on the page as units, and represent ideas, and not words merely. This fact, it is true, has been recognized by Prof. Webb, and other followers of Jactotet, in the "Look-and-Say" method of teaching children to read; but it may be doubted whether all that it involves has been generally perceived by orthographists.

Word-characters may be divided into two great classess: (1) Those that represent primarily things and ideas, and secondarily words; (2) those that represent primarily words, and secondarily things and ideas. The first class includes, of course, Chinese ideograms, and such symbols as the Arabic numerals; the second includes alphabetic word-characters.

The function, then, of alphabetic word characters, is to represent more than mere sound. This is not to say that they were originally intended to represent anything else than the sounds of their corresponding words, for of course they were not; yet, as a matter of present fact, the sight of an isolated English word-character of known significance suggests to the mind the idea just as surely as it does the word. We do not have to hear the word "knight," for example, in connection with other words, in order to know within definite limits what it means, if only we see, or are told, that it is "k-n-i-g-h-t." Nothing is more disagreeble to the mind than uncertainty. Conversely, the information as to significance that is often afforded by the presence, in a word-character, of letters that have nothing to do with its sound as the word is now pronounced, gives such satisfaction to the reader that we cling to our awkward ways of spelling, rather than accept alleged reforms that would give us "nit" for both night and knight, and "noz" for both nose and knows. The mind is so constituted that when a word-character suggests sound, without at the same time giving a clue to the significance of the sound, it is (except, possibly, when seen in very clear connection with other word characters) distinctly a source of mental irritation. The clues given in some existing word-characters may be quite accidental, and perhaps always are so, but they are gratefully accepted and persistently retained. It may indeed be alleged that spoken words themselves are intelligible only when their connection is understood, and that therefore the characters used to represent them ought to be under the same limitation. This sounds plausible, but it is, after all, a *non-sequitur*, and facts are against it.

Every one understands that neither phonograms (as Canon Taylor has called alphabetic word-characters) nor ideograms, have always existed in their present forms, but have been developed from much cruder symbols. What does not appear to be always taken account of is the fact that, so far as "phonograms" are concerned, the process of development is incomplete, it having been arrested by the influence of dictionaries. Roman letters, and sound-characters in general, are known to be derived ultimately from ideograms, and the earliest alphebetic writing aimed at nothing more that indicating a succession of syllables which, when pronounced, would be found to resemble speech, the reader and hearer being left to make what words they could out of these sounds. Afterwards came the segregation of letters into groups, corresponding to separate words. *This was more than a mere change of fashion in writing.* It was a distinct step in the evolution of the ideal word-character. But here, as so often in the historical development of ideas, the actual goal of the movemant was not in the thoughts of those who were actors in it. This grouping of letters into word characters which were doubtless intended to be simply phonographic, led gradually, after spelling ceased to be [illegible] individual caprice, to the mental association of words with certain gromps of letters, each group being recognized as a unit, and being closely inspected as to its component letters only for the purpose of distinguishing it from other word-characters bearing a general resemblance to it.

If pronunciation and spelling were uniform, and if language were free from homonyms, it is pretty clear that strictly phonographic word-characters would become, by the law of association, ideographic also; because every character would differ from every other, and these peculiar forms would become associated in all minds with whatever concepts might belong to their respective words.

The perfect word-character, then, is neither the dumb ideogram nor the mere phonogram, but a combination of the two, which may be called the *phono ideogram*. This is the ideal, a blind and clumsy striving toward which may be seen in the use of "side-kana" with Chinese characters (and, for that matter, in the structure of most Chinese characters themselves), and equally in certain forms of English spelling that are often laughed at by those who, nevertheless, continue to use them.

Whenever the knowledge of writing is conceived of as a practical thing, a popular means of communicating thought, rather than a scholarly accomplishment, the insufficiency of the bare ideogram becomes apparent. But when homonyms exist—especially when they are abundant—the mere phonogram is as liable to offend and confuse the reader as the ideogram is to baffle him. When a word-character, though not strictly phonetic, does contain marks of sound that serve to suggest the word if not to indicate it with precision, and at the same time differs from all characters belonging to other words of like sound, it comes much nearer to meeting the requirements of every possible reader—nearer to the ideal word-character—than any other kind of word-character actually existing and in use at the present time. Hence the firm hold possessed by anomalous forms of spelling.

Is it maintained, then, that irregularity in spelling is desirable? No, not for a moment; but it may be better than regularity when the regulations ignore matters that are just as important as those that they provide for.

Why should not Japan add to her achievements by being the first country to possess perfect word-characters? The materials for making such are at hand; the principles on which they can be made have been indicated. The practical application of these principles might be, in outline, somewhat as follows: A complete list of all the words in the language (in particular, of all Chinese monosyllables) should be prepared, the words being spelled with kana, and arranged in "iroha" order; except that all homonyms, of course, would in such a list have to be found together. Opposite each word should appear the appropriate ideogram: and by the side of the ideogram an Arabic numeral, "1" for the first word of any given group of homonyms, "2" for the next, and so on. Meanwhile, a satisfactory phonetic alphabet should be adopted; it is difficult to see how anything could be simpler than Roman letters, and the latest results of the labours of the Romajikwai might perhaps be adopted, with little or no alteration; but these are matters of detail. Supposing the Roman alphabet to be satisfactory from a purely phonetic standpoint, the new phono-ideograms, which should of course also appear in the standard list of words, would be constructed simply by combining the Arabic numerals with the Roman letters—the numerals playing the part of "silent letters" in conventional spelling of English, but differing from them in being incapable of causing doubt as to the pronunciation of the word, and in indicating, not by accident nor at haphazard, but with certainty and precision, the meaning to be attached thereto.

The following imaginary extracts from such a standard word-list will illustrate the meaning of the above:—

カウ 高 kō1	シ 思 shi1	Words compounded of these monosyllables would be written kō1shi3, kō2shi4, kō3shi2, kō4shi5. kō5shi1.
コウ 孝 kō2	シ 師 shi2	
カウ 工 kō3	シ 士 shi3	
コウ 公 kō4	シ 子 shi4	
コウ 巧 kō5	シ 私 shi5	

To distinguish non-separable from separable polysyllables, some particular character, without phonic value in Japanese words, could be used before the numeral attacked to the former; as, mushiroxi, mushirox2.

If the possession and constant use, by every reader of literature printed in such phono-ideograms, of the standard list with its Chinese characters, were necessary, it might indeed be thought that no such device as has been described could meet with public favour. But a moment's reflection will show that nothing like a laborious use of the list would be imposed upon any one, excepting the writers who should assume the duty of introducing the new characters. The collocation of the characters would so frequently indicate to the scholarly reader what the Chinese character symbolized by the Arabic figures must be, that reference to the list would be superfluous, and so most of the phono-ideograms would be learned without effort; yet, in case of doubt, reference to the list would quickly give the desired information.

Perhaps the authoritative appointment of a company to decide upon the detailed plan of the standard list, and to prepare it, together with a moderate amount of Governmental recognition of the new characters, in the schools and elsewhere, would counterbalance the opposing weight of mere conservatism; while the merits of the new system ought to do the rest in securing its general acceptance. Such phono-ideograms as are here proposed would be so easy to learn that they would meet the needs of every reader; while their precision might be made in some cases even greater than that of the ideograms now in use, so that they would neither produce confusion nor offend scholarly tastes. Prepared by competent hands, and introduced under proper auspices, they might find a favourable reception at the hands of all except the small class that oppose every new thing. If once received into general use, they would fill the place in the public mind now held by Chinese characters; and the reference list would thus become, in course of time, like the *Mi Hashi* at Nikko—interesting but unnecessary. X.

Tokyo, July 23rd.

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED.

The semi-annual general meeting of shareholders in the Grand Hotel, Limited, was held on the premises of the Company on Monday afternoon. There were present Mr. J. F. Lowder, in the chair, Messrs. J. Rickett, E. V. Thorn, P. Doutille, M. Engert, G. Goudereau, C. K. M. Martin, R. Howie, B. C. Howard, S. D. Hepburn, Jas. Walter, Dr. Hall, and J. Tornoe, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said the meeting was called to receive the Directors' report and accounts for the half-year ending June 30th, 1895, to pass those accounts, if approved, to declare the dividend, to elect officers, and to transact any other business that might arise. This was their 12th semi-annual general meeting, but before proceeding to the business before them he would read the list of proxies held by various shareholders present, so that if any shareholder should wish to challenge any ruling of the Chair, or demand a poll, they would have an opportunity of doing so. The list of proxies held by Dr. Hall was then read and passed; Mr. E. V. Thorn's proxies were passed, and Mr. Howard's also, with the exception of one, which was given him by an attorney, and not direct, but which the Chairman disallowed on the ground that the date of the proxy was too old. A proxy to be admissible must be signed within a twelvemonth of the date on which it is used. Mr. S. Hepburn's proxies were passed unchallenged. The Chairman then presented the annual report, to which he had nothing to add. He could only say that he saw no reason why the Company should not enjoy in the future the prosperity it had achieved hitherto. He would now proceed to put the various items of business before them to the vote, premising each with the information that first a show of hands would be taken, and then if the vote was challenged a poll would take place there and then, and not after adjournment. The first business was to adopt the Directors' report and accounts for the half-year ending June 30th, 1895. He would be pleased to receive any remarks or motion upon them from any shareholder present.

Mr. ENGERT proposed, and Mr. DOURILLE seconded, that the report and accounts be adopted and passed.—Carried unanimously.

REPORT.

The Profit and Loss Account, and Statement of Assets and Liabilities for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1895, accompany this Report.

The net profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1894, and after providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditors' fees, bonus to Manager, interest, and depreciation, and after writing off bad debts, amounts to	$ 40,000
which it is proposed to apply as follows:	
In payment of a dividend of 10 per cent. for the half-year	25,000
Reducation of debt	5,000
Balance to be carried to new account	10,000
	$ 40,000

In view of the large sums written off for depreciation for the half-year ended the 31st December, 1894, and of recent improvements and additions to buildings and furniture, the Directors do not consider it necessary to debit the Profit and Loss Account otherwise

than with a nominal amount for depreciation during the half-year just ended.

They do not recommend a larger dividend, though the figures would justify such recommendation, because they think it advisable to make provision, out of the profits of the past six months, for the payment of various sums falling due during the current half-year.

Messrs. Rickett and Hall retire from the Board by rotation, but offer themselves for re-election.

Mr. Keil retires from the office of Auditor, and the Directors have much pleasure in recommending his re-election to that office for the current year.

According to Article 86 of the Articles of Association, the amount of the Director's fees for the current year will have to be decided at this Meeting.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be payable on the 23rd day of July, when the warrants will be issued.

J. F. LOWDER, JAMES WALTER, } Directors.

Yokohama, 9th July. 1895.

THE GRAND HOTEL, LIMITED, STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1895.

ASSETS.

Chartered Bank of I., A., and China	$ 35,251.88
Cash in hand	407.16
Fire Insurance Policies	1,443.25
Ground	60,000.00
Buildings	143,573.08
Furniture	59,155.71
Electric Light Plant	12,058.00
Steam Launch	1,227.61
Wines in Stock	6,333.47
Provisions in Stock	2,945.27
Bills receivable	9,872.97
	$332,248.50

LIABILITIES.

Stock, 2,500 Shares, at $100	$250,000.00
Mortgage	30,000.00
Bills payable	12,248 40
	$292,248.70
Balance, Profit	40,000.00

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1895.

DR.

To General Expenses			$ 21,084.16
To Fire Insurance			1,292.40
To Interest			921.54
To Directors' and Auditor's Fees			900 00
To Bad debts written off			43.25
To Bonus to Manager			500.00
			$ 24,731.35
To Balance, Gross Profit		$40,189.16	
Less written off for Depreciation of Steam Launch		189.16	
Balance available for Dividend—($40,000)			
Dividend 10 %	25,000		
Payment on account of mortgage	5,000		
Carried forward to new account.	10,000	$40,000 00	40,189.00
			$ 64,920.51

CR.

By Balance brought forward from 31st Dec., 1894	$ 2,378.14
By Working Account	61,648.22
By Rent Account	720.15
By Share Transfer Fees	23.00
By Share Warrant Fees	.50
By Sale of old Material	210.60
	$ 64,920.51

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, June 30th, 1895.

J. F. LOWDER, JAMES WALTER, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct. O. KEIL, Auditor.

Yokohama, July 6th, 1895.

THE CHAIRMAN—The next business is the election of two Directors. The report says that Messrs. Rickett and Hall retire from the Board by rotation but offer themselves for re-election. I have also received a letter from Mr. Howard, who, in accordance with our bye-laws and Articles of Association, intimates that he desires to propose Mr. J. R. Morse as a Director of the Company for the ensuing year. Therefore, there are three names before you for the positions vacant on the Board; two retiring Directors, who offer themselves for re-election, and one other proposed by a shareholder.

Mr. HOWIE—I propose that Mr. Rickett be re-elected as a Director of this company.

Mr. THORN—I propose that Dr. Hall be re-elected a Director.

Mr. HOWARD—I propose the election of Mr. J. R. Morse.

The CHAIRMAN put the first proposition to the meeting, and Mr. Rickett was re-elected unanimously. When the names of Mr. Hall and Mr. Morse were about to be submitted to the meeting,

Mr. THORN rose and asked whether the Chairman could inform him how long the term of service of a Director lasted; and if a Director was re-elected and then resigned, for how long would his successor serve; and further, who elected the successor of a Director who retired after a few months' service? He had no objection to Mr. Morse personally, but he had been given to understand that Mr. Morse was only going to remain in the country for a few months; could the Chairman afford him information on this point.

The CHAIRMAN said in the regard to the last question he could give no information, being without it himself; possibly Mr. Howard could tell them. In regard to the other question, the election of a Director to fill a vacancy caused by a Director resigning after a few months of election, or otherwise,—as a successor or the *locum tenens* of a Director, such election lay with the Board of Directors themselves, and was not held over to the next general meeting of shareholders.

Mr. HOWARD said that if Mr. Morse left Japan within the next few months, it would only be for a visit to China. He would not be leaving this part of the world.

Mr. RICKETT thought that if a Director went to China he would leave the Board.

Dr. HALL said a Director was elected for three years, and anyone was elected to fill the place of a Director who retired within a few months of his election, was elected for the remainder of the three years.

The CHAIRMAN said the matter was entirely in the hands of the shareholders. Mr. Morse had been on the Board before, and would doubtless if elected, make a very good director. Dr. Hall had been on the Board for many years, and had conscientiously discharged the duties of the office. He (the Chairman) did not wish to influence the meeting either way.

Mr. THORN asked if, in the event of a Director resigning the position within a few months of being elected, his successor would be elected by the Board to serve the remainder of the year, or for the balance of the whole term?

The CHAIRMAN, after referring to the rules, said Rule 96 was explicit on the point; he would be elected to serve the whole balance of the term.

The CHAIRMAN then called for a show of hands on the vote for Dr. Hall or Mr. Morse as a Director of the company.

The vote was as follows:—Mr. Morse. 6; Dr. Hall, 5.

Dr. HALL called for a poll.

Upon the poll being taken, the result was declared as follows:—Dr. Hall 376; Mr. Morse 182. Dr. Hall was then declared re-elected.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the Board recommended the re-appointment of Mr. Kiel as auditor.—Carried.

Mr. HOWARD next proposed that the amount of Directors' Fees for the coming year be the same as in previous years—$300.

Mr. THORN seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes our business to-day, and I thank you for your attendance, gentlemen.

Mr. HOWARD moved a vote of thanks all round.

Mr. THORN, in seconding, said that any shareholder who was dissatisfied with the work of the present Board or the prosperity of the company would be very hard to please.

The meeting then separated.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

July 18th, 1895.

The Conference opened as usual. The Bishop spoke for 15 minutes on the state of Christian Work in Hawaii, which he had recently seen, and the opportunities for similar work in Japan.

Mr. Sasamori presented a plan for a Board of Managers in connection with the Nagasaki school. C. Nakada presented the report on Church Extension. The case of K. Ike was referred to Committee on Conference Relations. Dr. Worden and C. Nagano were appointed a Committee on Conference incidental expenses. The report on the Epworth League was adopted. D. S. Spencer moved that all Young People's Societies connected with the Church be requested to take the name of the Epworth League. The case of J. Miyakoshi was called, and the Conference voted to discontinue him as a Probationer.

The undergraduates who had failed to pass in their studies were called to the front and addressed by the Bishop in regard to faithfulness in their study and work.

Y. Honda reported on the matter of a Conference Library. Y. Aibara moved that the privileges of the Library be extended to Probationers.

The Board of Stewards presented their report and the various sums to be paid to Worn-out Preachers and Preachers' Widows were ordered to be paid. D. S. Spencer moved that the English printed minutes be the *official* record of the Conference.

An invitation was received from the Y.M.C.A. of Tokyo to visit their buildings this afternoon at 4 p.m., and the thanks of the Conference were extended for the same. J. C. Davison was, upon motion, excused in order to take the outgoing steamer for U.S.A. Conference adjourned.

July 19th.

The Conference opened with prayer. The Bishop briefly addressed the Conference. Minutes read and approved.

The Presiding Elders nominated the following Fraternal Delegates:—

M. E. Church South.....J. Wadman.
Canada Methodist .....J. G. Cleveland.
Evangelical Association .....C. Bishop.
Protestant Methodist .....D. S. Spencer.

Eleven young men presented themselves as Candidates to be received on trial. The Committee on their examination reported and the case of each one was carefully examined. The Conference voted on these young men one by one.

Rev. S. Hiramma, Pastor of the Church of Christ in Kumamoto, was introduced to the Conference. The Conference adjourned.

A 2.30 p.m. the Conference met in special session to consider the question of dividing the Conference.

The proposal to divide comes from Kyushu. Then are two District Conferences in the South, and these District Meetings have decided that a division would conduce to the interests of the work in the South. The proposal was in the form of a memorial to the next General Conference. This question was ably discussed. K. Miyama, J. Soper, D. S. Spencer, S. Ogata, W. Ishikawa, E. Aibara speaking against division; J. Wier, J. H. Correll, and others speaking in favour. The vote resulted in 34 against division and 15 in favour. This vote will not hinder the memorial forwarded to the General Conference in U.S.A. to be finally decided.

It is thought the Bishop will read the appointments in a night session this evening.

July 19th, Night Session.

The Bishop took the Chair at 8.30 p.m. The report of the Methodist Publishing House was submitted by Dr. Honda and was adopted. The Conference upon motion requested the Bishop to appoint J. W. Wadman, Publishing Agent, and C. Bishop, Treasurer of the Mission and assistant Publishing Agent.

The Conference also requested the appointment of Y. Takasugi and T. Haseyawa, Professors of So O-Gijiku, Hirosaki, J. O. Spencer, Supt. of Industrial Dept. of Aoyama Gakuin, Jennie S. Vail, Instructor in the College.

The Committee on Memorials to the General Conference presented their report. It was decided to petition the General Conference:—

I.—To provide for the admission of Laymen into the membership of the annual conference.

II.—To provide for a resident Bishop for Eastern Asia, with residence in Japan.

Rev. B. Franklin, Presbyterian Missionary of China, was introduced.

It was resolved to add two laymen to the Committee on Salaries, and request the same Committee to act as Committee on Estimates.

The pastor of Kanda Church was elected President of the Japan Epworth League, J. W. Wadman English Secretary, J. Yamada, Japanese Secretary.

The Conference proceeded to elect a Publishing House Committee for the year. The following were appointed:—J. W. Wadman, J. C. Davison, C. Bishop, J. O. Spencer, Y. Honda, W. Ishikawa, and E. Aibara.

The Conference resolved to request J. Soper to act as an Interpreter for the Delegates at the coming General Conference.

An advisory Committee on Education was raised as follows:—Y. Honda, H. Yamaka, K. Nakada, E. Aibara, and J. W. Wadman.

Conference adjourned at 11 p.m.

July 20th.

The session opened at 9 a.m. Several items of unfinished business were transacted. This being the last session of the Conference, a large number of visitors as well as all the members of the W.F.M.S. Conference were present. The Presiding Elders presented, through S. Ogata, the financial scheme by which the pastors' salaries for the coming year are determined. This scheme is fixed according to the nature of the place, the expenses of living, the amount of house-rent, the size of the pastor's family, &c. The Conference looks forward with a great deal of interest to the presentation of this scheme. Its main purpose is to develop self-support as well as to render as much help as possible in cases of need. A communication was received from the W.F.M.S. Conference referring to the matter of a course of study for Pastors' wives in order to qualify them to cooperate with the regular Bible Women in this work.

The Presiding Elders presented a Scheme and Calendar for the taking of the Benevolent Collections. The same body nominated. J. W. Wadman to preach the Annual Missionary Sermon at

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the Session of the next Annual Conference, and T. Hasegawa as the alternate.

The Committee on Resolutions presented the usual complimentary resolutions.

The minutes in English and Japanese were read and approved, the Bishop made a very earnest address, a hymn was sung, prayer offered, Benediction pronounced, the appointments read and the Conference adjourned *sine die*.

The missionaries were appointed as follows:—

G. F. Draper, P.E. Hakodate District.
H. B. Schwartz, P.E. Aomori District.
H. W. Swartz, Missionary in Sendai.
J. G. Cleveland, P.E. Yokohama District.
W. S. Worden, Missionary in Yokohama.
J. C. Davison, P.E. Tokyo West District.
C. Bishop, Treasurer of Mission.
J. W. Wadman, Publishing Agent.
H. B. Johnson, Dean, R. P. Alexander, Jennie S. Vail, J. O. Spencer, } Aoyama Gakuin.
J. Wier, Dean, B. Chappell, } Theological School.
D. S. Spencer, P.E. Nagoya District.
I. H. Correll, P.E. Nagasaki District.
E. R. Fulkersen, M. S. Vail, } Nagasaki School.
J. Soper, absent on furlough.

LETTER FROM ST. LOUIS.

(From our Correspondent).

St. Louis, U.S.A., June 30th.

The all-absorbing question of the day in the United States is silver. The West is probably more interested in the issue than the East, and great enthusiasm prevails. There can be no doubt that this will be the issue in the next presidential campaign. Able men are arrayed on both the silver and gold sides of the issue. The Democratic party is sure to gain much by the agitation, as it will divert public attention from the apparent failures of the present administration. Up to twelve years ago what is known as the "Bloody Shirt" was made the issue in all national campaigns. The sectional prejudices following the Civil War were appealed to, and everything else was lost sight of. Then the Tariff was brought into politics and Cleveland won on that line. Now the tables are turned, and the Tariff is lost sight of in the silver fight. Just what will be the outcome remains to be seen.

St. Louis, the great city gateway to the West, is out in a new rôle. The "American Protective Association" has come to the front in a very formidable shape. Only a few days ago the New Police Judge, Thomas Peabody, was serenaded and openly avowed a member of the A.P.A. This bench has been filled for years by an Irish Catholic. The new manager of the House of Refuge has issued an order prohibiting Catholic priests from celebrating mass in that institution. This was a thunder-clap from a clear sky, as heretofore the religious influences exerted in city institutions has been almost exclusively Catholic. Many other city officers have been filled by A.P.A.s, and a great change is on. This influence is exerted through the Republican party, which was the victor at the last election.

A. S. Ishida, a Japanese ministerial student of the M.E. Church, South, from Osaka, was in the city this week. He graduated with honours at the St. Louis Conference School at Caledonia, Mo., a few days ago. He has been in this country three years and has made many friends. He is to go on a lecturing tour through the East this summer, and hopes to be able to enter the Theological Department of Vanderbilt University next fall.

T. J. Nishikawa, another student of the same Church, and also from Osaka, finished the junior year at Central College, Fayette, Mo., and carried off the gold medal for the best essay. His subject was "The Result of the Norman Conquest over the English Language." He will return to Japan after one more year, to engage in Evangelistic work.

There are only three Japanese in this city, two of whom are bamboo workers, and the other an acrobat at a summer garden in the suburbs. Barnum and Bailey's Circus which showed here a short time ago had a number of Japanese showmen, whose performances gave much satisfaction to the thousands who witnessed the performances.

Bishop E. R. Hendrit of Kansas City, will leave for Japan on August 5th, to make a tour of the Methodist Churches in the Orient. He will be accompanied by Miss Ida Worth, of this city, who has been in training for missionary work for several years. Bishop Hendrit has been in Japan before, having accompanied Bishop Marvin around the world several years ago. He is author of a book of travels entitled, "To The East by way of the West."

The trial of the famous double murderer and millionarie, Dr. Arthur Dustrow, is set for July at Union, Mo. He was declared sane at the last trial, and will now be put on trial for his life. He killed his two-year-old child and wife two years ago in a most brutal manner.

The Roman Catholic Church in the St. Louis Archidiocese has been greatly agitated of late over the physicial condition of Archbishop Kenrick, whose mind has so declined that he has become unfit to occupy that high position. Church property amounting to many million dollars was vested in him, and at one time it was said that the venerable Archbishop had made no will leaving the property to the Church. It was feared that at his death all the property would go to his personal heirs. To avoid this Pope Leo XIII. made Archbishop Kain, Archbishop of St. Louis, and vested him with the superior title of "pallium." This gives Kain all the powers taken from Archbishop Kenrick, who has been translated to a nominal see called "Maicranapolis." The venerable prelate, Kenrick, does not know of the change and will probably never be informed of it. He is very aged and will be suffered to live in the Archbishop's residence until his demise.

Bicycle riding has become a great "fad" among the ladies of this country, and it is now a common sight to see young women in "bloomers" riding on our streets at breakneck speed on wheels. It is said that dealers are unable to supply the demand for wheels, which sell for $75 to $150. Baseball, while still a drawing card, does not attract as large crowds as a few years ago.

This city has a roof garden, which is a favourite resort. It is on top of the sixteenth story of the Union Trust Building at 7th and Olive Streets. Our parks are crowded on all holidays with multitudes who are entertained by various amusements or permitted to enjoy serene parts of the woodland.

All our great factories are running, and business is progressing, but it will take a long time before the dire disasters of the late panic are entirely swept away and the country is back to its normal pulse. The settlement of the silver issue, or what Cleveland calls his "Sound Money Policy," will no doubt do much to restore better days.

JAPANESE AFFAIRS IN AUSTRALIA.

By John Plummer, M.J.S.

Sydney, May 19th.

A mild sensation was lately created in Sydney by the appearance of the following advertisement in one of the city papers:—

To farmers, graziers, fruit, cane, rice, cotton, and tobacco growers.—To meet the times, we have made a treaty for a constant supply of skilled agricultura, labourers from Japan. Engagements, 3 to 5 years; wages 2s. per week. Indents now taken. Particulars, T. Blencowe and Co., 19, Macquarie-place.

Subsequently enquiry resulted in its being ascertained that Mr. Blencowe professed to be acting on behalf of a Japanese firm, whose name or whereabouts he refused to mention. Being taxed with the possibility of the advertisement being a hoax, he is reported to have said—"Oh, no! There's no hoax about it. It's correct enough. You'll find it out soon. Farmers can't do anything with this free-trade tariff of Reid's. If there's to be free trade, then there must be cheap labour. The farmers can't get on without it. It's what you must expect. I've been in this country a good bit. I know all about the farmers, and what they want they can't get under this tariff of Reid's. It will ruin them." Consequently, he proposed to supply them with the cheap labour required. The matter was referred to in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, but the Premier, Mr. G. H. Reid, declared it his opinion that the whole thing was a political ruse, intended to discredit his free trade policy. It has, however, had the effect of awakening a feeling of alarm among the labouring classes of the colony, although the matter has been ignored by the metropolitan and country press, and one of the immediate results has been that that the General Council of the "Australasian Labour Federation," sitting in Sydney, has passed the following resolution, "That this general council of A.L.F. enters its strong protest against the introduction into Australia of alien coloured labour; calls upon all Australian Governments to legislate against the introduction of Japanese or other Asiatic races; is opposed to the acceptance by the Australian colonies of that portion of the treaty between Great Britain and Japan which gives the natives of the latter country the right of residence in Australia; and urges the workers in each colony to make this a test question at every Parliamentary election."

Mr. Crick, a member of the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, has introduced into that Chamber, a bill for amending and extending the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888, by causing its provisions to include "Japanese, Javanese, and Kanakas." It is to be read a second time this week, and should it pass, a poll tax of £100 will be levied on every Japanese landing in the colony, and captains will not be allowed to bring more than one passenger for every 200 tons burden of each vessel. But it is more than probable that the measure will be rejected by the New South Wales Legislative Council.

But the attempt to cause a Japanese scare in Australia has not been allowed to escape some few earnest words of protest. A correspondent, writing to one of the Sydney papers, says that the idea of a Japanese industrial invasion of Australia is neither possible nor probable. The population of Japan may be roughly estimated at 40,000,000. Her emigrant population, at a very liberal estimate, may be set down at 10,000,000. But she has recently won a great victory, and acquired a war indemnity, which, after paying the national debt, will leave many millions in the Treasury. She has also acquired new territory, and new spheres of influence as practically a most favoured nation. Is it not reasonable to suppose that with the new prosperity of success she will find room at home and in her extended territories and spheres for at least three-fourths of her floating ten millions of people, who are now compelled to live away from home? Thus, only 2,500,000 would be left for distribution throughout the world of a class of labour regarded everywhere as more desirable than Indian coolies, Kanakas, or Chinamen. If the whole of these 2,500,000 came to Australia, the influx might be felt; but, as a matter of fact, the process of absorption would be so eager elsewhere that very few would be left for Australia. It is more than probable that the advertiser of Japanese labour has rushed into print before he has made inquiries of the Japanese authorities. Let us not legislate on a scare, or be frightened by a will-o'-the wisp. We are on the eve of profitable trade with Japan, and it would be a pity if the silliness of scared legislators and dodge-working protectionists ruined the chances of a splendid market." To these remarks no reply has been vouchsafed as yet.

Mr. Walter Griffiths, a member of the South Australian House of Assembly, lately returned to that colony from a visit to Japan. He does not seem to be much impressed with the prospects of trade between Australia and Japanese ports. He says—"Japan is most conservative in a way. I had a passport from the South Australian Government signed by the Governor. I showed that at the Japanese Office, but they compelled me to take out one of their own passports, for which I had to pay a couple of dollars. They don't recognise foreign passports of any description in Japan. Their conservatism is also strongly pronounced in trade operations. Japan will, when the treaty with England and other Powers comes into force, throw open her ports and indeed the whole country to foreign commerce and trade. That to my mind will be no great advantage to European Powers, insomuch as the Japanese manufacture any article that can be possibly made. And should there be any article of manufacture they do not make at the present time they employ Europeans to educate them in this particular branch, and when they acquire sufficient knowledge they dispense with the services of the European instructors, and conduct the manufacturing of these goods absolutely under their own management." He also remarked:—"I believe there is more fear to be considered in reference to the manufacturing competition of the Japanese than that of the Chinese or any other race under the sun. For instance, the boots I have on cost me 7s., and the clothes I am wearing 25s., and everything else is made and is to be had at as proportionally low a figure. A schoolmaster at Kobe told me that they could print the books for use in the schools—standard works, of course—at 75 per cent. lower than they could obtain them from England. The price for manufacturing goods in Japan may be computed at the price of the material alone, with say 5d. per day for skilled labour. The workman is looked upon as an outside consideration. I think it would be a most advisable thing for the Government of the various Australian Colonies to send one or two representatives to enquire into the labour conditions, the price of labour, and the prospects of competition between Japan and the European manufacturing countries. The expense, which would probably be small, would be nothing in comparison with the benefits to be derived. These opinions I have formed not altogether from going East for the first time on a trip, and being amazed and astounded at what I saw, but are mainly the

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opinions expressed by others, such as Consuls, business people, and others in a position in the East to know the trend and the effect of the development of Japan as a manufacturing country. In reference to the position of Australia to Japan from a commercial point of view, the former is essentially a producing country, and I think there is an opening in Japan for our wool, and also in the East for limited quantities of butter, cheese, and dairy produce. I find by careful enquiry we cannot send our wines to compete against the price at which they are forwarded by European and other firms."

The fear of Japanese industrial competition is rapidly extending throughout Australasia, and it is not unlikely that the New Zealand Governments will be asked to impose on Japanese immigrants restrictions similar to those to which emigrants from China are subjected. The uneasy feeling is increased by the frequent publication of extracts from Anglo-Japanese papers to the effect that Japan covets the possession of Australia, and that the occupation of Formosa is the first step towards the accomplishment of that object. The mischief effected by such loose statements is incalculable.

Discussing the question as to whether great Britain is getting the worst of it in diplomatic matters in which France and Russia are concerned, the Melbourne *Age* says "that the value of the Chinese trade blinded English diplomatists to the inevitable rise of Japan. The sympathy of the English commercial classes with China during the late struggle has naturally incensed the Japanese, and England has failed to secure Chinese sympathy by declining to aid in the recent struggle. Meanwhile, the Russians and the French come in with their special treaties with both of the Eastern nations, and threaten, in conjunction with the Japanese, to squeeze England out of her Indian possessions. It may be that Lord Rosebery has some secret and as yet undivoulged scheme to frustrate the designs of the enemies of England. Present appearances, however, are against this supposition. Our fleet in the Mediterranean, in point of number and of weight of metal, is alarmingly inferior to that which France can mobilise in a week; and in the Chinese Seas our squadron is surpassed by the Japanese and the France-Russian fleets separately. The open enmity of France, as displayed in its Legislative Chambers, the irritating collisions which have taken place in Africa, and the perpetual girding at the occupation of Egypt, are so many challenges to the English Government, and it will shortly become a question whether the French should not be taken at their word, and the international matters in suspense be referred to the arbitrament of battle." The gloomy views of the Victorian journal do not seem to be shared by other leading Australian papers, several of which appear to regard Japan as the power which will eventually check the advance of Russia southwards.

With respect to the Chinese loan, the Melbourne *Argus* says—"When writing some weeks ago upon the indemnity to be paid by China to Japan, we remarked that any great borrowing like £180,000,000 in all by China would only be possible under the condition that the finances of the country should be administered or controlled by the lending countries. Already it would appear that this view has also been adopted in Europe, for according to our cable advices, the first installment of the total required is to be guaranteed by Russia, which implies that Russia will gain some kind of footing in the control of Chinese affairs. China will gain by the guarantee to the extent of saving 2 to 3 per cent. per annum in interest, and Russia will gain by laying the foundation of a protectorate. Not that a protectorate is necessarily near at hand, for in the meantime the amount to be floated in Paris is not large enough to justify the concession of anything but a kind of mortgage over territory or facilities for Russian railway construction through Siberia to the Pacific. And certainly there is no reason to expect that any attempt will be made to remove the administration of Chinese Customs from British hands. The most important development, as we have before pointed out, will probably be the opening of China to Western influence, notwithstanding that its population is at present an almost inert mass of humanity. The payment of the indemnity, it is understood, is to be extended over five years, so that China has plenty of time to make necessary arrangements." The *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, alluding to the same subject, observes that—"The statement that Russia will either guarantee a Chinese loan for £17,000,000, or will borrow the amount direct and then subsidise China to that extent, is very significant. It is perfectly certain that such an operation, which would yield probably 110,000,000 taels, would only be effected in compensation for a large slice of territory to the southward of Siberia, giving Russia access to the Pacific at a permanently open port. The amount will represent but a comparatively small portion of the Chinese indemnity, according to the latest statement, but Russia has a good stock of silver, and she may possibly use these means to effect its reduction, thus taking a lesson from a recent American proposal. Whichever side in the late war had been the victors, Russia would equally have required compensation, and intends to be reckoned with in the northern Pacific. That such a transaction will involve political complications with England is very unlikely. If China chooses to sell a portion of her territory to her northern neighbour, or permits its occupation, a third party can hardly intervene, especially when she owns no possessions in contiguity with the territory transferred. Unhappily, in Russian hands, any portion of China will be as closed against trade as it has hitherto been. Australia has some trade with China, but none at all with Russia."

THE RUSSIAN LOAN.

The Times of the 12th of June contains the following information about the Franco-Russian loan to China :—

St. Petersburg, June 11.

The news of a Chinese loan guaranteed by the Russian Government first became known here from the newspapers of Paris and London. The first information about it in the London Press was privately telegraphed to St. Petersburg in cipher. Not a word on the subject appeared in the despatches from abroad published by the Russian newspapers. The latter, of course, knowing nothing whatever about it, have simply reproduced the news on the arrival of the foreign journals, and in their surprise have thus far abstained from all comment and criticism. Ever since M. Rothstein, the bank director and trusted adviser of the Minister of Finance, went to Paris a fortnight ago, it was felt that negotiations of some kind were proceeding, and the communications which were known to be going on between the Chinese Embassy and the Finance Ministry here gave support to the supposition that such negotiations were on the subject of a Chinese loan, in which it was well-known that M. Witte was anxious for Russia to take part. Nobody, however, was in the least degree aware that Russia was negotiating the loan on her own account by means of a guarantee apart from other Powers, and, in fact, M. Witte himself, when sounded on the matter, denied that the Russian Government had anything to do with it. These facts will give some idea of the secrecy observed in St. Petersburg.

Although there is naturally no official confirmation, the best-informed financial circles here, now that the secret is out, have been able to ascertain that the loan is a fact and that the Russian Government will give its guarantee. In some quarters there is still some hesitation in calling it an accomplished fact before the final ratification of the arrangement. The loan will probably be issued at the very favourable figure of 98½, the total amount being, as already stated, £16,000,000 sterling, and the rate of interest 4 per cent. It is expected that when this amount is paid over to Japan, the latter will withdraw the last of her troops from the Liao-tung Peninsula.

It is considered on all sides certain that Russia does not guarantee this Chinese loan for nothing. Either a part of Manchuria for the Siberian railway or the unconditional surrender of the Chinese Pamir to Russia may be the possible equivalent. If it turns out to be a new railway route through Manchuria or a new port for the Russian fleet, Russia herself will be disturbing the *status quo ante bellum* on the Chinese mainland which she has made Japan promise to restore. In any case, this Russo-Chinese loan is regarded at St. Petersburg as the greatest stroke of political finance since Lord Beaconsfield surprised the world by the purchase of the Suez Canal shares.

June 12.

The *Novoe Vremya*, the only newspaper that as yet ventures to comment independently on the Chinese loan, says :—

"The foreign Press is very near to the truth in its remarks on the Russian guarantee of the Chinese loan, the question of which was raised soon after Japan's surrender of the Liao-tung Peninsula. The discussion abroad as to whether or not Russia has acted disinterestedly is vain and useless. It is, of course, the effect of vexation and chagrin."

As soon as the Russian Press feels free to express itself on this subject we may expect an outburst of jubilant satisfaction. Port Lazareff continues to be referred to here as the most probable aim of Russia's policy.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

Paris, June 12.

Nothing was definitely known on the Paris Bourse to-day regarding the new Chinese loan guaranteed by Russia, but it was generally reported that it was to be a Four per Cent. Gold loan to the amount of 375,000,000f. or 400,000,000f. The price of issue, it was stated, would be about 98.—*Reuter.*

Paris, June 13.

I have received the following details in regard to the Russo-Chinese loan, which supplement the information given in *The Times* of to-day. The loan is for £16,000,000, of which the Russian National Bank takes £6,000,000. A sum of £9,200,000 is to be taken by six different parties under the direction of MM. Hottinguer et Cie. The first idea was to hand over the direction of this operation to M. Stern, chairman of the Banque de Paris, but the antagonism seemingly existing between him and a financial power which there is a wish not to alienate led to the choice of M. Hottinguer, who has no enemies. The five banking and finance houses associated with MM. Hottinguer et Cie. in the loan are the Banque de Paris, the Comptoir d'Escompte, the Société Générale, the Crédit Lyonnais, and the Crédit Industriel.

From what is being said to-night at an hour too late for me to insure absolute accuracy in the figures given, although I am certainly not far from the exact truth, the Russian National Bank is to take £6,000,000; MM. Hottinguer et Cie., with the Banque Ottomane, £2,000,000; the Banque de Paris, £2,000,000; the Comptoir d'Escompte, £1,500,000; the Société Générale, £1,200,000; the Crédit Lyonnais, £2,000,000, and the Crédit Industriel, £500,000; making altogether £15,200,000. Besides this, £700,000 or £800,000 are reserved for eventual participants, and, indeed, in case such participants should demand a larger share, 16 per cent. of the £9,200,000 subscribed by the Hottingner syndicate is to be assigned them, making in round numbers £2,000,000. This reserve is to allow of the participation of MM. Rothschild or of Germany or of England. But the Rothschilds, who seem to be husbanding themselves for the big loan for the war indemnity, have apparently declared that they will have nothing to do with the present loan. As for the Disconto Gesellschaft of Berlin, which has an understanding with the Comptoir d'Escompte, and has been sounded by the latter, it has declined to participate in this loan, so that it remains to be seen whether England will wish to participate in it or not. But it does not seem probable that the Russian National Bank, which takes £6,000,000, is likely to abandon 15 per cent. of it, or £900,000, to outsiders, which would make the share reserved for eventual participants £3,000,000. It is thus evident that French financiers, considering this loan as a Russian loan at a favourable rate, believe that it will be readily taken up by the public, for they accept the contingent abandonment of the 15 per cent. as a sacrifice.

As to the price of issue, the first idea was, I believe, a 3 per cent. loan at 75, thus yielding 4 per cent., with repayment at par. It was, however, considered difficult to float a Chinese 3 per cent. loan even at 75, besides which this would have excluded the possibility of conversion hereafter. The next idea was a 3½ per cent. loan at a price to be fixed upon; but this was too much like the last French conversion, and was not adopted. A 4 per cent. loan was then resolved on, which the syndicate will obtain at 94 and which they will dispose of at 98½. One per cent., however, on the selling price will be assigned to the Russian National Bank or its syndicate for expenses, particularly for stamp duty, so that the Hottingner syndicate will make a profit of £720,000. The loan is really for £15,000,000, but £16,000,000 are issued to meet the 7 per cent. below par, at which it is sold to the syndicate.—*Our Own Correspondent.*

Berlin, June 13th.

Judging from the utterances of the semi-official Press, influential circles here are not inclined to attach any great political importance to the conclusion of the Russo-Chinese loan. It is argued that the loan is a private transaction between Russia and China, and that Germany would scarcely have gained any advantages, commercial or otherwise, by her participation. The organs of the financial world, however, are by no means satisfied by such arguments, and maintain that the operation took German diplomacy by surprise, and thereby inflicted upon it a defeat. Little credence also is given to the statement that by means of the loan Russia is to receive back money she advanced to China during the war. "The German financial world," says the *Börsen Courier*, "no less than German diplomacy, has been taken unawares by the conclusion of the loan, and we

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may add, in a very unpleasant manner. It is possible that German finance was subsequently offered a share in the business, but it was certainly not consulted during the preliminary negotiations." —*Our Correspondent.*

With reference to the above, *The Times* of June, 13th writes:—

The Russo-Chinese loan, arrangements for which have just been concluded in Paris, is for £16,000,000, or 400,000,000 francs. The rate of interest is to be 4 per cent., and the security is, first, the Customs revenue of the treaty ports, and secondly, the absolute guarantee of Russia. The loan is to be redeemable in 35 years and inconvertible for 15 years. It has been taken by banks and financial houses in Paris and St. Petersburg of a position which, in the ordinary course of things, must insure its success in the market. It will be issued to the public probably towards the end of the month in the capitals named and in Amsterdam. Our St. Petersburg Correspondent names 98½ as the probable price of issue, while in Paris 98 per cent. has been mentioned. At all events this financial operation has been practically carried through by Russia in spite of some apparent difficulties of no inconsiderable kind, and the Tsar and his advisers must be complimented on the way in which the business has been managed. Whether any of the other parties either to the transaction itself, to the diplomatic operations from which it sprang, or to the war which first set the diplomatists in motion are to be congratulated equally with Russia on the ultimate issue may be perhaps more doubtful. . . It will be seen from our St. Petersburg despatches that different territorial acquisitions are mentioned in that city as the possible fruits of this marked victory of Russian diplomacy. . . Without questioning that Russia may possibly look for some such immediate reward for her successful exertions on behalf of China, we are inclined to fancy that the real return which she expects is larger, more remote, and less tangible than any of those discussed by the gossips of St. Petersburg. . . The solid advantage which Prince Lobanof and M. de Witte have secured for their country is, as we have already pointed out, in the hold which the position of creditor will give Russia over China. The exact purposes for which Russia may hereafter choose to exert pressure over her debtor are probably as yet quite unknown to her own statesmen. They foresaw, however, that a lever by which to extort future concessions from her would in all likelihood be most valuable to them in the future. They saw their chance of grasping such a lever, and they have seized it with the insight and the promptitude of statesmen. It is quite as likely as not that they will be in no immediate hurry to employ it. They will let China flounder on, or give her further help in her financial embarrassments, which may be aggravated by this hypothecation of her best securities, as they think best. Meanwhile, they will go on with the Siberian railway and make fresh additions to their fleet. The greatness of the policy lies in the fact that it is continuous and deliberate. It has its ends clearly fixed. It moves forward towards them steadily. It does not greatly concern itself whether it attains them a generation sooner or later. Our own statesmen might well take a lesson. Our policy is too often deficient in those qualities by which Russian policy is distinguished.

INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE WAR BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

The great war in the extreme East has lasted not quite ten months.[1] It has destroyed the reputation of one Empire, and made that of another. In endless ways it has been full of instruction, but I propose to deal with it only in so far as it has illustrated the rules of International law. To the student of this science an outbreak of hostilities is always interesting. He knows that in war-time the questions with which he is concerned come thicker and faster than in time of peace, and that he can turn for their solution, either directly or by analogy, not merely to the often ill-defined practice of nations, or the frequently uncertain results of diplomatic discussions, but, in many cases, to clear and authoritative decisions of Courts of Prize.

The law of war, as is well-known, consists of two great chapters, dealing respectively with the relations of one belligerent to the other, and with the relations of each belligerent to neutrals.

The former topic has been under discussion for at least six centuries; for, not to mention classical antiquity, the literature of it may be traced from the canonists and casuists, through the dreamers of a law of Nature, down to the positive systems of the present day. The latter topic is comparatively modern, dating, as a clearly defined subject of separate inquiry, only from the eighteenth century; though it has already come far to surpass in complexity and importance the law of Belligerency.

I propose to call attention to some points in which each of these departments of International law has been illustrated by the war which has just been brought to a close. But, first of all, a word or two upon the applicability of Internation law to the nations which have been engaged in this combat; a question upon which some very random observations have appeared in the public press.[2] Are China and Japan, with reference either to one another or to other Powers, subject to the duties which are recognised as subsisting between the States of Europe? We come here upon a large question, no less than the essential character of International law, and the sphere of its operation. According to the older theory, no doubt, the law of Nations was the law of Christendom; as little applicable to infidels as was the "common law" of the Greek cities (τὰ κοινὰ τῶν Ἑλλήνων νόμιμα) to societies of barbarians. The Reformation, by breaking up the religious unity of Europe, obliged the jurists of those days to look less and less to religion as the test of subjection to what was later described as the "public law of Europe," and of membership of the "Family of Nations." It came to be understood that the members of this "Family" are the States of Western Europe and their derivatives in North and South America, as sharers not so much in a common religion as in a common civilisation and stock of moral ideas. That any other States possess these qualifications is not to be presumed, but needs to be established from the special circumstances of each case. The accession of the Oriental races to the law or "concert" of Europe may be taken to have begun by the formal admission into it of the Ottoman Empire by the Treaty of Paris of 1856. Since that date, the maintenance of permanent diplomatic intercourse between the European Courts and several Powers of the remoter East, together with the increasingly large number of Treaties made with such Powers, and well observed by them, have accustomed us to regard these new-comers as belonging to the charmed circle; though, perhaps, as admitted to it only on probation. Such might seem to be the position of Japan; but such could hardly be said to be the position of China; for China is far behind Japan in readiness to assimilate the ethical ideas of the West, or to enter into the network of Treaties which so much facilitates the social life of the world.[3] In particular, she has neglected to accede to the Geneva Convention for the treatment of the wounded, to which Japan long ago become a party; nor have her courts and codes any pretension so to satisfy European requirements as to justify the Western Powers in resigning, as they are about to do in the case of Japan,[4] the extra-territorial privileges enjoyed in the Empire by foreigners. Antecedently to the war, therefore, we should have said that Japan was admitted on probation, while China was only a candidate for admission, to the "Family of Nations." Let us now see what further light has been thrown upon the respective qualifications of the two Empires by subsequent events; and first with reference to the law of Belligerency, where we have to consider: I.—The declaration of war. II.—The conduct of warfare. III.—The *commercia belli*, *i.e.*, such quasi-friendly transactions as occur between enemies.

I.—War was formally declared by Japan on 31st August, 1894, and the challenge was accepted in a counter-declaration issued by China on the following day. But hostilities were already in progress. On 25th July, a Japanese squadron had been engaged with Chinese men-of-war which had been convoying transports carrying reinforcements for Asan, in Korea; and Japanese troops had captured Asan itself on the 29th. A state of war existed therefore between the two countries as early as 25th July; and there is nothing irregular in a war thus commenced. It has long been a settled doctrine of International law that a declaration, though laudable and for several purposes convenient, is not an essential preliminary to legitimate warfare, and that, even when issued, it may be followed by acts of hostility without an interval.[5] For proof that practice has been in accordance with theory, it will be enough to refer to the historical sketch of the subject which was prepared for the War Office by Colonel Maurice, when the possibility of this country being invaded without notice by means of a Channel Tunnel was under discussion.

II.—With reference to the conduct of warfare, China has not accepted the customs, nor has she bound herself by the express conventions, which prevail among civilised nations. The signal made by Admiral Ting, before the battle off the Yalu, "If the enemy shows the white flag, or hoists the Chinese ensign, give no quarter, but continue firing at her till she is sunk,"[6] need, therefore, occasion no surprise. Sung, the Imperial Commissioner, is stated to have posted notices in Northern Manchuria, offering 10,000 taels for the decapitation of three Japanese generals;[7] and it seems to be established that the Chinese commanders habitually offered and paid rewards for the heads of prisoners,[8] who might indeed be accounted fortunate if they escaped a fate far worse than instantly inflicted death. It was the torture and mutilation of those Japanese who happened to be made prisoners during the operations against Port Arthur which stung their fellow-countrymen into madness, and explains, though nothing can excuse, the massacres which were carried on by them for four days after the place was taken.

With the lamentable exception just mentioned, the conduct of the operations of war by the Japanese seems to have been in accordance with the best European practice, and with the Proclamation addressed to the army on 22nd April, 1894, by Count Oyama, the Minister for War. This remarkable document lays down that "belligerent operations being properly confined to the military and naval forces actually engaged, and there being no reason whatever for enmity between individuals, because their countries are at war, the common principles of humanity dictate the succour and rescue should be extended even to those of the enemy's forces who are disabled either by wounds or disease." It goes on to state that Japan became a party to the Geneva Convention ("more commonly called the Red Cross Association") in June 1886, and that "her soldiers had already been instructed that they are bound to treat with kindness and helpfulness such of their enemies as may be disabled by wounds or disease." China, not having joined the Convention, may behave badly, "but nevertheless her disabled must be succoured, and her captured kindly and considerately treated."[9]

It may be worth while to mention *seriatim* the points in which the Japanese conduct of warfare may be tested by the rules of International law.

1. There seems to have been no employment of privateers. As against China, a non-signatory of the Declaration of Paris, this would have been lawful for Japan, though herself a signatory since 1886.[10]

2. There has been no complaint of any violation of the St. Petersburg Declaration on the part of the Japanese. The Chinese are, however, accused of firing explosive bullets.

3. The Japanese Government seems to have taken some precautions against the employment of savage auxiliaries, by prohibiting the enlistment of those two-handed swordmen the "Samurai." Some of these people, however, accompanied the troops in the guise of coolies, and have been guilty of a certain amount of wanton cruelty.[11]

4. The bombardment of Tung-chow by a Japanese squadron, as a feint, in January last, was complained of by the missionaries, on the ground that it is an open town. But there seems to be no doubt that it is defended by forts, which replied to the enemy's fire.[12]

5. The treatment of peaceful inhabitants and foreigners in places occupied by the Japanese seems to have been praiseworthy. Thus, when Kinchow was taken, an officer was stationed in every store to protect the proprietor from soldiers

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[1] It ended on 8th May, when the ratifications of the Treaty signed at Shimonoseki on 17th April, were exchanged at Chefoo. During the armistice, the war, of course, continued to subsist: "Non pax est inducta; bellum enim manet, pugna cessat."

[2] *E.g.* in the *Saturday Review*, 11th August, 1894: "There was no legal war . . . The code of International law does not apply to barbarians, who have nothing of civilisation beyond a chatter of words and a supply of deadly weapons." *Cf.* even the *Law Journal*, 1894, pp. 478, 513, 536.

[3] *E.g.*, the "universal conventions" as to weights and measures, posts, and telegraphs.

[4] Great Britain, by Treaty with Japan of 16th July, 1894, provides for the cessation of such privileges after five years from that date. The United States and Italy have already followed suit.

[5] See Lord Ellenborough in *Orme* v. *Bruce*, 12 East, 226; Lord Stowell in the *Nayada*, 4 Rob. 253, and the *Elisa Anne*, 1 Dods. 247; Betts, J., in the *Hiawatha*, 1 Blatch.

[6] Statement by Captain McGiffen of the *Chen-yuen*.

[7] Correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*, 12th April 1895.

[8] Claims on this account are said to have been found among the papers of a Chinese general, and Mr. Hart, correspondent of the *New York World*, saw payments made for heads in the governor's yamên at Port Arthur.

[9] H. Norman, *The Far East*, p. 378.

[10] See the official collection of *Japanese Treaties*, vol. ii. (Tokio, 1889) p. 399.

[11] See an article in the *North American Review* for March, 1895, by P. Villiers, special correspondent of the *Standard*.

[12] *Times*, 19th March, 1895.

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and coolies, and the Japanese governor of the town fed hundreds of Chinese daily.[13] A special guard was posted over a British missionary found in one of the houses during the street fighting at old Newchwang;[14] and after the taking of Yingkow, on 6th March, 1895, protection was assured to all law-abiding citizens, and six hundred soldiers were detailed to safeguard the foreign residents.

6. Quarter seems, as a rule, to have been freely granted to non-resisting combatants. It is not established that the *Naniwa* continued to fire, as was alleged, upon the sinking *Kowshing*, and upon the troops and sailors who had taken to the boats or had leapt into the water to avoid sharing her fate. At Port Arthur, for once, there is no doubt that the beheaviour of the Japanese was detestable. Much may be pardoned of what occurred when the stronghold was first entered by its assailants. If a certain number of non-uniformed coolies, or of soldiers who had thrown off their uniforms, received short shrift, when found with rifles in their hands, what was done was not without the sanction of recent European precedent. But unfortunately the Japanese, officers and men alike, were carried far beyond what could be excused even by their finding the mutilated remains of their tortured friends exposed on the gateway of the town.

For four days, after the first, the massacre of non-combatants, of women, of children, was continued in cold blood, while European military *attachés* and special correspondents sickened at the wholesale murders and mutilations, which they could do nothing to prevent.[15] It is said that at last but thirty-six Chinamen were left alive in the city. They had been spared only to be employed in burying their dead fellow-countrymen, and each was protected by a slip of paper fastened in his cap, with the inscription: "This man is not to be killed."[16]

In pleasing contrast to all this, is what occurred upon the capture of the sister naval arsenal to Port Arthur, Wei-hai-wei. The Chinese troops found in the fortress were dismissed in safety, as were the foreigners who had been assisting in the defence of the place, with the exception only of an American who had been arrested under suspicious circumstances at Kobe, but released on giving his parole to return forthwith to the United States.

So, after the capture of Makung in the Pescadores, the Chinese officers were sent to Japan as prisoners of war, but the rank and file were despatched in junks to the mainland, there to be set at liberty.

7. In 1886, Japan gave in her adhesion to the Geneva Convention for the treatment of the wounded,[17] and in the same year a society which had been founded in 1877, on the occasion of the Satsuma rebellion, for the better relief of the sick and wounded, enemies as well as friends, was reorganized under the patronage of the Mikado, and formally enrolled in a list of Red Cross Societies, whose head-quarters is at Geneva. Many ladies of high rank have qualified in it as nurses, it has thousands of subscribers, and it possesses fine hospitals at Hiroshima, Osaka, and Tokio, where such of the Chinese wounded as could be moved so far have received every kindness and the best medical attendance.[18]

The Japanese had no opportunity of conforming to the prescriptions of the Geneva Convention which relate to the surgeons and field hospitals of the enemy, since no such functionaries or institutions seem to be known to the Chinese army.

III.—The most rudimentary, and therefore the longest and most generally accepted, principles of International law, are those which teach the sanctity of ambassadors, the respect due to a flag of truce, and the good faith which is required in the performance of such agreements as may be entered into between enemies. "Etiam hosti fides servanda."

Little fault is to be found with either belligerent with reference to these principles, except that the Chinese are said to have fired on a flag of truce sent to inform them of the conclusion of the armistice. When, at the outbreak of the war, the departing Japanese minister was insulted by offensive cries and pelted with mud, by a disorderly mob of soldiers, while embarking with his suite at Taku, the Chinese authorities lost no time in expressing their regret, and in punishing the offenders.

The Japanese Government, though it refused, and very properly, to treat with Mr. Detring, and subsequently with two Chinese envoys, as being imperfectly accredited, received the plenipotentiary, Li Hung-chang, with every mark of friendly deference, and at once opened negotiations with him, at the little town of Shimonoseki, which had been selected for the purpose on account of its peaceful character. Greater precautions should, as the event proved, have been taken for his safety, but, when, on the 25th march, an attempt was made on the life of Li Hung-chang, by a fanatic or lunatic who fired at him in the street, the would-be assassin was promptly tried, and sentenced to penal servitude for life; the police officials who had failed to make the outrage impossible were dismissed; and the Mikado, not content with tendering the fullest apology to Li Hung chang, and sending his own medical attendants to see to the wound, proceeded to grant to China, what had previously been refused except on prohibitively severe terms, an unconditional armistice, extending over the greater part of the scene of military operations.

The armistice was scrupulously observed, and the peace negotiations, down to the signature of the Treaty of Peace on 17th April, and its ratification on 8th May last, proceeded as correctly on both sides as could have been the case in Europe.

The questions raised by the relations of belligerents one to another are less complex and delicate than those which arise between belligerents and neutrals. Great Britain announced her neutrality in the late war by a proclamation issued on 7th August, 1894, and her example was promptly followed by the other maritime Powers of the West. The presumption is, of course, in favour of neutrals being entitled to carry on their trade, or otherwise pursue their ordinary avocations, as if the war, to which they are no parties, were not being waged. This attitude of aloofness, has however, become subject to numerous modifications, most of which are indeed inevitable. The ordinary rights of states need, in many cases, to be specially re-defined when those states, by the outbreak of war between their neighbours, come to occupy the position of "neutrals;" and states which are so placed become *ipso facto* subject to a set of duties which have no existence in time of peace.

A few words upon such of the rights of neutrals as have made themselves felt during the late war. The sovereignty of the neutral over territory including its territorial waters, implies the right to prohibit hostilities taking place there, No attempt was made to infringe the British right over Hongkong, or to commit acts of war within its waters. An engagement seems even to have been given by the Japanese that they would not attack, and by the Chinese that they would not by torpedos obstruct the access to, a port in which all foreigners are so interested as Shanghai. The persons and property of neutrals in China have been respected alike by the Chinese and by the invaders. It is true that a few days after the outbreak of the war, a British vessel, the *Chung King*, while lying at Tong Ku, was boarded by a number of Chinese soldiers, who seriously maltreated sixty Japanese, men, women, and children, who happened to be on the ship; but an ample apology for the occurrence was made by the Viceroy to the British Consul.[19] The arrest, on a French mail steamer in Japanese waters at Kobe, of two American citizens, whose papers showed that they were proceeding to China to assist the Government there with certain military inventions, though a novel proceeding, was probably justifiable. The neutral right to continue diplomatic intercourse with both belligerents was not interfered with on either side during the war.

But the duties of neutrals are far more prominent than their rights. In the first place, a state by becoming neutral is precluded from certain courses of action which would ordinarily be open to it. Secondly, a neutral state is obliged to prevent certain classes of acts with which, but for the war, it would have nothing to do. Thirdly, a neutral state is obliged to acquiesce in penalties being inflicted by the belligerents upon its subjects, for acts which, apart from the war, would be perfectly innocent. Let us see how far these several heads of duty have been illustrated by what has lately occurred.

I.—(1) A neutral state is, *ex vi termini*, precluded from following its armed forces, in any way, to take part in the hostilities. A salute fired by Admiral Fremantle in honour of a Japanese man of-war is alleged to have given notice to the Chinese of what was intended to have been the secret approach of a Japanese squadron to the harbour of Wei hai-wei. This was unfortunate, and caused much irritation in Japan till the accidental character of the occurrence became thoroughly understoood. (2) A neutral state, though it may not furnish troops to either belligerent, is not compromised by assistance rendered by individuals not belonging to its own army or navy, to one or the other combatant. A good many Europeans seem to have been serving China during the late war, but Germany was not responsible for Major von Hanneken, nor we for Admiral Maclure.[20] (3) A neutral state is bound to abstain from selling its ships of war to either belligerent. If, therefore, as was alleged, the Chilian cruiser, *Esmeralda*, was sold to Japan in November last, or if, as was also alleged, half of the Chilian fleet was sold to China, a gross violation of neutral duty occurred.

II.—A neutral state is bound to prevent certain acts by persons, or within territory, subject to its control. It is, for instance, bound to prevent its territory from being used as a base of hostile operations. So the British proclamation of neutrality brought into force the two "twenty-four hours" rules in all ports of the Queen's dominions. Under these, no Chinese or Japanese war-ship could, under ordinary circumstance, remain in such ports for a longer time than that mentioned, nor could she leave such a port within a shorter time after the departure from it of a warship or merchant vessel belonging to the other belligerent. Again, although a neutral government is not bound to prevent the export by its subjects of munitions of war, to be used by the belligerents, it is bound, according to modern views, to prevent the export of ships of war to be thus used. As to the limits of this duty, so much discussed with reference to the *Alabama*, there is still much doubt; but, in order to be on the safe side, neutral governments are in the habit of taking, under "Foreign Enlistment Acts" or similar pieces of legislation, powers considerably in excess of their International obligations, against a trade which so closely approximates to the sending forth from their shores of a hostile expedition against a friendly Power. An armed vessel, the *Tatsuta*, built in the Tyne for Japan, got clear away before the war was declared; but during the war so close a watch was kept by our customs authorities upon all building yards, that no accession to the naval strength of either China or Japan was possible from that quarter. So, for instance, when a vessel called the *Diogenes*, built at Blackwall, and evidently fitted for war service, was about to proceed to the mouth of the Thames for her speed trial, the Foreign Office, which had been kept informed of the progress of the ship, communicated with the Admiralty, which sent a detachment of thirty blue-jackets and marines to go on board of her, and she did not leave British waters.

III.—The duty of a neutral power to acquiesce in belligerent interference with the trade of its subjects relates to three main topics, viz., blockade, contraband, and belligerent service. The neutral power is under no obligation to prevent its subjects from engaging in the running of blockades, in shipping or carrying contraband, or in carrying troops or despatches for one of the belligerents; but, on the other hand, neutral subjects, so engaged, can expect no protection from their own Government against such customary penalties as may be imposed upon their conduct by the belligerent who is aggrieved by it. With a view to the infliction of such penalties, a belligerent is armed with the right of "visit and search," *i.e.* his cruisers may stop and overhaul any merchant vessel reasonably suspected of any of the offences in question, may arrest her, and may bring her in with a view to obtaining her condemnation by a Prize Court.

No blockade seems to have been established during the late war, but the question of contraband from time to time became prominent. There are many objects, such as rifles and gunpowder, as to the contraband character of which there can be no doubt; but it is not unusual for a belligerent to announce, in a proclamation issued at the outbreak of the war, what other objects he intends to include in the prohibited list. Japan seems to have made such a proclamation with reference to lead and coal, but to have promised not to interfere with the carriage of rice. No similar announcement was made by China, although, early in September, a British ship bound for Japan, on touching at Shanghai, was not allowed to proceed on her voyage till she had discharged a quantity of chlorate of potash which was part of her cargo.[21] On the 21st of the same month a Chinese cruiser stopped the British steamer *Pathan*, in Formosa Channel, on suspicion of carrying munitions of war, and took her into Keelung for further examination.[22] Subsequent searches for contraband have, of course, been more usually made by the cruisers of Japan. In the course of March last several steamers, under the British and the German flags, were stopped and searched by Japanese fast cruisers in the Gulf of Pe-chi-li. These proceedings were, in some quarters, described as "high-handed," but were perfectly legitimate. On 10th April the British steamer *Yiksang*, with 220,000 cartridges on board, shipped

[13] *New York Herald*, December, 1894.
[14] *Times*, 6th March, 1895.
[15] *Times* special correspondent 8th January, 1895.
[16] *North American Review*, March, 1895, p. 325.
[17] *Treaties*, vol. ii, p. 391.
[18] See a special article in *The Times* of 8th January, 1895.
[19] *London and China Telegraph*, 1894, p. 650.
[20] Lieutenant Bouchier, R.N., who had been lent to the Chinese Government left its service, under instructions from Admiral Fremantle.

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at Shanghai, as was alleged, in good faith as "bamboo steel," was seized at Taku and carried to Japan, where her case was speedily brought before a Prize Court, sitting at Sasebo, which ultimately released her. It must be noticed that, quite early in the war, a system of Prize Courts, of first instance and of appeal, was duly called into existence in Japan, and a body of rules of procedure, worthy of the best days of Doctors' Commons, was promulgated for their guidance.[23] I have asked a friend, who is a member of the Japanese Government, to send me any available reports of Prize cases. The cases have probably not been numerous, and can have hardly afforded an opportunity for the appearance of a Japanese Lord Stowell.

The remaining ground for the arrest of a neutral vessel by a belligerent, that she is engaged in the service of the enemy, by carrying troops, officers, or despatches, was illustrated by a case which occurred at the very beginning of the war. On July 25th 1894, the relations between China and Japan with reference to Korea being very strained, and several transports convoyed by men-of-war having already landed reinforcements for the Chinese forces at Asan, in that country, a Japanese squadron, cruising off the island of Sho-pai-oul, on the Korean coast, was attacked about 7 a.m. by Chinese warships returning from Asan. About 9 a.m. the *Kowshing*, a British vessel, carrying further Chinese reinforcements for Asan, appeared on the scene, whereupon the *Naniwa*, one of the Japanese cruisers, turned back from pursuing the Chinese men-of-war and signalled to her to stop. A boat from the *Naniwa* then board the *Kowshing*, and finding that she was carrying 1,200 Chinese troops, with several generals, including the German Major von Hanneken, inquired of the captain whether he would peaceably follow the *Naniwa* to Japan. The Captain said, "Yes. I am powerless to refuse, as you are a man-of-war." The Chinese officers, however, declined to allow this to be done, and made preparations for shooting Captain Galsworthy and his English officers should any attempt be made to take the ship to Japan. After some more parleying, and a final signal from the Japanese to "quit the ship immediately," the *Naniwa*, between 12 and 1 p.m. fired a torpedo and then a broadside at the *Kowshing*, exploding her boilers, and eventually sending her to the bottom. All on board who were able to do so took to the boats or leapt into the water, and most of the Europeans were picked up by the boats of the *Naniwa*. The first arrival of this news in England produced a certain amount of excitement. Leading articles were freely garnished with such phrases as "insult to the British flag," "ample apology to be exacted from Japan," "wanton outrage in time of peace," "full compensation for the owners and for the relations of such of the English officers and engineers as may have perished." It was some time before the facts of the case were clearly ascertained,[24] and still longer before the public was educated in the legal principles applicable to the occurrence. It is, however, now, I believe, pretty well understood that the views asserted from the first by Professor Westlake and myself were correct.[25] As early as August 8th, I maintained, in a letter to *The Times*, that a state of war may well exist without declaration; that a neutral vessel, after notice of a war so existing, is liable, if engaged in a forbidden traffic, such as the carriage of troops for a belligerent, to be arrested and carried in for condemnation by a Prize Court, and that, if she refuses to allow herself so to be carried in, her submission may be compelled by the use of so much force as may be necessary. Applying these principles to the case in question, I went on to say:

> The *Kowshing*, therefore, before the first torpedo was fired, was, and knew that she was, a neutural ship engaged in the transport service of a belligerent. (Her flying the British flag, whether, as a *ruse de guerre* or otherwise, is wholly immaterial.) Her liabilities, as such ship, were twofold:—
>
> 1. Regarded as an isolated vessel, she was liable to be stopped, visited, and taken in for adjudication by a Japanese Prize Court. If, as was the fact, it was practically impossible for a Japanese prize crew to be placed on board of her, the Japanese commander was within his rights in using any amount of force necessary to compel her to obey his orders.
>
> 2. As one of a fleet of transports and men-of-war engaged in carrying reinforcements to the Chinese troops on the mainland, the *Kowshing* was clearly part of a hostile expedition, or one which might be treated as hostile, which the Japanese were entitled, by the use of all needful force, to prevent from reaching its destination.
>
> The force employed seems not to have been in excess of what might lawfully be used, either for the arrest of an enemy's neutral transport or for barring the progress of a hostile expedition. The rescued officers also having been set at liberty in due course, I am unable to see that any violation of the rights of neutrals has occurred. No apology is due to our Government, nor have the owners of the *Kowshing*, or the relatives of any of her European officers who may have been lost, any claim for compensation.

Our review of the course of recent events would seem to lead to the following conclusions. Japan, apart from the lamentable outburst of savagery at Port Arthur, has conformed to the laws of war, both in her treatment of the enemy and in her relations to neutrals, in a manner worthy of the the most civilised nations of Western Europe. China, on the other hand, has given no indication of her acceptance of the usages of civilised warfare; and, although she was prepared to exercise the rights conceded to belligerents against neutral commerce, took no steps, by establishing prize courts, to secure vessels engaged in it from improper molestation. This is the more to be regretted, because for more than thirty years past International law has been studied at Pekin. The works of Wheaton, G. F. de Martens, Woolsey, and Bluntschli, as well as the *Manuel des Lois de la Guerre* of the "Institut de Droit International," have been translated into Chinese; and the translator, Dr. Martin, is Professor of the Law of Nations at the Imperial College of Tung-wen. But the Chinese have adopted only what I have already described as the rudimentary and inevitable conceptions of international law. They have shown themselves to be well versed in the ceremonial of embassy and the conduct of diplomacy. To a respect for the laws of war they have not yet attained,

T. E. HOLLAND,
Chichele Professor of International Law and Diplomacy in the University of Oxford.

[23] *Times*, 13th September, 1894.
[24] Reuter's telegram, Shanghai, 26th September, 1894.
[25] Set out in the *Japan Weekly Mail*, 25th August, 1894.
[24] For a good account of them by Captain S. Eardley Wilmot, R.N., see the *Fortnightly Review* for January, 1895.
[25] We were, however, described, in a paper called *Concord*, October, 1894, as "recreant doctors of law," "backsliding jurists," who "have brought on their own reputations, or on their profession, a scandal and reproach which public opinion will insist on having removed."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, July 23.

Her Majesty's ships *Centurion*, *Edgar*, *Undaunted*, *Spartan*, *Leander*, *Alacrity*, and *Porpoise* left this port to-day for Ishikari Bay.

(FROM N.-C. DAILY NEWS.)

London, July 17.

A Parsee, Mr. Bhownagri (U.) has been elected for Bethnal Green, and Mr. Naoroji (L.) has been unseated for Central Finsbury. Mr. James Keir Hardie (Lab.) has been unseated at West Ham, and the Rt. Hon. Sir John T. Hibbert, (L.) at Oldham.

Three assassins stopped the carriage of M. Stambuloff, formerly Premier of Bulgaria, at Sofia, and shot and stabbed him, almost severing both his hands which had to be amputated afterwards. M. Stambuloff's condition is very grave.—*Daily News*.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Osaka, July 24.

The Minister of War has instructed the Acting Commander-in-Chief of the Fourth Army Division to appoint three officers and six soldiers, who will join the company of ten officers and twenty-one men, who are to be dispatched to Taku to return the Chinese prisoners to the Chinese Government.

Kobe, July 24.

The captured war-ship *Chen-yuen* put into this at 4 p.m. yesterday, and leaves for Yokosuka at 11 a.m. to-morrow. As this is an infected port no spectators were allowed to visit the ship.

Shimonoseki, July 24.

A severe gale has been blowing since last night, and many boats were wrecked at Moji.

Matsuyama, July 24.

Five cases of cholera have been reported among the soldiers just returned from China.

Fenghwang, July 23.

Over 130 gendarmes, in command of Sub-Lieutenant Arakawa, arrived here from Chin-chow to day.

Söul, July 23.

The Duke of Abruzzi has arrived here, and the Ministers of State and Foreign Representatives have visited his hotel.

The departure for home of Mr. Ishizuka, a Japanese adviser to the Korean Government, has been postponed for some time.

Toyama, July 4.

Members of the Prefectural Assembly have met to confer upon the alleged defective civil engineering works on the Joganji river, and their deputies have started to visit the district.

Kuchinotsu, July 24.

A severe gale accompanied by heavy rainprevails here to-day.

Osaka, July 25.

Heavy rain commenced to fall here at 10 o'clock last night, and continued for an hour. The wind increased to a gale, and at 8 o'clock was blowing furiously. The wind continued all the afternoon. The quantity of rain that fell was 23.3 milimètres at 7.10 a.m., and the velocity of wind was 218.3 mètres at 8 a.m.

Takamatsu, July 25.

A violent storm occurred here last night, and some amount of damage was done.

Matsuye, July 25.

A heavy rain and strong winds visited this last night, and various rivers are very full.

Okayama, July 25.

A strong gale passed over this last night, roofs being blown away and fences overthrown. Damage was also done to crops.

Nagoya, July 25.

A serious storm occurred here last night, and more or less severe damage was done to crops.

Gifu, July 25.

A violent gale swept over this last night. The weather is very unfavourable, and great anxiety is being entertained by the farmers.

Osaka, July 25.

Ninety-one cases of cholera were reported here yesterday.

Okayama, July 25.

Owing to high waves which came up with the storm, several boats were lost and other damage was done on the beaches of Oda and Asaguchi Districts. A constable of the water police was injured and a seaman drowned. No serious damage is expected to have been done to the enbankments.

Hiroshima, July 25.

The storm began here at 1 p.m. yesterday, and at 7 p.m. the wind had risen considerably; at 11 p.m. it reached its highest. High waves broke on the shore, and several rivers overflowed, some houses being submerged and others damaged or destroyed. The storm had abated somewhat at midnight. Many bridges were ruined. Much damage is expected to have been done in the rural divisions.

Surgeon-General Sato and 56 other surgeons and nurses left here this morning for Itozaki, to render assistance to the disabled soldiers, who were in the railway accident in that district.

Hiroshima, July 24.

Six buildings attached to the Third Detached Military Hospital were destroyed, and a patient slightly injured through the storm, but all the others were removed in safety to the other buildings.

Kobe, July 25.

Ten vessels were wrecked in this port last night.

Ujina, July 25.

The military store-house, wharf, railway station, and some houses near the beach were greatly damaged last night.

Itozaki, July 25.

A special train has been dispatched from this station to bring in the unfortunate soldiers. Some 140 men were first brought up to this town, and 70 more were conveyed by the second train. Buildings are being prepared at Matsuhama to house them. Eight remains have been recovered.

The total number of soldiers brought here by the 1st and 2nd trains was 334, and a third train was sent out just now (2.45 p.m.).

Some 347 soldiers are now (3.25 p.m.) staying here, of whom 11 are badly, and 7 slightly injured. Six soldiers were drowned, and 10 others are missing. Surgeon-General Sato and others have arrived from Hiroshima.

Onomichi, July 25.

The remains of Ono, the engine-driver, and four others were discovered to-day.

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be Addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 186.

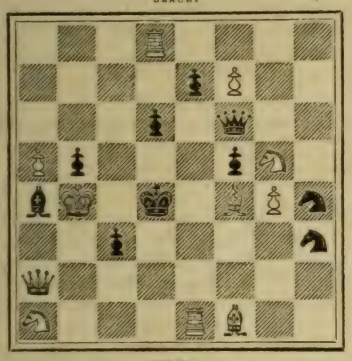
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K B sq.	1—K × Kt (dis. ch.)
2—Q to B 5, mate	
	1—Q to K 6 (ch.)
2—R × Q, mate	
	1—Q × R
2—Q × Q, mate	
	1—R × B
2—Q to B 4, mate.	

Correct answer from Digamma, W.H.S., Shogi, J.D., and E. J. King.

Correct solution of No. 184 received from E.D.

Problem No. 188.
By T. E. Ewing.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Mr. Henry Norman, the author of *The Peoples and Politics of the Far East*, writes of the relief which, as a traveller, he found in chess after a severe attack of dysentery. For days subsequently he says, "I travelled propped up on my elephant, passing the time with a book of chess problems and a little travelling chess-board. I cannot too strongly recommend this method to other travellers on monotonous journeys, for often the simplest problem will render one oblivious to the *ennui* of a whole day."

The Hastings International Meeting.

The full programme of this event is a welcome and interesting document. The rules in brief are these:—

1. Play begins August 5th at the Brassey Institute, Hastings, proceeds daily (Sundays excepted) from 1 to 5 and from 7 till 10 p.m., and concludes during the month. Thursday is an off day or for unfinished games to be fought out.

2. There will be one round only, draws counting half.

3. The prizes are fixed at £150, £115, £85, £60, £40, £30, and £20—the first three being already guaranteed, the last four being to some extent dependent upon subscriptions yet to come.

4. The time limit is to be 15 moves per hour; provided, however, that during the first two hours each player makes 30 moves, the terms are complied with. (A wholesome rule, allowing no claim for expiration of time until a player has exhausted two hours, thus giving ample time in the Opening, &c.)

5. Consolation money. An otherwise unsuccessful competitor who may win of first, second, or third prize-winners gets £2 for any such game, or £1 each for any games won of the others.

6. Ties for first prize to be played off; others, if any, to divide. Three won games to decide in case two players tie for first place.

The last mentioned is perhaps the only rule that may give rise to serious questionings; all the rest seem excellent and the great body of chess players throughout the world will hail with satisfaction the fact that one of the most promising events of recent years—the most notable tournament since 1883—is to be held on British soil.

The *Leeds Mercury Supplement* reports that Mr. Steinitz is anxious that the games of the Hastings International Chess Congress should be published in book form at a subscription price of five dollars per copy. He expressed himself as ready to annotate the games, either in England or in America. He has also said that if sufficient inducements should be offered, he will have no objection to enrol himself as one of the competitors.

Herbert E. Dobell, the secretary of the international tournament, which will begin on August 5th in Hastings, England, writes to *The Tribune* that Lasker, Blackburne, Bird, Gunsberg, Mason, Teichmann, and Tinsley, of England; Tarrasch, Mieses, and Walbrodt, of Germany; Tschigorin, of Russia, and Marco, of Austria, have already entered, and that in all probability Max Weiss and Julius Makovetz, of Austria, will also be found in the ring. As Steinitz is a certain and Pillsbury a probable player, the tournament promises to be the most important ever held.

Chess in Melbourne.

We (*Weekly Times*) publish a game recently played against Mr. Baynes by Mr. Younkman, one of the country players selected to represent the colony in the forthcoming intercolonial contest. From the manner in which the latter portion of the game is conducted, it is evident that Mr. Younkman is a player of great strength.

Game No. 301.

WHITE. Mr. G. W. Baynes.	BLACK. Mr. I. L. Younkman.
1—Kt to K B 3	1—Kt to K B 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—P to Q B 4	3—P to K 3
4—P to K 3	4—P to Q Kt 3
5—P to Q R 3	5—K B to K 2
6—Q Kt to Q 2	6—Q Kt to Q 2
7—K B to Q 3	7—B to Q Kt 2
8—Q to Q B 2	8—P to Q B 4
9—Castles	9—Q R to Q B sq.
10—P to Q Kt 3	10—Q to Q B 2
11—B to Q Kt 2	11—P to K R 3
12—Kt to K 5	12—Kt takes Kt (a)
13—P takes Kt	13—Kt to Kt 5 (b)
14—B P takes P	14—P takes P (c)
15—B to Kt 5 (d)	15—K to B sq.
16—Q to K B 5 (e)	16—P to K R 4
17—P to K R 3	17—P to K Kt 3
18—Q to K B 4	18—P to K Kt 4
19—Q to K Kt 3	19—Kt to R 3
20—B to Q 3 (f)	20—P to K R 5
21—Q to K R 2	21—R to K Kt sq.
22—P to K B 3	22—P to K B 4 (g)
23—P takes P en pass. (h)	23—B to Q 3
24—P to K B 4	24—P to Q 5
25—P to K 4	25—P takes P
26—Kt to K B 3	26—Q to K R 2 (j)
27—P to K 5 (k)	27—Q takes B (l)
28—Q takes P	28—Q to K Kt 3
29—Kt takes R P	29—Q takes P ch. (m)
30—Kt takes Q	30—R takes Kt
31—K to R sq.	31—K B takes P (n)
32—Q to K B 3	32—B takes Q
33—R takes B	33—R takes B
34—R to K Kt sq. (o)	34—R to K R 7, mate.

(a) This capture appear to be an unpleasant necessity. White has much the better position, and has obtained an excellent game.

(b) This move costs Black at least the privilege of castling. Kt to Q 2 is the correct move.

(c) Leaving open the loss of the exchange.

(d) We are of opinion that this line of play is better than B to B 5, the obvious move, *e.g.*:—

15.—B to B 5	15.—Kt takes K P
16.—B takes R	16.—B takes B
17.—B takes Kt	17.—Q takes B
18.—Kt to B 3	18.—Q to R 4

And although the exchange ahead, White's advantage is very problematical.

(e) We consider the following line of play wins for White, *e.g.*:—

16.—Kt to K B 3	16.—P to K R 4
17.—P to R 3	17.—Kt to R 3
18.—P to K 6	18.—P takes P (best)
19.—Q to Kt 6	

And will win in all variations.

(f) P to K 6 is probably best at this point.

(g) An excellent move.

(h) A most imprudent capture.

(j) Premature, R to Kt 6 is much better.

(k) If White had here played Q R to Q sq. followed by R to Q 2, we think the tide would turn in his favour.

(l) From this point Black's play is faultless.

(m) Excellent play.

(n) Following upon his 29th move this beautiful coup is not unworthy of the great Morphy himself. Of course if Q takes Kt ch. mate in two follows.

(o) A blunder. But his game is hopeless.

Game No. 302.

The following is a pretty little game recently won by Mr. Esling. It was one of a set of nine games which Mr. Esling played simultaneously:—

THE EVANS GAMBIT (IRREGULAR).

WHITE. Mr. Esling.	BLACK. A Bendigo Amateur.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—Castles	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q Kt 4	5—B takes P
6—P to Q B 3	6—B to R 4
7—P to Q 4	7—Kt takes P
8—Kt takes P	8—P to Q 4
9—B to Q Kt 5	9—B to Q 2
10—Kt takes K B P	10—K takes Kt
11—Q to R 5 ch.	11—K to K 3
12—R to K sq.	12—Q to B 3
13—R takes Kt ch.	13—P takes R
14—B to B 4 ch.	14—K to Q 3
15—Q to B 5 mate.	

Tobacco and Chess Again.

Game No. 303.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

WHITE. W. Ridley.	BLACK. H. Taylour.
1—P to K B 4 (a)	1—P to K 3 (b)
2—P to K 4 (c)	2—B to B 4 (d)
3—P to Q 4	3—B to Kt 3
4—K Kt to B 3	4—Q Kt to B 3 (e)
5—P to B 3	5—K Kt to K 2
6—B to Q 3	6—Castles
7—Castles (f)	7—P to Q 4
8—P to K 5	8—Kt to Kt 3
9—K to R sq. (g)	9—Q Kt to K 2
10—Kt to Kt 5	10—P to Q B 4
11—R to B 3 (h)	11—P to K R 3
12—B takes Kt (i)	12—P takes B
13—Kt to K R 3	13—P takes P
14—P takes P	14—Kt to B 4 (j)
15—B to K 3	15—B to Q 2
16—Kt to B 3	16—Q to K 2
17—P to R 3	17—Q R to B sq.
18—B to B 2	18—R to B 5
19—R to Q 3	19—Q to B 2
20—Q to Q 2	20—K R to B sq.
21—P to Q Kt 3 (k)	21—Q R to B 2
22—R to K sq. (l)	22—B takes P ! (m)
23—B takes B	23—Kt takes B
24—Kt takes P	24—Kt takes P
25—R takes Kt	25—P takes Kt
26—Kt to Kt sq.	26—B to B 4
27—Kt to K 2	27—R to B 7
28—Q to K 3	28—B to K 5
29—R to B 3 (n)	29—K R takes R
30—Kt takes R	30—B takes P ch.
31—K to Kt sq.	31—Q to K 3
32—Q to Kt 3	32—Q to Kt 3 ch.
33—Q to K 3	33—P to Q 5
Resigns (o).	

(a) Although Bird is partial to 1—P to K B 4, it is not a good opening, as it leaves the Q P weak.

(b) From's gambit may be here offered, viz,:—1 P to K 4, 2—P takes P—P to Q 3, 3—P takes P—B takes P, with an attacking position for the deficient Pawn.

(c) Changing the opening into a variation of the French; bad for White. 2—Kt to K B 3 is usual.

(d) Very injudicious. 2—P to Q 4, and presently P to Q B 4, is the right course.

(e) Here also P to Q 4 is the move.

(f) Having his forces so well disposed for a King's side attack, he should not have castled K R. In many similar positions the K Kt goes to Kt 5, and if Black try to shift it by P to K R 3, then the effective reply is P to K R 4.

(g) We like Kt to Kt 5 at once.

(h) Shutting the diagonal to the Q, which should now go to K R 5.

(i) This B was to well posted to exchange for an inactive Kt. He should have played 12—R to R 3; if then 13—P takes Kt, 13—Q to R 5—R to K sq.*, 14—P to B 5—P takes P best, 15—Q B takes Kt P (threatening B takes Kt, Q to R 7, &c.), 15—K to B sq., 26—B to B 6 and wins. * Or, 13—P to B 4—14—P takes P e. p.—R takes P, 15—P takes P with a winning attack.

(j) Owing to White's remissness, the second player now begins and sustains the attack.

(k) Loosening still further his broken P position; 21—Kt to Kt sq., followed by K Kt to K 2, looks all right.

(l) A slip which Black promptly punishes. The R should go to Q B sq.

(m) Well played.

(n) This move quickly loses, but White had no valid defence.

(o) The improved form shown by Mr. Taylour in this game suggests renewed intimacy on his part with the calumet.

Game No. 304.

The following interesting game was played recently at Board No. 1, in a match between Metropolitan and Sussex:—

PETROFF'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. F. W. Lord (Metropol.).	BLACK. H. W. Butler (Sussex).
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3 (a)
3—Kt takes P	3—P to Q 3
4—Kt to K B 2 (b)	4—Kt takes P
5—P to Q 4	5—P to Q 4
6—B to Q 3	6—B to K 2
7—Castles	7—Castles
8—P to B 4	8—Kt to K B 3
9—P to K R 3 (c)	9—P to Q Kt 3
10—Kt to B 3	10—P takes P
11—B takes B P	11—B to Kt 2
12—R to K sq.	12—B to Q 3 (d)
13—B to K Kt 5	13—Q Kt to Q 2
14—Kt to K 5	14—P to Q R 4
15—Kt to Q 5 (e)	15—Q to B sq. (f)
16—K takes Kt ch.	16—Kt takes Kt
17—B takes Kt	17—P takes B
18—Kt to Kt 4	18—K to Kt 2 (g)
19—Q to Q 2	19—Q to B 4
20—Q to R 6 ch.	20—K to R sq.
21—B to Q 3 (h)	21—Resigns.

(a) A counter-attack dating from the Gottingen MS. of 1490. The Russian players, Petroff and Jaenisch, revised it; hence its association with the name of the former. The defence is scarcely satisfactory, and few masters of the modern school now resort to it. Mr. Mason, however, is an exception in this respect. He has played it frequently in important matches, and is thoroughly conversant with the whole of its intricacies.

(b) 4 Kt takes P, K takes Kt; 5 B to B 4 ch. lead to a smart attack, and an interesting game, but it is not sound.

(c) 9 P takes P is frequently played at this stage, but the text move seems quite as strong.

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(d) Black has conducted the opening very well, and has now at least an even game. The text move, however, is objectionable, as it allows the Knight to be pinned, which leads to subsequent difficulties. P to K R 3, Q Kt to Q 2, R to K sq., or even P to B 4, were better. In the latter case, if White replies with 13 P to Q 5, the advanced and isolated Pawn might ultimately become difficult to defend.

(e) All this is very skilfully played by Mr. Lord.

(f) Perhaps P to K R 3 or B takes Q Kt were lesser evils.

(g) If P to K B 4; 29—Kt to R 6 ch., K to Kt 2 best; 30—Q to R 5, &c., winning.

(h) An elegant finishing stroke. If Q takes B; 22—Q takes B P ch., K to Kt sq.; 23—Kt to R 6 mate.

Game No. 305.

Played in Australia (Charlick Gambit) :—

WHITE. Apperley.	BLACK. Charlick.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to K 4
2—P takes P	2—P to Q 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to Q B 3
4—P takes P	4—Q to B 3
5—B to B sq.	5—B takes P
6—P to Q B 3	6—B to K B 4
7—P to K 3	7—Castles Q R
8—Kt to Q 2	8—Q to Kt 3
9—P to K R 3	9—Kt to B 3
10—K Kt to B 3	10—K R to K sq.
11—Q to R 4	11—B to B 7
12—Kt to Kt 3	12—Kt to K 5
13—Kt to R 4	13—Q to Kt 6
14—P takes Q and Black mates in two moves.	

Game No. 306.

SCOTCH GAMBIT—Q TO R 5 DEFENCE.

WHITE. Burille.	BLACK. Amateur.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Q to R 5
5—Kt to Q Kt 5	5—B to Kt 5 ch.
6—P to B 3	6—Q takes K P ch.
7—B to K 3	7—B to Q R 4
8—Q Kt to Q 2	8—Q to K 2
9—Kt to B 4	9—P to Q R 3
10—K Kt to Q 6 ch.	10—P takes Kt
11—Kt takes P ch.	11—K to Q sq.
12—Q to Q 5	12—Kt to K R 3
13—Castles Q R	13—R to B sq.
White mates in two moves.	

Game No. 307.

A PARISIAN BRILLIANCY.

The following game, says *La Stratégie*, was played recently at the Café de la Régence by M. Janowski giving Kt odds :—

REMOVE WHITE'S Q KT—MUZIO-POLERIO GAMBIT.

WHITE. Janowski.	BLACK. Amateur.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Castles	5—P takes Kt
6—Q takes P	6—Q to B 3
7—P to K 5	7—Q takes P
8—P to Q 3	8—B to K R 3
9—B to Q 2	9—Kt to K 2
10—B to Q B 3	10—Q to B 4 ch.
11—K to R sq.	11—Castles
12—Q R to K sq.	12—P to Q 4
13—Q to R 5	13—P to K B 3
14—R takes Kt	14—Q takes R
15—B takes P ch.	15—K to Kt 2
16—R to K sq.	16—Q to B 4
17—R to K 5	17—Q to K B 7
White mates in four moves (a).	

(a) 1—R to Kt 5 ch., B takes R; 2—Q to B ch., K to R sq; 3—Q takes P ch., R takes Q; 4—B mates.

Lasker on the Evans.

With reference to the Evans Gambit, Champion Lasker believes :—(1) That the compromised defence is favourable to the second player; (2) that the normal form of the Evans yields to White a lasting and very dangerous attack on the King's side; and (3) that Black has a simple and safe way of evading all difficulty if he will immediately give back his material advantage. His way of treating the Evans Gambit is as follows :—

WHITE.	BLACK
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q B 4	3—B to Q B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4 (a)
6—Castles (b)	6—B to Kt 3
7—P to Q 4	7—P to Q 3 (c)
8—P takes P	8—P takes P
9—Q takes Q	9—Kt takes Q
10—Kt takes P	10—Kt to K B 3 (d)

NOTES.

(a) Better than the usual 5..... B to B 4, which gives White more chances for attack.

(b) If White plays 6—P to Q 4, Black has the option of bringing about the "Compromised Defence," which is favourable to the second player.

(c) Black gives up the Pawn previously gained for the purpose of simplification.

(d) White's Queen's side is disarranged for the end-game, and Black has a better-disposed position for the ending. The White Queen's Bishop's Pawn is weak. It is also an obstacle to White's effective development.

In the course of a recent interview Mr. Steinitz remarked that the secret of chess might be described as a "just balance of mind," besides which there must be "power of analysis, imagination, and many other qualifications." He added that "All great thinkers have been great chess players more or less. Buckle, the great English historian, was, perhaps, as fine a chess-player as England ever knew, although he never played in public. So were Voltaire and Diderot in France, and Frederick the Great in Germany. Both Von Moltke and Bismarck were fine players, although the Emperor William could give them Pawns and beat them. Curiously enough, Napoleon did not understand the game, and was very much chagrined at his inability to play at all. This suggests the reflection that great conquerors are madmen; that they have not well-balanced minds. Chess may be described as mental athletics; it is the gymnasium of the mind. I believe that the mind can be trained as easily and perfectly as the body, and I know of no better exercise than chess; it develops, strengthens, and clarifies the brain."

The *Daily News* cites Mr. Gladstone as an authority for the statement that the literature of chess exceeds 1,000 volumes.

Lasker has declined the invitation of the St. Petersburg Chess Club to play a match with Tschigorin.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, July 30th.*
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 29th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, July 28th.‡
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, July 27th.§
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 1st.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 2nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 7th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Aug. 9th.

* *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on July 13th. † *Empress of China* left Vancouver on July 15th. ‡ *Verona* left Nagasaki on July 23rd. § *Belgic* left Hongkong on July 20th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, July 28th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, July 29th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, July 30th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 2nd.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 3rd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Aug. 9th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 10th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 10th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,849, Thomson, 20th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,840, H. W. G. Lindsay, 20th July,—San Francisco 3rd July, viâ Honolulu 10th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Duncan, 21st July,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Gerda, German steamer, 1,243, Ehlers, 21st July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Pigmy (6), gunboat, Captain H. A. Phillip, 21st July,—Kobe.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, Davies, 21st July,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,918, Darke, 22nd July,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299, Batt, 22nd July,—Liverpool viâ Shanghai, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Straits of Dover, British steamer, 1,436, E. Halliday, 22nd July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Dante, Dutch steamer, 1,302, Schultz, 23rd July,—Colombo viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Spondilus, British tank-steamer, 2,350, Hocken, 23rd July,—Batoum viâ ports, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Metaxa, 26th July,—Hakodate.

DEPARTURES.

Strathleven, British steamer, 1,588, Cormack, 21st July,—Hongkong viâ Mororan, Light.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 20th July,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Gilsland, British steamer, 1,367, Brabyn, 20th July,—Kobe, General.—Sale & Co.

Queen Victoria, British steamer, 1,365, Guthrie, 20th July,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Keemun, British steamer, 1,985, G. Gratton, 21st July,—New York viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Mattie T. Dyer, American schooner, 103, C. E. Mockler, 21st July,—North Pacific, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Ningchow, British steamer, 1,735, Warrell, 21st July,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. W. G. Lindsay, 23rd July,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,879, Pulford, 24th July,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Pyrrhus, British steamer, 2,299, Batt, 24th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Bertha, Norwegian bark, 693, P. Wahl, 27th July,—Port Townsend, Wash., Ballast.—Order.

Calédonien, French steamer, 2,500, Bevilaque, 27th July,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Straits of Dover, British steamer, 1,436, E. Halliday, 27th July,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco, viâ Honolulu :—Mr. James Flood, Mrs. James Flood, Mr. H. Flood, Mr. R. S. MacArthur, Mr. F. A. Downing, Mr. K. Okotz, Dr. and Mrs. Muramura and child, Mr. S. Matsumura, Mr. J. A. Wilder, Mr. R. Nunnemacher, Mr. W. R. Falk, Dr. W. H. Park, Mrs. Park and child, Mrs. M. J. Lamburth and child, Miss Hu King Eng, Mr. Henri L. E. Begue, Dr. Smirov, and Dr. Soloviev in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. P. W. Church, Surgeon-Captain Beveridge, Mr. H. Wiechert, Mr. J. Paris, Mr. Mr. N. J. Fen Bosch, Mr. M. Yamawaki, Mrs. Ah Soon, Mr. J. E. de Becker, Mr. Fischer, and Mr. J. Colquhoun in cabin; one European in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco :—Mr. Claude L. Barrow, Miss Burdick, Mrs. Bailie and 3 children, Mr. Harrison P. Bridge, Mr. A. Champin, Rev. J. C. Davison, Mr. B. Dobimin, Mr. E. A. Fitzgerald, Mrs. J. S. Hager, Miss Hager and maid, Miss Alice Hager, Miss Ethel Hager, Mr. H. Hannah, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, Mrs. A. D. Hail, Miss Hail, Miss Alice Humphreys, Mr. W. B. Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Kirby, Miss A. E. Morgan, Mr. Alex. Marks, Mr. R. H. Marks, Mr. T. Mitchell, Mr. William G. Norris, Mr. F. B. Nichols, Miss E. Phelps and maid, Mr. T. S. Reid, Mr. W. K. Roberts, Miss J. F. Stone, Miss Swinney, Lieut. T. Stevens, U.S.N., Mr. W. P. White, Mr. J. Witkowski, and Mr. E. Welbaum in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki :—Mr. J. Meyers, Mrs. Vernon and son, Mr. F. de la F. Verney, Mr. Chas. Bell, and Mr. Alex. Donald in cabin.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Shanghai viâ ports :—Messrs. Grumwald, P. Buller, A. Sargent, G. de Wendrick, W. Tallers, Mr. and Mrs. Tipple, Mrs. A. Sant, Mrs. Webster, Mrs. L. Fisher, Mrs. Michelot, Dr. Irwin H. Correll, Messrs. J. W. Neeson, J. Bailie and servant, L. Ho Sow, S. Yokomiya and daughter, A. Port, J. Vida, Ducroix, Herbras, Bard, E. Kleine, Akashi Kohn, Oscar Bagger, and Okeya in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco :—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	ST. PAUL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	4,775	—	—	—	—	—	4,775
Hyogo	—	805	994	—	—	—	1,799
Yokohama.	2,740	—	—	—	—	—	2,740
Hongkong.	955	—	—	—	—	—	955
Amoy	2,529	5,014	—	—	—	1,160	8,703
Foochow ...	1,309	2,513	1,893	—	621	—	6,136
Total ...	12,308	8,332	2,887	—	621	1,160	25,308

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	325	—	325
Yokohama	—	809	—	809
Total	—	1,134	—	1,134

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Silk, 272 bales; Waste Silk, 211 bales.

Per French steamer *Calédonien*, for Shanghai viâ ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 530 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 55 bales.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No good news at all. Some buyers appear to have occupied themselves with the settlement of the famous Yarn case, others are up in the hills away from the hot weather, and generally speaking the market is weak and languishing.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,.	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,.	2 00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0 22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12 3 inches,.	0.75 to 0 90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.60
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 80 to 3 15

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0 60 to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.50 to 42.50
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.50
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

No great stir in this market. There is the usual summer quiet in Iron, and Sundries are taken only to fill absolute necessaries.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.30 to 3.35
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 35 to 3.40
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.30 to 3.40
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.25 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.25 to 5.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1 65

KEROSENE.

Quotations unchanged, with but a feeble trade. The *Spondilus* has arrived with Tank oil from Batoum.

American	$2.30 to 2.40
Russian	2.30 to 2.40
Langkat	1.90 to 2.00

SUGAR.

A fair current business but without any great life in the trade. Supplies appear to be ample for all prospective requirements.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.30
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.10 to 3.60
White Java and Penang	6.20 to 6.05
White Refined	6 00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

There has been a fairly current business at or near our quotations. Prices have been somewhat irregular at various times, buyers according to their idiosyncracies paying the same price for Re-reels which others do for good Koshu Filatures. The general opinion is that values are now on a safe basis as compared with those ruling a fortnight ago.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	$850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

No change to report. Holders will have to take less money if they wish to clear off their stocks of undesirable old fibre.

TEA.

A fair current business on the basis of quotations. Export and settlement figures both keep ahead of last season.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been fairly steady during the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1½
— — Bills on demand	2/1½
— — 4 months' sight	2/1¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.67
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.74
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅝% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71¼
— Private 10 days' sight.	72¼
On India—Bank sight	195½
— Private 30 days' sight	198
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	51¾
— Private 30 days' sight.	52¾
— — 4 months' sight	53½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16
— Private 4 months' sight	2.23
Bar Silver (London)	30⅜

PROSPECTUS

OF A SCHEME FOR RELIEVING THE DISTRESSED FAMILIES OF THOSE KILLED IN THE WAR.

WAR was declared against China on August the 1st of last year, and on the 10th of last May—that is say after the lapse of 283 days—peace was again restored. We cannot but lament the deaths of our countrymen either in battle or from disease contracted while discharging duties incidental to the War, among the deceased being H.I.H. Prince ARISUGAWA, Chief of the Central Staff; Major-General ODERA, Commander SAKAMOTO, and many others. There are special Provisions in the Law of Pensions for Soldiers and Marines that die in the discharge of their duty, and their survivors are, therefore, entitled to a certain fixed allowance. Those with the Colours being, in accordance with the Law of Conscriptions, from 20 to 23 years of age (Marines are 24 years old), are mostly sons or brothers of the heads of families, and their loss may not, therefore, affect the subsistence of their families. The case of those on the list of the First or Second Reserve require, however, immediate attention. The age of these Men is between 24 or 32 (Marines are 25 years old) and many of them are already charged with the duty of supporting families. According to the latest census, the average number of members in a family is 5.3. The Pension due to the Survivors of a soldier is, in accordance with the Pension Law, 30 *yen* per annum (in the Navy the sum varies from 24 to 38 *yen*), or a little over 8.3 *sen* per diem. It is extremely difficult to support a family of more than five members on about 8 *sen* a day, and it is conceivable, therefore, that the Authorities may take special steps in the matter sooner or later. Among the survivors of those that died on the field in the First and Second Reserves, not a few are already reduced to the verge of starvation. Rescue to all of them cannot easily be undertaken by the projectors of this scheme, who are, therefore, constrained to appeal for help to the philanthropic public.

The projectors and supporters are as follow:—

PROJECTORS.—Mrs. HANAWA, Viscountess TODA, Mrs. KOKAJIMA, Miss TSUDA, Mrs. UGAI, Mrs. YANAGIYA, Mrs. FUJII, and Miss KIMURA.

SUPPORTERS.—Madame ITO, Madame HAYAKAWA, Countesses OKUMA and KAWAMURA, Marchionesses NABESHIMA and MAYEDA, Princesses KONOYE, MORI, and 18 others.

The following Newspaper Offices have consented to receive Subscriptions for the projectors:—

Kiri Shimbun, No. 1, Sanchome, Sanjikkenbori, Kyobashi.
Choya Shimbun, No. 4, Shichome, Ginza, Kyobashi.
Kokumin Shimbun, No. 4, Hiyoshicho, Kyobashi.
Mainichi Shimbun, No. 7, Owaricho, Kyobashi.
Mezamashi Shimbun, No. 18, Yamashitacho, Kyobashi.
Jogaku Zasshi, No. 6, Shimorokubancho, Kojimachi.
Japan Mail, No. 51, Yokohama.

Subscriptions of over 10 *sen* will be gratefully received. The period for paying in the 1st Subscription will be till the 10th of July, while the periods for the 2nd and successive Subscriptions will be determined at some future date. As to the mode of distributing the money, the Projectors will fix this on consultation with the supporters, and the Subscriptions will be suitably divided through the medium of the Army and Navy, and the local District, Town, and Village Offices. For Subscriptions forwarded to Newspaper Offices, no receipts will be given, but a list of Donors will appear from time to time in the columns of the papers.

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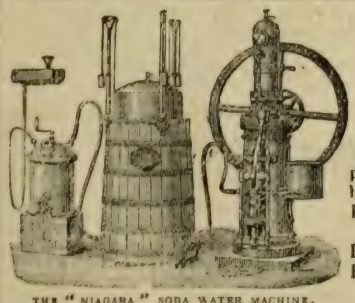

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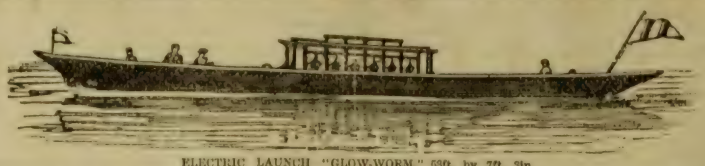

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"VAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 3RD, 1895.

BIRTH.

On the 29th July, at the Club Hotel, the wife of D. PERCEBOIS (Imperial Maritime Customs, Shanghai), of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Kyoto Industrial Exhibition was formally closed on Wednesday.

DYSENTERY is again prevalent in Kagoshima, Okayama, and Osaka.

A SQUADRON of five German men-of-war is visiting Yokohama this week.

THE captured battle-ship *Chen-yuen* has arrived at Yokosuka for repairs.

THE cholera returns up to the 1st inst., are 11,331 cases and 7,629 deaths.

AN Opera Company, comprising 36 performers, opens at the Public Hall next week.

SIGNORINA ESTRELA BELINFANTE gave a second concert in Yokohama on Thursday evening. She was assisted by, among others, Professor Koeber of Tokyo.

MR. LAFFIN'S 39-rater *Mary* won the Ice-works Cup on Saturday after a splendid race.

REAR-ADMIRALS TAKINO, Sugi, Matsumura, Sato, and Yoshijima have been placed on the Reserve.

THE town of Ogaki is completely under water, and railway communication with Kobe is interrupted.

DISASTROUS floods have occurred in the Central provinces, causing loss of life and immense damage to property.

IT is stated that the Yokohama Specie Bank proposes to increase its capital by about *yen* 5,000,000.

THE baseball match on Saturday was very one-sided, the Club team beating the scratch nine by 30 runs to 6.

THE Sanyo Railway Co. is said to have lost *yen* 200,000 by the recent accident between Onomichi and Itozaki.

SEVERAL of the Imperial Princes and Princesses have left the capital for the hills, some going to Nikko, others to Miyanoshita.

THE death is announced of Mr. Jikemura Itsuga, proprietor of the *Kaika Shimbun* Office, Tokyo, which took place on the 25th inst.

ANOTHER newspaper to be called the *Giron Nippo* will be started in the capital. Its first issue will appear on the 9th inst.

CAPTAINS TAKINO NAOTOSHI, Sugi Morimichi, Matsumura Seimei, Sato Shizuo, and Yoshijima Shinnei are promoted to be Rear-Admirals.

QUARANTINE regulations are enforced at all the open ports now, and ships coming from China and Korea will be especially looked after.

MESSRS. LANGFELDT AND COMPANY again declare an extraordinary dividend—20 per cent. for the half-year, making 45 per cent. for the year.

THE benefit tendered Miss Marie Brian at the Public Hall on Wednesday evening, was very enthusiastic, the building being filled to overflowing.

A JAPANESE tiler fell from the roof of a bungalow in Main Street, on Monday, and striking his head on a curb-stone died within a few minutes.

RUMOUR has it that Mr. Yoshikawa, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, will resign through bad health, and Mr. Kondo, Vice-President, will succeed him.

A SMALL fire broke out on Tuesday in the servants' quarters of a Chinese exchange shop in Main Street, but the damage was confined within a small area.

THE Japan Cement Co. has declared a dividend of 8 per cent. per annum for the half-year, and the Japan Life Insurance Co. a dividend of 6 per cent. per annum.

OWING to the great storm, the telegraph wires have been down in many places, and telegraphic communication with Europe was only partially restored by Wednesday.

ONE hundred and two thousand eight hundred and sixty-two soldiers and military coolies had returned from China up to the 27th July; the horses brought back numbered 13,282.

THE Yokohama Engine and Ironworks, Limited, declared a dividend of 8 per cent. for the half-year, besides wiping-off a debt to the bank, and turning a debit balance on the profit and loss account into a credit balance of far larger amount.

KATO KICHITARO, of Ashigara-kami District, Kanagawa Prefecture, was relieved of money to the amount of *yen* 499 by a pickpocket at Yokohama Railway Station on the 27th instant.

THE total number of foreigners now staying at Nikko is 253, including 141 males and 112 females. The Foreign Ministers and their families are not included in the above total.

SIR ERNEST MASON SATOW, K.C.M.G., the new British Minister, arrived in Yokohama on Sunday. He was received by a large number of his nationals, who tendered him an address of welcome couched in terms of warmest friendship.

REUTER telegraphs:—The final resul result of the British general elections is as follows:—Conservatives, 340; Unionists, 70; Liberals, 173; Parnellites, 12; Anti-Parnellites 68; and Labour Members 2. A Canadian, Mr. Heayhurst, has won the Queen's Prize at Bisley. Two Italian steamers have collided in the Gulf of Spezzia and one hundred and forty-five passengers and three of the crew have been drowned. The French troubles in Madagascar are increasing, owing to the prevalence of sickness amongst the troops, and the difficulties attending transport. The Franco-Chinese Convention opens to French commerce several southern Ports and permits the establishment in them of Consular agents. It also concedes to France mining rights in the three Southern provinces (Kuangtung, Kuangsi, and Yunnan), and permission to navigate the rivers Lo Ho (Lo So), and Mekong. The prospect of war with the Emperor Menelek of Abyssinia is being openly discussed in Rome. The revolt in Cuba is spreading, and the fighting is constant and serious. The Spanish losses have been heavy, and twenty-three thousand further troops will be despatched by Spain to Cuba in August. Sir William Vernon Harcourt has been elected for West Monmouth by a majority of five thousand. *The Times* urges the re-election of Mr. Gully as Speaker of the House of Commons.

THE Import trade is very dull, in sympathy with the grey dour weather. Yarns are very quiet, and Shirtings, 8¼lb., are dull, though 9¼lb. are enquired after at late quotations. In Cotton Italians, T.-Reds, and Woollens a retail trade is doing, but other sorts are comatose. There has been a smart movement in Formosa and Manila Sugars, the season now being in full swing, and quotations display a strong tendency to rise. Metals, with the exception of Pig Iron, are dull, though the slight enquiry for Plates and Wire Nails caused rates to move upwards. A drooping trade also prevails in Kerosene, though something must soon begin to move, as supplies up-country are now very short. At present there are more than ten millions of gallons in stock, and buyers consequently count on lower prices ere coming into market. Raw Silk is in good demand for Europe and America at steady prices. Arrivals are ample and dealers current. The export for July was close upon 4,000 piculs, a record for that month. Waste Silk is still stagnant, holders refusing to budge in their rates for the few parcels of good quality (old) still remaining. At present there is no new fibre of any consequence offering. Tea is still brisk, and settlements to date are 7,000 piculs ahead of last season, export keeping well abreast of figures at same date last year. Exchange has not fluctuated much this week, though the breakdown in cable communication caused bankers to be very wary.

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SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

With the exception of local ripples in the Prefecture of Niigata, were some excitement has been caused by the Radicals, Progressionists, and National Unionists on the question of Liaotung, the political sea is at rest for the time being. The improbability of an extraordinary session of the Diet and the manifest unpopularity of their movement, have combined to induce the Extremists to abandon for the present all attempts to foment popular agitation against the Cabinet. They have settled down to the more reasonable task of investigating the questions likely to come up for discussion in the coming session. Their outcry about Ministerial Responsibility seems destined to cause them trouble. They are in a painful dilemma. Having made so much noise about this question, they can not chose but stand to their guns in the approaching session of the Diet. But, on the other hand, they are confronted by the necessity of either flatly rejecting the Government's Military and Naval measures or approving them on condition of the resignation of the Ministry, either of which courses is certain to expose them not only to a humiliating defeat in the House, but also to strong popular indignation. Thus far two suggestions have been offered by the press for extricating the Extremists from their awkward dilemma. One is to give up the Liaotung Question, and substitute the problem of Administrative Expenditure. But such a plan must seem unsatisfactory to the Extremists who have so definitely and solemnly committed themselves to the Liaotung business. The other and more recent proposal is to vote the Military and Naval Bills and then to introduce the Liaotung problem. Such a course would be highly inconsistent, but the *Yomiuri Shimbun* undertakes to defend it in a peculiar way. It states that, although the Opposition is against the foreign policy of the Government, it does not condemn the Cabinet's Military and financial policy, and that, consequently, it can consistently pass the Military and Naval measures and censure the step taken about the Liaotung Peninsula. In other words, the *Yomiuri* maintains that the Liaotung responsibility should be borne, not by all the Ministers jointly, but by those only that were specially connected with this question; and that since, in its opinion, the Ministers charged with the Military, Naval, and Financial Affairs, were not immediately responsible for the matter, they may be safely trusted to carry out measures falling within their respective spheres. Our contemporary, being perfectly well aware of the absurdity of the theory of individual responsibility with regard to such questions as the return of Liaotung, is compelled to resort to the pretext that the practice of constitutional government in this country has not yet sufficiently progressed to make it possible to apply the principle of joint responsibility.

* * *

The *Nippon* suggests a more intelligent, though hardly less unpractical, resource for the bewildered politicians of the Opposition. It appears to think that the schemes contemplated by the Government and the *Jiyu-to* and *Kokumin Kyokai*, for increasing the country's fighting capacity, are out of proportion to the actual resources of the nation, and it ridicules the indiscreet and misguided enthusiasm of the Cabinet as well as of the Radicals and the National Unionists. The necessity of increasing the Army and the Navy, it says, has been evident from the days of the elder Saigo and Omura: to attempt the attainment of that object at once would be madness. It cannot bring itself to acknowledge that the problem of Military and Naval development is so important as to exclude discussion of the question of Ministerial responsibility about the return of Liaotung. In short, the Extremists are urged to give precedence to the question of responsibility. But that is precisely the course they fear to pursue.

* * *

An interesting controversy is going on between the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Nippon* on the subject of the return of Liaotung. The contest of words is maintained on both sides with great ability and with remarkable mutual decorum. Space does not permit us to reproduce the line of argument employed on either side. Neither is it necessary to do so. The cardinal point at issue is whether or not the probability of European intervention was sufficiently apparent to make the Japanese Plenipotentiaries desist from demanding the cession of the Peninsula. The *Nippon* maintains that there was at that time strong probability of such a contingency and that the Government is blameworthy for having sought to obtain territory that must afterwards be given up under humiliating circumstances. The *Nichi Nichi*, on the other hand, is equally positive in declaring that, apart from some journalistic threats, there was nothing to justify the Ministry in abandoning the legitimate prize of victories won by the country's arms, and that there was nothing censurable in the Government's subsequent conduct when, after mature consideration of the warning offered by the three Powers, it advised His Majesty to accept that warning. The *Nippon's* position is intelligible enough, as is freely acknowledged by its antagonist, but the point at issue being largely one of opinion, there is little hope of either journal's convincing the other. It may be interesting to notice one or two special facts brought out by the controversy. First, it has been made clear that the *Nippon* and its patron, Viscount Tani, were from the outset opposed to the permanent possession of Liaotung, not only because its tenure would lead to diplomatic complications, but also and primarily because, in their opinion, the expansion of the country in the north of Asia is not advantageous to its best interests. Japan's destiny, they think, is to extend towards the south. It is hinted by our contemporary that the Government ought to have endeavoured to obtain some territorial concession on the mainland in the south, instead of in the north. Secondly, the *Nichi Nichi* makes it clear that Japan will not give up Liaotung for nothing. Her right to demand the cession of the peninsula as a prize of victory has never been questioned by anybody, least of all by the three Powers. That these Powers explicity avowed their unwillingness to prevent her from enjoying her rights as a victor, is a sign, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, that they desired her to content herself with some other form of prize. Her title to demand Liaotung is admitted on all sides and still remains intact, and in virtue of that title she intends to effect a proper settlement of the question with China. "The declaration that Japan would renounce the permanent occupation of Liaotung was an expression of intention on her part and the carrying out of that intention is plainly conditional upon China's agreement to our demands in connection with the return of the peninsula. Japan's promise of renunciation can never be regarded as an absolute and unconditional abandonment of her legitimate right."

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi's* article, which gave rise to this controversy, remains unanswered so far as its original purpose is concerned. It was primarily directed against the Extremist politicians. They were strongly criticised for want of any clear idea. But their organs studiously refrain from accepting the challenge. Instead of replying to the *Nichi Nichi's* strong indictment, they take refuge behind the pretext that they are not allowed by the press censors to write on such a subject. Unfortunately there is some show of justice in their plea. But the Opposition papers ought to know that it is quite possible to express their views, if they have any, without transgressing lawful limits. For example, the subject is being handled by the *Nippon* very boldly. It says decidedly strong things against the Government with perfect impunity. It is true that the editor of the *Nippon* is decidedly skilled in transgressing the spirit of the law while evading its letter. But in that kind of journalism, the Progressionist writers are at least his equals. It is a mere subterfuge to decline the *Nichi Nichi's* challenge on the ground of press censorship.

* * *

The 1st of the present month being the anniversary of the declaration of war by Japan, opportunity has been taken by the metropolitan journals to dwell on the question of Korean independence, which formed the most important feature in the Imperial Proclamation announcing a state of hostilities. These papers once more emphasize the importance of attaining the original object of the war in spite of all difficulties and dangers. Now and then a rumour is circulated that the evacuation of the Peninsular Kingdom has been demanded by Russia and her allies. Recently it was added that the demand and been accepted by the Japanese Government. Apparently little importance is attached to these stories, but some journals cannot dismiss them without urging the necessity of stationing Japanese troops in Korea. It is a noteworthy circumstance that, so far as Korea is concerned, even the papers that advocate a defensive policy only in the north, insist that Japan ought never to retreat a step from the position she now holds in that country.

THE STORM AT KUCHINOTSU.

An officer on board the steamship *Bentala* has kindly placed at our disposal a short account of that ship's experiences of the disastrous storm that swept over Japan on the 24th and 25th July. He says:—The typhoon began at Kuchinotsu about ten a.m. with a strong wind from about E.N.E. with dull cloudy weather and rapidly falling barometer. The wind quickly increased in force, until at about noon it was blowing its hardest. The wind at this time must have been moving at the rate of a hundred miles an hour. Then it veered round from E.N.E. to South and finally to S.W. It was while the wind was from the south that we experienced the heaviest of the blow. The barometer fell to 28.33. All the foreign ships in the harbour were blown on shore—four inside the harbour and one outside. Large as they were they were blown about as if they had been mere sampans. The town fared very badly. Half the houses in the place were blown down or partially wrecked, and now it seems half deserted, and the people one meets in the streets look as if they had had a terrible scare. All business was stopped for three days. The native craft in and about the harbour suffered most severely. About thirty-six of these vessels became total wrecks. For about two hours the crews of these vessels could be seen all over the harbour clinging to wreckage, or in the last stages of drowning. Some of the poor people waved their arms frantically towards us, as if imploring us to save them, but the force of the wind was so great that we could do but little for them. It was a terrible sight to see so many people at once struggling for life, and eventually a party of our men, working on the after end of the ship under the direction of Mr. David Maguire, 2nd officer, succeeded in rescuing eight men and two boys. They were also nearly successful in rescuing a woman. Twice they caught the poor creature, but she was so exhausted that she could not assist her rescuers in the least, and in the end she was carried away and crushed among some wreckage not far from the ship's stern, sinking out of sight. As another poor woman floated past the stern Mr. Maguire threw a life buoy, with a line attached, right over her head. The woman put her arms around it, but when the officer began to haul on the line she could not maintain her hold, and she also was drowned.

There was a rumour in Kobe on Thursday, which afterwards proved correct, that the *Helene Rickmers* and a sailing vessel, the *Marechal Sucket*, had gone ashore in the neighbourhood of Kuchinotsu. The *Marechal Sucket* was floated, but the *Helene Rickmers* was still aground at date of last advices. Assistance has been sent to her from Nagasaki.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE KAWA-BIRAKI.

A CORRESPONDENT recently inquired the origin of the *Kawa-biraki* fête. The following particulars may therefore prove of interest. During the Tokugawa *régime* the residents of Edo (now Tokyo) were accustomed to enjoy a respite from the trying heat of summer by taking up their residence in house-boats on the Sumida river, the facilities now afforded of getting away to the summer resorts in the hills being then entirely lacking. This custom became most popular during the summers of the Keicho era (1596-1614), when, it is said, the temperature in Edo was exceedingly high, and residents accordingly went up and down the Asakusa-gawa for the purpose of enjoying a cool breeze. Soon the *Daimyo* followed suit, and as a feudal lords' retinue consisted of a great number of attendants, large vessels made their appearance on the river, and grew more luxurious in appointments and size year after year. Some were lavishly adorned with ornaments of gold and silver. In the Tenwa era (1681-1683) the Tokugawa Government issued a notification limiting the dimensions of these pleasure boats. The boating season continued from May 28th to the last day of August (old calender) every year, and the first day (or May 28th) was called *Kawa-biraki*, or the day of opening the river—(*Kawa*=river, *biraki* or *hiraki*=open). It seems that no particular ceremony took place on that day. A large number of boats assembled on the Sumida during this part of the year, and their owners engaged in selling *saké, mochi, manju,* boiled fish, cold water, etc. Fireworks were sold in the ancient days by merchants who went out in boats for that purpose, and fireworks were displayed by individual excursionists. This is greatly different from the *Kawa-biraki* as it now prevails.

AN AMERICAN GUN-BOAT AND A JAPANESE REGIMENT.

THE *Choya Shimbun* states that the Captain and officers of the United States gun-boat *Petrel* were entertained by Colonel Oki and other officers of the 1st Regiment at the Koyokan (Maple Club) Shiba, Tokyo, on the 24th instant. The *Petrel* happened to be at Yingkow when that place was taken by a Japanese detachment—the 1st Regiment—and her people showed much kindness and courtesy to the victors. The Japanese officers appreciated this highly, and after their return to Tokyo, were anxious to have an opportunity to repay the attention they had received from their American friends. Hearing of the arrival of the *Petrel* in Yokohama on the 23rd instant, they invited her Captain and officers to pay a visit to their Regiment. The American officers arrived at Shimbashi at 1.50 p.m. on the 24th, and from thence were conducted to the quarters of the Regiment, where they were taken first to the officers' mess, and then to that of the non-commissioned officers. In the latter room, speeches were delivered by the American Captain and Colonel Oki, and the guests were presented each with a memorial cup of victory. They were then shown over the barracks and saw the Regiment on parade. Afterwards they were conducted to the Koyokan and entertained in Japanese fashion. Triumphal dances, now very popular in the capital, were performed by the *danseuses* of the establishment. The Captain had to leave early, but the rest of the guests stayed until about 9 in the evening, and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the entertainment.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

THE Committee of the Club propose to import a batch of Australian horses (geldings or mares), and if a sufficient number of subscribers can be obtained to give at least five races for them at the ensuing Autumn Meeting. The animals could be brought here in September, and would be laid down at a cost of $300. The contract would be made with Mr. Salter, who is at present in Japan, and who, having supplied the Singapore Race Club with horses from the Australian colonies, could probably be relied upon to select a fairly level lot suited to the purpose for which they were wanted. Mr. Salter has engaged to bring up twenty horses for the Hongkong Jockey Club. The experiment was tried in the Crown Colony nearly 20 years ago, but was a failure, chiefly owing to great disparity in the size and breeding of the animals. The climate did not suit them either, and in about a year very few of the horses were alive. The conditions in Japan are more favourable, however, and the experiment is worth a trial. Members who wish to subscribe should notify the Secretary at once, as if the order is not given soon the horses cannot arrive in time to be trained for the Autumn Meeting.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for June, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1894. SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	8,798,572,400	10,129,046,910
Imports	10,276,486,500	10,989,848,710
Total exports and imports		21,118,895,620
Excess of imports		860,801,800

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	200,060,277
Imports	371,398,622
Miscellaneous	14,513,407
Total	585,972,306

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
China	964,057,350	1,351,376,620	2,315,433,970
British India	340,021,720	1,673,341,890	2,019,363,610
Hongkong	1,493,027,300	595,734,240	2,088,761,540
Korea	197,300,060	217,051,180	414,351,240
Annam & other French India	2,106,520	347,902,610	350,009,130
Russian Asia	102,023,000	61,893,250	164,016,250
Philipine Islands	6,180,000	62,048,560	68,228,560
Siam	46,500	21,333,080	21,379,580
Great Britain	442,377,060	4,217,822,220	4,660,199,280
France	719,337,340	496,098,860	1,215,436,200
Germany	245,866,980	892,688,560	1,138,555,540
Belgium	1,567,610	157,363,270	158,930,880
Italy	131,465,090	14,966,620	146,431,710
Switzerland	7,155,000	81,983,000	89,138,000
Holland	49,532,290	5,136,400	54,668,690
Austria	35,205,700	2,015,620	37,221,320
Spain	4,731,130	6,551,240	11,282,370
Turkey	4,863,300	61,060	4,924,360
Russia	—	855,830	855,830
Sweden & Norway	—	734,520	734,520
Portugal	—	580,560	580,560
Denmark	216,980	—	216,980
United States of America	4,730,578,760	627,313,930	5,357,892,690
Canada & other British America	271,993,020	2,805,010	274,798,030
Peru	—	1,488,700	1,488,700
Australia	30,087,080	133,659,170	143,746,250
Hawaii	27,312,640	10,000	27,328,640
Other Countries	47,154,520	36,026,710	83,181,230
Total	9,860,200,950	10,989,848,710	20,850,055,660

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	5,235,752,600	5,243,652,990	10,509,405,590
Kobe	3,708,923,560	4,904,909,450	8,613,833,010
Osaka	82,466,660	114,149,570	196,616,230
Nagasaki	383,666,230	629,017,190	1,012,683,420
Hakodate	80,979,780	2,026,730	83,006,510
Niigata	—	5,804,350	5,804,350
Shimonoseki	215,453,550	82,712,220	298,165,770
Moji	101,193,000	—	101,193,000
Hakata	403,900	1,547,670	1,951,570
Karatsu	29,108,000	—	29,108,000
Kuchinotsu	175,115,000	—	175,115,000
Idzugahara	3,265,410	2,465,330	5,730,740
Shishimi	3,629,780	747,360	4,377,140
Sasuna	1,165,500	1,815,850	2,981,350
Muroran	17,691,800	—	17,691,800
Otaru	1,232,140	—	1,232,140
Specie and Bullion Exports			2,051,159,880
Specie and Bullion Imports			105,727,460
Total			2,156,887,340
Excess of exports			1,945,432,420

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	Exports	1,546,088,240
	Imports	3,678,013,620
Imported by Government		136,677,710

VALUE OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM JAPAN EACH MONTH THIS YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	12,704,459,990	9,862,419,680	22,566,879,670
February	8,633,963,380	8,239,136,430	16,873,099,810
March	9,638,333,280	9,939,827,600	19,578,160,880
April	8,498,406,640	9,974,473,310	18,472,879,950
May	9,840,349,470	11,021,372,740	20,861,722,210
June	10,129,046,910	10,989,848,710	21,118,895,620
Total	59,444,559,670	60,027,078,470	119,471,638,140

"JOHN OLIVER HOBBES."

MRS. CRAIGIE, whose pseudonym, "John Oliver Hobbes," is so well-known, recently sued for divorce in London, basing her action on the alleged misconduct and infidelities of her husband, a clerk in the Bank of England. Their married lives must have been far from pleasant, if Mrs. Craigie's novels reflect her domestic views, for in one of them she says of a bank clerk, "the intelligence he displayed in the discharge of his duties was that of a learned poodle who, having been taught certain tricks, performs them, he knows not why nor to what end." "John Oliver Hobbes'" style was cleverly described in the *St. James's Gazette* some time ago in a verse of rhymes for novelists. It ran:—

John Oliver Hobbes, with your spasms and throbs,
How does your novel grow?
With cynical sneers at young Love and his tears,
And epigrams all in a row.

Mrs. Craigie is only 27 years of age, and by birth an American. Her petition was granted by Mr. Justice Jeune.

"GANJU-YAKI."

THE *Hongkong Daily Press* reproduces a curious paragraph from a Yokohama journal:—

The *Kokumin* calls attention to a new porcelain ware called *ganshu* or jewel-inlaid ware, specimens of which may be seen among the exhibits in the 4th Domestic Industrial Exhibition now open at Kyoto. This *fin-de-siecle* departure in keramics was invented by Mr. Higuchi Harubane, a *shizoku* of Saga Prefecture. His family have been porcelain manufacturers for generations past. After fifteen years of experimenting Mr. Higuchi succeeded in turning out the new ware, which is semi-transparent and inlaid with jewels. He made it first in 1886 and patented it next year.

It is not unnatural that in attempting to obtain an idea of a special kind of porcelain by translating a Japanese account of it, the translator should fall into errors unless he has knowledge of his own to guide him. In order, however, to save some eager collector from cruel disappointment, we may explain that Mr. Higuchi's *Ganju-yaki* is not a "semi-transparent porcelain inlaid with jewels." Semi-transparent it certainly is: all porcelain has that property. But the inlaying with jewels is a pure fancy of the translator. The ware in question is nothing more than an imitation of the well-known "grains-of-rice" porcelain of the Chinese kilns; that it is to say, porcelain having portions of the *pâte* cut out and filled in with glazing material only. It is a very beautiful method of decoration, and Mr. Higuchi deserves high credit for the success he has achieved. But there are no "jewels inlaid" in the ware.

DARING ROBBERY IN KOBE.

ONE of the buildings in the occupation of Messrs. H. E. Reynell & Co., of Kobe, was the scene of what is probably one of the most daring robberies that has been committed there for a very long time. Shortly after 5 o'clock on Monday morning some carts were noticed outside the godown on Lot No. 23, opposite the offices of Messrs. Greppi and Company. The policeman on watch suspecting something amiss approached to make enquiries. Thereupon the coolies in charge of the carts ran off in the direction of the Bund, and unfortunately succeeded in making good their escape. Before the police appeared, however, the thieves had managed to load and remove three cartloads of empty bottles. The fourth and fifth carts were intercepted in time.—*Kobe Herald.*

A HONGKONG AËRIAL FLIGHT.

A RECENT visitor to Hongkong writes:—"Not only can Hongkong show the visitor a cable tramway running up the Victoria Peak, an altitude of some 1,400 feet, with a gradient varying from 1 in 2 to 1 in 25; but at Taikoo, about five miles from Victoria, there is an aërial flight the like of which can seldom be seen. There is one at Gibraltar, going to the top of the Rock, but the ride there bears no comparison to the sensational transition from the base to the top of Mount Parker at Hongkong. It would be a misnomer to call it a railway, because the open car does not run on rails, but is suspended; and as you soar upward, now crossing over the top of a minor peak, next looking down on a lake some hundred feet below, or into a gorge, espying, perhaps, now and then a wild deer or other smaller animal, the first ride up and down is an experience not soon to be forgotten. This aërial flight was constructed evidently at very considerable cost by Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, of the Taikoo Sugar Refinery, to convey their European employés, to the dormitories on

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the top of the Mount in the height of the summer, when the nights are so oppressively hot that sleep is almost out of question in the houses below. Before the aërial flight was constructed the employés referred to were taken up the mountain in chairs by a small regiment of coolies, the expense being borne by the firm. Then it took them an hour to reach the cool atmosphere of the top; now they can go up in five minutes. As the car is ascending a man in the engine house watches it as far as he can through a telescope, and at the point where his view is obscured by the top of a peak, another man, half way up, continues the watch. Should anything wrong be observed, the car can be instantly stopped."

IS TRADE ABOUT TO REVIVE?

THE following Circular seems to have much interest :—

In 1870 and 1871, in 1879, and again in 1888 and 1889, we had those brief periods of intense tradal activity, and consequently prosperity, which stand out sharply from the lean and lengthy periods intervening, during which the fat kine were devoured by their famished relatives.

Hardly another lustrum has since passed with all its attributes of excessive competition and suffering, and its stern economic teachings, and now there are signs, which it is not possible to disregard, that the dawn of brighter days is possibly, if not probably, at hand.

The first condition invariably precedent to improvement is that prices should have come down to the lowest point. That this touching of rock bottom has been arrived at is not, of course, certain, but it is noteworthy that, despite the intensity of competition during the last year or two, prices have scarcely fluctuated in those barometers of commerce, the Steel and Iron Trades.

No. 3 Cleveland Pig Iron in January 1894, was	£1 16 6
To-day it is	1 15 3
G.M.B. Scotch Pig Iron in January, 1895, was	2 4 9
To-day it is	2 4 3
Steel Rails in January, 1894, were	3 15 0
To-day are	3 12 6
Steel Plates in January, 1894, were	5 5 0
To-day are	5 0 0
Crown Iron Bars in January, 1894, were	5 12 6
To-day are	5 7 6

We seem to see, then, that the bottom of the curve has been reached, and that the gradient should soon commence to ascend.

Next we find that Stocks are everywhere depleted, and that, as well pointed out in their last "Trade Review" by our genial competitors of Laurence Pountney Hill, business has for long been limited to a mere "necessity trade."

Not only, therefore, must warehouses abroad be refilled and worn out plant be replaced, but new enterprises must spring into birth.

That the time has arrived for this last we may fairly judge from the numerous new Companies which, during the past six months, have been successfully floated.

Moreover, that long locked-up capital has commenced to be again employed is evidenced by the activity of the Stock Exchanges and Foreign Bourses, which so emphatically reflect any signs of returning financial confidence.

But no doubt the most significant symptom of the approach of golden days is to be found in the constantly increasing output and storage of the standard metal.

About half a century ago men were galvanized by the discovery of the Californian Gold Field, the greatest that the Modern World had seen.

The rapid development of these "placers," or alluvival deposits, soon led to the most remarkable and universal outburst of commercial and manufacturing activity ever known, and a period of abnormal prosperity supervened.

Following on that period, the supply of gold gradually became less and less adequate for the requirements of the vastly increased trade of the nations, and has culminated during the last decade in absolute insufficiency, thus producing instability of rates of exchange between the gold standard countries and those using a less precious metal.

But during the same period the discovery has been made of another Gold Field, to which that of California even is not comparable.

In 1892, Mr. Hamilton Smith, the well-known Mining Engineer, after a visit to the Witwatersrand district of South Africa, pronounced the remarkable opinion which he was forced to arrive at, viz., that taking only into consideration the existing mines, all working at depths near, or comparatively near, to the surface, and entirely excluding from the field of view the possibilities of the deeper levels which are now being developed, there was in sight a mass of gold ore which would before long overtop the enormous Californian production of some 300 millions of English sovereigns. And he further stated that some years before the close of this century the Witwatersrand Fields alone would increase the yearly gold output of the entire world by over 50 per cent.

How far that opinion is being justified will be seen by the following figures, showing the output of the Witwatersrand, viz.;—

	ounces.		ounces.
In 1887	34,897	In 1891...	729,213
In 1888	230,917	In 1892...	1,810,903
In 1889	379,733	In 1893...	1,478,473
In 1890	494,801	In 1894...	2,024,159

and during the first four months of the current year it has been 718,026 ounces.

But the tale does not end there, for in India, in Tasmania, in New Zealand, in Western Australia, in British Guiana, as also in the newer districts of South Africa, such as Matabeleland, Mashonaland, and Zululand, other fields have been discovered, and are being, or are to be, vigorously worked.

Just before the discovery of the Californian Field, the World's output was about £6,000,000, which, in the short space of a few years, was increased to £30,000,000 per annum, after which it decreased gradually until about twelve years ago it dropped to under £20,000,000. Since the Randt Fields were opened, some eight years ago, the amount has steadily increased, until last year it amounted to about £36,000,000. Up to the present, this increase has been absorbed in making up the deficiency in bare working requirements of specie which existed; but now it is certain that the vast annual sum, which is yearly being increased, and which will continue to increase during a far longer period in the future than was the case in the fifties, will have a much greater effect than that of merely filling up the deficiences of the past.

Who can doubt then, that between now and the end of the century, this total enormous increase in the *power* of purchase will lead to its *employment*, with results which it is impossible to forecast, but which it may safely be said cannot fail to be prodigious.

It is true that the century approaches its close in a perfect ferment of confused opinions. Everything seems to have been cast into the melting pot; all the old social, religious, and economical principles and traditions are being re-melted, and into what forms they will crystallize again we know not.

Such a period of unrest possesses many dangers, and when we add the racial antagonisms, which have become once more so keen and rancorous, it cannot be foreseen what resulting wars and social convulsions may occur, such as must baffle all calculations as to the spread of prosperity and the development of commerce, requiring, as these do, a state of peace for their fulfilment.

At the present moment, however, it is rather a case of "I dare not waiting on I would, like the poor cat i'the adage. And the nations do but murmur, snarling at each other's heels."

One menace to peace has just been removed in the close of the War in the East, and, as the Sovereigns of Europe appear to be sincerely desirous of maintaining the *status quo*, we do not know that we have to seriously apprehend any unfavourable change at present—though the danger, when it does come, may be expected from the more democratic forms of Government, which are so susceptible to the influence of popular opinion and its passions.

While on the subject of politics it may not be inopportune to remark on the fact that the people of this country have now thoroughly realised that it is an absolutely vital necessity for England to be supreme on the seas, and there is probably no factor making for the peace of the world more important and more conducive to its maintenance than this one.

But an effect perhaps more germane to the drift of our argument is that as in 1887-8 the very large number of vessels ordered to be constructed by our Government under the last Naval Defence Act, contributed materially towards the improvement in the iron and steel trades which then took place, so now also the vast sums authorised by Parliament for construction of war vessels, for building new docks and harbours, and for fortifying coaling stations must have a similar effect.

We think, then, that it is shown that there is more reason on the whole to expect that an improvement will take place in trade ere long than the reverse.

But we are far from thinking that the progress will be unduly rapid, nor would such be at all desirable.

An impression prevails very widely that the remarkable and complete success attending the Japanese arms will have the effect of causing China to awake from her lethargy and to rapidly adopt the civilised methods which have so greatly contributed to the victory of Japan, and that consequently an era of immense enterprise will forthwith commence in China to the great advantage of European manufacturers.

All things are possible, of course; nevertheless, the above assumption is based on a strange ignorance of the difficulties attending the leavening of a huge and inchoate Empire of diverse races and tongues, as compared with the waking up of the race which inhabits the small, compact, and homogeneous islands of Japan.

Yet further, people forget that even Japan has not come to her present position at a bound, as Pallas Athene sprung fully armed from the brain of Zeus.

It is going on for half a century since European civilisation began to make its first impressions on Japan, and though since then her progress has been marvellous, even as compared with that of the nations of Europe, yet two-thirds of the allotted span of man's existence is by no means a brief period.

For our part we anticipate far more from the trade point of view from the rapid opening out of Africa by the Caucasian race than from the march of China on a new and distasteful path, from which at first the makers of arms and warlike appliances have most to gain.

And in the rich territories of South America, at present under a cloud, must arise a far greater demand than China can furnish forth.

Turning to the share which this country may expect in the general good times we trust are approaching, it cannot be other than a large one.

Trade follows the flag, and commerce belongs largely to that power which commands the high seas.

While this country maintains that military supremacy of the ocean which is its life's blood, and is able to command all trade routes with its fleets and cruisers, so long will the bulk of the carrying trade of the world fall to its merchant service.

Nor do we believe that our manufacturers and our artizans have been slow to recognise the lessons of competition, and, while showing far more adaptability than before to the special requirements of their customers, will still maintain their unrivalled powers of doing high-class work, and of producing more in a given time than any others.

England opens her doors wide to the free entry of the products of other countries, consequently her sons buy their wants and live more cheaply than any other race in Europe—and cheap living means cheap producing.

By means of bounties and other Governmental assistance, by specially reduced railway rates, and by countervailing duties, German manufacturers have wrested during past years some of our trade from us; but the nation pays for the privilege of the few, and in Germany the burden of taxation is more intolerable even than in France, as evidenced by the steady flow of emigration.

And the result is that English manufacturers, enjoying all the advantages of geographical position, of cheap coal and iron ore, of short railway carriage to numerous ports, of the finest class of labour in the world, of free imports of raw material, and of a powerful finance, have been put on their mettle, and are even now re-securing the trades they had partially lost.

Trade between countries is, after all, only a form of barter, and no country can long stand any drain of its specie, therefore England must pay for her imports with her exports, and it stands to reason that distant countries must naturally purchase the products of a country which is the best and largest buyer of the exports from their own, and which, moreover, can ensure them the most rapid, regular, and economical transport.

To sum up—while thinking that there is room for all, and while denying to no other land those advantages which accrue to it from its own special circumstances or are conferred on it by nature, and only demanding for ourselves a fair field and no favour, we see no reasen to fear that in the better days now dawning before us we shall not partake in the common weal. JOHN BIRCH & Co., Limited.

THE YOKOHAMA TOWAGE CO., LTD.

ANOTHER ill-starred local limited liability company has been quietly snuffed out. On Wednesday an adjourned meeting of the Yokohama Towage Company, Ltd., was convened to receive the report and accounts of the Directors from April 1st, 1893, to June 30th, 1895, and further to pass, if thought fit, a resolution winding up the Company voluntarily. No quorum was present, and the matter is adjourned *sine die*.

MARINERS' NOTICE.

THE following notice to Mariners, No. 295, of the Yangtze River, Kiukiang District, China Sea, has just been issued by Mr. A. M. Bisbee :—Fitzroy Island Beacon Light—Notice is hereby given that the Fitzroy Island Beacon Light has been shifted 100 yards N. 2° W. from its last position, in consequence of the washing away of the river bank.

A SAD DEATH.

ON Wednesday afternoon Mr. G. H. Scidmore, of the U.S. Consulate-General, conducted the office for the burial of the dead over the remains of Cornelius Lee, an American citizen who lately expired in the General Hospital. The deceased escaped from the Hospital a few nights ago, while in a state of frenzy, and the exposure, added to his precarious state of health, proved too much for his debilitated system, and he gradually but quickly sank.

FRACAS IN KOBE.

THE impudence and aggressiveness of the coolies employed in the loading or unloading of vessels in Kobe culminated on the 29th instant in a free fight on the decks of the M.M. steamer *Caledonien*, while moored alongside the pier. The disturbance originated though some impertinence on the part of a coolie offered to a Japanese woman. A

Frenchman remonstrated and was struck by the coolie. The coolies then rose and attacked the ship's crew in a body. The Captain was finally obliged to clear the decks, in the course of which a number of coolies were injured. The *Caledonien* was detained for several hours in consequence.

REV. R. S. MC'ARTHUR, D.D.

THIS eminent Baptist divine of New York City is improving his annual vacation by making a trip around the world. The vacation this year is a special one, in view of the fact that he has just completed his twenty-fifth year in his only pastorate—that of the Calvary Baptist Church. During this period he has welcomed over 3,000 converts into the Church. He came to Japan viâ Hawaii, and leaves for China on Sunday by the *Verona*. He is a hard-worker even during vacation, which to him means simply a change, not a cessation, of activity. He is correspondent for the New York *Tribune*, *Independent*, and several Baptist papers. In Hawaii, during a very short stay, he delivered several sermons, addresses, and lectures. In Japan, at this season of the year when the foreigners are scattered among the summer resorts, opportunities to hear him have unfortunately been few; but he has nevertheless addressed audiences in Yokohama, Karuizawa, and Tsukiji, Tokyo. He is an eloquent speaker, a trenchant and thoughtful writer, and an inspiring preacher.

SILK IMPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.

THE following were the imports of Raw Silk at the ports of New York and San Francisco during June, 1893 :—

	Lbs.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	891	192,627	$ 704,050
San Francisco	—	—	—

The imports of waste, noils, and cocoons in the same period were :—

	Lbs.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	86	25,800	$ 10,144
San Francisco	—	—	—

The imports of Japanese piece goods and handkerchiefs from January 1st to May 27th were :—

Silk Piece Goods .....272,172 pcs.
Silk Handkerchiefs .....249,132 doz.

HONGKONG AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.

HONGKONG has gone solidly Unionist again in the miniature general election which it held to ascertain the parliamentary and political prejudices of its British residents. The poll was ananounced as follows :—

Unionists	185
Liberals	49

CHOLERA IN YOKOHAMA.

A YOUTH residing at No. 27, Ishikawa, Nakamachi Itchome, and a Japanese woman at No. 81, Foreign Settlement, Yokohama, were attacked by cholera on the 1st inst.

THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE GERMAN LEGATION.

ACCORDING to the *Official Gazette*, the successor of Count Quadt as Secretary of the German Legation in Tokyo is Captain von Treutler, a cavalry officer.

THE WILLARD OPERA COMPANY.

THE Willard Opera company open with "The Gaiety Girl" on Wednesday next, being unable to reach Yokohama in time to play on Tuesday, as originally arranged.

THE "CHEN-YUEN."

THE *Chuo Shimbun* says that the captured iron-clad *Chen-yuen*, now at Yokosuka, will be open to public inspectiou during five days, commencing the 5th inst.

DEATH OF A CONSTABLE WHILE ON DUTY.

CONSTABLE Kawasaki Natsugiro (aged 25), of Fujisawa Mura, Iruma District, Saitama Prefecture, was killed while endeavouring to arrest a thief on the 31st.

DEPARTURE OF THE KOREAN REFUGEES.

PRINCE PAK YONG-HO, ex-Home Minister of Korea, and Li, who have been staying at the Nishimura Hotel, Yokohama, these last few days, left by the *Empress of Japan* yesterday. Messrs. Tanaka Kendo, Shiba Shiro, and Fukuzawa Sutejiro came down from Tokyo to see them off.

REV. HENRY M. SCUDDER, D.D.

THIS eminent preacher and veteran missionary, well-known in America, India, and Japan by his faithful service in those lands, died on June 4, in Boston, Mass. His many friends in Japan will sincerely lament his loss.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Various reports are circulated about alleged schemes of the Government for increasing the Army and Navy. Some news-mongers go so far as to point out the exact amount of the additional expenditure involved, and the number of troops to be added. But the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that these reports are mere suppositions, entirely untrustworthy. According to that journal's information, obtained from a trustworthy source, the investigations about the increase of the Navy and the Army are going on at three different places. The financial side of the question is in charge of the department of Finance, and the researches there conducted have nearly been brought to a conclusion. But the elaboration of the Military and Naval schemes now in progress at the General Staff Office and the Naval Command Office respectively, is as yet far from complete. At present, therefore, it is impossible to say when these measures will be ready for introduction into the Diet. It is not surprising that much time should be devoted to preparation when we consider how many difficult and grave problems have to be solved by the Military and Naval authorities.

The much talked-of procession of the "forty-seven" politicians of the Opposition throughout the country seems to have been abandoned. It is rumoured that these politicians have decided to stay in the capital and devote themselves to investigating questions to be discussed in the next session of the Diet. They seem at last to have discovered what has always been evident to outsiders, namely that the agitation proposed by them is entirely out of touch with public feeling. It must not, however, be inferred from this fact, that the project of attacking the Cabinet on the question of the Liaotung Peninsula has been abandoned by the Extremists. Such a result, though not improbable, remains still in the future. As stated in our last weekly summary, they may perhaps abandon this unpopular question in favour of the old one, reduction of administrative expenditures. At all events, it has become necessary for them to reconstruct their political programme before the coming session of the Diet.

The *Doshi-kai*, an association recently organized by projectors of the anti-Cabinet agitation having no connection with existing parties, is beginning to attract attention. It has been joined by a number of politicians belonging to different sections of the Opposition, as for example Messrs. Ozaki Yukio, Koizuka Ryu, and Tataka Sanaye, of the *Kaishin-to*; Messrs. Suzuki Shigetoo and Kudo Kokan, of the *Kakushin-to*; Messrs. Inukai Ki and Moriga Kono-suke, of the *Chugoku Shimpo-to*; Mr. Sato Tadamochi, of the *Ota Club*; and Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, of the *Zaisei Kakushin-kai*. It must not be understood that these persons have really severed their connection with their respective parties. The *Doshi-kai* is to serve as a common meeting-ground for the different sections of the Opposition, and its recent affiliates may be regarded as delegates of their respective political bodies. In other words, the *Doshi-kai* is a device to evade the provisions of the Law of Political Associations, which forbids the combination of two or more parties.

The Progressionist organs are making a fuss about the simultaneous suspension of five or six newspapers in the Prefecture of Niigata, representing the Progressionists, Radicals, and National Unionists of the locality. According to the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the local members of these hostile parties have agreed upon a common plan of action on the question of the Liaotung Peninsula, or in other words, have combined to carry on, through their respective organs, a strong journalistic attack upon the Cabinet. Their papers, the *Niigata Shimbun*, the *Tohoku Nippo*, the *Jiyu Shimpo*, the *Takata Shimbun*, and so forth, having commenced the attack were suspended on the 26th and 27th instant. This incident, in itself of no great importance, has been eagerly seized upon by the Progressionist organs. They adduce it as a proof of the popularity of their cause, and also as an indication of a split in the ranks of the Radical Party.

The leading members of the National Unionist Party held a conference on Sunday. After mature deliberation, they came to the conclusion that there was no necessity to issue a fresh manifesto, as the attitude and views of the Party on current questions were definitely set forth in its Report, published on the 24th of May last. According to that Report, the National Unionists are committed to a policy essentially similar to that recently adopted by the Radicals. Like the latter, they indicate faint disapproval of the conduct of the Government with respect to the Liaotung Peninsula, but declare that it would be positively unwise and impolitic under the circumstances to raise a dispute between the Cabinet and the Diet on this subject, impeding the completion of vitally important measures that demand the attention of the nation. The document further states that, instead of wasting energy in fruitless political contentions, the people should turn their whole energy in the direction plainly indicated by the Emperor, when His Majesty enjoined the necessity of patience and perseverance in order to attain the grand object of the Imperial Policy.

On the same day, the representatives of the various Extremist parties met at the Atago-kan, Shiba, to exchange views on various political and financial topics with a view to their discussion in the next session of the Diet. There were present Messrs. Ozaki Yukio (Progressionist), Kawashima Jun (Constitutional Reformist), Suyehiro Shigeyasu (*Doshi-kai*), Kanao Ryogan (*Chugoku Shimpo-to*), Taguchi Ukichi (Financial Reformist), and Sato Tadamochi (Ote Club). Among the subjects brought forward at the meeting was a document compiled by Mr. Kawashima, containing the views of his Party about the disposal of the war indemnity and the increase of old taxes or imposition of new. As to the war indemnity, it is proposed by the document that, after devoting a part of it to procuring arms and ammunition, increasing the Army and Navy, redeeming the War Loan and so forth, the remainder shall be kept in the Treasury as a special reserve, to be employed, as necessity arises, on public undertakings calculated to promote the development of the national resources. With regard to the question of taxation, it is suggested that whether the present rates be increased or new taxes imposed, the method of collection shall be simplified so as to realize a maximum of net revenue; that care shall be taken not to weaken the financial position of the local autonomic communes in order to augment the income of the Treasury; that taxes borne by the people at large, as the Land Tax, the Income Tax, the Trade Tax, and so forth, shall be gradually lowered with the object of promoting the growth of financial strength in local communes; that sources of national income shall be sought principally in taxes destined to increase with the increasing prosperity of the country, without directly affecting local finances; such taxes being, for example, Customs Dues, taxes on *Sake*, Tobacco, Sugar, Oil, and Soy, Stamp Duties, and so forth; and that re-assessment of the taxable value of land, reduction of the Land Tax, and abolition of export duties shall be carried out in so far as the condition of the Treasury permits. To what extent these proposals will be adopted by the various parties represented at Sunday's conference, remains to be seen.

That the Extremists, or at least a section of

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them, are thinking of adopting the question of administrative expenditure as a handle for attacking the Cabinet, has already been mentioned in these columns. It is now reported that another scheme is under contemplation. The Radicals and the National Unionists have placed on record some faint disapproval of the Cabinet's foreign policy with respect to Liaotung, but refuse to attack the Government on this score since such a course would seriously interfere with the far more important question of Military and Naval development. Hence it may be assumed that the Radicals and the National Unionists would not be unwilling to attack the Cabinet's foreign policy did any way offer for pursuing such a course without impeding military and naval measures. Some Extremists consequently propose to vote these measures in common with the Radicals and the National Unionists, and then, at the final stage, to bring up the question of the Liaotung Peninsula, so that the two Parties will be compelled to join the attack upon the Cabinet. In other words, they propose, on the one hand, virtually to vote confidence in the Cabinet by passing important military and naval measures introduced by it, and on the other to demand its retirement. It is probable that the inconsistency of such procedure will make itself apparent even to the most uncompromising politicians of the Opposition.

On the Liaotung question, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has an interesting article. It first refutes the contention advanced by Viscount Tani through his organ, the *Nippon*, that the Cabinet is to be blamed for having demanded the cession of Liaotung from China, since there must have been reason to foresee that such a step would invite European intervention. The *Nichi Nichi* states that, until about the 20th of March last, even the European states that ultimately combined against Japan did not themselves know what course if any they were about to pursue on the matter. Under such circumstances, the Japanese Government could not justly be expected to foresee the trend of events. "It may be said that the Government was perfecly right in demanding the peninsula and that, having done so, never to have given it up. Well, that contention is intelligible enough. But then those advancing it ought to remember that the Liaotung problem is not yet fully solved. The return of the peninsula remains to be accomplished. At present, under the provisions of the Treaty, Liaotung forms part of the Japanese dominions. It is a fact that our Government has promised the three Powers that the tenure of the district shall be renounced after due arrangements shall have been made with China; but the right of possession has not yet been given up, such arrangements having still to be negotiated. If the Opposition statesmen think that the return of the peninsula is an unbearable disgrace to this Empire, they ought, first, to take the place of the Ministers that gave the above mentioned pledge to the three Powers, and then either to disavow the pledge, or to make such arrangements with China as shall amount to its virtual disavowal. The problem being still undecided, it is not too late to adopt such a course of action. If the objectors really believe that the country has been subjected to unendurable humiliation, the mere dismissal of the present Ministers cannot wipe away the disgrace, They must further take the decided step of completely reversing the policy pursued by the statesmen now in office. Should representations in that sense be approved by the Emperor, the present Ministers would have no recourse but to resign their posts. If the Opposition politicians are convinced of the justice of their views, why do they not proceed to remedy effectually the mistake committed by the Government? They would be perfectly justified in saying that Liaotung must not be returned; nay, they are bound to say so if they have the least confidence in their opinions. Liaotung is still Japanese territory." Of course the Opposition are not prepared to go to that length, as everybody knows. Liaotung, in their eyes, is merely a stick wherewith to beat the Government.

The *Kokkai* mentions an alleged conversation between Count Ito and a certain aged statesman—probably Count Soyejima—relating to the desirability of a coalition between the Premier and the Leader of the Progressionist Party. The venerable visitor, after alluding to the serious difficulties attending the safe pilotage of the ship of State subsequently to a great war, urged the importance of a union between Counts Ito and Okuma, the two statesmen who, in his opinion, are alone capable of conducting public affairs at a critical juncture of the country's history. Count Ito is represented to have answered as follows:—"I have never been averse to co-operate with politicians out of power. Still less averse am I at a time like the present, when measures of far reaching consequence, involving the dearest interests of the people, are pressing for solution. Between Okuma and myself, there are countless recollections of former friendship and cordiality, and if once we meet and speak our minds freely to each other, it may probably be found that we can easily agree. But here is the difficulty. I am now a member of the Cabinet, while Okuma is the leader of an Opposition party. Suppose he visits me at my house, the Opposition parties will at once say that he has at last surrendered to the Government. If, on the other hand, I call on him at his residence, I shall be denounced as having capitulated to him. Thus an imaginary fence separates us." Assuming this account to be fairly accurate, it confirms what has been pointed out more than once in these columns, namely, that the elder statesmen are separated less by their own differences of opinion than by the antipathy between their respective followers.

An attempt has been made by a section of the Extremists to foment discord between Sa'shu and Choshu statesmen by circulating rumours that the latter have secretly formed an alliance with the Tosa politicians, or, in other words, with the leaders of the Radical Party, and that all dissensions among the Choshu statesmen themselves have been successfully adjusted. In proof of the latter allegation, reference is made to the sympathetic attitude of the National Unionists towards the Government. But it is manifestly incredible that a matter of such importance as an alliance with any political party could have been decided without previous reference to the opinions of the Satsuma statesmen, who constitute an influential section of the Cabinet. Still more extravagant is it to suppose that the National Unionists are exclusively under the control of Choshu statesmen. The Party owes its origin to the personal influence of Count Saigo and Viscount Takashima as well as to that of Viscount Shinagawa. A certain Extremist organ recently went so far as to declare that Count Matsukata's consent to remain in the Cabinet explains the friendly attitude of the National Unionists towards the Government. Thus it follows that an alliance between the Government and the above mentioned parties would indicate union rather than disunion in the Cabinet.

With regard to the hope entertained by a section of the Extremists, that the National Unionists and possibly the Radicals might support an attack upon the Cabinet, if the question of Ministerial responsibility about the return of Liaotung were introduced after the Military and Naval measures had passed both Houses of the Diet, the *Jiji Shimpo* says that the influential members of the National Unionist Party have positively declared their determination to oppose the introduction of the so-called Responsibility question at any and every stage of the session, if it be intended as a weapon for dislodging the Ministry. As to the strength of the National Unionist Party in the Diet, opinions differ. Commonly it is put at 31, but the Party's organ, the *Chuo Shimbun*, declares that the number is over 40. The same journal announces that the Party will devote its entire energies to the military and industrial development of the country.

Concerning the degree to which the fighting capacity of the country should be increased, there seems to be a general disinclination to express any opinion, not because people are indifferent, but because full confidence is reposed in the ability and integrity of the Military and Naval authorities. Vernacular journals concern themselves chiefly to reproduce alleged decisions of the Authorities on this matter. The question being still under consideration at the War and Naval Departments, no definite statement can yet be made. But as an example of the kind of rumours circulated, it may be interesting to notice information that the *Yomiuri Shimbun* pretends to have obtained from a trustworthy source. The Government's determination, we are told, is to make the Army twice as strong as it now is, so that 200,000 troops may be available for service at a moment's notice. As to the Navy, 120,000 or 130,000 tons are to be added in the course of the next five or six years. We do not vouch for the correctness of these figures.

The simultaneous suspension of five newspapers in Niigata Prefecture in connection with the Liaotung question has been already noticed. The Extremist organs write as though a really formidable popular agitation were going on in that locality. The rigorous measures of repression adopted in the capital appear to have been employed by the local police authorities also. Originators of the agitation in Tokyo, pleased to find that some provincial politicians are simple enough to become their instruments, are said to be making efforts to raise subscriptions in Tokyo by way of solatium for the unfortunate papers of Niigata.

THE FOREIGN TRADE OF KOREA FOR 1894.

The *Kokkai's* Söul correspondent has obtained some figures relating to the foreign trade of Korea during the year 1894. The total sums were as follow:—

Imports.	Exports.	Aggregate.
yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*
5,416,603	3,196,421	8,613,200

Divided according to the different treaty ports, the figures appear thus:—

	Imports. *yen.*	Exports. *yen.*	Total. *yen.*
Nin-sen (In-chhŏn)	3,258,615	1,607,015	4,859,330
Gen-san (Won-san)	1,146,603	911,477	2,053,309
Fu-san (Phu-san)	1,016,156	684,229	1,700,385

Of the exports, the principal articles were rice, 939,662 *yen*; beans, 417,711 *yen*; oxhides, 335,738 *yen*; marine products, 27,997 *yen*; gold, 540,004 *yen*; cereals of various kinds, 400,162 *yen*; other articles, 366,176 *yen*. The Imports were:—Clothing stuffs, 3,803,833 *yen*; copper iron, &c., 163,009 *yen*; kerosene, 236,929 *yen*; fancy goods, 245,549 *yen*; rice 842,921 *yen*; salt, 60,987 *yen*; other articles 759,422 *yen*.

LATEST CENSUS.

The population of the principal cities on the 31st of December, 1894, was as follows:—

Tokyo	1,303,876	Akita	26,912
Kyoto	328,403	Fukui	43,083
Osaka	484,409	Kanagawa	89,593
Sakai	47,138	Toyama	58,645
Yokohama	160,866	Takaoka	30,724
Kobe	159,243	Tottori	27,953
Himeji	27,103	Matsuye	35,026
Nagasaki	67,035	Okayama	51,693
Niigata	49,475	Hiroshima	84,720
Mayebashi	34,947	Akamagaseki	33,500
Mito	29,410	Wakayama	55,423
Tsu	30,097	Tokushima	60,232
Nagoya	200,720	Takamatsu	33,975
Shizuoka	37,210	Matsuyama	33,326
Kofu	33,947	Kochi	35,992
Gifu	31,736	Fukuoka	56,371
Sendai	61,204	Kurume	26,697
Morioka	32,285	Saga	28,685
Hirosaki	31,019	Kumamoto	58,862
Yamagata	28,379	Kagoshima	55,925
Yonezawa	28,851		

The following men-of-war were lately placed on the reserve:—*Takachiho Kan, Tenryu Kan, Kongo Kan, Tsukushi Kan, Takao Kan*, and *Yamashiro Maru*.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

As already stated in these columns, the Nippon Ginko recently reduced its rate of interest on advances from 2⅛ *sen* per diem per 100 *yen* to 2 *sen*, the object being to stimulate the revival of business and industry. But the benefits of this step on the part of the Bank of Japan have been monopolized by other banks, which have sought and obtained advances at the new rate, still continuing, however, to levy the old rates from their own commercial and manufacturing clients. This state of affairs will be better understood if we explain that the Bank of Japan is not in the habit of making advances to individual applicants, with the exception of a very few men of business in Tokyo and Yokohama, and the other banks are consequently in a position to earn large profits by acting as media between it and their own customers. They charge a daily interest of from 2.5 to 2.8 *sen* for money obtained from the Bank of Japan at 2 *sen*. Loud complaints are naturally heard in business circles, and efforts are being made to induce the Bank of Japan to open its doors to individual merchants and manufacturers. The Bank's charter does not explicitly prohibit such transactions, and in point of fact advances are actually made to a few persons in Tokyo and Yokohama. But, in the main, the Bank has hitherto restricted its loans to banking establishments, apparently because it saw some valid objections to engaging in competition with these banks, and also because its principal mission is to preserve the general economical balance. But, if the bankers continue to extort unduly high rates, the Nippon Ginko is not unlikely to give favourable consideration to the representations of private borrowers.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* states that the Government has under contemplation the establishment of an Industrial Bank. The scheme was once taken up enthusiastically by Count Matsukata, and a draft of the bank's charter was prepared, but his subsequent resignation led to the temporary abandonment of the matter. It is reported that since the Count's reappointment to the post of Minister of Finance, the scheme has been revived, and that a Bill on the subject will probably be introduced in the next session of the Diet.

The members of the Tokyo and Yokohama branches of the *Boyeki Kyokai* (Trade Association) held a meeting at the Seiyoken Restaurant, Tsukiji, Tokyo, on the 18th ultimo. The Yokohama contingent consisted of Messrs. Otani Kahei, Otani Kobei, Nishikino Kichiji, Muramatsu Takeichiro, Hattori Arata, Miyakawa Kosan and nine others. Tokyo was represented by Messrs. Ikeda Kenzo, Ohashi Sahei, Okada Ninichi, Namikawa Sosuke, and so forth. The company numbered in all more than fifty. Mr. Ikeda Kenzo opened the meeting with a short address, in which he explained the importance of making thorough investigations into the existing condition of the foreign trade of the country, with a view to carrying out necessary reforms and improvements. After a debate in which several persons warmly took part, it was finally decided to appoint a Commission to report on the following eight topics;—(1) Methods of extending the market for Japanese exports; (2) increased facilities for the import trade; (3) the formation of guilds for conducting and regulating transactions in the four staple articles of export; (4) State encouragement of foreign trade; (5) training of men for foreign trade; (6) cōoperation between capitalists and men engaged in foreign trade; (7) methods of effecting improvements in articles of export; and (8) lessons to be learned from the experience of other countries as to the effect of war upon trade.

The continued cool and wet weather is causing considerable uneasiness about the rice crop, as is clearly indicated by a steady rise in the quotations at the Rice Exchanges throughout the country. All reports from the interior agree in saying that the yield of the earlier varieties will show more or less decrease as compared with that of average years. But opinions differ about the later varieties. Some people maintain that the injury thus far done to the growth of the plants of later varieties can never be remedied, however fine the weather may be for the rest of the season. But many seem to think that, should the weather prove good during the month of August, the later varieties will produce an average crop. This second view is said to be shared by the experts in charge of the Government Experimental Farm at Nishigahara, Tokyo.

The *Jiji Shimpo* observes that a marked increase has taken place in the import of alcohol during the twelve months ending June last, and this, despite the imposition of the new duty since July of last year. The following figures speak for themselves:—

	Casks (120lb.).		Casks (120lb.).
July, 1894	900	January, 1895	909
August, 1894	1,025	February, 1895	1,000
September, 1894	3,173	March, 1895	802
October, 1894	1,550	April, 1895	2,079
November, 1894	574	May, 1895	3,094
December, 1894	925	June, 1895	9,708
Total	8,147	Total	17,592

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* states that the general tendency among the bankers of the capital is to follow the example of the Bank of Japan and lower their rates of interest. But much hesitation and reluctance seem to be shown by the bankers to carry out that intention, if they really entertain it. The rate charged by them still ranges between 2 *sen* 5 *rin* and 2 *sen* 8 *rin* per diem for 100 *yen*.

The Japanese silk dealers of Yokohama are said to be complaining because the Bank of Japan has lowered its rate of interest. On various pretexts they had demanded a high rate—3 *sen* 3 *rin* per diem for 100 *yen* or over 12 per cent. per annum—on advances made to silk-producers in the interior. But as soon as it was known that the Nippon Ginko had lowered its rate to 2 *sen* per diem, the producers began to demand a corresponding reduction on the part of their creditors here, and the latter now find it impossible to make as much profit by their loans as they had hoped. Hence their tears.

The project of establishing an Industrial Bank, says the *Chugai Shogyo*, is making favourable progress in Government circles. Whether the bank will receive a State guarantee of profit, or whether the State will be its principal shareholder, is a point yet to be settled. The capital will be at least 10,000,000 *yen*. Our contemporary seems to entertain no doubt that a Bill on the subject will be introduced in the next regular session of the Diet. An increasing tendency among foreign merchants to project industrial undertakings in cōoperation with Japanese, is said to have been one of the causes that have led the authorities to take up the present scheme in earnest.

The kerosene oil obtained in Echigo is reported to be coming into general use in the provinces of the Hokuriku-do and in Shinshu, and even in the provinces of the Kwanto. The oil produced at Kashiwazaki is said to be especially good, some people asserting that it is even superior to the Russian import. The completion of the Gan-etsu line, connecting Echigo with the provinces of the north-east, will still more extend the market for the Echigo oil. It is also stated that there is a prospect of the article's finding its way into Hokkaido.

A panic is reported to have been caused at Mayebashi by the discovery of a large fraud on the part of some officials of the local Cocoon Market Company. The company's capital is only 20,625 *yen*, but its connection with the 39th National Bank of Mayebashi kept its credit very high in local business circles, and it had been in the habit of carrying on transactions entirely out of proportion to its capital. Various suspicious circumstances having gradually come to light, one of the accomplices in the fraud, Matsui Rinkichi, a manager of the company, attempted to drown himself on the 11th instant. He was rescued and induced to confess the whole truth. For some years he and another official of the company, Sugi Tomokichi, in concert with a rascal, named Fukuda Gosaburo, of Oyama, had been in the habit of drawing large sums of money from the bank to the account of the company on the security of cocoons, and appropriating the money for their private purposes. The bales of alleged cocoons given by way of security have been found to contain a mass of straw and bricks covered with a thin layer of cocoons. The two also robbed the company of a large quantity of cocoons. The revelation led to widespread consternation in the place as well as among the customers of the company in other localities. Matsui and Sugi were at once arrested, but Fukuda managed to escape and his whereabouts is still unknown. In consequence of the collapse of this company, all transactions in cocoons are said to be at a standstill in Mayebashi. The creditors of the company are trying to get their claims satisfied by Mr. Katsu, President, and Mr. Ohara, assessor of the company, both of whom are known to be among the most wealthy men of the place.

There is a project among the principal bankers of Tokyo and Yokohama to establish a credit agency. This will be the second agency of the kind in Japan, the other and older one in Osaka having been established some years ago. For the first few years the Credit Agency of Osaka experienced various difficulties. Its receipts did not cover it expenses, and the work of ascertaining the actual state of the credit of the principal local commercial houses was impeded by almost insurmountable obstacles. As an illustration of the embarrassments encountered by it in the latter direction, it is stated that fully twelve months were needed to make a fairly accurate estimate of the wealth of Mr. Sumitomo. Taught by the experience of the Osaka establishment, the projectors of the present scheme are prepared to incur a considerable amount of expense for the first few years. According to their plan, a sum of 12,000 *yen* is to be contributed yearly by the projectors for the maintenance of the agency. They represent the Nippon Ginko, the Yokohama Specie Bank, the Mitsui Bank, the Mitsu Bishi Bank, and several other banks of high standing.

The exportation of *habutaye* from Yokohama during the first six months of the present year shows a remarkable increase over that for the corresponding period of last year. The following table shows the figures for the two periods:—

	Quantity. Tan.	Value. Yen.
First half of 1894	325,830	5,237,959.87
First half of 1895	171,205	2,872,546.86
Increase	154,625	2,365,412.92

The opening of branch offices by the Bank of Japan at Shimonoseki and Hakodate has been attended with complete success, especially in the case of the branch at the former place. The great facilities given by these branches to business transactions in the respective localities, have led merchants of other commercial centres to apply to the Bank for the establishment of other branches. It is believed that agencies will probably be opened at Nagoya and Niigata.

The wheat crop in Kyushu, according to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, is reported to have been slightly inferior to that of an average year. The price of the ordinary Hizen grain is quoted at 4 *yen* 50 *sen* per *koku*. The produce of beans in Kyushu is expected to be good.

Some influential Japanese financiers maintain that the reviving prosperity of industry and commerce in this empire ought to be checked, rather than stimulated. They point to the disastrous experiences of Germany after her war with France, and express a fear that, unless extreme caution be exercised, similar economical disturbances may be witnessed in this country. Viscount Enomoto's recent instructions to the Governors of Cities and Prefectures were based on that apprehension. But a more numerous and influential section of financiers take different views. The Bank of Japan was the first to disregard the warning uttered by the Minister of

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Agriculture and Commerce: it undertook to cheapen money, so as to promote industrial and commercial activity. The *Jiji Shimpo* now raises its powerful voice in support of the Bank's attitude. It contends that any comparison between the Japan of to-day and the Germany of twenty-five years ago is unjustifiable. The economic disturbance in Germany was caused by the absorption of an enormous sum of 5,000 million francs in the short space of a few years. In Japan's case, the indemnity amounts to only 200 million taels, and is to be paid in eight years. Moreover, it will be used principally for Military and Naval purposes, so that the greater portion will have to be spent in Europe and America. Hence the revival of industry and trade may be safely allowed to take its own course, and should even receive every legitimate encouragement from bankers and capitalists. Some folk may be duped by speculation, but that has always been, and will always remain, inevitable.

When the numerous steamships now employed as transports are set free, the great question will be how to repair them. The Dockyards at Yokosuka and Nagasaki are taken up by war-vessels. It is stated that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will repair its ships at Shanghai and Hongkong. Dockyards in the Far East have a fine time in prospect. The above mentioned company alone is expected to spend more than half a million *yen* on repairing its vessels.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* states that a scarcity of subsidiary coins is now keenly felt in Tokyo. When the war broke out quantities of these pieces were continually sent over to Korea and China. The Mint at Osaka, with all its industry, being unable to supply the demand, the Bank of Japan was compelled to bring from its vaults notes of 20 and 50 *sen* denominations that had been lying there for some years, and put them into circulation. But since this state of things was corrected when the soldiers and coolies began to return, the present scarcity is attributed to an exodus of small coins to Formosa.

Mr. Awaya Shinazo's project of utilizing the Fall of Nachi for supplying electricity to Osaka is confronted by formidable rival schemes. Thus Mr. Takagi Bumpei and other citizens of Kyoto propose to establish an electric factory on the upper stream of the Muko in Hyogo Prefecture for the use of Osaka, Kyoto, and Kobe, and an exactly similar project has been formed by some inhabitants of Nada. Applications for licences having been made by the projectors of all the schemes to the Prefectural Government of Hyogo, the Governor tried to bring about a union, but his efforts failed. The question has now been taken up in Kyoto, and it is expected that an amalgamation will be effected

Mr. Ikeda Kenzo, of the 100th National Bank, is reported by the *Kokkai* to have expressed himself very strongly upon the question of direct trade with foreign countries. The foreign trade of Japan has made rapid progress, but is almost entirely conducted by the foreign merchants in the Settlements. Mr. Ikeda urges the importance of putting an end to that state of affairs. The country's foreign trade cannot progress genuinely, he says, so long as it remains in the hands of foreign merchants incapable of thoroughly studying the tastes and wants of the Japanese and out of touch with the condition of things in their own countries. The time has come, he thinks, for the Japanese to carry on their own foreign commerce. The abolition of Consular Jurisdiction will soon deprive the foreign merchants of their favourable position, while, in consequence of the recent war, the position of the Japanese will steadily improve abroad. If, under such circumstances, the Japanese can not get their foreign trade into their own hands, they must be a hopeless race, entirely unfit to struggle for existence with civilized nations.

KOREAN NEWS.

No news has been received from Korea since the return of Count Inouye to Söul. The *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent writes from Söul under date of the 20th instant, namely, the day on which the Japanese Minister was expected there. He says that the Korean capital was full of wild rumours; as for instance, that Count Inouye was coming with Pak Yong-ho, who had been hiding at Ninsen; that he (the Count) would enter Söul at the head of 20,000 troops; that the capital would soon become a scene of fighting between Russian and Japanese forces; that the Japanese Minister intended to proceed to the Court on the 22nd, accompanied by an armed escort, to demand the restoration of Pak to his former Ministerial post, and so on. It appears that the Koreans, even those in high official positions, believed that Pak would come back with Count Inouye, and that men of all parties suspended proceedings when it became known that Count Inouye was returning. Evidently the Count is regarded with great respect and fear by Koreans of all classes.

An occasional correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the crime of which Pak is accused is that of plotting against the life of the Queen. But no definite evidence is forthcoming, and the accusation rests upon mere hearsay. The man that gave information about the issue of a warrant for Pak's arrest is said to have been Li In-yo, the former Police Chief, who lived next door to Pak. The writer also alleges that An Keiju, who was charged with the execution of the warrant, was in no hurry about the business, and that the pursuit of the flying Minister was not at all energetic.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Söul correspondent states that the Queen is taking active steps to bring the army under her personal influence. So far as the Palace Guards are concerned, she successfully defeated the Cabinet's attempt to replace them by troops trained under the new system. The officers in command of the Guards are all her own favourites and dependants, so that this corps, about 1,000 strong, will be faithful to her in every contingency. But the Guards are inferior in efficiency to the newly trained troops, and the Queen being well aware of the fact, is endeavouring to get the regular troops also under her sway. As a first step toward achieving that end, she is stated to have recommended for the post of the Commander-in-Chief of the little army, an officer named Ko Keikun, who at the time of the *émeute* of 1882 showed great devotion to Her Majesty, devotion that extended to carrying her on his back as far as Chon-ju. Whether this very loyal individual has received the appointment we are not told, but the Queen's efforts on his behalf seem very natural.

Recently a certain dissatisfied and ambitions Korean waited on the Tai Wŏn-kun at the latter's country villa in Kotokuri. After explaining the confused state of affairs in the Capital, the visitor lowered his tone and sought to pursuade the ex-Regent to emerge once more from retirement and rescue his king and country from their oppressors. The old statesman, having patiently listened to the suggestions of his visitor, called a police official who was attending in the adjoining room and ordered him to arrest the astonished instigator of treason. The unfortunate adventurer is now in jail.

General Le Gendre is said to have been appointed Adviser to the Household Department on the 16th instant, at an annual salary of 3,600 *yen*. Formerly he used to draw from the Korean Government a salary of 9,600 *yen* per annum, and the Japanese correspondents mention a rumour that his new stipend of 3,600 *yen* is merely nominal, his real income being 9,600 *yen* as formerly. He is alleged to be on the best of terms with Mr. Waeber, and his appointment to the Household Department is regarded by the Japanese as an indication of the increased influence of the Russian Minister at Court. It is also stated that the Korean Government has engaged three Americans as Legal Advisers, and that they are expected to arrive before long.

The Japanese settlement in Söul is reported to be rapidly increasing, both in size and prosperity. All the hotels are full of guests, and the restaurants are driving a roaring trade. Erection of new buildings and repair of the old are going on everywhere, so that carpenters, of whom there are over a hundred in the place, are in great demand, receiving on the average a dollar per day. The settlement now extends almost as far as the Southern Gate. Prices are stated to be exceedingly high.

According to a telegram said to have been received at the Japanese Legation from Wiju on the 18th instant, the number of cholera cases in that place and neighbourhood during the five days ending on the 18th, was 740, the aggregate number from the first appearance of the disease being 3,661.

The Korean Government is said to have opened two lines of coasting trade. They both start from Ninsen, one going along the south-eastern and northern coasts, and the other along the south-western. On the former line has been placed the steamship *Kairyu*, and on latter the *Ken-yeki*. Both boats are of small size.

A Japanese just returned from Fusan is quoted in the *Jiji Shimpo* to the effect that Mok-pho, a port in Chŏlla-do, which is to be shortly opened to Japanese trade, has a fine harbour, easily affording safe anchorage for thirty or forty large steamships. As the maritime outlet of a province called the granary of Korea, Mok-pho seems destined to become a very prosperous commercial centre. Japanese merchants at Fusan, as already stated in these columns, offer strong protests to the opening of this port on the selfish ground that the measure would injure their business. The Japanese colony at Fusan being more than three centuries old, the residents regard the place as their home and are, consequently, extremely jealous about the rise of other prosperous colonies in their neighbourhood.

In the localities adjoining Fusan, the barley and wheat crop appear to have been exceptionally good, and the farmers are reported to be in high spirits. The Nak-dong-gang overflowed recently, and did some damage to the Japanese Commissariat Stations along its banks. Predictions of a plentiful rice crop this autumn are freely ventilated, the overflowing of this river in midsummer being traditionally connected with a good harvest.

The Korean Government having abolished the law requiring people to wear white clothes, Japanese striped goods are said to be slowly coming into use as garments, and thus a large market may soon offer for the importation of Japanese cotton fabrics.

REASONS AND RESULTS.

We have been strongly indisposed to believe the rumour that France had obtained concessions of territory in south-western China as a result of her action with respect to the Liao-tung Peninsnla. The story, however, is most circumstantially published in Bangkok, the newly rectified French boundary being defined thus:—

> Leaving Laichou the boundary line runs abruptly north, enclosing the valley and sources of the Nam Na, and passing north of the head waters of the Nan Oo, or Hou, follows the mountainous sources of the Nam Ban and Nam Touh in a series of erratic curves, and finally impinges on the Meikong a little north of Muang Vang. . . From a glance at the map it will thus appear clear that M. Sing, reported to be garrisoned by Indian troops, is entirely within the new French territory, and that part of Chien Keng, which State straddles the Meikong, Chieng Sen, and Chieng Kong is also included in French territory. In other words, all territories on the left bank of the Upper Meikong over which Siam exercised any sort of suzerian rights, have been included by the new boundary convention into French territory. France, England, and China are now neighbours on the Upper Meikong.

In a word, China has been induced to cede to France the buffer state that the former was to have held for the purposes of separating French and British territory. But the rumour remains to be proved.

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PAK YONG-HO AND THE KOREAN STUDENTS.

Pak Yong-ho, who had been receiving treatment at Dr. Kitazato's hospital at Azabu, Tokyo, left there on Saturday last and proceeded to Yokohama with the intention of sailing for the United States. It is stated that such had been his original purpose when he escaped from Söul, but that he was prevented from leaving for America immediately upon his arrival in this country by the necessity of receiving medical treatment. Dr. Kitazato is reported to have pronounced him fit to undertake the journey provided that due precautions are observed.

The Korean students who assembled at the Legation of their country on Saturday last, are reported to have returned to the Keiwo Gijiku on Monday. Their misconception about the connection between Mr. Fukuzawa and Pak, was entirely removed by the former's explanations as to the distinction between political refugees and ordinary fugitives from justice, and they are now pursuing their studies as before.

THE "MAINICHI SHIMBUN" CASE.

The suit brought by Police Inspector Ikegami against the *Mainichi Shimbun* on account of the latter's refusal to insert his letter correcting an erroneous statement in the newspaper's account of the suspension of Mr. Shimada Saburo's speech at the Kinkikan, was heard on the 11th and 13th ultimo before Judge Sakurai in the Kyobashi District Court. The point at issue was whether or not Police Inspector Ikegami ordered the suspension of Mr. Shimada's speech while he was in the act of reading an Imperial Rescript. The accused and the reporters of the *Nippon* and a few other papers insisted that the order was given while the speaker was reading an Imperial Rescript, whereas the Police Inspector was equally positive in asserting that he stopped Mr. Shimada just when the latter began to speak about the return of the Liaotung peninsula. The stenographic report of the speech preserved at the Kanda Police Office seemed to support the statement made by the Police Inspector. Judgment was given on the 17th ultimo in favour of the prosecution, the editor of the *Mainic h Shimbun* being sentenced to a fine of 50 *yen* for violating Article XIII. of the Newspaper Regulations. The accused will, it is said, appeal aaginst the decision. Extraordinary importance is attached to the case by the organs of the Opposition parties. They accuse the Judiciary of being subservient to the Executive. But in truth the case is of trifling moment whichever way it may be ultimately decided. It is a mere quibble to pretend that the reading of an Imperial Rescript can have provoked police interference. Everybody knows that Mr. Shimada's speech was stopped because of the nature of the matter that he set himself to discuss, and whether the Police Inspector issued his mandate at the moment when an Imperial Rescript was being read, or immediately after it had been read, is wholly immaterial. We confess that the spectacle of leading politicians' clutching at such straws of contention is not dignified or edifying. At all events, it was the *Mainichi Shimbun's* duty to comply with the law. Its editorial columns remain opened for protest or denial.

A CHOLERA RECORD.

The cholera has achieved a terrible record in the family of Mr. Yamamoto Mitsutoyo, in Nishirokukenbori-cho, Fukagawa, Tokyo. Between the 24th and the 28th ultimo, eight members of the family, the father, mother and six children, were attacked by the terrible disease, and five of them succumbed, It is further stated that at No. 16 and No. 17 in Matsumura-cho, in the same district, no less than 17 cases of cholera occurred between the 27th and 29th ltimo.

AT the recent commencement exercises of Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon Rear-Admiral Belknap.

THE JAPANESE MINISTER IN PEKIN.

The Japanese Minister invited his colleagues to dinner at the Legation on the 12th instant. Among the guests, are mentioned the Representatives of England, the United States, France, Germany, Belgium, and Spain; Sir Robert Hart, his son, and Mrs. Hart, and the Secretaries of the Legations. The Russian and Italian Ministers could not be present owing to absence from the Capital, the former at Chefoo and the latter on a journey in the interior. The American Minister came back from the hills, where he was spending the summer vacation, specially for the purpose of attending the dinner. The Japanese correspondents, from whose letters we quote these facts, say that the relations between Mr. Hayashi and the British and American Representatives are daily growing more and more intimate. The German Minister also is reported to be showing much courtesy to his Japanese colleague.

The new Chinese Minister, Mr. Yu Kêng, is said to be a frequent visitor at the Japanese Legation. Formerly a Taotai in the south, he was summoned to Pekin when the war broke out, and appointed Private Secretary to Prince Kung. In that capacity he had charge of the correspondence that passed between the Japanese and Chinese Government through the medium of the American Minister in Pekin. He is said to enjoy the complete confidence of Prince Kung. He is a little past fifty, and his wife is stated to be a daughter of an American by a Chinese lady.

Recently the Chinese *Official Gazette* contained a Memorial to the Throne by an official named Kwan Ting-kien. The writer strongly recommended sweeping reductions in administrative expenditures so that the indemnity to Japan might be paid without borrowing money abroad. In the course of his memorial he applied the term "insular barbarians" to the Japanese. This was carrying matters a little too far, and the Tsung-li Yamên had to apologize to the Japanese Minister. But the very next day the same document was re-published and the same expression was suffered to appear. This called forth a fesh remonstrance, and the Tsung-li Yamên again apologized, promising that a special Edict should be issued to prohibit the recurence of such a mistake. We do not understand how the re-publication occurred, but the story is related by Japanese journals in the form here given.

General Yu Lu, of Mukden, is stated to have addressed a memorial to the Emperor, bringing to His Majesty's notice the pitiable condition of the people in the Provinces of Kirin, Mukden, and Shinking, who are suffering terribly from famine, a result of the war. The memorialist advocates the abolition of the *likin* (internal transit dues) which greatly aggravate the distress of the people. The misery of the population in these localities is said to be really intense and widespread.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent hears that a certain merchant in Tientsin, of what nationality he does not state, is daily making large purchases of camels, and that his movements are causing much suspicion. The same correspondent learns that an army of 50,000 men is being moved along the north of the Desert of Gobi. "Is it meant," he asks, "as a demonstration to hasten the withdrawa of Japanese troops from Korea, or is it to be interpreted as a demand for the evacuation of Liaotung? If this report prove true, the time has not yet come for the Japanese to sheathe their swords."

At the date of the correspondence from which we have been quoting, namely the middle of the present month, the weather was very fine in Pekin. There had been several showers of rain during the preceding few days, but they were not heavy enough to make the roads inconveniently bad.

THE KIMURA-CORNES CASE.

As usual the device of deliberate misrepresentation is resorted to by the *Japan Gazette*. It charges this journal with alleging that "when the Japanese defy the law, foreigners must also set the Courts at defiance." Of course we never said anything of the kind, or anything even remotely suggesting such disgraceful procedure.

The *Japan Gazette* further writes:—"Also the law as to the granting of execution after sentence has been delivered should be amended. If Messrs. Cornes and Company could have immediately proceeded to attach Mr. Kimura's wares we should have heard nothing of this most shameful case. Here then are two suggestions, both practical, and calculated to prevent any such conspiracies in future." Now it happens that the Code of Civil Procedure contains the very provision whose insertion the *Japan Gazette* advocates. Mr. Kimura's property could have been immediately attached after the delivery of the Court's verdict. But that is entirely outside the question at issue. There is not, and never has been, the slightest doubt that Messrs. Cornes and Company could have obtained from Mr. Kimura the full satisfaction granted by law. The point is that had the British firm proceeded to the extremity of its legal rights, it would have been boycotted. The law needs no amendment in that respect. The *Japan Gazette* seems to be alike ignorant of the Code and incapable of appreciating the issue really at stake in the Kimura-Cornes case.

The *Japan Gazette* further writes:—"Is Japan to let a social problem go unsolved because in England there is no solution? The law in Japan has many powers it does not possess in England. In Japan a policeman can enter a private house without a warrant, and it is criminal to play cards for a stake." Now, in the first place, it is quite untrue to assert that a Japanese policeman can legally enter a private house without a warrant. That blunder on the part of the *Japan Gazette* was long ago exposed. In the second place, it appears that we now have the *Japan Gazette* contending that since Japanese law sanctions procedure which in England would be at once illegal and intolerable, therefore Japanese law should be extended so as to carry such procedure to still greater lengths. A year or two ago the *Japan Gazette* wrote a series of violent articles designed to prove that foreigners ought never to be placed under Japanese jurisdiction because their houses would be exposed to visits from policemen without warrants. Now the same journal seems to contend that the existence of such an abuse in Japan constitutes a fair pretext for further legal license. The abuse being chimerical, the *Japan Gazette* has not even the satisfaction of contending that two wrongs makes a right.

THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce was held in its rooms on the 26th instant. There were present Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Okusaburobei, Asabuki Eiji, Sakuma Teiichi, Kato Masayoshi, Shoda Heigoro, Watanabe Hiromoto, Nakano Buei, Yamamoto Tatsuo, and about twenty-five other business men of the capital. Mr. Shibusawa was in the chair. The proceedings commenced at 4 p.m. The first subject discussed was the report of a committee that had been appointed to enquire into the advisability of memoralizing the Government about the reduction of freight rates on its railways. The committee recommended the presentation of such a memorial and submitted a draft, but as some points required correction, the draft was recommitted and the final vote was postponed to another opportunity. The next matter submitted to the meeting related to some extraordinary expenses incurred by the Chamber during the war. The account was passed without debate. The third measure related to filling up a vacancy in the Committee for Investigating the Civil and Commercial Codes, caused by the

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resignation of Mr. Masuda Kokutoku. Mr. Sakuma Teiichi was nominated by the President. The fourth item was of more practical importance and occasioned an animated debate. It was a proposal to present to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce a memorial about the revision of the Exchange Regulations. Under the existing provisions, a system of transactions known by the name of "standard transactions" (*hyojun baibai*) is allowed in the case of rice alone. The proposal is to have the application of the system extended to other articles also. In order to understand the significance of the proposed measure, it will be necessary to explain briefly the method of transactions in a Rice Exchange. Let us take that of Tokyo for our purpose. Busho produce of medium quality is adopted as the standard rice, and forms the basis of all transactions. The operations being mostly speculative, the quantity of rice actually changing hands is comparatively small, but still deliveries do take place. Such deliveries may be in rice of any locality and quality, provided that allowance is made for the grain's relative inferiority or superiority to the standard, in accordance with a scale fixed by the exchange. The buyer has no right to demand a particular sort of rice. This is termed a "standard transaction." The rule is different with other articles. In their case, all transactions are conducted with reference to a particular kind and class. For instance, if salt be in question, each purchase or sale is made in *shinzai, ako*, or some other kind, and delivery much take place in that very kind and no other. Now these transactions being mostly for speculative purposes, it usually happens that the actual delivery of commodities is conducted by parties other than those effecting the original operation. Consequently, the designation of a particular kind and class of article is not only unimportant, but very often causes inconvenience and trouble. Hence the proposal to apply the so-called "standard transaction" to the case of all articles, because by that method the above mentioned inconvenience may be obviated. After a warm debate, the measure was adopted by a large majority. There were four other proposals on the table, but it being now nearly half-past nine, the meeting was adjourned to a date not yet notified.

DR. ROBERT ALEXANDER JAMIESON.

It is with very deep regret that the *N.-C. Daily News* announces the unexpected and comparatively sudden death of Dr. R. A. Jamieson, which occurred on the morning of July 26th, at his house in Hongkong Road, Shanghai, at 1.15 a.m. Shortly after midnight on Wednesday (July 24) his boy went to his room with a note and found him unconscious. Dr. Paulun was called in and found him suffering from hemorrhage on the brain. He never regained consciousness. Dr. Jamieson leaves a widow and three sons and three daughters; one son and the oldest daughter, who is herself a widow, are at home. The very deepest sympathy is felt for his family. Dr. Jamieson was born in Ireland, and was apprenticed in 1856, when he was only fourteen years old, to a general practitioner in the south of that island, and subsequently went through the course of Queen's University, Dublin, ending in 1861. He did not qualify, being under age, and then accepted an appointment in the Consular Service in China, and was sent to Pekin to study the language. In 1862 he came to Shanghai and started the *Shanghai Recorder*, of which he was Editor. In 1863 he joined the *North China Herald* as Editor, Mr. R. S. Gundry being sub-editor, and Mr. Colin Jamieson, who afterwards joined the Customs and was murdered by Chinese at Chefoo some years ago, being on the staff of this paper. In 1866 Dr. Jamieson gave up journalism and went home, and in 1868 took his degree at the Royal College of Surgeons, England, and subsequently the degree of M.D. at Dublin University. He returned to Shanghai in 1868 and has been in constant practice there ever since, being appointed medical adviser to the Customs in 1869. He edited the weekly paper *The Cycle* during that journal's existence It would be difficult to name any one in Shanghai in the last thirty years with a more acute intellect or a better stored mind than Dr. Jamieson. He was an admirable speaker and writer, and while an able and very busy practitioner, was essentially a scholar. His wide reading and constant mixing with men of all classes made him a delightful companion, and scholar as he was, there was nothing narrow about him. His opinions were his own, and he knew how to defend and how to adhere to them. Some months ago he had a severe attack of blood poisoning, and this had evidently weakened his constitution permanently. He leaves a large number of sorrowing friends and patients, while his death is a very distinct loss to the intellectual life of Shanghai.

The funeral took place on Friday evening, July 26th, at the New Cemetery, the Chapel, and a wide space round the grave, which is next the beautiful monument erected by Dr. Jamieson to his brother Colin, was thronged with his friends and acquaintances, including a large number of ladies. The service was conducted by the Rev. James Bates, who made a touching address in the Chapel. The coffin was borne to the grave by Messrs. Brunat, Cocker, J. W. Harding, Hippisley, George Jamieson, Knights, F. J. Marshall, McBain, and Joseph, the Hospital attendant, and was covered with beautiful wreaths and crosses, conspicuous among them being one with the Irish harp in evergreens. The chief mourners were Messrs. A. H. Jamieson and A. W. Burkill.

In Japan Dr. Jamieson has many sincere friends to whom the news of his death will cause bitter grief: for to them it is known that the brave physician truly met a martyr's death. Through an act of noble, unselfish devotion in the cause of humanity—that devotion which has elevated the healing profession to such high rank in the esteem of the world—Dr. Jamieson contracted the fell disease that mastered him. His memory will long be cherished here, if for that bright deed alone.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE RICE CROP.

The prospects of the rice crop do not improve. One of the staff of the *Jiji Shimpo* recently undertook an excursion to a locality popularly called Nigô-han, six or seven miles north of Tokyo, noted for the production of early rice. The condition of the farms there is often relied upon by speculators as furnishing an index to the yield throughout the country. The visitor learned that rice plants of the early varieties are from 20 to 30 days behind time, and that the farmers expect a yield from 15 to 20 per cent. below the average. Further, a rice merchant, quoted by the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, has made a tour through the provinces of the Tokaido, and, as the result of extensive observations, is inclined to believe that, even assuming favourable climatic conditions hereafter, the crop will be decidedly poor. The report of the Experimental Farm at Nishigahara, Tokyo, points in the same direction.

A RADICAL LECTURE MEETING.

The Radicals held a lecture meeting in the Kinki-kan, Kanda, Tokyo, on the 25th ultimo. According to accounts published in the metropolitan papers, the affair seems to have been on the whole a success. Fears had been entertained that a number of hostile *soshi* would create a disturbance, and indeed attempts were actually made by *soshi* to cause confusion, but each essay of the kind was suppressed by the Radical adherents, and the meeting, which opened at 1 in the afternoon was brought to a successful close at a little past 5 p.m. More than ten speakers made their appearance, among them being Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Misaki Kamenosuke, Ebara Soroku, Yamada Toji, Suzuki Jubi, and so forth. Two of the speakers were ordered to resume their seats before they could finish their speeches. One of these, Mr. Imanishi Tsunetaro, stated that Japan must increase her navy so as to be of equal strength with that of the British fleet in the East, and was proceeding to explain that in making this increase her object was not to fight with England but with "another Power against which we entertain implacable resentment," when he was desired by the police to leave the platform. The other speaker that fared similarly, Mr. Saito Keiji, invited police interference by making irrelevant and imprudent remarks about the Pak affair, but with these exceptions the police took no action. All the speakers severely criticised the thoughtless and unpatriotic conduct of the Progressionists, and drew attention to the importance of devoting public energy uniquely to measures for the military, commercial, and industrial development of the nation. Mr. Kono Hironaka's speech may be quoted as a specimen. Greeted with loud and prolonged cheers, he stated that it was idle to discuss the Liaotung question, when so many other problems of pressing importance demanded the attention of the Japanese people. After dwelling upon the vital character of the Korean problem, the conditions upon which Liaotung is to be given up, the increase of the Army and the Navy, the settlement of Formosa, and so forth, the Radical leader in the House of Representatives said:—"Our Party will not hesitate to support, and cöoperate with, any that endorse our political opinions, whether they belong to the Government or to other parties."

FORMOSA NEWS.

The *Jiji Shimpo* states that the following telegram, dated Taipeh, July 27th, 12.35 p.m., has been received at the Imperial Military Headquarters, Tokyo:—

"For the purpose of sweeping away the insurgents on both banks of the Takcham river, the principal bulk of the Yamane battalion was mustered at Takcham on the 21st instant; its left wing being collected on the left bank of that river. A few other parties were disposed as follows:—A company of Foot a little above Takcham; a second company to the west of Takcham on the left bank, and a third to the south-west of Taotsyuen.

"On the same day, the Naito Detachment mustered in the vicinity of Haishankow, and the Matsuwara Detachment in the neighbourhood of Bankwitan (?).

"On the 22nd, the different bodies commenced operations. The Yamane Detachment marched in an easterly direction, and the Matsuwara Detachment in a westerly. They advanced fighting the insurgents and burning their villages. Two mountain pieces were sent to the Matsuwara Detachment from Taipeh on the same day. A party of cavalry was also attached to the left wing of the same Detachment.

"On the 23rd, a company of reserves was despatched from Taipeh to Bankwitan (?) to the assistance of the Matsuwara Detachment.

"On the 23rd and 24th, the different detachments continued to advance. On the latter day they effected a juncture near Sakkayen (?). In the fighting up to that date, 500 insurgents were killed, while the loss on the Japanese side was 20 killed and wounded. The principal part of the insurgents fled into the mountains, but their strongholds, namely villages, have been mostly burnt down, together with the arms and weapons concealed in their houses.

"On the 25th, about 1,600 insurgents attacked Sinchuh at 1 a.m. They were completely driven back by 8 a.m., with a loss of over 100 in killed the Japanese loss being only 6 killed and wounded.

It is reported that 2,000 insurgents are assembled near Sincham to the south of Taipeh.

"The different detachments returned to their original rendezvous on the 25th, 26th, and 27th. After replenishing their stores of provisions and ammunition, they are to march to the attack of the insurgents on the south-east of Sinchuh."

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THE FUTURE OF CHINA.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* believes that China will break up into two separate political bodies with the Hoang-ho as their boundary line. Our contemporary has no hope in the regeneration of the Pekin Government. The severe blows inflicted upon it by Japan have produced no beneficial effect. Instead of realising the paramount importance of adopting modern civilization and its material appliances, the Pekin statesmen seem to regret that they had so far condescended as to use European weapons and ammunition in the late war. Had they stuck to their old system, they believe that they would have escaped such disgraceful defeats. Moreover, the one man that has thus far succeeded in keeping the conservative propensities of the Pekin Government under some check—Viceroy Li—is already well advanced in years, and his political life can not be expected to last another decade. While the recent war has not produced any salutary effect upon the Government in Pekin, the *Kokumin* thinks that it has had a very important effect upon the Chinese population in the south, who are only waiting for an opportunity to throw off the yoke of the foreign dynasty. The Southerners were formerly afraid of the Manchu troops and the army under Viceroy Li. But the real worth of these troops in the field of battle has been ruthlessly exposed, and their name has entirely lost the awe formerly inspired by it in the minds of the people of the Chinese race proper. As an illustration of the attitude of the southern Chinese against the Pekin Court, our contemporary points to the refusal of the Fu-kien Squadron to come to the rescue of the Pei-yang fleet. Subsequently, when the Japanese were about to proceed against Shanhaikwan, most of the Chinese officials in Pekin fled to the country, and one of them, on being told by his Manchu superior not to fly, boldly declared that the displeasure of his chief was nothing to him since he was determined to get away. These facts are said to illustrate how weak is the influence exercised by the Manchu rulers upon the Chinese population. Things are thus believed to be ripe in the south of China for a rising of the people *en masse* and a declaration of independence of the Government in Pekin. In that very probable event, the Pekin Government will be helpless to put down the revolt. The only chance for it will be to keep the territory to the north of the Hoang-ho. Our contemporary writes in conclusion as follows:—"It will not do for our politicians to suffer themselves to be entirely engrossed either with visionary ideas for the conquest of southern islands or with mortification at what has taken place further to the north. Great problems, whose solution will require the whole energies of the Japanese nation, may be expected with certainty to rise along the Hoang-ho. We would, therefore, recommend our Government, instead of directing its attention entirely to the Pekin Cabinet, to pay more attention to the condition of things in Southern China. War vessels should be sent there to familiarize the people in the south with the armed strength of Japan, and statesmen should pay visits to those districts and enter into friendly intercourse with leading persons, with a view to keeping themselves in touch with the progress of events in that quarter."

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

The first statements about the accident on the San-yo Railway prove to have been greatly exaggerated. The latest official report received in Tokyo states that the number of lives lost was 16 and that 6 corpses have been recovered. This is confirmed by a telegram from Lieutenant Togawa, to whom had been entrusted the duty of directing the transport of the military patients. It is dated Itosaki, July 25th, 3.25 p.m., and runs as follows:—"The patients and their nurses, in all 347 are staying here. Eleven are severely, and seven slightly, wounded. Six dead bodies have been recovered. Ten are missing. Surgeon-General Sato and the rest have arrived." From this telegram it appears that the wounded were 18 and the killed 16.

As to the cause of the disastrous accident, the original telegrams ascribed it to the force of the gale, which was reported to have upset the carriages and tumbled them into the sea. But this explanation is not generally credited. The true cause, it is surmised, was probably that the track having been injured by the dashing of the waves, the train became derailed and ran off the embankment into the sea. The place where the catastrophe occurred is a low embankment, with a hill on one side and the sea on the other, and the supposition now entertained as to the origin of the accident accords entirely with the circumstances.

The telegrams about the casualties caused by the accident on the Sanyo Railway are very contradictory. The latest message received at the Department of Home Affairs from Dr. Nakahama, specially despatched there for the purpose of investigation, runs as follows:—

Out of 360 sick and wounded soldiers carried by the train, 8 were found dead, 2 have died in consequence of injuries, 9 are severely wounded, and 81 are slightly wounded. The officers, 2 in number, are unhurt. The dead bodies of three engine drivers have been discovered. According to Surgeon-General Dr. Sato, two hours previous to the catastrophe a train had safely passed along the road, and after its passage the condition of the line had been found good, so that the regrettable accident is not to be attributed to any neglect on the part of the company's officials.

Later reports seem to confirm the conjecture that the accident must have resulted from injury done to the track by the sea dashing over it.

Another railway accident attended by serious consequences occurred on the Kyushu line between Shirono and Karita, at 1 p.m. on the 24th inst. Two cars, one carrying passengers and the other goods, were blown over by the wind, killing one person instantaneously, and injuring one severely and five slightly. This news was delayed on account of telegraphic interruptions.

It remains to be seen whether the accident on the Kyushu Railway is not attributable to the same cause as that on the Sanyo line. But assuming for the present that the cause was as assigned, namely, the force of the gale, this becomes the third time that railway accidents have been due to that agency. The two former accidents occurred on the Tokaido line about five years ago, both on the same day near Numazu, and the other on the bridge over the Tenryu River. In the vicinity of Numazu, the train simply went off the track, without causing any casuality. In the case of the Tenryu bridge, the carriages were thrown against the iron girders, no passenger being injured. The engine-driver, however, fell into the water below and was drowned.

CHINESE ITEMS.

Correspondence from Tientsin confirms previously received news that the principal movers in seeking redress for the Szechuan outrages are Sir Nicholas O'Conor and Colonel Denby. The statement that the French Representative, M. Gérard, had taken up the questiou vigorously, and obtained drastic terms from the Chinese Government, turns out to have been quite apocryphal. It will be remembered that the usual censure was heaped upon the head of the British Representative by local English journalists, who always seem to think that summary redress should follow immediately on the heels of every outrage, and that even the briefest interval for inquiry and negotiation indicates a disgraceful departure from the bayonet-and-bullet policy alone consistent with British prestige. The fact is that if the counsels of journalists in the East were adopted, war would be the normal state of affairs. It must be hard for a British Minister to work wholeheartedly in the interests of men whose first impulse always is to abuse him.

The Victory Li is said to be anxious lest, there being no longer a Peiyang Squadron to utilize the services of the naval officers trained in Europe at great cost of time and money, they may devote themselves to other modes of breadearning, and thus cease to be available for naval purposes. There is talk of retaining them by providing quarters at the Tientsin Naval College and paying them a pittance of four or five taels a month. It is characteristic of Chinese methods that such a dilemma should present itself, and that such a miserable exit should be sought from it. If the officers are worth anything to their country, they ought to be worth a salary higher than that paid to a scavenger or scullion. However, the affair is interesting as an indication that the northern Viceroy contemplates the reconstruction of his once celebrated squadron. Should the Viceroy of Canton also carry out the project assigned to him, and add some really powerful iron-clads and cruisers to the Nanyang squadron, China may yet be formidable at Sea.

Tientsin has been visited by a swarm of locusts, which are expected to do much injury to the young millet. On the other hand, they supply a pleasant diet to the people, who fry them in oil and eat them with great relish. Their taste is said to be "a combination of succupent roast pig and Chalons asparagus."

Meetings, missionary and otherwise, held in Hankow and Shanghai with reference to the Szechuan outrages, have been remarkable for the speakers' unanimity of opinion as to official complicity with these disgraceful riots. Men well known for the invariable moderation and charity of their views on all Chinese topics, agreed in declaring emphatically that the outrages had been officially inspired. The question as to whether telegraphic communication between the unfortunate missionaries and their Consuls in Chungking and elsewhere, had been deliberately stopped by the local officials —a question much discused at the time—seems to have now been finally answered, for the chairman of the Hangkow meeting told his audience that the Viceroy of Szechuan, hearing of the despatch of a telegram to the British Consul in Chungking, ordered the operator to detain it and forbade the transmission of further messages from the missionaries. It further appears that the chief of the Chêngtu Police was the issuer of the villainous proclamation, put forth on the second day of the riots, to the effect that clear proof had been obtained of the kidnapping of small children by foreigners. The missionaries of Hangkow hold that the opening of the province of Hunan is an essential measure, since, in its present condition of isolation and exclusiveness, it constitutes a kind of nursery of delusion and anti-foreign feeling.

Another foreigner has been the victim of a murderous assault in China. On the morning of Sunday, July 7th, as the Rev. Dr. Sheffield, of the American Board Mission, was returning to his house outside Tungchow, after having performed religions service at his church within the town, he was set upon by two men, one armed with a file sharpened at both ends, the other with a hatchet. The missionary received 34 wounds, several of them very severe, and only escaped death by feigning it. Several persons witnessed the brutal assault, but not one responded to Mr. Sheffield's appeals for aid. Afterwards, as he lay bleeding but still conscious, on the road, the same indifference was shown by the passers-by. Ultimately, a masterworkman, who had been warned too late of what was projected, and had hastened with five others to prevent it, arrived upon the scene, and carried the wounded man to his residence, where he now lies apparently progressing favourably. The moving spirit in the outrages was a carpenter, a man evidently half crazy, who, having been prevented by Mr. Sheffield, some time previously, from doing bodily harm to a mason, had resolved to be avenged on the foreigner. He persuaded one of his brothers to join him in the attack, but another brother refused to take part in it, and gave information to the master-workman by whom the reverend gentleman was carried home. The two ruffians are in custody. Tungchow is a town on the Peiho, some 16 miles from Pekin. It is the place where travellers by river from Tientsin to Pekin leave their boats to perform the rest of the journey overland.

We take the following from the *North China Daily News*:—On the 13th inst., an exhaustive trial took place at the Kiangnan Arsenal of

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several kinds of smokeless powder, made at Lungwha under the superintendence of Deputy Yang, who is now in charge of the Smokeless Powder Works there. The trial, which took place in the presence of Liu Taotai and under the supervision of Mr. N. E. Cornish, of the Arsenal's Ordnance Department, was in every respect satisfactory, the powders comparing favourably with those imported from Europe. Liu Taotai, who is the originator of the scheme, is to be congratulated, also the Deputy Yang, to whose energy and intelligence, we are informed, the success is solely due. The plant for making the powders was ordered through Messrs. Buchheister & Co. from Germany."

COLONEL COCKERILL'S LETTERS.

Colonel Cockerill's latest letters to the *New York Herald* contain many interesting bits of intelligence. Speaking of Mr. Foster's visit to Japan, he writes:—

Mr. Foster says the treaty made with Japan is very unpopular in China, and that Li Hung-chang is in great disfavour. His failure to go to Pekin after his return from Shimonoseki was taken advantage of, and the Dowager Empress, who was inclined to favour him in the palace party, has been finally forced to give him up. Chang Chi-tung, the Viceroy of Nanking, who has long been an enemy of Li Hung-chang, is now the vital force in politics. He is an elderly but very active gentleman. Mr. Foster did not say so, but I have reason to believe that this malignant old rascal has had much to do with stirring up the trouble in Formosa. He worked against the ratification of the treaty with Japan even down to Chefoo, and he is determined to break down and destroy Li Hung-chang.

Mr. Foster insists that Li is the ablest and best man in China. He cannot be compared with the Japanese leaders, who have had education and touch with all the world, because he has never been outside of China. He still carries the superstitions of his race, and after being wounded at Shimonoseki last March he sent home for a necromancer, who prepared to evaporate the bullet in his face by burning sacred bits of paper and waving his hands.

It is Mr. Foster's opinion that it is a fearful mistake for China to have a financial deal with Russia. He says that Li Hung-chang is bitterly opposed to having any relations whatsoever with Russia, for he well knows that Russia means no good to the Celestial Empire.

From an interview that the Colonel had with with Field Marshal Count Oyama, we take some extracts:—

"I think," he said, "that everything has been written and said about the war that needs to be said. It was not much to boast of. If there had been a real enemy it might be different. About all we had to do was to make plans and carry them into execution."

There is one thing about all the military and naval heroes that I have met here which impresses me. That is, their modesty. They are in no sense boastful. If they had simply been over to China on a target practice excursion they would not be less presumptuous. I have yet to see a vainglorious Japanese officer.

After delivering himself of the above the Count turned to a chair loaded with large photographs and asked me if I had heard of the wondrous work done by photographers during the war. He showed me a picture of the naval conflict off the mouth of the Yalu River, taken on the spot, and was particularly jolly when he pointed to a Chinese ship in the act of sinking. He next called my attention to a picture of the landing of his second division at Kwa-Yuen-Kiu, near Chinchow, the first contact of the Japanese with Chinese soil. He remarked that if the Chinese had not been arrant cowards they might have given him a great deal of trouble at that time, but they all ran away. This was an outpost of Port Arthur, and it should have been defended. He then showed me pictures of the fighting around Port Arthur. The pictures were full of action and were excellent art works.

I asked the Marshal if he found the Manchurians any braver or better soldiers than the old style Chinese whom he subsequently met.

"No," he replied, "there was no difference so far as I could judge. As citizens I found the Manchurians peaceful and inclined to be obedient and decent. I liked them. They are far superior to the Koreans, who are utterly worthless and incapable, dirty, and treacherous. They are even now intriguing with the Russians against the Japanese, who tried to secure them their independence."

Speaking of the great work accomplished by the Japanese, the Marshal said:—"I am very proud of my soldiers. Their discipline, obedience, and patriotism achieved all. There was no great opportunity to test their qualities in full, for the enemy would not stand long enough for that. At the same time I do not regard the Chinese as lacking in soldierly qualities. Their officers in the late war were worthless and the men untrained. Led by good men and properly organized I think they would give a good account of themselves."

I told him that General Lord Wolseley had written the same thing in an American magazine not long ago.

"I think," said the Marshal, laughing, "that if I had the drilling and organising of the Chinese army I could make it a very effective body. The Chinese can be made good soldiers, I am sure."

"What do you regard as the most important of your campaigns?" I inquired.

"Weihaiwei," was the response, "because of the terrible winter weather and the hardships of every kind endured by the troops. Their courage in meeting all obstacles, their cheerfulness and their alacrity seemed to me miraculous. I can say one thing truthfully, which may surprise you, and that is that throughout that terrible campaign the regimental sick lists were smaller then when we were in garrison. It took the Chinese twenty years to fortify Port Arthur, and we captured it in ten hours. The campaign of Weihaiwei involved from first to last a terrible battle with the elements. My army stood it all splendidly."

I asked the Marshal if he believed that the Japanese soldiers had endurance equal to European soldiers, and if he thought they had endurance on the field—the real, tenacious fighting instinct, which could withstand the siege and the week's hard pounding.

"As to that, I cannot say," he replied, "but they have stood all tests. They are not impulsive, but determined and earnest. They require but little food, and that is very important in prolonged fighting. Exposure does not concern them. They exhibited their fighting qualities in the Satsuma rebellion of 1879. Then Japanese met Japanese, and the result was the killing of a great many more people than in this late war, and in much less time."

"Do you regard the Japanese soldier as the equal of the Russian?" I asked.

"I cannot judge, but I certainly think so," said the Marshal.

Discussing the arms used in the late war, he said that he regretted that the new magazine rifle of the Murata pattern had not been given a better test. "We could not get cartridges in time," said he, "and hence they had but little usage. The Imperial Guard and the Osaka division had these rifles, but they did not reach the seat of war in time. Some of these troops are being sent to Formosa now, and they may have a chance to test their arms. They hold ten shots and they carry almost twice as far as the weapons we for the most part used."

I asked him if it were true that himself and officers had studied the topography of Korea and Manchuria before entering on the campaign, as reported.

"Yes," said he. "The Germans knew France in 1879 better than the French, and so we knew the roads and streams and bridges and resources of the countries we invaded better than the people who lived there."

I remarked that it was rather singular that where England, Russia, the United States, France, and other countries sent military attachés and observers with the Japanese army, Germany, whose military methods and tactics were supposed to be followed by the Japanese, was not represented.

"True," replied the Marshal. "But while our army was at first laid on German lines, we latterly adopted the French formation and tactics. That may have had something to do with it."

"How many men did Japan actually send across the water during the war?" I asked.

"In all, the expeditionary forces in Korea and China numbered 220,000 men. Of these nearly one-half were coolies who not only hauled the supplies for the fighting men, but for themselves as well. Some idea of what we had to contend with in the way of transportation may be gathered from the fact that even our charcoal and firewood were taken with us from Japan. Even with our lack of horses we took no less than 20,000 of these animals with us and much of the forage used."

We agreed that no such army had ever been transported so far by water in the history of the world. I suggested that while there was great disadvantage in having one coolie for nearly every soldier there was this advantage, that in a case of a pinch these coolies might pick up arms and fight, as many did in some of the battles, but that no assistance of that character could be had from horses. To this the Marshal heartily assented.

Touching the future, the Marshal said he did not anticipate early trouble. He hoped that Japan would be given a good rest and chance to further build herself. He did not believe that the Russians were massing troops around Vladivostock, as represented, because their railway was not yet completed. As for China, she had no future. He believed her now to be doomed. China was a great bubble and the Japanese had now burst it. I suggested that Russia might be something of the same order, and that Japan might be called on to perform a similar service. The Marshal laughed, incredulously.

In all the talk about the war with China the manner of the Marshal was that of a man who believed that nothing had been added by it to military science or method, and that nothing had been demonstrated beyond the effective courage and capacity of the Japanese soldier and the utter worthlessness of the Chinese.

Colonel Cockerell interviewed Count Ito also, and his letter containing an account of the meeting is excellent reading. Here is a part of it:—

Referring to China, he said that he was not at all surprised that the world at large thought it would be impossible for Japan to conquer her. He felt certain that China could not be quickened into activity because of the lack of nationalism, and that her future now was dark. He thought that England had acted wisely throughout her late troubles in the Orient. When I suggested that the time had come for Japan to form an alliance with England the Count smiled, but declined to commit himself.

In speaking later on of the work of the Japanese army and navy on the war the Count spoke in the highest terms of the splendid transportation service. He thought the transfer of an army of over 200,000 men and 20,000 horses across the Yellow Sea and the feeding and caring for them from a home base was something to be proud of.

On the subject of war ships and the strengthening of the Japanese navy, the Count remarked that there were many war ships for sale now in the world, and that perhaps it would be better for Japan to buy what ships she might need than to either build them or have them built abroad.

He could not quite understand the friendship said to exist between the people of the United States and Russia. I explained the sentimental part of it to him to the best of my ability, but it was plain that Japan's Prime Minister could not quite understand how there could be any substantial tie between a liberty-loving, enlightened Republic, such as ours, and an autocracy, such as Russia.

Referring to the alliance between the Powers which had interfered with Japan, the Count said that he feared very much that the Europeans had not quiet understood the commercial features of the treaty of Shimonoseki. They had, perhaps, regarded the opening up of certain ports in China as purely in the interest of Japan. Such was not the case. Japan has no more to gain than other nations commercially. The opening of the port of Chungking, on the Yang-Tse-kiang, was something which England had long been trying for and had been unable to accompiish. The right to import machinery into China was certainly not in Japan's interest. He though that when the treaty was better understood there would be less prejudice toward Japan. The Count remarked that he had just received from Spain her official congratulations on the acquisition of Formosa by Japan, and coupled with them the hope was expressed that Japan would not feel inclined to intend her island possessions further to the south, the Phillipines being manifestly referred to. The Count observed that it was the general opinion that the government of Luzon Island and Manila was very corrupt and weak.

The Count agreed that in giving back the Liao-tung Peninsula to China much had been done to unite the Japanese people and alay political dissension at home. He admitted, with a smile, that there was much politics in Japan. Sometimes, he said, there were eight or nine political parties, and sometimes as many as eleven. I asked him if there was likely to be a special session of the Diet soon. He replied that he could not possibly get ready for a special session, as he was overwhelmed with work at present. He did not think that there would be a session before the regular meeting in November.

The new Chinese dollar, struck at H.E. Chang Chih-tung's mint at Wuchang, is said to be a decidedly handsome coin. On one side is the dragon, with the legend in English, and the statement that it represents 7 mace two candareens, while on the other side is the value of the coin in Chinese.

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THE LIAOTUNG QUESTION.

IT is greatly to be regretted that silence has been imposed on the politicians seeking to organize an anti-Cabinet campaign in connection with the return of the Liaotung Peninsula. We do not base this regret on any of the considerations that have already furnished material for loud criticism. In the abstract it is, of course, very shocking that leaders of thought and members of parliament should be obliged to submit their treatment of public problems to the judgment of a police inspector. Particularly revolting is such an idea to Englishmen, who attach inestimable value to freedom of speech. When it is related that at such and such a political meeting speaker after speaker was ordered by the police to resume his seat before he had sketched more than the outlines of his subject, it is not surprising that foreign observers should scoff at Japanese constitutionalism, and deny that the rights of the individual have yet received even elementary recognition in this country. As to that, however, one point must be noted: these aggrieved politicians are shackled by fetters of their own forging. They themselves enacted a law investing the police with censorate powers, and they enacted it in the exercise of legislative functions entrusted to them by the Constitution. We are not confronted by any case of an autocratic will imposed by autocratic methods on an oppressed people. The representatives of the people have themselves created the instrument that locks the lips of these political agitators. Thus the whole question resolves itself into this—have the police abused their power, or did the suppressed agitators abuse their privilege? In every country the police are competent to stop public speeches that seem likely to disturb good order. Even in England they have that power. But it has virtually ceased to be exercisable through want of exercise. Sometimes, but very rarely, we hear of a blue-coated peace-guardian "moving on" a spouter of socialistic insanity and his audience in Hyde Park or some other favourite resort of idleness. We do not hear, however, of police inspectors' applying the gag to Mr. SEXTON, or Mr. JOHN MORLEY, or Mr. LABOUCHERE, when they address gatherings of respectable citizens on classic ground. That political gunpowder should never be tamped is the accepted principle of British administrators: flashed in the open it dissipates its energy in an idle puff; fired under restraint it becomes a destructive agency. Undoubtedly that is the wisest principle if circumstances permit its application. Do they permit it in Japan? That is the crux. Nothing in the world is easier than to compose frothy declamations about liberty of the subject, freedom of speech, and other fine offspring of mature civilization. Second-hand eloquence on such themes may be borrowed from the least extensive library. But before a full charter of freedom is granted to any people, it has to be determined whether they possess a corresponding sense of the responsibilities attaching to its exercise. Now that is precisely the faculty that does not seem to have been perfectly educated in Japan. We speak within limitations. The Japanese have always appeared to us a discreet people. They meddle as little as possible in each other's concerns, and their language—the truest index of a nation's habits—contains quite a repertoire of diplomatic formulæ for daily use. But in the fields of parliamentary discussion, international relations, political agitation, journalism, and all the other adjuncts of their new civilization, experience has not yet furnished them with scales to weigh cause and consequence correctly. Everywhere an inadequate sense of responsibility makes itself apparent. The utterances of statesmen out of office, the conduct of the Opposition in the Diet, the writings of the press, the proceedings of anti-Cabinet agitators, all alike display a similar tendency to sacrifice large issues on the altar of small effects. May such a tendency be safely left unchecked in a matter like the Liaotung agitation? Were the agitation successful, it might drive the Cabinet out of office. But it would do a great deal more. It would seriously compromise the empire's foreign relations. It would exhibit the nation in an attitude of declared opposition to the moderate policy pursued by the Government *vis-à-vis* Germany, France, and Russia. It would amount to a defiance of any combination of European Powers. It would constitute an emphatic announcement that the East is for Japan, and that the West shall have no voice in its destiny. Blind, wilfully or veritably, to all such grave issues, the agitators struggle desperately to achieve their petty purpose, the downfall of the Cabinet. But the Cabinet is plainly determined that these firebrands shall add no mischievous caloric to the nation's mood, and that the country's foreign relations shall not be dragged into the arena of party politics. We confess that, however ardently we desire to see Japanese political life permeated by a robuster atmosphere of liberty, and however sensible we are of the discredit inseparable from this gagging process, it seems to us that the power of the police has in this instance been exercised with wise regard to the interests of the country. Not for that reason, therefore, do we regret that the mouths of the agitators have been stopped. It is purely a matter of curiosity. Nothing could have been more interesting than to learn how the agitators justify their attitude of discontent. One complaint would be comprehensible with regard to the Liaotung Peninsula, namely, that the Japanese Plenipotentiaries ought never to have asked for it; ought never to have run the risk of provoking European opposition. But the agitators are effectually debarred from any contention of that kind, inasmuch as they were themselves conspicuously insistent that not only the Peninsula but also the greater part of Manchuria should be taken from China. We must assume, therefore, that they censure the Government for not defying the united strength of Germany, Russia, and France, and holding the Peninsula in despite of their protest. Is that conceivable? The *Kaishin-to* leaders are shrewd men, very well acquainted with their country's fighting capacity, as well as with the capacities of Russia, France, and Germany. We should like to see them extricate themselves from the perplexity of either blaming the Government for asking even less than they themselves dictated, or condemning it because, at the close of an exhausting war, it did not plunge the country into a new fight with three Great European Powers simultaneously. It seems a pity that the agitators were not left to impale themselves on the horns of that dilemma. However, they will still have an opportunity of doing so in the next session of the Diet.

THE CORNES-KIMURA CASE.

A VERY determined effort has been made to raise a wordy controversy over the case between Messrs. CORNES & COMPANY and Mr. KIMURA. Such matters ought to be capable of calm discussion, but unfortunately no instance of calm discussion has ever yet graced the history of journalism in Yokohama, and it is evident that the present case is not to be any exception to the rule. So far as concerns the unalterable tendency to wrangle, there is consequently no reason to be surprised. But the ingenuity shown on this occasion to invent material for dispute is really curious. Already the *Japan Mail* is being angrily torn to pieces, although it is in absolute agreement with its assailants as to the main principles under consideration, having stated in most unequivocal language that the procedure of the Yokohama Guild of Dealers in Yarns and Textile Fabrics seems to admit of no excuse whatever, and that the contemptuous attitude assumed by a number of Japanese merchants towards the law courts of their own country cannot be too strongly denounced. In the face of such unmistakable declarations, it is amusing to learn that the tone of the *Japan Mail* indicates serious peril to the future trade of Great Britain, and suggests unpleasant diplomatic complications "in the days when we are given over hand and foot to the inoperative decisions of Japanese law-courts." There was a time, and that not very long ago, when apprehension centered entirely on the prospect of Japanese judicial decisions'

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becoming operative, but now the terror seems to be lest something should intervene to render them ineffective. Leaving these things to the wranglers, however, sober folks will reflect quietly on the actual facts of the situation and their significance. The Yokohama Guild has successfully set aside the decision of a court of law, and under the menace of a disastrous boycott has compelled a British merchant to submit to an unjust loss. It does not follow, of course, that a Japanese guild would be equally successful in every struggle of a like nature, but it does follow that a most disquieting precedent has been established, and that any attempt to seek legal redress may hereafter expose a foreigner to losses far heavier than those involved in the question immediately at issue. What is the remedy? In all branches of foreign trade the Japanese seem to have organized associations, the principal function of which, so far as experience shows, is to support their members in every dispute with a foreigner. As to the spirit prompting these combinations, we believe that it has two sources; first, a sense of umbrage against the tradal methods pursued in the Settlements, and a consequent wish to contrive some means of opposing the foreigner's dominance; secondly, a shrewd desire to take full advantage of a peculiar situation. Everybody knows that in certain respects the tradal methods pursued in the Settlements are not such as would be tolerable were Occidental merchants alone concerned. It is of no use to gird at this statement as some local critics do. The facts are there, and can not be gainsaid. Neither need there be any hesitation on the part of the foreigner to acknowledge their truth, because they are methods to which he was compelled to have recourse in early days owing to the commercial inexperience and improbity of his Japanese clients. The responsibility does not rest with him, and if he has occasionally abused the power he possesses, nothing need be said except that, so long as man is human, a system lending itself to profitable abuse is sure to be abused. Still, it is inevitable that in the very origin of these methods a Japanese must find grounds of umbrage, apart from their practical irksomeness. He is constantly sensible of the inferiority to which they condemn him, and for years he has been talking, in print and from the platform, of emancipating himself from foreign mastery in commerce, and of recovery the equality to which he thinks he is entitled. Probably the projectors of the guilds did not very clearly formulate to themselves the measure that they proposed to adopt for the purpose of "asserting their commercial rights," as they are wont to say, but they felt instinctively that strength lay in combination, and so they combined. Nothing could exceed the excellence of their avowed programme. The mission they claimed was to correct the very lack of commercial morality that had necessitated unusual precautions on the foreigners' part—though, of course, they did not state the case exactly in that form—and thus to place business on a sound footing, in which latter result was evidently involved the abolition of everything tending to relegate them to a lower level than their foreign clients. As to the second motive making for combination, namely, a desire to take the fullest possible advantage of the competition existing among the foreign merchants, it is easily understood. In the old days, the foreigner observed cognate precautions with regard to imports and exports alike. He purchased nothing for export until it had remained in his hands long enough for an exhaustive examination, and he accepted no order for imports unless it was accompanied by a substantial payment of bargain-money. But by degrees one importer after another, seeking to attract custom from a rival, reduced or dispensed with bargain-money, and in fine abandoned it altogether. Nay, to such a point was competition carried, that a Japanese dealer known to have failed in implementing a contract with, or to have taken unfair advantage of, a certain foreign firm, nevertheless found little difficulty in obtaining credit next door. The Japanese were far too shrewd not to detect the opportunity offered by such a state of affairs. The more competition on the foreign side and the less on their own, the better. Hence an additional inducement to combine. If all the purchasers of a particular staple, being closely associated, were represented in the market by one or two buyers only, while all the sellers were working, each for his own hand, it is easy to see what an immense advantage the former must have over the latter. Thus equally from sentimental and sordid points of view the organization of these guilds must have commended itself strongly to the Japanese, and their dissolution will be proportionately difficult. Up to the present their influence has made itself felt in the import trade chiefly, if not altogether, buyers being naturally in a better position to impose conditions than sellers. But the domain of the export trade will by and by be invaded, and the recent success of the Guilds in the KIMURA-CORNES case will not have the effect of deferring that result. The weapon employed by the Guilds is potent. We have said that the boycott has never been brought under the control of law in any country, and we are answered by reference to provisions actually existing in the laws of the United Kingdom. That is not an answer at all. The question is not whether laws exist, but whether their control has been effective. It has not. To establish a case of which the law can take cognisance in such matters is almost impossible. An openly organized association is not necessary. Even supposing that these trade Guilds were deprived of their licenses on the ground of conspiracy to defeat the ends of justice, or to impede the lawful operations of commerce, the bonds that hold them together would remain, and their capacity for united action might be exercised as freely as ever. There has been talk of a violation of the Treaties, on the ground that official interference with trade is forbidden by their provisions, and that, since the Guilds exist by virtue of official licence, they are invested with some vicarious element of officialdom. The contention is mischievously silly. In the first place, the official interference referred to in the Treaties has reference, as is well known, to something of a wholly different character. In the second, it would be equally reasonable to connect the Government with all licensed traders in Japan, publicans, confectioners, or pawnbrokers for example. And in the third, there is question here, not of interference with trade in general, but of a refusal to deal with a particular trader. We do not adduce these difficulties by way of supporting the Japanese position. On the contrary, we heartily condemn it, and are emphatically of the opinion that if any remedy, however feeble, against improper boycotting can be supplied by legal provisions, such provisions ought to be enacted without delay. But we have little faith in a remedy of that kind, and we are persuaded that recourse to official aid is worse than useless in the absence of individual effort. It is an invariable experience that whenever a question arises between foreigners and Japanese, the true issues are obscured by shallow declaimers, who try to drag the Treaties, the Government, or Treaty Revision into any and every context. What can be more dishonest that to simulate a belief that the existence or non-existence of Consular Jurisdiction concerns the conduct of a Japanese Guild? It is conceivable that Treaty Revision, by widening the circle of business relations, may remove foreign merchants beyond the sphere of these guilds' dominance, but the fact that foreign tribunals sit in Yokohama to adjudicate complaints preferred by Japanese against foreigners, does not bear the most shadowy relation to cases in which foreigners are the aggrieved parties, and we fail to see what good purpose can be served by fomenting unjust prejudices and raising baseless apprehensions as to the results of throwing open the whole country to foreign trade and restoring Japan's judicial autonomy. The situation at present is clear enough. On the one side we have a number of foreigners, each working for his own hand, and all competing vigorously for a share in a trade of limited dimensions; on the other, a number of Japanese organized into guilds for the purpose of deriving the

fullest possible advantage from foreign competition and imposing their own will upon their foreign clients. It is idle to expect that either diplomacy or legislation can correct such a state of affairs. We hear perpetually of Japanese merchants dishonestly refusing to take delivery of goods imported to their order; and now we have the boycott introduced to coerce the unhappy foreign importer and to protect his unscrupulous victimizer. But never once do we hear that the faithless dealings of a Japanese trader have procured his exclusion from transactions with foreigners. Apparently to prove himself untrustworthy *vis-à-vis* one foreign firm does not disqualify a Japanese for obtaining credit from another. If there existed on the foreign side any effective organization by which a Japanese trickster could be ostracised from all dealings with foreigners, would not trade at the ports have been long ago cleared of baleful parasites, and would not the Western merchant be thoroughly secured against unfair pressure of the kind recently exercised upon Messrs. CORNES AND COMPANY? It may be objected that such a method also would be boycotting. Of course it would. Does any one pretend that foreign merchants would have the smallest conscientious scruple about applying the boycott in a cause judged by them to be just? They would do it just as readily as in their school days they sent a liar or a thief into coventry. But no. The foreigners prefer to be a community of Ishmaelites, sitting inert while the Japanese combine to exploit their suicidal competition by fair means or by foul. They are content, when a specially evil day comes, to listen to appeals for aid that could not be efficient and to invectives against agencies that bear no tangible relation whatever to the dilemma.

THE "KOKUMIN" ON AN ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE.

WE have hesitated to reply to the *Kokumin's* latest article on an Anglo-Japanese alliance, so much annoyance do our recent remarks upon the subject seem to have caused our contemporary. Still as it would be regrettable that any discussion on a matter so important should end in a misunderstanding, we quote the *Kokumin's* comments:—

> Does the *Mail* aim at making Japan beg for England's favour? It says that there can be no equality unless Japan is prepared to assist England in whatever war she may undertake, in Egypt, Australasia, or where not. So long as the English people are as stupid as our contemporary in confounding equality of footing with equality of dimensions, an alliance between Japan and England will be impossible. The *Mail*, on the one hand, declares that Japan and England are not equals, but on the other, advocates an alliance between them. Is it not evident, then, that its aim is to make Japan dependent upon England's favour? That would mean for Japan not an alliance but a humiliation, for she must occupy the position of a mendicant. Does our contemporary want Japan to suffer such a humiliation? Can there be anything more discourteous than such writing? If the Japanese-English alliance fails to become a fact, the *Mail* must remember that the existence of an insolent paper like itself is one of the causes.

We should indeed think it our duty as British subjects to oppose, by every possible means, an alliance between Great Britain and a Japan represented by the *Kokumin*. But the *Kokumin* is one of the mouth-pieces of those that advocate an alliance between Russia and Japan, and we are therefore gratified to find that its writings reflect an unpractical intolerant frame of mind such as a long experience of Japanese modes of thought warrants us in regarding as quite exceptional. It is certainly not characteristic of Japanese manners to attribute to another opinions never expressed by him, and then to call him discourteous and insolent for holding such opinions. In this discussion the *Kokumin* itself set out by sneering at England. It spoke of her as an effete Power, reduced to a defensive rôle because she no longer possesses force to be offensive. It accused her of cowardly time-serving on the ground that, having withheld her aid from China in the latter's period of distress, she turned a friendly face to Japan so soon as the military superiority of the Japanese became unquestionable. "We appreciate England's good-will," said the *Kokumin*, "but no importance can be attached to it when we remember that, under similar circumstances, it may be transferred to another quarter." * * * "It will not do for Japan to commit herself to any positive step on the strength of promises that are not likely to be fulfilled." In reply to these most offensive and insulting comments we observed that, whereas "the greatest Power in the world, or any combination of the greatest Powers in the world, would be proud to have England for an ally, it had been reserved for a Japanese periodical to discover her unworthiness to stand side by side with a little Oriental State." Upon this the *Kokumin* grew much incensed. The epithet "a little Oriental State" seemed to cause it serious umbrage. It forgot altogether what evil and contemptuous things it had itself been saying about England, and remembering only that its country had been called "a little Oriental State" it charged us with seeking to "make Japan a suppliant for the help of England, and declared that "if it should ever become necessary for Japan to seek an ally, she would seek it only on a footing of equality." Our readers will observe that the *Kokumin* itself, in this rejoinder, reduced the comparison to one of dimensions. Its rhetoric was inspired solely by the idea, "a little Oriental State." Yet, when, in reply, we pointed out that alliance with England on a footing of equality would involve an almost world-wide responsibility, the *Kokumin* turned round and accused us of being too obtuse to distinguish between equality of dimensions and equality of footing! Our contemporary requires a very large charter of liberty. Having sneered at England, offered her gross insults, and declared her too unworthy of trust to be a safe ally for any Power, it cries out against the discourtesy and insolence of suggesting that Japan is not great enough to ally herself on equal terms with the greatest empire the world ever saw. In short, this eminently un-Japanese journal claims the right of insulting England to its heart's content and then becomes hysterical if the slightest doubt be raised of Japan's might and majesty. The explanation of such an unreasonable mood is easy to understand. The *Kokumin* is opposed to any alliance between Japan and England. It favours an alliance between Japan and Russia. To popularize its theory it set out by depreciating England's power, describing her as unworthy of trust and otherwise defaming her. When these criticisms evoked a brief reply to the effect that England was not, after all, so petty and that Japan could scarcely yet claim equality with her, the *Kokumin* saw a fresh opportunity: it pretended to have discovered that alliance with England could not be purchased except at the cost of humiliation for Japan. Thus by belittling England, on the one hand, and exciting baseless prejudices among its own nationals, on the other, it pursues its pro-Russian compaign. That it has not the slightest chance of success is proved by the nature of its methods: only a sense of failure could prompt recourse to arguments. Every educated Japanese must know that from the point of view of such a Power like Great Britain, Japan is still a small State. An alliance between the two, or rather an understanding—for we do not believe in the possibility of an actual alliance—would have to be of a limited nature and for particular purposes. Such an understanding involves no hypothesis of superiority or inferiority on either side. Just as a convention between independent States for specific objects proceeds upon the assumption of absolute equality between the contracting parties, so a diplomatic arrangement between two Governments for the protection of their mutual interests in a certain region, places both on precisely the same footing within the sphere of contemplated cöoperation. It may very well be that one of the Powers concerned is prepared to contribute a larger share of concrete force than the other, but that fact does not at all effect their relative national status. Considering that Great Britain has rescued Japan from the inferior position to which the old treaties relegated her, and has secured her admission to the comity of nations on equal terms, nothing could be more graceless than the *Kokumin's* attempt to discredit, belittle, and misrepresent its country's benefactor.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE EARLY ARAB TRADE WITH CHINA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 16th March you published an article (from the *Mainichi*) on "The Chinese Mahomedans," which contained some historical inaccuracies. I did not point them out to you at the time, as I was waiting to send you in print the "resumé" of a lecture I gave before the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society in Shanghai. In a question of over a thousand years ago, I thought a delay of a few months unimportant.

In that article it is mentioned that an uncle of Mahomet went to China and obtained an audience from the Emperor in A.D. 520 during the Tang (Tang?) Dynasty. There are in this statement several chronological errors: the Tang Dynasty commenced to reign much later, and an uncle of Mahomet, even if he could have existed 50 years before the birth of the Prophet, would have been a man of no importance about 100 years before the Hegira. The Arabian in question was a descendant of Mahomet and visited China during the IX. century. A full account of his travels, as well as of Arab trade during the T'ang Dynasty, is contained in a manuscript which has been successively translated by Reinaudot and Reinaud, and of which a printed copy exists in our library.

I send you two copies of the "resumé" of the Lecture "On Arab Trade in China during the T'ang Dynasty," which was delivered extemporaneously on the 26th April, 1893. As by the new Treaty, Hangchow is to be opened to trade, it may be of some interest in Japan to know of the flourishing Western commerce which existed in that port over 1,000 years ago.

One of the copies you may send to the *Mainichi* if you think it may interest that paper.

Yours faithfully, Z. VOLPICELLI.
Hon. Secretary C.B.R.A. Society.

July 13th, 1895.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT A GENERAL MEETING HELD AT THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY, MUSEUM ROAD, SHANGHAI, ON WEDNESDAY, 29TH APRIL, 1893, AT 1 P.M.

Mr. N. J. Hannen, who presided, announced that the only business to transact, before calling upon the Lecturer, was to announce that Mr. Schomberg had been elected a member.

Mr. Z. H. Volpicelli delivered a lecture on "Arab Trade in China during the T'ang Dynasty" (9th century), with an account of the country as given by those early travellers.

The Lecturer, speaking extemporaneously, reminded his audience that a short time ago he gave an account of the early Portuguese traders in China, and he now proposed to go back and speak of a much earlier period, when the Arabs traded with China. We were apt sometimes to thing that we were almost the first who had been in China, just as we sometimes thought when we came across a fact unknown to us, that we were the first to discover it. The first proofs of Arab trade with China dated back to the 5th century, the principal port from which it was conducted being on the Euphrates at a point now no longer navigable. Afterwards the starting-point of Arabian trade shifted successively to Basrah, Al Siraf, and later on to Ormuz. The trade eastwards rapidly extended, and the accounts we had of the trade in the 9th century were from an interesting manuscript in two parts, which was translated by the Abbé Eusebius Renaudot in 1718. It was a fairly good translation, but as the manuscript could not be found for a long time, people began to doubt its existence, until it was discovered some fifty years later: another translation was compiled in 1845 by Reinaud. Of the first part of the manuscript we could not tell the author, but the second part we knew was written by Abu Zeid Hassan of Siraf. The Lecturer then proceeded to endeavour to locate the ports of call mentioned in the manuscript, contending that if attention were paid to the statements as to the time occupied in passing from one to the other, we could gain a very fair idea of their approximate positions. The ports of call extended along to Cochin-China and then northwards, and he thought they might identify Khanfu, the great Arabic trade port in China, with Hangchow Fu. The travellers give a very detailed account of China, as well as of India, and the islands of the South Indian Archipelago. The first author, speaking of the climate of China, says it is very good and far healthier than India. The country is more populous, and whilst he found many desolate places in India he did not notice the same in China. He speaks of the large rivers, and the moisture of the climate, matters which would naturally strike a native of the dry atmosphere of Arabia. He says the people are very fine-looking, and very white, an impression which the traveller might have formed as a result of his wanderings amongst the darker natives of India. The dress of the Chinese he describes as being silk, both the poor and rich being clothed in that material, and he was very much struck by the number of articles of clothing they wore. He says that the people wore five or more dresses; that they were a black-haired race—in fact the darkest haired race in the world; the men let their hair grow long, and did not wear turbans; the women did not wear any head-covering, but they usually indulged in a number of combs, and he had seen as many as twenty. Like a good Arabian the writer regrets the absence of palm-trees, and he mentions the absence of lions and elephants, and considers the Chinese horses superior to those of India. There were two hundred principal cities, each having many smaller ones administratively dependent on them. The cities, he says, have generally four gates, and he makes some curious remarks upon the cities, stating that each gate is provided with five large trumpets, with are blown day and night to announce the hour. The peculiar construction of the houses is remarked upon. They are of wood or bamboo, and on account of the frequency of fires, have no steps or staircases, so that the contents can be easily removed. The houses are also furnished with boxes on wheels, and when a fire breaks out the household articles are put into them and they are run out of the houses. The food of the people consists largely of rice, but not exclusively. They have no wines, but they make a spirit from rice, which of course is what we know as *samshu*. The people, he further says, eat all kinds of animals, and also those that had died. The writer is one of the few mediæval writers who mentions tea, and describes the plant. He notices that the people are not very clean, and says they never perform any of the ablutions of the Mohammedans. The marriage customs strike him as peculiar, and he speaks of the noise made by the beating of drums and musical instruments during the ceremony. Speaking of the burial customs he remarks upon the long time they keep the corpses, and notices the extraordinary care they have in performing the funeral rites, and the long time of mourning, which is generally three years. He adds—but perhaps it is a slight exaggeration—that those who do not grieve constantly for the loss of their parents are bambooed. Polygamy is practised, and he says that the expenses incurred over funerals frequently ruin people. The great skill of the Chinese as workmen is spoken of, and he goes so far as to say they are the most skilful people on earth. He says that when any workman accomplishes a new kind of work, which he thinks worthy of consideration, he presents it to the king (or governor) and the work is exhibited for a certain period. If nobody can find fault with it, the workman is rewarded, and he is entered in the corporation of artists. As an instance, the writer says that a workman executed a most beautiful piece of embroidery, representing a bird resting on some corn. It was put on exhibition and admired for some time, until a hunchbacked man came to see it, and began laughing. Asked the reason of his merriment he said that everybody must know that if even the smallest bird rests on an ear of corn it would bend, but here the corn was quite straight. The criticism was found to be just, and the workman received no reward. Nearly everybody could read and write, and there were public schools where the people gained instruction. The peculiar coins are described, and he says they are strung on strings in bundles of a thousand, with a knot tied at every hundred, to facilitate counting. When a man cannot pay his debts, all his property is seized for the benefit of his creditors, and all debtors have to pay what they owe the man. If the bankrupt reveals all his belongings, and is found not to have concealed anything, or to have handed over any property to others for keeping, he is released, but if he is discovered acting fraudulently he is punished by death. Describing the punishments of the Chinese, he said that they have a peculiar one, which consists in fastening the hands and feet behind the culprit's back, so that he becomes very much like a ball. He is then rolled about until his joints are dislocated, after which he is bambooed and left to die. The fondness for gambling is a peculiar characteristic, but the people are generally sober: they have little or no knowledge of science, and their mode of medicine is principally cauterisation. The Emperor lives in seclusion, only going out every ten months, the reason being that he thinks respect is gained by fear and mystery. When the officials go out, they are preceded by men beating pieces of wood which is a sign to the people to retire into their houses. The administration of justice is carried on by written statements, and he describes its working. The only taxation is by a poll-tax, every man on attaining the age of 18 being liable. When a man reaches 80 years of age, not only is he exempt from further taxation, but he receives a small allowance from the Treasury as a matter of right. The Arab merchants in Khanfu (which, as already mentioned, the Lecturer argued was Hangchow Fu) were allowed to have their own judge and composed a self-governing body. This was the account given by the first author. The second writer mentions that in the year of the Hegira 264 (A.D. 877) this happy state of things had been changed by a great rebellion which had broken out. The rebels rapidly gained aid, and attacking Khanfu, destroyed the mulberry trees, and caused a scarcity of silk in the district. The Emperor fled to Chêngtu, but with the help of the Tartars, returned and crushed the rebellion. The carnage at Khanfu when it was destroyed is described as very great, some 120,000 persons being put to the sword. In concluding, the Lecturer pointed out that the greater part of what this Arabian author had written on the subject corresponded with the Chinese accounts of the insurrection of Hwang Ch'ao of the T'ang dynasty. This gave good grounds for believing all the rest. He thought the records he had spoken of might be regarded as having really wonderful accuracy. He hoped to be able to give a translation of the author, for although the existing translation was a good one yet it might be improved.

Mr. Kingsmill was inclined to differ with some conclusions the Lecturer had come to with regard to the identity of some of the places mentioned. At the time of which the Lecturer had been speaking Hangchow as a port might be regarded as non-existent, and he himself inclined to the belief that Khanfu corresponded with Canton.

Mr. Volpicelli replied that Canton was mentioned by other Arabian authors, who gave it another name, and he did not think the distance mentioned in the manuscript of which he had been speaking would agree with Mr. Kingsmill's contention. He also pointed out that according to the second Arab author, the siege of Khanfu took place in the year 264 of the Hegira, which commenced on the 18th September 877 (N.S.) and would extend far into 878; and the Chinese historians mentioned the taking of Hangchow by the rebel Hwang Ch'ao in the 8th moon of the 5th year of Hsi Tsung (A.D. 878). This chronological agreement was strong proof of the identity of Khanfu and Hangchow.

Mr. Playfair remarked that one argument in favour of Hangchow being Khanfu was that at one time it was the capital of the empire, whereas there was no record of Canton being the capital.

Mr. James Scott added that at the present time there was a large Mahommedan community in Canton, which had kept itself quite distinct. Within the last few years the better class Mahommedans had taken them up and were endeavouring to raise their status.

The proceedings then terminated.

"WITH WHOM HAST THOU LEFT THOSE POOR SHEEP IN THE WILDERNESS?"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I gather from your issue of yesterday that a poor sailor (named Lee) had to be buried by the U.S. Vice-Consul on 31st ultimo, because there was no Minister of the Gospel in town to read the service over him. I think that this is a great shame. I know very well that the Rev. Mr. Primrose is in Nikko: that Dr. Smithson is in Hokkaido: that the Rev. Mr. Pilot is in the country; and that our missionary co-residents are up in the hills of Shinshu by the score. But surely, Sir, this ought not to be. Why do our spiritual pastors and masters desert us thus for two or three months in the hot season? Poor fellows sweltering in Yokohama over a big mail, may be tempted to use "cuss-words": and may very rightly think that they deserve a holiday more than those shepherds who thus desert the flock. Surely, if our spiritual guides must go afield, they might arrange among themselves so that one is left on watch, as officers of steamships do at meal times when upon a voyage at sea.

Yours faithfully, ALEPH.

Yokohama, 2nd August, 1895.

[We gather that the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine was in Yokohama, and would gladly have given his services had they been called for—ED. *J.M.*]

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

MESSRS. LANGFELDT AND CO., LIMITED.

The half-yearly general meeting of shareholders in Messrs. Langfeldt and Company, Limited, was held in Kiel's Building on Monday afternoon. There were present, Mr. O. Kiel, in the chair, Messrs. J. F. Lowder, J. Strauss, R. H. Bleifus, E. Berger, H. F. Klingen, and J. Feicke, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN, having called the meeting to order, said that the report and accounts of the Directors had been in the hands of the shareholders for one week, and they had doubtless carefully perused and digested them, thus rendering it unnecessary to have the figures read out to them that day. He would only add that the past half-year was the hardest—in so far as the work was concerned—that the Company had experienced. Shareholders were therefore indebted to the result of the half-year's working to the energetic labours of all of their employés during that period. He had been connected with the management of the business for the last four years and a half, and could therefore bear testimony to the hard labour gone through by the staff throughout the past half-year. He hoped that at the close of the year the company would be in a position to reward its employés to the extent of their due.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. BERGER moved and Mr. KLINGEN seconded the adoption of the report and accounts.—Carried.

REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

The Statement of Assets and Liabilities, and the Profit and Loss Account for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1895, accompany this Report.

The next Profit for the half-year, including balance brought forward from the 31st December, 1894, and after providing for General Expenses, Directors' and Auditor's fees, Interest, Depreciation, and Losses, amount to ...	$20,228.47
which it is proposed to apply as follows:—	
In payment of a Dividend of 20 per cent. for the half-year ...	$20,000.00
Balance to be carried to new account ...	$ 228.47
	$20,228.47

According to Article 85 of the Articles of Association the amount of the Directors' Fees for the year ending June 30th, 1896, will have to be settled at this meeting.

O. KEIL,
J. F. LOWDDR, } Directors.

Yokohama, July 22nd, 1895.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON JUNE 30TH, 1895.

ASSETS.	
Stock of Merchandise, Ship Chandlery, and Coal ...	$142,759.94
Plant, Fixtures, and Furniture ...	2,000.00
Cash in hand ...	25,979.00
Fire Insurance Policies ...	796.34
Sundry Debtors ...	27,120.95
	$198,656.23
LIABILITIES.	
Capital, 1,000 Shares at $100 ...	$100,900.00
Sundry local Creditors ...	14,679.57
Bills payable (to Bank) ...	51,456.65
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, current account...	12,292.14
	$178,427.76
Balance, Profit ...	20,228.47
	$198,656.23

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT—JUNE 30TH, 1895.

DR.			
To General Expenses ...			$ 7,382.54
To Rent ...			2,174.30
To Fire Insurance ...			740.49
To Interest ...			1,374.73
To Depreciation of Plant, Fixtures, &c. ...			58.43
To Directors' Fees ...			1,100.00
To Auditor's Fees ...			150.00
To Balance available for Division		$20,228.47	
to be dealt with as follows:—			
Dividend at the rate of 20 per cent. per half-year.	$20,000.00		
Carried forward to new account ...	$ 228.47	$20,228.47	$20,228.47
			$33,208.96
CR.			
January 1. By Balance ...			$ 1,372.57
June 30. By Gross Profit on trade ...			31,827.39
By Share transfer fees ...			9.00
			$33,208.96
1895. July 1. By Balance ...			$ 228.47

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, June 30th, 1895.

O. KEIL,
J. F. LOWDER, } Directors.

J. FEICKE, Secretary.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct. THOS. S. BAKER, Auditor.

In regard to fixing the Directors' remuneration for the ensuing twelve months, Mr. Berger wished to move that the remuneration be fixed $200 per annum for each of the Directors, with an extra $400 to the Managing Director, Mr. Keil.

The CHAIRMAN said that this could not be done, as to the Articles of Association fixed the maximum remuneration of a Director at $500.

Mr. BERGER said he thought the extra $100 could be taken as a bonus by Mr. Keil—as a mark of their appreciation of his labours on their behalf.

The CHAIRMAN said that he was greatly gratified to hear that the shareholders appreciated his services so highly, still he could not go beyond and behind the rules of the Company.

Mr. BERGER said that the maximum allowance which the Company could vote its directors was $2,500: at present they only voted $1,100. His proposal therefore only made the vote $1,200.

Mr. KLINGEN said he supported the idea of voting the Directors $1,200.

The CHAIRMAN disapproved of the principle of voting one Director $400 more than the rest of the Board, even if it had not been contrary to the rules. Besides, the Company's business might not always be so successful, and should the dividend drop from 20 per cent. to 8 per cent., shareholders might not like to see the Board taking 2 per cent. of the dividend.

Mr. BERGER still persisted, and appealed to Mr. Lowder to confirm his reading of the rules, against the Chairman's intrepretation.

Mr. LOWDER—You would be proceeding very contrary to the rules if you did as you propose.

The CHAIRMAN again acknowledged his thanks to Mr. Berger for his warm appreciation of the work he had done, and then asked him if he would be content with receiving his assurances of thanks.

Mr. BERGER—Very well, then. I move that the remuneration be the same as before.

Mr. KLINGEN seconded.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Before separating, I should like to place on record a hearty vote of thanks to our manager and all our staff for their services during the past half-year.—(Hear, hear.) They have worked both day and night, sometimes far into the night, and often on Sundays too. It is to their hard labours that I attribute our successful half year's result.—(Applause.)

Mr. BERGER, in seconding, said that the Chairman had merely anticipated him in moving a vote of thanks to their staff.

The meeting then dispersed.

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of shareholders in the Yokohama Engine and Ironworks, Limited, was held at Keil's Building on Wednesday afternoon. There was present Messrs. J. F. Lowder, in the chair, F. H. Bull, Jas. Walter, C. K. M. Martin, W. R. Bennett, Jas. Dodds, J. Rickett, H. S. Thompson, S. D. Hepburn, C. Guissani, J. H. Curtis, J. Johnston, B. H. Pearson, and C. G. Charlesworth, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN said he thought that shareholders would be satisfied at the gratifying statement of accounts which the Board of Directors had to lay before them that day in regard to the working of the company for the past year. It was most gratifying to know that they had not only been enabled to pay off the whole of their debt to the Bank, but they had also converted a debit balance on their profit and loss account into a credit balance of a much larger amount. It was no doubt true that circumstances had been exceptionally favourable for the Company during the past year, but he (the chairman) would remind shareholders that a great deal of the Company's success was due to their staff. He wished to emphasize this fact, for if the staff had not been able when the emergency arose to cope with it, a great deal of the work which the Company had done would have passed into other hands. Mr. Johnstone, though not so in reality, was in fact their Managing Director, and to his indomitable energy assisted by their efficient staff of three Europeans—to these four men and the favourable circumstances of the year, the Company's success was due. It would be the Board's duty within a day or two to consider what steps should be taken to mark in a sensible manner the Company's appreciation of their labours in its behalf. No doubt all present had carefully studied the figures in the present accounts and would be sensible of the difference in this year's figures with those of the year before. It would easily be seen that their gross receipts had more than doubled, that their wages account had also greatly increased: that would convey to them some idea of the Company's work. Another figure which might interest them to know was that the average number of men at work for them was 200 daily, and their European staff had frequently been obliged to work both day and night. Mr. Weaver, their foreman, never worked less than 12 hours a day, Mr. Tresize their efficient manager, and Mr. Charlesworth, their capable secretary, had each worked equally hard. Their property appeared in the books at the same value as it did eight years ago, notwithstanding that goods and materials have more than doubled in value within the past few years. Their property account was put at $50,389.40, but this did not represent half its value, for their Kobe property alone the Board put at 50,000 to 60,000 *yen*. But they could not write off more than they had done, though it might, from an accountant's point of view, seem that $17,965.36 was a large sum to carry forward, and their Secretary, Mr. Charlesworth, said that it was impossible to further write down the stock or reduce the figure. With these few remarks he presented the report and accounts for the approval of the meeting.

Mr. JAS. WALTER proposed, and Mr. W. R. BENNETT seconded, the adoption of the report and accounts.—Carried.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The Directors have great satisfaction in reporting that the profits of the past year have been such as to enable them to pay off the whole of the Company's indebtedness to the Liquidator of the New Oriental Bank Corporation, which, on the 31st May, 1894, stood at $42,559.23, and also to convert a debit balance, at the same date, of $16,142.84, into a balance at credit of Profit and Loss on 31st May, 1895, of $28,365.36, exclusive of an interim dividend of 3 per cent. paid in February last, which absorbed $3,900.

The gross earnings during the year under review were more than double those of the previous year; and the Directors have pleasure in recording their conviction that this increased prosperity is in a large measure due to the efficient activity of those servants of the Company who are more immediately responsible for the management of the Works.

From the net profit for the year, amounting to $28,365.36, the Directors recommend the payment of a dividend of 8 per cent., which will absorb $10,400, and leave a balance $17,965.36 to be carried forward.

In accordance with the Articles of Association, Messrs. Hepburn and Dodds retire from the Board of Directors by rotation, but they offer themselves for re-election.

Messrs. Keil and Fraser also retire, but are eligible for re-election as Auditors.

J. F. LOWDER
J. JOHNSTONE } Directors.

Yokohama, 26th July, 1895.

BALANCE SHEET, 12 MONTHS ENDING MAY 31ST, 1895.

DR.	
To Capital, Shares 1,300 at $100.00 ...	$130,000.00
To Wages due May, paid in June ...	974.87
To Directors' and Auditors' Fees ...	600.00
To Profit and Loss, Balance... ...	28,365.36
	$159,940.23
CR.	
By Plant, Machinery, Steam Launches, &c. ...	$ 42,423.26
By Property Account ...	50,389.40
By Insurance, Unexpired Policies ...	851.05
By Chartered Bank of I. A. & China ...	12,381.93
By Cash in hand ...	43.89
By Sundry Debtors ...	9,382.34
By Stock as per Inventory ...	44,468.46
	$159,940.23

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR TWELVE MONTHS ENDING MAY 31ST, 1895.

1894. DR.	
June 1. To Balance ...	$16,142.84
To Bad and disputed debts ...	209.71
To Interim Dividend, 3 per cent., paid in February last ...	3,900.00
To Plant account depreciation...	2,629.40
To Property account depreciation ...	900.00
To Wages ...	42,046.89
To Insurance ...	1,025.80
To Interest ...	1,154.10
To Trade Expenses ...	2,034.18
To Directors and Auditors ...	1,200.00
To Balance carried down ...	28,365.36
	$99,608.28
CR.	
By bad debt collected ...	$ 45.40
By Gross Earnings ...	98,820.55
By Transfer Fees ...	12.00
By Interest ...	47.73
By Rents ...	682.60
	$99,608.28
By Balance brought down ...	$28,365.36

E. & O. E.

G. CHARLESWORTH, Secretary.

We have examined the foregoing accounts, and compared them with the books and vouchers of the Company and find them to be correct.

O. KEIL,
R. N. ST. JOHN, } Auditors.

Yokohama, July 25th, 1895.

The next business was the appointment of two Directors. Messrs. Hepburn and Dodds retired, but Mr. RICKETT moved, and Mr. CURTIS seconded, that these gentlemen be re-elected.—Carried.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Board recommended the re-appointment of Messrs. Keil and Fraser as Auditors. He had not received any communication from Mr. Fraser, but he heard privately that he would in all probability be back in Yokohama, and as he had served the Company well in the past, it would be nice to pay him the compliment of re-electing him in his absence.

Mr. CURTIS moved and Mr. BENNETT seconded the re-appointment of the retiring auditors.—Carried.

Mr. WALTER said he should like to make a few

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remarks upon the report ere the meeting separated. The Chairman had said, and perhaps rightly, that the past had been a phenomenal year for the Company. At one time the shareholders had felt very anxious about the prospect before them, and the future of the company at one time certainly did look very black. Now they had a good year, a phenomenal year, and the outcome had shown what the capabilities of the Company were, if trade continued good and brisk. The Chairman had referred to the past year's work as exceptional, and no doubt it was partly due to the war that it was so. Also, that the success of the twelvemonth's working was due to the energy of their European staff, Mr. Tresize, Mr. Weaver, and Mr. Charlesworth: also that Mr. Johnstone, who was on their Board of Directors, had been the moving spirit and had worked hard for them all. He would therefore like to move a vote of thanks to the Board of Directors, especially coupling with it the name of Mr. Johnstone, and including their staff, Messrs. Tresize, Charlesworth, and Weaver. —(Hear, hear.)

Mr. GUISSANI seconded, and the compliment was carried.

Mr. JOHNSTONE bowed his thanks.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Johnstone is speechless, so I will thank you for him, and also for the staff. I would not care to repeat again in Mr. Johnstone's presence what I said just now before he entered the room, else we should render him more speechless still.—(Laughter.) Gentlemen, I thank you for the vote of thanks.

The proceedings then terminated.

ARRIVAL OF THE NEW BRITISH MINISTER.

After eleven years of absence from Japan, Sir Ernest Mason Satow, K.C.M.G., returned on Sunday by the steamship *Empress of China*, after a remarkably quick passage from England. The afternoon was very sultry, and now and again drops of rain pattered down, but this did not prevent a very large gathering of British residents assembling to greet the new Minister. Among those gathered at the *hatoba* were Messrs. J. F. Lowder, A. C. H. Bonar, J. H. Brooke, E. Whittall, J. A. Fraser, T. Thomas, E. J. Moss, Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, W. F. Mitchell J. R. Parsons, P. S. Bent, E. O. Kenyon, J. Symes Thompson, W. Ross, Jas. Walter, A. J. Wilkin, F. Townley, G. Buchanan Dunlop, W. Gordon, J. P. Mollison, E. Flint Kilby, J. Rickett, W. J. S. Shand, W. Tucker, J. Beattie, J. Diack, J. J. Efford, R. N. St. John, J. B. Barrett, R. Home Cook, C. D. Moss, A. C. Read, A. H. Cole Watson, F. H. Adams, G. Allcock, B. Gillett, A. Owston, F. P. Soloman, F. H. White, L. J. Healing, W. W. Till, J. J. Keswick, Dr. Wheeler, H. C. Litchfield, F. Schwabe, W. B. Walter, J. H. Boag, C. Rhine, E. Rogers, M. T. B. Macpherson, A. G. Lines, E. J. Libeaud, and others. H.M.S. *Leander* saluted as the stately white mail-boat entered between the lightships, giving H.M.'s representative 13 guns, and the U.S.S. Flagship *Baltimore* responded with an equal number. Sir Ernest Satow was accompanied over the side by His Honour Mr. Justice Mowat, Mr. Gerald Lowther, H.M. *Chargé d'Affaires*, Mr. G. H. Parlett, of the Legation, Mr. J. Carey Hall, H.M. Consul in Yokohama, Mr. P. Peacock, Mr. G. Hodges, and Mr. N. P. Kingdon. They took passage ashore in the C.P. launch *Spindrift*, which bore the Minister's flag at the fore, and H.M.S. *Leander* furnished the guard of honour, the lusty British tars keeping up easily with the launch. At the landing-steps hearty greetings were exchanged, many of Sir Ernest's old friends being recognised by him ere he reached the land. Then a move was made to the British Consulate, the new Minister heading the files and entering first.

Mr. J. A. FRASER, after the company had assembled, stepped forward, and in the name of the British community gave a hearty welcome to Sir Ernest Mason Satow upon his return to this country in the capacity of Her Britannic Majesty's representative to the Court of his Majesty the Emperor of Japan.—(Applause.) To the speaker had been delegated the extreme honour of presenting the new Minister with a short address from his fellow-countrymen, and although he (the speaker) could not lay claim to being one the leading merchants of the community, still he could justly consider himself as one of their oldest residents.—(Hear, hear.) Many present in that room could recall the day when Sir Ernest Satow first landed in this country, a tall, slim, youthful student-interpreter filled with a zeal and determination to master the intricacies and difficulties of the language of this country; and still more could remember him in the later years when, after acquiring a close intimacy with the literature and a keen insight into the character and modes of thought of the people of Japan, he became Japanese Secretary of Legation and in that capacity lent such immense assistance to his chief, the late Sir Harry Parkes.—(Applause.) He could perhaps bring before their eyes in a more striking manner an illustration of the work done by Sir Ernest Satow in those early days. It was a cartoon, one of the many which appeared in the pages of the *Japan Punch*, and came from the fertile and imginative brain of the late Mr. Charles Wirgman. Well, this cartoon was labelled, "The centre of our policy in Japan," and depicted a small gunboat, a very small gunboat, attached to which was a very big Union Jack. This gunboat was steaming from Yokohama across the Bay to Edo, as the capital was called in those days. On this tiny craft appeared a tall, slim figure, which towered much above the funnels, standing in a contemplative attitude. This gunboat was H.M.S *Wasp*,—or some such name as that—and the tall figure in the contemplative attitude was our new Minister, the plain Mr. Ernest Mason Satow of those days.—(Applause.) This cartoon, the speaker contended, gave a good illustration of the important work which Mr. Satow performed in those days, towards strengthening the British influence in Japan. During all the years of his absence, years that he had spent in the service of his country in lands far separated, they had followed his career with interest as he advanced from post to post, until he returned to them to fill the highest position which his sovereign could confer upon a subject in this land. —(Hear, hear.) We therefore have taken this opportunity, said the speaker, to present Sir Ernest Satow with a simple address, an address of personal welcome, purposely avoiding any mention of any of the matters which have occurred during his years of absence—the signing of the new Treaty, for instance, which might very well have been alluded to. But we preferred to confine the address to a simple form of personal welcome, and to exclude all matter that might be deemed of a controversial character. The address is as follows:—

Yokohama, 27th July, 1895.

To Sir ERNEST MASON SATOW, K.C.M.G.,
H.B.M. Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary and Consul-General,
Tokyo.

SIR,—We, the undersigned, deem it a privilege as Englishmen to meet here to-day to present to you, in the name of the British Community, a short address of welcome on the occasion of your return to this country to occupy the high position of British Minister in Japan to which you have been appointed.

Happily, in your case, we feel that we are not addressing a stranger.

To many of us it is possible to claim the honour of a personal acquaintance, and though others are in this respect less fortunately circumstanced, yet we all alike feel that your name is a household word in our ears when we look back to the history of this country in pre-Restoration days and in those years immediately following that event.

When some eleven years ago you left Japan to serve your country in other parts of the world in a diplomatic capacity, we watched your career with no small degree of friendly interest and pride. From Siam to Venezuela, from Venezuela to Morocco, we traced your onward progress in the diplomatic service of your country, each fresh appointment bearing strong testimony to the trust reposed in you by your Sovereign; and in the Knighthood which Her Most Gracious Majesty has been pleased so recently to confer upon you, we see fresh recognition of the esteem in which you are held at home.

You have now returned to the scene of your earlier labours, where, in a position of a less exalted nature than the one you are now called on to fill, you then won fame and distinction; and where, with the advantage of the able leadership of such a distinguished chief as the late Sir Harry Parkes, whose memory lives, and will continue to live, strong in the hearts and affections of his countrymen in the Far East, you not only did good work as one of his lieutenants, but contributed so largely to the cause of scholarship in Japan.

We desire now to offer you our most cordial congratulations on the well merited distinction of Knighthood which has been conferred upon you, and at the same time to give you a hearty welcome back to Japan.

It is our hope that you may be spared for many years to come to discharge, in the full enjoyment of health and strength, the duties of that responsible position to which you have been appointed, and we can assure you that any information that you may require at any time in connection with the commercial relations of this port, which it may be in our power to afford, will be gratefully and willingly given.

We have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient Servants.
[Here follow Signatures.]

Sir ERNEST SATOW, who was greatly moved, said that he was taken so greatly by surprise that they must excuse him from making a long speech. He was gladly surprised at meeting so many of his old friends, friends whom he had not expected to have again met in Japan, and also at the large number of other gentlemen, his countrymen, whose acquaintance he made for the first time that day. He was very gratified to hear all the kind things which Mr. Fraser had said of him, and all the kind expressions which the address contained. Especially pleasing was the reference to his earlier residence in Japan, when it was his good fortune to be in a position of subordinate usefulness to the late Sir Harry Parkes.—(Applause.) He cordially re-echoed all that the address and Mr. Fraser had said in regard to his late revered chief.—(Applause.) He did not exaggerate when he said that no public man east of India had his country's interests more at heart than had the late Sir Harry Parkes.—(Hear, hear.) He had served under him for seventeen years, and could bear witness to Sir Harry's intense love of work. He had seen him in times of great peril preserving the utmost calmness and coolness; and he had seen him day after day absorbed in advancing the interests of his nationals. In concluding, Sir Ernest said, I may hope, though the field of the diplomatist has greatly diminished since Sir Harry's days, that I may be able to follow in his footsteps, though but feebly in comparison; still I can assure you that it will always be my first endeavour to guard and further the interests of our country.—(Loud Applause.)

A general introduction followed, and then Sir Ernest drove off to catch the afternoon train to Tokyo.

LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT).

Philadelphia, July 4, 1895.

The Republican party always controls State and National issues in Pennsylvania, only losing a county election here and there. It looks as if, at this writing, the party would be torn in two by the antagonism between Governor Hastings and U.S. Senator M. S. Quay and their followers. Mayor Warwick, of Philadelphia, is vigorously helping Governor Hastings' wing. The election for chairmanship of the State Republican committee is to be held shortly, and the whole political history of the State will be affected by the result.

Philadelphia, having seen nearly a hundred persons killed under the wheels of the new Juggernaut, the trolley cars, is up in arms about it. Fenders, of a more or less useful sort, have been attached to all the cars. The great speed of these cars and the increased comfort has been achieved at loss of life. Our great railways are experimenting as to the use of electricity instead of steam as a motive power. The Pennsylvania Railroad has one branch line already equipped with an electric locomotive system. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad now uses electric locomotives to draw trains through its great tunnel under Baltimore. Any of you who visit the Eastern States about the year 1900 will surely find few if any other kind of locomotives.

We are all greatly disturbed about the possibility of a war between Japan and Russia. We hope that there may be none. All our sympathies are with Japan, and we cannot but feel that Russia has gone beyond all right in the matter of interfering with the settlement between Japan and China. By "we" I mean, not myself simply, but the general opinion of Americans as expressed unhesitatingly in our newspapers.

The American Board C.F.M. are just about sending a Deputation to visit the Congregationalist missions in Japan. It is likely that Hon. W. P. Ellison, of Boston, Rev. James L. Barton of Boston, Rev. James G. Johnson, of Chicago, and Rev. Amory H. Bradford, of Montclair, N.J., will constitute the Deputation. They are to examine into the needs of a readjustment of missions in Japan, especially in view of the great advances Japan has made in recent years. The Deputation leaves in September. They are to confer, not only with the American missionaries, but also with the native Japanese Christians, who feel that the evangelization of their own country can now be left in the hands of Japanese. The very appointment of this Deputation shows how willing Americans are to believe the best things of the Japanese and yet how willing also they are to

get an exact understanding of the situation from the missionaries themselves. The results of this visit will concern the missionary work of all denominations in Japan, since all will be more or less influenced by its conclusions, and guided in their future plans.

The Christian Endeavour movement will take Boston by storm in the week begining July 9th and following. From information received at this time, a few days in advance, it looks as if at least 50,000 members of Christian Endeavour Societies from outside Boston would visit the city at the great meeting. Every hotel, apartment house, and private boarding house has been canvassed to find quarters for the delegations. The railroads and steamers have made special rates, generally about one-half the usual charges, and everything is being done to bring the crowds and to care for them in comfort. The largest auditorium in Boston, the Mechanics' Institute, seating 10,000 persons, has been engaged, and two immense tents holding also 10,000 each, have been put up on Boston Common. All the Churches and great halls in the city have been also arranged for. That the authorities should permit the use of Boston Common for this purpose is something wonderful, and it but illustrates the power of Christian Endeavour as an influence that it is at all possible. There are now 2,400,000 members of Christian Endeavour Societies, almost all of them young men and women, in the United States. There never were such gatherings as these now held year by year. Besides question of general religious interest, especial attention will be given to temperance and missions. The great day will be Saturday, July 13th, which will be "Good Citizenship" Day. Monster open-air meetings are to be held out on the common; 50,000 copies of the hymn, "My country, 'tis of thee," have been printed as a souvenir of the day. The Good Citizenship movement has, as the name indicates, an end of purest patriotism. It touches corruption in politics, temperance questions, and everything else that has to do with good government, and yet is wholly apart from the political parties. All Boston is awake to the coming of the Convention. The gardens, public and private, have been arranged with the C. E. emblem in growing plants in the Convention colours, crimson and white; all the great buildings will be decorated with bunting of these colours, and with the C. E. badge reproduced and enlarged. Hospitality Committees will be at all the railroad stations and steamer landings. While the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour is wholly undenominational, it is not anti-denominational; it urges young people to be loyal to their own churches and to their own denominations, while yet cultivating a fraternal fellowship with those of other denominations. Besides union meetings, one afternoon is wholly given up to denominational gatherings. The Baptists, who probably will be present in the largest numbers of any of the denominations, will hold one gathering in one of the great tents, and other denominations in the Halls and Churches round about. Even the great newspapers are moved to report the Convention at length.

The Baptist Young People's Union of America meets the next week in Baltimore, and to this Convention already some 12,000 have indicated their intention of coming. The best speakers of the denomination are to make addresses. This B.Y.P.U.A. takes in some who are members of the Christian Endeavour Societies, and, while not discouraging interdenominational fellowship, encourages and emphasizes denominational loyalty. All these young people's movements, together with the Methodist Epworth League, the Episcopalian Brotherhood of Saints Andrew and Philip, and the Presbyterian Oxford League, indicate a new condition in the religious life of the United States.

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

(From our Correspondent.)

Healesville, Victoria, June 23rd, 1895.

The doctors election campaign, has commenced in Melbourne. Once in every four years sixteen highly valued positions are offered for competition by the Melbourne Hospital, and, since the competitors frequently amount to double the number of places vacant, the contest is necessarily keen. Polling does not take place till August, but canvassing has been going on since April. The positions are sought for the sake of the status they give and the practice they afford. With the exception of advertising, which the etiquette of the profession will not allow, the doctors make use of every device known to municipal and parliamentary candidates for obtaining votes. Well-to-do doctors are in the habit of putting a few hundred or even a thousand subscribers on the list of electors at a guinea a head. In the 1891 election one doctor, not finding sufficient supporters in Victoria, enrolled three or four hundred Adelaide subscribers and secured the votes of their proxies here. But proxy voting is now put a stop to. The system of voting is considered unsatisfactory, but what keeps it alive is the revenue it brings to the Hospital. The most popular candidates for the highest post in the Melbourne Hospital are Drs. O'Hara and Plevna Royan. Dr. O'Hara has for some years been on the Alfred Hospital Staff. The Alfred is regarded by medical practitioners as a stepping-stone to the Melbourne.

The figures furnished by such an eminent statist as Mr. Mulhall in a recent number of the *Contemporary Review*, have naturally attracted a good deal of attention in these parts and have acted as a much needed antidote to the effect of the gloomy forebodings which have lately been published in the *Investor's Review*. The leading features and facts of Australasian progress as given by Mr. Mulhall are well worthy of the attention of those critics where present Australia as a country where borrowing has far exceeded the warrant of existing resources. The following are some of the interesting statistics published by Mr. Mulhall:—The increase of population in the Australasian colonies since 1873 has been 112 per cent., but revenue has increased during that period by 127 per cent., that is, has grown 15 per cent. faster than the population. During the above-named period the colonies produced wool and gold to the value of £500,000,000 sterling. The human race now draws 30 per cent. of the wool it uses from the backs of Australian sheep. In 20 years Australian sheep have increased 98 per cent., Australian cattle 116, and Australian horses 120. The colonial governments, in ten years sold 53,400,000 acres of land for the sum of £22,100,000, an average of 8/6 per acre. Tillage has advanced at an equal rate with sheep, cattle, and horse-breeding. The average value of crops and pastoral products is £17.6 per inhabitant, a rate which, says Mr. Mulhall, has no equal in the world. The United States, which comes next, is only £13 per inhabitant. To come to gold, Australia extracted in 20 years no less than 790 tons of gold, worth, roughly, £100,000,000 sterling. Australian railways since 1873 have cost £108,000,000. So that the money extracted from gold mines has been expended on railways. Australia's debts have risen in 30 years from an average of £22 to £51 per inhabitant. The ratio is nearly three times that of Great Britain. Debt, however, contends Mr. Mulhall, should be measured by revenue rather than by population, and if Colonial Railways were sold at 10 per cent. less than the cost of their construction, the debt would be thereby reduced to five years of revenue. Now the debts of the great European states range from 8 to 10 years of revenue, and that of the United States is equal to 7 years of revenue. The average yearly accummulation in Australia for the twenty years ending 1890 is £19 per inhabitant; it is £8 in the United States and only £5 in Great Britain.

The message announcing the result of the English Derby reached Australia, allowing for the difference of time, in one hour and six minutes, being record time. This result was obtained by the use at several stations of automatic repeaters. The number of these repeaters is to be increased and when this is done, it is calculated that a message from England to Australia, which now ordinarily takes 3 hours, will be sent in half an hour. In this connection it is interesting to know that Australasia spends no less than £1,000 a day on telegrams.

The act of Abraham in making preparations to offer up his son has been repeated in Victoria within the last few weeks, with the alteration that in the case I am about to refer to the son determined to offer up his father as a sacrifice. A young man named Carey erected in his father's paddock a rude altar and on a certain day tried to induce his father to go with him to the spot. Not succeeding in this, he attempted to murder his father with a reap-hook. The explanation he gave at the Lunatic Asylum to which he was taken, of this conduct was that God had appeared to him in a vision telling him to offer up his father as an Abrahamic offering.

Mr. T. A. Browne (Rolf Boldrewood), the well-known novelist, has been a District Police Magistrate at Corowa, in New South Wales, and has just received a testimonial on his retiring from the bench.

The following notice of an exhibition of Japanese photographs appeared in the *Argus* a few weeks ago:—The shortest route from Collins-street to Japan is by way of "Cole's Arcade Walk," and the most leisurely tourist on arriving there finds he can learn as much of that wonderful country and its people in the course of an hour as he could acquire by reading all the latest books on the subject. In a well-lighted gallery are exhibited 1,500 coloured photographs by Japanese artists, forming a perfectly unique collection of object-lessons with respect to "the land of the rising sun." Apart from their high quality as sun-pictures, they are extremely interesting and instructive as vivid representations of the daily life of the people. This may be studied under every conceivable aspect. Their religious ceremonials; their marriage festivities and funeral rites; their social usages; their public and private recreations; their modes of agriculture; the industries pursued by their artisans; the life of the streets and the occupations of the small traders and itinerating hawkers—all these are graphically illustrated, so that it may be doubted whether any phase of Japanese civilisation has been left unrepresented in this really remarkable collection of photographs. And the beautiful scenery of the country—its mountains and cataracts, its umbrageous forests and highly cultivated harvest fields—has not been overlooked by the artists, who display, as may be expected, a refined sense of what is most picturesque and most effective in their selection of subjects. Add to these numerous examples of the religious, civic, and domestic architecture of the Japanese, of their sculpture and bronze-casting, and it will be seen that the exhibition is a very comprehensive one, and that it possesses a not inconsiderable educational value, especially as it brings us almost into touch with a nation which has just shown that it intends to play a leading part in the history of that portion of the globe wherewith the future of Australia must be intimately identified.

Victoria is said to be sadly overchurched. There are no less than 4,760 churches or chapels in the Colony, that is a building devoted to public worship for every 50 adults. In almost every country township from the Murray to the sea there is the spectacle of underpaid Divines preaching to tiny and overburdened flocks. The various branches of the Methodist Church are about to unite, and Chief Justice Way has come all the way from Sydney to take the chair at a Melbourne meeting called for the purpose of arranging the union. An English Bishop who recently visited this Colony went so far as to say, on his return to England, that the rivalries of the sects in Victoria resembled those of hotel-keepers.

Considerable surprise has been felt and expressed that the Premier of Victoria, Mr. George Turner, a solicitor, should have taken part in the defence of certain gun-makers named Abrahams who have been convicted of the wrongful use of the trade name of Greener and called upon to pay £5,500 damages. A criminal action against the defendants has followed the civil verdict, and it looks as though it would go against them. It has been said, and I think with justice, that for the Premier of the colony to figure as counsel for a set of swindlers is most derogatory and liable to create a bad impression in England if not here. But it is no doubt hard for a lawyer to forego his fees for the sake of the public. No one here really expects such a sacrifice.

Mr. Frederic Villiers, the well-known war artist, has been lecturing in Melbourne on the Chino-Japanese war. The newspaper reports of lectures, which are to be repeated elsewhere, are necessarily very meagre. The following extract will give some idea of the description given by the lecturer, who, it should be mentioned, illustrated his lectures with limelight views. In his account of the capture of Port Arthur by the Japanese during the last war, the lecturer related many instances of brutal savagery on the part of the victorious invaders, who were maddened by the sight of the mutilated remains of their brothers in arms previously taken prisoners by the Chinese. The massacres of Chinese citizens by the troops of General Oyama went on, he says, for four days, and no doubt the effect was heightened by the apathy of the Chinese themselves, who are callous, by the rules of their religion, in the presence of death and suffering. Still, one may as well recognise that hardly a single war of modern times has been free from similar barbarities, and that battles, as a military epigrammatist once put it, are not won with rose water. Zola's account of the conduct of the Bavarians at the burning of Bazeilles before Sedan may be set beside the stories of Japanese cruelty at Port Arthur, and the atrocities inflicted both by the Turks and the Russians in their last war leave little room for a balance to be struck in favour of the West as against the Far East in point of humanity. Still there are a few lines by an old poet which set forth that what comes to us through the ears stirs the heart more slowly than the things which are depicted before our eyes, and possibly the realism of the kodak brings home to us more closely than any mere written description could do those dread experiences of humanity which are commonly

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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

classed under the trite phrase "the horrors of war."

The following official returns show the increase in the area of land under vine cultivation and the quantity of wine produced in Victoria during the past five years:—

Area under Vines.	Acres.	Wine Produced.	Gallons.
1890	15,662	1890	1,578,590
1891	20,686	1891	2,008,493
1892	24,483	1892	1,554,130
1893	28,052	1893	1,694,745
1894	30,275	1894	1,440,184

The viticultural statistics of the colony are evidently not considered of much importance, for they omit to state whether the area, now under cultivation, includes vineyards that are not yet in full bearing; also what proportion of grape varieties are grown for table use. It is noticeable that, though the area under cultivation doubled itself in the 5 years, the amount of wine produced decreased. During the five years the average prices obtainable for Victorian wines have declined 35 per cent.

A most extraordinary incident occurred on H.M.S. *Ringarooma* some little time ago. The Commander, Captain Johnson, reprimanded the doctor, Surgeon Lea, for not seeing that a sliding table was in its proper place. In the altercation which followed, Surgeon Lea ordered the captain on the sick-list. The captain refused to obey this order, though some maintain that its legality cannot be impugned, and subsequently ordered the arrest of the doctor. A Court-martial followed, during which the surgeon maintained that the captain was off his head and not competent to command the ship. The case, however, went against the doctor and he was dismissed from the service. The Court seemed to be of opinion that while any surgeon may put an officer on the sick list, he can only do it if the officer be willing. The naval surgeons in Port Jackson hold that Surgeon Lea was hardly treated and propose to appeal. It is not improbable that the power of the surgeon *vis-à-vis* the captain has not been clearly defined, and that this may account for the extraordinary action of Surgeon Lea.

Some statistics have lately been published bearing on the consumption of tea, which tends to show that the Australian drinks more and stronger tea than any other member of the human family. The average for Great Britain in 1860 was 2¼lbs. per head. In 1890 it had risen to 5lb. The average for the continent is less than 1lb. per head, while that for the United States is 1.3lbs. In Australia the average is 7.3lb. per head. In Western Australia it rises to 10.6lb. The Australian, however, seems to go to excess in many other things. He eats 276lbs. of meat in the year as against 109lbs. of the average Englishman. His consumption of spirits and beer is correspondingly prodigious. In no country, perhaps, is drunkenness so common and so little thought of. Max O'Rell thus describes his experience in a provincial town:—"I had occasion to go and see the mayor. I found him tipsy. On leaving his presence, I went to the office of the town clerk. He was tipsy. From there my manager and I went to call upon the director of the principal bank. He was tipsy. The proprietor of the hotel where I was staying was in bed suffering from delirium tremens. The same night at my lecture the police had to eject from the front seat two individuals who by their conduct were preventing the audience from following me. One was a prominent person in town and the other was the worthy representative of the district in Parliament." "In France," continues Max O'Rell, "a man who finds himself overcome by drink hides himself. In the Colonies he parades his state and does not mind showing himself in public with his family. If he proves too noisy, his wife takes him home to save the policeman the trouble. And when his club mates see him depart, they merely say to themselves 'Poor old Dick! he has had a drop too much! Fond of his glass—a jolly good fellow, capital!'" May not the enormous consumption of tea alluded to above be rendered necessary by the large amount of alcohol imbibed by the typical Australian. Max O'Rell's description of Australian life and manners in his work entitled "John Bull & Co.," is worthy of a fuller notice than I can give it here. Some of his observations are extremely shrewd and witty. Speaking of the heat of February and March he says, "if one passed from these parts to the infernal regions one would need to take a great coat with him." Speaking of the slowness of some of the colonial trains he says: "A French writer, whose name I cannot remember, has remarked that in these days people no longer travel—they set out and they arrive. In the colonies you set out, but you do not arrive. . . . . In France we have the same word for funeral processions and ordinary trains, *convoi*. It is not so in Australia, but there is so much resemblance in the things, if not the names, that when we passed one of those trains, I instinctively lifted my hat." "Ah," said an Australian bigot to Max O'Rell one day, "you French do not pass the Sunday in prayer, as we do." "No," replied the lecturer, "in France we have not to pass every seventh day in repenting of what we have done during the other six." On Australian Journalism, Max O'Rell writes: "Of all the achievements of which Australia can justly boast, there is not one which surpasses what she has accomplished in the way of journalism. I do not know in Europe or America any papers which have more serious value than many which are published daily in Victoria and New South Wales; the *Argus* and the *Age* in Melbourne, the *Morning Herald* and the *Daily Telegraph* in Sydney, these papers, composed of eight and sometimes ten large pages, are sold at a penny, and are from every point of view as well edited and as well informed as the *Daily News*, *Daily Telegraph*, the *Standard*, and the *Daily Chronicle* of London. They have not perhaps the literary value of the *Journal des Débâts* or of the Paris *Figaro*, but they are much more complete in the matter of news. They strike a happy medium between the English daily papers and the American ones, being less sensational in style than the latter, but decidedly brighter in tone than the former. One wonders with amazement how a country so young can keep alive, and even richly flourishing, such daily papers as these, besides numerous and excellent evening papers, such as the *Evening News*, the *Echo*, and the *Star* in Sydney; the *Standard* and the *Herald* in Melbourne. The Melbourne *Age* was printing a hundred thousand copies a day when I was in Australia; and when one of the partners withdrew the sum that had to be paid to him was £150,000 sterling. It is really impossible to overpraise the spirit of activity that has rendered such papers an absolute necessary." Of the Sydney *Bulletin*, the French critic justly writes: "In its way, it is the most scathing, most daring, the wittiest, the most impudent, and best edited paper I know. Nothing quite so audacious exists even in America, where all sorts of journalistic audacities are permitted. The circulation of this paper is enormous. You meet with it everywhere. . . . . This paper exposes many follies, many impostures and the scourging it administers without respect of persons to snobs, humbugs, hypocrites, renders a service to Australian society. But that which counterbalances the good it does, and tends to make the publication a harmful one is its alimentation of that very characteristic Australian trait—want of respect for what is respectable and its encouragement of affectation in a certain section of Australians by lending its columns to the chronicling of all their little sayings and doings. The *Bulletin* is constantly guilty of the very failings that it so cleverly satirises in the public who read it."

JAPANESE TOPICS IN AUSTRALIA.

By John Plummer, M.J.S.

Sydney, June 26.

Despite the excitement prevailing in political circles in consequence of the attempt made by the Legislative Council of New South Wales to indirectly block the free trade policy sought to be initiated by the Colonial Premier, Mr. G. H. Reid, the importance of developing commercial relations between Australia and Japan is not being overlooked in Sydney or Melbourne. In the latter city the proposal of the Victorian Minister of Agriculture to test the markets of Hongkong and Japan by a shipment of live stock, will probably be carried into effect at an early date, if reasonable freight can be arranged for. Recently, a representative of a leading Victorian firm of stock and station agents waited upon the Minister, and stated that one of the clients of the firm was prepared to supply 12 head of good cattle to be forwarded by the steamer *Guthrie*, if the freight was not too high. The rate quoted by the agents of the steamer, Messrs. Gibbs, Bright, and Co., was however, considered somewhat excessive, It was arranged that the Minister should have an interview with the leading individuals concerned with a view of coming to some arrangement which will permit of the stock being shipped by the steamer *Guthrie*. Should the cattle be exported to Japan the result of the shipment will be watched with interest, as it may lead to the development of a large trade in live stock. At present, the freights are considered too high to admit of large shipments of an experimental character from Australian ports.

The second reading of the Bill introduced by Mr. Crick into the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, for the purpose of amending the Chinese Restriction Act, so as to include Japanese and other Asiatic immigrants, has been blocked by matters arising out of the political crisis. But an effort will be made to secure its being passed before the intended prorogation, although it is almost certain to be thrown out by the Legislative Council. It must be distinctly understood that there exists no prejudice on the part of Australians against the Japanese people. What is feared is the wholesale introduction, by unscrupulous syndicates, of Japanese labour of the cheapest kind, the refuse, as it were, of industrial Japan. When it was proposed to do something of the same kind in connection with the unemployed problem in England, there was some talk in Australia of adopting the immigration law of the United States, prohibiting the landing of destitute emigrants. A paper devoted to the labour interest in New South Wales, commenting on the Bill introduced by Mr. Crick, says:—"If decisive steps are not at once taken to prevent the influx, and large numbers of the Japanese race take up their abode here, when the Government takes action they will find it met by a stubborn resistance. Japan having a large number of her people settled here will strongly resent any interference on the part of Australia, and claim the right of free entrance for her people, and she would have to be reckoned with. This will be by no means pleasant, and it would be prudent therefore to take such steps as will avoid this reckoning. This may be done by promptly dealing with the question in such a way as will keep the alien race away from our shores, and if by this means it cannot be averted, then it will be more easily met then when the conquerors of China have secured a firm footing on our shores."

The subject of Chinese labour in Australia is again attracting public attention. Recently Mr. Reid, the New South Wales Premier, received a deputation representing the Gardeners, Society and Furniture Trades Association, of that colony, the members of which urged that effect should be given to certain recommendations made by a late Royal Commission appointed to enquire into various matters connected with the Chinese population resident in Sydney. It was urged that the Chinese should be compelled to live in a more sanitary condition, that greater powers should be given the police in dealing with gambling shops. It was pointed out that the Chinese gardeners had driven Europeans out of the trade. They saved expense by pigging together in hovels and sheds, and storing their vegetables under their beds and about their filthy sleeping apartments. The Chinese could sell their filthy infected vegetables cheaper than Europeans could afford to, and consequently the Chinese controlled the trade. It was said that the Chinese had completely secured the furniture trade. It was urged that to over come the difficulty a Factories and Workshops Act should be passed, providing for stamping furniture, sanitation to prevent the use of shops as dwelling rooms, and make the Chinese work generally on more equal conditions. The Chinese worked on Sundays and for 12 or more hours a day, and under conditions in which Europeans could not work. At present all the work went to the Chinese; and Europeans, in order to live, had to work for Chinese masters, who offered 25s. a week for 72 hours' work. They had to take that or starve, and they would prefer to starve. In replying to the deputation, Mr. Reid said that the colony was behind in much necessary legislation. People should be compelled to observe the ordinary sanitary rules of living and working enforced in all other countries. The white men did so, and it was only proper that the Chinaman should be made to do so. There was no reason why the liberty of the Chinaman in this direction should not be interfered with when the interference was in the interests of the country. That these Chinese places were dens of disease and filth had been proved over and over again, and the whole thing required reformation. He was warmly in favour of action which was no coercion, but making conditions of whites and blacks equal. The question of protection and free trade did not arise in this matter. It was a national question this safeguarding the health of the people, a matter of vital importance rising above every other consideration. Unless some great political convulsion arrested the course of domestic legislation the Government would give great prominence to these matters next session.

The relations subsisting between Russia and China continue to provoke considerable discussion. The *Newcastle Daily Herald*, commenting on the Russian guarantee of the Chinese loan, says:—

No country, and Russia least of all, would become guarantor for such a large amount without some valuable consideration. Even if China should not give any tangible guarantee for the good services of Russia in connection with this matter, in national as in private life it is often the case that the borrower becomes servant to the

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lender. Siberia is next door neighbour to China, and if an ally were required by the latter she would doubtless prefer to turn to the Muscovites for comfort and assistance rather than to Japan, which has humbled her self-esteem too much to be regarded with cordiality at the present juncture of affairs. There can be no doubt that shortly the world will be informed that China has ceded a large slice of territory, including some useful ports, to Russia, and that the other Powers regard the transaction as one in which they have no right to interfere. With a port open to navigation all the year round, the demands of the Russians will be satisfied for the time being. It is certain that such a port will be made into a strong place of arms, and the great military and naval arsenal in the North Pacific. Fortunately, the objects of its foundation will not be totally warlike. The Czar's subjects have the largest railway enterprise in the world on hand at the present time, and will pick out a port suitable for being made the terminus thereof. The completion of this gigantic undertaking will have a powerful effect upon the commerce of the globe, and give to Russia a place in Asia which may seriously affect by comparison the position of other European powers in that continent.

Its remains to be seen, adds the *Herald*, what effect the immense development of Russia in the Orient will have on British interests in that part of the world.

The British Government, doubtless, consider that the territories in India, Burmah, and the Straits Settlements form a charge important enough to occupy their attention for years to come without seeking to add to it by challenging Russia's position in the northern area of the continent. It is hoped that, by the operation of the peaceful process of arranging by delimitation commissions the respective spheres of influence of both empires, the friction between two such masterful nations will be reduced to a harmless extent. The recent events in China show that the influence of Russia in that many-millioned empire is likely to be far more powerful than in the past. Without exercising direct control over the Celestial Empire, an enormous power may be wielded over its Government for the purpose of promoting the policy of the Czar's advisers. The theory of the balance of power is regarded by many as inapplicable to the conditions of the present age. Whether this idea be right or wrong, the course of events seems to indicate that the power of the British in India will in a few years hence have a considerable counterpoise in that of Russia in Eastern Siberia and Manchuria. By becoming responsible for the enormous debt now being incurred by China, the Russian Empire binds itself to far more than a sentimental interest in that vast and populous empire and all that concerns it.

Mr. F. Villiers, the "war artist," is now relating his Japanese experiences to Victorian audiences. On his arrival in Melbourne he was confronted by the inevitable interviewer, to whom he was exceedingly communicative. After describing the difficulties encountered by him in getting to the front during the war, Mr. Villiers said :—

The Japanese army is everything that could be desired. The soldiers are naturally fighting men by virtue of their old feudal system: and the officers, educated in all the best military schools in Europe, are excessively brainy, clever men. Their rifle, invented by Murata, one of themselves, is on the latest pattern, resembles the Mauser, has a bolt action and can be used as a magazine rifle—although in the recent fighting magazines were not carried by the troops. At 1,000 yards it can put a bullet through a man. Their artillery is very efficient. They have light field guns of European make, and mountain guns of the howitzer pattern, which they make themselves. The physique of the troops is not great, yet they are a sturdy lot of little men. One or two regiments from Kumamoto, in Southern Japan, are of a fine type, but even they are small compared with the Chinese. The Chinese who fought at Port Arthur were very superior looking—as much superior to the Chinese you see here as are the Highlanders of Scotland to the emaciated Portuguese. Some of them stripped and attempted to escape by swimming but were shot in the water. They were splendid looking, Apollo-like types of humanity.

Being asked what he thought of the fighting Mr. Villiers replied :—

It was simply a walk-over for the Japanese. The Chinese made one or two stands in front of Port Arthur, but they were of slight duration. The officers ran away, and the half starved, unpaid, badly armed troops followed suit. Their weapons were condemned refuse from Europe foisted on to the Chinese Government at extortionate prices. As for the Japanese, I did not see them suffer any serious reverse, therefore cannot tell how they would fight under trying circumstances. The best fighting men are those who can take a jolly good licking and face the foe again, in the way we British are proverbial for. I may say, however, that the Japanese thoroughly expected to lose a great number of men at Port Arthur. General Hasegawa told me he counted on losing 3,000 out of his brigade of 7,000, but at Port Arthur the wounded and killed on the Japanese side only numbered 29 out of an army of 22,000. I have not arrived at the total Japanese loss during the whole war, but I should think the number absolutely killed in action was not 1,000. One remarkable conundrum is, considering that the Chinese never really fought, how were so many of them killed in comparison with the Japanese small losses? The only answer is that the battles were simply so many periodical massacres. The butchery by the Japanese was terrible. It would not, perhaps, have so shocked the world had Japan not been posing as a civilised nation. The veneer of civilisation was completely thrown off, and they went in for merciless and fiendish slaughter. And, mind you, they had invited the people of Port Arthur to remain in the town, giving them an assurance that they would be well treated. I myself saw proclamations to that effect posted in Port Arthur; and in face of all that the Japanese went in, officers and men, and slaughtered the whole lot. To us, the European correspondents, who had thought well of the Japanese, and had been well treated by them, this was a tremendous sorrow. I never felt so depressed and miserable in my life before. Pursuant to our duty as press correspondents, we told the truth, and now the Japanese deny our statements. That is why I show views of the scenes in my lectures.

Regarding the naval work of the Japanese, Mr. Villiers said they handled their ships to perfection. You cannot choose between their army and navy in the matter of efficiency. The Chinese vessels fought pretty well, but they were not in proper formation when attacked, and the result was as, would be said in America, "they were rattled," or got scared at the beginning. I do not think there were any naval lessons to be learned by England, more than that the importance of quick-firing guns and speed was demonstrated.

Replying to the question as to the Japanese opinion of England and Australia, Mr. Villiers said :—

Japan has a contempt for England, but she has also at present contempt for all other nations. She has, in fact, a "swollen head," but there is little to wonder at in that considering her wonderful successes. She thought England was more or less sympathetic with China on account of trade relations, and she is also jealous of England's trade with China. This is due to the fact that Japan is herself becoming a great manufacturing country. The Japanese are patriotic, industrious, and thrifty, and will eventually become excessively rich, and are therefore worth looking after. The progress and success of Japan ought to benefit Australia, for in the development of her manufactures she will draw on these colonies for wool, hides, and meat. During the war it was found that the troops did more work when they got a small meat ration each day—a luxury they never had before—and these men—60,000 of them, will take their newly acquired taste back home with them and distribute it thoughout their country. As Japan is not suitable for grazing, they will look outside for their meat supplies. What they have been having has been canned beef from America. They will not want supplies of that kind, but of the raw material to be canned if necessary by themselves. In short, they do not want manufactured goods at all, but they will offer an enormous market for raw materials of many kinds, and especially of the kinds Australia is so well adapted to produce. It occurs to me also that the Japanese with their cheap labour could advantageously tin Australian meat for the whole of Europe, and that would mean a big trade indeed. The Japanese, too, are great leather workers, and are obliged to import the hides, and they are bound to take to woollen clothing. I tell you, it is time the Australian colonies had agents over there hustling about, and paving the way for the development of trade. Some day the Japanese will cut out Germany in the manufacture of the "Jager" woollens, now so much in vogue thoughout Europe.

With respect to the attitude of the European powers towards Japan, Mr. Villiers remarked :—"It is evident that it is Russia more than England that cannot afford to see Japan advance, and I believe that England, realisising that fact, has given Russia *carte blanc* in the matter. You see, it would have been very awkward for England to have interfered, as she would have had France to account with, and Russia can act in the matter with impunity. Besides, it would be unfair to prevent Russia having a port somewhere in Korea, and indeed we cannot stop her from having an outlet there. I don't believe that Russia cares about Australia. If she did assail it she would only do so as a flank movement in her attack on India, or to draw off British strength from other positions.

INQUEST.

An informal Inquest was held in H.B.M. Consulate on Thursday afternoon by John Carey Hall, Esq., H.B.M. Consul and Acting Assistant Judge, into the circumstances attending the death of Kammil Mahmit, a Lascar firemen on board the British steamer *Energia*.

The Master stated that the deceased died of *beri-beri*, the doctor certifying that the symptoms denoted the disease. The diet of the Hindus was mainly fish and rice while at sea, but they had fowls, eggs, mutton, and fish whenever they could be got. The seamen and fireman got the same food as the *serang*. They were fed up to the correct Board of Trade scale, and even better. The men would not eat meat unless they killed it themselves. Then were all Mahommedans—strict Mahommedans. No complaint had ever been made by the men of the diet or treatment. The men were shipped in April this year at Singapore. The vessel had been running for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, consequently she was in port very often. Witness had followed the doctor's instructions in the matter; he had whitewashed their quarters and disinfected it with Condy's fluid twice. There were twenty-one coalmen and trimmers, including the cook—all Bengalis. The three deaths came from the forecastle, which is capable of accommodating seventeen men. The space is larger than specified by the Board of Trade. There are two ventilators on deck besides three or four ports. In bad weather, when the side ports or ventilators are closed, the large door in the alleyway is left open for air. The men have clothing supplied them for different weathers or money to purchase it. The Chief Engineer had just been informed by the *serang* that four or five men were suffering from the disease. The Chinese lived in the same place, but opposite, and none had been touched with the malady.

Chofa Ali, the *serang*, stated that deceased died yesterday after an illness of 15 or 16 days. The doctor saw him eight or nine days ago, when he complained of feeling worse. All three men died of the same sickness—had never had sickness before, but this time all the sick men had died. They got plenty of fresh air.

The Chief Engineer here stated that the Lascars never say anything when ill for fear of the hospital; when they die it somewhat interferes with their religious rites. The deceased was a man of fairly good constitution. The man had joined at Singapore and came up here, calling at all the coast ports. They were then chartered by the N.Y.K. to ports between Yokohama and Otaru for the last two months. Two or three days before their arrival, on the 16th or 17th July, the first symptoms developed, and the first fatal case occurred after arrival in port, and in the fortnight since elapsed three deaths occurred. This was witness' first experience of the disease *beri beri*. There had been a larger mortality from this disease at Colombo on board the *Pathan*. It might have been due to defective ventilation, the food, or the sudden changes of temperature undergone by the men, but he could form no opinion as to the real cause of the deaths.

AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE REPORT.

Mr. Jas. R. Ford, Wool and Produce buyer, Macquarie-place, Sydney, writes as follows :—

Sydney, June 24.

THE WOOL TRADE.—Since last week some of the wools withdrawn from sale at auction have been disposed of at slight advances on previous bids. In fact, but for the determination of certain owners not to sell in Sydney the lots thus reserved, it is certain that every bale of Queensland wool held over last week would ere this have found buyers at full market rates. Otherwise the trade is almost at a stand-still, as is, indeed, only what is expected in June and July. The sales of scoured skin wools are small, and outside these, with the exception of the Queensland wools already mentioned, there is nothing doing.

The impression seems to be gaining ground that the clips of New South Wales and Queensland will show no appreciable increase next season. The drought is in many parts very severe, and increased boiling-down operations will, in all probability, be undertaken. The present depression in tallow, owing to the increase in freights, has naturally a tendency to check this policy, but a rise of ten to twenty per cent. in tallow would settle the question, and send still more sheep to the boiling-down pots.

The following may be quoted as the ruling value in the local market :—

Description.	Superior.	Good.	Medium.	Inferior.
		d. d.	d. d.	d. d.
Greasy fleece	None offering.	6½ to 7	5 to 6	3½ to 4½
Greasy lambs		5 to 5½	4 to 4½	2 to 3½
Greasy pieces		5 to 5½	3½ to 4½	2½ to 3½
Greasy bellies		3 to 4	2½ to 2½	1½ to 2
Greasy xbd		6 to 6½	5 to 5½	4 to 4½
Washed fleece		8 to 9	7 to 7½	6 to 6½
Scoured fleece		11 to 12½	9 to 10	8 to 8½
Scoured pieces		8½ to 9½	7 to 8	5 to 6½
Scoured bellies		7 to 8½	6 to 6½	4 to 5½
Scoured flocks		5 to 5½	4½ to 4½	3 to 4

Since writing the above, prices have improved in London 3 to 5 per cent.

SHEEPSKINS.—No change was apparent on Tuesday, either in strength of competition or range of values. On Friday fairly large catalogues were offered, and no difficulty was experienced in selling at prices quite up to recent quotations. Crossbreds, which had been comparatively neglected, shared more fully in the strong demand. Quotations :—Full wools, to 4d; superior lines, to 4¼d; fair, to 3¾d; medium, 3d to 3¼d; short, 1¾d to 2¼d per lb.; butchers' green skins, 28d to 45d.; short, 18d. to 26d.; pelts, 1¼d. to 2¼d. per lb.

TALLOW.—The increased rates demanded for freights and the absence of any definite cable information regarding London sales combined to adversely influence the sales yesterday, and all grades were again lower in value, and by no means in strong favour. The offerings were large and attractive, but the bulk was withdrawn. Quotations :—Best mutton, £19 10s. to £20; medium mutton, £18 15s. to £19 5s.; best mixed, £18 to £18 10s.; medium mixed, £17 10s, to £17 15s.; best beef, £18 to £18 10s.; medium beef, £17 10s. to £17 15s.; broken, small, and inferior parcels, £16 to £17.

The number of casks offered was 1,703, of which 735 were sold.

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HIDES.—An easier tone again manifested itself in this market, accompanied by an all round decline in values, amounting to fully ¼d per lb. on those current last week. Sloppy and ill-conditioned lots have receded considerably from favour, and the decline in these was even more pronounced. Quotations :—Prime extra heavy and best conditioned, 67lbs. and upwards, 3¾d. to 3¼d.; good heavy, 60 to 65lbs., 3½d. to 3⅝d.; ordinary and sloppy heavy, 2⅞d. to 3d.; medium, 50 to 58lbs. best, 3⅛d. to 3⅜d.; ordinary, 2¾d. to 2⅞d.; light best, 38 to 45lbs., 3⅛ to 3⅜d.; ordinary, 2¾d. to 2⅞d; dry station, 2d. to 2¾d.

BARK.—Large catalogues were on Tuesday submitted to a moderate attendance of buyers. The average quality of the bark offered was good. Competition was slack, and prices were only maintained at last week's level by very heavy withdrawals. Quotations :—Best chopped bark, £5 to £5 10s., superior lines to £6 6s.; medium, £4 to £4; 10s.; light £3 to £3 15s.; inferior, £1 to £2.

BEESWAX.—11¼ to 12½ per pound.

HAIR, HORNS, & BONES.—At the sales held last Saturday horns, shanks, and hoofs were in full supply. With an average attendance of buyers competition was fairly brisk. Shanks realised 5s. per ton more than last week, while knuckles advanced 2s. 6d. per ton. Horns showed an improvement of 2s. 3d. per hundred. Hoofs suffered the heavy decline of 7s. 6d. per ton, while hair and common bones made last week's rates. Quotations :—Horse hair, 10d. to 16d.; cowhair, 4d. to 11d; stump, 4¾d. to 6½d. per lb: common bones, £1 12s. 6d. to £2 10s; shanks, £2 7s. to £5 10s. per ton; round shanks, to £6 7s. 6d; horns, large, £1 1s. to £2 7s. per 100; medium, 10s. to £1 9s; tips and small, 2s. 6d. to 12s.; hoofs, £1 12s. 6d. to £4; white hoofs, to £5 10s; knuckles, £1 10s. to £2 12s. 6d. per ton; beeswax, to 13s. per lb.

MARSUPIAL SKINS.—A quieter tone pervaded the market this week, the larger quantities now offering having a slightly depressing effect, but prices must still be considered satisfactory, especially for prime lines of kangaroo and wallaby. Bear were in steady demand at low prices. Rabbit unaltered. Opossum skins : 42,000 skins were offered. Prices were slightly easier than last week, though a few lines of special quality sold well. Quotations :—Kangaroo, large grey, 40d. to 57d.; medium, 20d. to 37d.; small, 10d. to 17d.; large red, 25d. to 41d.; small to medium, 6d. to 20d.; wallaroo, 10d. to 39½d.; seconds, ½d. to 6d.; wallaby scrub, 7d. to 27½d.; seconds, ½d. to 6d.; swamp, 7d. to 17½d.; seconds, ½d. to 6d.; rock, ½d. to 2d. each; goats, 5s. to 14s., seconds 1s. to 4s.; bears, 1s. to 4s. 6d.; hares, 6d. to 1s.; domestic cats, to 3s., native cats, to 3s. 3d. per dozen; rabbits, 3d. to 4½d. per lb.; opossums, super grey, 8s. to 9s. 9d. (superior line to 11s. 2d.); top grey, 5s. to 7s. 6d.; first grey, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; second grey, 2s. to 2s. 9d.; rough rumped and small, 6d. to 2s.; first reds, 5s. 6d. to 9s.; second reds, 1s. 6d. to 4s.; black, to 16s.; black Tasmanian, to £1 10s.

GRAIN, ETC.—A week of comparative quietness has to be recorded in the market, transactions being on a rather small scale in all cereals. Buyers have been extremely cautious, and have limited their purchases to ordinary trade requirements, while even these have been within a smaller compass than usual. The unsettled position of the maize market, induced by the action of holders in insisting on high values last week, has for the time being created a depression in all feed grains, and the unwillingness on the part of buyers to enter into any large purchases may be attributed to this. Undoubtedly it was an error in judgment on the part of vendors to force the prices so quickly, as buyers were in no way pressed with large orders, and therefore could afford to wait. Prices have now receded to 2s. 6d. per bushel, and even at the reduced rates, buyers show some hesitancy in purchasing. Oats are in fair supply, and stocks have not been augmented to any extent of late. Business during the week has been rather quiet, but values exhibit very little alteration. Quotations are 2s. 1d. to 2s. 2d. for prime feed, and 2s. 3d. for milling samples. Bran and pollard firm at 1s. per bushel. Wheat: There is no alteration to note in this market, scarcely any business of importance being reported during the week. In milling lines there is very little doing and quotations are nominal at 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d.. Chick wheat still very scarce and in brisk demand at 3s. per bushel.

Queen Victoria never makes purchases in a shop, but has everything brought to her. There was much gossip in St. Petersburg some time ago over the new Tsar's unprecedented act of going into a store with his wife to buy gloves. The Austrian Empress seldom goes into a store in Vienna, but is very fond of shopping when she can do so without being recognised on her travels.

BASEBALL.

MR. TILDEN'S TEAM VERSUS MR. BOECK'S TEAM.

On Saturday afternoon a baseball match was played on the Cricket ground by nines captained respectively by Messrs. Tilden and Boeck. The former were assisted by a pitcher and catcher from the American man-of-war and won easily, the score at the conclusion of the ninth innings standing 30 to 6. Mr. Boeck's scratch team were greatly out of practise, and at times allowed their opponents to get men home through sheer carelessness, or else through over-towering ambition, trying to put out base-holders by double-play, in which they never succeeded. Scores :—

Mr. Tilden's Team.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs.
1.—Stokes	SS	6	1
2.—White	LF	6	1
3.—Townsend	C	6	1
4.—Lias	CF	3	3
5.—Payne	F	4	1
6.—Tilden	1B	1	3
7.—Edwards	3B	1	5
8.—Potts	2B	1	5
9.—Howard	RF	3	4
Total		30	24

Mr. Boeck's Team.	Pos.	Runs.	Outs.
1.—Ellis	C	1	3
2.—Kane	3B	1	3
3.—Hemming	1B	0	4
4.—Boeck	P	1	2
5.—O'Brien	SS	1	3
6.—Nichols	2B	0	4
7.—McGown	CF	1	2
8.—Schoene	RF	1	2
9.—Goddard	LF	0	4
Total		6	27

Innings.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Mr. Tilden's Team	3	5	7	2	0	4	4	5		=30
Mr. Boeck's Team	0	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	= 6

WHAT RUSSIA WILL GAIN.

St. Petersburg, June 18th.

Not for a long time has St. Petersburg had so many big financiers gathered together as are here just now. Foreigners all—representatives of the Banque de Commerce, Hollandische Bank, Credit Lyonnais, &c. They have gathered here to arrange for the £16,000,000 which Russia is about to guarantee as a loan to China.

Russia is guaranteeing China a loan of £16,000,000 at a moment when Russia herself is greatly in need of money for the completion of her various railroad schemes, more especially that great and vital artery of communication, the Siberian Railroad. What is Russia going to get in return, by way of compensation?

"What?"

I have applied for an answer to that question to a certain number of distinguished personages, and must call upon you to accept assurance that they are of those among the most capable and interested in the question. Their positions forbid their names being mentioned, or even hinted at.

The first, a distinguished diplomatist, said :—"We may be perfectly sure that Russia is not guaranteeing this loan on account of the good looks of the Chinese, or for any sentimental reason. I know this, however, that the Russian government totally denies that it is going, in consequence of its action in the matter, to obtain any concessions whatsoever."

"And the Chinese that it is going to grant any, is it not?" "Yes! We understand so."

"China, you think, will accept the loan?" Considerable doubt had been thrown upon this question by another personage whom I had seen.

"With negotiations having gone so far, I do not see how she can do otherwise. But the question is one which is full of complications, which many people who look superficially do not realize.

"In the first place you must bear in mind that the Chinese asked for a loan of £35,000,000. Now here is only sixteen millions, leaving another nineteen millions to be provided for.

How is China going to get the rest of the money she needs? This sixteen millions she gets on the most advantageous terms. It will be what is known as a first mortgage loan, and, as usual with such loans, guaranteed on customs duties. Then what will there be left as guarantee when it comes to a question of raising the second and larger loan? Why, she will not possibly get the money under eight per cent.

"There is yet another question which China has to consider, and it is that this guarantee as it has been brought about reaches them in the nature of a political loan. It reaches them at the expense of the resentment of Germany, and I presume also that there has been considerable irritation in the English money market. The Germans are furious, naturally enough."

"What does Russia want?" "What does Russia propose to do next?" These are the two questions that occupy the interest of every nation and every diplomatist of to-day.

France asks them, eagerly, hopefully.

The Kaiser, as he reviews his troops on the Tempelhofer Feld, considers with knitted brow, for he knows that the armies of Russia are greater than his.

England broods over them deeply, and vitally interested as she is in the reply, and getting none, watches wistfully every move that Russia makes, eager to outflank her.

The Sultan of Turkey, from behind his guarded walls, with Oriental furtiveness, shivers 'twixt fear and hope at every move of his colossal neighbour, and asks equally. "What does Russia want?" "What does Russia propose to do next?"

But the Russians take a remarkable delight in mystifying "those who want to know." With them it is no effort to mystify, it is only natural. Even in Russia itself the people and the press are forced to be contented with the least amount of polical news. A few, a very few, considering the population and the size of the country, form public opinion—they are growing more every day. With several of such people—I choose them from among those who think, talk and write and who are good Russians, well wishers of their country, leal and loyal subjects of the Czar—I have had the opportunity of talking freely for some time past, and their remarks, taken collectively, representing Russian sentiment, may be read with interest by those whose channels of information are here sorely restricted and others.

"You ask," said one who, after being assured that his name would not be made use of, spoke very freely, "what Russia's policy is. First of all, let me tell you that Russia's policy is under the control of no one but the Czar. Of Russian feeling, however, I can speak. I can tell you that from one end of this vast empire to the other there is but one feeling, and that is Russia cannot permit, now or at any other time, any Power to bar her way toward an opening for her commerce and her railroad in the far East.

"Have the people who talk loosely about Russia and the Japanese question realized the enormous issues that are at stake as regards our country? Have they dreamt that the fact of Japan or any other country occupying the mainland would forever destroy the one hope of obtaining a port which Russia has cherished for so long? Do they realize that the enormous expenditure of life and money which the building of the Siberian railroad has cost would be almost thrown away were Japan to take Korea?

"Have those who—and how many they are—look upon Russia, falsely, as an absorber and exhaustive annexer of countries, instead of, as she really is, liberator of the oppressed, considered that at the time being Russia is shut in in every sea she has?"

At this point he drew a pencil from his pocket and began sketching the outlines of a map of the scene of action of the last war. "You see here," he resumed rather excitedly, "suppose Japan had taken Korea or even kept it under her influence, she would have commanded the Korean Straits, and Russia would have found herself again, when her great dream, the Siberian railroad, had been completed, in another closed sea, while the occupation of the Liaotung peninsula would have entirely shut out any hopes of outlet in that direction. Now, could any one expect Russia to submit to that? I say no! no! no! She could not, and she never will. Let people understand that a little more and they will not be surprised that Russia should be so firm in the matter."

"And the question of the railroad crossing Manchuria?" I asked.

"If we could bring the road across Manchuria it would save a distance of one thousand versts in a country of the greatest engineering difficulties. If people would only take the trouble to understand it, Russia absolutely does not want any more territory. She has far too much territory as it is, if Russia makes any arrangement with China on that score it will be only for the upper part, from some distance south of the railroad course, embracing everything to the north.

"There have been many ideas. One of them—and I look upon those who advocate it as fools—is to run the railroad, with the permission of China, directly to Port Arthur. That, to my mind, would be building a railroad for the astute Chinese to seize at any moment, more especially at a critical moment, and put it to their own uses.

"A port in Eastern waters, however, Russia must have"——

"Where? And which?"

"In Korea! And the harbour, Port Lazareff."

"And the railroad—where would that go to?"

"Simplest thing in the world," he replied. "For the matter of that, it need never touch Manchuria at all. If needs be, it might be continued on the

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original course outlined and pass down right along the Korean coast to Port Lazareff. The port is not a good one, but it is not frozen over three months in the year, like Vladivostock.

"And, mind you," he said, as I was leaving. "I am one of those who consider that this last Russian political action, which appears to have given so much satisfaction in official circles and has been quoted as a strong policy, is nothing to boast about. It has, to my mind, been purely negative. When we look around we find that, after all the talk, we are just as we were, whereas I hold that we might by a different policy have obtained something of benefit."

I was wondering what he meant, for he would not say what that policy might have been, when the explanation came in his last words as I passed out:—"Remember, Russia will be good friends with Japan before long! Japan represents civilization, and it cannot be otherwise!" It needs not to be a great diplomatist to put two and two together as regards this last sentence!

Many others of those I saw echoed almost exactly the above sentiments, with the exception of the reference to Japan. But there was one whom I must especially quote, for he represents a large section here—those who are Anglophobes.

He said:—"We trace the whole of the late war to the intrigues of the English. They stirred up the revolution in Korea as a pretext for Japan to go to war with China. They had been hard at work. That I know from a man who was on the spot, in the Korean service; but it turned out differently to what they expected in the end. The English got the better of us in the Pamir question, taking advantage of the illness of both the Czar and M. de Giers, but we will rectify that."

"But does Russia—that is to say, is there any serious feeling among the Russians of trying to take India for Russia?"

"Not the least. Russia does not want India, but she does not care to have the English there. If we Russians ever took India from the English it would be to give it back to the people to whom it belongs. Russia would be the liberator, just as she has been in other countries—Bulgaria and so forth."

"That is another English scheme into which she seeks to draw us. That is what the feeling here is. We don't want to have anything to do with it.

"At the present time the feeling in Russia toward France is warmer and more cordial than ever. It is shown in thousands of ways. We find the Czar sending presents to France, the Grand Dukes going out of their way to send their photographs, signed, to prominent people in France, writing letters to enthusiastic Frenchmen who keep sending souvenirs. I know of the most interesting correspondence which is going on between a Grand Duchess and a Frenchman whom she has never seen. He sent her a present from pure patriotism. She wrote him a letter, also from pure patriotism, in return, and thus a patriotic correspondence, overflowing with patriotic enthusiasm regarding the Franco-Russian union, has been going on for years.

I have just read one of the most eloquent letters from a French soldier to a young Russian girl, who had written to him. He had originally sent her a flower from Toulouse. He says that her letter shall, so long as he has life, never leave him. Her letter has, he says, been regarded by himself and his fellow soldiers as a most precious souvenir, as coming from a daughter of the country so beloved by the French. And it ends up:—"I send you a most respectful brotherly kiss." But, in truth, the amount of patriotic correspondence of all kinds which is going on between Russia and France, ever since the visits of the fleets of the one country to the other, is something to marvel at. The feeling which binds Russia and France together is the spontaneous outburst of the feelings of the two peoples. Those who cast any doubts upon it are completely in the wrong, wilfully or not, as the case may be.

"Russia has no love for the Germans. She supported—unfortunately—Germany in the war of 1870, because that war was announced as being directed against Napoleon III. personally; but when it came to be a question of Germany making war again on France then Russia said 'No!' We are well aware that there are many German officers who do not trouble to conceal their desire to cross the Russian frontier and try conclusions with us. Let them try! And let me tell you that if the Germans boast of being anxious to cross our frontier and think they could make an example of us and beat our soldiers, there are just as many Russian officers, as keen as men can be—and they are men made for fighting and who live for nothing else—whose greatest anxiety and ambition in life is to be allowed just to cross over into Germany and let the Germans taste a little of the Russian metal which they affect to despise. Let them beware when that time comes!

"In my opinion the Japanese question as regards Russia is far from being finished. It is only just commencing, and it will not end until the time comes when Russia shall have a port in Japanese waters or the Yellow Sea. That she must and will have, and no Russian will give you any other sentiment on the question. That is Russia's aim, even if she has to fight for it in the future.

"As for England, our policy is that she shall not advance further than she is. We don't like the English here—they are too cold and reserved; they are perfidious, we consider. America is in the highest degree popular over here, and we believe that the Americans have a kindly sentiment toward us, for they have shown it on several occasions. We like them all the more because they are not mixed up in any foreign political intrigues and are fair and impartial in consequence. We naturally consider that when the Siberian railroad, which is getting on rapidly, is open, it will greatly increase our trade with the United States. It is sure to do so, and therefore I think that the Americans should take a great interest in its future development.—*New York Herald*.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will reopen on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 187.

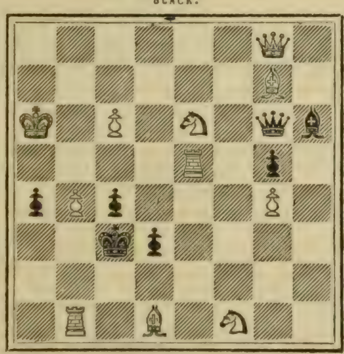
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to B sq.	1—Kt takes Q
2—B to Q 8	2—Anything
3—B mates	
	1—P queens
2—Q to Kt 5	2—Kt takes Q
3—Kt takes Kt, mate	
	if 2—K takes R
3—Q takes P, mate	
	if 2—B or P takes R
3—B to Kt 6, mate	
	if 2—Any other move
3—Q to B 5, mate	
	1—P takes R
2—Q to Q R 6	2—Kt to Kt 4
3—Q to Kt 6, mate.	

Correct solutions from Digamma, Kr., Shogi, W.H.S., E. J. King, and J.D.

Problem No. 189.

By Jespersen.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

The Adjudication Question.

The following is taken from the *Chess-Player's Chronicle* of April 24th. It appears there as a portion of some observations on the adjudication question. The writer begins by announcing that, without a doubt, "adjudication as a method of deciding unfinished games in club or other matches is doomed." He then cites some remarks by Mr. Gunsberg on the difficulties with which chess referees have to contend, included among which is the ever-present contingency that after a position has been turned over and over again, somebody may discover, say, a White win by means of an extraordinary series of moves that would never have been thought of in actual play. The suggestion is next thrown out that the work of an adjudicator ought to vary according as the games with which he has to deal have been played in his presence or sent to him from a distance. In the one case he "is in a position to judge of the styles of the players, the times they have occupied in their contests, and other general surroundings which should have due consideration, and should play an important part in his decisions; in the other he should know nothing except the position of the pieces, and whose turn it is to play. In both cases, however, the ordinary conditions of play should be observed, particularly that which stipulates for a recognised time limit; and on that account it is not fair for an adjudicator to devote more than 5min., or at most 10min., to the examination of a position." The writer adds that games from a distance should never have the names of the players attached. He approves, however, of the making of claims for wins or draws on behalf of the players concerned; and he lays down the broad general rule that a referee ought rather to pronounce on the merits of a claim than to enter upon an exhaustive analysis of the possibilities of a position. These common-sense remarks in reference to an unsatisfactory and confessedly difficult element in the conduct of chess matches strike us as deserving of careful consideration; and the last suggestion, more particularly, seems to be one which it would be well to embody in the accepted code of chess law. A referee would then be relieved from the laborious duty of submitting positions to the test of closet analysis; and he would only be called upon to pronounce authoritative decisions on definite claims. These claims would be official, and they might be publicly announced without complaint in any quarter. This, in itself, would be a great improvement on the present state of matters, under which it is quite possible that one person may regard the mention of the floating gossip of a chess-room as innocent and allowable, while another may condemn and denounce it because of his honestly believing in the possibility of its having some influence upon the judgment of a referee.

A Correspondence Masterpiece.

The following magnificent game, for the moves of which we are indebted to the *Weekly Times*, was contested recently by correspondence.

Game No. 308.

PONZIANI.

WHITE. P. Karl Traxler.	BLACK. J. Sfastny.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 3	3—P to Q 4
4—Q to Q R 4	4—P to K B 3
5—B to Q Kt 5	5—K Kt to K 2
6—P takes P	6—Q takes P
7—Castles	7—B to Q 2
8—P to Q 4	8—P to K 5
9—K Kt to Q 2	9—P to K B 4
10—Kt to Q Kt 3 (a)	10—Kt to Q B sq.
11—P to Q B 4	11—Q to K B 2
12—P to B 5	12—P to Q R 3
13—Kt to Q B 3	13—Kt (B sq.) to R 2
14—B to Q B 4	14—Q to K Kt 3
15—Kt to Q 5	15—Castles Q R (b)
16—B to K B 4	16—Kt takes Q P (c)
17—Kt to Kt 6 ch.	17—P takes Kt (d)
18—Q takes Q R P	18—P takes P
19—Q takes Kt	19—B to Q 3
20—B takes B	20—Q takes B
21—Kt takes P	21—B to B 3
22—K R to Q sq.	22—K R to K sq.
23—R takes Kt	23—Q takes R
24—B to K 6 ch. (e)	24—R to Q 2
25—B takes R ch.	25—B takes B
26—R to Q B sq.	26—B to B 3
27—Q to R 8 ch.	27—K to B 2
28—Q takes R and White wins.	

(a) If 10—B to Q 4 at once, then Kt to R 4; 11—B x Q, B x Q with an even result.

(b) If 15—Kt x Q P; 16—Kt x B P ch., K to K 2 (if K to Q sq. White apparently gets an advantage by Q to R 5); 17—P B 6, Q x P, 18—Q to R 3 ch., &c.

(c) There is a pretty combination here, worthy of notice (prevented by Black's move), viz., 17—Q x R P, P x Q; 18—B x P ch., K to Kt sq.; 19—B x B P ch., K to R sq.; 20—Kt to Kt 6, mate. But see move 18.

(d) If 17—Q x Kt; 18—P x Q, B x Q; 19—P x Kt, K to Q 2; 21—Kt x Kt &c.

(e) Very pretty. If 24—R x B; 25—Q to R 8 ch., K to B 2; 26 Kt x R ch., &c. Or 25—K to B 2; 26—Kt to R 6 ch. wins the Q.

Game No. 309.

A magnificent correspondence game, Continental Tourney.

WHITE. Voigt.	BLACK. McCutcheon.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q 2	3—P to Q B 4
4—Q P takes P	4—B takes P
5—Kt to Kt 3	5—B to Kt 3
6—P takes P	6—P takes P
7—B to K 2	7—Q Kt to B 3
8—Kt to K B 3	8—B to K 3
9—Castles	9—K Kt to K 2
10—P to B 3	10—Q to Q 2
11—B to K B 4	11—Kt to Kt 3
12—B to Kt 3	12—P to B 4
13—K Kt to Q 4	13—P to B 5

Digitized from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

14—Kt takes B	14—Q takes Kt
15—B to Kt 4	15—Q to Q 3
16—R to K sq. ch.	16—Q Kt to K 4
17—B to R 4	17—Kt takes B
18—P to B 4	18—K Kt to Kt 3
19—Q R to B sq.	19—B to B 2
20—P to B 5	20—Q to K B 3
21—Q takes P	21—R to Q sq.
22—Q takes P	22—Castles
23—B to R 3	23—P to B 6
24—Q takes B	24—P takes P
25—B takes P	25—Q takes P ch.
26—K to R sq.	26—Kt (Kt 3) to B 5
27—R to K Kt sq.	27—Kt to Kt 5
28—Q to K 7	28—Q R to K sq.
29—Q to K Kt 5	

Black gives a splendid mate in three moves.

Game No. 310.

Played at board 1, City v. St. George's (French Defence).

WHITE. E. M. Jackson.	BLACK. Dr. Smith.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P takes P	4—P takes P
5—B to Q 3	5—B to Q 3
6—Kt to B 3	6—Castles
7—Castles	7—B to K Kt 5
8—P to K R 3	8—B to R 4
9—P to K Kt 4	9—B to Kt 3
10—P to Kt 5	10—Kt to R 4
11—Kt takes P	11—P to Q B 3
12—Kt to B 3	12—Q Kt to Q 2
13—Kt to K 4	13—B to B 2
14—Kt to R 4	14—B takes Kt
15—B takes B	15—Kt to B 5
16—Q to Kt 4	16—P to B 3
17—B takes Kt	17—B takes B
18—Q to B 5	18—P takes P
19—Q takes P ch.	19—K to B 2
20—Q to Kt 6 ch.	20—K to Kt sq.
21—Kt to B 5	21—Q to B 3

White mates in two moves.

Game No. 311.

Played by Herr Albin with a well-known Philadelphian player:—

GIUOCO PIANO.

WHITE. Herr Albin.	BLACK. W. P. Shipley.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—Castles	5—Castles (a)
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—P takes P	7—B to Kt 3
8—P to Q 5	8—Kt to K 2
9—P to K 5	9—Kt to K sq.
10—P to Q 6	10—P takes P
11—P takes P	11—Kt to Kt 3
12—B to K Kt 5	12—Kt to B 3
13—Kt to B 3	13—P to K R 3
14—Q to Q 3	14—P takes B
15—Q takes Kt	15—Kt to R 2
16—Kt to Q 5 (b)	16—P takes Q

White mates in two moves.

(a) P to Q 3 is better. Generally it is unwise to castle early in this opening, and here White gains a grand winning pawn attack at once.

(b) Mr. Showalter is correct in describing this as "a beautiful final stroke to a splendidly-conducted game on the part of White."

Gamé No. 312.

A sparkling game, played recently by Herr Lipschütz (Giuoco Piano):—

WHITE. J. S. Ryan.	BLACK. S. Lipschütz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3
6—Castles	6—Castles
7—B to K Kt 5	7—B to K 3
8—B to Q Kt 5	8—Q Kt to K 2
9—Q Kt to K 2	9—P to Q B 3
10—B takes Kt	10—P takes B
11—B to R 4	11—K to R sq.
12—P to K R 3	12—P to Q 4
13—P takes P	13—B takes P
14—P to Q B 3	14—R to K Kt sq.
15—K to R 2	15—Q to K B sq.
16—Q to Q 2	16—Q to Kt 2
17—R to R Kt sq.	17—B to Q 3
18—Kt to K R 4	18—P to K 5 ch.
19—P to K Kt 3	19—P takes P
20—Q takes P	20—Q R to K sq.
21—Q to Q 2	21—Kt to B sq.
22—B to B 2	22—Q to Kt 4
23—P to K B 4	23—Q takes Kt
24—P takes Q	24—R takes Kt ch.
25—Q takes R	25—B takes P ch.
26—R to Kt 3	26—R takes R & wins.

With chess (says the Belfast *Northern Whig*), there is the danger of becoming engrossed in the game, and of making it your business. This ought to be avoided. Yet a weakness for chess is an amiable weakness. It is the queen and empress of games. In chess the understanding, which is the working faculty, is the strong element, and not the memory. "You must study an opening to see what it means and to catch its genius, for in every opening there is an *idea* which animates it like a soul. Transposed as the opening may be through different variations, it is still there, and the value of all the moves depends on their relation to it. Until you have seized this idea you have done nothing; once you grasp it, the working it out becomes pleasant, even fascinating. The game begins to have a meaning, and the men feel as if they were alive. In the course of experimenting you stumble betimes on difficulties. A defence of which you can make nothing suggests itself, and you come to a standstill. This is the place to call in the book with its long results of time; to look down the variations till you find out how the nut was cracked by those gone before—Philidor, Staunton, MacDonnell—or by the great Steinitz of the present day. Reading in this way, you soon grow familiar with the country, not by merely copying the map, but by walking over the ground map in hand, and making yourself acquainted with every spot. As for remembering, you have no need to trouble yourself. Once you have thought out and mastered a position, and understand it, it remains with you of its own accord."

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, July 31.

The final result of the British general elections is as follows:—Conservatives, 340; Unionists, 70; Liberals, 173; Parnellites, 12; Anti-Parnellites, 68; and Labour Members 2.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Otaru, July 27, 4.45 p.m.

Her Majesty's ships *Centurion*, *Undaunted*, *Edgar*, *Spartan*, *Porpoise*, and *Alacrity* have just left this port for Barracouta Bay.

(From "Le Courrier de Saigon.")

Paris, July 11.

A German squadron is to proceed to Morocco, and will occupy Rabat and Casabianca if the natives of Morocco who assassinated two Germans are allowed to go unpunished.

(From the "China Mail.")

Singapore, July 22, 12.20 p.m.

Lieutenant Clement Vincent Molyneux Sarel, of the 2nd Battalion Northumberland Fusiliers, has succumbled to cholera.

(From "L'Avenir du Tonkin.")

Paris, July 12.

The Senate has adopted, by 192 votes to 24, the financial proposals for Tonkin, inviting the Cabinet to settle the financial affairs of the Colony.

The Chambers are to be dissolved to-morrow.

In the Chamber of Deputies, M. Goblet introduced a motion to separate the Church from the State. The motion was rejected.

Paris, July 14.

The Crown Prince of Siam has arrived in France on a visit.

The national celebrations of the Fourteenth of July went off everywhere with great success.

Hanoi, July 10.

News has just come from the Lyaudet family, abducted by Chinese some months ago. The little girl, Sarah, died on the night of the 29th June. Her mother is very ill and cannot rise from her bed. Lyaudet himself is kept apart from the rest, and is never allowed to be seen abroad. There are two other Europeans in the hands of the brigands: the elder of the two is now probably near Mama, alone, and the younger one is said to have broken both legs in trying to escape, with fatal result, though this report is on somewhat doubtful authority.

(From the "Siam Observer.")

London, July 10.

According to the latest advices from Abyssinia the Negus Menelik has imprisoned the Italian engineer Capucci for having communicated with General Baratieri. The attitude of the Negus towards the Italians is markedly more hostile.

London, July 10.

Sardar Nasr Ulla will leave for Paris on his homeward journey on the 22nd instant.

Rangoon, July 12.

A military road is to be made through Burmah to Kengtung, and the work upon it will be commenced in the next cold weather.

London, July 14.

It is reported that the extension of the Siberian railway by a line through Manchuria has been definitely decided upon.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Kashiwabara, July 29.

The railway track has been damaged between Toyono and Mure on the Naoyetsu line, and railway communication is interrupted.

Hongkong, July 29.

A typhoon is raging off this port; the storm will very likely proceed north-westward.

Shimonoseki, July 28.

Four German men-of-war passed here shortly after noon to-day.

Shimonoseki, July 29.

On the lower reaches of the Kon river in the Liao-tung peninsula, says a man who has just returned from that district, two Chinese boats laden with rice and other goods were looted by a party of over 150 robbers on the 19th inst. It is said that 30 robbers are living on the southern bank of the river, and causing trouble to the inhabitants. He also states that three Russian war ships and two torpedo boats have been cruising off the river.

Kagoshima, July 28.

The steamer *Nishima Maru* ran on to the rocks at Kushinoseto in this Prefecture, while entering from Nagasaki on the 24th inst., and sank. The crew and passengers, number about 51 in all, were drowned with the exception of 8 persons. The steamer was of 86 tons carrying capacity with 29 horse power.

Moji, July 28.

Over 500 boats were wrecked at Wakamatsu during the recent storm, and only a very few boats remain undamaged.

Kagoshima, July 30.

Owing to the violent gale of the 24th inst. a large number of fishing boats were wecked in various parts of this Prefecture, and 1,016 persons are missing, or were drowned. The *Kaimon Kan* left here to-day to search for them.

Osaka, July 30.

The Ogaki and Tarui section on the Tokaido Railway is under water in consequence of the overflow of the Akasaka-gawa. The depth of water is over 8 feet. Railway communication has been interrupted since last night. Rain is still falling, and the rivers are very full. The section can not be opened for some time.

A report has reached here to the effect that the Hikida and Yanagase section on the Tsuruga line is also interrupted.

Otsu, July 30.

Severe floods have occurred in Sakata, Higashi-asai, Ika, and Nishi-asai Districts, where enbankments have been broken and bridges destroyed. An extensive area of rice fields have been inundated. Communication is interrupted, and a number of residents have been killed or wounded. The Governor has proceeded to the spot.

Nagoya, July 30.

Rain has been falling for two days and a great inundation has occurred in the town, some houses being submerged in water. The Kiso and Shonai rivers are greatly fed, and it is feared they will break their embankments. The residents are panic-stricken.

Tsu, July 30.

The captured gun-boat *Chen-peh* put into Toba, Shishu, last night on the way to Yokosuka. She will stay for two days. The residents were allowed to visit her.

Hiroshima, July 30.

Colonel Hishijima's Mixed Brigade has arrived at Ujina from the south, and left for the east yesterday.

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Shimonoseki, July 29.

The transport *Sendai Maru* arrived here to-day from Kobe with 400 coolies for Formosa.

Nagoya, July 30.

A luggage train, which left Ogaki for Yonebara at 1.15 a.m. this morning, was derailed owing to a flood between Ogaki and Tarui. No trains are now running to the west of Ogaki.

Later.

A train was derailed on the Ogaki-Tarui section early this morning, and some persons were either killed or wounded. The track in the district is under water to a depth of 4 ft. and the rice fields are merely a vast lake.

Fukui, July 30.

The embankments of the Kutorin-gawa and Ashiha-gawa have broken down and the river has overflowed, covering one-third of the town with water. No houses have yet been destroyed nor anybody killed. Roads are submerged, and communication interrupted. Rain is still falling.

Söul, July 29.

Count Inouye, Japanese Minister will proceed to the Palace at 2 p.m. to-day to have audience with the King.

Gifu, July 30.

Owing to the interruption of railway communications over 1,000 military coolies to be sent to Formosa have gone back to Nagoya from Ogaki.

Gifu, July 31.

Various rivers have overflowed their embankments and much damage has been done. The whole town of Ogaki is flooded.

Fukuoka, July 31.

The total number of houses thrown over is put at 12,200, the lives lost being over 60.

Utsunomiya, July 31.

A severe shock of earthquake was felt here at 5 p.m.

Kyoto, July 31.

The ceremony of formally closing the Industrial Exhibition was held at 5.25 p.m. to-day. Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, first reported upon the exhibition from its opening, H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, Superintendent of the Exhibition, then declared it closed, after which a congratulatory address was read by Mr. Watanabe, Governor of Kyoto, who represented all other Local Governors, and the ceremony concluded.

An exceedingly severe thunderstorm took place yesterday afternoon, and eight places were struck by lightning.

Nagasaki, July 30.

Nishidomari has been selected as the site for the telegraph store tank, and Mr. Oi, an expert of the Communications Department, leaves for the capital to-day to report to the Government.

The following telegram reached the Foreign Department yesterday.

The Commercial Treaty between Japan and Italy passed the Chambers on July 29th by a large majority.

Nagasaki, July 31.

The *Matsushima Kan* has arrived here from Formosa.

Kyoto, July 31.

The Kyoto Exhibition was visited by 1,136,695 persons during the whole period of its existence.

Nagasaki, August 1.

The Italian man-of-war the *Cristoforo Colombo* has arrived here from Chefoo.

Sapporo, August 1.

Fire broke out at Sakaicho, Otaru, at 3 p.m. yesterday. A strong southerly wind was blowing at the time and over one hundred houses were destroyed, the fire being extinguished by 6 p.m.

Another fire occurred at Osamanbe-mura, Yamagoshi District, Iburi Province, yesterday, destroying the village office, police office, and 33 houses.

Kyoto, July 31.

Some persons have been consulting upon continuing the Industrial Exhibition by forming a society for that purpose, but no decision has yet been arrived at and it is at present arranged that all exhibitors will sell their own articles at the Exhibition rooms.

Shimonoseki, August 1.

The number of cholera patients is daily increasing owing to the intense heat. Over ten cases were reported yesterday.

Kyoto, July 31.

H.I.H. Prince Nashimoto reached here to-day.

Kyoto, August 1.

H.I.H. Prince Komatsu left here for Tokyo to-day. He intends to pass the night at Otsu, and call at Atsuta the following day.

Phyong-yang, July 31.

From July 1st up to to-day 230 Koreans, 3 Japanese soldiers, 2 coolies, and 4 merchants have succumbed to cholera. No new cases have been reported among the Japanese since the 20th, and hopes are entertained of stamping out the malady.

Tottori, August 1.

While the remains of a cholera patient, who had died at Kawaoka-mura, Aimi-gun, were being carried through Kusaka-mura, a number of villagers interrupted the passage of the corpse, and behaved in a disorderly manner towards the constables. The corpse was finally taken to the cemetery by the police, but great discontent is entertained by the villagers.

Sendai, July 31.

A meeting of the Radical Party, which was held here to-day, was a great success, over 1,500 persons being present.

Hiroshima, July 30.

Surgeon-General Sato is to inspect Kokura, Fukuoka, and Kumamoto, being released from the office of President of the Temporary Military Hospital at Hiroshima. He will return to Tokyo about August 10th.

Shimonoseki, July 30.

Sasaki Tomezo, Sato Yoshimasa, Nanaka Matsutaro, and Yagimura, who were ordered to leave Korea the other day, arrived here to-day. Mr. Tsuneya Takayoshi, M.P., also returned from Korea the same day.

A Japanese coolie is said to have been affected by cholera at Fusan yesterday. Effective measures have been taken to prevent its spread.

It is stated that no injury was done at Fusan or Ninsen by the recent storm.

Fukui, August 1.

Besides the damage formerly telegraphed the following reports have been received from Nanjo, Imadate, and Yoshida Districts:—Nanjo: 9 lives lost through landslips, over 10 wounded, 35 missing, 16 houses fallen in, one school and 7 other buildings buried beneath *débris*, 27 houses, one shrine, one temple, and 4 other buildings carried away by floods, 4 houses and 2 godowns ruined, and 6 bridges destroyed; Imadate: 10 houses, one shrine, and 2 other buildings washed away, and 7 houses collapsed; Yoshida: 5 persons drowned, one house ruined and one bridge destroyed.

Gifu, August 1.

Over 20,000 houses are submerged here, the rain still continues to fall.

Fukuoka, August 2.

The captured gunboat *Chen-tung* arrived at Hakata last night, and proceeded to Kure this morning.

Gifu, August 2.

The water upon the railway track has greatly decreased, and the work of repairing the damage commenced to-day. It is expected that railway communication will be resumed in four or five days.

Osaka, August 2.

The special committee of the City Assembly has decided that the action of the local authorities in connection with the defective drainage work was improper.

Provost Charles C. Harrison of the University of Pennsylvania has made to that insitution a gift of half a million dollars, to constitute a Foundation in memory of his father, thus following the noteworthy example of President Low of Columbia. The following suggestions as to the use of the resulting income were made by the donor: 1. The establishment of scholarships and fellowships. 2. An increase of the University Library. 3. The temporary relief of professors from their regular work, permitting them to engage in research. 4. The engagement of non-residents to lecture for a term at the University.—*Dial.*

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 8th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Aug. 9th.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Aug. 7th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 11th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 16th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 19th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 22nd.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 22nd.

* *Peru* left Hongkong on July 31st. † *Gaelic* left San Francisco on July 23rd. The English mail is on board the steamer *Oceana*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 4th
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Aug. 9th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 10th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 10th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 17th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 18th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 19th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 23rd.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 27th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 27th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, W. G. Bannister, 28th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, Wm. H. Walker, 28th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 20th July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 28th July,—Vancouver, B.C., 15th July, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,320, Hancock, 28th July, —Fushiki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 28th July,—Kobe 27th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 28th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, 19th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,359, West, 29th July, —London viâ Singapore, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 29th July,—San Francisco 13th July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Beautemps Beaupre (6), French corvette, Captain Tenet, 30th July,—Chefoo.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 30th July,—Vokkaichi 29th July, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Dowling, 30th July, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annandale, British steamer, 1,963, Milne, 30th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Liddesdale, British steamer, 1,716, A. Clark, 30th July,—Vladivostock viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fidalia, German steamer, 873, Nissen, 31st July, —Hongkong, Sugar.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Irene (22), German flagship, Captain von Diesky, 1st August,—Chefoo.

Arcona (18), German cruiser, Captain Hoffmeyer, 1st August,—Chefoo.

Kaiser (15), German cruiser, Captain Gaeschke, 1st August,—Chefoo.

Prinz Heinrich, German cruiser, 1st August,—Chefoo.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 1st August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,836, Cunningham, 1st August,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 1st August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 24th July, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,597, Watson, 1st August,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Decima, German steamer, 1,325, Christiansen, 1st August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, F. J. Brown, 2nd August,—Otaru, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 2nd August, —Marseilles 23rd June, Hongkong 24th July, Shanghai 28th, Nagasaki 30th, and Kobe 1st August, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 3rd August,—Yokkaichi 2nd August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 27th July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, R. Irving, 27th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenfruin, British steamer, 1,918, Darke, 27th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Duncan, 28th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 28th July,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 29th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Gerda, German steamer, 1,234, Ehlers, 29th July,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Radnorshire, British steamer, 1,889, T. Davies, 29th July,—London and Hamburg, viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 29th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omba, British steamer, 1,940, Munroe, 29th July,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, W. G. Bannister, 30th July,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 30th July,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,894, Thomson, 30th July,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 30th July,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 30th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Spondilus, British tank-steamer, 2,350, Griffith, 30th July,—London and Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 31st July,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Baltimore (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain Fay, 1st August,—Nagasaki.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 1st August,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Wood, 1st August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 1st August,—Shimonoseki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Annandale, British steamer, 1,963, Milne, 2nd August,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 2nd August,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,597, Watson, 3rd August,—Portland, Oregon, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Germain and 3 children, Surgeon Major Stuart, Lieut. Adams, Dr. Thos. B. Shaw, Colonel Milne, Dr. Ludwig Riess, Rev. O. A. Seaholm, the Right Rev. Bishop Ani, Mr. F. Huber, Mr. C. H. Evans, Mr. J. H. Lee, Mrs. Geo. Hartwell and 2 children, Mr. Geo. E. Hartwell, Mrs. George, Mrs. N. Porter, Miss Colgan, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Oxenham, and Dr. and Mrs. Bennett in cabin.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Raper, Mr. F. F. Dunn, Miss Riddell, Miss Nott, Mr. C. W. Collier, Mr. A. Levy, Miss L. Thomas, Miss Eldridge, Mr. J. D. Hanbury, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. J. S. Metcalf, Dr. Metcalf, Mrs. Metcalf, Mr. A. R. Whitney, Mr. J. C. Arter, and Mr. M. S. Darnall in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. S. Sing, Mr. A. L. Lo, Mr. L. Kintwell, and Mr. L. Berner in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. Kwong Ying and servant, Mr. Lu Lum Yuen and servant, Mr. W. Laidlaw, and Mrs. S. Foster and infant in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. Allardyce, Rev. Dr. and Mrs. Ashmore, Mr. A. S. Aldrich, Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Barlow, children, and governess, Mr. B. B. Deane, Dr. J. Graham, Mr. R. B. Grinnan, Mr. M. Kataoka, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Lindsay, the Masters Lindsay, Mrs. Leonard, Colonel Malloy and son, Rev. Dr. Nevin, Mr. F. Paget, Mr. E. S. Robinson, Sir Ernest Satow and valet, Mr. and Mrs. Irwin Turner, and Mr. T. A. L. Wallin in cabin; 11 passengers in second class, and 104 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. Ramos, Mr. B. Villarcol, Mr. Sugiura and 3 boys, Mr. Dickie, Mrs. Dickie and 2 children, Mr. Oyama, Mr. Inch, Mr. Bask, Madame Ojeda, Mr. Kwong Wing, Mr. J. Mackey, Mr. and Mrs. Souza, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, Mr. A. Vikos, Miss Spicer, Miss Nagh, and Mr. G. Sale in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Miss May Draiper, Lieut. S. C. Paine, U.S.N., Mr. G. M. Booker, and Mr. Frank Walden in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. L. C. de Rosario, Mr. A. Babbington, Mr. and Mrs. Jones Hughes and 3 children, Mr., Mrs., and Miss G. Murray Bain, Mr. and Mrs. Carvalho, Miss Duncan, Rev. and Miss McGregor, Miss Allen, Mr. P. McGregor Grant, Surgeon-Captain Heuston, Dr. and Mrs. Irwin, Mr. W. Cope, Mr. and Mrs. Greaves, Mr. Runge, Miss F. Tane, Mrs. Dickson, Mr. Tullock, Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright, Miss Melvin, Miss Irvine, Mr. Tsu Sien Sang, Mr. T. Masato, Mr. H. W. Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. Von Krinkis, 4 children, and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Von Sürth, Mr. T. Buller, Mr. L. D. Abraham, Mrs. Stocken, Mr. Kierulff, Mr. and Mrs. Schaetzchen, and Mr. C. Bhesania in cabin; Mrs. Yasuda Mitsu in second class, and Mr. Chen, son, and native servant in Asiatic steerage. In transit:—Mrs. A. H. Rennie, Miss S. F. Mackie, Captain Ashton, Dr. and Mrs. Stevenson and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. H. Baxter, Rev. Evan Bryant, Mr. Aldis, Mr. Hawes, Mr. Radewald, Mr. Ekarbe, Miss Archer, and Mrs. McEwan, 4 children, maid, and amah in cabin; Mr. O. Jensen in second class, and 172 Chinese in Asiatic steerage.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Cologan, Mr. Guignard, Mr., Mrs., and Miss A. Hella, Mr. Schmidt, Mr. Carst, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Corder, Mr. Drage, Mr. Eisenbrok, Mr. Krentzeyen, Mr. and Mrs. Levy and 2 children, Mr. Brobecker, Mrs. Gunsburg and servant, Mrs. de Uriartia and servant, Mr. de Uriartia, Mr. C. Manuel, Mr. Dayet, and Mr. L. Panazey in cabin; 24 Chinese and 2 children in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mrs. Germain and 3 children, Colonel Milne, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Oxenham, Dr. and Mrs. Bennett, Rev. O. A. Seahohn, Mrs. Geo. Hartwell and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Crew, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Bagnall, Messrs. J. H. Mitchell, A. S. Watson, Krumm, Deshler, B. Roth, and T. Hogi in cabin; 75 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. E. K. Charrington, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Fulkersen and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Boxshall, Mrs. James Cantlie, Miss Illessat, Lieut. and Mrs. Rees and child, Mr. U. Vykosky, Mr. H. Michel, Mr. H. Metman, Mr. G. A. Raggi, Mr. Jno. Hall, Mrs. MacCarthy and child, Captain MacCarthy, Mr. Atkinson, Sir Fielding and Lady Clarke, Mrs. and Misses Mast, Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Wadman and 3 children, Rev. S. C. Partridge, Mr. Geo. Sale, Mr. Ishino, Mr. H. A. Heen, Captain Owen, R.A., Master A. Wilson, Mrs. Gaferntz, and Mrs. D. Crowe, child, and amah in cabin; Messrs. C. Jassler and F. Burch in second class.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Adler, Mr. W. N. Armstrong, Mr. A. H. Butler, Mr. W. E. Clarke, Mr. F. A. Cundill, Mr. M. D. Darnall, Mr. T. F. Dunn, Mrs. Foster and infant, Judge J. C. Grubb, Mr. Adolph Krahn, Mr. Kwang Ying, Mr. W. Laidlaw, Mr. Lee Lun Yuen, Mr. A. L. Lo, Mr. Nathan Peltz, Mr. V. Porter, Lieutenant Robert Clemm, I.G.A., Rev. J. Soper, Mr. W. Smith, Mr. Sam Sing, Mr. B. F. Thurston, Mr. and Mrs. F. Vivanti, Mr. Paul Waterman, Mrs. Lu Wheat, Mr. J. Edgerton Wood, and Miss F. J. Wirrick in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. John Andrew, Mr. F. Wallden, Mr. J. A. Blattan, Mr. G. M. Booker, Mr. Jordansky, Dr. W. H. Abercrombie, Miss Kitty Southard, Lieut. S. C. Paine, U.S.N., and Miss Beatrice Stewart in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Abraham, Mr. T. W. Aldis, Miss Archer, Mr. J. Chas. Arter, Mr. Frank Ashton, Mr. H. Baxter, Mrs. H. Baxter, Mr. Alex. Benson, Rev. Evan Bryant, Mr. W. Buckel, Mr. V. Chirol, Mr. Chas. W. Collier, Lieut. Chas. W. G. Crawford, R.N., Mr. P. P. Crossley, Mr. Thos. Dickson, Mr. H. C. Elgar, Mr. M. F. A. Fraser, Mr. M. B. Furse, Mr. H. S. Guinness, Mr. A. F. Harvard, Mr. J. A. Hawes, Mr. A. F. Howard, Mr. H. O. Jensen, Mr. M. Kanda, Mr. E. Karbe, Mr. John Lindsley and servant, Mrs. John Lindsley, Mr. Halstead Lindsley, Master Thayer Lindsley, Miss Maya Lindsley, Mr. F. Lutscher, Mrs. MacEwen, 4 children, and maid, Miss S. F. MacKie, Mr. M. A. Mosle, Mr. C. M. Murray, Mr. J. Murata, Mr. P. B. Nash, Mr. J. Nagai, Prince Pak Yong Ho and attendant, Mrs. A. W. Rennie, Mr. J. F. Rodewald, Mr. B. L. Sardy, Mr. John Sayer, Mr. M. Schanz, Rev. Seder, Mrs. Seder and 3 children, Dr. J. E. Shrady, Dr. Stevenson, Mrs. Stevenson and 3 children, Rev. Mr. Stocken, Mrs. Stocken, Rev. J. L. Thomas, Dr. K. Usui, I.J.N., Count Henry de la Vaulx, and Lieut. H. R. Veale, R.N. in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Straits of Dover*, for Tacoma, Wash., via Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	1,494	5,222	3,524	72	10,312
Yokohama	6,457	9,249	3,026	664	19,396
Total	7,951	14,471	6,550	736	29,708

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	910	9,876	12,934	628	24,348
Hyogo	1,146	825	248	—	2,219
Yokohama	1,465	—	9	70	1,544
Hongkong	—	—	5	190	195
Amoy	—	816	8,671	—	9,487
Foochow	1,553	478	736	76	2,843
Total	5,074	11,995	22,603	964	40,636

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL
Shanghai	224	—	224
Hongkong	92	—	92
Yokohama	696	—	696
Total	1,012	—	1,012

RATES.

Tea ..... 1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk ..... 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement ..... $11 Gold per ton.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	LONDON.	OMAHA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	3,532	—	—	—	—	—	3,532
Hyogo	294	—	—	—	308	—	602
Yokohama	3,780	—	—	265	475	—	4,520
Hongkong	258	—	—	—	—	—	258
Total	7,864	—	—	265	783	—	8,912

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	296	—	296
Yokohama	—	92	—	92
Hyogo	—	5	—	5
Total	—	393	—	393

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	—	—	31	37	68
Amoy	—	—	3,287	—	—	3,287
Foochow	9,094	1,616	1,314	1,565	—	13,544
Shanghai	1,185	2,164	5,187	—	—	8,536
Kiukiang	—	—	964	—	—	964
Hankow	—	—	363	—	—	363
Kobe	2,653	—	11	—	—	2,646
Yokohama	2,950	901	332	—	—	4,183
Total	15,819	4,681	11,458	1,596	37	33,591

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	15	—	15
Shanghai	544	—	544
Yokohama	699	—	699
Total	1,258	—	1,258

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain J. T. Smith, reports:—Left San Francisco the 13th July at 4.07 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 29th July at 9.05 a.m. Passage, 14 days 23 hours 20 min. Had moderate weather with light winds the whole passage.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarns very quiet. Shirtings—8¼lb. dull, 9lb. active at quotations. T.-Cloths comatose. Cotton Italians—Fair sales "to arrive." Turkey Reds—Small business at lower prices. Woollens—A retail trade in Italian Cloth and Mousselines; in other sorts nothing.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 39 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.20 to 2.50
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Monkeis—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Bars dull with a sagging market. Some enquiry for Plates and Wire Nails. Pig active. Tin Plates dead.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.30 to 3.35
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.25 to 3.35
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.20 to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

Quiet, with a drooping tone. Buyers, however, hold off, looking for still lower prices. Stock here is about 1,000,000 cases (or 10 million gallons) of all kinds. The country dealers are reported short of supplies, and it is expected that they must come into the market ere long.

American	$2.20 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.15
Langkat	1.90 to 2.00.

SUGAR.

Brown—A good trade both in Formosa and Manila sorts, the season being in full swing. Prices for the above are strong, and quotations show a rise on the week. White—A fair trade at unchanged prices.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.65 to 3.70
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.10 to 3.60
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A good trade both for Europe and America at steady prices. Arrivals have been ample and holders current. The export for the past month was close upon 4,000 piculs—a record for July.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 deniers	$870 to 880
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	790 to 800
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	700 to 710
Kakedas—Extra	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 1½	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2	720 to 730

WASTE SILK.

Market very quiet, and no New fibre of any consequence offering. Holders are strong for the few parcels Old Waste of good quality now remaining; but all quotations are nominal, and we give no list of prices until the market for New Waste is established.

TEA.

A fair daily trade at quotations. Settlements to date are still 7,000 piculs ahead of last season, and the Export keeps well abreast of that at same date last year. Third crop is now coming in, and seems to be a fair average as regards quality.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	27 to 28
Finest	25 to 26
Fine	23 to 24
Good Medium	21 to 22
Medium	19 to 20
Good Common	17 to 18
Common	15 to 16

September 29th, 1894.

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated little this week, partly owing to the temporary breakdown in the telegraphic service.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/1⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/2¼
On Paris—Bank sight	2.68
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.75
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅓
— Private 10 days' sight.	72⅓
On India—Bank sight	195
— Private 30 days' sight	197½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	52
— Private 30 days' sight..	53
— — 4 months' sight	53¾
On Germany—Bank sight	2.16
— Private 4 months' sight	2.23
Bar Silver (London)	30¼

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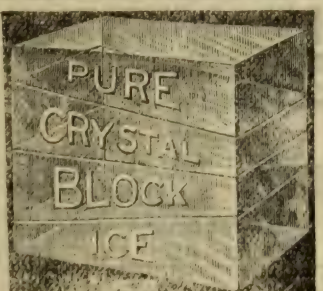

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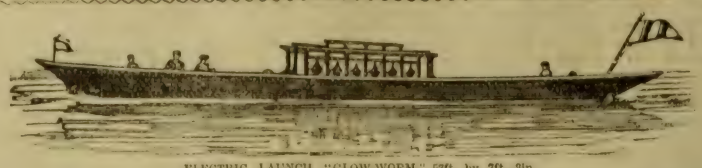

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 10TH, 1895.

MARRIAGE.

At Penang, on the 28th June, by the Rev. M. Biggs, at St. George's Church, Miss MINA HENRIETTA, daughter of the late George Blakeway, to Mr. WILLIAM HARTLEY, eldest son of Mr. William Hunting.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MARQUIS ITO is passing a few days at a villa near Yokohama.

THE Japanese Consulate at Chefoo was reopened on the 4th inst.

COUNT INOUYE'S first audience with the Korean King on his return to Sōul, was of long duration.

THE death in announced of Dr. Iwasa, a retired Court Physician, which took place on the 3rd inst.

THE Korean students at Mr. Fukuzawa's institution will spend their Summer vacation at Kanazawa.

A GOOD many invalided soldiers have passed through Yokohama on their way to Tokyo during the week.

THE forces in Formosa are to be raised to forty-five thousand men, the Government having determined to thoroughly stamp out the insurrection there.

IT is hoped that the weather has settled for a time. The *Kawabiraki* festival on the Sumidagawa came off on Friday.

DR. KITAZATO is reported to have inaugurated a new treatment of cholera, by inoculation, on the lines indicated by Dr. Koch.

THE new treaty between Japan and Italy was ratified by the King of Italy, and ratifications exchanged at Rome during the week.

THE Japan Railway Company has declared a dividend for the first half of the year of 12 per cent., carrying forward *yen* 13,232.918.

TEN missionaries, eight ladies, one child, and a man—all reported to be English—have been massacred by Chinese near Foochow.

SURGEON-GENERAL ISHIGURO has been permitted by the Decorations Board to accept a decoration conferred on him by the Emperor of China.

THE four German war-ships now in Yokohama leave for Hakodate on the 12th inst. After a cruise of four weeks they will revisit Yokohama.

MR. ABENHEIM'S 16-rater *Petrel* won the Committee's Cup in the sailing race last Saturday with only 1½ minutes to spare on her handicap.

TWO Japanese spies who were reported missing at the beginning of November, are said to be alive and well, being decently cared for by General Sung.

THE Emperor has granted a sum of *yen* 300 to all the epidemic inspection commissioners now engaged at the various military quarantine stations.

THE Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation declare for the half year a dividend of £1.5s. per share, absorbing $444,444.44, and carry forward $312,217.

COLONEL FUKUSHIMA, who injured his right leg during the late war, proceeded to Hakone on the 4th inst. He will stay there for about three weeks to recuperate.

THREE *attachés* in the Finance Department and fifty-three selected officials of various Custom Houses have been ordered to Formosa to take charge of the Customs there.

THE Yokohama Charity Organization, which does an immense amount of work among the distressed seamen of the port, closes its first financial year with a balance in hand of $61.94.

CHARLES HOFFENDEN, a quartermaster on board the steamer *Energia*, has been sentenced by Mr. Justice Mowat, sitting with a jury, to 4 months' hard labour for stealing an officer's sextant.

MR. SONE ARASUKE, Japanese Minister to France, has been ordered to represent Japan at the International Convention on Weights and Measures to be opened in France on September 6th.

THE new Willard Opera Company opened to a packed house at the Public Hall on Wednesday evening. The "Gaiety Girl" proved a most delightful comic opera as played by this Company.

COUNTS ITO, Yamagata, Saigo, and Oyama have been raised to the rank of Marquis, besides receiving decorations and suitable Civil List allowances; Viscounts Nozu and Kabayama have been made Counts; and Lieutenant-General Kawakami and Vice-Admiral Ito, Viscounts, for services during the late war.

THE Emperor is now specially granting audience to all leading civil and military officers, on their return from the Liaotung peninsula, who have to leave immediately for Formosa.

THE devastation caused by the floods in Central Japan is very severe, though only very meagre details are to hand. The damage done to railway tracks has been repaired, and the trains are running regularly again.

THE captured battle-ship *Chen-yuen* was thrown open to inspection at Yokosuka this week, and the enormous crowds attracted thither from the capital and the vicinity taxed the capabilities of the railway and steamboats to the utmost.

CHOLERA having broken out on board the flagship *Matsushima Kan*, while at Kelung, she returned to the Magami Quarantine Station, Nagasaki, on the 31st ult., for disinfection. The *Naniwa Kan* has been made temporary flagship.

IT is stated that the proposed Naval Extension Bill to be introduced in the Diet by the Naval Department contains proposals for the construction of four 12,000-ton battle-ships, four 8,000-ton cruisers, four 4,000-ton cruisers, and some torpedo-catchers and torpedo boats.

REUTER TELEGRAPHS:—M. Speier, the present Russian Minister at Teheran, has been appointed Minister to Korea. Referring to the telegram of the 27th of June, stating that the relations between Bulgaria and Turkey were strained owing to the warning given by Turkey to the Bulgarians to abstain from agitation in Macedonia, it is now reported that the rising in Macedonia is increasing and that Bulgarians are joining the insurgents. The Marquis of Salisbury has demanded that the Government of China shall issue a Decree ordering the death of the culprits in the recent massacre of missionaries, the fullest protection to missionaries, and an escort for the Consul who is going to enquire into the circumstances of the massacre. The Chinese Government has assented.

THERE is no revival worth noting in any department of the Import trade, the enquiry for Yarns and Grey Goods being as dull as ditchwater. A few parcels of Turkey Reds have been taken at late rates, but no movement to any extent has been made in Fancy Cottons. Woollens, except Italian Cloths, which are improving in value, are lifeless, and appear likely to remain so for some time to come. There is nothing doing in Metals. In Kerosene there is nothing to report beyond the fact that holders and buyers are at arms' length, but the latter will probably be the first to succumb. The Sugar Market has not seen much alteration; China and Manila sorts are in fair demand, and rates harden. Whites continue to be sold at late rates. The Raw Silk trade is running smoothly; holders are current at late rates, and the market is well supplied with goodly parcels of fine Silk. In the Waste business, holders continue to fasten on for their money to old fibre of poor quality that nobody wants, and as new fibre is not forthcoming in quantity next to nothing has been done. In the Tea trade a fair amount of business has been passing at advancing prices for the grades on offer. Choice leaf is extremely scarce, Common to Good Medium being the quality of most of the parcels at present on the market. Settlement and export figures are now about on a par with those of last season at same date. Exchange closes weak.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The political world has been uneventful during the present week. The only incident that attracted attention and furnished opportunity for some effervescence on the part of the Opposition journals was the conferring of honours upon the Premier and the higher officers of the Army and Navy in recognition of their services in connection with the war. So far as these officers are concerned, the Opposition papers do not question the justice of the Imperial favours. But they pretend to be ignorant of any service on the part of Marquis Ito that entitles him to such high recognition by his Sovereign. In editorial columns, in personal notes, by poems and by pictures, the Minister President of State is held up to popular ridicule and execration. All the latent jealousy and envy of his enemies seem to have been roused by the bestowal of distinctions that he richly deserves for his indefatigable devotion to the interests of the country ever since he came into office, but more especially during the recent war, when he was always by the side of His Majesty, taking part not only in civil but also military affairs. These disgraceful attacks upon him, however, are doubtless treated with well merited contempt by all level-headed men.

* * *

The interesting controversy between the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Nippon* on the question of Ministerial responsibility in connection with the Liaotung Peninsula continues. As stated in our last weekly summary, no occasion exists to thread the labyrinth of arguments adduced by each side. It will suffice to notice one or two special points interesting to the general public. One is a distinct declaration by the *Nichi Nichi* that it is not an official organ, but a strictly independent journal expressing the opinions held by its own editor. The *Nippon's* taunt of dependence elicits the retort that the *Nippon* itself represents and is supported by Viscount Tani and his faction. That the *Nichi Nichi* is not an official organ has been again and again declared, but the public persistently clings to the opinion that it is. In fact, our contemporary's position, is a little singular. It is no doubt perfectly justified in denying itself to be a Ministerial organ. The denial is borne out by the bold and independent manner in which it sometimes criticises the policy of the Government. But its sympathy is on the whole with the Government, and its position may consequently be pretty correctly decribed as that of an independent supporter of the Cabinet. Another point that may be noticed is the stress laid by the *Nichi Nichi* upon the fact that the Liaotung Peninsula is still Japanese territory. Its return to China is no doubt a logical consequence of the promise made to the three Powers that Japan would not retain permanent possession of the district. But it is not the only consequence; there are other ways in which the problem can be settled with China without violating Japan's pledge. What Japan has promised to renounce is permanent retention of the peninsula. Short of that, she has perfect liberty to make any arrangement she pleases with China. Everything depends upon the way in which this problem is solved. Hence it is too early to discuss the question of Ministerial responsibility in connection with this matter. A third fact clearly brought out by the controversy is that the Opposition journals, though eager to write on the subject in a seditious and sensational manner, studiously avoid looking at it squarely and discussing it rationally and calmly. The *Nippon*, it is true, attempted to do so, though not with very marked success. But then the *Nippon* always poses as a neutral, independent alike of parties and of the Government. None of the regular organs of the Opposition has taken up the gauntlet thrown down by the *Nichi Nichi*, which is thus left undisputed master of the situation.

* * *

A section of the Press urges the Government to be quick in settling the Liaotung question, so that all danger of misunderstanding between Japan and China may be removed once for all. The papers of this class write as though the settlement of the question is delayed because the Government is not certain what course to pursue. That is nonsense, however, for Japan's terms of rendition have already been officially formulated.

* * *

As to the future of China, many Japanese thinkers are inclined to believe that the much talked of awakening of China is a mere chimera. The most prominent advocate of this view is the *Jiji Shimpo*. Alluding to the entire absence of resentment on the part of the Chinese against their conquerors, as reported from various parts of the Middle Kingdom, our contemporary observes that, had the case been reversed, a very different state of affairs would have been noticed. Had the Chinese been victorious, it would be impossible for them to travel in the interior of Japan. This absence of ill-will among the Chinese may be due to one of two reasons. It may arise from an elevated notion of neighbourly hospitality and friendship, or it may be simply owing to lack of patriotism and of all national sentiment. The latter interpretation recommends itself to the *Jiji*, which consequently, believes that the integrity of the Chinese Empire is doomed.

* * *

The *Kokkai* entertains a similar idea about the future of China. It holds that the partition of the Middle Kingdom is only a question of time. For the present, however, our contemporary thinks it the duty as well as the interest of Japan to shape her policy with a view to the preservation of China's independence, at the same time always keeping in mind the fact that the European Powers whose interests are diametrically opposed, as England and Russia, may very easily come to an understanding with each other so soon as the question of partition enters the realm of practical politics. Our contemporary's meaning doubtless is that Japan should seek to defer such a catastrophe, inevitable though it be, as long as she possibly can, and that when it can no longer be averted, she should go in for her share boldly.

* * *

Commenting upon the recent massacre of English Missionaries in the neighbourhood of Foochow, the *Kokumin Shimbun* regrets sincerely that the Japanese armies did not occupy Pekin. Apart from the maintenance of Korean independence, the object of the war was to deal a final blow to the conservatism of China, and to bring her under the influence of modern civilzation. But the latter half of Japan's purpose has not been attained, because the capital of China was not occupied. The continued acts of cruelty committed against foreigners and the application of contemptuous epithets to Japan in official papers, clearly show that not the slightest impression has been made upon Chinese minds. The *Kokumin* declares that it is Japan's mission to lead her benighted neighbour into the full sunshine of civilization, and advises its countrymen to study the methods by which that task should be essayed.

* * *

Marquis Saionji's educational policy, as made known by his speeches and his conversations with journalists, seems to be approved by the larger portion of the educated classes. Stated n a few words, his idea in to reject the narrow and one-sided moral system favoured under the régime of his predecessor, and to bring up the young generation on liberal lines. He attaches great importance to the study of the English language, declaring it to be his purpose to make that study compulsory where it has hitherto been optional, and to make it optional where hitherto it has not been included at all in the curriculum. The *Jiji Shimpo* states that, although there is nothing very remarkable in the views enunciated by the Minister of Education, great significance attaches to the very fact that it has become possible to appoint a man of such liberal ideas to the chair of Education. No such appointment could have been made some years ago, when excessive jingoism and fantastic ideas of nationality were in vogue. In short, our contemporary thinks that the tone of national opinion has greatly changed for the better; men have grown more liberal and come into closer touch with the current of universal civilization.

* * *

Much is written on the subject of the pacification of Formosa. The Government is universally urged to make quick and sharp work of the insurgents, whose barbarous conduct does not entitle them to any show of mercy. The Authorities are recommended to attach no importance to silly statements made about their actions in Formosa by certain obscure and contemptible foreign sheets in the East.

SHOCKING OCCURRENCE IN YOKOHAMA.

A terrible affair occurred upon the Bluff, Yokohama, on Friday afternoon, which has caused a shock to the whole community. About twenty minutes past 4 o'clock a Japanese house-boy in the service of Mr. B. E. Brackenbury, one of the junior staff of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, entered his master's bedroom at No. 156, Bluff—more familiarly known as "The Niche"—and found him extended upon the floor, with a revolver lying near his hand, and a bullet wound in his right temple. The events immediately preceding the finding of Mr. Brackenbury may never accurately be known, but some of the more salient, as ascertained by the servants and friends of the unfortunate gentleman, can be given in print. It appears that Mr. Brackenbury—than whom a pleasanter or more genial companion, both at work and play would be difficult to find—left the Bank, apparently in the best of spirits, shortly after closing hours, and, getting into a *jinrikisha*, rode up to the Bluff. Arriving at his residence, which he shared with four other gentlemen, his servants saw him rush across the lawn, which lies in front, and disappear into his room. They heard the sound of a pistol being discharged but took no notice, it being quite a usual thing for Mr. Brackenbury and his friends to practise with this description of fire-arm. Twenty minutes later a house-boy entered the room, and found Mr. Brackenbury in the position described above. He was conscious and made some request in English, which the Japanese servant scarcely understood. The alarm being raised, the servants at once sent for Mr. Pinckney, one of the Mess, and another messenger went in search of Dr. Wheeler. What medical assistance could be rendered was quickly afforded by Dr. Wheeler, who found that the bullet had penetrated the skull for a distance of over three inches. The condition of the injured man was so serious that Dr. Wheeler telegraphed to Tokyo for Dr. Scriba, and Dr. Todd was also called in. Mr. Brackenbury, we gathered this morning, passed a fairly easy night, being conscious at times.

At 8.30 this morning, Mr. Brackenbury was removed to the English Naval Hospital, where an operation to remove the bullet will take place this a.m. The revolver, which was found in the room, was an American "Automatic" of Messrs. Hopkins and Allen's manufacture, with a calibre of 38. Out of a package of 100 Eley revolver cartridges, two were subsequently found missing, and on examining the revolver one barrel was found to be discharged, while another was loaded. Little hopes are entertained of the unfortunate gentleman's recovery.

A dispatch from Mr. Sasao Shojiro, of Yokohama, who left for Weihaiwei the other day for the purpose of raising the Chinese man-of-war *Lai-yuen*, states that his party arrived there on the 25th ult., and immediately set to work.

Mr. Fujita Shigemichi, chief engineer of the Japan Railway Co., leaves Tokyo on the 18th inst. for Europe and America to inspect railway works there.—*Asahi Shimbun*.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON BOARD THE "EMPRESS OF JAPAN."

On Saturday evening, July 27th, the tugboat *Samson* landed four Chinese at Shanghai, whom she had brought up from the *Empress of Japan*. The men were wrapped up in lint and were in great pain and were immediately taken to the Shanghai General Hospital. From information obtained from various sources, it appears that an explosion of coal gas occurred on board the *Empress* boat, and that the victims were the firemen who were shovelling the coals in one of the bunkers. The accident happened while the vessel was at Amoy, and five men were seriously burnt, the injuries of one being so serious that he subsequently died. The other four men were attended by the doctor on board the vessel and they were sent up to Shanghai and conveyed to the General Hospital where Dr. Paulun attended to them and redressed their wounds. The men were terribly burnt and presented a fearful sight. The men are patient under their sufferings and are doing well.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

WRECK OF THE "MISHIMA MARU."

The *Mishima Maru* encountered the typhoon when off Kagoshima and was swept towards the group of islands called Koshiki-shima off Satsuma Province. She left Nagasaki on Tuesday, the 23rd ult., at 1 p.m. bound for Kagoshima and carried a miscellaneous cargo and 19 passengers in addition to her crew of 17 hands. Ten of the latter were drowned, while all the passengers, with the exception of one, were carried away by the seas which swept her decks, and were lost. Amongst the passengers were the eldest son and nephew of Mr. Irisa, the Chief Superintendent of Police for Nagasaki Prefecture, aged 17 and 20 years respectively, who were on a visit to their native place during the summer vacation of the Bijutsu Gakko, Tokyo. Much sympathy has been expressed with Mr. Irisa in his sudden bereavement. The *Mishima Maru* was a small vessel of about 86 tons and 29 horse-power. She was the property of a small Kagoshima Company and had been running there, to and from Nagasaki, for a considerable time.—*Nagasaki Express.*

THE "AFRIDI."

The new steel screw steamer *Afridi*, built by Sir Raylton Dixon and Co., Middlesbrough, for the China and Japan trade, to the order of the Mogul Steamship Company, of which Messrs. Gellatly, Hankey, Sewell, and Co., of London, are managers, is now on its way to Japan. Her dimensions are:—Length, 372ft.; breadth, 45ft. 6in.; depth, 28ft. 4in. The vessel has a carrying capacity of 5,500 tons dead-weight. Triple-expansion engines have been fitted by the Wallsend Slipway and Engineering Company (Limited), of Newcastle-on-Tyne, with cylinders 27in., 44in., and 72in. in diameter, by 48in. stroke, and working at a pressure of 170lbs., steam being supplied from two single-ended boilers, fitted with Howden's system of forced draught.

DISTURBANCE BY MILITARY COOLIES IN YOKOHAMA.

One thousand military coolies, who are awaiting transport, are at present housed at the Minato and Chitose Theatres in Yokohama. About half-past one o'clock on Wednesday morning three or four of them, while visiting the low houses at Maganecho, picked a quarrel with a few *sendo*, who were also rambling through the district. About fifteen residents of the quarter also took part in the dispute, assisting the *sendo*. One of the coolies returned to the threatre and called for aid, whereupon about five hundred of the men proceeded to Maganecho. Upon the approach of the coolies the *sendo* and their supporters promptly disappeared, hiding themselves in various houses. The angry coolies thereupon divided into small parties of twenty or thirty men each, and attempted to enter the houses wherein the *sendo* were sheltering. In the meantime about two hundred constables from the Isezakicho, Bluff, and Settlement Stations reached the spot, and eventually succeeded in subduing the disturbance. Six persons were injured during the fighting, and some buildings were damaged. Some arrests have been made.

KOBE FLOODED.

On Saturday afternoon the streets of Kobe were converted into rivers, and old residents say that the Concession, particularly the upper part of the Settlement, has not been flooded to a like extent for many years. As a result of a phenomenally heavy rainstorm which took place in the afternoon, water rushed up the man-holes of the Paper Mill drain about half-past three, and shortly afterwards the open drain at Uramachi was over-flowing and water running in great volume down to the Concession. The native shops in Uramachi were inundated, and men, women, and children were vainly exerting themselves to stem the torrent. In the vicinity of the Ikuta temple it was nearly as bad. The depth of the water in some of the streets of the Concession was fully four inches, while at the sides of the streets it was very much more, being augmented from the side streets, where the depth of the water seemed to be greater than in the main thoroughfares.—*Chronicle.*

A NEW P. AND O. STEAMER.

On June 25th Messrs. Stephen launched at Linthouse, on the Clyde, the new steamer *Sumatra*, built to the order of the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company. The dimensions of the vessel are—400 feet by 46 feet 6 inches by 31 feet, with long bridge, poop, and forecastle. Gross tonnage about 4,650 tons and a dead-weight carrying capacity of about 5,900 tons. She has been built to class 100 A 1 at Lloyds, under the three-deck rule, but is in many respects strengthened in excess of their requirements, and complies with the Admiralty regulations for transport service. There are seven water-tight bulkheads, all extending to the upper deck and provided with watertight doors, so that a clear passage can be had fore and aft in the upper 'tween decks. Water ballast is provided for in double bottom throughout. The fore and after peaks can be used for carrying fresh water when desired. The weather decks are sheathed with teak. The holds and bunkers are amply ventilated by a combination of Utley's and ordinary ventilators. The most ample provision is made for working cargo by steam winches and cranes. The boats are fitted with Angove's patent disengaging gear. There is accommodation for over 50 first class and 25 second class passengers. The first class passengers are located in large and airy state rooms under the bridge deck, with dining saloon at the fore end. The music-room and smoking-room are placed on the bridge deck and are entered direct from that deck. The saloon, music-room, and smoking-room are beautifully decorated apartments. The second class passengers are berthed under the poop deck in large and well ventilated state rooms, with suitable dining accommodation. The engines have cylinders 28 inches, 46 inches, and 77 inches diameter by 54 inches stroke. The boilers are large, fitted with Howden's forced draft, and work at 160 lbs. pressure.

AN AUSTRIAN MAN-OF-WAR.

The Austrian man-of-war *Aurora*, Captain C. Pott, arrived at Hongkong on July 30th. The *Aurora* is a single screw unarmoured vessel with a composite hull, which was launched in 1873. Her dimensions are, length 190 feet 6 in, beam 32 feet 10 in., and draught 16 feet 1 in., with a displacement of 1,370 tons. She has engines of 1,000 h.p. with a speed of 11 knots an hour. Her crew numbers 194, with 32 officers and staff. Her armament consists of two 12-c.m. Wahrendorf guns, five light guns, and two machine guns.

SAD DEATH OF A NAVAL LIEUTENANT.

Lieutenant Ommaney, of H.M.S. *Victor Emanuel*, was found drowned off Tsat-se-mui, between Bay View and Quarry Bay, Hongkong, on the morning of July 25th. The body was fully dressed, in plain clothes, with shoes, and was lying on the beach at the water's edge. It was seen about ten o'clock by a Chinaman, who gave information to the Wanchai police. An inquest will be held. The deceased had been in the navy eighteen years and arrived in Hongkong only as recently as the end of last January. Since his arrival here he has not been in good health. It was only last Sunday that his wife, who came with him to the colony, died, but her husband was too ill to attend her funeral. It is feared that this recent trouble preyed upon his mind to such an extent that he decided to destroy his own life.

MISS GRACE HAWTHORNE'S BENEFIT PERFORMANCE.

The production of Victorien Sardou's spectacular play "Theodora," upon the limited stage of the Public Hall and with the scanty anxiliaries available in this place, was indeed an ambitious undertaking, and—we regret to say it—proved anything but a success. The handicap was too great even for the indomitable Miss Grace Hawthorne to surmount, and everyone was really glad when the tragedy reached its close. Mr. Hoggan-Armadale had to double some of the parts, *Justinian* and *Marcellus*, and neither was particularly happy, Mr. Montgomery as the young Greek *Andreas* played up well to *Theodora* (Miss Grace Hawthorne), but the bathos of the mock heroics was too apparent, and instead of being on the verge of tears, the audience were feign to hide their feelings, in blank looks of amazement at some of the unpremeditated situations. With a wider field the play would undoubtedly have succeeded, for the principals played most conscientiously throughout. To the regret of many, Signorina Belinfante was too unwell to appear, and the songs put down on the programme were omitted.

NEWCHWANG.

Messrs. Bandinel & Co., writing on July 25th, say:—Our last report dated the 12th of June. The Japanese Customs are more in touch with the local merchants, and business is consequently improving. The recent rains and north wind have brought down large quantities of beans, and stopped the advance in prices. Quotations are:—Beancakes per 10 pieces, Taels 4.75; stock 60,000 pieces. Bean oil per 10 piculs, Taels 3.65; stock 15,000 piculs. Beans per 3 piculs, Taels 3.40; stock 200,000 piculs. Accounts of the growing crops are favourable, and we hope to see a good fall and spring business. Arrivals to date are 21 steamers and 3 sailing vessels, against 200 steamers and 25 sailing vessels last year. Vessels in port *Tainan*, *Kweilin*, *Keiyang*, *Whampoa*, *Peiyang*, *Cassius*, *Siegmund*, and *Elisabeth*.

DR. KITAZATO.

The *Kokkai* states that a new Cholera Hospital is in course of construction at Hirowo, Azabu, Tokyo, and that it will be placed under the charge of Dr. Kitazato, who proposes to treat patients according to a new method upon which he has been experimenting since the outbreak of the present epidemic. No particulars of the treatment are given, but it seems to be on the same principle as that elaborated by Dr. Kitazato in concert with his master, Dr. Koch, in the case of phthisis.

THE O. R. AND N. CO.

The O. R. & N. Co. has decided, says an American shipping exchange, to have its China steamers stop at Honolulu on the outward voyage. The first steamer which will touch at the islands will be the *Asloun*. This vessel was due in Victoria on the 20th July and will leave on her return trip on August 1st for Japan and China *vid* Honolulu.

NAVAL NOTES.

H.M.S. *Linnet* went out on July 25 for gunnery and general exercises in the vicinity of Hongkong, making Tytam Bay her head-quarters for a few days. The *Leander* is expected there next week, *en route* for England to pay off. The *Victor's* relief, the old troopship *Tamar*, is expected to arrive at Hongkong about the 3rd

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

or 4th August. She will call at Penang and then come on to Hongkong, avoiding Singapore on account of the epidemic of cholera at that port. The *Esk*, at present on the Yangtze, is coming to Hongkong to pay off, her new crew arriving by the *Tamar*.

COMMANDER BEARCROFT.

A PRIVATE wire announces that Commander J. E. Bearcroft, now in command of H.M.S. *Linnet*, has been promoted to the rank of Captain, among the Queen's Birthday honours. This officer has seen a great deal of foreign service, and was specially promoted to the rank of Commander for admirable seamanship in the West Indies, where he had to handle his vessel (the *Contest*, we believe) under sail and beat off a lee shore. He also did good work last year at Tientsin. This well-earned promotion, says the *China Mail*, will be heartily welcomed all over the East.

WEATHER AT HONGKONG.

SAYS the *China Mail* of July 29 :—During the whole of Sunday Hongkong harbour was swept clean by violent winds, not quite of typhoon force. Almost all of the steamers in port had to go away for shelter, and the service of ferry launches was suspended. In the afternoon the wind went down slightly, and the rain came down not slightly but by tons. With a final burst in the small hours of this morning, the typhoon left the neighbourhood, bound west. No damage is reported. Over 6 inches of rain fell within a few hours.

BRITISH SHIPPING.

ACCORDING to the annual statement of the Navigation and Shipping of the United Kingdom for last year, 388,847 vessels, of 94,387,371 tons, entered, and 354,891 vessels, of 88,497,509 tons, cleared, against 380,238 vessels, of 88,964,468 tons, and 346,175 vessels, of 83,216,391 tons, in 1893, and 376,597 vessels, of 87,087,970 tons, and 343,510 vessels, of 81,876 330 tons in 1892.

THE NEW TREATY BETWEEN JAPAN AND ITALY.

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that a telegram received by the Foreign Department from Mr. Takahira, Japanese Minister, says that the King of Italy has ratified the new Commercial Treaty between Japan and Italy, which was lately passed by the Chambers and the Senate, and the ratifications were exchanged between the commissioners of both countries on the 4th inst. at Rome.

TRANSPORT NOTES.

THE *Ninsen Maru* left here on Thursday with over 190 of the Imperial Guards and several horses for Formosa, while the *Niigata Maru* arrived here with over 400 invalided soldiers. The *Tosa Maru* arrived in port on Friday, but put back into quarantine immediately. It is supposed that she has sickness on board.

THE MURDERED MISSIONARIES.

THE *Kobe Chronicle*, prints a special telegram, received from Nagasaki at 3.50 p.m. on August 6th, which says :—The American Admiral here has received confirmation of the report concerning the murder of missionaries at Foochow. It appears from the information reaching him that nine British missionaries were killed and one American missionary wounded.

RESCUED FISHERMEN.

FIVE fishermen were found floating by the steamship *Coptic* while passing Kagoshima on the 25th ult., and brought to Nagasaki. They were kindly treated by the Captain, who gave them food and clothes besides 10 *yen*. They were the only survivors out of 29, who went out fishing on the 24th.

H.M.S. "TAMAR."

THE engines and boilers are to remain in H.M.S. *Tamar* pending instructions from the Admiralty, and before taking up the post of receiving ship in Hongkong in place of the *Victor Emanuel* she will go north to take a number of reliefs for the Squadron and bring back the time expired men.

THE U.S. SQUADRON.

THE U.S.S. *Olympia* is under orders to leave San Francisco by the middle of August to relieve the *Baltimore*. The *Baltimore's* return will be followed by her assignment to the Pacific station as relief of the *Philadelphia* as flagship. The latter vessel is now undergoing repairs at Mare Island.

THE FORMOSA GOVERNMENT.

As it was originally believed that the pacification of Formosa would be accomplished without much trouble, Count Kabayama's staff was organized exclusively on a civil basis. Circumstances having now made it necessary to undertake the work of subjugation on a large scale, the organization of the Formosa Government has been changed into a military one. The Governor-General, as hitherto, assumes the command of the Imperial forces in the island. The Administration is divided into four general divisions; namely, the Governor-General's Office, the Military Bureau, the Naval Bureau, and the Civil Bureau. The Governor-General's Office comprises two sub-divisions; the Staff Department and the Aides-de-Camp Department. The Military Bureau is sub-divided into the Director's Office, the Artillery Department, the Engineering Department, the Gendarmery Department, the Paymasters Department, the Cash Department, the Provisions Department, the Medical Department, the Judicial Department, the Telegraph Department, and the Post Department. The chief staff officer will be either a Lieut.-General or a Major-General, and the Directors of the different Bureaus will be of similar rank. The names of the officers chosen for these positions have not been made public.

It is understood that the remainder of the Second Division in the Liaotung Peninsula is on its way to Formosa. Rumour further says that about 7,000 of the First Division will be despatched thither before long.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

A Committee for the exchange of prisoners taken in the recent war was appointed on the instant. The Committee consists of fifteen officers, with Lieut.-Colonel Murayama at its head, and includes two army surgeons and one paymaster. These officers are to be assisted in their duties by a body of non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, at the rate of two of each for every 100 of the Chinese prisoners. The prisoners now in charge of the First (Tokyo) Division will be shipped at Yokohama on the 10th instant; those under the Third Division at Taketoyo; those under the Fourth Division at Kobe; and those under the Fifth Division at Mitsugahama. The exchange will take place at Taku on the 20th instant. All communications addressed by the Japanese Government to the Pekin Authorities with reference to the number and names of the prisoners held by China, have failed to elicit any definite answer, but it is believed that the number will be about fifty, mostly consisting of military coolies. Lieut.-Colonel Murayama and Paymaster Hirayama left Tokyo for Kobe by the night train on the 8th instant.

THE STRANDED VESSELS AT KUCHINOTSU.

The *Nagasaki Express* says that during the recent typhoon no less than five foreign vessels, four steamers and one sailing vessel, were driven ashore at Kuchinotsu. Owing to the breaks in the telegraph wires it was not until some time afterwards that the news reached Nagasaki, where, luckily, no accidents worthy of mention were reported amongst the shipping. The five vessels ashore are the Norwegian steamers *Lyderhorn* and *Wedel Jarlsberg*, the British steamer *Bentala*, the British ship *Marèchal Suchet*, and the German steamer *Helene Rickmers*. The last two are the only vessels that have apparently sustained any serious damage, the three first mentioned, the *Lyderhorn*, *Jarlsberg*, and *Bentala* having grounded on a muddy bottom with a gradual incline. The first two of these vessels had each a half-cargo of coal on board, while the latter was in ballast. Neither of the three are reported to be making any water.

The sailing ship *Marèchal Suchet*, however, fared less fortunately. She touched on the rocks under the lighthouse, and then dragged on to the mud, sustaining some damage and making three inches of water in four hours in her hold. As she has 3,000 tons of of coal on board, the Captain could not ascertain the precise nature of the leak. She is under charter for San Francisco but will have to be docked before she can sail, and a survey is an absolute necessity.

The German steamer *Helene Rickmers* got ashore about 7 miles west of Kuchinotsu, at a little village called Katsusa. She went broadside-on on a shingle beach or bar which runs across the mouth of a small river. Like the *Marèchal Suchet*, she struck the rocks under the lighthouse before coming ashore. In the No. 1 hold, she had about 3 feet of water and about 3½ feet everywhere else, according to soundings taken on Saturday. Under her engines, the bottom is bulged in and leaks considerably. The *Helene Rickmers* eventually floated off and was safely taken into Nagasaki.

REWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE WAR.

The following honours were bestowed at Court yesterday at 11 a.m., by His Majesty the Emperor :—

PRINCE AKIHITO, Field Marshal and Chief of the General Staff—Decorated with the Collar of the Order of the Chrysanthemum, and with the Second Class of the Order of the Golden Kite.

ITO HIROBUMI, Count, Minister President of State—Decorated with the Grand Order of Merit and the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Chrysanthemum, and promoted to the rank of Marquis, in consideration of meritorious services.

YAMAGATA ARITOMO, Count, Field Marshal, Inspector of the Army.—Decorated with the Second Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Marquis.

SAIGO TSUKUMICHI, Count, Admiral, Minister of State for the Navy—Same as above.

OYAMA IWAO, Count, Field Marshal, Minister of State for War—Same as above.

NOZU MICHITSURA, Viscount, Field Marshal—Decorated with the Second Class of the Golden Kite and the Grand Cordon of the Order of Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Count, in consideration of meritorious services.

KABAYAMA SUKENORI, Viscount, Admiral, Governor-General of Formosa—Decorated with the Second Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Count, in consideration of meritorious services.

KAWAKAMI SOROKU, Lieutenant-General, Vice-President of the General Staff—Decorated with the Second Class of the Order of the Golden Kite, the First Class and Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun, and raised to the Peerage with the rank of Viscount, in consideration of meritorious services.

ITO SUKEYUKI, Vice-Admiral, Chief of the Command Office of the Navy—Same as above.

Cholera having broken out on board the flagship *Matsushima Kan*, while at Kelung, she returned to the Megami Quarantine Station, Nagasaki, on the 31st ult., for disinfection. The *Naniwa Kan* has been made temporary flagship. Four cases occurred on the *Matsushima*, of which one ended fatally, and three patients were removed to the epidemic hospital at Megami. The ship and crew are being disinfected.

FORMOSA NEWS.

The last batch of Japanese correspondence from Formosa (up to the 17th ultimo) contains little news of any general advance to the south, being chiefly concerned with the guerilla warfare in the vicinity of Taipeh, Tako-ham, and Shin-chuh. Among numerous stories of gallant deeds on the part of Japanese troops, particularly noteworthy is the conduct of a little party of thirty-five, that convoyed a flotilla of provision boats up the Tako-ham. The flotilla consisted of 18 Chinese river boats, carrying 185 *hyo* of rice and a quantity of preserved plums. It left Taipeh on the evening of the 11th ultimo, and reached Sanchne-yung the following evening. At that place a portion of the provisions were landed, and early on the morning of the 12th, the boats resumed the tedious voyage up the river to Tako-ham. After going a little over 1,000 metres, the flotilla was moored in a shallow part of the river, and the party prepared to breakfast. The Japanese soldiers left the boats and entered the stream —some in their clothes and boots and others after having removed a part of these garments—to wash their faces and hands preparatory to the meal. While they were thus engaged, a party of fifteen or sixteen natives assembled on the right bank of the river. Their appearance does not seem to have occasioned any alarm at first, for they carried no weapons and their demeanour presented nothing suspicious. But presently one of them raised a peculiar cry, which was the signal for an instantaneous shower of bullets. The Japanese were taken completely by surprise. But they did not give way to any panic. Rapidly taking up their arms and forming themselves into a line, they replied to the enemy's fire. Another party of insurgents having appeared on an eminence on the left bank of the river, the Japanese divided into two bands, one under Sergeant Sakurai crossing to the left bank, and the other, under Corporal Ebashi, remaining on the right bank to check the advance of the enemy from that direction. The insurgents on the hill on the left bank increased in a few minutes to about 500 or 600; and the situation being critical, Sergeant Sakurai ordered Corporal Ebashi to join him. Collecting the whole party on the left bank, Sergeant Sakurai cheered his men, saying that, "so long as his eyes remained black," he would never allow the rascals to touch a grain of the provisions under his charge. He also told the soldiers, that they must that day place their lives at his disposal. The determined band of thirty-five fought desperately and held the body of several hundred Chinese at bay for four hours. By this time their number was reduced to twenty-four, among the fallen being their brave leader Sergeant Sakurai, who was killed by a bullet that struck him in the breast. Being completely surrounded by a steadily narrowing ring of insurgents, they resolved to charge the thinnest point of the circle. The onset proved successful, but when the line had been cut through, the Japanese found their number diminished to fourteen or fifteen. Then perceiving another line of the enemy in front at a distance of 50 or 60 metres, the little band closed up their ranks for another charge. One of them, Corporal Oi, had received a fatal wound in the first charge, but wresting a pennon from the enemy, he bound it round his hurt and prepared to join in the second onset. His pluck, however, proved greater than his strength. After a few paces he dropped in his tracks, and crying out, "Comrades, pardon me for going before you" (*hokuu, osaki ni gomen wo komuru*), "Hurrah for Japan" ("*Teikoku banzai*"), he took a bayonet and thrust it into his throat. All this was the work of a moment. The second charge was as successful and as costly as the first. When the little party made their way through the insurgents' line and came out upon a plain, their number had been reduced to nine, Corporal Ebashi and eight privates. The enemy being some distance in the rear, they sat down to consider their future course of action. Corporal Ebashi took cigarettes out of his pocket, and sharing them with his men, they all smoked and rested. Then the corporal ordered four privates, who alone had escaped unwounded, to carry the news of the fate of the party to head-quarters. As for the other five, who like himself were all severely wounded, he proposed that they should die by their, own hands rather than be taken prisoners by the enemy. The proposal having been unanimously approved, was carried out in the first place by two of the most severely wounded, who, drawing their bayonets, plunged them into each other's breasts, a mode of ending life very common among Japanese *samurai* under similar circumstances in former days. Another pair immediately followed this example. Last of all, Corporal Ebashi, evidently pleased with the heroic manner in which his men had died, calmly committed *harakiri*. The surviving four men who, not without deep emotion, had silently watched these operations, took leave of their dead comrades, and hastily ran in the direction of a grove at some distance, for the insurgents were again coming in sight. After passing through the grove, they came out upon the bank of a swamp. One of the men, Tanaka, remembered a story told by some friends that had escaped pursuit during the Satsuma Rebellion by concealing themselves among the reeds of a pond. He, therefore, proposed to hide in the swamp until evening. But the rest, thinking the plan dangerous, fled in the direction of the hills. Tanaka, thus left alone, concealed himself as best he could, remaining in the swamp until about 8 in the evening. While he was there, the inhabitants of an adjacent village frequently came to wash rice, and on each of these occasions, he was compelled to submerge himself entirely in the water, keeping only his mouth and nostrils above the surface At about 8 in the evening, it began to thunder and rain heavily. Retracing his steps, Tanaka went over the scene of the day's fighting, and emerged at the river where the boats were moored. He observed that six of the boats were still there and that the villages in the neighbourhood were blazing with camp fires. By this time the storm had passed, and the moon was shining bright and serene. It was, necessary, of course, to avoid the banks. Tanaka accordingly entered the water and walked down with the current. Shooting an insurgent on the way, he proceeded slowly in this fashion the whole night, until at break of day he heard, to his infinite relief, the sound of horses neighing in a Japanese camp, which he soon reached and made the above report to the Colonel in command of the Regiment stationed there. The other three soldiers are believed to have safely reached the Commissariat station at Tantseyuen, but at the date of the letter from which this story is quoted, no definite news had been obtained about their fate.

A squadron of cavalry, 22 strong, left Taipeh on the 15th ultimo on a scouting expedition, their route being along the Tamsui river toward the hills. Some miles beyond the walled town of Pankuitan, the party saw a few natives on the top of a hill. Two privates rode up to them to ascertain whether they were not armed insurgents. They were not armed; moreover there were a number of women with them, and they showed by various signs that they were peaceful villagers. Seeing nothing suspicious about them, the Japanese troopers advanced still farther into the hills, when at a precipitous mountain pass, they were suddenly attacked by insurgents who seemed to be swarming in the hills. Taken completely by surprise in an extremely disadvantageous position, only three or four managed to gallop away. They were pursued along the road by screaming bands of villagers, including some women, all variously armed with rifles, spears, and swords.

Other attacks upon provision trains and scouting parties not very far from Taipeh itself are recorded, but need not be reproduced here. These constantly recurring acts of violence on the part of the semi-civilized tribes and the regular insurgents quartered among them, seem to have led to the drastic measures recently taken by the Japanese troops to clear the locality between Taipeh and Shinchuh of all insurgents by burning their hiding places, the villages among the hills (*vide Japan Mail*, July 30th).

Kelung and its neighbourhood are quiet, and the inhabitants are said to be well affected towards their new rulers. The management of public affairs is left, for the most part, in the hands of native officials elected by the people and confirmed by the Governor at Kelung, Mr. Furusho Yoshikado. The people praise the impartial and liberal manner in which they are treated by their new masters. It is also stated that investigations are being made by the Japanese officials with a view to the improvement of the harbour of Kelung.

On the 22nd of July very sensational telegrams reached Shanghai from Amoy. They announced fierce fighting between the Japanese and the Hakkas; represented the latter as having decoyed 800 of the former into an ambush and killed 600 of them; asserted that the insurgents were advancing in great force on the Japanese intrenchments at Teckcham (Sinchuh), and added that the Chinese inhabitants of Tamsui, losing confidence in the ability of the Japanese to protect them, were leaving the place in large numbers. It is, of course, easy to trace the origin of these rumours. They are evidently a magnified version of the annihilation of two Japanese detachments, one consisting of 35 infantry soldiers, the other of 22 troopers, and of the movements leading up to the unsuccessful attempt made by the insurgents to recapture Teckcham on the 25th of July. The Amoy telegrams purport to give accounts of events up to the 18th of July, but, as our readers know, we are in receipt of telegrams from Taipeh up to the 27th of that month, and can therefore state with tolerable certainty what actually occurred in Formosa. In the first place, it is plain that the Japanese commanders over-rated the result of early victories and imagined that the strength of the insurgents had been completely broken in the district between Taipeh, Tamsui, and Teckcham. Thus we find them despatching a flotilla of commissariat boats, on the 11th of July, up the Tako-ham river, accompanied by an escort of only 35 men, and four days later a scouting party of 22 troopers left Taipeh to reconnoitre along the Tamsui river toward the hills. Both of these parties were destroyed by the Chinese, four only of the provision escort and three of the cavalry squadron managing to escape. These events supplemented by attacks made upon commissariat stations, seem to have opened the eyes of the Japanese commanders to the necessity of adopting more drastic measures, and on the 22nd of July three bodies of troops were sent out to restore order in the disturbed districts. These operations lasted until the 24th, by which time 500 of the insurgents had been killed and the remainder driven to the mountains. It is, therefore, quite plain that the Amoy telegrams are a greatly distorted version of the facts, and that, although the failure of the Japanese to employ drastic measures has had the effect of deferring the restoration of tranquillity, the situation in the north of the island is very different from that reported in Amoy on the 22nd of July.

It would seem that the Black Flag Commander, Liu, has moved up from Tainan, as was conjectured some time ago, and is about to risk a general engagement against the Japanese in the vicinity of Teckcham. A telegram from Hiroshima, dated 6.40 p.m. on the 3rd instant, and published by the *Kokkai*, says that a great battle is expected to take place shortly between Liu and the Guards near Teckcham. This intelligence, not being official, can not be accepted without reserve. But there is certainly reason to suppose that the insurgents are assembled in considerable force to the south of Teckcham, since 1,600 of them made an abortive attempt to recover that town on the 25th of July.

In the Amoy telegrams referred to above the following paragraphs are found:—

It now turns out that a large body of Hakkas and Black Flags, who had been giving the Japanese a good deal of trouble, inveigled 800 of the latter into an ambush and then attacked them, causing them to retreat after a des-

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perate engagement in which several hundreds were killed on both sides; the Japanese lost about 600. The insurgents followed up the Japanese, and, encouraged by their success, fought desperately, ultimately dislodging them from Tokoham and driving them northwards and westwards.

As soon as the Japanese Commander saw he had been deceived by the insurgents, and that his men were being rapidly slaughtered, he gave orders that no mercy should be shown to the enemy.

It is reported that as they retreated, the Japanese destroyed every house they chanced to pass, and killed every man, woman, and child they either got hold of or could get a shot at!

If these statements be carefully considered, it will be seen that 600 Japanese, out of a battalion of 800, having been killed by the Hakkas and Black Flags, the remaining 200 in their retreat "destroyed every house they passed and killed every man, woman, and child they could either got hold of or get a shot at." It will further be seen that the Japanese commander, finding that his men were being rapidly slaughtered, gave orders that no mercy should be shown to the enemy." It is a new experience in warfare to learn that a defeated general orders his troops to show no mercy to their victors, and that 200 men retreating from a fight in which 600 of their comrades fell, have leisure and strength to devastate the country and slaughter the inhabitants. As to the killing of women and children, it is mentioned only as a report, and since the engagement and ambuscade of which these atrocities are said to have been the result, never took place at all, we can not believe the charge brought against the Japanese until further evidence is forthcoming.

The latest letters from Formosa just published in Tokyo are dated the 26th ult. They, however, contain no particulars of the operations then going on among the hilly districts to the south-east of the railway line between Taipeh and Shinchuh. But a letter dated at Taipeh on the 22nd of July, and published in the *Jiji Shimpo*, contains some particulars about the plan of action, and we find therein confirmation of our previous statement that these operations were undertaken for the purpose of effectually quelling the insurgents in the localities above indicated, who had been making repeated attacks upon scouting parties and commissariat trains. This measure was necessary in order to secure the safety of the line of communications with Taipeh for the purposes of a general southward advance of the Imperial Guards, preparations for which were then in vigorous progress. The troops charged with the task of driving the insurgents out of these localities were to proceed to a common centre from three different directions, the starting points being Takoham, Haishan-kau, and Taipeh, and then to trace their steps over the same ground once more so as to complete the work of clearing out the villages. That these operations were successfully carried out, has already been announced by telegrams reproduced in these columns on the 30th ultimo.

The *Nippon's* correspondent, who accompanied the Yamane detachment in these operations, writes from Sanchue-yung, under date of the 24th ultimo. His accounts are very meagre, but he bears full testimony to the stubborn courage displayed by the insurgents, who, on several occasions, bravely held their breach works when charged by the Japanese, so that the latter were obliged to resort to cold steel. The villages where these insurgents were posted had to be burned down, and every one offering resistance was shot. At Sanchue-yung, the correspondent, found various proclamations in the name of the Commissioners sent by the rebel officer in command at Taiwanfu. The ignorant villagers were exhorted in these documents to resist the Japanese by every means, and were most solemnly assured that the cause of the independence of Formosa would certainly win the day, certain friendly Powers having promised to give assistance. It was farther stated that a large army was on its way to recover the north of the island from the *wojen*. Following the example set in Manchuria, the Chinese officers offered a reward of 50 taels for a Japanese head. In one of the proclamations, it was stated that, according to a telegram from the Viceroy of Kiang-si and Kiang-su, Russia had recognized the independence of Formosa.

The Tamsui correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, writing under date of the 17th ult., says:—

The Japanese forces advancing on Taiwanfoo were attacked a few days ago in great force near Tokoham by Hakkas, thousands of whom suddenly surrounded the Japanese and gave them a sound thrashing. Great numbers were, of course, killed on both sides, the Japanese loss in killed and wounded being variously estimated at between two and three hundred.

It is well known that ere the Japanese arrived here to "pacify" the island, the Hakkas had been well armed by the retiring Chinese officials with Mauser and Winchester rifles and vast quantities of ammunition, and it seems that they have now acquired fair knowledge of the use of these weapons. This in itself is a serious matter for the Japanese, but when we add to this the Hakka's thorough knowledge of the mountainous country and the fact that they are hardly hill-men, accustomed to guerilla warfare, and number about 10,000 fighting men, it is not difficult to conceive that the Japanese will, if they wish to avoid years of serious trouble, have either to flood the country with troops or else make up their minds to carry on guerilla warfare here for the next half-dozen years, just as we did in Burma owing to the slipshod methods of the Indian military department.

Owing to the Tokoham disaster the expedition which was to be despatched to South Formosa on the 18th instant has been postponed *sine die*, and a Council of War is now sitting in the capital to decide on the next move, which will probably be to hold the positions now occupied until strong reinforcements arrive from Hiroshima or Port Arthur, and then advance steadily on Taiwanfoo, laying waste the whole country *en route* and killing every man who offers resistance. That is what I gather is likely to be the policy pursued from now on, and it seems fairly reasonable, for there can be little doubt that the Japanese have hitherto been too lenient with the insurgents whom they have treated with just as much consideration as would be due to Europeans. That is just where they've made one great blunder, for it is impossible to deal, under the circumstances, with an uncivilised enemy in the same way as you would with a civilized foe. Another mistake made has been the failure of the Japanese to "put the fear of God" in the hearts of the Hakkas, Black Flags, and savages from the very beginning of the "occupation." Had overwhelming forces been rushed into the country from the north and the south simultaneously there cannot be a shadow of doubt that all opposition would have been crushed and the whole country well under civilised rule long ago. Instead of this being so, the very reverse is the case and goodness knows where it will all end. It means loss to Europeans, loss of valuable lives, much money and loss of no little prestige to the Japanese, and doubtless causes no small amount of amusementto Japan's worst enemies—Russia and France. Of course the Japanese have by this time seen the error of their ways. They have sent for 20,000 men and are resorting to strong measures in the interior. Villages found to harbour insurgents are burnt, and the villagers now find that the little white flag hung up over their houses no longer acts as a charm, for it is now only too well known that the white flag has been used to cover, if not a multitude of sins, at least scores and hundreds of the enemy.

It is possible that the insurgents, that is the Hakkas and savages, are not so much to blame as at first sight it might be supposed. They don't grasp the situation. The retiring Chinese officials spread false reports thoughout the length and breadth of the land, and made the country folk understand that the Japanese were mere pirates and rebels and that the people would only have themselves to blame if, with the aid of the Black Flags, they had their homes and means of earning a livelihood taken from them by the hated and well-despised "*wojens*." Consequently, as the Japanese have failed to send suitable interpreters among the Hakkas to explain the true state of affairs to them, the hill-men assert that they are fully justified in fighting for their homes, and that they prefer to die on the field of battle than allow their little all and their wives and families to fall into the hands of what they have been taught to regard as "ruthless, ferocious, despotic, and cruel invaders."

Fighting is going on daily, and on the 16th the sound of firing could be distinctly heard at Tuatutia, and at night the glare of burning villages to the south was seen from the deck of my boat as I was proceeding down river to Tamsui. No doubt lots of innocent people are now suffering owing to the "change of front" adopted by the Japanese, but that is inevitable.

Blood-curdling reports of atrocities, perpetrated by the Japanese, are circulating very freely in every direction, and it is even alleged that the troops have been guilty of revolting and brutal excesses of the most atrocious and savage description. Doubtless the true state of affairs is a good deal exaggerated, *à la Chinoise*, but it is conceivable that it is serious enough. At all events these alarming reports, added to the news that the Black Flags and large bodies of Hakkas are making steady headway towards the capital and that the insurgents are, in fact, within a few days' march of Tuatutia has caused a great panic amongst the Chinese settlers who are fleeing to the mainland as fast as they can get steamers and junks to carry them. Each steamer leaving here for the mainland has her full complement of passengers and some big Chinese are doing a roaring trade in carrying the refugees over to Amoy and Swatow. Hundreds have already cleared out and hundreds more—men, women, and children—are awaiting an opportunity to cross the channel.

For some weeks the Japanese have employed a flotilla of river boats carrying stores and ammunition between the capital and Tokoham, about forty or fifty men being employed in looking after the boats and their loads. The other night these boats were attacked about half way to Tokoham, every man of the guard was killed and the boats taken heaven only knows where.

The Japanese are very reticent about their defeats and never admit losing more than a dozen or so in a brisk skirmish, but there is no question about the Tokoham disaster and the subsequent burning of the whole city by the Japanese, who are reported to have killed every man, woman and child they came across in their retreat towards Teckcham and Taipehfu.

Mr. Thomson, of Tuatutia, reports that he was shot at near Tokoham by Japanese and that one of their bullets went clean through his pith helmet. He had been to Tokoham to "look see" and was returning by boat when the alleged outrage was committed.

The lights on north Formosa coast are now lighted as usual.

On the 16th the *Sumidagawa Maru* entered the Tamsui river. She is the first Japanese merchant vessel that has arrived in this port. Her tonnage net is about 600. She is discharging a cargo of Government stores.

We cannot doubt that the latter account is correct, since it is confirmed by official reports, which show that the insurgents were completely cleared out of the districts between Taipeh, Tuatutia, and Teckcham, on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th of July, and that the Japanese were in possession of Teckcham on the 25th, when a body of 1,600 insurgents attacked the place and were repulsed with heavy loss. The Hongkong journal's account does not profess to be founded on anything more substantial than Chinese rumours; indeed we find it distinctly stated there that the Japanese admit no such defeat as that spoken of—a defeat, for the rest, entirely inconsistent with subsequent operations, as officially reported. With regard to the atrocities attributed to the Japanese, it will be observed that they, too, are explicitly referred to Chinese sources of intelligence, and are consequently unworthy of credence until independently confirmed. On this point judgment must be reserved.

Particulars of the operations recently undertaken by the Imperial Guards to put a final stop to the trouble caused by the Hakka tribes inhabiting the hilly country between Shinchuh and Taipeh, have just arrived in Tokyo. As already stated, the troops marched from three directions. The largest force, nearly 2,000 strong, under Major-General Yamane, advanced from Takoham; the second, about 1,000 strong, under Colonel Naito, from Haishankan; and the third, about 600 from Taipeh. The common objective point was Sanchue-yung, where it was believed that the tribesmen were assembled in large force. The march was commenced by the three attacking columns simultaneously on the 22nd. It will not be necessary to follow the movements of each. We shall attach ourselves to the Yamane corps, as its operations give a pretty clear idea of the general nature of the campaign.

The main column of the corps consisted of two battalions of foot, a company of artillery, a company of engineers, and a medical staff. The left flank was covered by a company of foot, a squadron of horse, a section of artillery, and half a squadron of engineers, under the com-

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mand of Captain Hayashi. Another small detachment, consisting of a company of foot, under Captain Tada, was detailed to maintain communication between Captain Hayashi's force and the Commissariat Station of Tongtseyuen. Another company of infantry was left at Takoham as a guard, and yet another company was posted between that place and Tiongleck to preserve communications.

The principal column, under the personal command of Major-General Yamane, left Takoham early on the morning of the 22nd. When the head of the column came within a distance of about 5 miles south-west of Sauchue-yung, it was fired at by a body of 500 or 600 tribesmen posted on an eminence directly in front. They were armed with guns, spears, and swords, and made a stout resistance, but were dislodged from their position with a loss of from thirty to forty, while the casualties on the side of the Japanese were three wounded. Every house in the vicinity which showed the least trace of having harboured insurgents was burnt down. That night the column encamped in sight of the enemy about 3,500 metres south-west of Sanchue-yung.

On the morning of the 23rd, the attack was re-commenced. The enemy assuming positions on the precipitous sides of the mountains, resisted with considerable skill and daring. But artillery fire, combined with determined charges by the Guards, were too much for the Hakkas. They fled over the mountains at about half-past nine: their loss in killed and wounded being 40, while the Japanese had 2 killed and 22 wounded.

The small detachment under Captain Hayashi, which had advanced along the left bank of the Takoham to cover the left flank of the main column, came into direct communication with the latter at 11 a.m. on the 23rd.

On the afternoon of the 23rd, all the columns assembled in the vicinity of Sanchue-yung, exactly as had been previously arranged.

On the 24th, after having completed a thorough search for tribesmen hiding in the vicinity of Sanchue-yung, the Yamane column returned to Takoham, as did the other columns to their respective starting points.

Among the incidents of this desultory fighting, it is mentioned that young women very often acted as scouts. At first the Japanese soldiers did not take any notice of these women, but it is stated that their conduct finally left no doubt as to the nature of the business they were about. A little boy of twelve or thirteen boldly accosted Colonel Naito, and handed him a document demanding the dead body of the lad's father, who, deceived by the insurgents, had joined them, and was believed to have been killed by the Japanese. When asked about his mother, the boy answered with tears that she had been burned to death with her house, where she was confined to a sick bed. The Japanese officer, pitying the unhappy child, offered to take him under his care. But he refused, saying he could not leave his father's dead body to decay among the mountains. Neither would he receive a gift of money from his father's enemies. Colonel Naito finally prevailed upon him to carry away a paper securing to him a free passage through the Japanese lines. The same officer, after dislodging the enemy from a hill, found there a number of women. One of them was wounded in the body, and a child that she carried in her arms had been injured on the forehead by the fragments of a shell from the Japanese battery. The mother and child were attended to by a Japanese doctor, who received orders from the Colonel to visit them again on the following morning. In several villages the Japanese soldiers found clothes, note-books, and other articles that had belonged to their comrades, who had been killed and stripped by the tribesmen. The spirit of desperate resistance and the entire disregard for life displayed by the Hakkas excite the genuine admiration of Japanese correspondents, who compare these qualities to the *yamato damashii* of Japan, and say that they recall the state of affairs prevailing in some parts of Kyushu at the time of the Satsuma Rebellion. No only are the insurgents as stubborn and fearless as were the men of Satsuma, but the so-called peaceable inhabitants are entirely in sympathy with them, so much so that it is often impossible to distinguish combatants from non-combatants.

Latters describing the previous march of the Yamane corps from Taipeh to Shin-chuh and the hard fighting done by the Bojo battalion at and near Takoham about the middle of last month, have been very late in arriving, owing to unexplained causes.

As some erroneous reports seem to have been circulated about these operations, it may be worth while to reproduce the outlines of what actually took place.

On the 12th ultimo the Yamane corps began its southerly march from Taipeh. It advanced along the railway in the direction of Lintongpo. Simultaneously, a battalion under Major Bojo marched by the left bank of the Takoham, with orders to join the Yamane corps at Lintongpo. The main body of the Yamane corps, passing through Taotseyuen and Tiongleck commenced the attack of Lintongpo on the morning of the 14th. The engagement began at half-past seven. As had happened elsewhere in the island, the enemy occupied a very advantageous position, the houses forming their citadels being surrounded on all sides by thick and almost impenetrable groves of bamboo. It is stated that in Formosa the bamboo branches into more than ten stems from the same stock, so that it is extremely difficult to dislodge insurgents posted in these groves. Company after company, however, charged in and gradually expelled the insurgents. But when the attacking forces emerged on the opposite sides of the groves, they were subjected to such a deadly fire from innumerable apertures in the walls of the houses, that Major-General Yamane thought it advisable to recall them, and to bombard the houses with six mountain pieces. The artillery did terrible execution in the village, and the infantry again charging into the place, took possession of it at 4 p.m. More than 100 insurgents were shot and cut down, the loss on the Japanese side being 11 killed and wounded.

A company of foot, under Captain Hayashi, which had been advancing at some distance to the right of the main column, dispersed a small party of the enemy on the 14th, and encamped that night at a village a few miles from Lintongpo.

It had been arranged that the Bojo battalion, marching along the left bank of the Takoham, should join the main corps at Lintongpo on the 14th. But neither on that day nor on the following did the battalion make its appearance, and great anxiety was felt about its safety. Major-General Yamane wished to march to the rescue of the battalion, which must certainly be in trouble, but his position at Lintongpo being menaced by a large body of insurgents collected at Niulangho, about three miles off, he had first to disperse the latter before proceeding to Major Bojo's assistance. Consequently, at 8 a.m. on the 16th, he advanced to the attack of Niulangho, and obtained possession of it at half past seven, killing 20 of the insurgents and sustaining no loss himself. He caused all the barracks to be burnt and all works of defence demolished. Then at once retracing their steps, his troops reached Lintongpo at 9 a.m. They were there met by a messenger from the Bojo battalion, a private of the first class, Hirai Heikichi, by name, who had just succeeded in getting to the place after various dangers and narrow escapes. He had shaved his head, and put on a dirty suit of Chinese clothes with a large bamboo hat. He told the Major-General and his staff that the Bojo battalion was surrounded by a superior force of the enemy and was on the verge of starvation.

At 11 a.m., that is to say immediately after their return from the fighting at Niulangho, a portion of the troops under Major-General Yamane left Lintangpo to relieve the Bojo battalion. They came in sight of Takoham at 1 p.m. Planting a battery on the left bank of the river opposite the village of Takoham, a cannonade was opened at 2. A company of foot having been detached to protect the battery, the rest of the force, consisting of two companies, marched down to the river by a precipitous slope, and wading across a distance of more than 1,000 metres under a smart fire, climbed up the high bank on the opposite side. Forming on the bank in battle array, they at once advanced to the attack of Takoham, which, after a stout resistance for several hours, was captured a little before dusk, the enemy flying across the river.

While the Yamane corps was besieging Takoham, it was joined by a small force belonging to the Bojo battalion, then posted on a neighbouring mountain. The enemy having gradually drawn off after the fall of Takoham, the Bojo battalion was enabled to march down and join the Yamane corps on the morning of the 17th.

The story told by the Bojo battalion was this:—As far as Sauchue-yung, where it encamped on the night of the 12th, it met with no enemy. But a few miles beyond that place, it began to be attacked by a large body of insurgents. The country was mountainous and the roads were extremely bad. At one place the battalion, then advancing in single file, was cut in two. On the 14th, it pushed as far as an eminence a few miles from Takoham, being all the time under fire from an increasing number of insurgents. Finding the position untenable, the Japanese retreated about 700 or 800 metres, and bivouacked there for that night. Next morning, the number of the insurgents still increasing, the battalion again retreated about 400 metres, and took up a position at a place surrounded on all sides by lofty hills. Digging shelter trenches, the troops determined to hold the place against the enemy, until succour could arrive from either the Yamane corps or the head-quarters at Taipeh. Four messengers were sent out, two each to these respective destinations. The battalion could have cut its way through the insurgents and proceeded to Lintongpo, but it was deterred from doing so by the fact that there were about thirty wounded who would have had to be left behind. One of the messengers, as already stated, succeeded in reaching Lintongpo, and another afterwards reached Taipeh in safety, two having been killed on the way. This affair is evidently that alluded to by the correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, who said that 800 Japanese had been defeated at Tokoham with a loss of 600.

The following telegram from Governor-General Count Kabayama, dated Taipeh, August 4th, 6.40 p.m., has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo:—

"The Imperial Guards Division having decided upon undertaking for a second time operations for clearing the villages of insurgents, the head-quarters of the Division and the Matsubara column left Taipeh on the 29th of July and reached Taotseyuen on the same day. The Naito column leaving Haishankan on the same day, defeated about 400 insurgents to the north-west of Kwei-lun, killing 64, and bivouacked to the north-east of Taotseyuen. The casualties on the Japanese side were 5 killed and wounded.

"On the 30th, the head-quarters of the Division and the Matsubara column reached Tiongleck. The Naito column continued its westerly march without meeting a single insurgent.

"On the 31st, the Yamane column left Takoham and moved toward Sin-fu. A part was ordered to advance along the left bank of the Takoham, while the rest marched to Lungtan-po, whence a small force was despatched in a northerly direction. In this manner the Yamane column attacked the insurgents, who had constructed defensive works along the plateau extending from the left bank of the Tokoham, a little to the north-west of Si-si, as far as the south of Yang-mei-leck. The outer line of works was taken. Meanwhile, the Naito column was ordered to repair to Tiongleck to replace the Matsubara column which had advanced to the attack of the enemy's left flank. The latter force encamped that night on a tableland about 1,000 metres south of Yang-mei-leck, after having killed about 40 of the enemy, with casualties on the Japanese side of 11 killed and wounded. The head-quarters of the division and the Naito column remained that night at Tiong-leck.

"On the 1st of August, the head-quarters of

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the Division reached Ta-ho-kan. The Matsubara column attacked a strong fort on the left flank of the enemy and took it at 1 p.m. The Yamane column drove the enemy from Nin-lan-wa and advanced toward Sin-fu.

"On the 2nd, the Yamane and Matsubara columns surrounded Sin-fu, and took it at 3 p.m. Leaving 200 dead behind them, the bulk of the insurgents seem to have retreated in the direction of Miao-li. The two columns encamped that night in the vicinity of Sin-fu.

"On the 3rd, the cavalry and artillery of the Naito column were attached to the Yamane column, posted at Sin-fu. The rest of the Naito column and the Matsubara column entered Sin-chuh, together with the head-quarters of the Division."

KOREAN NEWS.

Count Inouye's arrival in Söul forms the subject of the latest newspaper correspondence from the Korean capital. He was greeted on landing at Yong-san—which place he reached at 7 p.m. on the 20th ultimo—by the members of the Japanese Legation, the Japanese Advisers of the Korean Government, the officers of the Japanese troops stationed in Söul, the principal Japanese residents, and a number of Korean functionaries, among them being Mr. Jokohan, Minister of Justice; Mr. Yu Kitsuei, Acting Minister of Home Affairs; and Mr. An Keiju, Police Inspector-General. The Minister and Countess Inouye proceeded to Söul in palanquins, followed by the rest in *jinrikisha* and on horseback. At the South Gate, the party was met by two companies of Japanese troops, the bulk of the Japanese residents, the school boys, and so forth, while the streets inside were lined with a dense crowd of Koreans, who had collected in the expectation of seeing the Japanese Minister enter the city with Pak, followed by a formidable army, and who were, consequently, greatly surprised by what they actually saw.

The first to call on the Japanese Minister at the Legation were Prince Wi-hwa, Mr. Boku Teiyo, Minister President of State; Mr. Kim, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Shin, Minister of War; Mr. Li, Minister of Education, and a few other Ministers and Vice-Ministers.

The Korean Government promulgated Regulations for the newly established postal system in the *Official Gazette* of the 21st ultimo. Twenty-four post offices are to be opened in the Kingdom, with a large number of smaller stations. For the present, however, the system will be brought into operation only in the capital and Ninsen. The stamps, of four kinds, were manufactured in the United States some years ago when a commission went there to study postal business. The Regulations just promulgated are based upon those of Japan.

Cholera is said to be spreading in Korea. The Authorities are constructing a cholera hospital in Söul, and a sum of 20,000 *yen* has set aside to defray the expense of the institution.

Count Inouye is said to have had a long audience with the Korean King on the 25th ultimo. He proceeded to the Palace at 2 p.m. and left there a little after 10, the actual interview lasting from 3 to 9, after which the Count is reported to have had the honour of dining with His Majesty. As usual there were present at the audience the Queen and the Crown Prince. This being the Japanese Minister's first interview since his arrival in Söul, extraordinary importance naturally attached to the event by the politicians of the Korean capital. The Japanese correspondents confess ignorance as to the nature of the conversation between the King and the Count. It is stated, however, that, according to trustworthy information, the Japanese Minister confined himself to speaking of what had thus far taken place, and reserved to a future occasion the discussion of future measures. The conversation is, moreover, said to have been conducted in a spirit of marked mutual confidence and frankness. Among the King's numerous misconceptions, which Count Inouye corrected, one concerned Lieutenant-General Viscount Miura, who is generally expected to be Count Inouye's successor sooner or later. Pak, it seems, in his conversations with the King, used to speak of Viscount Miura as one of his best Japanese friends, and the news that the Viscount would probably come to Söul as Japanese Representative had consequently caused much uneasiness, especially since it was received just when Pak had fled to Japan. His Majesty's anxiety on that score was dispelled by Count Inouye's assurance that no connection whatever existed between Pak's flight and Viscount Miura's probable appointment to Söul.

Absurd rumours are still said to agitate the inhabitants of Söul. They refuse to believe that Pak is not coming back at the head of a Japanese army. Recently a few Japanese warships entered Ninsen on their way home from Port Arthur. The Koreans at once concluded that Pak was on board one of these ships, and rumours of the wildest description are said to have been circulated in Söul.

How devoid the Koreans are of the spirit of independence may be seen from the fact that they take delight in auguring the downfall of their unfortunate country from every natural phenomenon that appears in the least entraordinary. On the 25th ultimo, considerable excitement was caused in Söul because a bright star could be seen by the side of a new moon before the sun had entirely set. This was at once interpreted by white-bearded *savants* as a sign of the extinction of Korea's national existence.

The *soshi* Sasaki, who was the cause of the Pak incident, left Soul, on the 24th ultimo in consequence of a Consular notice served on him to remove himself from Korea within ten days. A Korean official Kanzaigeki, who had extracted the implicating information from Sasaki, was sent to Ninsen to hand a sum of money to the departing *soshi* as a reward for his services to the State!

Notwithstanding the faction struggles continually distracting the political world in Söul, the work of administrative reform is reported to be making slow but steady progress. This is owing to the presence of a staff of Japanese advisers in every Department of State. Concerning the postal service recently established in Söul, it is stated that the number of letters handled on the opening day, the 21st ultimo, was 6. During the next three days, the number averaged 9 daily, and it increased to 11 on the 5th day. The system is still in its infancy, but so far as office arrangements are concerned, there appears to be little to find fault with.

THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

We regret to have been the unintentional means of betraying the *Kokumin Shimbun* into the display that disfigures its reply to our article on the subject of Great Britain and Japan. "The summer insect," says our contemporary, "knows nothing of ice. Mercenary soldiers do not understand national troops. Slaves have no idea of liberty. The hired organ of a Foreign Government can not appreciate the champions of independence. It is unavoidable that the *Japan Mail* should be unable to comprehend our true meaning." What a pity that the *Kokumin* did not perceive these things before it embarked upon a controversy destined to betray it into such comical extravagances. For our own part, our curiosity is satisfied. In noticing the writings of the *Kokumin* our only object was to ascertain what kind of logic underlay the views of a journal that counted Great Britain contemptible, and desired to link Japan's destiny with that of Russia. Of course the whole problem is now solved. Since the *Japan Mail* is a summer insect, a mercenary soldier, a slave, and a hired organ of a foreign Government, the public is at once enabled to estimate Great Britain's status and her value as an ally. Englishmen, also, are helped to perceive the moral calibre of the pro-Russian party in Japan. It is all very instructive, and we can not but compliment the *Kokumin Shimbun* on its clear insight into international affairs, its instinct of relevancy, and the perfect courtesy that marks its conduct of a controversy.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The banks of Yokohama have lowered their rates of interest since the 1st instant, the new rates being as follows:—

	Overdraft (per 100 *yen* per diem.)	Advances (per 100 *yen* per diem.)	Discount (per 100 *yen* per diem.)
2nd National	2 *sen* 8-9 *rin*	2 *sen* 8-9 *rin*	2 *sen* 5-6 *rin*
74th National	2 *sen* 8-9 *rin*	2 *sen* 7-8 *rin*	2 *sen* 6-7 *rin*
Mitsui (Branch)	2 *sen* 6-8 *rin*	2 *sen* 6 *rin* 3 *sen*	2 *sen* 5-8 *rin*
1st National (Branch)	2 *sen* 7-9 *rin*	2 *sen* 5-8 *rin*	8 *sen* 6-7 *rin*
100th National (Branch)	2 *sen* 7 *rin*	2 *sen* 7-8 *rin*	2 *sen* 6-7 *rin*
Yokohama	2 *sen* 8 *rin*-3 *sen* 1*rin*	2 *sen* 6 *rin* 3 *sen*	2 *sen* 5 *rin* 3 *sen*

It should be noticed that these rates are generally standard. Actual rates may be a trifle higher or lower according to the financial circumstances of borrowers.

According to investigations made by the Finance Department, the amount of Government paper money and bank notes in circulation at the end of June last was 33,277,662 *yen* 25 *sen*. Compared with the figures for the preceding month, there is a decrease of 426,312 *yen* 50 *sen* in Government paper, and of 5,735 *yen* 50 *sen*, in bank notes, as shown by the following table:—

	End of June.	End of May.	Decrease
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
Government paper money of 1 *yen* and higher denominations	9,149,711.500	9,516,024.000	366,312.500
Government paper money of 50 *sen* and lower denominations	2,835,311.750	2,895,311.750	60,000.000
Total	11,985,023.250	12,411,335.750	426,312.500
Bank Notes	21,219,719.000	21,219,719.000	
Notes of Banks closed	72,920,500	78,656.500	5,735.500
Total	21,292,639.000	21,298,374.500	5,735.500
Grand Total	35,277,662.250	33,709,710.250	432,048.000

An increasing desire manifests itself among business men, says the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, to extend the list of shares taken as security by the Bank of Japan, and also to increase the value at which these shares are taken. The present list of shares accepted as security and their security values are as follow:—

	Paid up Yen.	Security value. Yen.	Current Market Price. Yen.
Kyushu Tetsudo	41	32	51
San-yo Tetsudo	30	21	37
Tanko Tetsudo	50	45	93
Ryomo Tetsudo	50	45	65
Ko-Bu Tetsuda	45	60	100
Kansai Tetsudo	47	35	57
Hankai Tetsudo	50	80	133
Osaka Tetsudo	50	50	65
Sanuki Tetsudo	50	30	54
Osaka Shosen Kaisha	25	32	33

The scale of security value at the Bank of Japan was fixed in November, 1893, and has since been kept unchanged. Since those days various other shares have come to command credit in the market, and changes have also taken place in the relative financial positions of the different companies. Hence it is natural that a revision of the list and of the scale of security values should be advocated in business circles. Among shares that might safely be added to the list, the following are mentioned:—

	Paid up. *yen.*	Current Market Price. *yen.*
Chiku-Ho Tetsudo	50	86
Sangu Tetsudo	50	64
Kawagoye Tetsudo	50	66
Han-Tan Tetsudo	50	49
So-Bu Tetsudo	50	88
Nara Tetsudo	50	50
Koshu Tetsudo	50	63
Naniwa Tetsudo	50	50

Next to railway enterprises, projects for banking establishments are the most prevalent feature in business circles. There is not a large commercial centre in the country where the establishment of one or two private banks is not under contemplation. Some persons seem to think it important that a check should be applied to this tendency. But according to information obtained by the *Chugai Shogyo*, the officials of the Department of Finance are disinclined to adopt any repressive policy. At present all the private banks are in a thriving condition, and there is evidently room for the extension of banking operations. Hence the Okurasho will probably not hesitate to grant a charter to any new bank whose projectors possess the proper qualifications.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* states that there is a project in Yokohama for the establishment of a private bank with a capital of 15,000,000 *yen*. The names of the projectors are kept

secret for some unexplained reason. As to the origin of the project, our contemporary thinks that it must be attributed either to a reaction against the monopoly enjoyed by the Specie Bank in its special field of operations, or to the mania now prevailing in business circles for the establishment of banks. If the project owes its conception to the former cause, the *Chugai Shogyo* sees reason to approve it, for the sake of foreign trade; but if it be referable to the other cause, the projectors are warned that they will probably be disappointed, for the profits secured by banks in recent years are not likely to continue much longer.

The Kyoto people's idea of having the closing of the Exhibition postponed, has failed. But they have succeeded, it is reported, in pursuading the exhibitors to continue the institution for a further term of three months in the shape of a bazaar.

According to statistics prepared in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the total quantity of tea of various kinds produced in 1894, throughout the whole country, except Kanagawa, Aomori, and Yamaguchi, from which reports did not arrive in time, was as follows:—

	Yiyokuro. *Kamme.*	Sencha. *Kamme.*	Black Tea. *Kamme.*
1894	104,593	5,123,949	48,648
	Uryu. *Kamme.*	Bancha. *Kamme.*	Total. *Kamme.*
1894	17,224	2,395,951	7,690,365

1 *Kamme*=a little over 8¼ lbs. Av.

An agricultural produce insurance company is as yet unknown in Japan. The need of such an institution has long been felt, and researches have even been made into the subject, but thus far nothing practical has come out of them. Some bankers at Aboshi, in the province of Harima, are reported to have now under consideration a scheme for establishing such a company in their locality.

The total quantity of rice exported from Kobe during the month of July was 3,285 tons, as shown in the following table:—

	Quantity. Tons.	Value. Yen.
Uncleaned rice	1,331	89,916.00
Cleaned rice	1,846	161,824.65
Ground rice	8	160.00
Total	3,185	251,900.65

The quantity exported during the nine months from November, 1894, to July, 1895, inclusive, is given as 100,164 tons.

The following statistics collected in the Department of Finance show the quantity and value of camphor exported to the various countries mentioned during the first half of the present year:—

	Quantity. Catties.	Value. Yen.
Hongkong	822,453	467,414.69
United States	89,054	58,902.85
Germany	114,125	56,255 89
England	71,720	41,245.27
France	28,376	13,295.87
British India	8,475	5,622.20
China	9,219	4,080.56
Canada	1,989	1,462.50
Australia	1,637	1,077.60
Korea	151	100.30
Total	1,147,199	649,457.73

Application has been made for a charter for an electric railway connecting Yokohama with Fujisawa, touching *en route* at Kamakura, Shichiriga-hama, and Enoshima, the whole distance being 17 miles 42 chains. The capital is put at 700,000 *yen*; the wide guage of 4ft. 8 in. is to adopted; the be speed will be 30 miles per hour; and trains are to leave both terminii every 15 minutes. Among a long list of projectors, we notice the names of Messrs. Wakao Ippei, Watanabe Jiyemon, Kimura Masamoto, Minakawa Shiro, Nakano Buei, and so forth.

As already stated, there are several rival projects for laying electric tramways in the capital. Negotiations for amalgamation are proceeding between two of the principal companies, and hopes of success are entertained. The united company's capital would be 2,800,000 *yen*, divided equally among the two original companies.

The Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha has decided to send a commission to Europe and America to study all the different aspects of railway business. Messrs. Fujita Shigemichi and Adachi Taro have been selected for the mission. They are to leave here for Canada on the 22nd instant, and will visit all the principal countries of the West, spending altogether about twelve months on the tour.

The Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha's traffic receipts for the first half of the present year amounted to 1,773,902 *yen*. The length of lines open for traffic was 596 miles; the total distance traversed by trains was 1,431,525 miles, and the actual business days during the period numbered 181. Thus the average earnings per mile of the line were 3,006 *yen*, and the daily amount per mile was 16 *yen* 60 *sen*. Compared with the figure for the corresponding period of last year there is an increase of 244,299 *yen* in traffic receipts.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The Radicals of the Kwanto provinces held a meeting in the Nakamura Restaurant, Ryogoku, Tokyo, on the 4th inst. There were present Messrs. Yamada Toji, Ishizaka Shoko, Nakajima Matagoro, Yamada Taizo, and more than two hundred others. A resolution unanimously adopted at the meeting contains a clause expressing enthusiastic approval of the manifesto recently issued from the head-quarters of the Party. This circumstance, coupled with reports coming in from other localities, makes it plain that, notwithstanding rumours circulated by the Progressionist organs to the contrary, the Radical Party is in no danger whatever of a rupture. It is true that the Radicals in Echigo behaved in a thoughtless manner, but the ease with which they were recalled from their mistaken course seems to indicate that there is no desire on their part to separate from the party.

The Progressionist journals and their sympathizers are disgracing themselves by personal attacks upon the Premier on account of his promotion to the rank of Marquis and decoration with the Grand Order of Merit. The *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*, as usual are conspicuous for unscrupulous abuse of one of their country's greatest statesman. The methods pursued by these journals can not fail to be condemned by all sober-minded men.

Concerning the projected establishment of an Iron Foundry, a journal in Tokyo recently published a rumour to the effect, that Marquis Ito's idea is to permit a certain well known foreign company to open a branch establishment in this country on condition that the foundry becomes the property of the Government by purchase after lapse of a certain length of time; that Count Matsukata, on the other hand, is in favour of the work being undertaken by the State and afterwards handed over to a private firm, such as the Mitsubishi or the Mitsui; and that the latter proposal will most probably be adopted by the Cabinet. The *Nichi Nichi*, however, denies that the rumour has any foundation. According to its informant, who is described as an official connected with the project, the Government long ago decided in favour of a state-owned foundry, and there is no difference of opinion in the Cabinet.

Concerning the slow progress made in the pacification of Formosa, some persons, apparently well informed, allege that the Imperial Guards are not really the flower of the Japanese Army, and that they are rather inferior in many important respects to the troops of the Divisions. According to these military critics, the fault lies in the method of recruiting the Guards, more importance being attached to good looks and family standing than to military qualifications. In consequence of this mode of selection, the Guards are composed, for the most part, of the sons of wealthy merchants and well-to-do farmers; while the other Divisions consist almost exclusively of sturdy peasants. There appears to be some truth in these criticisms, but the question is obscure. Whatever the truth may be, the Guards are considered to be too lenient and forbearing in their method of dealing with the insurgents.

The appointment of a Minister Plenipotentiary to Söul by Russia has attracted a good deal of attention in Tokyo. Nothing definite is known by the metropolitan journalists about the antecedents and ability of Mr. Speyer. But from the fact that he has represented his country in Persia, where Russia and England are playing an important game, and that he has been selected for the Legation in Söul at the present juncture, the Japanese editors conclude that he must be a diplomat of first rate capacity. They make his appointment an opportunity to repeat their conviction that a strong policy must be pursued in Korea by Japan, yielding nothing to any other Power.

Writing on the subject of the pacification of Formosa, the *Jiji Shimpo* remarks that the obstinate resistance offered by the native tribes will prove an advantage to Japan. Its inevitable result will be the adoption of sweeping measures, which will end either in the extermination of the tribesmen or their deportation from the island, thus getting rid once for all of troublesome characters and altogether avoiding complicated questions relating to rights of private property. The permanent beneficial consequences of such a step are held to more than outweigh the loss of lives and money. Our contemporary goes so far as to suggest that not only those actually resisting by force, but even such as may be suspected of unwillingness to submit to Japanese rule, would be driven out of the island. The *Jji* hears also that arms and ammunition are being secretly supplied to the insurgents by sympathizers on the continent. Should this report be true, our contemporary entertains no doubt that the Japanese Government will have the matter righted by the Chinese Government.

The more the Liaotung question is discussed, the more absurd becomes the position taken up by the Opposition politicians. The interesting controversy still going on between the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Nippon* on this subject must have served to remove many of the misconceptions and misstatements circulated by interested politicians. Another severe blow has been given to the Extremists by Mr. Sugiura in the editorial columns of the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun*. He is strictly independent in politics, and this circumstance, no less than his reputation for sound judgment, gives weight to his articles on any political subject. He says that those who make so much noise about the so-called question of Ministerial responsibility do not understand their own contention. The Liaotung question remains to be adjusted, and pending its final settlement, no one can possibly say in what respects the Ministers are blameworthy or whether they are at all to be blamed. Who knows whether the Government is not devising some scheme to conclude the matter in a way highly creditable to itself and to the country? Under such circumstances, to demand the resignation of the Ministers, would be tantamount to judging their actions in advance. Mr. Sugiura advises the Opposition politicians to desist from such an unreasonable course, and to give the Cabinet time to settle the question according to its views. Should the settlement prove unsatisfactory, then not only the Opposition politicians but the whole nation ought to unite in censuring the Cabinet. He is of opinion that the public takes too light a view of political responsibility. Formerly statesmen answered for their mistakes by committing *harakiri*. Such a method may be out of the question now, but Mr. Sugiura is pursuaded that the public should consider the question of political responsibility more seriously.

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JAPANESE VIEWS ON THE ORIENTAL QUESTION.

The *Taiyo* of latest date contains two articles on the Oriental Question, one by Mr. Oishi Masami, formerly Japanese Minister to Korea, and the other by Mr. Inagaki Manjiro, author of "Japan and the Pacific." Mr. Oishi advocates an Anglo-Japanese alliance, and in the present essay expounds his views more fully than he has yet attempted. He commences with the consideration of Japan's position in Korea. The Korean question, he says, resolves itself into a Russian question. It is not with Korea but with Russia that Japan has to settle the so-called Korean problem. Collision with the Northern Power is inevitable if Japan wants to maintain her position in the peninsularkingdom. And ought she to preserve her influence there? By all means, answers the writer. Her interest as well as her honour forbid her to pursue any other course with regard to Korea. As to considerations of interest, he mentions, first, that Japan has invested a large amount of money in the peninsula, the latest instance being the advance of 3 million *yen* to the Government of that country; secondly, that the Japanese form the bulk of the foreign community in Korea, whereas not a single Russian merchant is to be found in the whole kingdom; thirdly, that Korea is the natural bulwark of peace in the Sea of Japan; fourthly, that the loss of Korea would endanger the western coasts of Japan; and fifthly, that the abandonment of Korea would seriously interfere with the future expansion of this Empire. He has likewise much to say on the subject of the national honour being inseparably bound up with the maintenance of Korean integrity against the danger of encroachment by any other Power. From whatever point he views the matter, Mr. Oishi declares that Japan can never abandon Korea. But how is she to maintain herself there? That is a question now engaging the serious attention of the Japanese nation. Some propose to attain the object single-handed by increasing the fighting capacity of the country to the necessary degree. Mr. Oishi is, of course, aware of the necessity of increasing the Army and the Navy, but the measure would take years to complete, and, moreover, must be kept within the limits prescribed by the resources of the people. Nay more, if everything were to be decided by might, where would diplomacy come in? Mr. Oishi maintains that, incomplete as Japan's military preparations are, it is not difficult for her to maintain her ground against Russia in the peninsular kingdom by means of skilful diplomacy. In this respect, he thinks that the Korean question has to be settled not in the East, but in Europe. He urges the importance of forming an alliance with England. England, he says, is the only Power in a condition to fight with Russia in these waters. But will England consent to such an alliance? Mr. Oishi is inclined to believe she will. He then goes on to survey the situation in Europe in general and in England in particular. The fall of the Liberal Cabinet is ascribed to public dissatisfaction with its weak and irresolute foreign policy. While the Liberals are contented with guarding what England has already obtained, the Conservatives are in favour of a more aggressive policy. The protective commercial system pursued by the continental Powers of Europe as well as the great Republic of America, compels England more than ever to seek the extension of her markets in the less civilized portions of the world, in South America, Africa, and Asia. So far as Asia is concerned, England cannot, in Mr. Oishi's opinion, very well dispense with Japanese friendship and assistance in resisting the southward march of Russia. He also thinks that Japan's friendship is of great importance to England for the extension of her trade. He regards the state of things as rather critical in the Mediterranean, where the English, French, and Russians are said to be watching each other jealously. This is a rare opportunity for Japan. Then explaining more at length the superior position held by England to all other European Powers in the East, the writer declares in conclusion:—"Russia is the enemy of civilization. In considering the question of an alliance, regard should not be had exclusively to interests and convenience. The great tendency of the world must be always kept in view. It is a law that whoever opposes the great current of civilization is doomed to perish. It is thus found that not only interest, honour, and circumstances, but a regard for civilization counsel Japan to ally herself with England, in opposition to Russia, so that she may become the arbiter of the Oriental question in general and of the Korean problem in particular."

Mr. Inagaki's object is to define the national policy to be pursued in the immediate future. There is nothing original in the policy defined by him: it is, in effect, the same as that which the whole nation is united in urging, and which the Government is believed to be in favour of. But his essay is worth notice on account of the views expressed on various aspects of the situation in the East. He considers that the peace of the Orient may be disturbed in three ways. First, it may be disturbed as the result of a break-up of the present equilibrium in Europe. The writer thinks that, as matters now stand, the Driebund has little prospect of a renewal three years hence when its period elapses. The idea of combining Southern Europe against Northern Europe is regarded by him as a mere chimera. Secondly, the peace of the East may be jeopardized by the ambition of a European Power. In about five years, the Siberian Railway will be completed, and it may be expected that Russia will take active steps to obtain an ice-free port as terminus for her transcontinental road. Thirdly and lastly, peace may be disturbed by a scramble of the Powers for a share of the spoil in the partition of China. Nothing could be better for the sake of the East than the awakening of China and an effective cōoperation between her and Japan. But Mr. Inagaki, in common with a large number of his countrymen—among the number being a writer of no less authority than the distinguished editor of the *Jiji Shimpo*—has little hope of China's resurrection. On the contrary, he is convinced that the big Empire is doomed to be cut up and appropriated by the Powers, and that, too, at no very distant date. In any of these emergencies, Japan can not be a mere spectator, but must take a leading part in whatever drama may be enacted on the stage of the East. Especially in the event of the partition of China, must Japan step in as a Power entitled to a voice in the adjustment of the question, with a resolution to fight for her rights against any of the European Powers. Too vindicate her rights and honour in any of the above mentioned contingencies, it is necessary for Japan to undertake preparatory measures on an adequately large scale. Mr. Inagaki recommends the increase of the peace standing of the Army from seventy-five thousand to a hundred and twenty, or even a hundred and fifty thousand, with a corresponding development of the war footing; the addition of five or six squadrons to the Navy; the establishment of two naval ports in the Sea of Japan; the establishment of large arsenals so as to secure complete independence as to arms and ammunition; the construction of more than 100 torpedo boats, and the encouragement of mercantile navigation so that a large number of transports may at any time be available. He urges the Cabinet to call together an extraordinary session of the Diet and introduce measures in the above sense for the approval of the Houses. He has little doubt of their receiving unanimous approval. The effect of the passage of these measures through the Houses of the Diet would be beneficial to the peace of the East. The news, he says, would produce a very salutary effect upon the minds of European statesmen. Europeans are as calculating as the Japanese are sentimental. The Japanese did not hesitate to attack Port Arthur with a Division and Mixed Brigade, and took it at a blow. Admiral Courbet, however, thought that it would be necessary to invest the place with 50,000 men for six months. When Napoleon III. surrendered at Sedan, he had 80,000 men under him, and no doubt the course pursued by him was prudent, but a Japanese general in his place would have fought to the last. This difference in the mental constitution of Japanese and Europeans ought to be taken advantage of by Japanese diplomats. Mr. Inagaki thinks that, if it becomes known in Europe that Japan has decided upon measures of preparation such as those sketched out above, the fact would at once be taken notice of by the Powers and they would not fail thenceforward to rate Japan at her true value. He is very sanguine, believing that while on the one hand, Japan's enemies would feel the inadvisability of inviting her opposition, her friends would on the other, become more friendly. Among her friends, are classed the United States, Great Britain, Italy, and, to a lesser degree, Austria. Concerning England, he writes in the following strain:—"England took the lead in revising her treaty with Japan. She maintained strict neutrality during the recent Japanese-Chinese war, while at the conclusion of the war she refused to join the diplomatic combination of the three Powers. She did not oppose the cession of Formosa to Japan. She seems to be delighted with the rise of a new bulwark against Russia. In these and other respects, it is easy to see that she is growing more and more friendly to this country. And it may even be imagined that when our measures of military and naval development are carried out, she will desire to convert the friendship between the two countries into a definite alliance."

THE HARVEST PROSPECTS.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* has collected a large mass of information from all parts of the country with regard to agricultural prospects. Concerning rice, it is stated that the outlook has always been gloomy in the Provinces of Kwanto on account of cool and rainy weather. The provinces of the Hokuriku, Chugoku, Shikoku, and Kyushu were at first doing well, but even in these localities the recent bad weather has done great injury. In some parts of Kyushu it is reported that the young shoots having been up-rooted by the force of the recent typhoon, the fields have to be replanted. From these reports it is concluded that, even supposing improved weather hereafter, the yield of rice will show a decrease of from 20 to 30 per cent. as compared with that of a normal year.

As to the Summer and Autumn crop of silk, the cool and rainy weather having heavily told upon the growth of the worms, the yield is estimated at about 70 per cent. of a normal year.

Similarly unsatisfactory is the prospect of the cotton crop. In the provinces of Kawachi, Izumi, and Settsu, which are the chief centres of production, the plants are so stunted in growth and were so seriously damaged by the recent storm, that, however satisfactory the rest of the season may be, there is little hope of their reaching normal dimensions. Almost equally bad is the prospect in Owari, Mikawa, Ise, and Totomi. It is estimated that the yield will show, on the whole, a decrease of at least 30 per cent.

Beans, millet, buckwheat, and so forth, have made too rank a growth to promise a good harvest. Even in the provinces of the North-East, where the prospect is stated to be tolerably good, there will be a decrease of from 20 to 30 per cent.; while in Kyushu, the yield will be still more scanty on account of the recent typhoon.

The growth of tobacco leaves had been exceedingly good, and a splendid harvest was expected in Kyushu, especially in Satsuma, but the recent storms wrought great havoc. A report from Taniyama, in Satsuma, states that the damage done by the late gales was so serious that the yield is expected to be only about 50 per cent. of an ordinary year. The leaves in Kazusa have been miserable in growth and appearance from the first. A better prospect is reported from Hatano in Sagami and Mito, but even in these

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localities the harvest is not expected to be as good as usual.

Hemp plants have made tolerably good growth, and the process of cutting them and taking off the rind has already been commenced. It is reported that the present damp weather seriously interferes with drying operations.

CHINESE ITEMS.

The new Chinese Minister to Japan, Mr. Yü Kêng, is not spoken of in very laudatory terms. He is said to have no special reputation for diplomatic astuteness and little experience to guide him. Of foreign customs even, he is virtually ignorant. Possibly his appointment has influenced the Japanese Government's decision to conduct the negotiations for the return of the Liaotung Peninsula in Tientsin, not in Tokyo. The latter place was originally selected, but since it has become apparent that the Chinese Government is not prepared to send to Japan a plenipotentiary competent to deal with so large a question, its settlement will be entrusted to the Representative of Japan in China, the Chinese delegates being the Viceroy Li and Mr. Wong. It is understood that the terms proposed by Japan have already been communicated to the Powers directly or indirectly concerned, but what opinion, if any, they have expressed is not yet known.

The river pirates of Chêkiang now adopt the methods of Grecian banditti: they capture men of substance and hold them to ransom. Their latest victim was a wealthy merchant of Huchow who was on his way to Soochow to buy silk. When the unhappy man's ransom came, he was in a demented condition owing to fear of a horrible death.

A very curious question has been raised with reference to the notes of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. It appears that the Chinese, among whom they circulate, often write upon them—in ideographic script, of course—comments of an abominable and insolent character, sometimes libelling the staff of the Bank, the foreign consuls, or foreigners in general. It is doubtless an excellent joke in Chinese eyes to see foreign merchants gravely receiving and paying out notes that bear such superscriptions. Folks urge that the Bank should turn the laugh by announcing its resolve not to cash notes thus disfigured, but it is very questionable whether the Bank could repudiate its own notes for any reason of the kind.

A Mahommedan revolt in Kansu appears to be assuming serious dimensions. The trouble originated in a dispute between two sects. It was temporarily quelled by the exertions of a Mahommedan General, but subsequently, during his absence at Pekin, whither he went in command of a contingent of his fellow-believers, his family were murdered and his possessions seized. By and by some Chinese officials, attempting to arbitrate, were killed, and Chinese soldiers proceeding to punish this violence were utterly routed. Mahommedans are now arming on an extensive scale and Chinese troops are massing to oppose them.

According to statements emanating from Chinese sources, active measures are on foot to resuscitate the Peiyang Squadron. Two ironclads, ordered in Europe before the war, are expected to arrive in China before the end of the year, and seven cruisers have been ordered, two in England, two in France, and three in Germany. The celebrated Yuan Shihkai, formerly Chinese Representative in Söul and certainly a very able diplomatist whatever may be his naval capacities, is expected to be placed at the head of the new Squadron. There is also talk of the Emperor's adopting suggestions urged by a memorialist who served with the old Squadron, to the effect that the whole navy of the empire should be placed under the sole control of the Central Government; that the provincial authorities should have nothing whatever to do with the ships, arsenals, or dockyards, and that the Admirals should be appointed in every case from Pekin. Such a reform would mean much. In the recent war the Nanyang (southern) Squadron made not the smallest attempt to participate in the defence of the country, and in every respect China was debilitated by dissipation and division of her strength.

From all parts of China comes intelligence that the war has not produced the smallest perceptible effect on the nation. Some know nothing about it; others believe that their country was victorious. The much predicted wakening of China is a myth: she sleeps as soundly as ever. Had the Japanese gone to Pekin and driven the Court from the capital, the pulses of the lethargic Colossus might have been quickened. But that was not to be. The mandarin remains as he always was, and the mandarin's very existence depends on keeping progress at arm's length.

Now and then the world is casually reminded of what is meant by a Chinese prison. Recently the sub-prefect of Chien-chou caused two prisoners to be bambooed so severely that they died. He was sent to prison, as were also the two *yamên* runners that administered the beating. But before the sub-prefect's trial came off, the prison had killed him. The runners fared similarly. The horrors of imprisonment brought death before the slowly moving processes of justice reached their case. The fate of the three men was reported in the most indifferent manner. Nothing seemed farther from anybody's fancy than to imagine that the prisons of Hunan are not everything a prison ought to be. But the law must be satisfied. The three dead men were solemnly sentenced to be bambooed and banished.

The Governor of Honan has applied to Pekin for permission to open mines in that province, and to import foreign machinery for the purpose. At first sight the intelligence suggests an important departure, for China is undoubtedly rich in mineral wealth, and were her underground resources intelligently exploited, the world would soon feel the effect. But experience has taught the public to suspect that all such projects as that of the Governor of Honan are merely pretexts for putting money into the pockets of officials. The province will have to pay for the machinery, but the machinery will never pay the province.

The Mahommedan rebellion in Kansu is reported to be assuming serious dimensions. It appears to be spreading from three different centres of disaffection, and the whole province is in a disordered state. General Tung, the Kashgarian commander-in-chief, who set out from Pekin in May with an army of 25,000, has defeated the rebels in two battles, and saved Lanchou, the capital of the province, from being beseigned by them. But even with the aid of the territorial troops—some 20,000 strong—he does not seem able to cope fully with the insurrection, and large re-inforcements have had to be sent from Pekin, Shensi, and Hupeh. The rebels are said to number 100,000, among whom are 30,000 Buddhists, stirred to revolt by financial distress. Should the Mussulman population in Shensi also take up arms, the trouble may severely tax the resources of the central Government.

Since the Japanese Mint was established in Osaka the Japanese silver *yen*—a beautiful and trustworthy coin—has been steadily gaining a footing in all eastern markets from Singapore to Shanghai. The merchants of Hongkong, however, have long agitated for a British dollar, so that their supply of silver might be placed on an independent basis, and their wishes have at length borne practical fruit, the Bombay Mint having commanded the coinage of the much desired dollar. It is a clumsily designed affair, and has been universally condemned from an artistic point of view, but its ugliness will not interfere with its utility. Meanwhile, the French in Indo-China, where also the Japanese *yen* has largely gone into circulation, have decided to assimilate the weight of the French trade dollar to that of the Japanese coin, and as the steamers of the Messageries Maritimes are required, by their contract, to carry public funds free of charge, the trade dollar can be brought to its Eastern place of circulation more cheaply than either the British dollar or the *yen*. What with chopped Mexicans, Hongkong Britannias, Saigon Trades, Japanese *Yen*, and Chinese Taels, the currency of the Far East is becoming very prettily complicated.

The story of anti-missionary outrages in Szechuan is not a totally black page: there are some spots of light in the record. Miss Hol, of the China Inland Mission, describes how, when the house in which she and two other ladies resided was attacked by the mob, a man with a drawn sword appeared at the door, and while engaged sharpening his weapon on a stone, warned the rioters that the women were good folk, and that he meant to defend them. The crowd fell back, and one of the ladies attended by a Chinese maid, effected her escape to the yamên, only to be refused admittance. But the Chinese attendant raised a loud outcry, wailing that unless the officials gave them refuge they would die at the gates, and at length they gained entry. The officials, however, were too terrified to send succour to the other two ladies. They, also, owed their safety to the man with the sword, who procured chairs for them and got them to the yamên. He appears to have remained incognito. Another missionary, escaping from his burning home, entered the house of a Chinese doctor, who swathed him in bandages, covered his head with a Chinese hood, and in the guise of a moribund Chinaman, placed him on the shoulders of coolies and sent him to the yamên. Yet another missionary reached the out-station where his wife awaited him, by disguising himself as an official *en route* to meet the in-coming Viceroy, the real officials making him up with blue glasses, long boots, uniform cap, and so forth. But against the comfort inspired by these evidences of native goodwill has to be placed the fact that although a month and a half has elapsed since the riots took place, many missionaries at out-stations in Szechuan still remain without protection, exposed to mob violence at any moment. The whole problem of foreigners' residence in the interior of China becomes more and more perplexing as years go by. As for the Viceroy of Szechuan, Liu Ping-chang, who is charged with direct responsibility for the riots, he doubtless supposed that, being on the eve of surrendering his Viceroyalty, all inconvenient consequences might be avoided so far as concerned himself. But he reckoned without his host, for his successor, Lu Ch'uan-lin, memoralized the Throne that Lin should remain to settle the trouble, since it had taken place during his term of office, and the result was that Liu had to return to Chêngtu, though he had already put a considerable distance between himself and that city.

Germany is reported to have obtained a Concession in Tientsin. The land granted has a river frontage of about two-thirds of a mile and extends backwards some 400 yards from the foreshore. It is below the British Concession, and includes the former American Concession. A period of thirty years will be allowed to buy out existing Chinese interests. There is no expectation that Germany will attempt to reserve the Concession for her own subjects only: the lots will probably be put up to public auction. Hence the event is universally welcomed, for the foreign residents of Tientsin have long been suffering from a state of congestion. It is hinted that this is the reward obtained by Germany for her share in "advising" Japan to surrender the Liaotung Peninsula. If so, the drama of Triple Alliance is now fully *en evidence*. France obtains possession of the territory that should have constituted a buffer state between Indo-China, British territory, and China Proper; Germany gets a concession in Tientsin; France and Russia become Pekin's bankers, and Russia acquires an inferrential title to some part of Manchuria. It is the prettiest example of vicarious pilfering on record. Japan does the fighting and exacts the spoils of victory, three European Powers wrest the spoils from the victor by a show of overwhelming force, and sell them back to the vanquished in exchange for fresh spoils of which each appropriates a portion. These are *fin-de-siècle* object lessons in national dignity and international morality.

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THE JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

WE are again confronted by a terrible indictment of the Japanese troops. "Japanese inhumanity in Formosa calls aloud for protest," writes the *Japan Gazette*. "Japan in Formosa is repeating the Port Arthur atrocities with cold-blooded resolution. · · · The Japanese are ruthlessly butchering men, women, and children. · · · This sickening massacre of the innocents is not war. Before this hideous sacrifice of life the atrocities of a HEROD seem inoffensive. · · · It is the result of deliberate instructions issued by the officers in charge. It is part of the orders. It has been determined, apparently, not merely to conquer but to exterminate. · · · This savagery will recoil upon the Japanese heads. · · · Suppose Japan had ceded Kiushu to China, does anyone imagine that the haughty spirits of the southern Japanese would lead them to accept Chinese Government without a struggle? But go further, and imagine the Chinese soldiers burning the villages as they went, slicing to pieces helpless infants, infirm women, and mothers with child. Civilized Christendom, infuriated at the sight, would teach such a lesson to the ruthless Celestial as would cause Pekin to shudder, and men to speak in affrighted whispers in Far Turkestan of the wrath of the West. · · · A few shots from village patriots is sufficient excuse for the Japanese to send every soul to judgment. · · · In indulging an army in the lust for innocent blood, the Japanese are creating a FRANKENSTEIN which one day may grow beyond control. In inculcating into so many men a contempt for the sacredness of helpless life they are storing up for posterity an inheritance of violence that future rulers of Japan may have cause to curse. The Japanese should pause. If to-day the world applauds, history will be severe in its strictures, and nature has a terrible method of visiting upon the children the sins of those who think to defy her laws with impunity, and she punishes even to the third and fourth generations. Infanticide and a craving for the blood of helpless women is an appalling legacy for heredity to transmit to posterity."

We have made these copious extracts in order that our readers many form a clear idea of the character of the accusation preferred against the Japanese troops in Formosa and of the spirit in which it is preferred. It would scarcely be possible to employ stronger language that the *Japan Gazette* employs. It paints an appalling picture, and when it tells us that "the atrocities of a HEROD seem inoffensive before the hideous sacrifice of life" taking place in Formosa, we see that there is question of one of the most awful pages ever added to the history of warfare. Let us hasten at once to say that if even a small part of the charges formulated in such excited and sensational language by the *Japan Gazette* be true, it will become the duty of all civilized persons to raise their voices in indignant protest. But for that very reason, for the reason that the crime alleged against the Japanese troops is so terrible, so damnable, it is a plain duty to investigate it thoroughly before passing judgment. By and by, we shall have ample evidence to prove or disprove the charge, but in the meanwhile, since it has been publicly advanced in such unmeasured terms and with such absolute assurance, it can not be suffered to pass without analysis. What is the *Japan Gazette's* authority? "Private advices from the north of Formosa." These are its own words. Not another tittle of evidence does it adduce in support of the awful indictment. "Private advices from the north of Formosa." What is the date of these advices? That is an important point, because there are also public advices apparently up to the latest possible date, and they contain nothing to warrant the *Japan Gazette's* terrible charge. The quickest route for receiving intelligence from Formosa is *viâ* Shanghai. By that route we have Japanese correspondence up to July 17th, and we have English correspondence up to July 16th and July 20th. The Japanese correspondence need not be considered in this context, but the English correspondence is of vital importance. That of July 16th takes the form of a long letter to the *North China Daily News* from that journal's "correspondent with the Japanese Army." We reproduce the letter in full elsewhere. It does not say one word about the awful and wholesale massacres described by the *Japan Gazette*, the massacres "beside which a HEROD'S atrocities seem inoffensive." On the contrary, it is filled with praises of Japanese leniency, and it describes the Chinese as panic-stricken believers in every idle rumour that reaches them. The letter of July 20th is much shorter. It describes the difficulties encountered by the Japanese, but contains no hint of any barbarities perpetrated by them. This correspondent is actually with the troops. It is incredible that the widespread horrors alleged by the *Japan Gazette* can have occurred without his knowledge. Are the *Japan Gazette's* "private advices from North Formosa" of later date than July the 16th or July 20th? If not, where and when did the massacres of women and children occur; the "slicing to pieces of helpless infants, infirm women, and mothers with child"? If the *Japan Gazette* has any advices warranting its fearful indictment, they should have been produced at once. Never did any newspaper take upon itself such an immense responsibility in so light and trivial a manner. If it can prove its charges, every journal in the East will echo its condemnation. If it can not, it will stand permanently disgraced and discredited.

We have spoken thus far of journalistic correspondence, written correspondence, and we have seen that, so far from confirming, it emphatically contradicts the *Japan Gazette's* "private advices." Telegraphic intelligence remains to be considered. A telegram from Amoy, dated July 18th, says:—"It is reported that as they retreated, the Japanese destroyed every house they chanced to pass and killed every man, woman, and child they either got hold of or could get a shot at." This, it will be observed is given as a "report." We have discussed it elsewhere and shown that the battle from which the Japanese were supposed to be retreating when the atrocities took place, never occurred at all. Official reports up to July 27th show that the engagement referred to in the Amoy telegram, the engagement of July 17th, when 800 Japanese "advancing from Tokoham towards Tainan-fu" were inveigled into an ambush and lost 600 of their number—official reports show that this engagement never came to the notice of the Japanese Authorities. Everything seems to indicate that it is a greatly exaggerated version of the annihilation of a Japanese detachment of 35 men on the 12th of July. Moreover, the Amoy telegram contains intrinsic evidence of untrustworthiness, for it represents a defeated General as ordering his soldiers to give no quarter, and it asks us to believe that a little band of 200 men, flying from a field where 600 of their comrades lay dead, destroyed every house and killed every human being they encountered in their flight. Such things are not absolutely impossible, but they are in the last degree improbable, and, at any rate, the conduct of a small party of fugitives escaping under such circumstances would constitute a ludicrously inadequate basis for the tremendous indictment preferred by the *Japan Gazette*.

It is a public duty to sift the truth of such charges. If they be proved, every one will join in denouncing the guilty persons. Until they are proved, judgment must be suspended. In the meanwhile, we venture to affirm that never before did a newspaper prefer such a tremendous accusation on the strength of mere "private advices," not a word of which is placed before its readers, and not a word of which is confirmed by published correspondence covering the whole period within which the atrocities are alleged to have taken place.

THE "CALÉDONIEN" AFFAIR.

IT is to be hoped that the Kobe journals will endeavour to obtain and publish further particulars of the disturbance on board the M.M. steamer *Calédonien*. The fact that fights between Japanese coolies and foreigners occur frequently at Kobe and are

comparatively unknown elsewhere, tends to show that some special element of truculence exists among the Japanese labouring classes in Hyogo. It might, of course, be argued that Kobe's notoriety in this respect suggests a violent spirit on the side of the foreigners there, but we can not see how such an inference would hold when it is remembered that the foreigners—mainly shipping folk—implicated in these disturbances are a shifting population, whereas the coolies remain practically the same. There are consequently grounds for viewing the action of the Japanese with suspicion from the outset. But unfortunately the published accounts of these occurrences are always of an *ex parte* character. The foreign journals naturally derive their facts from foreign sources only, and nothing is ever heard of what the Japanese may have to say in their own defence. This suggestion will, of course, expose us to much abuse. A storm of indignation will be raised at the mere notion of hinting that there can be two sides to such questions. But people desiring to be fair will at once appreciate the propriety of our criticism. Certain newspapers have established in Japan a tyranny of injustice, so despotic that scarcely once in a twelvemonth does any individual venture to assert independence of judgment. It is necessary either to take an anti-Japanese view of everything or to be held up to public scorn as a renegade and a rascal. The spirit of fair play may have become very debilitated under such circumstances, but it is not dead. The *Calédonien* affair, as it stands, presents some curious features. It has already evoked some strongly worded articles, in which the coolies are denounced in unmeasured terms. "Always ready to provoke a quarrel," they have become, we are told, so puffed up by their country's successes in war, that they now represent a very dangerous element. Moreover the whole responsibility for the *Calédonien* fracas is laid on their shoulders, and the police, also, are blamed for not being sufficiently active in suppressing such disturbances. Now, our own observation certainly does not warrant us in endorsing the assertion that Japanese coolies are "always ready to provoke a quarrel." We should be disposed, on the contrary, to describe them as eminently good-humoured, peaceable folk. Rarely indeed do they quarrel among themselves, and when anything of the kind happens, the invariable tendency of the majority is to play the part of peacemakers. At the same time, it does seem that the whole Japanese nation is permeated by a fighting spirit. Something very like pitched battles are not infrequent occurrences in the agricultural and fishing districts. These happenings belong, however, to a special category. They are not mere truculent brawls, but deliberate contests in defence of some real or alleged right, and their only bearing on cases like that of the *Calédonien* is that they show the Japanese in the light of men too ready to resort to violence if they believe themselves aggrieved. But there must be a grievance. Assuredly where foreigners and Japanese are concerned, especially when the latter are in the position of the former's *employés*, there will seldom, very seldom, be found on the Japanese side a disposition to take a violent initiative. We have not seen one instance of the kind in twenty-eight years, though, of course, we do not claim any conclusive value for negative testimony. Passing, however, from the general question of the Japanese labourer's disposition, let us briefly examine the facts of the *Calédonien* affair as set forth in the Kobe journals. The opening incident was that a coolie "accosted a Japanese woman on the ship's spar deck and attempted to take liberties with her." We are told that she was "a helpless, inoffensive Japanese woman." Who and what was she, this woman, and what was the nature of the liberties in question? Japanese females found on the spar decks of steamers in port are not generally very particular as to the nature of the greetings they receive. As a matter of ship's discipline, it is conceivable that the woman should not have been there at all. That point should certainly be ascertained as essential to a just review of the whole affair, for though under no circumstances was the coolie warranted in "attempting to take liberties with her," the degree of his offence depends in part upon her character. The next incidents were that "one of the French mail boat's crew interfered on the woman's behalf, whereupon the aggressive coolie gave the foreigner a sharp shove." What was the nature of the Frenchman's "interference" on the woman's behalf? That is a most vital question. Did he strike the coolie, or did he thrust him aside? Did he lay hands on him at all? If he did, the responsibility of aggression does not rest with the Japanese. Then "the foreigner retaliated and a fight commenced," with the speedy result that several of the coolies and of the ship's crew were engaged. The captain of the *Calédonien*, in attempting to restore order, received two blows, and thereupon issued orders to his crew to clear the decks, which was done with such resolution that, in a few moments, "seven Japanese were lying in various positions on the pier, *hors de combat*." "One coolie," we read, "on being thrown over the side, struck one of the bollards on the pier with such force that his face was badly smashed, and the man curled up in a heap on the Pier. Another fell between the Pier and the ship's side, but he was dragged up shortly afterwards. . . . . Two of the seven men were found to be very badly injured, and were taken away to the Kobe Hospital. One wounded man was not removed until about 11 p.m. In the meantime, he was left in an unconscious state in one of the goods trucks under guard of a Policeman." It is worth while to consider this result carefully. Seven Japanese coolies were so badly hurt that they lay about the pier, crippled for the moment; one had his face so badly smashed that he "curled up in a heap;" another was thrown between the pier and the ship's side, and another lay insensible for several hours. Was any one on board the steamer hurt? We are not told that there was, and it is very certain that such an omission would not have been willingly made by the reporters. With such evidence before us it is difficult to escape the conviction that needless and dangerous violence was resorted to by the ship's crew. That, however, is a delicate and difficult point. So soon as force is employed for the purpose of clearing a body of men from the deck of a ship, the question of degree becomes hard to estimate. At all events, the last phase of the affair seems to have been exceedingly one-sided, so far as it went, and although Captain BEVILAQUA may have been well advised in resorting to most vigorous methods before the coolies could be re-inforced, fuller evidence is needed before such a perilous display of strength can be approved. We do not pretend to pass judgment either way; the published reports are not sufficient. Our object is merely to show that a rough and ready verdict does not fit the facts as we know them, and that, while the real origin of the fracas remains obscure, the results were of a very one-sided character. We trust, therefore, that the investigations made by the Japanese police authorities in Kobe and by the French Consul will be carefully published, for, as the case now stands, neither the ship nor the coolies are vindicated.

MASSACRE OF PROTESTANT MISSIONARIES IN CHINA.

FROM telegrams received on Monday in Tokyo it appears that an appalling outrage has been committed in China at a place called Kuchang, which, we believe, is a summer resort near Foochow. It is stated that ten English missionaries, among whom were eight ladies, have been massacred. Beyond this meagre account we know nothing, except that the terrible barbarity is attributed to a secret society. If the latter hypothesis be correct, the outrage is probably intended to embroil the Government with foreign Powers. We fear that there is little reason to doubt the truth of the massacre. The first news reached Tokyo on Saturday. It spoke of five foreign ladies having been killed and others wounded. On Monday this was confirmed by another message, putting the total number of the victims at ten, including eight ladies, and describing them all as English. Nothing so shocking

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has occurred in China since the Tientsin massacre in 1870, when thirteen women and eight men met their deaths at the hands of a mob. On that occasion France's attention was so fully occupied by her war with Germany that the barbarous murder of nineteen of her subjects—two of the victims were Russian—did not receive expiation commensurate with the magnitude of the crime. The incident was followed by a strong wave of anti-foreign feeling throughout the Chinese empire, and that men in high places sympathised with the sentiment was proved by the publication and wide circulation of the notorious "Death-blow to Corrupt Doctrine." Owing, however, to the exertions of the liberal party in Pekin, popular prejudice was prevented from immediately claiming any fresh victims, but it has always been believed that the comparative immunity enjoyed by the perpetrators of the massacre is responsible for many of the outrages recorded during the quarter of a century that has elapsed since then. We are now confronted by the fact that in the rapid sequel of a wide-spread series of outrages against foreign property in Szechuan, terrible destruction of English life has taken place in a totally different part of the empire, and it is difficult to avoid the conviction that nowhere in China can foreign life or property be counted safe. Confronted by such circumstances, it is not the duty of any journalist to foment public excitement by dwelling on the heinousness of the crime or by clamouring for signal vengeance. HER MAJESTY'S officials may be safely relied on to take whatever steps the occasion calls for. But it must be confessed that the problem of foreign relations with China is becoming more and more complicated, and that the constant repitition of these horrors must soon exhaust the patience of Western Powers. If only full punishment could be made to fall upon the actual perpetrators of the crimes and upon those directly responsible for the preservation of law and order, some hope of reform might be entertained. But a Treaty State is constrained to deal with the Central Government, and under China's administrative system the Central Government's arm does not reach beyond the walls of Pekin.

JAPANESE FORCES IN FORMOSA.

WHEN it became known that Count KABAYAMA was to be accompanied to Formosa by a Division of the Guards, numbering from twelve to fourteen thousand men, many persons believed that the circumstances did not demand the employment of so large a force. But events have proved that the Japanese Authorities under-estimated, rather than over-estimated, the nature of the resistance to be overcome. The people of Formosa are fighting with stubborn bravery unexampled in the history of Chinese warfare. They can not, indeed, make head against the well disciplined and resolute troops of Japan, but, on the other hand, they do not accept defeat. To be driven with heavy loss from one position means only to rally in another. Even the women seem to be sharing in the task of repelling the invaders. It looks as if the thorough conquest of the island must involve terrible bloodshed. No one can choose but sympathise with the stout-hearted islanders, who fight, as they imagine, for their hearths and homes, not knowing that submission would secure them in the possession of both under a regimen of law and order such as they have never before experienced. Naturally people ask whether it is not possible to bring that knowledge home to them by means other than shrapnel and mitrailleuse. But we may infer from the history of Japan's campaign in Manchuria that her commanders in Formosa have neglected no opportunity of proclaiming and showing clemency to all that refrain from armed resistance. Long and cruel experience of the ways of their own troops have, however, rendered the Chinese utterly distrustful of all soldiers, and it seems as though, for the present, a resolute exercise of force can alone resolve the situation. Very plain predictions that such a necessity would have to be recognised sooner or later, have been made by foreign correspondents watching the campaign, but their letters betray such unmistakable indications of strong anti-Chinese prejudice that the public has hesitated to accept their deductions. They appear to have prophesied truly, however. Probably the most merciful course now offering is an exhibition of overwhelming force, and a campaign that will sweep away every vestige of resistance from end to end of Formosa. The Japanese Government is believed to have resolved upon that plan. The opening scenes of the campaign were misleading, since the opposing forces consisted of the wretched rabble called soldiers in China. These men were speedily routed: indeed their deportation to the mainland was the principal task involved in getting rid of them. But when it came to fighting with the islanders proper, the Hakkas and the tribesmen—the Black Flags have not yet appeared upon the scene and will probably give little trouble when they do—a different state of affairs was discovered, and unfortunately there is little room to doubt that we shall be once more obliged to witness the uncompromising subjugation of a brave people fighting against hopeless odds. The more speedily and effectually the drama is concluded, the better. It is now understood to be the Government's intention to raise the army in Formosa to two Divisions and a half, or about forty thousand men. Under any circumstances, the permanent garrison of the island must be at least two Divisions, one stationed in the north, with with its head-quarters at Taipeh; the other in the south, with Tainan for head-quarters, and though the original programme may have been to despatch these troops gradually, it is now evidently desirable that they should go at once. The Guards, of course, will not remain in Formosa after the subjugation of the island: they will have to be brought home and replaced by another Division. Thus, expediency and economy alike dictate that the troops destined ultimately to garrison the place should be sent thither quickly. After all, Formosa will not be added to the Japanese empire without heavy outlay of blood and treasure.

THE KOBE COOLIES.

SINCE writing about the fracas on board the M.M. steamer *Calédonien* we have received from a trustworthy source information that shows the coolie question in a very evil light. We are assured that the truculence and disorderliness of these men have almost passed the bounds of endurance, not in Kobe alone, but also in Yokohama; that they behave with the greatest insolence; that they hustle the officers of ships, smash the gear, and altogether render themselves as objectionable as possible. We are also assured that matters have become distinctly worse since the war, inasmuch as, owing to the great demand for seamen, it has been found necessary to have recourse to the coolie class to man the ships, the result, of course, being that the crews are no longer so steady as they used to be, and can not be trusted to assist in preserving order when men of their own genus have to be dealt with. Under such circumstances we can well conceive that the action taken on board the *Calédonien* was prudent and necessary, and that the terrible punishment inflicted on the coolies may have a salutary effect. Our informant adds, however, that the police show a great want of alacrity in these cases. They do not yet recognise the essential fact, recognised and acted upon in all Western countries, that the master and officers of a vessel are the responsible representatives of law and order on board, and that on their appeal the whole strength of the police should be exercised in accordance with their direction, no pause being made to investigate the rights and wrongs of the case until after order has been thoroughly restored. We are assured that this thing has reached a dangerous pass, and that already the greatest difficulty is experienced in preventing the crews of ships from having recourse to weapons, which, if once brought into use, would involve most serious results. Considering the *Calédonien* incident apart, there is evidently room to question which side first assumed the aggressive; but considering it in conjunction with what we are now told of the general conduct of

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the coolies, we can have little difficulty in allotting the blame. We venture to hope, therefore, that the Japanese Authorities will give their earnest consideration to the matter. One or two more incidents like that of the *Calédonien* may produce a state of affairs no longer capable of being brought under the control of ordinary executive measures, and at any moment we may hear of bloodshed that would long embitter the feelings of the Japanese, and possibly produce international complications. It is not to be denied that foreigners have often been rough and overbearing in their demeanour toward the Japanese. But all that belongs to the past, and even if the memory of it be partially responsible for the conduct of the coolies to-day, no allowance can be made on that score. Two wrongs do not make a right. We do not think that we exaggerate the importance of this matter when we say that it demands immediate official attention, and that, in view of the frequent disturbances now on record, the responsibility of discovering and applying a remedy must be held to rest with the police.

THE ALLEGED ATROCITIES IN FORMOSA.

THE *Japan Gazette*, having accused the Japanese of "repeating in Formosa the Port Arthur atrocities with cold-blooded resolution;" of "ruthlessly butchering men, women, and children;" of perpetrating such "a hideous sacrifice of life that the atrocities of a HEROD seem inoffensive before it;" of committing excesses for which history has no parallel "unless we go back to the days of the Huns, and even they sometimes spared the woman;" of "slicing to pieces helpless infants, infirm women, and mothers with child"—the *Japan Gazette* having preferred this awful accusation, having deliberately declared that the Japanese methods of warfare in Formosa are more savage than anything recorded in history, refuses to adduce one iota of evidence in support of its assertions, and justifies its refusal by alleging that the *Japan Mail* has no right either through its impartiality or its veracity to pose as a judge." We believe that if this incident were introduced, exactly as it has occurred, into a stage burlesque of journalism, its extravagance would deprive it of any title to be ridiculous. The *Japan Gazette* acknowledges no duty toward the Japanese nation whose troops it has openly accused of these appalling atrocities; acknowledges no duty to the public at whose bar it has laid this terrible charge. It imagines that it can escape the responsibilities of truth, of honour, and of justice, by alleging its unwillingness to be judged by the *Japan Mail*. It withholds every word of evidence. It "declines to state who the gentleman was in North Formosa that furnished the information." Was it ever asked to state his name? Of course not. That is a miserable subterfuge. What the public wants are his words. Does he say that he witnessed these atrocities with his own eyes? Does he say that he saw, he himself saw, the "ruthless butchery of women and children," the "slicing to pieces of helpless infants, infirm women, and mothers with child?" This is a cruel business. If the Japanese are doing what the *Japan Gazette* alleges, they deserve the execration of all the world. If they are not doing it, the *Japan Gazette* deserves that execration. In either case, we are persuaded that no other instance is on record of a newspaper's preferring a fearful accusation of savage inhumanity against the troops of a civilized nation, and preferring it in the strongest terms that the English language furnishes, without producing a tittle of testimony in support of the accusation. There the matter must be left for the moment. Nothing can be affirmed, nothing denied, with our present knowledge. Judgment must be reserved.

IT is worth while to draw the attention of our readers to the letter, published in our columns to-day, from our correspondent with the Japanese troops in Formosa. The writer is at present at Nagasaki, but was in Formosa up to a very recent date. What we desire to point out with regard to his letter will be best explained by an extract from our issue of August 5th:—

> On the 22nd of July very sensational telegrams reached Shanghai from Amoy. They announced fierce fighting between the Japanese and the Hakkas; represented the latter as having decoyed 800 of the soldiers into an ambush and killed 600 of them; asserted that the insurgents were advancing in great force on the Japanese intrenchments at Teckcham (Sinchuh), and added that the Chinese inhabitants of Tamsui, losing confidence in the ability of the Japanese to protect them, were leaving the place in large numbers. It is, of course, easy to trace the origin of these rumours. They are evidently a magnified version of the annihilation of two Japanese detachments, one consisting of 35 infantry soldiers, the other of 22 troopers, and of movements leading up to the unsuccessful attempt made by the insurgents to recapture Teckcham on the 25th of July.

If, now, our readers will turn to the Nagasaki letter they will see that it explicitly, though, of course, unwittingly, confirms our conjecture as to the origin of the Amoy rumour. "It was this affair" (*i.e.*, the annihilation of a detachment of 32, or 35, infantry) writes our correspondent, "combined with the loss of 15 cavalry men about the same date, that gave rise to the Chinese reports which placed the Japanese loss all the way from one hundred to one thousand." The public is already too familiar with Chinese fabrications and exaggerations to be surprised that the annihilation of an infantry escort and a cavalry patrol should assume the dimensions indicated in the Amoy telegram. Were the question one of hyperbole alone, we should not think it worthy of special reference. But it was in the sequel of this imaginary ambush and wholesale slaughter that the Japanese soldiers are alleged to have committed terrible atrocities. Here are the words of the telegram:—

> It now turns out that a large body of Hakkas and Black Flags, who had been giving the Japanese a good deal of trouble, inveigled 800 of the latter into an ambush and then attacked them, causing them to retreat after a desperate engagement in which several hundreds were killed on both sides; the Japanese lost about 600. The insurgents followed up the Japanese, and, encouraged by their success, fought desperately, ultimately dislodging them from Tokoham and driving them northwards and westwards.
>
> As soon as the Japanese Commander saw he had been deceived by the insurgents, and that his men were being rapidly slaughtered, he gave orders that no mercy should be shown to the enemy.
>
> It is reported that as they retreated, the Japanese destroyed every house they chanced to pass, and killed every man, woman, and child they either got hold of or could get a shot at!

On receipt of this telegram we at once pointed out the inherent improbability of the statements contained in it; namely, that a General, at the moment of receiving a crushing defeat and losing 75 per cent. of his men, should issue orders to show no mercy to the enemy, and that 200 soldiers flying from a field where 600 of their comrades lay dead, and followed closely by their foes, should burn "every house they chanced to pass" and kill "every man, woman, or child they either got hold of or could get a shot at." But it is now certain that the alleged inveighing of 800 Japanese into an ambush, the slaughter of 600 of them, the retreat of the rest and the re-capture of Tokoham by the Hakkas and Black Flags, are all mythical occurrences. What then becomes of the "killing of every man, woman, and child" that the retreating Japanese could get hold of or get a shot at? There were in fact some retreating Japanese: three troopers out of a squadron of 18, and four infantry soldiers out of an escort of 32. Were these the fiends that perpetrated "hideous sacrifices of life and sickening massacres of the innocents before which the atrocities of a HEROD seem inoffensive?" The soldier that hid in a marsh all day and waded down a river all night to save his life, was he a seventh part of the army that "sliced to pieces helpless infants, infirm women, and mothers with child," and "stored up for posterity an inheritance of violence that future rulers of Japan may have cause to curse?" However, it is fruitless to pass judgment upon charges totally unsupported by any evidence. Chinese rumours have hitherto been the sole basis of one of the most turgid and sweeping denunciations ever levelled at any army by a newspaper. The most important of those rumours have now been proved groundless. It remains to be seen whether the rest will stand the test of fuller information.

MESSRS. VILLIERS, CREELMAN, AND O'BRIEN.

WE are constrained to revert once more to the Port Arthur affair. We do so with many apologies to our readers, but it shall not be said that we deliberately suffered to pass uncorrected any of the

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miserable misstatements that continue to accumulate round this wretched business. As usual, the *Japan Gazttee* is in question—a journal that has shown incredible pertinacity in endeavouring to represent in their very worst possible light the excesses committed by the Japanese soldiery, and in attacking with fierce insistence every effort to sift the false from the true. Speaking of Mr. VILLIERS, the correspondent of *Black and White*, the *Japan Gazette* now says:—"Because he told what he saw, and took photographs of what he saw, of things done by Japan, we are asked to believe him guilty of the most awful lying that any correspondont could ever perpetrate against soldiery." Truly this reads like a dream. When and by whom has Mr. VILLIERS been charged with "awful lying?" In the columns of this journal his statements about Port Arthur have never been discussed. We regard him as a strictly honourable man, and have never doubted that he spoke exactly what he believed to be true. Of Mr. CREELMAN we can not say quite so much, for he has undoubtedly been convicted of things difficult to reconcile with a strict sense of veracity. But we do not undertake to judge between sensationalism and falsehood; between the exaggerations of an excitable word-painter and the deliberate misstatements of a romancer. Mr. CREELMAN may have written in perfect good faith, but he certainly was guilty of hyperbole. As for Mr. COWEN, whose testimony also is cited by the *Gazette*, his last verdict—spoken in a recent lecture in Hongkong—is this:—"Practically it" (the Port Arther business) "amounted to hardly anything more than the killing of men who could have been taken alive. This was certainly reprehensible, but none the less almost anybody on earth would have done the same under the provocation given." We ourselves hold this to be too lenient a verdict. But there it stands. No fault can be found with it for want of explicitness, nor can Mr. COWEN be any longer cited as a witness for the prosecution. Why there should be so much anxiety to make the case as black as possible for the Japanese, we do not perceive. It is black enough in all conscience, without the addition of any sensational exaggerations. In this instance the avowed object of the *Japan Gazette* in reverting to the subject is to prove that no evidence unfavourable to the Japanese will ever be received by us. It forgets conveniently that we were the first to publish an account of the Port Arthur excesses, on the strength of evidence furnished by a foreign correspondent. It forgets that we condemned those excesses in strong terms before any other detailed reference to them had appeared in print. It forgets a great many things, but one of its most curious and unfortunate lapses of memory is now before us. To demonstrate it, three quotations are necessary:—

Japan Gazette. July 30th.

Lieut. O'Brien, says the *San Francisco Bulletin* has been recalled because at Tokyo he is a *persona non grata*. He wrote an account of the Port Arthur massacre. The letter is dated December 28th. It reads in part:—

"As to the unfortunate circumstances at Port Artthur I can only speak of what I saw, of course, but I am sorry to say that even that little is such as to lay the army open to the most severe censure. I have seen a number of cases of the killing of men who not only could have been made prisoners without difficulty, but who were plainly unarmed and in a position of humble surrender. I have also seen a number of bodies whose hands were tied behind their backs. Also bodies very much multilated and having wounds that indicated that they were killed with the bayonet, when beyond question there was no resistance. I have seen these and other horrors in the course of my observations of the battle while going to the forts and main points of interest. I saw no new acts of war or pillage on the 22nd and 23rd (November), excepting the looting of houses and stores. That went on until there was nothing left to loot."

The letter goes on to assign as a reason for the Japanese atrocities that the army had expected greater resistance than it met, that with such an idea the troops began to clear the way by force and that control over them was lost.

The remark is made: "I do not think this excuse sufficient. Such acts have always met with censure and so must this case."

Japan Gazette. Aug. 5th.

Finally, an appeal was made to the evidence of Lieut. O'Brien. We have quoted that soldier's evidence, and it has been passed unnoticed as of no value.

Japan Mail, July 6th.

We have received "Appendix I. Foreign Relations of the United States, 1894," from which we extract the following:—

Mr. DUN to Mr. GRESHAM.

No. 90] Legation of the United States, Tokyo, Japan, January, 7, 1895. (Received January 29).

Sir,—Referring to my dispatch of date December 20, 1894, relative to the Port Arthur affair, I have the honour to inclose herewith an extract from a personal letter to me from Lieut. M. J. O'Brien, military attaché of this Legation, Kinchou, China, December 28, 1894, giving an account of the unfortunate circumstances attending the capture of Port Arthur by the Japanese forces.

Lieutenant O'Brien's statement corresponds with a statement made by Colonel de Wogack, Russian military agent to Japan and China; also with that of Mr. George W. Conner, an American in command of a Japanese transport, who was present at the taking of Port Arthur.

From the statements of these gentlemen, it appears to be clear that there was a slaughter of Chinese soldiers at Port Arthur on the 21st of November, 1894, but that the horrors reported by Mr. Creelman in his communication in the *New York World* as having taken place subsequent to that date are not true, and that the impression Mr. Creelman's reports are prone to convey is a gross exaggeration of the truth.

I have, etc., EDWIN DUN.

(Inclosure No. 90.)

Kin-chou, Liau-Tung Province, China, December 28, 1894.

Dear Mr Dun,—As to the unfortunate circumstances at Port Arthur, I can only say what I saw of it, of course; but I am sorry to say that even that little is such as to lay the army open to the most severe censure, especially as it was quite different from what one should have expected from Marshal Oyama's proclamation. I have seen myself a number of cases of the killing of men who not only could have been made prisoners without resistance, but who were plainly unarmed and in a position of most humble surrender. I have also seen a number of bodies whose hands were tied behind their backs. I have seen bodies very much mutilated and bearing wounds indicating that they were killed with the bayonet, when I know beyond question that where they lie there was no resistance. I have seen these things, not as a result of going around for the purpose of seeing horrors, but in the ordinary course of my observation of the battle and of trips to the forts and main points of interest; I heard talk here among the correspondents of atrocities committed on the 22d and 23d of November. Of these I know nothing whatever. I did not see any atrocities on those days. I heard some firing in the hills around the town, but saw no act of violence on either of those days. I was about the town most of the 22nd and during the afternoon of the 23rd, but saw no new acts of war or pillage, except the looting of the houses and stores. That went on until there was really nothing much left to loot.

I find some excuse for the acts of the 21st in the barbarities committed by the Chinese. The mutilated heads of some Japanese captives were hung on some small trees at the entrance of the town, and this sight must have enraged the troops. Again, I doubt if the Japanese for a moment thought they were going to have such an easy task in taking the town and sea forts. When they advanced through the town it is my belief that they were momentarily looking for the resistance, and with such an idea began to clear the way, with the result that the troops soon got out of hand and made an unnecessary slaughter. I do not think this excuse sufficient, but it ought to be borne in mind that such occurrences happen in all armies and it is hardly fair to expect miracles of the Japanese. At the same time such acts have always met with censure, and so must this case.

To anybody who has—as I have since I joined this army—seen the kindness, courtesy, and gentle ways of the Japanese, the recollection of Port Arthur is especially unpleasant. Up to that time the behaviour of the army toward the poor people of this country was all that anybody could have wished. Since that time such has also been the case as far as I know. Here at Kin-chou the Japanese have treated the Chinese in the most kind and fair way. Everything that could be done had been done to quiet the Chinese and to insure a just and fair treatment to them. Markets have been opened and fair prices have always been paid. There is no lawlessness and no sign of ill-treatment. In truth, I think these Chinese are now better off than they have ever been in their lives, and I think they appreciate the fact.

In view of these facts, I can not but feel that the acts of this army at Port Arthur ought not to be remembered and its acts at other times forgotten. There may have been special causes leading up to the affair at Port Arthur of which I am not aware. I have no doubt that exaggerated reports have been sent, but not having seen them I am not able to make any criticism of them. I have not up to this time made any report of this phase of the battle, and do so now only because I judge from your letter that reports of it have come to your ears and you may desire more solid foundation for any expression of view which might become necessary hereafter.

I have been very kindly and courteously treated by all the Japanese officers I have met. To Field-Marshal Oyama and his staff I am indebted for many comforts, all the more appreciated because of the especially friendly spirit in which they have been extended. To General Kawakami and his subordinates at Hiroshima I am also under many obligations. In fact, I cheerfully bear testimony to the fact that such general kindness and thoughtfulness is more than I could fairly have expected from any army in the world.

Yours very truly, M. J. O'BRIEN.

If our readers will take the trouble to look at these quotations they will observe that the *Japan Gazette's* publication of July 30th is the first paragraph of the letter published by us in full on July 6th. If, again, they will take the trouble to compare the *Japan Gazette's* extract with the corresponding portion of the letter reproduced by us from the United States "Foreign Relations," they will see that not only is the former garbled, but it is also abbreviated. They will further see that whereas the extract purports to comprise the whole gist of the letter, it does nothing of the kind, since all the explanatory and extenuating portions of the document are expunged. It is, in fact, a grossly and palpably dishonest attempt to pervert Lieut. O'BRIEN'S evidence. No one has ever denied that excesses were committed at Port Arthur. Upon that point there is complete unanimity. The main question has been, were murderous atrocities deliberately perpetrated during the three days succeeding the capture of the town? Lieut. O'BRIEN'S letter, as officially recorded, says:—"I was about the town most of the 22nd and during the afternoon of the 23rd, but saw no new acts of war or pillage except the looting of the houses and stores." The chief value of this testimony lies in the fact that Lieut. O'BRIEN was "about the town" during the greater part of the two days immediately succeeding its capture. Mr. CREELMAN wrote that "a reign of murder continued all through the second day" (the 22nd), and that "the work of butchering the unarmed and unresisting inhabitants continued day after day until the streets were choked

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up with mutilated corpses." Is it conceivable that such things could have happened without coming under the notice of a military attaché who was "about the town," going round the little place, where these awful scenes were being enacted, during a great part of the very days on which they are supposed to have happened? But the *Japan Gazette's* garbled extract carefully omits Lieutenant O'BRIEN'S statement that he was "about the town," and puts into his mouth a piece of comparatively worthless negative testimony. Again, the *Japan Gazette's* garbled extract makes Lieut. O'BRIEN say:—I do not think this excuse sufficient. Such acts have always met with censure and so they must this case;" whereas, what he really wrote was:—"I do not think this excuse sufficient, *but it ought to be borne in mind that such occurrences happen in all armies and it is hardly fair to expect miracles of the Japanese. At the same time*, such acts have always met with censure, and so must this case." Observe the omission—the italicized portion. Need we comment on it? Yet again the *Japan Gazette's* garbled extract makes Lieut. O'BRIEN say:—"*I have seen these and other horrors* in the course of my observations of the battle while going to the forts and main points of interest," whereas what the Lieutenant really wrote was, "I have seen these things, *not as a result of going around for the purpose of seeing horrors*, but in the ordinary course of my observation of the battle and of trips to the forts and main points of interest." His statement that he had not gone in search of horrors is perverted into an assertion that he had seen these and *other horrors*. Can any sane man, with all the goodwill in the world, believe that these omissions, these misquotations, these perversions, radically changing, as they do, the character of Lieut. O'BRIEN'S evidence, were the result of mere carelessness on the part of a copyist? But that is not all. We have still to note the most exquisite piece of clumsy audacity on the part of the *Japan Gazette* that has ever fallen under our observation. The *Japan Gazette's* garbled, dishonestly garbled, extract was published, as will be seen, on July 30th, whereas the complete letter from which it was taken, together with the United States Minister's covering despatch, appeared in the *Japan Mail* of July 6th. And now, on August 5th, the *Japan Gazette* actually accuses us of "passing unnoticed as of no value the evidence of Lieut. O'BRIEN"! Twenty-six days after we had published that evidence in full, the *Japan Gazette* gave a fraudulently mutilated fragment of it, and six days later alleged that we had passed the whole thing unnoticed, on the strength of which allegation it declares its belief that "if the Recording Angel came to earth and uttered a single accusation against the Japanese, he would be given the lie by the *Mail!*" Are there not comedies in real life that far surpass the conceptions of fiction?

JAPANESE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY AT THE KYOTO EXHIBITION.

ONE of the most interesting features of the Kyoto Exhibition, which has just been closed, was the display of Japanese manufactured articles such as have hitherto been imported from abroad. Very great progress has evidently been made in this respect during the past few years, and there can be little doubt that the manufacturing capacity long attributed to the Japanese by foreign observers will ultimately be developed to a high degree. The extraordinarily low prices of the articles exhibited are not the least remarkable part of the affair. Visitors to the previous exhibition, held in Tokyo five years ago, were disappointed to find that some of the most useful and attractive exhibits had been marked at figures so low as to preclude all possibility of getting duplicates manufactured at the same cost. Many exhibitors had fallen into the foolish error of imagining that an exhibition was a place for displaying feats of manufacture rather than for showing specimens to invite custom, and they accordingly sought to enhance their own credit by affixing to their goods prices considerably below the cost of production. The resulting combinations of technical excellence and remarkable cheapness were, of course, very striking, but the unpracticality of the thing became apparent when the exhibitors refused to receive any commissions at the prices for which they were nevertheless willing to sell their exhibits. This strange misconception was not repeated, so far as we can learn, at the Kyoto Exhibition, though some of the prices suggested suspicion. For example, among the exhibits from Kumamoto were excellent-looking sets of saddlery,—saddle, bridle, bit, stirrups, and numnah—ranging in price from 6.50 to 12.50 *yen*. It can not be supposed that leather produced in Japan from Korean hides will bear comparison with the imported material, but so far as finish and general workmanship are concerned, this Kumamoto saddlery did not seem inferior to foreign articles that would cost as many sovereigns as the Japanese goods cost *yen*. Flannel was almost as conspicuous among the exhibits for cheapness and quality. Kyoto and Ehime contributed the greater part of the specimens in this class, the prices ranging from 19.7 *sen* per yard (best white) to a little over 8 *sen*. We refer, of course, to cotton flannel. Of paper in all its varieties, lucifer matches, and cotton yarns, it is unnecessary to speak: in the manufacture of these staples Japan's competence is already recognised. But special reference may be made to the serges, tweeds, and cloth produced at the Oji Factory. These goods seem to be of really excellent quality, and the prices are about one-half of those ruling for imported goods. Here is a rough list that will convey to our readers an idea of what the Japanese are doing:—

Articles.	Place of manufacture.	Price.
Boots (high-lows and long)	Ehime and other places	2.80 to 4 *yen* per pair.
Red blankets	Oji, Tokyo	1.40 *yen* each.
Striped blankets	Oji, Tokyo	1.15 *yen* to 1.40 *yen* each.
Carriage rugs	Oji, Tokyo	2.25 *yen* to 4 *yen* each.
Shawls	Oji, Tokyo	1.80 *yen* to 3 *yen* each.
Glass tumblers	Osaka	50 *sen* to 3 *yen* per dozen.
Claret glasses	Osaka	90 *sen* to 2.50 *yen* per doz.
Lamp chimneys (glass)	Osaka	18 *sen* to 3 *yen* each.
Pencils (lead)	Osaka	70 *sen* to 2.20 *yen* per 12 dozens.
Pearl Buttons (small)	Osaka	3.50 *yen* per 144 doz.
Lamp-globes (glass)	Osaka	30 *sen* to 3 *yen* each.
Hats (straw)	Nagasaki	75 *sen* to 1 *yen* each.
Slate Pencils	Nagasaki	30 *sen* per 100.
Thermometers	Tokyo, etc.	50 *sen* to 80 *sen* each.
Clocks (octagonal)	Osaka	2 *yen* to 8.80 *yen* each.
Scent	Osaka	70 *sen* to 2.50 *yen* per doz.
Hair Oil	Osaka	60 *sen* to 2.50 *yen* per doz.
White shirt collars	Tokyo	8 *sen* to 10 *sen* each.
White shirts	Tokyo	1.80 *yen* each.
Chirimen-goro	Kyoto	4.65 *yen* to 6 *yen* per 20 yards.
Hats (felt)	Osaka	70 *sen* to 2 *yen* each.
Door Mats	Osaka	90 *sen* to 3 *yen* each.
Socks (cotton)	Osaka	70 *sen* to 1.30 *yen* per doz.
Towels (cotton)	Osaka	80 *sen* to 2.80 *yen* per doz.
Tooth-brushes	Osaka	78 *sen* to 2 *yen* per dozen.
Feeding Bottles	Osaka	55 *sen* to 1.80 *yen* per doz.

To this list might be added pianos, organs, harmoniums, musical instruments of various kinds, surgical instruments, optician's wares, surveying instruments, photographic apparatus, machinery, carpets, and not a few other things. But we have not the data at present for an exhaustive catalogue, and besides, our object is only to convey a rough idea of the development that Japanese industry is exhibiting.

HUXLEY AND MATERIALISM.

(COMMUNICATED).

PROFESSOR HUXLEY was a man of many-sided activity. His special department of science was animal biology; and in the early days of the Darwinian theory he took up a prominent position in the evolutionist camp. He wrote an admirable monograph on physiography, the science of the forces of nature at work on the surface of the earth. He was an indefatigable controversialist on topics ranging from the importance of private property and individual enterprise in promoting the forward movement of civilization to the ethical significance of the miracle of the swine at Gadara. But it is for the work that he effected in defining and maintaining against dogmatists of all orders the philosophical position of modern science that posterity will especially value his name.

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The key-note of modern philosophy, as distinguished from Greek philosophy and mediæval philosophy, has been criticism—a criticism of the foundations of knowledge. If we examine the works of the masters of modern philosophy, of DESCARTES, of LOCKE, of HUME, and of KANT, if we seek to define what it is in each one of them that may be considered his greatest contribution to the progress of philosophic thought, we see that in all alike it has been, not any further addition to the multitudinous theories as to the nature of things-in-themselves, but a criticism of the foundations of all such theories, and an ever clearer recognition of the limitation of the human intellect to a knowledge of the finite, phenomenal universe. HUXLEY followed in the footsteps of these illustrious thinkers, with the advantage of living in an age in which the immense expansion of man's exact knowledge of the phenomenal world has rendered him less unwilling to be content to remain in ignorance of the infinite unknown. A critical philosophy alone could not have put the absolutist battalions to rout; there was needed also an enormous array of positive knowledge such as modern science alone has been competent to bring into the field. Before this irresistible combination, the spooks of metaphysics, whether of metaphysical theology or of metaphysical materialism, and the inanities of Pyrrhonism, are rapidly disappearing into the void from out of which man's restless mind had conjured up these vaporous absurdities.

We imagine that some of our readers, knowing HUXLEY less by what he has said himself than by what the apostles of unreason have said about him, may here interpolate:—"We know that HUXLEY made it the business of his life to war against theology, but did he also attack materialism? We have always understood that he was a materialist." In a certain sense it is true that HUXLEY was a materialist, as the following passage from his work on HUME will show:—"Surely no one who is cognizant of the facts of the case, nowadays, doubts that the roots of psychology lie in the physiology of the nervous system. What we call the operations of the mind are functions of the brain, and the materials of consciousness are products of cerebral activity. CABANIS may have made use of crude and misleading phraseology when he said that the brain secretes thought as the liver secretes bile; but the conception which that much abused phrase embodies is, nevertheless, far more consistent with fact than the popular notion that the mind is a kind of metaphysical entity seated in the head, but as independent of the brain as a telegraph operator is of his instrument." If this passage were quoted without its context, as unjust controversialists love to quote, it would seem to prove HUXLEY as thorough going a materialist as LAMETTRIE or BÜCHNER; and yet no nineteenth century philosopher has done more than HUXLEY to lay bare the fundamental error of materialism. Let us continue the above quotation:—"It is hardly necessary to point out that the doctrine just laid down is what is commonly called materialism. In fact I am not sure that the adjective 'crass,' which appears to have a special charm for rhetorical sciolists, would not be applied to it. But it is nevertheless true that the doctrine contains nothing inconsistent with the purest idealism. For . . . . if we analyse the proposition that all mental phenomena are the effects or products of material phenomena, all that it means amounts to this: that whenever those states of consciousness which we call sensation, or emotion, or thought, come into existence, complete investigation will show good reason for the belief that they are preceded by those other phenomena of consciousness to which we give the names of matter and motion. All material changes appear in the long run to be modes of motion; our knowledge of motion is nothing but that of a change in the place and order of our sensations; just as our knowledge of matter is restricted to those feelings of which we assume it to be the cause."

"But if HUXLEY was opposed to materialistic philosophy, why was it," it may be asked, "that he devoted so little time to the refutation of materialism, and so much to the refutation of theology?" It is not true that he devoted little time to the refutation of materialism. It is impossible for any open-minded and conscientious reader of his works to fail to be convinced of the equal futility of idealistic and of materialistic hypotheses; but it is true that he gave especial attention to the refutation of idealism, rather than to the refutation of materialism, for the reason that idealism has for centuries occupied the position of handmaid to theology, and throughout all those centuries theology has stood in the path of progress. No man knew better than HUXLEY, no student of HUME could fail to know, that the absurdities of idealism are neither greater nor less than the absurdities of materialism, and that neither doctrine can be condemned without condemning the other. But he knew also, as HUME knew, that idealism has ever been made the foundation for a gigantic superstructure of falsehood. In his Treatise of Human Nature, when considering the rival hypotheses, on the one hand that all the phenomena of the universe, material as well as mental, are modifications of mind, HUME wrote as follows:—"I observe first the universe of objects or of body; the sun, moon, and stars; the earth, seas, plants, animals, men, ships, houses, and other productions either of art or of nature. Here SPINOZA appears, and tells me that these are only modifications, and that the subject in which they adhere is simple, uncompounded, and indivisible. After this I consider the other system of beings, viz., the universe of thought, or my impressions and ideas. Then I observe another sun, moon, and stars; an earth and seas, covered and inhabited by plants and animals, towns, houses, mountains, rivers; and in short, everything I can discover or conceive in the first system. Upon my enquiring concerning these, theologians present themselves, and tell me that these also are modifications, and modifications of one simple, uncompounded, and indivisible substance. Immediately upon which I am deafened with the noise of a hundred voices, that treat the first hypothesis with detestation and scorn, and the second with applause and veneration. I turn my attention to these hypotheses to see what may be the reason of so great a partiality; and find that they have the same fault of being unintelligible, and that, as far as we can understand them, they are so much alike, that it is impossible to discover any absurdity in one which is not common to both of them." What HUME wrote a hundred and fifty years ago is still true to-day. Idealism is still the handmaid of theology; it is still the philosophical gospel of the apostles of error.

With materialism the case is different. Every man with sufficient education to become a man of science, however little he may know of the philosophy of the schools, is sure to have some knowledge of the theory of cognition that culminated in the critical philosophy of KANT, and by such a one materialism can no longer be regarded as a philosophy. LANGE expresses the position with his usual clearness in his "History of Materialism": "The whole cause of materialism is forever lost by an admission of the inexplicableness of all natural occurrences. If materialism quietly acquiesces in this inexplicableness, it ceases to be a philosophical principle; it may, however, continue to exist as a maxim of scientific research. This is, in fact, the position of most of our modern 'materialists.' They are essentially sceptics; they no longer believe that matter, as it appears to our senses, contains the last solution of all the riddles of nature; but they proceed in principle as if it were so, and wait until from the positive sciences themselves the necessity arises to adopt other views."

Of this character was the materialism of HUXLEY. He did not regard it as a tenable philosophical theory concerning the nature of things-in-themselves, but he was glad to welcome it as the only and the all-sufficient organon of research. He knew that the universe could become the object of intellectual cognition only when regarded as a material system; and that the postulate of necessity, by which the idea of spasmodic interference with natural processes by hobgoblins great or small was necessarily excluded, was the

first requisite to any rational knowledge of phenomena. He was content to study the method of working of the universe, and, in view of the existing limitations of the human intellect, to throw aside as idle all speculations concerning the origin of the universe. With HUXLEY, then, materialism was a method merely, and could lay no claim to be a philosophy. In a note to a short criticism of BERKELEY, he wrote:—"The philosophical materialist who takes the trouble to comprehend BERKELEY finds that strict logic carries him no further than some such answer as this to the philosophical idealist:—Well, if I cannot show that you are wrong, you cannot show that I am; if I should happen to be right, your proofs of the impossibility of knowing anything but states of consciousness would be just as valid as they are now; moreover, your religious and ethical difficulties are just as great as mine, The speculative game is drawn—let us get to practical work."

And if the practical work of HUXLEY'S life to a large extent consisted in war on the theological conceptions of which latter-day idealism is the last frail support, and in a whole-hearted attempt to replace these conceptions by the "materialistic" teachings of modern science, the reason is not difficult to find, for as surely as the growth of science tends to guide man forwards, so surely does the survival of theology tend to drag him back.

The last published work of HUXLEY was the first instalment of a reply to BALFOUR, who is the latest, and in some respects the greatest, of the modern champions of the gospel of mysticism and unreason. This talented writer has coined the convenient name of Naturalism for the scientific way of regarding the universe. In rejoinder, we may perhaps venture to denote as Dæmonism the theory of the school to which he belongs, which is, in truth, an idealistic Pantheism, not naked and not unashamed, the theory that all the phenomena of the universe are manifestations of one all pervading thing-in-itself, the mind of GOD "in whom we live and have our being." Now if Dæmonism would do what materialism has done, if it would abandon its untenable claim to be a philosophy, and would confess itself to be no more than a view devoid of all logical foundation, which certain people hold because it pleases them to hold it, the quarrel between Dæmonism and Naturalism would disappear. But the fate of the two conceptions, the Dæmonistic and the Naturalistic, would be, indeed will be, widely different. For Dæmonism is merely a kind of spiritual intoxicant: it is not, and can never be, like Naturalism, an organon of research. It serves after its own unwholesome fashion to soothe and to support those among us who, feeble in intellect and infirm of will, cannot rest contented with the beneficent achievements of positive science, and need to be deluded with the belief that they have knowledge of things "behind the veil;" but throughout all the centuries in which Dæmonistic conceptions of the universe have been predominant, they have never given rise to the growth of any fruit on the tree of knowledge. Contrariwise, all the fruit that has grown on that tree has been under the developing sunlight of naturalistic conceptions and in spite of the withering influence of Dæmonism. It is for this reason that men like HUXLEY think life well spent in warfare with Dæmonism and all its works. And the wide acceptance that the philosophy of science, so nobly championed by HUXLEY, has obtained, justifies the hope that Dæmonistic conceptions are destined in due course to find their proper place in the lumber-room of the History of thought. *Magna est Veritas, et praevalebit.*

ABOARD H.I.J.M.S. "MATSUSHIMA."

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE TROOPS IN FORMOSA.)

In Quarantine, Nagasaki, Japan,
August 1st, 1895.

On the morning of July 21st, while we were entering the harbour of Nagasaki, a seaman who had been sick ever since we left Formosa, died of cholera. In accordance with quarantine regulations we were laid up for disinfection, and I am now serving the second day of a seven days' confinement. This is specially unfortunate, as my leave to visit Japan and secure my equipment for the southern expedition against the Black Flags, scarcely allowed me more than a week or ten days, which are now being so unwillingly spent, three miles out from Nagasaki, with that city in plain view, and looking more enticing then ever a Japanese settlement looked before. But thanks to the exceedingly kind and courteous treatment received from the officers of the *Matsushima*, and the luxurious quarters placed at my disposal, the time is passing as pleasantly as possible under the circumstances.

The trip from Formosa was an agreeable one, as well as an interesting opportunity to observe Japanese men-of-warsmen and their ways. But my expectation that I should see aboard the *Matsushima* glimpses of Japanese systems, surviving from the customs of their private life on shore, were not fulfilled, for in the entire trip I did not observe anything that struck me as being characteristicly Japanese, except the people themselves and their language.

Owing to the kindness of the Editor of the Nagasaki *Rising Sun*, I have been supplied with the local exchanges, and in several, I observe extracts from the *Hongkong Telegraph*, which has swallowed every Chinese report from Formosa. Unfortunately in the articles their source is not mentioned, and many of their readers may consider them authentic. Although a trifle late, I wish to correct a few of the most important. In one account it it is stated that "the Hakkas and Black Flags inveigled 800 Japanese into an ambush,—Japanese loss was 600," etc., etc.

The inveiglement referred to occured on the eleventh of July, when thirty Japanese soldiers started up river guarding eighteen Chinese boats loaded with rice, intending to convey it to the first batallion then stationed at Tokoham.

[Here follows an account, as already published, of the annihilation of this little escort of 32 Japanese.]

It was this affair, combined with the loss of fifteen cavalry men about the same date, that gave rise to the Chinese reports which placed the Japanese loss all the way from one hundred to one thousand.

Affairs are not nearly in such a bad state as some journals attempt to make them out. The policy of dealing leniently with the natives has been the cause of the trouble for the last few weeks, and now that the Japanese are beginning to realize that the opposing Chinese must be handled as an enemy, not as a friend, the trouble will cease in the north very quickly.

The newspaper accounts regarding the sickness have also been exaggerated, and while there has been considerable, the Japanese have not been troubled with fever and the cases of genuine cholera are very few. For the month ending July 12th, out of 1,493 patients at the Hospital, only 156 died and 410 recovered. Of cholera in its different forms there have only been 198 cases.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE LATE FUNERAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me to say that the following American clergymen were in Yokohama on Wednesday last, and I am authorized to state that any one of them would willingly have officiated at a funeral service if notice had been received that their assistance was desired:—Rev. A. A. Bennett, Rev. J. G. Cleveland, Rev. W. S. Worden, Rev. H. Loomis.

Yours truly, H. LOOMIS.

Yokohama, August 5th, 1895.

ALLIANCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The question of offensive and defensive alliance with any European Power that may be the subject of Japanese thought at this time I put aside, as it does not appear that the time has arrived that practical politics demand that step. Japan has no need to negotiate for any European assistance to maintain her position as an imperial State, and surely Japan should not load herself with the responsibility of aiding any of the Powers that administer the affairs of the Occidental world. To become a party to any European complication would prove but a costly move. Japan should confine herself to the politics and diplomacy of eastern Asia. Japan, China, and Russia are the dominent powers and should remain so in the realms of Eastern Asia. They sit beside and touch each other. That Russia, at this present is one of the mighty Powers in the Occident, demands from her that she play her hand for all it is worth in Occidental politics. She can command the peace or let loose the dogs of war in Europe at her will. Russia's possessions on her eastern frontiers are of huge proportions, she is rapidly putting herself in position to develop the vast field of her Siberian provinces. Nothing can permanently stop her in her march of material development on her Eastern border. To-day she might be despoiled of her seaboard by Japan, but time would work its revenge; without doubt Japan could capture Wladivostock and take possession of the section of railway now built westward from that point. Japan could delay the advent of Russia as a military power on her Siberian border—provided she had Russia alone to deal with. Yet, that being possible, would it be well? It would entail an exhaustive war, and eventually Japan would acknowledge her error. To keep Russia from the enjoyment of her Eastern development would not benefit Japan in the least. It is for the betterment of Japan, and the whole world besides, that the rapid consummation of Russian ambition be attained. There should be no friction between Japan and Russia. Russia needs a portion of Korea. With a large foothold in Korea she would not be inimical to Japanese interests politically or commercially. Korea should be absorbed. As a sovereign State, Korea should be obliterated; she is not worth the trouble of educating in politics or morals. If there was no Russia that needed a portion of the Kingdom, Japan would find herself eventually forced to take possession of and incorporate the peninsula into a province of the Empire. There is no other solution of the Korean problem. Either Russian or Japanese Korea must be, and that ere the lapse of the year 1900. With Korea Russian, Japan could live and be as secure against Russian agression as England is with her neighbour across the Channel. France, Japan, and Russia should be as one in regard to the Chinese Empire. They should look upon China as their especial charge, to deal with her as they deem best. Eastern Asia should belong to and be dominated by Asiatics; Occidental politics might demand of Russia that she consult France and England. The contention that the Trans-Siberian iron-road is a commercial undertaking is not in accord with good commercial strategy; as a military necessity primarily, it will eventually become a commercial artery and play an important part in the development of the Siberian province. The Central Pacific Railroad was put through under governmental auspices as a military necessity, not as a commercial venture at all. Yet the building up of the Pacific tier of states has been the result, together with the great commercial development consequent thereupon. So will like results flow from the completion of the trans Siberian road; radiating lines will be built and in the not far distant future Siberia will give

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to the world as astonishing examples of industrial and commercial progress as have been consequent upon the building of the first American transcontinental road. It may be that Eastern Russia, within the lifetime of those now living, may be the preponderating portion of the Russian Empire. The United States developed to the westward, Russia will find her development to the Eastward. As I have written, Japan possibly could delay matters, but allow the completion of the trans-Siberian railway and Russia will not come as a chicken to be plucked. Japan and Russia should be close friends, they cannot afford to be otherwise. The affairs of England, France, Germany, Italy, and Austria, Japan has no need to trouble herself about; they belong to another sphere of politics. Russia, so to say, is of the household: being largely Asiatic in her make-up, and further, she is next door neighbour. Japan is in a position to profit greatly by coming to an amicable arrangement regarding the absorption of Korea. By entering into a commercial reciprocity treaty, as the result of concessions made by Japan, she might secure to herself advantages, the benefit of which would vastly accelerate the development of her industrial and commercial ambition. It would be better for the Empire, for the Japanese to marshal their battalions of industrials to meet the demands of their commercial ambition than to place armies in the field for military conquest. "Peace hath her victories:" and they are more comfortable than those of war:—

Strength means something more than merely to be strong.
And life is not a lifetime spent in strain to live.

Japan should now repose upon her laurels, taking such ease as may be fitting, while yet she has to meet the demands made upon her for the subjugation of Formosa. Prepare for war and make friends with Russia, is what I should counsel were I a Japanese. Japan could become the friend of Russia upon terms of equality to the mutual good of both. Acting together they could solve all eastern questions as suited their needs. Russia could take care of all her western interests without embroiling Japan.

Yours respectfully, X.

Yokohama, August 3rd, 1895.

["X." writes as though Russia's eastern development could be limited by rule and compass, and as though no Powers existed in the Orient save Japan, China, and Russia. We fear that the Japanese would be preparing for themselves a fool's paradise if they followed his counsel. Let Russia attempt to plant herself in Korea, and some other "re-distributions" may be speedily looked for.—Ed. *J.M.*]

SHORT WORK WITH FORMOSA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The necessity of employing adequate means to achieve any end is too well known to require demonstration. But the very fact of its familiarity is often responsible for a foolish departure fom the axiom. The truth of the Chinese proverb, that "too much is worse than too little" is often proved, not only in the acts of individuals but also in those of corporations. Whatever philosophers and religionists may say, there is such a thing as an excess of efficiency, which fact the Chinese have again rendered into a proverb, "Don't use a butcher's knife to kill a chicken."

The reports from Formosa as published in the vernacular papers, contain intelligence of a very serious nature. At first the subjugation of the islanders seemed to require no very great precaution on the part of the authorities. The people also thought that the Body Guards, the flower of the Japanese army, would make short work of any persons offering resistance. But what surprise and disappointment! Report after report seem to show a worse state of things. The thrilling adventures of a body of some thirty men on the river Takocham is sufficient to fill anybody with horror and anger. As those men were going up the river with supplies to their comrades, they were surprised by a greatly superior force of the natives, some six hundred strong. Only three managed to escape after experiences of the most perilous kind. One of those who succeeded in reaching the head quarters of the Fourth Regiment, had nothing to eat for twenty-four hours. He had fought for four hours; had been concealed for eight hours in a marsh, and had waded down a river for six hours. It is not against an army that Japan is waging war in Formosa. It is against a horde of undisciplined men, who offer desperate resistance to the well equipped and well organized troops of this empire. For subduing such foes, the means used at present by the Japanese are altogether too good. The only way to make short work of the insurgents is to inspire them with wholesome terror. Shrapnel shell and machine guns will terrify them to some extent, but that more is necessary becomes apparent by the light of recent experience. To convince the insurgents of the uselessness of further resistance, some other kind of display is needful. Really formidable weapons wielded by resolute hands would soon subdue these disturbers of the peace of the island. I refer to something over and above the means at the disposal of an army organized and disciplined according to the modern art of warfare. Japan has a peculiar advantage in this respect. In addition to her army modelled after the European system, it is possible for her to organize a body of fighting men specially and peculiarly Japanese. Persons acquainted with the history of the late Satsuma Rebellion will remember the efficiency of the Police force, popularly called the *Battotai*, or Sword Battalion. A body of proficient Japanese swordsmen, whose blades cut a man in two almost at touch, would certainly inspire the Formosans with terror. Considering how easy it would be to get together a *Battotai*, and how suitable it would be for the subjugation of the Formosans, I cannot but wonder that some such step is not taken. There is another advantage connected with such an army, namely, its inexpensiveness. We do not need costly ammunition, but only good blades for each man. Japan has plenty of blades and plenty of men skilled to wield them,

Your obedient servant, H. M. S.

August 2nd, 1895.

THE LEAGUE OF CATHOLIC UNITY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I take the liberty of enclosing a clipping from *The Living Church* of Chicago, and beg for its insertion in the hope that it may be of interest to your readers. I venture the suggestion that many missionaries would be interested in a translation of the Pope's letter upon a similar subject.

Yours truly, KAMIWA.

In view of the acknowledged evils of a divided Christendom, and in view also of the growing desire for Church Unity, we, whose names are subscribed, devoutly seeking the Divine guidance and blessing, hereby associate ourselves as a League for the promotion of Catholic Unity.

Without detaching ourselves from the Christian bodies to which we severally belong, or intending to compromise our relations thereto, or seeking to interfere with other efforts for Christian Unity, we accept, as worthy of the most thoughtful consideration, the four principles of Church Unity proposed by the Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church at Chicago in 1886 and amended by the Lambeth Conference of 1888, as follows:

"I. The Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as 'containing all things necessary to salvation,' and as being the rule and ultimate standard of faith.

"II. The Apostles' Creed, as the Baptismal Symbol, and the Nicene Creed, as the sufficient statement of the Christian Faith.

"III. The two Sacraments ordained by Christ Himself: Baptism and the Supper of the Lord, ministered with unfailing use of Christ's words of institution, and of the elements ordained by Him.

"IV. The Historic Episcopate, locally adapted in the methods of its administration to the varying needs of the nations and peoples called of God into the Unity of His Church."

We believe that upon the basis of these four principles as articles of agreement, the unification of the Christian denominations of this country may proceed, cautiously and steadily, without any alteration of their existing standards of doctrine, polity, and worship, which might not reasonably be made in a spirit of brotherly love and harmony, for the sake of unity and for the furtherance of the great ends of the Church of Christ on earth. This will appear the more closely each of these articles is examined.

The Holy Scriptures are already our accepted rule of faith, howsoever we may differ among ourselves concerning the mode of their inspiration and interpretation.

The Apostles' and Nicene Creeds, being in accordance with the Holy Scriptures, do already sufficiently express the Catholic doctrine, without precluding the more particular Confessions to which we are severally attached; such as the Augsburg Confession, the Heidelberg Catechism, the Thirty-nine Articles, the Westminister Confession, and other symbols or formularies not inconsistent with these two Catholic Creeds.

The Sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper, as instituted by Christ Himself, and administered with His own appointed words and elements, are already recognized among us as the badges and media of Church membership and communion, although we do not yet agree as to particular modes of their administration or special qualifications for their reception, or even theories of their efficacy.

The Historic Episcopate in various forms already prevails extensively throughout the Christian world; and, as connected with the Scriptures, the Creeds, and the Sacraments, it might become a bond of organic unity among the Christian denominations completing the Congregational, Presbyterian, or Episcopal systems, and at length re combining them normally in one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church.

In order to promote Catholic Unity, we recommend, as proposed by the Lambeth Conference, that these articles be carefully studied in connection with "the authoritative standard of doctrine, worship, and government adopted by the different bodies of Christians into which the English-speaking races are divided;" and, to this end, we reverently and lovingly invoke the countenance and aid of the Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church, and of all other Catholic Bishops and Christian Ministers of every order and name.

May our united prayers be so blended with the prevalent intercession of our ascended Lord, that we shall all become one in Him, for the glory of His Eternal Father, for the good of His Church, and for the redemption of the world.

[CONGREGATIONAL.]	[PRESBYTERIAL.]
E. Benj. Andrews,	Thomas G. Apple,
David Nelson Beach,	Charles A. Briggs,
Geo. Dana Boardman,	Edward B. Coe,
Amory H. Bradford,	Chas. Cuthbert Hall,
Samuel E. Herrick,	C. S. Harrower,
Edward C. Moore,	J. B. Remensnyder,
Philip S. Moxom.	Charles W. Shields.

[EPISCOPAL.]

Edward Abbott,
William P. DuBose,
William R. Huntington,
Wm. Chauncy Langdon,
Randolph H. McKim,
Henry Y. Satterlee,
George Williamson Smith.

Ministers and laymen in all denominations, who desire to connect themselves with the League, can procure copies of the Constitution by applying to the Secretary, the Rev. Wm. Chauncy Langdon, D.D., No. 69, South Angell st., Providence, R.I.

YOKOHAMA CHARITY ORGANIZATION.

The first annual general meeting of subscribers to the Yokohama Charity Organization was held in Keil's Building on Monday afternoon. There were present, Mr. James Dodds, in the Chair, Messrs. A. J. Wilkin, A. O. Gay, T. Rose, and the Rev. E. C. Irwine, Hon. Secretary.

The Chairman, having called the meeting to order, said:—The last meeting of the Society was held on the 27th June last year, and now, as then, the Committee have been forced to call another meeting by exhaustion of the funds placed at their disposal by subscribers, and it would have been held earlier had it not been for a timely donation from the minstrel troupe of the U.S. S. *Baltimore*, who very generously made over part of the proceeds of an entertainment given by them to the Society for the relief of the less fortunate of their brethren of the mercantile marine. In the report published in the newspapers, and now submitted to the meeting, the Committee give an account of their stewardship, which they hope may be satisfactory to the subscribers. In dispensing the funds of the Society, it will be seen that the Committee have given prominence to the idea which primarily led to the formation of the Society, the relief of distressed Seamen of the mercantile marine whose cases could not be fully met by the Seamen's Mission; but, as will be observed, there have been many other cases of distress relieved by the Society. In dealing with the cases brought before them, the Committee have exercised what discrimination has been in their power; but they do not pretend to say that every case has been a deserving one. People in distress find themselves here in some way, and have to be helped away from the place or remain as a burden to the community. The funds, however, have been dispensed as carefully as circumstances would admit, and the Committee hope that subscribers will be satisfied with the results achieved. Seeing the good work done, I have no doubt the appeal that the new Committee will have to make as their first duty, will be as readily responded to as in previous years. The member of Committee, Mr. Lindsley, who has acted as Hon. Treasurer since the formation of the Society, has just left for home, and deserves, I think, the thanks of the subscribers for the good work he has done in connection with the charity; and in asking you to pass his accounts now submitted I would suggest a cordial vote of thanks to him be accorded at the same time.

Mr. Gay said that the report was very full and

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he should have great pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report, the passing of the accounts, and of moving the hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Lindsley.—Carried.

REPORT.

Report for the year included between June 22nd, 1894, and June, 30th, 1895.

The Committee of the Yokohama Charity Organization beg to lay before the subscribers their annual report and financial statement to June 30th, 1895.

The first and largest item in the Treasurer's Report represents the expenditure upon that portion of the Society's work which involves the most labour, and constitutes indeed its principal use and necessity, namely the direct relief of distressed seamen. An analysis of the counterfoils to tickets issued by the Hon. Secretary shows that out of probably double the number of applications 108 were acceded to, and that orders representing 377 days' board and lodging were distributed in varying proportion among 50 distressed men, 27 of whom were ordinary seamen, 5 from sealing vessels, 7 firemen, 1 steward, 1 cook, 1 brass-moulder, 1 apothecary, 1 railway-guard, 1 turnkey, 1 ranchman, 1 runner, 1 auctioneer, and 3 of no special occupation. Of these, 25 were British, 13 American, 3 Swedes, 2 Danes, 2 Norwegians, 1 French, 1 German, 1 Roumanian, 1 Chilian, 1 Arab.

The boarding and housing of these men has been most efficiently done by Mr. John Kernan, to whom a written order is given in every case. Tickets have on several occasions been returned by Mr. Kernan to the Hon. Secretary in cases where he found that the bearers were already provided for elsewhere, or where they had tried to raise money upon them in other quarters. Cash is never entrusted to the applicants, but when advisable, clothing is supplied to them, and part passages paid for them. It is absolutely necessary at times to assist certain inveterate idlers out of the place, rather than help them to prey on the community.

The Committee desire to thank residents and visitors for many gifts of clothing, which is stored at the Parsonage in a wardrobe belonging to the society. They also heartily thank the local journals, the *Herald*, *Gazette*, *Mail*, and *Advertiser*, for inserting every week without charge an advertisement calling attention to the Society's needs, thus giving what is equivalent to a handsome yearly subscription.

It cannot be too strongly urged upon business firms, and upon those gentlmen who do not subscribe indirectly to the Ladies' Benevolent Association, that a moderate subscription given to the Y. C. O. is a much more useful mode of dispensing their charity than that of giving away cash to casual applicants, who in most cases misuse the greater portion of what is thus given to them. Gifts of cast-off clothing to the Society will also do much more real good than when these articles are given away to house-servants, who either convert them into coin or themselves into caricatures. Underclothing and shoes are always in special demand.

This report cannot be closed without special reference to the voluntary assistance given by men of the U.S.S. *Baltimore*, who by their excellent and talented performance in aid of local charities have added a sum of $151.50 to our fund, which will appear in the next balance sheet.

The following is a statement of receipts and disbursements from 22nd June, 1894, to 30th June, 1895:—

RECEIPTS.

Balance in hand as per last account	$ 36.78	
Subscriptions	870.00	
Interest on Deposit in Bank	4.22	$911.00
DISBURSEMENTS.		
Board and Lodging to Destitute Seamen ...	$304.55	
Assistance and Supplies to Destitutes	289.00	
Assisted Passages from Japan	186.96	
Medicines and Hospital Expenses	49.55	
Wardrobe and Petty Expenses, Advertising, &c.	29.00	
	$ 849.06	
Balance in hand	61.94	$911.00

E. & O. E.

The Committee now beg to tender their resignation.

JAS. DODDS, Chairman.
JNO. LINSDLEY, Hon. Treas.
JAS. MARTIN.
THOS. ROSE.
E. CHAMPNEYS IRWINE, Hon. Sec.

Yokohama, 30th June, 1895.

The CHAIRMAN said the next business was the election of a Committee to serve for the ensuing year. The remaining members of the old Committee were Messrs. Irwine, James Martin, Thomas Rose, and myself.

Mr. GAY—Are they not enough?

The CHAIRMAN—I think it would be better to have more nationalities upon the Committee considering how very cosmopolitan is our work in this community. If I might be allowed to suggest a name, I should like to see Mr. Howard, of the Pacific Mail Company, nominated on the Committee. He would be a very good man, especially as he would represent the shipping interest. He could also furnish us with valuable information in regard to special cases as they arise.

Mr. WILKIN—Yes, about cheap passages.—(Laughter).

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, that would also appeal to him.

Mr. GAY—And now you want one other.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, I do not know who is to take the office of Hon. Treasurer, now left vacant through the departure of Mr. Lindsley. I have my hands full, and Captain Martin and others on the Committee will, I have no doubt, allege the same reason. Mr. Howard, when I approached him on the matter, said he would only accept a simple membership on the Committee; and the Hon. Secretary's work should be kept separate.

Mr. GAY—I think Mr. Baehr would make a very good member of the Committee.

The CHAIRMAN—So do I, but I think Mr. Baehr is connected with the German Fund, and the two might clash.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE said the German firms had been most willing subscribers to the Organization. He had not approached them all, but those to whom he had gone had been only too ready to afford help; their subscriptions had been given most willingly.

The CHAIRMAN—I see that the German firms are very well represented on the list, and also Mr. Baehr's firm.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE—I think they should be represented on the Committee. Our work is cosmopolitan and is confined to no one nationality, as the report will show. There is only one German mentioned in the report this year, but we don't get many German sailors, and I don't think this man was a real German, though he spoke the language.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Baehr would undoubtedly give us great assistance, and being connected with the German Fund—mind you, I am not sure that he is—the two organizations might work together.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE—He could then tell us whether any person is being assisted by both organizations.

Mr. GAY then moved that the remaining members of the old Committee, with the addition of Mr. Howard and Mr. Baehr be elected as the Committee of the Yokohama Charity Organization for the ensuing year.

Mr. WILKIN seconded.—Carried.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE said there was one donation which he should like to mention, as it did not appear in the report. It was a donation from Mr. Arthur Winstanley of $150, which was sent from London accompanied with another of a similar amount for the Ladies' Benevolent Society. The donations were quite voluntary, and I think you will agree with me that it is a very kind thing for an old merchant friend to so remember the poor of the town in which he was resident for so long a period of his life.

The CHAIRMAN—There is one omission which I should like to explain. No auditor's name appears at the foot of the accounts, and the matter arises in this way. I received them too late from the late Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Lindsley, to go through them myself before this meeting, but as Mr. Lindsley's name appears upon them, I think all subscribers will be satisfied as to their correctness. Next year I promise you that they shall be properly audited.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE said he had a few remarks to make upon what was called the grog-shop evil in Yokohama. The matter was continually arising in the public prints, and many admirable articles had appeared about it from the pens of local journalists, but the evil remained very much the same from year to year. He did not wish to be invidious, but there were certain nationalities who materially helped, through their Consuls, to shut down upon the grog-shop element. It was a pity that this was not done by other nationalities, for it would be a great advantage to the place, would lead to a diminution of vice, and help to prevent the expenditure of much money in a wasteful fashion, as now prevailed to such a large extent. He wished the Consuls had full powers to prevent these men from continuing their nefarious trade. Of course the licensing powers varied greatly with different countries, but he thought that some pressure might be brought to bear to prevent these houses from continuing in a disorderly state, to reduce the hours during which they remained open, and to be supervised generally. There should not be any greater enticements than possible held out to Jack when he came ashore, to cause him to get drunk, and a step in the right direction would be taken if the grogshops could be made to provide good liquor, and prevented from serving a man when drunk. At present no such supervision exists, and the result was only too well known. He was greatly pleased with the accommodation provided at the house of Mr. John Kernan where the Yokohama Charity Organization cases were sent. Kernan did all that he could for them, did not encourage the men to drink, but helped them and the Organization materially. He (the speaker) was in daily intercourse with Kernan and had seen the care which he took, especially whenever he found that any clothes given by the Organization to a man had been put to a wrongful use. Passing on to a kindred subject, the speaker made a strong protest against the practise of open ports to the west of Yokohama making a habit of sending on distressed seamen and others—paying their passages to Yokohama—in the expectation of the men getting work to do here. The result was that this community is put to great expense in obtaining assisted passages for the men across the Pacific. This practise was to be greatly deprecated. The Government of Hongkong had powers to prevent the landing of such cases, but here in Yokohama we had not the powers possessed by the Crown Colony. Still he hoped something could be done by the various Consuls and the authorities of the *Ken* to prevent these unwelcome birds of passage from alighting on our shores.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. GAY moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Irwine for the good work he had done in the past in the community. Very few gentlemen would devote the time he did to taking up this unpleasant but imperative work.—(Hear, hear.)

Mr. WILKIN seconded. Such a vote of thanks was well deserved.

The CHAIRMAN—I can thoroughly endorse every word which has fallen from the mover and seconder of the vote.

The vote of thanks was then carried unanimously.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE, in thanking the meeting for the compliment, said that he was only too pleased to be of some slight service to the community in which he lived.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

PRESENTATION TO MR. WILSON WALKER.

An interesting incident took place on board the Pacific Mail steamship *City of Rio de Janeiro*, on the vessel's arrival at Nagasaki on the 2nd inst. When the Company's Pilot, Mr. Wilson Walker, came off to the ship, Captain Smith mustered his officers, and in their presence made a complimentary speech to Mr. Walker in reference to his services rendered on the occasion the *City of Rio's* stranding on the rocks off Kagoshima. Captain Smith then presented Mr. Walker with a handsome gold hunting watch, to which was attached a heavy Albert guard and compass pendant, from the Board of Directors of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, together with a letter, of which the following is a copy:—

San Francisco, Cal., July 12th, 1895.

Subject:—Recognition of Service rendered.

Captain WILSON WALKER, Nagasaki, Japan.

MY DEAR SIR,—I take pleasure in handing to you, through Capt. Smith of the *City of Rio de Janeiro*, a gold watch, chain, and compass, as a testimonial sent you on the part of the President and Board of Directors of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, in recognition and remembrance of the very valuable services which you rendered to the *City of Rio* at the time of her stranding on the rocks of Kagoshima. Permit me to say that I hope that this watch will tell off to you many happy hours in the future.

Yours truly, (Signed) R. P. SCHWERIN,
Vice-President and Gen. Manager.

The watch bears the following inscription:—

Presented to
CAPTAIN WILSON WALKER
by the
Pacific Mail Steamship Company,
in appreciation of his
energetic and valuable services
in floating the stranded steamer
"City of Rio de Janeiro."
January 6th, 1895.
C. P. HUNTINGTON,
President.

BELGIAN CONSULAR POLICE COURT, NAGASAKI.

(Sepcially reported for the *Japan Mail.*)

Before F. RINGER, Esq.—Consul.

The Procurator of Nagasaki versus Peter Verstappen, a Belgian subject, on the charge of the manslaughter of a Japanese woman named Nakamura Shige, living with the accused at No. 39, Sagarimatsu, Nagasaki, where the accused kept a drinking saloon.

By special request of the Belgian Consul, Mr. R. G. Forster, of the British Consulate, Nagasaki, appeared as counsel for the defence.

The hearing occupied several days, from July 23rd to August 2nd.

Dr. Ikebe, Resident Medical Officer of the Nagasaki Hospital, witness for the prosecution, stated that he had been summoned to Verstappen's house at 8.30 p.m. on the 18th of July. When he reached the house he found the deceased, Nakamura Shige, lying on her back on the floor in the room next to the kitchen. She was still living, but was pulseless, and the respiration was very weak. He applied artificial respiration and other restorative treatment, under which the woman rallied somewhat, but she never recovered consciousness, and she died at 11.45

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p.m. Witness then described the mark made by the rope round the neck, and other marks of violence on the body. (These are given in detail below in connection with the evidence of the post-mortem examination.) In reply to a question by the Court, the witness stated that he considered the marks on the neck such as might be produced by suicidal hanging. The marks did not run horizontally round the neck, as in cases of suicidal strangulation, but ran somewhat upwards. There was no mark caused by the knot, but no such mark was usually present in cases of hanging. Of two ropes produced, a half-inch rope and a quarter-inch rope, the witness stated that the smaller rope corresponded with the marks on the neck. The witness had attended Verstappen on account of local paralysis, but he did not consider that this paralysis would affect the use of his hands.

Matsuo Minokichi, lemonade dealer, residing next door to Verstappen, testified that on the morning of the 18th July, at about nine or ten o'clock, he heard Verstappen's wife screaming as if in pain. He recognized her voice.

Sato Kichijiro was called as a witness for the defence. His evidence was taken out of order for the convenience of the Court, the prosecution having no objection. He resided in a house at the back of Verstappen's. He stated:—On 18th July I returned home at 7.30, and later, while having my supper, I heard Verstappen calling his daughter Nellie, much louder than usual. I saw, through Verstappen's kitchen window, Verstappen, standing on a dresser, and afterwards he jumped down and put the water-pot on the dresser, and when Verstappen moved a little I saw the woman dropping down. Verstappen took the woman in his arms and put her down on the pavement in the kitchen, then Verstappen went to the front room leaving the woman in the kitchen, and some Japanese came in and assisted Verstappen to remove the body into mates that there are in, but above all, around, Paris no less than 8,000 insalubrious establishments that ought to be suppressed, or forced to consume their deleterious exhalations. Among the chief evils that the police signal, but are incapable of remedying, are the open furnaces for the manufacture of several kinds of machinery grease and oils—that from fish included; incineration of the detritus of the knacker's yards and butchers shops' refuse, make animal black to refine sugar; the conversion of the night-soil of the city into *poudrette*, or Paris guano, or worse still, into sulphate of ammonia. To these must be added the fabrication of several chemicals only differing in degree of poison.

The Chamber of Deputies is to be highly congratulated on its resolution to make ministers responsible for their official illegalities. M. Delcassé, late Colonial Minister, was horn-blown as a heaven-born administrator; he was simply a puppet between the hands of the self-appointed committee of colonial expansionists. His successor, M. Chautemps, is a plucky, and must be an honest man, as he showed up the irregularities of his predecessors, and their questionable proceedings. Without ever consulting parliament, ex Minister Delcassé, fitted out costly expeditions to grab territories in the Soudan, and other parts of Africa, that might at any moment have brought the French into collision with Germany and England, money voted for some other purpose he applied, to the extent in one case of 600,000 francs to new and unsanctioned ends; he sent the brave Captain Monteil to extirpate "Samory," who was somewhere in the Soudan, without any plan, and next to destitute of food and the *materiel* of war. Samory extirpated the French, and Monteil was recalled. The mules sent to the latter arrived dead. Two companies of troops were decimated, having neither bread, salt, nor meat; cannon and ammunition had to be abandoned, and a terrible shake given to the Colonial projects of France in the Soudan. The deputies would listen to no more, but stood by the budget commission that complained it was never consulted about these expeditions, and the granting of contracts after the goods had been supplied at something like fancy prices, so voted that the ex-minister be held civilly responsible for expending State monies without authority. It is to be hoped he will made to pay the utmost farthing. Then the concessions in Africa, conceded to alleged bogus companies and capitalits without capital—are to be subjected to the search light. But the public has seized another side of the question: "What return does, or can France expect to reap, from the annual grant demanded for the Soudan of 90 million francs?

The students of the Latin Quartier are in rebellion, and divided into hostile camps, the plutocrats and apparently the sansculottes. The cause is this. Henri Murger, who died in 1861, was the author of *La Vie de Bohéme*; that every student between the ages of 17 and 23 is presumed to read, mark, learn, and digest with a fervour as if for *Robinson Crusoe*, and in a spirit of devotion, as if a breviary—in his breviary days understood. Murger was the artist, or portraitist of student life, embodiments of Mark Tapley, Bob Sawyer, and Dick Swiveller, in courage, strategy, and good heartedness, that life was merry in the midst of misfortunes, where pockets were often as empty as stomachs, and co-operative loaning of clothes suppressed the necessity of a chest of drawers or a wardrobe. Besides, "My Uncle" was their Privy Seal Keeper. They were the days when one went gipsying. A bust has just been inaugurated in the Jardin du Luxembourg to Murger, and so was a fête sacred to the students, their *Mimis* and the *Musettes* for a few of these, it seems, still exist. A committee decided to improve the occasion by holding a banquet—voted *nem. con.* But when the committee fixed the price of the ticket at 6 francs per head, this was a bolt from the blue, for that section of the students who had —and at the end of the month too, when parental allowances were at lowest ebb—not six sous in their pocket, and were debating the possibility of applying to one of the matrimonial agencies, that have ever one or two heiresses on hand, with a few millions of fortune, and desirous only to find a husband. A schism was the result: the "Have Nots," protested against the Rothschild section of the students, who furthermore had insulted the shade of Murger by assuming that any student worth the name could afford 6 francs for a dinner. By entering into commercial relations with the good "Uncle," to take charge of some of their books, and a pair of winter pantaloons—summer having set in—and by writing to their sisters for old postage stamps, to negotiate—though new ones would be preferred—it was agreed that the price of the ticket should be fixed at 2 francs. Then the orthodox Murgerites made a pilgrimage to their hero's tomb, each depositing thereon a one sou nosegay. Next, they returned to the Luxembourg, after a lunch on one sou of fried potatoes served in a brown paper bag. Before the statue they deposited roses at one sou each; they sang some songs by Murger; that ceremony—three days before the official one under the auspices of the government—they baptized a *demi-Vierge* inauguration. Then the 2 francs banquet took place in the Café Procope—that light of other days; the room intended to accommodate one hundred guests, was by good engineering filled with 400; then the balconies were crowded, and next—the best of places—the staircases. The waiters could not do more, so they passed the dishes along, and that were duly harpooned on the staircase, cleared out, and passed on to the 400; the latter had only the wine which had been laid on the table in advance. The guests on the balcony got nothing at all; they appealed in desperation to the neighbouring publicans and bakers, and pork butchers, who contributed gallantly, and sent up the victuals by cords. One student urged working the fire telephone, to call the fire brigade to rescue those imprisoned by the block. In the meantime, another schism had taken place on the part of students, who deemed 2 francs too expensive for a ticket, and organised a "Paunch" at two-thirds less. At the twelfth hour, a poster was set up, inviting students to dine where they pleased, and agree to pay when they had become celebrities. The usual conflict with the police followed.

The French are very circumspect and measured in their appreciation of the new English Cabinet. They admit that with such an assemblage of able public men, a new departure, both in domestic and in foreign policy, must ensue. That policy is not expected to be of any provocative character, but it will not the less be decided and resolute. The defensive resources of England will, say good and impartial judges, be largely developed, and no money spared upon the work; it is the premium on the nation's life assurance. The nomination of Lord Salisbury and Mr. Chamberlain, to take charge of Foreign and Colonial Affairs, is viewed as very significant, as the holders are known to have concrete ideas on questions effecting their departments. A *rapprochement* between Germany and Japan and England, is now accepted as an accomplished fact, and China is expected to fall into line, after emptying Russia's political wallet. The Egyptian question will be less harped upon—and that will be a boon and a blessing for both French and English. Even already Anglo-Saxons are ceasing to be regarded as the last of peoples.

The double suicide of M. Carré and his wife, though only some days old, is still discussed, proof of the exceptional importance and suggestiveness of the event. M. Carré was the son of a humble village schoolmaster, who came to Paris, struggled to be called to the Bar, and became one of the minor satellites of Gambetta, so rose to post and place. He was perhaps the ablest social lawyer in France; he was consulted on such every-day cases as divorces, and few ladies in difficulties but sought his advice. He generally reduced mountains to molehills; was full of genial scepticism and saturated with Parisianism. He was standing counsel to the Municipality. His pleadings in divorce cases were a treat of elegant diction, sunny, eighteenth century cynicism, and delicate tact. If he could not reconcile husbands and wives, he secured that, divorced, they should depart in peace. In society he was a pet; ladies drank in his eloquence; and his philosophy was so gentle to practise! He pleaded for an Austrian lady, of French extraction, for divorce from her husband, a wealthy Vienna banker. He won, as a matter of course. "And now, M. Carré, what would you advise me to do?" "Marry me, Madame." Before two months they were man and wife. They were as happy as mortals could be; they were classed as turtle doves, the rarest kind of birds to encounter in Paris. But all this time, Carré, the model man, was wearing a mask. For three years he had for mistress the wife of a distinguished citizen; the latter discovered the treason of Carré, his friend. A duel was fixed; Clemenceau was to be his second. On the fatal afternoon, a lady on quitting his cabinet in an excited state, encountered her friend Madame Carré. "Oh, Madame, since three years I have been your husband's mistress; he and my husband are to fight a duel: let us prevent it." Madame Carré rushed to her husband; "Wretch, what have I done to be so betrayed?" She flew to her dressing room, seized a bottle of poison, but the private secretary, who had overheard all, followed, and secured the bottle. While they struggled, a pistol shot was heard in the study; Carré lay dead. While the secretary went to a sofa for a pillow, another pistol shot from the still smoking revolver; the wife now lay dead. Carré, for his own wedlock imbroglio had only the vulgar solution of suicide; his philosophy, his cynicism, had vanished. The good fairy had removed all the gorgeous trappings, and her protégé was reduced to rags. Parisianism is all masquism; that only the rich shopkeepers, the confessional, the tribunal, and the bankruptcy court know.

FORMOSA.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS" CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY.)

Affairs are growing worse, and worse and unless the Japanese replace their policy of extreme leniency in dealing with the rebels, for one of strict unfeeling severity, the indications are that all the peacefully inclined Chinese will have left the country for the mainland, for, placed practically between two fires, being forced to serve first the Chinese soldiers and then the Japanese, to the sacrifice of property and sometimes life, and with no indication of decreasing hostilities, it has caused these people, naturally so cowardly, to be possessed with great fear. They cannot rightfully accuse the Japanese of the least act of injustice, but even here in the city where the Chinese are offered every protection, kindness is not only totally misunderstood, and unappreciated, but is seemingly taken actually as an injustice. When the Japanese first arrived many Chinese were brought into their service, many consenting not because they wanted to, but because they considered it obligatory to obey. Although they did not expect their conquerors would have so much condescension, they however were secretly greatly astonished at being paid generously and without delay often from the lowest soldiers in the army. As they expected being forced to work without any compensation whatever, one would naturally think they would appreciate the generous payment and would be satisfied, but no, they refuse to work unless doubly paid, and we find now the charges high and unreasonable.

I think the discipline observed by the troops since their arrival has been splendid, although as I make this statement the Chinese complain of the terrible outrages committed,—contradictions which I trust the reader will decide in my favour upon considering the character of the Chinese. It is scarcely possible but what the conquerors, be they natives of any country, will sometimes abuse their rights, and the Japanese soldiers have been no exception, but in this case the very few slight injuries have been taken by the Chinese as the most enormous outrages. I investigated a most terrific "pow wow" that was raging in a small Chinese shop and found the crime, which from appearances could have been no less than a murder, was committed by a Japanese who had made some purchases to the amount of one dollar and in place of tendering a mutilated chop dollar, had placed a brand new one yen paper note, actually having

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a current value of three or four cents above the ordinary Formosa chop dollar, on the counter and departed. As a great deal of paper money had been circulated, a bright Chinaman of my acquaintance preyed upon the ignorance of his fellow beings and opened an exchange office giving chop dollars for *yen* notes, until it finally soaked through the head of the unsophisticated Chinese that they were losing three or four per cent. on their money, for the civil authorities were exchanging bright new silver *yen* for paper money if anyone did not desire the latter.

A mob of a hundred or two Chinese fired on some couriers who were on their way to Tiengliek and as it occurred only a short distance from Twatutia, the firing could occasionally be heard here. It created a great deal of excitement among the Chinese who are absolutely incorrigible, several hundred leaving for Hobe to cross to the mainland. The report was promptly put in circulation that the big southern army had advanced and were then just outside the city and were going to retake the foreign city of Tuatutia, and the walled city of Taipehfu, at night, killing all the Japanese, foreigners, and the Chinese who had submitted to Japanese rule, and as only one hundred Japanese soldiers remained here the others having gone south, Chinese success was assured. It is not only surprising, but most wonderful and incomprehensible that the Chinese, who are at least expected to possess a little human intelligence, can believe such trash so implicitly. A well-known Chinese, an acquaintance of mine, informed me that he was very much afraid, and was going to Canton. So he packs up his household property; his wife and children, worked up to a state of frenzied excitement, are sent down river to be despatched at once on a cranky junk destined for Foochow, when in ten minutes by walking a few blocks, he could have satisfied himself as to the falsity of the story by seeing with his own eyes that, instead of there being only one hundred Japanese soldiers, as reported, there are nearer ten thousand. But the story remains uninvestigated, the harm is done, and a few hours proves that their fears were based on a series of fabrications, in the manufacture of which the Chinese are not only unexcelled, but unequalled.

The present condition of affairs not only affects the Chinese but the foreign tea merchants are heavy losers. Until the arrival of the Japanese, tea was coming in from the country about as usual, but for a few days a gradual falling off was noticed until the Japanese had established themselves at the capital, when it took a sudden spurt, but only for a few days. It then began a perceptible decrease day by day, until at present there is practically none coming in. As the quantity decreased the quality was also lowered owing to the plants not receiving sufficient attention and the picking being carried on hastily without regard for the time the leaves are considered of proper growth. The territory that is at present given over to warfare usually sends in at least half of the output, and the great fear with which the people are possessed prevents them picking and sending in the tea from portions of the island that are comparatively safe. General business is falling into the hands of the larger merchants, the smaller closing up their houses, for we find only twenty or thirty present out of the usual one hundred and fifty Chinese packers for the Tamsui and Amoy markets.

Owing to many of the Chinese having been prevented from carrying on their usual occupations and in some cases having lost time and money during the last and present troubles, the Japanese Formosa Government has made known its intention of giving to the Chinese all likin and other taxes for the year, with the exception of course of Customs duties, which will be collected as usual. This reflects great credit upon the Japanese and only adds one more to the many thoughtful considerations which have characterised their treatment of the island. Any other people on earth except the Chinese would feel duly grateful, but they acknowledge no kindness, as they recognise no ruler unless he be a master who will impose the most oppressive laws and is respected in a greater or less degree as he is possessed with a greater or less degree of brutality, ferocity, and barbarity.

One regiment is already on its way overland for the south, and the main expedition is hurrying the preparations for the two months' trip and are now only waiting for several transports expected every day bringing coolies and supplies. The exact date of departure has not yet been made known, but it will without doubt be before the last of the month. On the eleventh, the Chinese army in the hills about Teckcham again made trouble, with the fourth attack on the city. They took up their position on the east hills, fortifying themselves by throwing up entrenchments, and mounting them with jingals. They gained courage by not meeting with any opposition from the Japanese, who by their intended tardiness, were allowing several of their own troops to surround the enemy, which by a skilful manœuvre was successfully accomplished, resulting in not only the complete defeat of the enemy, who left over two hundred and ten prisoners. The Japanese loss was three killed and eight wounded.

The Chinese in Formosa have from the start, with a few exceptions, conducted themselve in such a disgraceful manner that when one is found deserving of praise he should at least get the credit of it. Lin Wei-yuan, Senior Commissioner of the Imperial Stud, the wealthiest landed proprietor of Formosa, descendant of the chief lieutenant of Koxings, the Pirate King of Formosa in the early days of the present Manchu dynasty, and now one of the three chiefs of the Formosans, is the person. The morning of 24th May, when the independence of Formosa was declared and the determination to oppose the Japanese was made known, the gentleman above referred to stated publicly that he would have nothing to do with it whatsoever. So great was the condemnation of the rebels, that to insure his own safety he secretly left his *yamên* at the dead of night and kept in hiding until the first steamer left for the mainland. On this boat he took passage and has not been back to Formosa since. And the noble Imperial Government who allowed him to resign his rank probably did so because he refused to be a party to the debasing duplicity which characterised the handling of the whole Formasa affair.

One division of troops is expected in from Kelung to-morrow which should impart some confidence to the few respectable Chinese here and stop the flow of Chinese to the mainland. Nearly fifty junks were counted to-day, crowded with Chinese passengers and their luggage waiting to go out on to-night's tide. Of course there is no just reason whatsoever for such a movement which is due entirely to the cowardliness of the people, who seeing so many Japanese soldiers sent out and none returning and hearing firing going on outside the city actually believe before the week is out the great Chinese army will be in possession and that all will be murdered, Japanese, Chinese, and foreigners. No news ever reaches their ears but Chinese victories, at least if there does, it is never believed.

Twatutia, 15th July.

I have often heard it stated by foreigners that although the Japanese conquered the Chinese without difficulty, they could hardly have done otherwise, because there was no opposition, and if cases had been reversed, and the Japanese had been placed in battle, with no drill, poor equipment, and without proper commanders, the Chinese would have found the victory as easy. It is such incidents as the following that prove superiority. I have here to record a sad calamity, but one of undaunted courage and bravery. An act that brings out the true nature of these plucky soldiers, who although they have never yet been accused of cowardness, this leaves not a doubt of their valour. On the eleventh of this month, Sergeant Sakurai with thirty-one soldiers started up river with eighteen Chinese boats loaded with rice, intending to convey it to the first battalion who are stationed at Takoham. After having traversed the greater part of the distance in safety, they saw what they took to be Chinese soldiers about 1,000 *métres* from the river. Fearing that the latter might surround their boats and seize the valuable cargo and upon closer inspection finding that there were only fifteen or twenty Chinese, they at once fired on them. No sooner had the first shot been fired than between four and five hundred Chinese soldiers came tearing out of an ambush on the left and commenced to surround the little party of thirty-two, which was divided into two squads, one under command of Sergt. Sakurai, and the other under Corporal Ibasha. Back to back they answered the enemy's fire gallantly, and encouraging each other, for three hours they fought until eight were dead and several were wounded. The twenty-four survivors placed their bayonets on the guns and made a charge at the enemy, who cowards as they are gave way enough to allow them to gain the outside of the ring, leaving a Corporal mortally wounded in the hands of the enemy, but the fiends were deprived of the pleasure of torturing this noble soldier, who with a shout of *Banzai*, drew his sword, and cut his own throat. The Chinese again surrounded the little party and commenced the fire and again the Japanese charged through their ranks, leaving nine of their own men dead and five badly wounded. The unharmed soldiers were about to return to the aid of the injured, who were soon to fall into the hands of the Chinese, when these poor fellows implored them to fly and save their own lives, rather than return to certain death, then four that were together placed their swords at each other's throats and the fifth taking his own life, they all died together.

The four remaining, by sheltering themselves in the ambush near by, were able to put the Chinese off the track for the time, and later went to a pond which had an abundance of high water grass, which would hide them for awhile. It was then proposed at dusk to endeavour to escape from the vicinity, but one thinking it would be safer to remain until later refused to go and was left alone, the other three departing. This soldier then finding a suitable place kept his body immerged with just the eyes, nose, and mouth above water. Seeing Chinese approach to the bank, he thought he had been discovered, that all was up, but great was his joy when after washing some rice they departed and soon disappeared. Almost famished for want of food, and weakened with exhaustion, he stood for eight hours in the same position until it seemed as though he could hardly bear the suspense longer. Towards midnight, the sky darkened, heavy clouds appeared, accompanied by peals of thunder, and flashes of lightning, which gave way to torrents of rain. Then leaving his place of concealment and keeping a sharp lookout for Chinese soldiers, he reached the river bank and found only six out of the eighteen boats that had originally been brought up. The fires of the Chinese camps were visible, and as the storm then ceased and the moon appeared, there was only one course to take that would perhaps bring him through safely. So stripping himself of his clothes, reserving his jacket, cartridges and gun, he waded into the stream and by keeping his head and nostrils above water, sometimes sinking into pit holes over his depth, falling and plunging along, he passed for two and a half miles. Then seeing a form upon the bank and hoping that it might be Japanese he climbed upon shore, but came face to face with a Chinese soldier and fearing that the alarm would be given by this man who was apparently a sentry, he shot him and then plunged into the river again gaining considerable distance before the Chinese had appeared to investigate the rifle report. Continuing on but a mile or so, his heart was made glad by the neighing of a horse for he then knew he had reached the Japanese camp in safety. Nothing certain is known regarding the other three, but it is thought that they have reached some of the Japanese camps is safety.

Taipehfu, 16th July.

INQUEST.

The adjourned Inquest into the circumstances attending the death of Kamil Mahmit, a Lascar fireman on board the British steamer *Energia*, was held in H.B.M. Consulate on Friday afternoon before John Carey Hall, Esq., Consul and Acting Assistant Judge.

Neil Gordon Munro, M.D., stated that there was no doubt as to the cause of death—*beri-beri*. He attended Kamil Mahmit, while the others were sent to hospital under Dr. Mécre. The men only went to hospital under considerable pressure, one positively refused to go. *Beri-beri* was the cause of death in all three cases. There were on the ship others suffering from the disease. He saw in the papers last night that four others were suffering from *beri-beri*, and he examined them and found that they were suffering from the first stages of the disease. There are three kinds of the disease; the men were suffering from an acute form of the disease. He was strongly of opinion it was a contagious disease, but that was a point that has not been cleared up. He only found such cases from men coming from the Malay archipelago, Ceylon, the Malabar coast, and sometimes, but not frequently, from China and Japan. The predisposing causes are climatic, or fermentation of the stomach. It is a form of anæmia and is associated with the diet of the natives from those regions. His personal belief was that it was a parasite in the bowels, which gains entrance with the food into the alimentery canals. He had had experience of *beri-beri* while in the P. & O., but not of so severe a mortality, but the authorities place the mortality next in order to that of cholera. He was examining the excreta of the men, to determine to what death was due. Changes of climate, food, or exposure to air, would lead to it; with predisposing tendencies changes of climate would lead to acute attacks. The very great change of climate between Yokohama and Otaru would lead to an acute stage if there were predisposing circumstances. He did not think the Board of Trade provisions are sufficient for the comfort and well-being of the men. The forecastle of the *Energia* was much larger than in

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some other vessels, where it is merely a den, but even on her when the ports are closed there is insufficient air. He did not consider the cubic feet and ventilation allowed by the Board of Trade adequate. He would recommend bread in place of rice, also eggs, poultry, &c. He should recommend that the men be prohibited from eating their rice cold, and only immediately after it was cooked. Their religious prejudices, however, stood in the way of a good many things. He had examined the men and found that three had their hearts affected. They never say they are ill: in fact they have to be found out. Only the symptoms of the disease are known, not the pathology, so patients have to be treated by the symptoms. They are given quinine, and other tonics to tone up the bowels.

Mr. Hall found that Kamil Mahmit died from an acute attack of *beri-beri*, that everything possible was done for him, and that no blame attaches to any one.

Dr. Munro strongly objected to the men now under treatment by him being sent to the General Hospital; they would get better treatment and care on board ship.

Mr. Hall said he could not see that the forecastle of a ship was better than the hospital. He would pay a visit to the General Hospital.

Dr. Munro replied that the establishment was in a filthy condition, the attendance was bad, and that only a steward was left in charge. They might be sent to the German Hospital or the British Naval Hospital.

INQUIRY INTO A DEATH AT SEA.

J. C. Hall, Esq., H.B.M. Consul, held an inquiry at the Consulate on Thursday afternoon into the circumstances attending the death of J. W. Twentymen, a steward's assistant, on board the British steamer *Aswanly*, which took place in the Red Sea on July 6th, 1895, in lat. 12′ 14″, N., long. 45′ 50″ E.

Capt. James Murray, Master of the *Aswanly*, deposed—The boy fell down an iron ladder just as the ship was entering Port Said, and was subsequently attended by a doctor in the service of the Canal Company. The lad was about 19 years of age and had, previous to the accident, complained of the heat and heart trouble. The steward sent the lad off for some sugar, and it was while he was returning that the boy's foot slipped. He was about a couple of steps from the bottom of the hatchway when the accident occurred. It was not till some hours after this that he complained of being hurt, and then a doctor was sent for. The doctor thought the hurt was but slight and would heal in a day or so. The lad died a week after his fall. The day before his death he took a bath in the Engineer's bath-room, and was not then complaining.

James Poole, the Chief Steward, who witnessed the accident from a distance of about four feet, said the time was about 6.40 a.m., June 28th, when it occurred. The lad refused to lay up and continued to work until the afternoon. The weight of the sugar which he was engaged in carrying could not have been more than 18 pounds. The lad must have taken a false step as he came down the ladder, and one of his legs went through. Probably the india-rubber shoes which he was wearing contributed to the result. After the accident every care was taken of deceased, and his diet was made as strengthening as possible. The boy was of a very weak constitution and often complained of pains in the heart and body. His death was quite unexpected.

John Scott, a fireman, who had been a male nurse in a hospital for six years, attended the deceased up till the time of his death. He applied cold lotions to the hurt every quarter of an hour until the day of deceased's death. The lad had had some previous heart trouble and was not strong. The day before his death a slight fever set in. Delirium followed, and death supervened about six o'clock in the morning. In one conscious interval before death, the lad said he was dying and thanked them all for what they had done for him.

His Honour said—I find that the deceased, J. W. Twentyman died in consequence of a hurt received while in the service of the ship: that all proper medical care and attention were bestowed upon him, and that no blame attached to any one.

The *Saturday Review* and several provincial Conservative journals complain that there are too many of Chamberlain's friends in the Government. They especially refer to the inclusion of Mr. J. Austen Chamberlain (Civil Lord of the Admiralty), Mr. Jesse Collings (Parliamentary Secretary to the Home Office), and Mr. J. Powell Williams (Financial Secretary to the War Office).

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 4.

M. Speier, the present Russian Minister at Teheran, has been appointed Minister to Korea.

London, August 8.

The Marquis of Salisbury has demanded that the Government of China shall issue a Decree ordering the death of the culprits in the recent massacre of missionaries, the fullest protection to missionaries, and an escort for the Consul who is going to enquire into the circumstances of the massacre. The Chinese Government has assented.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, August 9.

Telegraphic news has been received here from Hongkong, stating that riots occurred yesterday near Canton, and that the Wesleyan Hospital had been damaged. A meeting has been held in Hongkong, which condemned the policy of the British Government in China.

[FROM "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

Pekin, July 28, 10 a.m.

Lu Ch'uan-lin, the new Viceroy of Szechuan, has telegraphed a memorial to the Emperor laying the whole blame of the recent riots on Liu Ping-chang; and declaring that as he had countenanced them he should be the one to restore the *status quo ante*. The Emperor has consequently ordered Liu Ping-chang to remain in Szechuan and settle the affair.

(FROM THE "SIAM OBSERVER.")

Rangoon, July 15.

The Government of Burmah has published a notification in which the territory constituting the Burmese Shan States is defined. Among those in the northern Shan States are East and West Manglum, with their dependencies, and all the territories east of the Salween River which, on 27th November, 1885, owed allegiance, directly or indirectly, to the King of Burmah, and which still form part of Upper Burmah. In the southern Shan States are included Kengtung and its dependencies, with Kengcheng.

Allahabad, July 15.

Major-General Gerrard's party is believed to have safely crossed the Hindu Kush and to be making progress towards Maro, to the north of Gilgit.

Simula, July 17.

The following honours and promotions have been gazetted in connection with the recent Chitral expedition:—Dr. Robertson, K.C.S.I.; Lieut. Whitchurch, V.C.; Colonel Kelly, C.B. and A.D.C. to the Queen; Capt. Townshend, C.B.; Capt. Borrowdaile, D.S.O.; Lieut. Jones, D.S.O.; Lieut. Edwards, D.S.O.; Lieut. Fowke, D.S.O.; Lieut. Heynon, D.S.O.; Lieut. Stewart, D.S.O.; Lieut. Harley, D.S.O.

(FROM 'LE COURRIER DE SAIGON.')

Paris, July 20.

The Cuban insurgents surprised and defeated Marshal Campos at the head of a small column. General Santogilde was killed while covering the retreat.

Paris, July 21.

At Stambuloff's funeral no official personage was present. A speech defending Stambuloff occasioned a disturbance.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Shimonoseki, August 7.

A letter from Söul, dated the 1st inst., states that a private message dispatched by the wife of the Tai Wön-kun says that Li Shun-yo, who was exiled the some time ago, is alive, but is receiving harsh treatment.

Osaka, August 7.

The latest dispatch from Shanghai under date the 3rd inst., announces that the thermometer has risen to 100 degrees since the 31st ult., and two foreign residents died from sunstroke on the 2nd inst.

Nagasaki, August 7.

Lieut.-Colonel Nakamura, an Imperial Chamberlain, has reached here, and at once proceeded to Saseho.

Communication has been resumed on the Tsuge and Seki section, which was recently damaged.

Shimonoseki, August 7.

A Norwegian steamer arrived here last night with a large cargo of beans from Newchwang.

It is stated that a report having been received to the effect that 300 Chinese soldiers had secretly entered Haicheng on the 26th ult., the Japanese gendarmes took particular pains to discover whether the report was true or not.

On the same day, 20 Chinese robbers were said to have visited Kosoton, about 5 miles from Haicheng.

Business in beans is said to be very active at Newchwang, stocks arriving freely from the interior. It is stated that Custom duties to the amount of *yen* 500,000 are collected there during the three summer months. The Custom House is now under the charge of one foreign employé, five Japanese civil officials, and an officer of the gendarmerie.

Tsuchizaki, August 7.

The Yusen Kaisha's chartered steamer *Strathdale*, which left Honjo last night with some rice from Sakata and Honjo, ran on to a shoal off Arayagahama, Tsuchizaki, this morning, but floated at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The following telegram was yesterday received by the Government.

H.I.H. Prince Fushimi and his Brigade arrived at Kelung on the 6th inst. from Talien. No person had been attacked by epidemics.

Fukuoka, August 8.

The torpedo-boat *Kotaka* arrived at Hakata last night, and left for Yokosuka this morning. Lieutenant Nagai and 28 others are on board.

Osaka, August 8.

Two regiments of the Reserve leave here for Formosa about the 26th inst.

The total number of Chinese prisoners in Japan is 988, of whom 21 officers and 248 men are staying here, and 2 officers and 96 men at Otsu. Of those in Osaka 85 are disabled, and will remain here until they recover somewhat. The other prisoners will leave Osaka and Otsu on the 12th inst.

Shimonoseki, August 8.

The *Satsuma Maru* proceeded to Formosa to-day with some civil officials for Kelung and over 200 gendarmes.

Kobe, August 8.

The captured gun-boat *Chen-tung* arrived here yesterday.

Fukuoka, August 8.

The *Chen-chung* arrived here last night, and proceeded to Kure this morning.

Kobe, August 8.

The *Iwaki Kan* made a trial run yesterday. She will leave for Sasebo to-night.

The Italian man-of-war *Umbria* left for Yokohama this morning.

Okayama, August 8.

Forty-five cases of cholera were reported here yesterday.

Shimonoseki, August 8.

Yu Sei-yei, a manager of the Finance Department in Korea, and a few other Koreans arrived here by the *Shirakawa Maru*. They are to inspect Customs procedure at the Yokohama Custom House.

Shanghai, August 8.

Some Chinese soldiers dispatched to guard Kutien, Fukien Province, have behaved in a very disorderly manner, and stolen the property of missionaries.

A report has reached here to the effect that a Chinese mob has destroyed a Christian hospital at Fushan, Kwanchow, Kwangtung Province.

Nagasaki, August 8.

The *Matsushima Kan* left here to-day for an unknown destination.

The Russian ship *Razboynik* has left for Hongkong.

Nagoya, August 8.

Tatsuta-mura in Kaisai District is still flooded and the rice is rotting in the fields. Over one hundred farmers forced their way to the *Kencho* yesterday.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will re-open on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 188.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q B 4	1—Anything
2—Mates accordingly.	

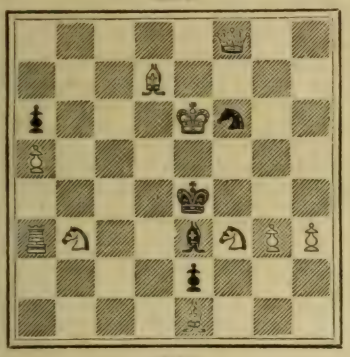
"A good clean problem with no duals."

Correct answers from W. D. Cox, E.D., W. Barrie, W.H.S., Digamma, J.D., Shogi, and E. J. King.

Problem No. 190.

By Chas. A. Gilberg.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Australian Chess.

The last mail gives us news of the progress of a match for the Championship of the Southern continent. Mr. Esling has challenged the present Champion, Mr. Wallace, and the match was in progress when the mail left. Mr. Wallace made the running at first till the score stood: Wallace 3, Esling 0, Draws 2; but after that he was troubled with insomnia and Mr. Esling won the sixth game. The seventh game was adjourned in the middle (with a position in favour of Mr. Esling) on account of Mr. Wallace's health. We reprint from the *Australasian* some of the better games already played and hope to hear that the match is concluded at an early date.

Game No. 313.

SECOND GAME—QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Mr. Wallace.	BLACK. Mr. Esling.
1—P to Q 4 (a)	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Q Kt to B 3	3—K Kt to B 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—P to Q Kt 3 (b)
5—P to K 3	5—B to Kt 2
6—P to Q R 3 (c)	6—B to K 2
7—P takes P	7—Kt takes P
8—B to Kt 5 ch. (d)	8—P to B 3 (e)
9—B to Q 3	9—Q to B 2 (f)
10—Kt takes Kt	10—K P takes Kt
11—Castles	11—Castles
12—P to K 4 (g)	12—P to Q B 4 (h)
13—Q to B 2	13—P to B 5 (i)
14—P takes P	14—B takes P
15—B takes P ch.	15—K to R sq.
9 minutes.	27 minutes.
16—B to K 4	16—B takes B
17—Q takes B	17—Kt to B 3 (j)
18—B to B 4	18—Q to Q 2 (k)
19—P to Q 5!	19—Kt to R 4
20—B to K 5!	20—Q R to B sq.
21—Q R to Q sq.	21—K to Kt sq.
22—K R to K sq.	22—K R to K sq.
63 minutes.	65 minutes.
23—Q to K B 4	23—R to B 4
24—B takes P (l)	24—R takes P (m)

At this stage the players adjourned for refreshments. On the resumption of play Mr. Wallace's sealed move was found to be Q to R 6.

25—Q to R 6	25—P to B 3
26—R takes R	26—Q takes R
27—B takes P (n)	
96 minutes.	100 minutes.

And Mr. Esling resigns.

(a) The close game requires great attention to detail and right judgment in position.
(b) King's side castling should precede the Fianchetto business.
(c) Lost time in this situation. P to Q R 3 is good enough to stop Kt to Q Kt 5, or to secure the Queen's side, P majority, when Black has played P to Q B 4.
(d) Correctly played, compelling Black to block his Q B.
(e) This shows the weakness of his 4th move. If now 8—Kt to B 3, 9—Kt to K 5 evidently wins a piece.
(f) A bad spot at present for her Majesty, 9—Kt to Q 2 was much better.
(g) A bold and successful move, but played a little too soon; 12—Q to B 2 weakens the Black King's side.
(h) White's K B is obviously a very dangerous piece. Why not now compel the exchange of the weaker for the stronger by playing 12—B to R 3?
(i) So glaring an error is unusual in Mr. Esling's chess. We suggest 13—P takes K P; 14—B takes P, B takes B; 15—Q takes B, Kt to Q 2; 15—B to B 4, B to Q 3, &c.
(j) His game is gone, but there was no reason for the sudden collapse. 17—Kt to Q 2 would have kept his position together for some time.
(k) If Black play 18—B to Q 3, 19—Kt to Kt 5 wins at once for White.
(l) White's play could not be improved. This forcible stroke shatters Black's defence.
(m) If 23—K takes P, 24—Kt to K 5 wins the Q or mates.
(n) A potent and elegant conclusion.

Game No. 314.

THE THIRD GAME—THE FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Mr. Esling.	BLACK. Mr. Wallace.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Q Kt to B 3	3—K Kt to B 3
4—P to K 5	4—K Kt to Q 2
5—P to B 4	5—P to Q B 4
6—P takes P	6—Q Kt to B 3
7—P to Q R 3 (a)	7—Kt takes B P (b)
8—P to Q Kt 4 (c)	8—Kt to Q 2
9—B to Q 3	9—Q to B 2
10—B to Q 2	10—P to Q R 4 (!)
11—Kt to Kt 5	11—Q to Q sq.
12—P takes P (d)	12—Kt to B 4
13—Q to Kt sq.	13—B to Q 2 (e)
14—K Kt to B 3	14—Kt takes R P
15—Castles	15—Kt takes B
16—P takes Kt	16—Q to Kt 3 ch.
17—Q Kt to Q 4	17—B to B 4
18—Q takes Q	18—B takes Q
19—K R to Kt sq.	19—B to B 4
20—K to B sq.	20—P to Q Kt 3
40 minutes.	45 minutes.
21—Q Kt to Kt 5	21—Castles K R
22—K to K 2	22—B takes Kt
23—R takes B	23—Kt to B 3
24—B to B 3	24—R to R 5
25—P to Kt 3	25—R to Kt sq.
(1 hour and 23 minutes).	(1 hour and 36 minutes).
26—R to Kt 3	26—P to K R 3 (f)
27—B to Q 2	27—R (Kt sq.) to Q R sq.
28—B to B sq.	28—Kt to R 4
29—R to Kt 5	29—Kt to B 3
30—R (R sq.) to Q Kt sq.	30—R (R sq.) to R 3
95 minutes.	105 minutes.
31—R (Kt 5) to Kt 3	31—P to K Kt 4! (g)
32—P takes P	32—P takes P
33—P to R 3 (h)	33—B to Q 5!
34—B takes P	34—B takes P
35—R takes P	35—B takes P (i)
36—R takes R	36—R takes R
37—B to B 6 (j)	37—B to Q 3
38—R to K Kt sq. ch.	38—K to B sq.
39—Kt to Kt 5	39—Kt to K 2
40—P to R 4	40—R takes P
41—P to R 5 (k)	41—R to R 7 ch.
42—K to K B 3	42—Kt to K B 4
43—P to R 6	43—Kt takes P
44—R to K R sq.	44—R to K R 7
45—R to Q R sq.	45—K to K sq.
46—R to R 8 ch.	46—K to Q 2
47—R to R 7 ch.	47—K to Q B 3
48—Kt takes P	48—Kt takes Kt
155 minutes.	130 minutes.
49—R takes Kt	49—P to K 4
50—B to K 7? (l)	50—B takes B
51—R takes B	51—K to Q 3
52—R to K Kt 7	52—K to Q B 4
53—R to Kt 4	53—P to Q 5!
54—R to Kt 8	54—K to Q Kt 5
55—R to Q B 8	55—K to Kt 6
56—R to B 5	56—R to Q B 7!
57—R takes P	57—K to Q B 6
58—R to Q 5	58—K takes P
59—R to Q 8	59—R to B 5
60—R to Q 7	60—K to Q 7
61—K to K B 2	61—P to Q 6
175 minutes.	175 minutes.
62—K to B 3	62—R to B 6
63—K to B 2	63—K to Q 8
64—R to Q 8	64—R to Q B 7 ch.
65—K to K B sq.	65—P to Q 7
66—R to Q R 8	66—K to Q B 8
67—R to Q R sq. (ch.)	67—K to Kt 7
195 minutes.	197 minutes.

And Mr. Esling resigns. (m)

(a) No improvement on 7. B to K 3 in the first game, but the natural 7. Kt to B 3 is superor to either.
(b) In our notes to game No. 1 we recommended the text move in preference to 7. B takes P.
(c) Very weak; forcing tactics in an undeveloped position nearly always recoil.
(d) 12. R to Kt sq. seems better, as it prevents Kt to B 4.
(e) Here we think Black could afford to lose a move by Q to R 5 ch. and Q home. White's K side is then broken, and castling dangerous.
(f) It would take a few guesses to discover this sealed move. It is preliminary to a deeply-laid plan having for its object the breaking up of White's centre.
(g) A fine move, which turns out well for Black.
(h) White should at once have played 33. B takes P.
(i) All this is cleverly managed.
(j) On the off chance of pinning the B.
(k) He can do nothing better.
(l) Suicidal; the retention of his B would have given him good drawing chances. Positions may easily arise where the B could be sacrificed to save the game. The remaining moves require no comment save that Black shines as usual in the ending.
(m) Novices may be told that if 68. R to Q sq—R to B 8, 69. K to K 2—R takes R, 70. K takes R—K to B 6, and the P gets in.

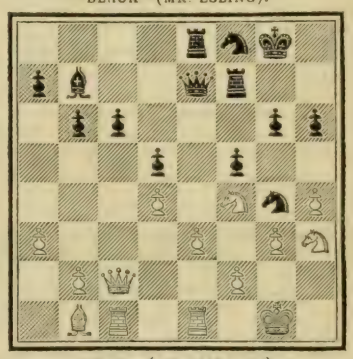
Game No. 315.

THE FOURTH GAME—ZUKERTORT'S OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. Wallace.	BLACK. Mr. Esling.
1—K Kt to B 3	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P to K 3
3—P to Q B 4	3—K Kt to B 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—P to Q Kt 3
5—B to B 4 (a)	5—B to Q 3
6—B to Kt 3	6—P to B 3 (b)
7—P to K 3	7—Castles
8—B to Q 3	8—B to Kt 2
9—Q R to B sq.	9—Q to K 2
10—P takes P	10—K P takes P
11—B to Kt sq.	11—B to R 3
12—B to R 4	12—Q Kt to Q 2
13—Q to R 4	13—B to Kt 2
14—Castles	14—Q to Q sq.
15—Q to B 2	15—P to Kt 3
19 minutes.	51 minutes.
16—Kt to K 2	16—R to K sq.
17—Kt to Kt 3	17—B to K 2
18—P to Q R 3? (c)	18—Kt to K Kt 5!
19—B takes B	19—Q takes B
20—P to K R 4 (d)	20—P to K B 4!
21—Kt to Kt 5	21—R to K B sq.
22—Kt to K 2	22—R to K B 3 (e)
23—Kt to B 4	23—R to K sq.
24—P to K Kt 3	24—Kt to B sq.
25—K R to K sq.	25—P to K R 3

At Black's 26th move the game stood as follows:—

BLACK—(MR. ESLING).



WHITE—(MR. WALLACE).

26—Kt (Kt 5) to R 3	26—R to K B 2
27—Q to K 2	27—P to K Kt 4! (g)
28—Kt to Kt 2	28—Q to K 3!
29—P takes P	29—P takes P
30—Kt takes P	30—Q to R 3
76 minutes.	118 minutes.
31—Kt to B 3	31—P to B 5
32—Kt (B 3) to R 4	32—P to B 6 (h)
33—Q to Q sq.!	33—Kt takes K B P
34—K takes Kt	34—P takes Kt (dis.ch.)
35—K takes P	35—B to B sq. (i)
36—Q to K 2	36—Kt to K 3
37—Q to Q 3	37—Q R to B sq.
38—R to B sq.	38—R to K Kt 2
39—Kt to B 5! (j)	39—R takes Kt
40—R takes R	40—Kt to Kt 4
41—R to R sq.	41—B takes R
42—Q takes B	42—Q to Q 3 (k)
43—Q to B 8 (ch.)	
145 minutes.	176 minutes.

And Mr. Esling resigned.

(a) The position is the same as in the second game, in which White played 5. P to K 3, a better move than 5. B to B 4.
(b) We cannot understand Black's predilection for this move, which defeats the object of 4. P to Q Kt 3 by blocking the B.
(c) We prefer 18, P to K R 3.
(d) This ill-judged advance is the primary cause of the difficulties into which White presently drifts. He should have driven the Kt.
(e) The adjournment move, and a weak one. 22. B to R 3, 22. Q to Q 3, and 22. Q Kt to B 3 are better—the last for choice.
(f) White is boxed up, and can only await the attack.
(g) Well played; the game is becoming uncommonly difficult.
(i) 32. B to B sq. first seems a stronger move. Black must have mismanaged the attack to lose in this position.
(j) White now takes a hand.
(k) A clock move. Black had but five minutes in which to make four moves. 42. Q to K would have prolonged the game considerably.

Game No. 316.

THE SIXTH GAME—THE QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Mr. Wallace.	BLACK. Mr. Esling.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to K 3	4—P to Q Kt 3
5—Kt to K B 3	5—Q Kt to Q 2

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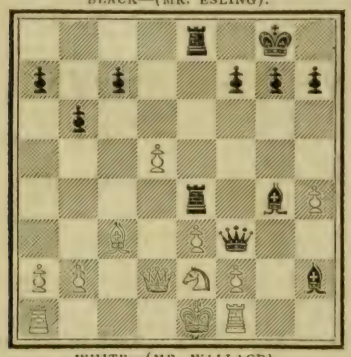
6—P takes P	6—P takes P
7—B to Kt 5	7—B to Q 3
8—Kt to K 5	8—Castles (a)
9—B to Q B 6	9—R to Q Kt sq.
10—Kt takes Kt	10—B takes Kt
11—B takes P	11—Kt takes B
12—Kt takes Kt (b)	12—B to Q B 3
13—Kt to Q B 3	13—Q to K Kt 4 (c)
14—P to K R 4 (d)	14—Q takes K Kt P
15—R to K B sq.	15—B to Q 2 (e)
28 minutes.	20 minutes.
16—Kt to K 2	16—B to K Kt 5
17—Q to Q 3	17—B to K R 7
18—B to Q 2	18—Q to K B 6 (f)
19—B to B 3	19—R R to K sq.
20—Q to Q 2	20—R to K 5
21—P to Q 5	21—Q R to K sq.

BLACK—(MR. ESLING).



WHITE—(MR. WALLACE).

22—Q to Q 3 (g)	22—B to R 6 (h)
23—Castles	23—B takes R
24—R takes B	24—R takes P
25—P takes R	25—Q takes R (ch.)
26—K to Q B 2	26—Q to K B 7
27—K to Q 2	27—Q takes R P
28—Q to R B 5	28—Q to K 2 (i)
29—Q to K B 3	29—Q to K 5
30—Kt to Q 4	30—Q takes Q
88 minutes.	85 minutes.

And Mr. Wallace resigned.

NOTES.

(a) Providing for the escape of the threatened Queen.
(b) White has played to win a Pawn, and he has won it at the cost of backward development. The position is in favour of the second player.
(c) Initiating a strong attack. 13—B takes P would not have been good.
(d) At this stage it was no easy matter to find a satisfactory move for White.
(e) Very much stronger than the specious 15—B to Q Kt 5.
(f) The right move.
(g) Preventing the threatened...R takes P.
(h) Well-timed. Black now realises a portion of his advantage.
(i) Posting the Queen on the proper square.

Said Mr. Blackburne to an interviewer, with whom he had a chat the other day:—"Compare one of Paul Morphy's games with a German game. In the one you have genius, magnificent combination, brilliancy, and what I can only call inspiration. In the other you have the apotheosis of laborious dullness."

"Chess," says Mr. Blackburne, "is growing in popularity to a marvellous degree. Where 30 years ago there was only one chess club there are now 26. The game has 'caught on' with the spread of education; and, nowadays, there are very few decent-sized hamlets, to say nothing of towns, without their chess clubs." In England, continues the champion, chess goes, at present, upon "the German lines. The German player is a careful, cautious man, who rarely, if ever, delivers a brilliant attack; and who depends rather upon capturing a Piece or a Pawn, and so obtaining an advantage, than upon a brilliant *tour de force*. An Englishman at the chess board ought to be like an Englishman elsewhere—"adventurous, plucky, resourceful, not without confidence in himself. But the younger school of English players are all for the tedious German game."

Mr. Blackburne knows many people who believe that the study of chess is an excellent method of training the mind in logic, in shrewd calculation, and in prevision and caution. But for his part he has not found these qualities reflected in the lives of chess players. Chess players "are just as fallible and as foolish as other folk who do not know a Rook from a Pawn." Nor does Mr. Blackburne belive that, in schools and colleges, chess would be found useful as a substitute, say, for Euclid. Moreover, even if chess were a form of mental discipline, he would object to it because of its fatal fascination. It "is a kind of mental alcohol. It inebriates the man who plays it constantly. He lives in a chess atmosphere; and his dreams are of gambits and of end games." Many an able man of Mr. Blackburne's acquaintance has been ruined by chess. "The game has charmed him; and, as a consequence, he has given up everything to the charmer. If a man has not supreme self-control, it is better that he should not learn to play chess."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 10th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 22nd.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 16th.‡
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 19th.§
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 22nd.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 30th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Sept. 4th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 10th.

* *Ancona* left Kobe on August 9th. † *City of Peking* left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 3rd. ‡ *Sydney* (with French mail) left Shanghai on August 10th. § *Empress of India* left Vancouver on August 5th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 10th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 17th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 17th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 18th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 19th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 23rd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 24th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 6th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Aswanley, British steamer, 2,293, Murray, 3rd August,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,467, Sachett, 3rd August,—Hongkong 27th July, General.—Cornes & Co.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,628, J. Behrens, 3rd August,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,930, Sommers, 3rd August,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Strathfillan, British steamer, 2,206, Wm. Osborne, 5th August,—Kobe, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Braemer, British steamer, 1,876, Porter, 6th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, G. W. Conner, 6th August,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 483, Kori, 6th August,—Kobe 5th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 6th August,—Hongkong 1st August, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,411, Tibbals, 6th August,—Hiroshima, Troops.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Siam, British steamer, 1,897, E. G. Andrews, 7th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 28th July, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, R. Swain, 7th August,—Formosa, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 7th August,—San Francisco 23rd July, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 7th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 31st July, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Strathnevis, British steamer, 1,863, Pattie, 8th August,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co

Carl, German ship, 1,932, J. Hashagen, 8th August, —New York 21st March, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,096, Shimbachi, 8th August,—Ujina, Troops.—Owaki Kitsaburo.

Ormiston, British steamer, 1,846, Outram, 9th August,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Umbria (17), Italian cruiser, Captain Bertolini, 9th August,—Kobe 8th August.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, J. B. MacMillan, 10th August,—Ujina, Troops.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Dante, Dutch steamer, 1,302, Schultz, 4th August, —Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Leander (10), cruiser, Captain Metaxa, 4th August, —England viâ ports.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 4th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Aswanly, British steamer, 2,296, Murray, 5th August,—Yokosuka, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Beautemps Beaupre (6), French corvette, Captain Tenet, 5th August,—United States.

Fidalia, German steamer, 873, Nissen, 5th August, —Kobe, Ballast.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Bonnington, British steamer, 1,976, Leighton, 5th August,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Oopack, British steamer, 1,930, C. D. La Perelle, 6th August,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Benvenue, British steamer, 1,467, Sachett, 7th August,—Kobe, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Jinsen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,411, Tibbals, 8th August,—Ujina, Stores.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Energia, British steamer, 2,063, Saw, 8th August, —New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, F. J. Brown, 8th August,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 9th August,—Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 9th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Niigata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,060, Shimbachi, 9th August,—Ujina, Stores.—Owaki Kitusaburo.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 483, Kori, 9th August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathnevis, British steamer, 1,863, Pattie, 9th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 10th August, —Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. P. W. McClintock, Mr. Gallagher, Mrs. Cohn, Miss Matchi Suga, and Mr. Rasmus Fynn in cabin.

Per British steamer *Siam*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. B. Santos, Miss Wilkins, Mr. A. Brown, Mr. H. E. Ramsay, Mr. W. C. Retz, Mr. T. Batchelor, Mr. H. M. Roberts, The Willard Opera Co. (26), and Mr. E. Rehders in cabin; 3 children and 2 servants in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. H. G. Watson, Mr. Samuel Schwaltz, Mr. F. G High, and Mr. John Hennon in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. M. Stanley, Rev. W. G. McClure, Mrs. McClure, Master Arthur M. McClure, Miss Helen F. McClure, Master Ernest McClure, Master William E. McClure, and Mr. A. T. Patterson in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Miss Emma Garner, Miss M. B. Bomar, Miss J. C. Hughes, Mr. R. Midzutani, Mr. J. L. Mayers, Mrs. T. Stewart, Mr. A. C. Leppere, Mr. J. Bieber, Mr. J. G. Siegfried, Miss Shimazu Taki, Mrs. Tipple, Mrs. Lentz and son, Mr. Fung Yick, Mrs. Strong, Mr. M. F. A. Fraser, Mr. Benito Santos, Mrs. Masago Masa and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Happer, and Mr. and Mrs. Whitfield in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hanbury and 2 children, Mr. A. W. Evans, Mr. J. O. Mahoney, and Mr. S. S. Smith in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. G. C. Trask, Mr. J. Inch, Mr. Chan Wang and servant, Rev. R. S. MacArthur, Mr. Wilm, Bishop J. M. Walden, Mrs. and Miss Walden, Miss Goff, Miss Oskamp, Miss Wells, Mr. M. Russell, Mr. J. T. Tuason and servant, Mr. J. F. W. Gompertz, Prince Belosselsky, Mr. Walker, Mr. A. A. Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. Salter, Mr. Arthur, Miss M. Rogers, Mr. G. C. Allcock, Mr. S. R. Kobayashi, Mr. M. Yoshida, Mr. W. Kaneda, Mr. J. Allaradyce, Mr. and Mrs. Farley, Miss Farley, and Mr. and Mrs. Dickie, child, infant, and amah in cabin; 1 European in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Miss M. Wood, Mrs. G. M. Hall, Mr. John Hennon, Mr. H. W. Bird, Miss Lola Kidwell, Mrs. M. Stanley, Rev. W. G. McClure, Mrs. McClure, Miss Helen F. McClure, Master Wm. E. McClure, Master Arthur M. McClure, Master Ernest McClure, and Mr. A. T. Patterson in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Miss A. P. Ballagh, Messrs. M. Raspe, Charles H. Tache, and Lo Tog Son and 2 children in cabin; 7 Europeans in third class, and one Indian and 3 Chinese on deck.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 519 bales; Waste Silk, 92 bales.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 612 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 257 bales.

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REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 23rd July at 3.44 p.m.; to July 28th had strong to light westerly winds and fine weather; thence to July 30th had fresh westerly gale, and head sea; thence to August 5th light southerly winds, and thick fog; thence to port light variable winds. Arrived at Yokohama the 7th August at 8.59 a.m. Passage, 13 days 23 hours 47 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarns and Grey Cloth—Dull with next to no trade. Turkey Reds—More sales at late rates. Fancy Cottons no business. Woollens—Lifeless, with the exception of a few transactions in Italian Cloth, which tend upwards in value. Other quotations all unchanged.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds, 39 inches	$2.25	to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds, 45 inches	2.70	to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,.	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,.	2 00	to 3.75
	PER YARD.	
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 16	to 0 22
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,.	0.75	to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.20	to 2.50
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 75	to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60	to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	42.00 to 44.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Dull and lifeless. This is not the season for an active trade, and dealers expect lower prices ere long, for they assert that several importers are loaded up with stock.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.30 to 3.35
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.22 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.55
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	3.20 to 3.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

Quiet and inanimate. Holders will reduce no further, as they believe that buyers must shortly enter the market. Dealers will not operate, believing that fresh supplies will yet weaken holders. The German ship *Carl* arrived yesterday with a full cargo American Oil from New York.

American	$2.20 to 2.25
Russian	2.10 to 2.15
Langkat	1.90 to 2.00

SUGAR.

Brown—A fairly current trade in China and Manila sorts without change in quotation. Formosa sorts which later came into good request, and prices are hardening for these classes. White—A fair demand, without any rush or change in prices.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.65 to 3.70
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.10 to 3.60
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6 00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A good business all round at last prices. Supplies are plentiful and holders are very wisely current.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 deniers	$870 to 880
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	800 to 810
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	780 to 790
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	790 to 800
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	700 to 710
Kakedas—Extra	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1	770 to 780
Kakedas—No. 1½	750 to 760
Kakedas—No. 2	720 to 730

WASTE SILK.

No change to report. Holders firm for their stock of Old Waste, which buyers do not want. New fibre comes forward very slowly, and until it is more plentiful no business of any consequence will be done.

TEA.

A fair amount of business at hardening rates. Choice leaf is now very scarce, and the principal business has been in grades ranging from Common to Good Medium. Settlements and export to date maintain their respective positions as compared with last year.

	PER PICUL.	
Choicest	$30	to $32
Choice	27	to 28
Finest	25	to 26
Fine	23	to 24
Good Medium	21	to 22
Medium	19	to 20
Good Common	17	to 18
Common	12	to 16

EXCHANGE.

Exchange closes weak.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/1¾
— — 4 months' sight	2/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2¼
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅜
On Paris—Bank sight	2.70
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.76
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight	72¼
On India—Bank sight	195
— Private 30 days' sight	197½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52¼
— Private 30 days' sight	53¼
— — 4 months' sight	54
On Germany—Bank sight	2.17
— Private 4 months' sight	2.24
Bar Silver (London)	30¼

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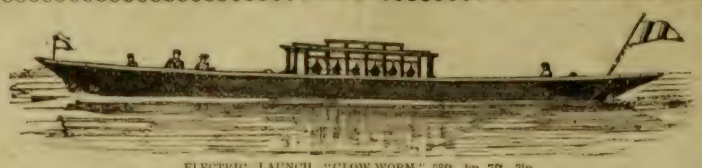

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"JAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 17TH, 1895.

BIRTHS.

At 29, Bluff, on the 15th August, the wife of F. G. WOODRUFF of a Daughter.

At 120, Bluff, on the 11th inst., the wife of J. D. HUTCHISON of a son.

DEATH.

At No. 70, Bluff, on the 14th inst., after a lingering illness, HARRIET, the beloved wife of J. H. BROOKE, in her 66th year, deeply regretted.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

LIEUTENANT GUNJI leaves for Chishima at the end of this month.

THE Gillig Cup, for yachts of 26-rating, has been won by the *Daimyo*.

THE death is announced of Baron Kitaoji, which took place on the 11th inst.

THREE camels captured at Haicheng were brought to Tokyo on the 10th inst.

THE damage caused by the July storms in Shiga Prefecture is placed at *yen* 5,000,000.

MR. EJIRI IKUSABURO has lately discovered a process of distilling a natural oil from caterpillars, after the silk had been taken from the cocoons. The oil is transparent and free from offensive smell.

DYSENTARY is again very prevalent in the southern provinces. Great heat is being experienced in Kiushu.

THE CROWN PRINCE has been indisposed of late, but the fever was yielding to treatment at the close of the week.

IT is stated that Count Miura leaves Japan on the 25th inst. to relieve Count Inouye as Minister to Korea.

PROJECTS for electric railways are springing up everywhere, and especially in Yokohama, Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka.

THE steamer *Catterthun* has been wrecked on Seal Rock one day out from Sydney, with a loss of over sixty lives.

MARQUISES ITO and Yamagata have accepted the promotion and decorations recently conferred on them by the Emperor.

A CRICKET MATCH was played on Saturday between the Y.C. & A. C. and the Willard Opera Company, resulting in a draw.

CAPTAIN KAMIMURA, late Commander of the *Yamato Kan*, has been appointed Director of the Torpedo School at Yokohama.

DETAILS of the Kucheng massacre show that the unfortunate missionaries were surprised while asleep. The attack was entirely unprovoked.

CHOLERA has been on the increase in Yokohama this week. The Italian cruiser *Umbria* reported three fresh cases and was sent to the Quarantine station.

THE war medals to be given to officers and men of the Army and Navy, interpreters, and others employed in the war will exceed 200,000, in number.

PROFESSOR BURTON has given it as his opinion that the drainage works at Osaka will prove of great benefit to the city, if the construction be properly superintended.

THE death occurred on Wednesday evening of Mrs. J. H. Brooke, one of the oldest residents in Yokohama. The funeral on Friday morning was very largely attended.

THE Willard Opera Company drew much better houses at the Public Hall towards the close of of the week, when "Boccaccio," and "The Mascotte" were presented.

TO-DAY being the first anniversary of the death of H.I.H. Prince Mitsunomiya Teruhito, religious services will be performed in the Palace and at the Imperial sepulchre.

ACCORDING to investigation made by the authorities, four persons in Formosa have a fortune of *yen* 40,000,000 to *yen* 10,000,000, and seventeen persons possess over *yen* 1,000,000.

IT is stated that the Japanese Government has arranged to receive in London the first instalment of the war indemnity to be paid by the Chinese Government in November next.

A VERDICT of temporary insanity was returned by the Coroner's jury who inquired into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. B. E. Brackenbury of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

SEVEN workmen were buried beneath a large landship, which took place at Kamakuchi-mura, Inaba Province, on the 4th instant. Six men were recovered very badly wounded, and one is still missing.

THE committee of the Yokohama Soldiers' Relief Society and Mr. Sato, Mayor of Yokohama, proceeded to Yokosuka to inspect the *Chinyen*, *Takachiho*, *Yamato*, *Kongo*, and *Amagi*, on the 11th inst., and made presents to the crews of these vessels.

DURING the five days ending the 9th inst., the *Chen-yuen*, now in dock at Yokosuka, was visited by 167,891 persons, of whom 21,111 came on the 5th, 30,105 on the 7th, 58,093 on the 8th, and 17,891 on the 9th. It is estimated that *yen* 170,972.59 have been paid for fares by train, steamer, and boat by the visitors.

REUTER telegraphs:—The British Parliament assembled on August 12th. Mr. Gully has been reëlected Speaker. The Queen's Speech was to be delivered on the 15th. The massacre at Kucheng has aroused the deepest horror and anger throughout England. An interview has taken place between Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor, and Count Kalnoky, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, at which the foreign situation, notably as regards Bulgaria, was discussed. H.I.H. the German Emperor has arrived at Cowes. It is understood that the reasons for the delay in the departure of the Shahzada are political. Four British ironclads are to leave Gibraltar to-morrow under sealed orders. It is believed that their destination is Morocco. Prince Ferdinand is still absent from Bulgaria, where the situation is grave and complex, owing to the overthrow of the hopes of a reconciliation with Russia under the present *régime*. M. Matakieff, a friend of the late M. Stambuloff, has been fatally wounded by assassins. Dr. Bickersteth, Bishop of Exeter, in a pastoral, enjoins a thanksgiving for the defeat of the party which was menacing the Church. Messrs. Bingen Brothers, Bankers at Genoa, have failed, their liabilities being ten million *lire* (£400,000).

THE outlook for the Import trade has improved, and though the actual business put through has not been great, enquiries are good, and the tone of the market is encouraging. There have been some movements in Yarns and Grey Cloth, and in Fancy Cottons business has been done in Turkey Reds, Velvets, and Cotton Italians. The Woollen trade is not brisk, but there have been fair sales in several lines. There are immense stocks in the Metal market, but it is stated that these are "contracts." The principal articles in request are Pig Iron and Nails, Bars and Plates being weak, while other descriptions are not much enquired for. Quotations for Kerosene have declined, and still buyers hold off, but they must shortly be forced into the market for the reasons that there are now no stocks in their hands to go on with and holders say that they will not recede a fraction farther in prices. There is now a large stock of all brands—very little below ten million gallons. A fair amount of business is doing in Sugar—China and Manila sorts, Formosa kinds being somewhat neglected. Moderate sales of White at late rates. In the principal Export a large daily business has been done, and the eagerness of buyers to operate has been the cause of a rise in values. Settlements are in excess of those at same date last year, and though arrivals come in freely the brisk trade has kept down the stock. In Waste little has been done, holders apparently keeping back the new fibre in order to get rid of the old, which is still an incubus on this market and is likely to remain. In the Tea trade buying is brisk, and holders have been enabled to put up prices a dollar all round. The stock is small, and the leaf in request is mostly Good Common to Fine. Settlements to date now total 6,000 piculs more than those of last year. Exchange has been fairly steady, and rates close much about the same as this time last week.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The declining by the Premier of the honours conferred upon him by the Emperor has been the principal topic of discussion during the week. The facts having been reproduced in these columns from time to time, it is not necessary to go over them again. As already stated, the Premier has had to yield to the Imperial will and accept the Grand Order of Merit and a Marquisate. The matter is thus ended so far as the honours are concerned, and it now remains to be seen in what way the political trouble, which had its origin in this affair, is to be settled. We hope it will not lead to any far-reaching changes in the *personnel* of the Ministry. As to the Opposition parties, a project is again on foot for amalgamating them under one banner. All such attempts in the past have split upon the rock of personal jealousy, and particularly on account of the intense dislike of the Progressionists by the rest of the Opposition politicians. The Progressionists are regarded, justly or unjustly, to be more crafty than honest, and they are objects of more of less suspicion even by those who do not hesitate to cō operate with them for certain political purposes. The habit of close association may have removed to a certain extent this widespread prejudice against the Progressionists, but the very caution with which they are now conducting the scheme for bringing all the sections of the Opposition under one standard, seems to suggest the consciousness of their own unpopularity. We are strongly disposed to think that the project of amalgamation will again end in failure.

* * *

The pacification and development of Formosa has attracted considerable attention. As to the subjugation of the insurgents, the work, if prosecuted vigorously and on a large scale, will involve the loss of considerable men and money, and consequently there may be a tendency in certain quarters to be in no hurry about the matter. But too much time has already been wasted, and prompt measures should now be taken to suppress the insurgents speedily and completely. Such is the substance of the writings of a certain section of the press. There seems to be no need for apprehension on this subject, for the Government has already taken steps for the prosecution of the work in a vigorous manner.

* * *

Writing on this Formosa business, the *Jiji Shimpo* lays great stress upon the necessity for dealing uncompromisingly with the insurgents so that the island may be cleared once for all of undesirable characters. As a matter of course those who have taken up arms against their rulers should meet with the punishment which they deserve, and our contemporary also recommends that even those who, though they have not resorted to open violence, have proved themselves in an unmistakable manner inimical to the Japanese, should be deported. There are, says the *Jiji*, two ways in which a conquered territory may be governed; the one, as pursued by England in the case of India, is to suffer the aboriginal population to retain, not only their lands, but their customs and manners, and the other, as followed by the Anglo-Saxon settlers of the United States, to dispossess the aborigines and entirely change the aspect of the country. The latter policy is recommended by our contemporary in the case of Formosa. The rapid increase of population in this country makes it a matter of urgent necessity to provide an outlet for the surplus, and the acquisition of Formosa has been in this respect a godsend which Japan should make use of to the utmost possible extent. The possession of Formosa, as well as the barbarous conduct of its inhabitants, urges the great metropolitan journal to recommend the adoption of the harsh line of action indicated above. Our contemporary remarks that it is aware that a certain paper in this Settlement has accused the Japanese army in Formosa of inhuman atrocities. The writings of such a journal, says the *Jiji*, can not be considered seriously, for they are too distinctly stamped with the marks of malice and prejudice to do any serious injury. So, without paying any regard to what the unprincipled detractors of the country may choose to say, the Government is strongly urged to take rigorous measures against the insurgents and the disaffected inhabitants of the newly acquired territory.

* * *

The *Hochi Shimbun* has an interesting historical article on Formosa. Those daring Japanese adventurers who in the 16th and 17th centuries were a constant terror on the Chinese coast did not fail to leave their footprints on the island of Formosa. The port of Kelung derives its name from a leader of these marauders, Minamoto-no-Mototaka. Mototaka, it should be noticed, is Kelung according to Chinese pronunciation. The island itself was called Takasago-jima by Japanese of those days. As the first step, our contemporary recommends that it should be called by the name of Takasago, so that, instead of being an outlying dependency, it shall be in name as well as substance an integral part of the Japanese Empire.

* * *

The discussion of the Oriental question is still continued by the vernacular press. The *Kokkai* considers the attitude of the Opposition on this subject, and strongly criticises the irresponsible manner in which the politicians of the Extreme sections approach this question. They raise a great noise in attacking the Government in connection with the Liaotung Peninsula and Korea, but they do not point out in what manner these problems ought to have been solved. Neither do they show any inclination to assume the practical control of these affairs by displacing those in office.

* * *

Writing under the heading "Balance of Power," the *Choya Shimbun* reviews the situation in the East. As a prelude, our contemporary has much to say on the state of affairs in Europe, but this part of its article may be dismissed, for besides containing some chronological errors, its remarks upon European politics are dull and uninteresting. Suffice it, then, to quote the concluding paragraph, which runs in the following strain :—"Japan is the strongest Power in the East, and the balance of power in these quarters is in her keeping. Japan's adhesion to the Franco-Russian alliance would make that combination arbiter of the situation. Japan and Germany combined would be sufficient to keep down the Franco-Russian combination, and a similar result would follow by the union of Japan and England. But the strongest and most irresistible combination would be the cōoperation of the three Powers, Japan, England, and Germany. Under the circumstances, Japan's adhesion is important to any combination aiming at ascendancy in the East. The peace of the East is thus seen to be in the hands of Japan."

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, in a very instructive article, discusses the importance of perfect concert between the military and diplomatic arrangements of a country. On the one hand, our contemporary recommends military men to pay proper attention to the diplomatic side of the questions they may be called upon to solve, and on the other, it advises diplomats to shape their course of action in concert with the military powers of the country. Shortly, our contemporary seems to think that, while military men have too high an opinion of the country's fighting capacity, the statesmen charged with the conduct of affairs are prone to underrate it.

* * *

On the question of the development of the Military and Naval resources of the country, the vernacular press is agreed upon all essential points. Even the bitterest enemy of the Government is ready to approve measures for a vast increase in the fighting strength of the country. The only journal that has thus far differed from its contemporaries on this subject is the *Nippon*. Our contemporary insinuates that the present cry for the increase of the Army and the Navy is exaggerated and sentimental. The Liaotung question has doubtless acted as a great stimulus to this cry, but the *Nippon* fails to understand the reason why that affair should make any change in the situation desirable. The necessity for increasing the Army and the Navy has long been recognised, and the Government had doubtless adopted a definite plan before the outbreak of the recent war. It will be sufficient if that plan be steadily carried out. But according to our contemporary's information, the Cabinet proposes to increase the Military and Naval Expenditure to 45,000,000 *yen* per annum, exclusive of all extraordinary outlays on account of the building of war-vessels, the construction of forts, and so forth. The *Nippon* seems to regard such an increase as out of proportion to the present resources of the country. Our contemporary, however, studiously avoids committing itself to any definite statement on the subject. It also makes satirical allusions to the honours recently bestowed upon the principal civil and military dignitaries, quoting the memorial of Omura Masujiro, a great general of the war of the Restoration, who recommended the appropriation for military purposes of the money set apart for the reward of the officers and men. If, says our contemporary, those in high places mean to subject the people to heavy taxation, it would become them to set an example of disinterested patriotism by following the course suggested by Omura. In short, the *Nippon* thinks that the scheme now attributed to the Ministry is on too gigantic a scale. It says that there is no necessity for such big measures. But the nation, if we can judge from the tone of the press in general, seems to differ from our contemporary.

MARQUIS ITO.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* announces that the Premier has withdrawn his objection to be made the recipient of the recently conferred honours. When he was visited by Count Kuroda at Tonosawa on the evening of the 10th instant, our contemporary states that the Premier, who had been indisposed for some time, felt ill and feverish. But in spite of his indisposition, he had a long talk with the President of the Privy Council, who, besides delivering the Emperor's message pressing the acceptance of the honours, offered him advice as a colleague and a friend. The Premier so far consented as to come back to the capital and explain his motives personally to the Emperor. Arriving in Tokyo on the 13th, he sought an audience with His Majesty on the following afternoon. The audience lasted two hours, during which time the Premier explained in full the motives that led him to decline the honours. But His Majesty refused to attach any importance to his representations, and told him that there was nothing improper in his accepting the honours in question, for they were well deserved by reason of his services to the State in connection with the recent war and other important affairs. It would have been an act of disloyalty after this to still persist in refusal, so the Premier had no choice but to accept the situation.

Amongst recent grants of the S.P.C.K., we notice that on the application of the Rev. A. F. King and the Rev. H. J. Foss, Bibles and Prayer-books, to the value of £2 10s., for Mission work in the Bonin Islands, and on the applications of Archdeacon Perham, Tracts, to the value of £4 for a Mission which is to be preached in Singapore in October, have been made.

The facts about the "subscription" for the Cromwell statue may be of interest. The first offer reached Mr. Herbert Gladstone in the House of Commons on the night when the vote was discussed. This came from three members—Mr. Everett, Mr. W. Johnston, and Mr. Coddington, who offered to guarantee any sum up to £2,000. By the next morning's post Mr. Gladstone received a cheque for the whole amount (£3,000) from a donor who remains anonymous. The next day the *Chroncile* announced that the whole amount had been subscribed "in response to its appeal"—an appeal not published till some hours after the money had been despatched to Mr. Gladstone. A clear case of telepathy. Mr. Stead and Julia should inquire into it.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE CHINESE PRISONERS.

On the 10th instant the Chinese prisoners, numbering 179 rank and file and 3 officers, hitherto confined in the Hongwan Temple at Asakusa, Tokyo, were marched to Shimbashi Station, under escort of 20 gendarmes and 30 policemen. Thence they proceeded to Yokohama, and embarked in the *Toyohashi Maru* on their return to China. The steamer has to call at several places to take up other batches of prisoners, the aggregate number to be carried by her being about 1,064. The Tokyo prisoners do not appear to have been at all pleased at the idea of returning to China. The life of ease that they have been enjoying in this country will be exchanged for one of hardship when they get home, and they are further by no means reassured as to the reception likely to be extended to them by their own authorities. Their sense of the pleasures of prison life was accentuated by a feast given to them one day before their departure, and by a present of a new suit of clothing and a new pair of boots. If it should ever be their lot to fight again against Japan, they are not unlikely to become prisoners once more at the earliest opportunity.

LIEUT. O'BRIEN.

It will be remembered that the San Francisco journal by which a garbled and greatly misleading extract from Lieut. O'Brien's letter with regard to the Port Affair was given, attributed his recall to the fact that he had become a *persona non grata* in Japan, owing to his strictures on the conduct of the Japanese troops at Port Arthur. Considering that Lieut. O'Brien's written evidence on this subject tended greatly to exonerate the Japanese, and was so interpreted by the United States Minister in his covering despatch, it is easy to see how completely false was the statement made by the San Francisco journal. In connection with this we may quote the following from an interview with Mr. Foster, which appears in the *New York Herald*:—

First-Lieutenant Michael J. O'Brien, Fifth Infantry, who was sent out during the war between China and Japan as special military attaché to the United States Legation in Japan, to observe the military operations of the war, has been ordered by cable to return home at once. I am able to state authoritatively that the order for Lieutenant O'Brien's return was not brought about by any complaint on the part of the Japanese government. On the contrary, he has been very greatly liked by the Japanese officials with whom he has come in contract during his stay in the Orient.

Lieutenant O'Brien was first ordered to return soon after the close of active military operations between the Japanese and the Chinese, but subsequently he was directed to remain in Japan for a time and secure official reports of the operations of the Japanese and Chinese armies before returning to the United States. The immediate cause of the cable orders which have been sent to him to return at once was a letter received by State Department from Minister Dun, in which the Minister is understood to have suggested his recall.

We may add that the reason of Lieut. O'Brien's recall was entirely unconnected with Port Arthur, or any other phase of his military duties.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

The summer convocation of this great institution of learning was held during the afternoon of July 1st. The convocation address was delivered by Rabbi Emil G. Hirsch, Ph. D., on the subject, "The American University." A large number of certificates, diplomas, scholarships, and fellowships were awarded. The report of President Harper included interesting facts and figures, some of which are here given: The entire income for the past year was $520,000. The income for the ensuing year has been estimated at $603,000 and the disbursements at $582,000. Nine additions have been made to the faculty, which now numbers 157. The number of students is increasing; during the past year there have been 1,587, of whom 534 were in the graduate schools, 281 in the divinity schools, and 772 in the colleges. These are certainly encouraging figures; and, when we put alongside of them the fact that the University of Michigan sent out nearly 700 graduates from all departments at the recent commencement, it becomes evident that the educational influence of Western institutions is on the increase. The closing exercise of the convocation was the ceremony of laying the cornerstone of Haskell Hall, donated as an Oriental Museum. On one side of the main entrance of the building is the inscription in Greek: "He was the true light that cometh into the world and enlighteneth every man." There are other inscriptions: (in Latin) "Light from the East;" and (in Hebrew) "The entrance of Thy word giveth light." The dedicatory address was fittingly given by Rev. John Henry Barrows, D.D., of Chicago. In the evening of the same day came the annual meeting of the Associated Alumni, an organization including the graduates of both the old and the new institutions. From the programme of toasts the following items are of special interest out here: "The Orient," Rev. John Henry Barrows, D.D.; "The Investigator," Edmund Buckley, Ph. D. (formerly of the Doshisha, Kyoto); "The Old [Theological] Seminary," by Rev. R. L. Halsey (Baptist Missionary), of Chofu, Japan.

CRICKET IN ENGLAND.

From telegrams appearing in the *Asian*, we gather that at Lord's on July 6th, the Light Blues defeated the Oxonians by 134 runs. The scores were:—Cambridge University, 244 and 288; Oxford University, 202 and 196. The feature of the match was a magnificent innings for the losers by Mr. W. K. Foster, who made 121. At Lord's, on July 10th, the Players defeated the Gentlemen by 32 runs. The scores were:—Players, 231 and 263; Gentlemen, 266; and 253. For the amateurs, Dr. W. G. Grace contributed a magnificent innings of 118. The return match at Kennington Oval between the Gentlemen and Players, on July 13th, resulted in a draw. The following were the scores:—Gentlemen, first innings, 320; second innings 225. Players, 292 and 225 for five wickets down. At Lord's on July 13th the great inter-school match was drawn. Eton scored 260 and 283 and Harrow 326 and 75 for no wicket. In the Harrow first innings J. H. Stogdon scored 124.

THE LATE TYPHOON AND ITS EFFECTS.

The *Nagasaki Express* says that the whole bottom of the *Helene Rickmers*, from about 36 feet from either end, is one mass of corrugations, and it speaks wonders for the makers of her plates that these latter stood what they doubtless have. On her port side, that which was on the landward side when she grounded, the steel plates are dinged in to a distance of some 12 inches in many places, and generally resemble a corrugated iron roof. On the starboard side, things are not quite so bad, although they are bad enough there, some of the plates having been forced in about eight inches out of their general level. Rivets have been wrenched out in all directions, and it speaks volumes for her builders, on the Clyde, that she did not go to pieces altogether. Amidships, right under her engines, her keel has a space in it like a bow, about 15 feet in length and, at greatest height, about 6 inches above the level of the bow or stern. The fact of her having two skins was undoubtedly what saved her from total destruction.

MR. IRWIN ON HAWAII.

We take the following from correspondence appearing in the New York *Herald* under date of June 7th:—

A San Francisco newspaper having recently printed a despatch from Washington exposing an alleged scheme on the part of Japan to absorb the Hawaiian Islands, spoke to Minister Irwin about it. Mr. Irwin is a native of the United States, and he has had much to do with establishing the republic in Hawaii. He has represented the Dole Government very ably here and has been instrumental in sending many Japanese labourers to Hawaii.

"This style of talk is pure nonsense," said Minister Irwin. "Some sincere friends of the Hawaiian Government talk in this way in order to hurry action in the United States, and many insincere people indulge in it. Japan truly has no designs upon Hawaii. If she ever had she would have shown her hand when President Cleveland proposed to restore the Queen. She had two men-of-war at Honolulu at the time, and her action could have been made decisive. There are 25,000 Japanese coolies in Hawaii now. The question of suffrage there was settled when the constitution was adopted. Anybody may become a citizen and voter by becoming naturalized and renouncing his allegiance to his native country. The Japanese who are in Hawaii are contract labourers. They intend to return to Japan when their terms of service expire.

"As soon as Formosa is opened up the Japanese will cease going to Hawaii. Formosa will be the great field for Japanese labour, for there the coolies can secure permanent homes and be all the while under their own flag. The Japanese do not care to alienate themselves. Formosa will be developed as a great sugar producing island. Japan will do the refining, and this sugar will compete with the Hawaiian product in the United States. As to Japan having designs upon Hawaii it is absolutely unfounded, as I know."

Although Minister Irwin is an ardent supporter of the existing republic he believes in the ultimate annexation of the Hawaiian group to the United States. He regards that as the ultimate destiny of the islands, and he believes that Cuba should belong to the United States as well.

DR. ELDRIDGE ON SANITATION IN JAPAN.

Dr. Eldridge, interviewed by Colonel Cockerill on the subject of Cholera in Japan, said:—

Up to June 14, there have been 1,382 cases in Japan itself representing, probably, the invasion of at least a hundred different localities, and yet, with the exception of certain of the military ports at which the imported cases were first received, and where it has been most successfully handled and restricted, the disease has, in every instance, been stamped out wtth the occurrence of the first half dozen cases. Considering that thousands of troops and coolies are now returning to their homes, that the land quarantine of cholera is, for many reasons, most difficult, and that it is generally ineffective, and that infection of the most malignant type may be carried by one suffering from what is apparently a slight indisposition, the work accomplished this year by the Japanese in controlling and limiting the spread of cholera is not only marvellous, but, I think, unprecedented. So far as I know, there is no record of such successful sanitation in any other country. The nearest approximation to it is in the work of the English sanitary authorities, in 1892; but in this case the points of outbreak were very few, and the machinery for control, though no more perfect, theoretically, than that of the Japanese, has been the growth of a century, and has the advantage of an almost unlimited supply of thoroughly educated and experienced men as its instruments.

Remember that, until within a few years, the introduction of even a single case of cholera practically ensured a widespread epidemic, that the sanitary system of Japan dates from 1877 only, and that its officers have had to be educated and trained *ab initio*; that, as a matter of fact, the government has had, so far, during the present emergency, no advice or assistance whatever from foreign experts, and the success of the Japanese in this great battle against disease and death can be appreciated at its true value.

Whether, with the setting in of the hot weather, and the even wider distribution of the disease by the still returning members of the expeditionary forces, the present superb results can be continued, remains to be seen; but whether complete control of the pestilence be, or be not, within the power of the authorities, the management of the situation up to date is an achievement unparalleled in the history of sanitation.

THIRTY KNOTS AN HOUR.

It is reported that Messrs. Yarrow & Co., of Poplar, having declined the order placed with them by the Admiralty to build two of the 20 torpedo-boat destroyers which are to be added to the strength of the British Navy, Messrs. Thorneycroft and Co., of Chiswick, and Messrs. Laird & Co., of Birkenhead, have each received orders for four of the vessels, and that Messrs. J. and G. Thomson, of Clydebank, will receive a similar order. The vessels are all to be built of nickel steel, to be fitted with water-tube boilers, and during a three hours' continuous full-power trial a mean speed of 30 knots is to be obtained, with a consumption of 20 tons of coal.

THE STANDARD LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Standard Life Insurance Company, of which Messrs. Fraser, Farley, are the local agents, have just circulated their annual report for 1895.

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From it we gather that the total funds have increased considerably during the year, and the rate of interest earned by them has been maintained, being at the average rate of £4, 2s. 3d. per cent. over the whole amount. The Board regret to state that they are losing at this time the services of Mr. N. B. Gunn, the very efficient Secretary of the Company at the Head Office, who has received the appointment of Manager to the Scottish Amicable Life Assurance Society. Mr. Gunn's post has been filled up by the appointment of Mr. George Oliver, from the Company's London West End Office, and previously Secretary to the Company in Bombay. The Company's revenue for the year ending 15th November, 1894, amounted to £1,055,991. Its funds now amount to £8,000,000 sterling.

KOBE INTERNATIONAL HOSPITAL.

THE Kobe International Hospital has just held a general meeting of subscribers at which the following were elected to serve as the Committee for the ensuing year:—Rev. S. Swann, Messrs. R. von Krencki, Enslie, Harper, and Gill. The report says:—For the year ended June 30th, 1894, the number of patients admitted was 55 as follows:—British 18, American 9, German 8, French 6, Chinese 5, Swedish 3, Japanese 3, Norwegian 1, Austrian 1, Brazilian 1. During the year ending 30th June, 1895, the numbers were considerably larger, viz., 77, the largest number in fact for some years past. The nationalities represented were—British 35, American 14, Norwegian 7, French 4, Dutch 3, Swedish 2, Russian 2, Chinese 2, Japanese 1, Chilian 1, and Portuguese 1. Sixty-five were discharged cured, 6 were relieved, and 6 died, while 8 remained in the hospital.

LANGUAGE STUDY IN JAPAN.

"JAPAN," says *Languages*, "promises well in the way of linguistic attainments. In the higher schools, and particularly in commercial schools, the study of English is now on the same footing as Japanese itself; that is to say, it is compulsory. It is interesting to note the place occupied by other European languages in Japanese education. The Tokyo High School of Commerce may be taken as a fairly representative institution for this purpose. Out of about a hundred pupils at present studying various foreign languages, twenty-five have French, twenty-four Chinese, twenty-three Spanish, eight German, and seven Russian. Strangely enough, there is not a single pupil now studying Italian, although not long ago both that language and German were much in favour. At present, moreover, there is an Italian professor, who was brought specially from Italy, attached to the teaching staff. Spanish appears to be the tongue that has gained most of the ground recently lost by German and Italian."

A BETTO KILLED BY A HORSE.

ON Friday morning a number of people witnessed in Kobe the almost instantaneous death of a *betto* in the employ of Mr. W. Down. It appears that the man was riding on the horse when, on reaching the incline at the back of the Sannomiya Station, the animal was startled by the whistle of an engine and galloped down the hill, kicking and plunging. Eventually the man was thrown off, but he still retained his hold on the bridle, and after being dragged along for some distance attempted to regain control of the horse. The animal then appears to have reared up and brought its two fore-legs down on the *betto*, who fell and was again kicked by the horse, the unfortunate man dying almost immediately.—*Chronicle.*

THE "EQUITABLE."

MR. J. T. HAMILTON, the agent for the East of the "Equitable," has just returned to Yokohama, after a tour round the world. Mr. Hamilton has interviewed the heads of nearly all the principal life insurance concerns in Europe and America, mainly with the object of enquiring into the working of the different systems and schemes under which life insurance policies are issued and the benefits accruing to the assured. The result has been that the "tontine" system has been found to have been largely introduced—though often under another appellation—and is rapidly increasing in popularity as its advantages become apparent. Of this system there is no question that the "Equitable" is the head and chief.

DEATH OF MRS. J. H. BROOKE.

THE community will learn with sincere regret of the death of Mrs. J. H. Brooke, the sad event occurring at her residence on the Bluff on Wednesday evening. The deceased lady has long been suffering from valvular disease of the heart, and her ailment gradually gained ground. On Wednesday her condition grew steadily worse, and eventually she sank. Great sympathy is extended towards the bereaved husband and family, nearly all the members of which were round their mother's bed at the hour of her death. Mrs. Brooke, who was one of the oldest residents in Japan, was a native of Boston, Lincolnshire. Her loss will be greatly felt by a very large circle of attached friends.

THE "STURGEON'S" TRIAL.

H.M. TORPEDO-BOAT destroyer *Sturgeon*, built and engined by the Naval Armaments Company, Barrow-in-Furness, proceeded to the measured mile at Skelmorlie for the purpose of undergoing her official three hours' speed trials. These proved most satisfactory. The average of six runs on the mile was 27·6 knots, and the mean speed attained on the three hours' steaming 27½ knots per hour. The *Sturgeon* is 196 ft. long by 19 ft. 6 in beam, and 250 tons displacement. Her engines are of the usual triple-expansion type, and she is fitted with Mr. Blechynden's patent boilers, which are compact, and arranged so that all tubes can be easily renewed.

THE FLOODS.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"I have just been through the flooded districts near Tsuruga. The devastation, especially along the coast, is greater than anything that I could have supposed rain capable of accomplishing. At places the whole sides of mountains have slipped into the sea, carrying houses and even villages with them. The débris has, in more than one case, been thrust by momentum right into the sea, and has formed a new island. A full mile of the Tsuruga Railway has been so completely swept away that no trace of it remains. Repairs, or rather reconstruction, will take many months.

MARQUIS ITO.

THE *Chuo Shimbun* states that Marquis Ito, the Premier, has sent in his resignation, owing to his promotion in rank, the Premier having strongly wished to decline the decoration and promotion. The Marquis has been staying at the villa of Mr. Hara Zenzaburo at Yokohama since the 8th inst. Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, and Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice, came down to this port yesterday, and called on the Premier.

THE CROWN PRINCE.

H.I.H. the Crown Prince, who has been indisposed for some time, is at present receiving medical treatment at the Takanawa Palace. Drs. Ikeda, Hashimoto, and Baelz are in attendance upon the Prince. His Highness's condition improved somewhat yesterday, and the fever was much lower when Surgeon Ishiguro examined him and took the Prince's temperature.

LIEUT.-GENERAL MIURA.

THE *Asahi Shimbun* is responsible for the statement that Lieut.-General Viscount Miura, a Japanese Minister (unattached), will be appointed to Korea in two or three days, and as he is requested by Count Inouye to leave for Korea as soon as possible, he will set out on the 25th instant.

CHOLERA ON THE "UMBRIA."

THE Italian cruiser *Umbria* is very unfortunate in regard to cholera. In Kobe some of her seamen died of the complaint, and yesterday two cases of the disease were reported on board. The men were taken to the Infections Diseases Hospital, and the *Umbria* has gone to the Nagahama Quarantine station. The *Boyeki Shimbun* states that another case of cholera was reported on board the Italian man-of-war *Umbria* on the 14th inst.

FRENCH REPULSE.

A COLUMN of 1,200 men, half European and half Annamite tirailleurs, under the command of Colonel Chaumont was recently sent out to extirpate the pirates in Moncay district, and in the course of their march attacked a position in the Panhay range. The position was strongly held, and the French were obliged to retire with the loss of about a hundred in killed and missing, among whom was one officer.

IMPERIAL AUDIENCE.

H.E. the new British Minister proceeded to the Palace yesterday to present his credentials to H.I.M. the Emperor. The son of the Russian Minister, who lately arrived from home, paid his respects to His Majesty the same day. The Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Asiatic Squadron and a few other officers were also received by the Emperor.

THE MASSACRE AT KULIEN.

THE *Kobe Herald* is in receipt of information that the victims of the terrible outrage at Kulien, near Foochow, are: Miss E. Goldie, Miss Newcombe, Misses Saunders (2), Rev. and Mrs. R. W. Stewart and child, Mrs. Stewart's foreign Governess, Miss Stewart, and one other. Several others were wounded.

THE RUSSO-JAPANESE TREATY.

WE read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the Revised Treaty between Japan and Russia, concluded some time ago in St. Petersburg, passed the Japanese Privy Council on the 9th instant, and will probably be ratified by the Emperor very shortly.

EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

In a former issue we stated that the exchange of prisoners would take place at Taku on the 20th instant, but we now find that our information has not been quite exact. The Chinese prisoners, numbering over a thousand, are to be returned by Japan at Taku on the date mentioned, but the Japanese prisoners are to be handed over to the garrison in the Liaotung peninsula. As to the number of Japanese prisoners, it has hitherto been put at about fifty, though upon what basis this calculation is made has never been pointed out. In compliance with the demand of the Japanese Minister, the Pekin Government instructed the Generals in Manchuria to forward reports in respect to the Japanese prisoners in their charge. According to an official telegram from Mr. Hayashi, dated Pekin 11th instant, it is stated that the Tsung-li Yamên had replied to the effect that there were two Japanese captives who had been severely wounded somewhere in the neighbourhood of Liao-tung, and that they should be handed over to the Japanese troops as soon as the Chinese prisoners shall have been restored; that Generals Sung and Wei had reported that they hold no Japanese prisoners; and that Generals Yun-lo, Chang Shun, and Iko Tang-a had not yet sent in reports. The reports of the three last-named Generals may alter the complexion of affairs, but it is not thought to be likely that they have any large number of Japanese in their charge. At all events, the prisoners to be received by Japan will fall far short of the number expected, and suspicions are naturally entertained here as to the treatment that has been accorded by the Chinese Generals to the captured Japanese. It is inconceivable that the number of Japanese soldiers unfortunate enough to fall into Chinese hands should have been so small. It is stated by the Japanese military authorities that about sixty privates have been missed during the war whose whereabouts have never been discovered. It is this circumstance that has led the authorities to expect that the Japanese prisoners in China would number about fifty.

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THE PREMIER.

The Premier has declined both the decoration and the higher rank of nobility that His Majesty was pleased to confer upon him on the 5th instant. The incident has given rise to various rumours. In some quarters it appears to be regarded in the light of a Ministerial crisis, that is to say, a serious rupture between the Choshu and Sa'shu statesmen. Those taking this view of the matter evidently believe that the bestowal of signal marks of Imperial favour was planned by certain intriguers of the Satsuma clique, who thereby hoped to make Count Ito an object of popular envy and abuse. Whatever credence this rumour may deserve, there is certainly danger of the incident's being utilized by crafty strategists as a means of fomenting misunderstandings between the different sections of the elder statesmen. Hopes are still entertained, however, that some happy solution of the dilemma may be effected without disturbance of the political equipoise.

The facts relating to this curious incident, as recounted by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, are these:—On the 4th instant, the Premier received a note from the Household Department intimating that His Excellency's attendance in full dress was required at Court at 10.30 a.m. the following day. Construing this as an intimation that some mark of honour was to be conferred on him, and being somewhat indisposed, the Premier wrote asking to be excused, and adding that he did not consider himself entitled to any honours. Early on the morning of the 5th instant, he received a visit from Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Household, who represented the grave inconvenience that would be entailed by his absence from Court on that day, and told him that under any circumstances his attendance was necessary. Thus pressed, the Premier consented to accompany the Viscount to Court where the Emperor conferred on him the Grand Order of Merit and a Marquisate. To complete the ceremony on such occasions, the Court regulations require that the recipient of the Imperial favour shall withdraw to an adjoining chamber, where, in the case of an order of nobility, he has to sign a paper gratefully signifying the acceptance of the honour, and in the case of a decoration, he puts it on and then again appears before the Sovereign to express his thanks for the favour bestowed on him. Count Ito—for it is proper to call him so until he accepts the new title—repaired to the anteroom, but instead of writing his acceptance or putting on the decoration, he sought an interview with the Minister of the Household, and requested him to represent to His Majesty that, grateful as he was for the extraordinary honours just conferred upon him, he could not accept them, inasmuch as he had done nothing deserving such marks of Imperial recognition. Then returning to his official residence, he drew up a memorial and sent it to the Household Department for presentation to the Throne. The document is said to have been couched in the following terms:—

May it please Your Imperial Majesty:

In my humble opinion, the great work of the Restoration was accomplished by my great predecessors now deceased, in pursuance of the profoundly sagacious policy determined by Your Majesty. Treading in their footsteps, it has ever been my humble ambition by fidelity, industry, and perseverance, to contribute my share, however trifling, to the great work. But being little gifted with intelligence or energy, I have been unable to render any service to the country, and consequently the signal and increasing favours that Your Majesty has already graciously condescended to shower upon me are so entirely out of proportion to my worth, that, whenever I think of them, my heart is filled with mingled sentiments of gratitude and awe. When the war was ended and peace restored, I made bold to implore Your Majesty to release me from office at the proper time. But now, instead of receiving Your Majesty's gracious sanction to my humble prayer, I have been surprised by being decorated with the Grand Order of Merit and raised to a Marquisate. Deeply touched as I am by Your Majesty's great favour to me, and sincerely desirous as I am of employing my humble capacities in Your Majesty's service, my peace of mind cannot but be disturbed by the thought that I have not the smallest title to such excessive marks of Imperial favour and honour. I therefore humbly and respectfully pray to be allowed to decline these honours. Would that Your Majesty may so far condescend as to have pity on me and grant my earnest prayer, so that, freed from the reproach of basking in undeserved honours, I may be enabled to continue in my present office, and to endeavour, in however insignificant a degree, to deserve the marks of Imperial favour already bestowed upon me.

Count Ito then left the capital for Yokohama, and stayed a few days at Mr. Hara's villa, where he was visited by Viscount Hijikata on the 9th instant. The Minister of the Household was the bearer of an Imperial message pressing the acceptance of the honours upon the Premier. The latter, however, is understood to have positively declared his inability to withdraw his declination. On the same day, he went to Odawara, and staying there for that night, proceeded on the next day to Tonosawa, where he is now staying. Such in brief is the substance of the account published in the *Nichi Nichi*. Our contemporary adds that, so far as it has been able to gather, Count Ito has not the slightest intention of resigning his post of Minister President of State.

How this incident will end is a most perplexing question. From all that we have thus far been able to learn, it appears that Count Ito was not directly consulted about the honours that were about to be conferred upon him. Suspecting, however, that steps were being taken for the bestowal of some marks of distinction upon himself, he seems to have taken the precaution of making known his sentiments on the matter. Of course he could not directly appeal to the Throne, as he had not received any official notice of what was pending. Under the circumstances, there was nothing improper in his resignation of the honours. But it is an acknowledged custom in this country that honours openly conferred by the Sovereign may not be refused by a subject. Ten years ago, Count Itagaki made strenuous efforts to refuse promotion to the peerage, but he had to yield at last. Count Ito's case, it is true, presents some exceptional features, but still it is not very likely that His Majesty will easily agree to the Count's refusal. On the other hand, unless these honours are revoked, there seems to be little likelihood of the Count's resuming the duties of his office. Here is, then, the dilemma. Either the Court must yield or the Count must go out of office. There is no reason to suppose for a moment that any friction exists between His Majesty and his favourite Minister. So far as that is concerned, the affair is simply a matter of form. But, regrettable as such a result would be, the Cabinet may be wrecked on this little rock of conventionality.

It should be stated here that Count Yamagata, too, has declined the recently conferred Marquisate, though he gratefully accepted the Order of the Golden Kite.

Viscount Hijikata's recent mission having failed in its object, there was a meeting of the Ministers of State at the residence of Count Kuroda, President of the Privy Council, at Mita, on the morning of the 10th instant. On the evening of the following day, Count Kuroda went to Tonosawa, where he had a long and earnest conference with the Premier at the Fukuzumi Hotel. The President of the Privy Council stopped there for that night, and returned to the capital the following day. On Monday at 11 a.m., he repaired to the Palace and had an audience with the Emperor. The Premier was also expected to return to Tokyo on Tuesday evening, and it is believed that he has consented to accept the honours recently conferred upon him. How this will affect the possibility of his remaining in office, is more than we can tell at present. At all events, it must not be supposed that the crisis has ended.

The selection of Mr. Goschen for appointment as First Lord of the Admiralty under the new Government has caused much satisfaction in naval circles. It is nearly twenty years since the hon. gentlemen was at the Admiralty.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The *Doshi-kai* held a conference on Monday at the Atagokan, Shiba, Tokyo, and decided to issue a manifesto, the compilation of which was entrusted to Messrs. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, Inukai Ki, and Shiga Shigetaka. The object of the members of this association is to enrol in their list of membership all politicians of the Opposition. A circular will be addressed to the different parties, the *Kaishin-to*, the *Ote* Club, the *Kakushin-to*, the *Chugoku Shimpo-to*, and so forth, inviting their members to join the association in question. It is stated that from twenty to thirty of the members of these parties have already expressed their willingness to join. These politicians will not sever their connection with their respective parties, but will most probably continue to belong to the two bodies at the same time. In this way they propose to evade that provision of the Law of Political Associations. Doubtless the ultimate object aimed at by the originators of this scheme is to effect an amalgamation of the different sections of the Opposition—an experiment which has more than once before been tried, but without success, and there is no indication that it will be attended with a better result on the present occasion.

A similar experiment is being made on a smaller scale in the Prefecture of Tochigi. The principal members of the different political parties in the locality met at Utsunomiya on the 10th and 11th instant. There were present Messrs. Arai, M.P., Yokowo, President of the Local Assembly, and several other influential individuals belonging to the prefecture. Recognizing the impossibility of effacing party distinctions all at once, they resolved that a certain number of the representatives of each party should assemble and organize a new party. In other words, they propose following exactly the same course pursued by their leaders in the capital.

We have heard nothing for some time now about an extraordinary session of the Diet. People are, however, again talking about it, and it is suggested that as the Imperial Proclamation for such a session has not yet been issued, it is likely that the Cabinet has decided against such a course. The delay in the issue of the Proclamation has hitherto been ascribed to the uncertainty of the date upon which the Military and Naval measures will have been completed. So far as the military measures are concerned, it is reported that the drafts have been finished and are now undergoing final revision at the General Staff Office. It cannot be long now before the measures are perfected, and the Naval Bills may be expected to be ready about the same time. It is probable, therefore, that things will be ready for the calling together of the Diet during the month of September.

The Progressionists held a meeting on the 13th instant, when, among other things, they decided to send out nine parties of lecturers to different places in the country. They can not be idle while their opponents, the Radicals, are stumping the country.

The *Kokkai* states, on the authority of one who has just arrived in the capital from Kyushu, that the people in that island are opposed to the policy of attacking the Cabinet on the question of the Liaotung Peninsula. Of all the localities, Kyushu has been most directly influenced by the war, and its inhabitants are stated to be so keenly alive to the paramount importance of the increase of the Army and Navy and the development of industry and trade, that they deprecate anything that might tend to injure the harmony at present existing between the Government and the people. The Radical party has never been strong in Kyushu, but it is a significant commentary on the tendency of public opinion that even in Kyushu that party's programme finds general sympathy.

The experiment of effecting local combinations of the different sections of the Opposition, recently inaugurated in the Prefecture of Tochigi, is being tried in some other places. The latest news from Okayama states the *Chugoku*

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Shimpo-to recently held a conference there at which a resolution was adopted, first, that the Cabinet should be held responsible for the return of the Liaotung Peninsula; secondly, that the independence of Korea should be maintained by Japan single-handed; thirdly that, so far as national resources admit, the fighting capacity of the country should be increased; and fourthly, that energetic efforts should be made for the establishment of a great political party. The last mentioned item must be interpreted as meaning that the local factions should be united into one body.

Count Katsu is never weary of talking about his old friend Saigo. Recently in a conversation with a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the aged Count of Hikawa lamented the lack of large-minded statesmen at the present time and recounted the circumstances connected with his celebrated conference with Saigo at Tamachi during the war of the Restoration. The ablest Minister of the Shogun, and an enthusiastic advocate of the surrender of the Castle of Yedo on reasonable terms, Katsu Awanokami sent a note to Saigo, a General of the Imperial forces, then encircling the city, requesting a conference with him at the Satsuma *yashiki* at Tamachi. Saigo at once replied to him, specifying the date and hour of the meeting. Katsu went to the place of meeting on horseback, attended only by a single *betto*. When he had waited a short while in one of the rooms of the Satsuma *yashiki*, Saigo, followed by his faithful servant, approached the room through the garden. He wore an old suit of foreign clothes, and came in asking pardon for his delay in the tone of a man who was going to enjoy a friendly chat rather than that of a responsible General about to engage in negotiations on a weighty matter of State. "Saigo," says the Count, "believed every word that I told him, and settled the whole question by declaring that, although on this question (the settlement of the Tokugawa House) opinion was divided, he would answer with his life for its adjustment in a manner suggested by myself." When the Tokugawa Minister took leave of Saigo, the latter saw him as far as the gate. There a large body of Imperial forces had gathered together to have a look at the celebrated Tokugawa man. Observing him come out side by side with Saigo, they instantly assumed a respectful posture and saluted them by presenting arms. Katsu, turning toward them and pointing at his breast, told them to have a good look at him, for should the matter in hand not be arranged it might be their lot to aim their guns at him. Count Katsu is convinced that, had it not been for Saigo, the matter would not have been settled so speedily and so satisfactorily to both parties.

The *Jiji Shimpo* repeats its advice that some orders for the construction of war-vessels should be placed with the dockyards of the United States. Our contemporary states that the American builders are confident that they will be able to execute orders as cheaply and as efficiently as contractors in Europe. The *Jiji's* article being essentially a repetition of one already reproduced in these columns, we do not think it necessary to make any further reference to it here.

IS THERE A WRITTEN COVENANT BETWEEN FRANCE & RUSSIA?

Since the French Government has spoken as though there actually existed an alliance between France and Russia, the Continental press has devoted no little space to the discussion of the subject from various standpoints. In Germany the existence of a written covenant is still doubted. The widely known *Vossische Zeitung* has an interesting leader on the subject, from which we reproduce the following:—Is there a Covenant between Russia and France? French Ministers, who are accustomed to weigh their words on a golden scale, have spoken in the Chamber of an alliance, and have declined to comply with the request to make known the contents of the agreement. They have not publicly withdrawn or disowned the correctness of the interpretation of their words that an actual agreement had been consumated at Cronstadt. For the first time has the statement of the existence of an Alliance come from the Ministers' table in Paris; for the first time has the assurance been given that the political situation experienced an essential change in the year 1891, and no sooner was this stated than the ruler of all the Russians decorated the President of the Republic with the chain of the St. Andrew's Order. Has then France obtained her object? Shall the prophesy of the first Napoleon, that at the end of this century Europe will either be republican or be ruled by the Cossacks, be strangely contradicted by the Republic and Cossackdom going arm in arm, though not to rule the old world, but to threaten it? According to Messrs. Ribot and Hanotaux, the covenant, if there is one in existence, was made four years ago when the White Czar uncovered his anointed head on hearing the Marseillaise. Had this taken place immediately before the Kiel festival, under the reign of Nicholas II., the event might make one feel uneasy, perhaps one would expect the guns to go off by themselves. For has not the longing of the Chauvinists been fulfilled; has not that for which Floquet and Déroulède yearned, when making their pilgrimages to Russia, become a fact? Now for four years this Russian-French covenant is said to have been in existence, but during these four years the relations between Russia and Germany have, to say the least, not become worse, consequently we need give ourselves no concern on this score.

The French wooing of the friendship of Russia is nothing new. Who does not remember the ridiculous attitude of the French Ambassador, General Leflô, in the year 1875, when the rumour was abroad that Prince Bismarck was seeking a new excuse to begin a new war with France? The French representative begged piteously for protection from the Czar. Duke Decazes wrote to the Czar that he trusted "His Majesty will protect us with his sword!" "With my sword? That is asking much. My word will suffice." Thus replied Alexander II., according to the reports of Leflô. The peace was not disturbed, for Bismarck indignantly denied the rumour that he had entertained any intentions against France, and a few years later, at the Berlin Congress, he played the rôle of an honest broker, where he had to hear from the opponents of Russia that he sometimes appeared more Russian than even Russian diplomacy. However, he never went so far as to put German politics in the service of foreign interests, wherefore he consummated the agreement with Austria, and later with Italy, so that in the extreme event of a war with France, at two frontiers, Germany would be sure of success. What Bismarck had intended already in 1871, found expression in the agreement between the three Powers. But the highest task which Bismarck undertook was the maintainance of peace in Europe, without violating the dignity of the German nation. When therefore, at a time of political excitement, an influential paper said that there existed a rivalry between Germany and France to secure Russia's favour, and that this might degenerate into servility, the Chancellor of the German Empire replied, "We recommend to the author of that article, that if he disapproves the course of the Government, he should rather doubt the discretion of the leaders of the Government than their sense of honour." Bismarck was favourably disposed towards Russia and appreciated her friendship; he had brought about the relation between the three emperors (Dreikaiserverhæltniss), and he endeavoured to retain amicable relations with the northern neighbour, even after the covenant with the Hapsburg Monarchy, for he did not wish to see the string which led from Berlin to Petersburg torn; but could also say, "We will no longer canvass for friendship!" and that the *saldo* of gratitude had been equalized, and that "We Germans fear God, nothing else in the world."

If the French to-day are jubilant over the St. Andrew's chain around the neck of Felix Faure, we certainly do not begrudge their joy. Russia will continue to pursue her steady course of perseverance. The empire of the Czar has never furthered other interests than its own. In December, 1871, during the course of an interview with Prince Frederick Carl, Michael Katkow said:—"We wish to see Russia act entirely independently in her affairs and in accordance with her judgment of what may serve her best interests." So said one of the most influential writers of a century ago, and so says every Russian statesman to-day. What do the French want? Alsace-Lorraine? Will Russia, for the sake of these provinces, ever give marching orders to a single regiment? One can with safety reply in the negative, regardless of the character of the covenant that may exist between the empire of the Czar and the republic. Russia will ever be willing and ready to utilize the services of France, and the St. Andrew's chain may be an excellent symbol of dependence in which the Czar wishes to hold France. But that Russia should serve French interests, that she should allow herself to be dictated to by chauvinists as to the time when to begin a foreign war, would be irreconcilable with the traditional policy of Russia. For this very reason, the festivities of Kronstadt, Cherbourg, Toulon, and Nancy passed off without influencing the political situation and everything remained as before, even if an unwritten covenant of four years ago should have been changed into a written one. The Dreibund does not merely rest upon treaties nor upon the wishes of the respective nations and governments, but upon obvious life interests of these States. This homogenousness of interests does not exist between the two nations, which according to their state of culture and contemplation are naturally opponents rather than allies. Here on the one hand, absolute and stubborn autocracy, which suppresses all freedom and with unrelenting intolerance upholds an intolerant state-religion; there, on the other hand, the very embodiment of the ideas of the great revolution, democratic freedom, and the combat for light and liberty against all clericalism. It is indeed astonishing how Frenchmen, who can scarcely get enough liberalism, allow themselves to be hitched to the chariot of despotism! But they are pleased to appear in the role of a coquettish lover, beyond the Vosges, because of the pain over the loss of Alsace-Lorraine. True, there are many Frenchmen to this day who have not been able to overcome the memory of Sedan, while others have recognized the fact that the French claim to these ancient German provinces has become superannuated. However, the cry for revenge is a convenient riding-stick for agitators, and is always sure of receiving the applause of the passionate masses. And for this reason every government is obliged to cultivate the friendship of Russia, even though it might attach to the written covenant merely Platonic value, without the least thought of coming to blows with Germany. Joyful festivals, triumphant speeches, and decorations, are cheap means in the hands of the government with which to establish its own position more firmly. And this is perhaps the chief object in making public mention of the existence of a Franco-Russian alliance.

THE LOSS OF THE STEAMSHIP "CATTERTHUN."

SIXTY PERSONS DROWNED.

We received a telegram yesterday informing us that the loss of the steamer *Catterthun*, which we reported on Wednesday last, was unfortunately attended by considerable loss of life, no less than sixty persons being drowned, of whom forty-six are Chinese. It appears that the vessel struck on Seal Rock on the 8th inst., having left Sydney the previous day, and foundered.

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THE SALVATION ARMY.

One of the Salvation Army's magazines is called *The Conqueror*. It is a record of the Army's work throughout the world. Certainly this singular movement has assumed dimensions that will earn it a place in history. Its critics claim that the Army's basis is hysteria, and that it never won a perfectly sane recruit. We do not see that even if such things were true, they would greatly signify. Human nature has many aspects, and the Salvation Army appeals to one of them. Possibly if the hysteria and sentiment that it turns to useful ends were not enlisted in its cause they might add appreciably to the world's record of crime. At all events the Army is now an immense organization working to save men and women from sin and degradation. With such a purpose no one can quarrel, whatever may be his opinion of the masquerade attending the movement. We of the Established Church who dress our clergy in stoles and cassocks and other strange garments, have no business to gird at the uniform coat of the Salvation soldier, nor is there so much difference between the ringing of a bell and the beating of a drum, or the pealing of an organ and the braying of a trumpet. One need not look far afield to find another huge organization, having for its chief, indeed its only, purpose the doing of deeds of charity, whose members spend upon collars and aprons and similar frivolities money enough to support a thousand hospitals or maintain a thousand schools. Mankind has not yet risen to the full level of the grave philosophical science that graces the close of this nineteenth century. We have not altogether put away childish things, and probably we never shall. So there is a niche for the Salvation Army. We read in *The Conqueror* that one of the Army's great sources of strength is its poverty. It spends as fast as it receives, on the principle, doubtless, that the corruption of the moth and rust had better be avoided. Yet we observe in the Balance Sheet of the General Funds that the value of the Army's real estate is put at $303,579, on which, however, it apparently owes $192,100. It deals annually with something like three hundred thousand dollars, a sum in itself sufficient to indicate the magnitude of the work. Strange incidents are related in connection with that work. It seems that Edward Trickett, sometime champion sculler of the world, now carries the Army's flag in south Australia, and declares that he is happier as a standard-bearer than he ever was when winning races among the plaudits of thousands. From Sweden there comes this striking despatch:—"Commissioner Ridsel recently captured 230 souls during a Two Days with God in a city of 30,000 inhabitants." In India and Ceylon the military authorities do not look with favour on the Salvationists. Staff-Captain Deva Vadedu writes from Ceylon:—"A Queen's soldier, also a soldier of our No. 6 corps, Colombo, was falsely reported to his officer, as taking part in one of our open-airs a few nights ago. As a matter of fact he was only standing near, as so many soldiers do during these meetings. We pleaded for justice, but in spite of our evidence, the soldier has been deprived of his good conduct stripe and sent to the guard-room for one week." Read this, again, from Major S. Rolfe in Jamaica:—"Three Salvationists on board the British warship *Magicienne* have recently been ashore both at St. Ann's Bay and at Montego Bay, and have rendered valuable assistance in the meetings. On one occasion a woman fell down under conviction, crying for mercy, and her brother caught hold of her to drag her away. At the same moment, however, one of the Salvation Jack Tars caught hold of the other side of her and succeeded in dragging her to the penitent-form, where, we have reason to believe, she got saved." That was in truth a struggle for a soul. From Germany we find a report that shows how much need that empire has of a few newspapers like our local Tritons to keep things straight. Captain Muller was in the streets of Hildesheim selling *War Cry*, a publication of the Army. Accosted by a person from an open window, he sold him two copies. For that offence he was arrested, and after a detention of thirty hours was released, "without either trial or explanation." Conceive what journalistic screaming we should hear did such a thing happen in Japan! But in Europe the journals seldom espouse the cause of the Salvationists. "A newspaper of Madrid having made an attack upon The Salvation Army, Commissioner Railton tackled one of its reporters. The Commissioner reports in characteristic terms that this individual has been examined closely under the searchlight of his knees, and is now properly converted. Two excellent players on the guitar are among others who have shared the experience of the reporter." We are to have the Army in Japan also. *The Conqueror* says:—"Brigadier and Mrs. Wright have been appointed to commence our war in Japan. The reason for the cancellation of the orders to Colonel and Mrs. Wilson for this work arose from the refusal of the doctors to pass Mrs. Wilson."

RACE HORSES.

A correspondent writes:—"I see that the Committee of the Nippon Race Club have ordered 15 Australian horses for the next Autumn meeting at a cost of $300 each. Do you not think it a mistake to order horses from Australia when there could be procured at the same price Japanese half-breeds equally suitable for racing purposes in Yokohama? Were this money paid to Japanese breeders, it would encourage them to import good sires, and racing men would have the satisfaction of patronizing ponies bred in Japan. It looks as though the Committee, in their anxiety to have horse races, forget the distinction between roadsters and racers. I may add that the last lot of imported China ponies, which were sold at $500 each, can not beat a good Japanese pony, which costs only $55. Let the programme be made for Japan and China ponies to race together, and I am willing to prove what I affirm." As to these criticisms, we may observe that the Committee of the Race Club are never right in everybody's eyes. They have doubtless acted after full deliberation, and are probably quite sensible of all the objections that may be urged against their scheme. Australian horses at £30 each can only be hacks, and probably mediocre even in that category. But we should like to hear the Committee's reasons before venturing to pronounce any definite opinion. For our own part, we have long doubted whether the Japanese pony can ever be improved; that is to say, whether he can ever be made the basis of a satisfactory breed of cattle. He is, on the whole, a wretched specimen of horseflesh. The first aim of any judicious breeder should be to exclude from the stud every animal disfigured by characteristics such as those of the Japanese pony. The dam plays as important a part as the sire in fixing the type, and any man choosing a Japanese dam for stud purposes must be prepared for a disappointing progeny. This is a grave question for the Military Authorities of Japan. The Japanese cavalry as now mounted would be absolutely powerless against the cavalry of any Western Power: the difference in weight would be instantaneously conclusive. For agricultural purposes the Japanese cattle may serve well enough; but for military service they are contemptible. Naturally the attempt to breed good stock from them has been a failure. A really radical measure would probably pay best in the long run, namely, the introduction of a new breed from abroad. Holding these opinions, we must confess that the step just taken by the Race Committee commends itself to us. Why should racing in Yokohama be for ever limited to parodies of horse flesh like Japanese and Chinese ponies, and the weak loined, long pasterned, weedy half-bred? Let us have a new departure that will carry us somewhat closer to the real thing. Australian horses at $300 each cannot be show animals, but their importation indicates a degree of pluck and enterprise that we should be the last to condemn.

MARQUIS YAMAGATA.

Marshal Yamagata has withdrawn his opposition to be raised to the rank of Marquis. According to an account published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, he too is stated to have been kept entirely in the dark as to the honours that were conferred on him on the 5th instant. On receiving the honours from the hands of the Sovereign, he retired to an adjoining room, where, after signing a paper testifying to his grateful acceptance of the Order of the Golden Kite, he wrote a memorial begging to be permitted to decline the rank of Marquis. He prepared this document secretly in order that it might not become known to the other recipients of honours, and then handed it to the Minister of the Imperial Household, requesting him to present it to His Majesty. Marshal Yamagata thought that, by declining the Marquisate in secret, before it could be announced in the *Official Gazette*, the matter would end without being noised abroad. On the morning of the 6th, however, he was astonished to see himself gazetted a Marquis. Official duty called him to the Court that morning, and when he saw the Minister of the Household he asked the reason why the honour which he had declined to accept had been announced in the *Official Gazette*. The Minister replied that the rules of the Court required the publication of all honours that have been granted by His Majesty, whether accepted or not. Meanwhile, certain documents had to be signed by the Marshal, and as the matter had to be settled without any more loss of time, he sought an audience with the Emperor on the 8th, when he begged His Majesty to relieve him from the onus of being compelled to accept an undeserved honour. His Majesty treated the Marshal's petition with a good humoured smile, and dismissed him with the command to consider well the line of conduct he was attempting to pursue. On the following day the Emperor sent Viscount Tanaka, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, to the Marshal's residence to inform him that his petition could not be granted. Nothing remained then for the Marshal but to obey the Imperial will, and on the morning of the 10th he presented himself before the Emperor and expressed his gratitude to His Majesty for the great favour shown to him. The *Nichi Nichi* also states that the Premier met the Marshal in the ante-room, and they expressed to each other their surprise at the honours that had suddenly been conferred upon them.

FINANCIAL PROGRESS IN JAPAN.

The Minister of State for Finance, according to the *Chuo Shimbun*, thinks that one of the first duties of his office at present is to provide cheap capital for agriculturists and industrials. Investigations show that the loans contracted by these two classes throughout the empire aggregate 300 million *yen*, and that the rate of interest is from 10 to 15 per cent. Handicapped by such a burden, farmers and manufacturers can not hope, in Count Matsukata's opinion, to compete with their Western rivals, or even with their neighbours the Chinese. His programme therefore, is to bring cheap capital within their reach by establishing two great banks, an Agricultural Bank and an Industrial Bank. The latter he proposes to locate in Tokyo; the former would have branches in all the Cities and Prefectures. No statesman has done more for Japan than Count Matsukata in the way of bringing cheap money within reach of enterprise, and diverting capital from unproductive to productive channels. This scheme of an Industrial and a Commercial Bank is understood to have been entertained by him four years ago, but an opportunity to carry it satisfactorily into practice has not yet presented itself. In the interests of the country it is to be hoped that the project will soon become an accomplished fact.

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THE RICH MEN OF JAPAN.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has compiled some figures with regard to the wealthy men of Japan. It does not appear to have any special sources of information on the subject, and accordingly relies upon the income-tax returns, which certainly afford no complete data in other countries. The Iwasaki family stand at the head of the list. Mr. Iwasaki Yanosuke pays annual income-tax amounting to 3,770 *yen*, and Mr. Iwasaki Kiuya's figure in 3,900. These payments (7,670 *yen*), being at the rate of 3 per cent. of the income on which they are levied, it follows that the income is 255,666 yearly. The *Hochi*, whose arithmetical methods we confess ourselves unable to follow, puts the income at 255,333 *yen*, omitting fractions, but as 3 per cent. of the latter is 7,660, there is obviously some mistake somewhere. Still more incomprehensible is our contemporary's assertion that such an income represents a capital of at least 60 million *yen*. Sixty million *yen* at even 3 per cent. gives an income of 1,800,000 *yen* annually. Eight and a half millions at that rate would produce the income assigned to the Iwasaki family. We do not understand the *Hochi*, but its conclusions may nevertheless interest our readers. It puts the Mitsui family next, but gives the tax paid by five heads of houses only, whereas there are really eight. The five are:—

Mr. Mitsui Hachiroyemon ...	Yen 1,113.00 Income Tax.
Mr. Mitsui Genyemon	Yen 2,711.58 Income Tax.
Mr. Mitsui Takayasu.....	Yen 1,110.00 Income Tax.
Mr. Mitsui Hachirojiro	Yen 1,141.35 Income Tax.
Mr. Mitsui Takenosuke.....	Yen 1,264.80 Income Tax.

The total tax paid by the five is 7,341.03 *yen*, indicating an income of 244,701 *yen*. Despite the close approximation between the incomes of the two great houses, the *Hochi* thinks that there is a marked disparity of capital, the advantage being largely on the side of the Iwasaki family. It also thinks that this state of affairs may possibly be reversed in the course of time, in consideration of the fact that the Mitsui capital is more profitabiy employed than that of the Iwasaki, but it qualifies this forecast by adding that the Iwasaki investments are safer and more stable than the Mitsui. For our own part, we attach very little value to the whole calculation. Is it conceivable that the two wealthiest houses in Japan do not enjoy incomes of more than twenty-five thousand pounds sterling each? The idea sounds to us preposterous.

RAYMOND'S VACATION EXCURSIONS.

Messrs. Raymond and Whitcomb have published a handy little volume for the use of tourists visiting Japan, China and the Hawaiian Islands. We have not before heard of Messrs. Raymond and Whitcomb, but they appear to have assumed in the United States the part played by Messrs. Cook and Company in England. Their first Grand Tour, embracing the field of Japan, China, and the Hawaiian Islands, and including a journey across the Continent of America, with visits to famous scenic points, is arranged on the basis of a start from Boston on August 14th, and their second on that of departure from same place on Sept. 2nd. The tours occupy a period of four months, and the total cost, all travelling expenses included, is $1,250 —presumably in gold. If the organization of the scheme may be inferred from the guide book before us, travellers should be fully satisfied. It is an excellent little volume, not too large to be put into the pocket, yet containing, so far as we can see, all the information needed by a tourist. We doubt whether such a compilation would have been possible for such a purpose had not the author had access to the Guide Book par excellence, that of Messrs. Chamberlain and Mason, large use of which has evidently been made, though we can not find any corresponding acknowledgment of obligation. The book is beautifully printed on good paper, and is embellished by a number of well selected collotypes. It is well worth having for its own sake, and doubtless it can be purchased independently, but no statement of price or place of sale is advertised.

THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce held an extraordinary general meeting at 5 p.m. on the 12th instant. There were present Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Oku Saburobei, Ginbayashi Tsunao, Sakuma Teiichi, Oye Taku, Nakano Buyei, Imamura Seinosuke, Masuda Takashi, Watanabe Hiromoto, and so forth. Mr. Shibusawa, who was in the chair, reported that the memorial on the subject of standard transactions decided upon at the last meeting was presented to the Government on the 29th ultimo; and that a paper embodying the views of the New York merchants about the improvement of Japanese silk fabrics had been received from a firm in Yokohama. The first subject submitted to the meeting was the report of a Committee that had been appointed for studying the question of the development of the marine business of the country. Mr. Nakano, Chairman of the Committee, briefly recounted the proceedings of the Committee and explained the purpose of the memorial drawn up for presentation to the Ministers of Agriculture and Commerce, of Communications, and of Finance. The document comprised four headings; namely, first, the education of seamen; second, the encouragement of the shipbuilding business; third, the encouragement and subsidizing of the business of mercantile navigation; and fourth, the estimates of expenditures required for carrying out the measures recommended. The memorial was opproved by the meeting almost unanimously. Besides presenting it to the three Ministers of State mentioned above, it was suggested and decided that copies of the memorial should be distributed among the members of the Diet and the Chambers of Commerce throughout the country. The next topic of discussion related to the Governor of Tokyo's request to be informed whether in the opinion of the Chamber there was room for the establishment of new private banks in the capital, and, if so, to what extent new banks might be allowed to come into existence. After some debate, the investigation of the subject was entrusted to the economical department of the Chamber. The third matter brought up was the construction of a harbour in Tokyo. After a brief explanation of the subject, the Chairman was requested to name eight persons, beside himself, to serve on the committee. He nominated Messrs. Binbayashi, Yamanaka, Kato, Nonoka, Sakuma, Umeura, Masuda, and Watanabe.

Among other matters considered, mention may be made of a draft law for the encouragement of navigation (approved), the proposal for the disposal of the remaining exhibits of the Fourth Domestic Exhibition by lottery (rejected), the presentation of a memorial to the Government for a more speedy execution of the scheme of City improvement, and for the early construction of a railway connecting Shimbashi and Uyeno (approved), and the appointment of delegates to represent the Chamber at the meeting of the associated Chambers of Commerce to be held at Nagoya in September. Messrs. Shibusawa and Imamura were elected delegates. The meeting adjourned at 8.30.

RUSSIA AND THE SALE OF LIQUOR.

The "Dispensary System," that involved such serious trouble last year in the United States, is apparently to be adopted in Russia. In other words, the Russian Government will assume control of the liquor traffic throughout the empire. An experiment made last year in four provinces succeeded so well that the Authorities have determined to apply the system everywhere. With reference to its working in the four provinces, we read that drunkenness has diminished, and that the riotous scenes formerly so familiar in saloons and on the streets have disappeared; that the number of arrests for intoxication and of accidents due to it, has perceptibly decreased, and that workmen are beginning to be more regular in their attendance on Monday mornings. In view of this record, the Emperor has directed that from July 1st, 1896, the system shall be brought into operation in eight provinces, to be extended to seven others from July 1st, 1897, and to the greater part of the empire from January 1st, 1898. The Moscow *Viedomosti*, as translated by an American journal, says:—"The object of Government monopoly of the sale of liquor is principally to do away with the abuses of liquor-dealers who take advantage of the disposition to drunkenness. To say nothing of the fact that the liquor-dealers are generally also usurers who manage to enslave the population, they try to encourage drunkenness and to make the saloon a necessity to the people. They gladly deal on a credit basis and take all kinds of household goods as security. The law, to be sure, prohibits this, but it is notorious that the saloon-keepers obtain most of their incomes by evading the legal restraints. Government sale, on the other hand, aims at the substitution for drunkenness of a normal consumption of liquor. Equally important is the improvement of the quality of the liquor manufactured." It is also claimed that over-production of alcoholic beverages must cease under the dispensary system, since the competition of distillers will cease to influence the price of spirits.

SHOCKING OCCURRENCE IN YOKOHAMA.

A terrible affair occurred upon the Bluff Yokohama, on Friday afternoon, which has caused a shock to the whole community. About twenty minutes past 4 o'clock a Japanese house-boy in the service of Mr. B. E. Brackenbury, one of the junior staff of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, entered his master's bedroom at No. 156, Bluff—more familiarly known as "The Niche"—and found him extended upon the floor, with a revolver lying near his hand, and a bullet wound in his right temple. The events immediately preceding the finding of Mr. Brackenbury may never accurately be known, but some of the more salient, as ascertained by the servants and friends of the unfortunate gentleman, can be given in print. It appears that Mr. Brackenbury—than whom a pleasanter or more genial companion, both at work and play would be difficult to find—left the Bank, apparently in the best of spirits, shortly before closing hours, and, getting into a *jinrikisha*, rode up to the Bluff. Arriving at his residence, which he shared with four other gentlemen, his servants saw him rush across the lawn, which lies in front, and disappear into his room. They heard the sound of a pistol being discharged and when the house-boy entered the room, he found Mr. Brackenbury in the position described above. He was conscious and made some request in English, which the Japanese servant scarcely understood. The alarm being raised, the servants at once sent for Mr. Pinckney, one of the Mess, and another messenger went in search of Dr. Wheeler. What medical assistance could be rendered was quickly afforded by Dr. Wheeler, who found that the bullet had penetrated the skull for a distance of over three inches. The condition of the injured man was so serious that Dr. Wheeler telegraphed to Tokyo for Dr. Scriba, and Dr. Todd was also called in.

At 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, Mr. Brackenbury was removed to the English Naval Hospital, where an operation was performed, without success, Mr. Brackenbury dying on Tuesday morning at 4.30 o'clock. At the inquest, held that afternoon, a verdict of "temporary insanity was returned." The revolver, which was found in the room, was an American "Automatic" of Messrs. Hopkins and Allen's manufacture, with a calibre of 38. Out of a package of 50 Eley revolver cartridges, one was subsequently found missing, and on examining the revolver only one barrel was found to be discharged.

ORIGINAL FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

FORMOSA NEWS.

According to correspondence published recently in Hongkong papers, bringing the story of the subjugation of Formosa up to the 18th of July, the insurgents were then pressing northward, and the country in the immediate vicinity of Tamsui was in an unsafe condition. We ventured at the time to question the correctness of that information, because official Japanese reports sent by telegram did not indicate any such strength on the part of the Hakkas and aborigines. News has now arrived from Viscount Kabayama, showing that the Japanese forces have pushed southward to points 23 miles beyond Teckcham (Sinchuh) and more than 60 miles south of Tamsui, and that a junction has been effected between the fleet and the advancing forces. The Governor-General's message reads as follows:—"On the 8th instant, the programme being to sweep away the enemy from the vicinity of Teckcham, the Guards were put in motion, the Right Wing, under the command of Major-General Kawamura, being directed against Chinto-shan and Giuho-shan, places about 2½ miles distant from Teckcham on the West and South respectively. The Left Wing, under Colonel Naito, advanced against Keiranmen (2½ miles south-east of Teckcham), and the Reserves formed the Centre, Major-General Yamane's command, marching from the direction of Hokuho against the enemy's right. By 7 a.m. our troops had gained possession of the greater part of the entrenchments on the hills. In this engagement two of our ships that had come from Kelung, took a small part, helping to intimidate the enemy. After routing the enemy at Keiranmen, Chinto-shan, and Giuho-shan, the Division pushed on, driving the fugitives before it, and at 11 a.m. the eminences on the east of Keong-shan (a seaport town, 18 miles south of Teckcham, with a bay of the same name) were crowned, and the troops went into cantonments. According to statements elicited from prisoners, the enemy numbered 3,000. We captured some cannon, and other warlike material. On the 9th, at 5 a.m., the troops were against put in motion in the direction of Tsienpi-shan. The attack on that place provoked little resistance, the enemy having apparently lost heart since the preceding day. At 8 a.m. Tsienpi-shan was completely in our possession, and by 11 a.m. the main body of the Division reached Changkong (5 miles south of Keong-shan), where the men went into quarters. The Right Wing, under Major-General Kawamura, pushed on to Oulong. A part of the enemy retired westward, and a part to Miao-li. Thus Changhong and Oulong came into our possession. From each of these places troops can be landed. The whole of the Fourth Mixed Brigade arrived to-day" (9th August).

JAPANESE CORRESPONDENCE FROM PEKIN.

Four Japanese newspaper correspondents are at present in Pekin, representing the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Jiji Shimpo*, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and the *Kokkai*. Their latest letters are dated the 22nd and 27th ultimo, and among other subjects, refer to the position of Viceroy Li in Pekin, the insurrections in the western part of the Empire, the new Chinese Minister to Japan, and so forth. Concerning Li Hung-chang, both Mr. Furuya, of the *Kokumin*, and Mr. Kobayashi, of the *Kokkai*, are agreed not only in stating that his influence in Pekin is almost *nil*, but in ascribing his unpopularity chiefly to the envy and suspicion excited by his enormous wealth. "Viceroy Li," says Mr. Furuya, "has no equal among his contemporaries in China, either in point of knowledge or ability. But he is still a Chinaman, and is not free from the faults of his nationals. His influence, his ability, and his position together have enabled him to amass a large fortune. The fortification of Pu Shun, Talienwan, and Wei-hai-wei, the creation of the Peiyang Fleet, and every other undertaking conducted under his superintendence, has contributed to building up his immense wealth. He is reported to be worth nearly 600 million taels, and his subordinates like Lo Fung-lo, Wu Ting-fang, and Ma Kien-chan are also sufficiently wealthy to excite envy." The rate at which the great Viceroy increased his wealth is stated to have always made the Ministers of the Pekin Court suspect his loyalty to the Throne. The advisers of the Chinese Emperor are reported by Mr. Kobayashi of the *Kokkai* to be comparatively free from the vice of rapacity so commonly noticed among the Chinese officials, and consequently the sight of a great mandarin of Ming extraction rolling in what seemed to them to be ill-gotten gains must have been extremely irritating and disgusting. Rightly or wrongly, therefore, the Manchu statesmen of Pekin have always regarded Viceroy Li with suspicion and hatred, nothing but the apparent success of the progressive measures suggested by him and the feeling that he alone was capable of conducting some of the most important business of the State had prevented an open manifestation against him until the recent war with Japan, when the disasters that befell Chinese arms both on land and sea were laid upon the shoulders of the Viceroy. Some of the Pekin statesmen are even reported to have accused Li Hung-chang of complicity with Japan during the war.

How much influence Li Hung-chang possesses in Pekin may be seen from the way in which the post of Representative to Japan has been filled up. Viceroy Li sent up the names of several candidates, but they were all discarded, and the choice has fallen upon a confidant of Prince Kung. Somebody asked the Prince why he did not appoint one of the Viceroy's nominees, when His Imperial Highness is reported to have replied that Li's partisans have been put aside because, had one of them been appointed, it would have been necessary to send another functionary to Tokyo to keep a strict watch on his movements.

As to Mr. Yu Keng, he is said to be now occupied with the selection of his secretaries and attachés, a task involving much difficulty, inasmuch as a great number of candidates are said to have presented themselves, each being backed by powerful patrons. His departure for Japan will not, in Mr. Kobayashi's opinion, take place within two or three weeks.

Concerning the Mohammedan rising in Ili, Kansu, and Shansi, it is stated that the trouble is owing to the absence of the Governor, who had been summoned to Pekin to defend it with his army of 12,000, reputed to be the bravest in the whole Empire. This army was stationed in the vicinity of the capital to be ready for the attack on the place by the Japanese. The Governor is said to have recently hurried back with his troops to Ili to restore order.

Reports of insurrections and famine are said to be coming in from all parts of the Empire. But in many cases the reports are stated to be great exaggerations if not pure fabrication. The Viceroys and Governors were compelled during the recent war to keep up their local armies to full strength, and were thus unable to pocket so much of the military expenses as they wished. They therefore now desire to make up for this loss by getting up excuses for maintaining a nominally large army. But in some cases the reports are too true, for in many localities the disbanded soldiers are causing endless trouble to both the people and the authorities. They were, it is said, disbanded with three months' extra pay at best.

The *Kokumin's* correspondent states that a course for the study of the Japanese language has been opened in the *Tung-wén-kwan* (the University of Pekin), and that a Japanese professor is to be engaged.

Little reference is made to the Japanese Minister, except to his visit to Mr. Yu Kêng at the latter's private residence. In Pekin the Chinese officials are said to dislike being visited by foreigners at their private houses. Mr. Hayashi, however, departed from the conventional usage and called on Mr. Yu at his residence early one morning. Mr. Yu is said to have expressed sincere regret that, his wife being absent from home, he could not have the honour of presenting his guest to her.

After translating the above, letters of later date, the latest being the 2nd instant, have been published. From them we learn that, after procrastination extending over more than ten days, the Pekin Government at last, yielding to the Japanese Minister's persistent demand, has issued an order to all parts of the country prohibiting the use of the term barbarian to the Japanese.

As to the Chinese Minister to Japan, it is stated that he was to leave Pekin about the middle of the present month. He proposed spending about a week at Shanghai on his way to this country.

Writing under date of the 30th ultimo, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent states that thus far the weather had been cooler with more rain than usual. He also mentions that cholera has made it appearance in Pekin, some cases having come under his own observation in the vicinity of his hotel. But there being no official returns, he could not say anything as to the actual condition of the pestilence, though the entire absence of sanitary measures and the propensity to conceal cases led him to suspect that things were very bad.

THE ALLEGED ATROCITIES IN FORMOSA.

Another mail has arrived from Shanghai and we remain without any confirmation whatever of the sweeping accusations preferred by the *Japan Gazette* against the Japanese troops in Formosa. We need not repeat the accusations. It is enough to say that they were wholesale, and that they were couched in the strongest possible terms. "The atrocities of a Herod" were declared to be "inoffensive" when compared with what the Japanese soldiers were doing by express order of their commanding officers. The article containing these violent and terrible charges appeared in the *Japan Gazette* of August 3rd. At that time our latest correspondence from Formosa was dated July 25th. Ten days have passed since the accusation was published and two mails have been received from Shanghai. But not one word of evidence is yet forthcoming in support of the *Japan Gazette's* indictment. On the contrary, we find the following in the *Kobe Herald* of the 9th instant:—

It is only fair to the Japanese to place before the public the emphatic denial which we are authorized to make by a war-correspondent who has just returned from the scene of operations. Mr. Jas. W. Davidson, the representative of a powerful syndicate of American newspapers, left Keelung by the *Matsushima Kan* on July 27th. He was in Taipeh on the 26th ultimo and was an eye-witness of several actions. Mr. Davidson assures us that the reports as to atrocities have emanated mainly from Chinese sources and are grossly exaggerated and misleading. He denies that there has been any "ruthless butchering of men, women, and children;" and exonerates the Japanese from all blame as to the manner in which hostilities have been carried on. It is certainly strange that this gentleman should not have seen some of the atrocities if inhuman atrocities were actually committed. He admits that the Japanese are pursuing more severe measures and that less consideration is being shown the islanders, but this he explains by the fact that the suicidal folly of lenient methods has been only too forcibly demonstrated, and that the necessity of drastic steps has been forced home to the Japanese. They recognise that if the conquest of the island is to be effected no further opportunities must be given the natives to mistake consideration for lack of power. As this correspondent only left Keelung on the 27th ultimo, after witnessing much of the operations, it is clear that the *Japan Gazette* must adduce its proofs if its most sweeping and damning statements are to be credited.

Mr. Fujita Shigemichi, chief engineer of the Japan Railway Co., leaves Tokyo on the 18th inst. for Europe and America to inspect railway works there.—*Asahi Shimbun.*

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KOREAN NEWS.

Count Inouye is said to have had a second audience with the King on the 30th ultimo, his attendance having been requested by His Majesty through the Minister President of State. The meeting lasted five hours. As usual it gave rise to various rumours, all tending to a belief that a Ministerial change was impending.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent, writing under date of the 31st ultimo, surveys the situation in an intelligent manner. He calls it a mistake to suppose that the followers of Pak Yong-ho are alone friendly toward Japan. With the exception of an extremely small number, all the politicians of Söul are said to be so entirely devoid of the true sentiment of national independence that they are ready to be the friends of any Power apparently willing and able to assist and guide them. Neither Conservatives, like Kim Koshu, Gyo Inshoku, and Gyo Inchu, nor Opportunists, like Ankeiju and Yu Kitsuei, nor men of the English language faction, as Li Kanyo and Li Saiyen, nor the so-called Independents, as In Chiko and Tei Yeika, nor the compliant Kin Kachin and Boku Teiyo, none of these has the slightest idea or purpose of rejecting the leadership of Japan. Even the Bin (Ming) faction, namely, the adherents of the Queen, are believed to be not unwilling to place themselves under the guidance of the Japanese Minister. The only controlling motive of conduct is promotion of personal interests and ambitions. Hence what is required is that Korean politicians should be made to understand, beyond any possibility of doubt, that their interests will be best served by allying themselves with Japan. In this way, even the Queen herself may be gained to the Japanese side. The writer professes total ignorance of the Japanese Minister's ideas, but nevertheless speculates that the Cabinet will probably be reconstructed with Kim Koshu at its head, and comprising among its members politicians belonging to the principal parties; in other words, that the new Ministry will be a coalition of all the influential factions.

His forecast has been realised, for the latest telegram, dated Söul, August 10th, 11.42 a.m., runs as follows:—

"The new Cabinet in the course of formation will be organized on the principle of coalition. Kim Koshu will be Minister President; An Keiju, Minister of War; Boku Teiyo, Minister of Home Affairs; Chin Sokun, Minister of Finance; and Li Inyo, Police Inspector-General."

Li-Shun-yo, the Tai Wön-kun's grandson, was reported sometime ago to have been murdered in prison, but the rumour has proved baseless. When the story of his alleged fate reached the ears of his grand-parents, they caused two of their domestics to proceed to the place of his confinement, a few miles from the capital, so as to gather conclusive evidence. These messengers, however, did not return. Subsequently the grandmother of the royal prisoner found means to enlist the good offices of a certain kind-hearted police inspector, who had been ordered to proceed on official business to the place where her grandson was kept in jail. This officer, on returning to Söul, reported to the Tai Wön-kun and his wife that their grandson was still alive, but so emaciated and so worn out that he looked more like a corpse than a living man. The police inspector was severely reprimanded by his chief for having consented to render a humane service to the ex-Regent. The Tai Wön-kun's wife then became a frequent visitor at Court, praying for the pardon of her grandson. Her entreaties seem to have been successful, for a telegram, dated at Söul on the 9th instant, announces the release of Li Shunyo by the special grace of the King.

The Korean Queen seems to be kept well informed of what appears in the Japanese papers. Recently the *Jiji Shimpo* published a caricature, in which a cuttle-fish, dressed like a Korean lady, was held down with a gourd by a Japanese gentleman, whose face exhibited an unmistakable resemblance to Count Inouye. Her Majesty is said to have shown this picture one day to An Keiju, Police Inspector-General, saying that, although she was aware that the cuttle-fish was meant to represent herself she did not quite understand why the Japanese Minister's left hand was uplifted as though he were invoking aid. The correspondent who mentions this story, adds that the Queen does not know the Japanese saying "*hyotan namazu*," which embodies the acme of impossibility, namely, an attempt to restrain the movements of a slippery cuttle-fish by holding it down with a globular gourd.

The Korean Cabinet recently appointed several commissions to conduct investigations into various political matters, including among other things, detailed regulations as to Cabinet meetings, the election of officials, and the establishment of a constitutional system of government. Commenting on the last mentioned subject, the *Yomiuri Shimbun's* correspondent states that the object of the Ministry seems to be to impose a check upon the power of the Queen by some kind of parliamentary institution.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent has collected some interesting information about the financial condition of the Korean Government. In the Budget for the current year the revenue was put at 4,557,587 *yen*, consisting of 3,000,000 *yen* borrowed from the Japanese Government, and 1,557,587 *yen* obtained from taxes and duties. Of the taxes, only about 800,000 *yen* are likely to be realized, owing to imperfection of the collecting machinery. The money borrowed from Japan has been nearly exhausted, and there is a project among the Ministers to ask for a second loan. It may not be without interest to know the estimated expenditures as distributed among the different departments. The following figures are found in the *Kokumin's* correspondence:—

	Yen.
Court Expenses	384,610
Department of Foreign Affairs	35,435
Department of Home Affairs (including Local Governments)	525,198
Department of Finance (including payments on account of debts)	1,694,518
Department of Justice	41,806
Department of Education	70,349
Department of War	321,772
Department of Agriculture and Commerce	50,977
Metropolitan Police Board	120,240
Total	3,244,905

Among the creditors of the Korean Government, we notice the Specie Bank of Yokohama (17,852 *yen*), the 1st National Bank of Tokyo, (180,000 *yen*), the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company (45,833 *yen*), Tung Shun-tai and Co. (98,061 *yen*), the American Legation (10,000 *yen*), Foreign Employés (arrears of salary) 15,802 *yen*.

While the Government's financial condition is so markedly unsatisfactory, the distress of the citizens of Söul is said to be intense. As a result of the rigorous suppression of all bribery, a large class of nobles in the capital, who have hitherto eked out their means of subsistence by acting as brokers of official patronage and corruption, have been deprived of their income from that source, and their financial embarrassments have reacted upon the merchants, who depended chiefly on their custom. These things are unavoidable consequences of the administrative reforms now in progress. The very fact that the nobles of Söul are in distress shows how far the work of reform has been successful in one most important respect, namely, the repression of official corruption.

According to the *Kokkai's* correspondent, wheat is produced principally in Hwang-hai-do, but the quantity raised there is inadequate to meet the demand of the country. In addition to being used in various kinds of cakes and other preparations for food, wheat is employed for brewing a liquor very much relished by the Koreans. The import of the grain consequently shows a constant increase.

The rice harvest is expected to be bad throughout the peninsula, with the exception of Chhung-chhöng-do, where the weather having been favourable a good crop should be obtained.

MARINE BUSINESS IN JAPAN.

A series of articles recently published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* contains some interesting information about the growth and the present condition of marine business in Japan. Under the Tokugawa Government, private individuals not being permitted to own any ships of foreign model, there was no scope for the rise of a mercantile marine. It was in 1869, two years after the downfall of the feudal régime, that the prohibition was first removed. A the end of 1870, the total number of ships of European form, both steam and sailing, was 46, with an aggregate registered tonnage of 17,952 tons. At the end of 1893, these figures had swelled to 1,429 and 155,172 respectively. Thus, during twenty-three years, the number of ships increased by 1,383 and the aggregate registered tonnage by 137,220 tons; in other words an average yearly increase of 60 ships and 5,966 tons. As to steamships, their number at the end of 1870 was 35, with an aggregate registered tonnage of 15,498 tons; and by the end of 1893, these numbers had increased to 680 and 110,205, respectively. The number of sailing vessels at the end of 1870 was 11 and their aggregate registered tonnage 2,454 tons; and these figures had become, in December, 1893, 749 and 44,960 respectively. The following table shows the statistics for the last ten years:—

	Steamships.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Year.	Number	Tonnage.	Number	Tonnage.	Number	Tonnage.
1885	228	55,538	358	46,537	586	102,095
1886	227	58,480	349	43,601	576	102,091
1887	252	68,072	342	43,457	594	111,469
1888	251	76,398	338	42,204	619	118,602
1889	311	84,082	329	41,571	640	125,653
1890	335	89,302	304	37,949	639	127,251
1891	353	91,715	278	36,083	631	127,238
1892	375	97,509	239	31,994	615	129,503
1893	400	104,909	218	31,538	628	136,447
1894	469	163,309	196	30,177	656	193,386

N.B.—Ships in this table are those of and above 100 tons, the tonnage of steamships is burthen, and that of sailing vessels register.

The writer then proceeds to consider Japan's position in the maritime catalogue of the world. According to trustworthy statistics, she stood below Turkey in June, 1894, as shown by the following table:—

Country.	No. of Ships.	Tonnage.
England	11,660	12,969,951
U.S.A.	3,314	2,171,459
Germany	1,765	1,784,725
Norway	3,137	1,669,087
France	1,178	1,089,540
Italy	1,276	771,759
Spain	760	547,358
Sweden	1,449	498,004
Russia	1,069	476,672
Holland	461	437,179
Greece	887	343,442
Denmark	815	333,231
Austro-Hungary	431	302,618
Turkey	1,069	266,352
Japan	369	196,365
Brazil	290	145,976
Belgium	88	118,827
Portugal	185	105,259
Chile	137	102,199
Argentine Republic	170	59,833
China	37	44,688
Hawaii	26	21,663
Uruguay	42	20,326
Egypt	29	19,264
Peru	41	12,483

In the latter half of the year 1894, the war with China led to a sudden and large increase in the number of Japanese vessels, especially steamers, so that by the end of that year, Japan had probably overtaken Turkey and reached a position close below Austria-Hungary.

The Japanese mercantile marine has thus far been principally occupied in the coasting trade. Navigation to foreign ports is still in its infancy. Not to speak of far distant countries, even in the case of Chinese ports the number of Japanese ships visiting them is behind that of some European countries. In 1893, the number of Japanese vessels visiting Chinese ports was 623, and their aggregate tonnage 566,379 tons. In the matter of the carrying trade with China, England stands first, then Germany, and Japan comes third. The comparative shares of the carrying trade falling to the vessels of the principal

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countries in the five years ending 1893 are shown in the following table :—

Country.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
England ...	62.0 ...	64.0 ...	63.0 ...	65.0 ...	65.0
China	24.0 ...	24.0 ...	23.0 ...	21.0 ...	22.0
Germany ..	6.0 ...	5.0 ...	8.0 ...	4.0 ...	5.0
Japan	1.8 ...	2.0 ...	1.0 ...	2.0 ...	1.9

Turning to the entering and clearing in the various open ports in Japan, the writer gives the following table :—

	Japanese Vessels.		Foreign Vessels.	
Year.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
1885	844	282,238	1,386	1,499,083
1886	1,035	347,126	1,514	1,722,014
1887	1,289	377,320	1,532	1,877,887
1888	1,483	460,874	1,698	2,214,286
1889	1,744	649,255	1,793	2,262,565
1890	2,582	731,192	1,748	2,464,989
1891	2,632	742,895	1,862	2,613,909
1892	967	712,212	3,528	2,896,620
1893	2,052	694,002	2,626	3,633,919
1894	750	560,124	3,093	4,347,211

The following table shows the value of merchandize carried by Japanese and foreign vessels :—

	Japanese Vessels. Yen.	Foreign Vessels. Yen.	Ratio. J.V. F.V. per cent.
1885	5,915,445	58,598,336...	9...91
1886	7,541,555.....	71,842,321...	10...90
1887	9,522,465.....	84,798,442...	10...90
1888	8,976,608.....	118,859,992...	7...93
1889	10,467,673.....	122,957,061...	8...92
1890	14,577,078.....	121,299,816...	11...89
1891	14,787,817.....	125,307,071...	11...89
1892	15,676,689.....	144,556,650...	10...90
1893	14,427,144.....	161,071,514...	8...92
1894	16,830,497.....	203,733,475...	8...92
Average			9...91

Expressed in tonnage, the quantities of merchandize carried by Japanese and foreign vessels during the last five years were as follow :—

Year.	Japanese Vessels. Tons.	Foreign Vessels. Tons.	Ratio. J.V. F.V. per cent.
1890.....	556,782.....	1,950,931.....	22...78
1891.....	532,424.....	1,837,669.....	22...78
1892.....	564,503.....	1,845,243.....	23...77
1893.....	448,619.....	2,433,884.....	10...84
1894.....	344,791.....	3,022,775.....	10...90
Average			18.6 81.4

The following table shows the amounts of freight earned by Japanese and foreign vessels during the five years ending 1893 :—

Year.	Japanese Vessels. yen.	Foreign Vessels. yen.	Ratio. J.V. F.V. per cent.
1889	1,401,123.....	10,250,349.....	12...88
1890	1,755,312.....	10,564,089.....	14...86
1891	1,620,221.....	9,505,492.....	15...85
1892	1,820,929.....	9,134,287.....	17...83
1893	1,415,651.....	15,470,279.....	8...92
Average.....			13...87

Various other figures are given, but they are too minute to be reproduced. We may, however, refer to those concerning the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, the two largest steamship companies in Japan. The number of ships owned by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha in November, 1894, was 52, with an aggregate registered tonnage of 54,584 tons. The Osaka Shosen Kaisha's ships in December, 1894, aggregated 52, with a total tonnage of 11,499 tons. The writer remarks that these companies, compared with foreign shipping concerns, are as mere mounds by the side of lofty mountains, and urges the importance of developing the country's mercantile marine.

The Hakodate Town Assembly, which applied to the Home Minister the other day for permission to reconstruct Hakodate harbour at an estimated outlay of *yen* 820,000, presented another application on the 15th inst. for grant of permission to construct a big dock at Hakodate at a cost of *yen* 1,200,000. The proposed dock will be larger than the Yokosuka dock, and will accommodate a vessel of over 10,000 tons. When the plan of the dock was shown to the Chief of the Bureau of Naval Command the other day, the latter is said to have remarked that should such a dock be built at Hakodate by private enterprise the Naval Department would find it unnecessary to construct a naval dock in the north, as repairs to warships could be effected in the private dock.—*Kokkai.*

CHINESE ITEMS.

There seems to be little doubt that the Chinese Government is now resolutely bent upon having a railway constructed through the centre of the empire, namely, from Chinkiang on the Yangtze to Pekin. Six years ago a project of the same nature received Imperial sanction, the southern terminus of the line, as then proposed, being Hankow. The task of constructing it was entrusted to the celebrated Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, then serving in Canton, whence he was removed to Wuchang for greater convenience in carrying out the work. But Chang behaved like a man who, wanting a steak for dinner, resolves that, instead of buying some beef from a butcher, a pasture shall be sown and a calf reared and fattened to produce the necessary loin. He announced his determination to build and equip the line from first to last with materials manufactured in China, and in pursuance of that programme he began by erecting huge iron-works at Hanyang. Had any other Chinese official conceived such a scheme, the public would assuredly have suspected him of devising means to enrich himself and his creatures rather than of seeking to build a railroad. But His Excellency Chang enjoys an unassailable reputation for integrity, and no graver crime than financial folly has been laid to his charge in connection with the Hanyang works. Six years, however, can not be said to have materially advanced the prospects of the great railway's completion, and since the line now projected, from Pekin to Chinkiang, has also been entrusted to Chang Chih-tung, its future must depend largely upon his adherence to his old fancy or his conversion to more practical ideas. Chinkiang is 150 miles from the entrance to the Yangtze, and stands at the point where the Grand Canal communicates with the waters of the great river. It is easily approachable by sea-going vessels of the heaviest burden, and it used to be a place of immense importance when the grain tribute from the southern provinces of China was transported to the capital by the Canal. But so soon as the development of maritime facilities, notably the establishment of the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Company, opened the much quicker and cheaper sea route, the Canal's *métier* disappeared, and it gradually silted up to the condition of a mere ditch. The recent war, however, clearly demonstrated to the Chinese Government that the maritime highway by the Gulf of Pechili may at any time be obstructed by a hostile fleet. Hence the resolve to build a railway which shall perform the functions once discharged by the Grand Canal, and secure the advent of supplies to the capital under all circumstances. A work inspired by such a motive can not be regarded as a proof of the Government's conversion to the cause of railways in general, but it does not greatly matter what object immediately dictates the enterprise if only it be carried out. Railways, once they are born in any country, soon develop a self-multiplying power. Hopes are entertained that after the line reaches Chinkiang it will be carried on to Shanghai. But that would involve a tremendous task—the bridging of the Yangtze. The fact that at a distance of two miles below Chinkiang, the channel, there about a mile in width, is divided mid-way by Ts'iao-shan Island—Silver Island, as it is commonly called—is regarded as facilitating the construction of a bridge. But the channel between this island and the southern bank is swept by a swift current, 27 fathoms deep, at a distance of 300 yards from the shore and full of eddies caused by sunken rocks. To bridge such a place would be no light task.

Cholera is committing terrible ravages in the great city of Nanking. At first only the southern part of the town was affected, but now the plague is everywhere. All the preventive measures dictated by modern prophylactic science are totally neglected. The proverbial filth of a Chinese city reigns supreme. Night-soil from stricken quarters is carried to suburban gardens and freely used to fertilize vegetables some of which are subsequently eaten raw. Heaven alone is relied on to stretch forth a helping arm, and, in order to propitiate the deities, lofty scaffoldings are erected in the principal thoroughfares, supporting pavilions wherein are altars with lighted candles and smoking incense. A much advertised method of cure is to take a copper cash into the mouth. It is supposed to melt at once, when it should be replaced by another. Six or seven doses kill the disease.

The United States Minister in Pekin has appointed the Rev. Spencer Lewis, of Chungking, to represent America on the Commission appointed to investigate the Szechuan outrages. It is admitted that Mr. Lewis possesses all the necessary qualifications from a missionary point of view, but dissatisfaction is expressed because a Secretary of Legation or a Consul-General is not nominated, in order to give the commission greater weight.

It is alleged that when the new German Concession becomes an accomplished fact in Tientsin, a German Company will place 15 steamers on the Shanghai-Tientsin line. At present the service is in the hands of several companies which, by pooling their earnings, manage to keep freights at very high figures. The voyage of 2½ days from Shanghai to Tientsin costs a first-class passenger sixty American dollars.

In honour of the 60th birthday of the Empress of China last November, all condemned criminals were pardoned, except robbers, parricides, and matricides. Among those coming within the act of clemency was a coolie who had been lying under sentence of death since 1889 in Shanghai jail for killing a fellow-coolie by a stroke of a carrying pole. Had the sentence been carried out, the public executioner would have received a fee of 20 taels, and the public undertaker would have been paid 5 taels for a coffin. These payments would of course have been made by the Magistrate, but the latter considered that if the criminal escaped, the executioner and the undertaker, on the one hand, ought not to be disappointed, neither ought the Magistrate, on the other, to pay for un-rendered services. If took nine months to solve the riddle and to prove that the prisoner, at all events, could not possibly pay. During that interval of reflection the reprieved man remained in prison, and the Magistrate at length consented to set up the pernicious precedent of paying the fees himself.

A curious device has been employed by the anti-foreign agitators in Chêngtu to perpetuate and intensify the feeling against missionaries. After the latter had all been driven out and their houses burned or razed, sedan chairs containing children began to arrive at the sites of the ruins. The bearers averred that the little ones were for the foreigners, who had purchased them. This was quite an artistic sequel to the digging up of bones said to have belonged to infants eaten by the foreign devils.

Chêngtu has been decorated with placards accusing the Japanese of stirring up the Szechuen riots in order to embarrass the Pekin Government, and promising the Christians that if they will worship the idols and conform to the customs of the multitude, they shall be spared. In spite of all that has happened, the officials suffer these placards to remain exposed.

General Tsiang, who commanded the garrison at Yingkow when the Japanese captured that place, has been sentenced to death. Not only did the General decline to obey the Taotai's orders, requiring him to march out and intercept the advance of the Japanese, but he and his troops also had the misfortune to be leaving Yingkow westward just as the Japanese were entering it from the east. Subsequently, he had various imaginary encounters with the enemy, and won sundry signal ideographic victories. All these things, however, might have been extenuated—so says the Imperial Decree—had he not, after reaching Tientsin, attempted to put two months' pay of his troops into his own pocket, thereby causing the men to mutiny. So he is to die.

The death of Sir Thomas Wade has drawn some very appreciative remarks from the pens of Shanghai journalists. The difference in the

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tone of their comments on the late diplomat now that he has passed "to where beyond these voices there is peace," and those printed in his lifetime, is very refreshing. This is what the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—

By his (Sir Thomas Wade's) departure from the world we have lost one of the most distinguished officials who ever served the public in the Far East. Indeed, with the exception of Sir Harry Parkes and Lord Elgin, no name occurs to one at the minute which one would be inclined to place before his. A man of varied accomplishments, he had in early life a very diversified training. If we remember right, a Harrow boy to begin with, he went to a private tutor living close to Audley End House in Essex. Some verses written by him at this period are still preserved in that great mansion, and its noble owner still speaks of him as "the cleverest young man that I ever knew." Then he went to Cambridge; and after a not very prolonged stay there he obtained a commission in the army. Quartered in Ireland, he showed his irrepressible tendency towards linguistic studies by giving his attention to the Gaelic of Ireland. Transferred to Corfu, he set to work and learnt modern Greek. Coming out to China and having served in the war of 1842 he learnt first Cantonese and then Mandarin. He was for a long time lent to the civil government, but finally left the army and joined the Consular Service. But we need not dwell on his official career. We need only remark that he was one of the inaugurators of the great establishment now ruled for so many years by Sir Robert Hart, and that he commanded the Shanghai Volunteers when they saw active service at the battle of Muddy Flat. As an official, we have always thought Sir Thomas received rather hard measure from his countrymen in the East. There was a distinct feeling in early days that knowledge of Chinese was incompatible with capacity in a public officer. We have often heard this asserted in old times. It was partly the fault of Wingrove Cooke, that brilliant writer of articles for *The Times* from Hongkong, all the more brilliant indeed because he wrote with the courage of a man who has studied a subject for but a few weeks. Wingrove Cooke used to express freely his contempt for what he called "the twenty years in the country and speak the language men," and a good many readers took their opinions from him. Yet there were many cases in which Sir Thomas Wade strongly supported British interests, and only gave in when he was told by legal authorities that law and the treaties were against him. Of such cases we can recall two at the moment, those of the *Cadiz* hulk at Chinkiang and the Woosung Railway. He was the mark of severe reproaches in the latter case for letting the Chinese buy and take away the railway; but if the Chinese Government had been as intelligent and as strong as, let us say, the Japanese, the builders of the line would have had to remove it at their own cost without a penny of compensation. Towards the latter end of his career his countrymen were much more in sympathy with him than they had been, as may be seen by turning over the old files of the *North China Daily News*. As a Chinese scholar, Sir Thomas' merits deserve the highest recognition. It is not merely for the greatness of his attainments, deep as they were and on a level with those of the most distinguished student of the day. What must be remembered is that when he began, there was no Wade's Course, nor any other Course, to help him. He went a pioneer into the wilderness with no guide except Morrison's cumbrous and incomplete dictionary. Still, while working hard at official tasks he not only mastered the language, but by his publications made it possible for men of the next generation to achieve success with a fourth of the labour formerly necessary. Fastidiousness was a strongly marked point in Sir Thomas's character. A writer of really beautiful English, he could not satisfy himself, and would correct and re-write till it seemed that his composition would never have received its final touches. To cure himself of this time-wasting characteristic, after he became Minister he adopted a plan which but few men would be competent to carry out. He would write straight away the fair copy of his simpler despatches, leaving his secretaries to take a draft from it for the archives. As a story-teller or conversationalist, he could claim a very high rank, possessing both an accurate memory and a flow of beautiful English, and being into the bargain a mimic of no mean powers. He was a man of taste in every way, a good judge of poetry, of art, cookery, of wines. Choleric, but refined, and a perfect gentleman, he was never ashamed to beg a man's pardon if he had given him cause for offence; and, what is perhaps the truest sign of nobility of character, he never harboured a grudge or availed himself of an opportunity to pay off an old score.

As an instance of the mortality caused by the heat in Shanghai, the various hospitals and charity dispensaries in the native city report that from Thursday, the 1st instant, up to 1 o'clock on the 4th, no less than 119 persons had died. This, of course, does not include the foreign Settlement.

It is reported in the Shanghai papers that the ex-Viceroy Li Han-chang, who has been living in Kiangse Road for the past month or so, has ordered his agents to buy a hundred odd *mow* of land in the vicinity of the Bubbling Well in order to built a country residence for himself and family at Shanghai.

Verily are the vast majority of China millions sitting in great darkness. The other day the *N.-C. Daily News* published the letter of a correspondent at Ngan-lu, reporting the effects of the recent rising of the Hsiang and Yangtze rivers, etc. News has now arrived that the people have attributed their disaster to the extortions of a member of the gentry, who forced them to give money for the repair of existing and building of extra dykes. As a result, the unfortunate representative of the gentry and *literati* was attacked and quartered by the infuriated sufferers from the floods, who threw his dismembered body into different parts of the river "to appease the wrath of the dragon king's satellites whose abodes had been destroyed by the erection of the extra dykes and embankments."

The once all-powerful Censor Chung Tê-siang has fallen and Chinese officialdom breathes again. An Imperial decree of the 2nd inst. approves of the sentence of banishment to the military post roads in Mongolia recommended by the Assistant Grand Secretary, Hû T'ung, in the case of the degraded Censor Chung Tê-siang. The Censor met his downfall by the accusation of an Imperial Clansman accusing Chung of an attempt to extort money from him. This, says the *Daily News*, is the Censor whose facile pen denounced within the two past years so many of the highest in the land, from the Prince of Ch'ing and the Viceroy Li down to a number of *chehsiens* in the provinces. Lin Ping-chang, the degraded Viceroy of Szechuan, also owed his downfall to Chung Tê-siang's scathing memorial. He had become such a terror to the official world that the recent accusation against him, his trial and sentence, were evidently the result of a conspiracy to put the man out of the way of telling more truths about high officials.

The Mahommedan rebellion in Kansu is still in progress, though the revolting people have suffered several defeats and been driven into the northern borders of Shansi province. A large body of Imperial cavalry about 6,000 strong, and several batteries of horse and mountain artillery, have set out to chase the fleeing insurgents, while the authorities at T'aiyuen, the capital of Shanse, have also received orders to send troops to surround them. The only body of Mohammedans who remain, so far, intact, having not yet met any Imperial troops, are those at Shuhchou, near the western extremity of the Great Wall. They number some 25,000 adults, and are expected to seek refuge in Turkestan if defeated. Governor Tao Mu at Urumtsi is organising a force to send against them.

The Shanghai Amateur Circus, which was such a huge success last year, was revived with even great splendour on August 5th. This entertainment is got up solely by the members of the Shanghai Race Club, and everything that an ordinary legitimate circus can produce is given by them, even to the riding of and vaulting upon barebacked horses. Folk went to see a burlesque, but at the close were feign to confess that they had seen the real thing. It speaks volumes for the energy of the *jeunesse dorée* of Shanghai that such a performance can be given, even though the thermometer ranges during the day at a figure very near to 100° in the shade. One visitor to the Amateur Circus, struck by the splendid performances there of "young" Shanghai, handed to Mr. Alex. McLeod, the Representative, a cheque for one hundred taels towards the establishment of a Gymnasium.

The Tientsin high officials intend soon to open some iron mines in the vicinity of the Jeho hunting reservation. This is regarded as the commencement of a general development of the mineral resources of the whole of Chihli province, including portions of Manchuria and Shantung.

LITERARY.

The *Waseda Bungaku* informs us that Mr. Fukuchi Genichiro has adapted Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables" for the Japanese stage. How far the well known dramatist has altered the original may be judged from the circumstance that he has introduced the great earthquake of the Ansei era as well as the war of the Restoration. But he has been at great pains to preserve the spirit and tone of the original. Recently he invited Mr. Morita Shiken, an ardent admirer of Victor Hugo, to his house to hear the play read and to criticise it. The two authors are said to have been engaged six hours discussing the different aspects of the piece. The drama, when completed, will be produced on the stage by Danjiro.

In proportion to the increasing popularity of historical studies, a more wholesome spirit of independent criticism is shown with regard to the mythical age of Japanese annals—an age hitherto regarded as too sacred to be exposed to the scalpel of scientific research. Professor Kume Kunitake is one of the boldest champions of critical study, in the cause of which he has even sacrificed his official position. Mr. Yoshida Tosaku follows the same path in his recently published "History of the Relations between Japan and Korea in Ancient Times." The position taken by him is that these two countries formed at first one and the same nation. He is a painstaking author, and his book deserves the attention of every student of Japanese history.

The *Teikoku Bungaku* observes that a great majority of the novels turned out during the first fifteen years of the present era, were either based upon or contained incidents connected with the war of the Restoration, especially incidents relating to the stout resistance that a small band of the Tokugawa adherents—called Shôgi-tai—offered to the Imperial forces in the Park of Uyeno. The recent war with China will furnish material to the rising generation of Japanese novelists and romancers. One or two stories founded on the war have already appeared, but they are not of a calibre to survive the lapse of time.

The same journal laments that the so-called authors of the present day lack the qualities of true men of letters. The young writers with whom the literary world is flooded are denounced as panderers to popular fancy and prejudice.

Mr. Shiga Shigetaka continues his interesting reviews of the poets of Australia in his journal, the *Nippon-jin*. He has words of praise to bestow on each of the amateur versifiers of the Southern continent. In the latest article, he notices the poems of Alfred Domett, C.M.G., the Hon. William Foster, Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., John Siddel Kelly, the Rev. John Dunmore Lang, D.D., and so forth. The number of Japanese readers capable of enjoying the really interesting quotations from these poets is limited, but the fact that they are read even by a few must he regarded as significant. It indicates a desire on the part of the Japanese to know more about Australia and her people.

Mr. Miyake Yujiro, joint editor of the *Nippon-jin*, has an interesting article on the late Oliver W. Holmes, a writer hitherto little studied in this country. Mr. Miyake tells his countrymen that in the great American poet they will certainly find much to enjoy and admire. He draws attention to a remarkable coincidence in conception and tone between "The Last Leaf" and a celebrated poem by the Chinese scholar Liu Ting-che. The two pieces are published side by side. The resemblance is really striking, all the more so in that the American author could never by any possibility have possessed a knowledge of the Chinese writer's verses.

COUNT ITO.

ELSEWHERE in our columns will be found a statement of incidents that have led up to a situation likely at any moment to precipitate a Cabinet crisis. The Prime Minister has left the capital, thus ceasing to become available for the discharge of his official duties, and he declines to resume his functions unless his refusal of the honours recently conferred on him by the EMPEROR be accepted. It is a singular conjuncture, unprecedented, indeed, so far as we know. What the public will of course find most inexplicable is that such an important step as that taken in the Palace on the 5th instant should have been determined upon without the knowledge of the Minister President of State. According to Occidental ideas, the SOVEREIGN of a constitutional country never thinks of conferring peerages or high decorations without consulting the Prime Minister, and though in Japan this sequence of events is not necessarily followed, any very marked departure from it cannot but be construed as wanting in sideration towards the Premier. In the present case there was a very signal departure from the usual custom. Two new peers were created, two Viscounts were raised to the rank of Counts, and four Counts were raised to that of Marquis, while several of the highest Orders in the Empire were bestowed without any previous reference to the views of the Prime Minister. We do not speak with absolute certainty. It is possible that the whole of the programme, except the part relating to himself, may have been submitted to Count ITO. But we find that hypothesis scarcely tenable, since it would imply either concealment too clumsy to be consistent with the general scheme, or a childish desire to spring a glittering surprise upon the head of the Government. Some time ago a board was appointed to inquire into the services rendered by officers and officials in connection with the war, and while it is conceivable that the recommendations of the Board may have been laid before the SOVEREIGN and may have received HIS MAJESTY'S approval without direct reference to the Premier, it is scarcely possible that a part can have been referred and a part kept back. But, why, it will be asked, does not Count ITO accept the honours bestowed on him? He certainly deserves them, for seldom, if ever, has it fallen to the lot of any statesman to play so large a part in raising his country from the position of an insignificant Oriental State to that of a considerable Power. The question is easily answered by examining the list of distinctions. Seven of the names on it are those of men who served in a military or naval capacity. The Premier himself is the only civil official on the list. He is thus differentiated from all his civil colleagues in the Cabinet, notably from Viscount MUTSU, whose services as Minister of Foreign Affairs could not possibly be overlooked in any fair distribution of rewards. It is quite inconceivable that Count ITO could ever have been a consenting party to such differentiation. It is quite inconceivable that the framers of the list could ever have expected him to be a consenting party. They foresaw that they were about to place him in a position of extreme embarrassment. The device is so subtle, so adroit, that it almost commands admiration, though in truth it does not rise above the level of a trick. The EMPEROR, of course, can not have had any knowledge of the true inwardness of what was going forward. HIS MAJESTY doubtless supposed that everything was proceeding upon a basis of good faith and sincerity. It certainly never entered his conception that the Throne was being dragged into a political intrigue, and that in soliciting marks of Imperial favour for the most eminent subject in the realm, a plot was being laid to overthrow the Cabinet. We may, perhaps, be overestimating the significance of what has occurred, but it is difficult to arrive at any other conviction. Under the mask of distinguishing him as few statesmen in Japan have been distinguished, it has been contrived to place Count ITO in the dilemma of either losing the confidence of his colleagues in the Cabinet, or accepting a position of apparent disrespect towards his SOVEREIGN, whose confidence he enjoys probably more than any other statesman in the realm. The present is not a juncture when Count ITO can lay down his office without detriment to the interests of the nation. He has to settle the Liaotung problem; to conclude the new commercial treaty with China; to organize and submit to Parliament measures for large naval and military development; to provide resources for carrying out these measures; to complete the subjugation of Formosa, and to lay before the Diet an explanation of the Administration's policy during the momentous events of the past twelve months. From a purely personal point of view, however, it would be difficult to find a more favourable opportunity for resigning the Premiership. His clever rivals built a golden bridge for his retreat when they constructed it out of such materials as a Marquisate refused, a grand order of merit rejected, and loyalty to colleagues preserved. But that is sentiment and selfishness. Count ITO will look beyond such considerations, we trust. He will not allow the Throne to be involved in a political trick, or the Cabinet to be broken up by an artifice that certainly should not win public confidence for its contrivers. We confess that we cannot see how Count ITO may extricate himself without either establishing a precedent that the nation would resent and that must be particularly distasteful to a man of his profound loyalty, or suffering a loss of dignity that would impair his usefulness as leader of the Cabinet. The situation appears to us decidedly grave, but so long as Count ITO does not resign, there is hope of some adjustment.

FORMOSA.

WHEN the Japanese troops went to Formosa they behaved with the utmost leniency and forbearance towards the people of the Island. The key-note of their policy was conciliation, and for a time it seemed likely that they might succeed. All foreign correspondents writing from Formosa were unanimous in bearing testimony to the merciful and considerate measures adopted by the invaders. But, at the same time, a note of warning was sounded: it was predicted that the kindly methods of the Japanese would be misconstrued, and that in the end they might be driven to use the sword with all the greater resolution because they had at first kept it sheathed. Unfortunately, that is what has happened. The Japanese found that conciliation only encouraged treachery, and that clemency merely prompted their semi-savage adversaries to stouter resistance. We say "semi-savage" advisedly, because the men now arrayed against the Japanese in Formosa are chiefly the Hakkas and the aboriginal tribes. The latter are veritable barbarians: from time immemorial their hand has been against every man, and their ferocity and cruelty have made them bywords. As for the Hakkas, they are described by WELLS WILLIAMS as "tramps who roam over the country, settling in vacant places and then encroaching on their neighbours. Never heartily addicted to sedentary pursuits, they generally take to marauding after a brief spell of settled life." A large colony of these Hakkas were sent from Canton to Formosa some years ago, and were there established in the hills between the Chinese settlers and the aboriginal tribes. They seem to be lawless, bloodthirsty raiders, and most assuredly they are the very last type of settlers that a civilized Power would desire to see within its territories. It was probably an altogether too sanguine forecast on the part of the Japanese to expect that such people could be brought under subjection by gentleness and benevolent assurances. The Hakkas and aboriginal savages judge others by themselves, and being incapable of mercy or magnanimity, place no confidence in any exhibition of such qualities by a foreign invader. They appear to have deliberately chosen to fight to the bitter end, and the result of their choice is that the Japanese are now compelled to employ overwhelming force, and to undertake one of those campaigns with the inevitable features of which history have made us unhappily too familiar. It might reasonably have been supposed, however, that

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the plain facts of the case would not be perverted to Japan's discredit by foreign local critics, and that, when discussing the strong measures to which her troops have now been driven by the sheer necessities of the situation, their previous patience and forbearance would be remembered. But it is not so. The Japanese must always be condemned. Under no circumstances can they hope to escape abuse and denunciation at the hands of foreign local journalists. The very critics who, a short time ago, accused them of incompetence and false judgment because they did not at once send a large army to Formosa and crush every semblance of resistance from end to end of the island, are now crying out that they have been too impatient and too precipitate; that they ought to have sought to acquire the confidence of the savage aborigines and the semi-savage Hakkas by assuring them in the possession of their property and persuading them to believe in the existence of qualities unknown to such barbarians, and that, really and truly, it is abominable and unendurable to see the Japanese shooting down men that employ every device of treachery to murder them, and levelling houses which, so long as they remain standing, are employed for purposes of attack. We have witnessed a great many instances of anti-Japanese prejudice on the part of the Yokohama foreign press, but, on the whole, this latest example seems qualified to take the leading place. What are the Japanese to do? Are they to submit quietly to be shot down at any and all times by men whose lives they have spared? Are they to refrain from attacking and destroying a hamlet because, although its inhabitants rain bullets upon them from behind the brick walls of the houses, some women and children may happen to be sheltered within? Any wanton sacrifice of female or child life is terrible, but we have not a scintilla of trustworthy evidence that such a cruelty has been perpetrated by the Japanese. A Chinese rumour in that sense was once referred to by a correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, but what does that same correspondent say in his last letter?

> As already reported, after the first scare was over, the Japanese were more or less heartily welcomed by the Chinese settlers in North Formosa, and all would doubtless have gone well had not the emissaries of the Black Flag Chief and certain Chinese officials filled the minds of the Hakkas and savages with all sorts of bad notions of the Japanese. The consequence has been that although the heroes of Port Arthur and Weihaiwei have treated the settlers with the greatest forbearance and have remitted all *lekin* and taxes for 3 years, yet the basest treachery is practised on them. They are "potted" at from every direction and wherever they go, and when a few miles out of the capital, small parties of Japanese troops are waylaid, mobbed, and butchered to a man; transports are constantly robbed and the escorts killed and quartered; the telegraph lines have been cut; railway lines torn up, and every species of brutality and savagery practised on unfortunate privates and officers who fall into the hands of the insurgents.
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> The most cowardly attacks on the Japanese are often made just after they have marched through some ostensibly friendly village, only to find as soon as they get outside the town that they are "potted" at from every direction, which, of course, often results in many Japanese being killed and wounded without getting a chance to retaliate on the wily foe.

To these very pointed comments he adds that the Hakkas "have already killed scores of women in the most cold-blooded manner," and that, in his opinion, "the Japanese do not give sufficient protection to the women and children to render them independent of the native chieftains." So far, then, from massacring women and children, the Japanese "protect" them, according to this correspondent, but do not protect them sufficiently to secure them always against the savage Hakkas who "have already killed scores of them." Unhappily no kid-glove method of successfully warring against barbarians, or semi-barbarians, has ever been discovered, nor can it be honestly said that Great Britain herself has contributed much to the discovery. It is easy to compose sensationals paragraphs out of such materials as burning villages and devastated districts, but these calamities are the inevitable concomitants of an invasion under circumstances such as those now existing in Formosa. We may here take the opportunity of emphatically contradicting the extremely silly rumour that the Foreign Representatives in Tokyo have shown a disposition to protest against the methods pursued by the Japanese in Formosa. It would be incredible that men of the commonest discernment should believe such an extravagance were they not so blinded by prejudice as to have lost all power of calm judgment.

MR. COWEN ON THE WAR.

MR. COWEN, who took the field with the Japanese troops in the capacity of *Times* correspondent during the recent war, delivered a lecture in Hongkong on the 19th of July. The newspaper reports of what he said are meagre, but a few points seem to have been reproduced with sufficient clearness to be interesting. Concerning the battle of Pingyang, especially, Mr. COWEN makes a striking statement. "According to the Japanese records," he says, "which were most reliable, the fight lasted all day, and then the Japanese drew off, having failed to capture the place; but the Chinese fancied themselves defeated, and so went away under cover of darkness, leaving the Japanese to claim a victory which demoralised the whole nation of China. From the same authorities it appeared that the Japanese forces were divided for attack in such a way that they might have been annihilated in detail."

This has at any rate the merit of being a novel view. All other readers of the records have come to a very different conclusion. The story of Pingyang was the story of almost every fight throughout the war. With the exception of the desultory attempts made by SUNG and I to re-capture Haicheng and Fenghwang, the Chinese invariably entrenched themselves in a position of vantage and awaited the onset of the Japanese. The tactics of the defenders were uniform. They placed their whole reliance upon outworks, and after the capture of these they abandoned further resistance. That was precisely what happened at Pingyang. All the strong positions on the east and north-east of the town were taken by the Japanese, the Chinese being driven from them with heavy slaughter. At one point only did the assaulting columns meet with a reverse, namely, on the south, where Major-General OSHIMA, disregarding his instructions, converted a feigned attack into a real assault. After that day's fighting, Pingyang ceased to be tenable. It is true that the final assault would not have taken place until the following morning, owing to the fact that the column directed against the north-west, or undefended face, did not reach its final position as soon as was expected. But the place had practically fallen when night came. Mr. COWEN does not speak from personal observation. He was not present at the fight, nor did he ever visit the ground. He bases his opinion on records equally accessible to everybody, and he will find himself in a minority of one when he asserts that "the Japanese drew off, having failed to capture the place." Of course we do not for a moment endorse the extraordinary exaggerations published in London immediately after the fight: they were grotesque. But we are confident that every military man will agree as to the issue of the Japanese onset. Pingyang depended entirely on its line of outworks, and when these had fallen, the place ceased to be tenable. What is certain is that the Chinese fled from it *pêle-mêle*, leaving a large fraction of their number dead on the field, and that they never again rallied on the south of the Yalu. How such a result can be construed as Mr. COWEN construes it, we fail to perceive. Neither can be follow his assertion that "the Japanese forces were divided for attack in such a way that they might have been annihilated in detail." Mr. COWEN cannot possibly mean to condemn altogether a division of forces under such circumstances, since that would be condemning the strategy followed from time immemorial in the escalade of fortified positions. He can only mean that the movements of the assaulting columns were so badly synchronised as to offer an opportunity for their destruction in detail without any dangerous uncovering of Pingyang on the part of the Chinese. But that is precisely the mistake that the Japanese did not make. They contrived to time their advance so that the defenders had to treat it as one general movement, not as a series of disjointed efforts. We confess that we can-

not follow Mr. COWEN'S criticism in this matter, and that he seems to us to be labouring under a singular misapprehension. He is reported as saying, in the immediate context of the Pingyang affair, that "the Japanese certainly did not show any great amount of tactical ability in the war," and subsequently he committed himself to the very sweeping statement:—"I do not think the Japanese have any strategical ability at all. I do not think they will have any for a very long time to come." Tactics and strategy or two very different things. The principles of the former are, for the most part, mere matters of military instruction, but the principles of the latter, though not independent of such instruction, can not be successfully applied without special aptitude on the part of a commanding officer. What Mr. COWEN alleges is, first, that the Japanese, throughout the war, showed little ability to move their troops and place them in battle array; secondly, that they are totally lacking in the art of generalship. It is out of the question to discuss such large problems within the limits of a newspaper article, and, besides, the sweeping comprehensiveness of Mr. COWEN'S criticisms, unsupported by any explicit evidence whatever, defies reply. This, however, we venture to assert, that there is not in the whole of the Occident a tactician or strategist of experience and competence who would commit himself to such wholesale verdicts as those of Mr. COWEN. But the courage of the youthful newspaper correspondent has always contrasted magnificently with the caution of the grey-headed expert.

There is one more point in Mr. COWEN'S lecture to which attention may be drawn:—

> With reference to the vexed question of Port Arthur, there certainly was much to censure; but at the same time the needless wrangling that had arisen made the affair appear more serious than it really was. Practically, it amounted to hardly anything more than the killing of men who could have been captured alive. This was certainly reprehensible; but none the less, almost anybody on earth would have done the same after the provocation given. The difference was that, after it was done, the Japanese in cooler moments should have submitted to the censure and let the matter drop, whereas they disputed and kept the sore open instead of letting it heal.

This is Mr. COWEN'S mature verdict about the Port Arthur affair. "Practically it amounted to hardly anything more than the killing of men who could have been captured alive," and "almost anybody on earth would have done the same after the provocation given." Now Mr. COWEN must be well aware that against such a statement as that no voice would ever have been raised on the Japanese side. Why then, in connection with such a statement, does he accuse the Japanese of "keeping the sore open" by "needless wrangling?" There is no question of keeping the sore open or of healing it. There is question simply of sifting the true from the false. It is a new principle of morality that because part of a terrible indictment is true, its victim's wisest course is to tacitly plead guilty to the whole. The public are gradually coming to learn the facts about Port Arthur, as they would never have done had the field been abandoned from the first to sensational exaggerators.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

A LITERARY GEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—As a gem of literary description, I beg to call attention to the following extract from one of your local contemporaries:—

> On its obverse, is shewn an effigy of Britannia, with arms which do not match, and her lower limbs are of disproportionate design; her left hand rests on a shield decorated with the Union Jack; in her right, which is unnecessarily elevated, she holds the trident indicative of the sea power which Britannia wields, but in consequence of the staff of the trident being too much elongated, its prongs encroach on the key pattern border, which runs round the coin; but in order to obtain as much room as possible for the staff of the trident, for which the designer appeared ready to go to any length, Britannia is made to stand somewhat aside from the middle of the field; this is endeavoured to be rendered somewhat less obvious by the exaggerated blowing of her upper garment across what would otherwise be a blank space, to the latter a meaningless dot has been added, to which, with a view to the establishment of a balance, a similar one appears or the other side, which coming at some distance from the word "dollar," looks like a full-point which has had the misfortune to have lost its way, and is consequently not in the place it ought to occupy,—that is to say, after the word "dollar," which forms part of the inscription of "one dollar" denominating the value of the coin.

Yours &c., O.

August 10, 1895.

HUXLEY AND BELIEF.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—A similar article to that which appears in your issue of Saturday last on the late Prof. Huxley was published by you last summer shortly after the death of Prof. Romanes—not so comprehensive a writer, but a far greater scientist, I suppose, than Prof. Huxley. The writer of the article wrote in ignorance that the whole trend of Prof. Romanes' thought during the last years of his life was towards faith, and that he died in the communion of the Church. The publication of his autobiographical papers under the editorship of Canon Gore has placed the facts within the knowledge of all.

No change of a like magnitude took place in the opinions of Prof. Huxley, but I am, I believe, justified in saying, from information given me by one who has lately been in intercourse with him, that he had learned respect for that from which he differed, and in his latest years certainly would not have condescended to the ignoble sneer of your correspondent, that religion only "serves to soothe and support the feeble in intellect and infirm of will." Such modes of writing are obsolete in the West. May we not hope that they shortly will be so in this country?

I may add that the tendency of the greatest thinkers to revert to belief, as seen so strikingly in Mr. Mill's "Three Essays," is a remarkable but by no means inexplicable phenomenon. Their wider outlook enables them to apprehend, as smaller men cannot, the limitation of their own methods. "The leaders of a party," it has been said, "are often in despair at the utterances of their followers."

I am, Sir, yours obedient servant,

HISTORICUS.

August 12th, 1895.

THE FORMOSA "ATROCITIES!"

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Upon arriving in Yokohama, I was very much surprised to read in the *Japan Gazette* of the alarming condition of affairs in Formosa as portrayed by that journal. As the Japanese have so honestly endeavoured to be friendly with the Chinese and have treated them with more kindness and overlooked acts of antagonism with more patience than I think we would have done under the same circumstances, I feel, as I think do the foreigners in North Formosa, that the Japanese should rather be credited with a great deal of forbearance for the way in which they have handled opposing Chinese.

It is unfortunate that any journal should publish such a fearful indictment as that in the *Gazette* without first investigating the truth of the alleged information. A letter to either Consul, or to any of the tea merchants in North Formosa, would have elicited an answer that would have determined its entire falsity. The accusations are claimed to be based on the authority of an eye witness. There has been no foreign eye witness of any of the engagements in Formosa, since the fall of Kelung, except myself. Mr. Thomson, a gentleman connected with one of the tea firms in Taipeh-fu, made a trip to Takoham to purchase tea, but the city had then been taken several days. The supposition that, because Mr. Thomson had a bullet shot through his sun hat, which was identical in appearance with the hat worn by Chinese soldiers, "he was near enough to see what occurred," is very unreasonable. Orders were given at Taipei-fu, and guards at the mouth of the river enforced them, that no Chinese boats were to be allowed on the river, as the opposing Chinese had taken that method of travelling, and it was impossible to distinguish the good from the bad. And as this trip of Mr. Thomson's occurred soon after the massacre of the thirty-one soldiers who were guarding the rice boats, the guards along the river were on the constant look-out to avoid a surprise from the enemy. Mr. Thomson had given no information to the Japanese about his trip, and might have been shot at at any time along the river, as his appearance was such that it would lead the outposts to believe he was a Chinese soldier.

In the same paragraph that the *Gazette* states that its information did not come from Chinese sources, it quotes an extract from the origina lreport which contradicts its own statement. "Blood-curdling reports of atrocities, perpetrated by the Japanese, are circulating very freely in every direction, and it is even alleged that the troops have been guilty of revolting and brutal excesses of the most atrocious and savage description." I am well aware of such reports, as is also every foreigner who has been in Formosa for the last few months. Such reports did circulate, and will circulate so long as there are Chinese in Formosa. Until one has been intimately acquainted with the Chinese in that island no one can realize that it is possible for such gigantic lies to originate from incidents so minute. Upon my return from Hsin Chu, I was greatly amazed to find the report current that 1,500 of the Japanese force had been killed. But as we had only 1,000 men altogether, and only four were killed, it is difficult to comprehend how such falsehoods can be framed and then believed by the Chinese.

If the Chinese now opposing the Japanese were fighting for their country with anything of a patriotic spirit, one might have some sympathy with them, but the Hakkas, who are the "Roaming vagabonds of Formosa" and are making the trouble at present, are fighting only because it offers unexcelled facilities for driving the better classes of Chinese from the villages and looting their property. And now that they have started to oppose the Japanese they dare not cease. The Japanese owe it to the respectable Chinese as well as to themselves that these low-lived thieves and murderers are exterminated as long as they remain dangerous. Even Chinese have asked permission of the Japanese to oppose the Hakkas themselves.

As to Hakka bravery; there are no bigger cowards in China. Not a single stand has been made by them against the Japanese army, and the only courage shown is in two or three hundred killing a few Japanese coolies from an ambush. If they were brave and would fight well, it would be easier for the Japanese to take the island, but, as it is at present, the Chinese, regardless of their strength, will never make an attack unless they are pretty sure that their position is such that they can retreat with safety. They never hold their ground unless hidden in ambush, even though they outnumber their opponents ten to one, and before they are within rifle range they scamper over the hills like a flock of sheep. The Japanese troops pass by, and it is then that the bravery of the Hakkas comes to the surface, for they return, bold and defiant, ready and willing to attack any small party of coolies or soldiers that come their way.

The *Gazette* states that it was while the Japanese were retreating from Takoham that the atrocities were committed. This in itself should satisfy anyone that the whole story is a falsehood, because all the foreigners as well as the Chinese knew, five days after the capture of Takoham, that the Japanese had not been defeated, and there was therefore no retreat.

I have been living with the foreigners in North Formosa, at intervals, for five months, and am intimately acquainted with all of them, and am con

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fident that the report referred to in the *Gazette* never originated with any of them.

The policy of the Japanese has been from the first to deal leniently with the Chinese and pursuade them to settle down to their usual occupations; and it is unreasonable to think that they would encourage "sacrifices of life" before which "the atrocities of a Herod seem inoffensive," and thus delay the day when the country can be placed upon a paying basis.

The Chinese have often taken up their position in the houses and on the roofs while opposing the advance of the Japanese, and in many cases the Japanese have answered the fire and shelled the towns. Women and children might have been killed in such operations, although usually the women and children are packed off to the hills long before the Japanese arrive. At all events, I have not seen, nor have I heard from any of the foreigners, that any women and children had been killed, and I feel sure that if any so-called atrocities had occurred I would be aware of it.

Between Taipeh-fu and Takoham are a few small villages. When the fighting commenced in their vicinity the better classes of Chinese removed to Taipeh-fu and sought protection of the Japanese. The rebels, or rather brigands, occupied the houses and kept up a constant fire day after day on any small parties of Japanese who came within range. It was impossible to find the guilty ones when any force of Japanese advanced, and for days the Japanese were subject to these cowardly attacks, and as affairs grew worse and worse, it was soon evident that, if the Japanese meant to occupy the district or protect the peaceful Chinese without placing a regiment in every village, a more determined stand must be taken. As long as these villages existed they offered splendid shelter, and on account of the hills near by it was an easy matter for the enemy to retreat and hide themselves in the jungle. The climax came with the extermination of the thirty-one Japanese guarding the rice boats. The order was then given to destroy the huts in the villages that had been harbouring the opposing Chinese and several of them were burnt to the ground, the enemy retreating to the hills. It is now easy to keep up communication with head quarters, as no attack can be made without encountering great danger, and a Hakka avoids that every time. The peaceful Chinese are now able to return, and the second crop of rice is being planted.

Yours truly, JAS. W. DAVIDSON.

Yokohama, August 13th, 1895.

JAPANESE TOPICS IN AUSTRALIA.

By John Plummer, M.J.S.

Sydney, July 9, 1895.

At the present moment New South Wales is in the throes of a great political struggle, the attempt of the premier, Mr. G. H. Reid, to substitute a system of direct taxation in place of the protectionist tariff introduced by the ex-Premier, Sir George R. Dibbs, having resulted in the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly, and a General Election, the results of which will become known within the next few days. One of the questions raised during the crises is that of the extent to which Australia is bound by the treaty concluded between Great Britain and Japan. In South Australia a sub-committee of the Adelaide Chamber of Commerce have prepared a report on the subject, which is sufficiently important to reproduce in full. After describing the provisions of the treaty and the protocol clause, the report says:—"This treaty must be viewed in the light of the economic and social conditions of the contracting parties. Japan is a country with a large population, industrious, enterprising, and intelligent, simple in habits, and very frugal. The cost of living is very small. During the developmental period of its history an enormous trade must be done in British manufactures under this treaty, but when the cost of living and labour conditions of the manufacturing portion of the British Empire are considered, it seems inevitable that within a few years most the manufactures of the old world will be produced in Japan, at such cost and in such quantities that not only will the Eastern market be lost to England and America, but it is a question whether in England and other freetrade manufacturing countries, the Japanese goods will not be supplied at such prices as will destroy the home industries. The bearing of the treaty on producing colonies, such as Australia, is very different. The certain growth of manufactures in Japan, with its consequent civilisation, will create such a good demand for food supplies and raw material as will ensure a good market to all producing countries protected by the treaty, and Australia being so near, and with products so varied in character, should be the first to benefit. It must not, however, be overlooked that beyond the increased demand for home consumption in Japan by her associated people, it may mean little more than a transference of trade in products from Europe to the East. If Japan is going to manufacture at a cheaper rate than the Western world, the goods must be purchased by Australia in preference, and a reciprocal trade will become a necessity of our existence. It will be wise, therefore, for us to place ourselves on the footing of the most favoured nation if we are to secure the benefit to the utmost. The clause most nearly affecting the practicability of our joining the treaty is that of equal citizenship, as it concerns the labouring classes. The answer to the objection urged by some is that Japan is already an accomplished fact, and that no possible restriction we could impose will prevent her progress. The characteristics of her people will force them to the front in spite of us, and we must either rise with her or, as the inevitable consequences of the labour doctrines, taught and believed by the masses to-day, be overwhelmed, and perhaps this may come about sooner than some of us anticipate."

Copies of the report have been forwarded to the Chamber of Commerce and similar bodies in the other colonies, with a view to united action in the matter. The real difficulty, so far as Australia is concerned, will be in connection with Japanese labour. There exists some apprehension that the unrestricted introduction of cheap labour from Japan would lead to social and industrial troubles of the gravest character. The American correspondents of Australian papers state that California is being flooded with cheap Japanese labour, every steamer from the Orient, Honolulu, and Victoria bringing them in large numbers in violation of the Alien Contract Labour law; and that within the last year about 10,000 Japanese have found employment on farms and vineyards, and white farm hands are idle by thousands.

This will explain the alarm created among the Australian labouring population, and the adoption by the "General Council for the Federation of Labour," sitting at Sydney, of the following resolution:—"That this general council of the Australasian Federation of Labour enters its strong protest against the introduction into Australia of alien coloured labour, calls upon all Australian Governments to legislate against the introduction of Japanese or other Asiatic races, is opposed to the acceptance by the Australian colonies of that portion of the treaty between Great Britain and Japan which gives the latter race the right to reside in Australia, and urges all workers in each colony to make this a test question at every Parliamentary election."

This resolution has given rise to considerable comment. The *Riverina Recorder*, one of the leading papers in the New South Wales pastoral districts, says:—"Great Britain has made the move because she has recognised first among the Western Powers that the claims of the Japanese to have done with the old restrictive treaties, which have served their term, and to be placed in a position of equality and reciprocity, could not advantageously be disregarded. If this was the case before the war, when the main consideration was only the rapidly increasing importance of Japan as a manufacturing and commercial country, it is doubly the case now that she has shown the intention and the ability to make herself by force of arms the dominant nation in the Western Pacific. One of the most important points conceded to Japan in the treaty is what is called "extra-territoriality."

This means that the subjects of each nation, within the dominions of the other, are to be amenable to "and protected by" the laws of the country in which they dwell. The old standing immunities of British subjects in Japan—their exemption by treaty from the jurisdiction of native courts—is done away with, and the Consular Courts abolished. In return for this the trade of the country will be thrown open to them, and although Japan retains the right to exact certain tariff duties she is bound to favour Great Britain where comptiction may arise with other powers. Other nations will doubtless follow Britain's example, and the question arises, is Australia to stand aloof? Japan, with its 40,000,000 inhabitants, is a large consumer of the very commodities Australia can best export. Raw sugar, lead, leather, preserved milk, etc., are articles of import in which these colonies should have a share, and, more important still to Balranald and the pastoralists of the surrounding district, the Japanese are daily becoming large meat eaters. The only difficult obstacle that crops up is that clause of the treaty which secures to the subjects of each of the contracting parties full right of entrance and residence within the territory of the other. The Labour Council of course is at once up in arms against the introduction of Japanese into Australia and in the resolution carried last Wednesday, urges all workers to make it a test question at every Parliamentary election. But is the dread of a moderate influx from the progressive nation which has made its way in the world so quickly to outweigh all the advantages which commercial intercourse may bring us? Is Australia to keep the barriers standing when all other nations have swept them away? The Labour party, of course say "yes," but the question is a critical one, and a reply given in the affirmative to-day may very probably be repented of in the near future. The *Newcastle Morning Herald*, touching on the same subject, in the course of a somewhat lengthy article, says that it "is undoubtedly one of such serious importance that legislation on the subject of the admission of aliens should not be framed by one colony only. It ought to be dealt with by a federated Australia, and should be the first subject with which the central Government of this continent should deal." After a few more remarks to the same effect, the *Herald* says, alluding to the Bill introduced into the late New South Wales parliament to extend the Chinese Restriction Act, so as to include Japanese, Javanese, and Kanakas, that:—While no one wishes to see this country made the dumping ground for the vagrant elements of the population of the Orient and Polynesia, it should be clear to the most unthinking that a subject like this should not be rashly entered upon. Japan is a country which has entered into reciprocal relations with Britain regarding commerce and other cognate subjects, among them the right of people of both nationalities to trade in each other's territory. Holland is a land with which Britain is on the best of terms, both in Europe and in the territories under the government of the Dutch East Indies. As for Polynesians, France, which rules over New Caledonia and Tahiti, and has other spheres of influence in Polynesia, would be effected by the use of a word of such vagueness as "Kanakas" in a statute passed by New South Wales. In any legislation on the subject of the immigration of coloured races, care should be taken that the meaning of the Legislature should be well defined. Any desire to prevent all attempts at the introduction of what is known as servile labour should not have the result of bringing about a breach of the amicable relations existing between this country and other nations, and embroiling it in serious dispute with them. There might, however, be a system of reciprocity in this matter, so that China, or Japan, or the Dutch East Indies, should have the right to expect the admission into Australia of a number of their people equal to the number of British or Australians that obtained admission into their territories within a given period. The number could easily be obtained every two or three years. The result would, doubtless, not be very alarming for this country, and the adoption of such a system would avert the stigma of illiberality and hostility to other countries that is sometimes endeavoured to be placed on us.

The relations between Russia and China continue to create much uneasiness in the various colonies, by reason of the many probabilities to which they naturally give rise. The *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, alluding to Russia guaranteeing the Chinese indemnity loan, says:—"The news should not be treated lightly. It would imply that Russian threats have again overpowered British diplomacy, and that China is about to place herself unreservedly in Russian hands. For China to assign to Russia a first charge upon Customs revenues amounting to some three and a half millions annually in return for a loan for so small an amount, is to give away the power to issue any further loans upon the same security completely. It is not only that the assigned revenues amount to considerably more than 20 per cent. annually upon the amount of the loan, but if Russia obtains a priority over the entire tangible revenue in this way it will preclude any further loan being raised upon the security without Russian consent; and Russia would know how to take advantage of such a position when it suited her. That the Chinese Government would willingly have surrendered themselves is hardly to be thought of; but it is quite possible that the draught may have been sweetened by the intimation that if China yielded on this point she could escape from any further obligation to Japan, for that country could not venture to approach ports the first fruits from which were the property of Russian agents. There can be no question that Russia is resolutely bent upon strengthening her position upon the shores of the North-Western Pacific, and to control the treaty ports of China would be a great point gained. Upon any slip being made, she could, at any time, proceed to enforce her "rights."

The *South Australian Register*, under the heading, "Diplomatic Japan," has a long article,

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intended to show that the Japanese concessions to the Powers who objected to the terms of the Treaty of Shimonoseki, must not be accepted as an indication of Japanese weakness, but rather of astuteness. It says:—There is good reason to think that their (the Japanese) compliance was a "curtain scene" in every way worthy of their astute action throughout. It will probably be found that their policy was influenced by the following weighty consideration—Russia, France, and Germany, and especially the first-named Power, have virtually made themselves parties to the treaty of Shimonoseki. China, an accomplished shuffler, will be "assisted" to pay the indemnity with punctuality, in itself a matter of some moment to Japan; and, whatever course the Celestial Empire may in her extremity take to relieve herself of her present liabilities, she is not likely to regard with too friendly an eye the Power urging her from behind to pay up, and striving to exact terms for any assistance rendered her. Meanwhile, Japan, with her present grip upon China, will use all the well-known pretexts for remaining in "temporary possession," and will meanwhile devote her most assiduous attention, with the help of the indemnity, to the perfecting of her navy. It is doubtful whether three years will see the completion of the Siberian Railway, and in any case by the time it has been constructed Japan will be in a position to regard it with comparative complacency. Possessing a dominant voice in Chinese Councils, backed possibly by the much-dreaded "subordinate alliance;" holding the great fortresses on the Yellow Sea, which she will have made impregnable; and, above all, owning a navy as relatively superior to the Russian then as it is now, she will have virtual command of the China Sea. Her fleet acting from either coast of the Korea will make that peninsula untenable by Russia, whose line of supplies would be at the mercy of a Japanese expeditionary force able to strike at any point. To dam back Russian advance will be as much an object with China as with her late conqueror, and the forces of the two Eastern Powers, rendered effective by Japanese training, will be able to offer an irresistible opposition to Muscovite aggression. The Jap, it may safely be concluded, has "backed down" because he has got all that he wants for the present, and because he can make sure, not only of keeping it but of adding in future to what he has already secured.

THE FATAL AFFAIR IN YOKOHAMA.

INQUEST—VERDICT, "TEMPORARY INSANITY."

An inquest was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Royal Naval Hospital, by John Cary Hall, Esq., H.B.M. Consul, acting as Coroner, into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Bennet Emra Brackenbury, age 23, a clerk in the service of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at Yokohama. The jury empanelled were Messrs. D. McLaren, E. T. Nicholas, and W. Tucker. Having viewed the body, the following evidence was taken:—

Inouye Yoshiroku, cautioned, deposed—I am the table-boy of the Mess at No. 156, Bluff, of which deceased was a member. About 5 minutes to 4 o'clock on the 9th inst., whilst I was in the kitchen, Mr. Brackenbury returned, and called for a glass of whiksy, which he drank. He then went to his own room. A short time after, I heard a sound, as of the report of a pistol, whereupon I ran out, ran round and looked into the room, and found that he had shot himself. There was no one else present in the room at the time. I had no conversation with the deceased whatsoever

Herbert Pinckney, sworn, deposed—I met the house-boy just outside the Club, about half-past 4 o'clock in the afternoon, just as I was leaving. The boy said that Mr. Brackenbury had shot himself. I immediately went up to the Mess and found that this was so. Mr. Brackenbury was tiffining at the Mess that day, and appeared as usual.

To a Juror—Mr. Brackenbury had his eyes open when I entered the room and looked up at me.

C. D. Moss, Chief Clerk of H.B.M. Court for Japan, was next sworn. He deposed—I heard, while walking along the main Bluff road, that Mr. Brackenbury had shot himself. The information was given me by the mess-boy. On arriving at No. 156, Bluff, I saw the deceased lying on his left side, with a pillow under his head, and a pool of blood near to. I said to him, "Brackenbury, how is this?" He simply smiled. I don't think he was conscious. I left him alone, consulted with Mr. Pinckney, and remained until the Doctor arrived, whom I knew had been sent for. Dr. Wheeler arrived within five minutes of my own arrival. The house-boy told me that Brackenbury had shot himself. I asked him to produce the pistol, and upon his doing so I took possession of the weapon, and also of a packet of cartridges. The pistol has five chambers, and is of revolver pattern. One chamber only has been loaded and discharged. I also produce 49 out of a package of 50 Eley's revolver cartridges. They have been in my possession ever since the day of the occurrence. The cleaning instruments accompanying the weapon have never been used, showing that it is a new one. The pistol has a spot of blood upon it. The cartridges were wrapped in a Japanese newspaper.

Dr. Wheeler, next sworn, deposed—On Friday afternoon, a Japanese boy stopped me in Water-street, about half-past four o'clock, and told me that Brackenbury had shot himself. I drove up to the Bluff at once. I found the deceased lying on the floor of a bedroom, his head supported on a pillow. He was not conscious, though his eyes were open. I spoke to the last witness and asked for the pistol. He directed me to the dressing-table, where the pistol was lying on a piece of Japanese newspaper. We examined the weapon together and found that it was one of 38 calibre. We also found one cartridge, out of a package of 50, missing. I then asked Mr. Pinckney to go for Dr. Todd, as I desired to place deceased upon a table to ascertain in which the direction the bullet had gone. I found on examination that the bullet had entered the right temple, a little over half an inch behind and above the external angular process of the frontal bone. On Dr. Todd's arrival, I had deceased removed to the dining-room table. With the probe I found that the bullet had penetrated the brain in a direction backwards and inwards and slightly upwards. I could not detect any bullet, although I passed the probe fully three inches. I did not feel myself justified in going any further. About 6 o'clock I asked Mr. Brackenbury a question or two. He answered me in a dazed sort of way, and only in monosyllables. There was no paralysis present. An hour and a half afterwards, when I was at dinner, Brackenbury got up, pushed the Japanese boy aside, and walked to the dining-room door. I took him by the arm, and I told him he was not well enough to come into the dining-room, and that he had better go back to bed, which he did very quietly. That evening, about 9 o'clock, I arranged with Dr. Todd, that deceased should enter the Naval Hospital the following morning, as he could not be properly attended to and cared for at "The Niche."

Dr. Howard Todd, Staff-surgeon R.N., sworn, deposed—On Friday evening, at 5 o'clock, Mr. Pinckney arrived at the Hospital and asked me to go to "The Niche," to see Mr. Brackenbury who had shot himself. Mr. Pinckney had come at Dr. Wheeler's request. On arriving at "The Niche," I found that Mr. Brackenbury was suffering from a bullet wound in the right temple. Dr. Wheeler and myself probed the wound and found that at three inches we could not find the bullet. At half-past nine o'clock on Saturday morning, Mr. Brackenbury was admitted to the Hospital, and after consultation with Dr. Wheeler and Dr. O'Regan, I trephined the skull above the bullet wound, and extracted four fragments of skull that were embedded in the brain. Mr. Brackenbury rallied very well from the operation. It was only done to relieve the brain of the irritation caused by the pressure of the bone substance, as the extraction of the bullet was almost hopeless considering how close the pistol must have been applied to the skull. Mr. Brackenbury became very much worse yesterday, and died at half past four o'clock this morning. A post mortem examination was held at half-past eleven o'clock this morning in the presence, and with the assistance of, Dr. Wheeler and Dr. O'Regan. The bullet had passed completely though the brain from before to behind, and was found in the lower lobe of the cerebrum. The bullet wound was the undoubted cause of death. A phial of laudanum was found in one of the pockets of the deceased's clothes. It contained about 2 drachms. The label bears the name "J. Schedel, Yokohama."

This concluded the evidence.

The Coroner said—I do not propose to call any further evidence, but if any friends or acquaintances of the deceased desire to come forward to make any statement which might throw light upon the motives or antecedents which would further clear up this unfortunate affair, I shall be, as no doubt the jury also feels, only too glad to hear him or them. To my own mind, the evidence is quite sufficient to enable the jury to arrive at a finding and give their verdict. The particulars of the case are perfectly clear; it is a simple case, perhaps the simplest ever put before a Coroner's jury. If there had been any doubts or complications in the matter, it would be my duty to point out to you where any such conflict might arise, and to instruct you accordingly. But I think you have a clear case before you, and you may now retire to consider, when, how, and by what means the deceased came by his death.

The Jury then retired to consider their verdict, and on their return,

Mr. McLaren, the foreman, said—We have agreed upon our verdict. It is, that Bennet Emra Brackenbury died on the 13th August, 1895, at 4.30 a.m., from a bullet wound inflicted by himself at about 4 p.m. on the 9th of August, while in a state of temporary insanity.

Before dismissing the Jury, the Coroner said that as a simple duty he wished to place on record the admirable conduct of the Japanese police on the day of the lamentable occurrence. Within half and hour of the affair everybody who could be considered as in any way necessary, had been notified and warned. He, the Coroner, had received information and arrived upon the scene within half an hour of its being discovered. The police acted in a quiet, efficient manner worthy of all praise, and as soon as they found that the premises were in charge of the proper authorities they as quietly effaced themselves. There was a complete absence of officiousness, and their arrangements could not possibly have been better. They were suddenly called upon to face an emergency created by the late Mr. Brackenbury's unfortunate attack upon himself, and they discharged their duties most satisfactorily. The Jury were thanked for their services and dismissed.

THE FUNERAL.

The mortal remains of the late Mr. B. E. Brackenbury were interred in the Yokohama Cemetery at 7 a.m. on Wednesday. A large concourse of friends, including representatives of nearly every business house in Yokohama, the staffs of the various Banks, and the Master and many members of the Yokohama Lodge of Freemasons—of which deceased was a member—were present. The heads of the H. & S. Bank, Messrs. D. Jackson, R. Holme Cook, and Thos. S. Baker were the chief mourners, the staff acting as pall-bearers. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, and at its close, the reverend gentleman referred in feeling terms to the great regret felt by the friends of the deceased at his most untimely death. Many beautiful wreaths were laid upon the coffin, among the senders being Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Baker; M. and Madame Pereira; Mr., Mrs., and the Misses Rickett; Mrs. Wheeler; Miss Wheeler; The Mess at No. 75, Bluff, Messrs. F. J. Hall, F. H. Hooper, B. H. Pearson, and E. O. Kenyon; Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Healing; Mr. J. Favre-Brandt; the Mess at No. 243, Bluff; "The Niche" Mess; Mr. F. E. White, and Mr. M. Wan San, Compradore of the Bank.

THE KUCHENG MASSACRE.

The first published news of the massacre o missionaries at Kucheng, near Foochow, appears in the following telegrams in the *N.-C. Daily News* of August 5th:—

Foochow, 3rd August, 11.20 a.m.

News is to hand of an attack on the Kucheng missionaries at their sanatarium at Whasang, not far from Kucheng. Five foreign ladies have been killed and two foreign ladies and two children wounded, while others are missing. The outbreak is the action of the Vegetarian Society.

August 4th, 5.20 p.m.

Archdeacon Wolfe and the Rev. W. Banister went in a steam-launch to Sueykow last night to meet the Rev. H. S. Phillips who came in charge of the wounded, namely Miss Codrington, who has a bad head wound, and the Rev. R. W. Stewart's four children, the eldest with knee-cap badly injured, and the youngest with eye gouged out; all arrived and are in the hospital here.

The attack took place early on the 1st instant. The houses were set on fire, and the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart and one child were burnt to death. The corpses of the killed and the charred remains are now on the way down. The Rev. Mr. Phillips escaped through living in a native house a short distance away. Spears and swords were used in the massacre. The following, is the list of those killed:—The Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart and one child, Miss Yellop, Miss Gordon, Miss Marshall, Two Misses Saunders, Miss Gordon (?), Miss Hettie Newcombe.

Foochow, August 3rd, 7 p.m.

Trouble, riot, and rebellion at Kutien about ninety miles interior, west Foochow. Miss Hartford, American, badly wounded. Dr. Gregory another American, believed escaped injury. Five English Missionary ladies killed, others wounded, United States Marshal with steam launch gone to relief wounded parties at Sueykow. Particulars by later telegram.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

4th August, 3.10 p.m.

Marshal returned bringing all survivors massacre. Miss Hartford not wounded; every American missionary safe now in Foochow. Ten English killed instead of five as first reported; three very badly wounded.

On Tuesday, August 6th the following telegram was printed in the *N.-C. Daily News*, having been handed to that journal for publication :—

VERBATIM STATEMENT OF DR. GREGORY, AMERICAN MISSIONARY.

"At 12.30 p.m. on the 1st of August a native Christian rushed into my study saying that some of the foreign ladies at Whasang, a mountain resort near Kucheng city, had been killed that morning and our houses burned. Fifteen minutes later a note from Mr. Phillips confirmed the report, for he said that five ladies were dead, four seriously wounded, and the Stewarts missing. I at once went into the yamên where hundreds of people had already gathered. The District Magistrate (Wang) said he would immediately go right up to Whasang, taking some sixty soldiers with him. At 3 p.m., I left Kucheng city under escort of thirteen soldiers and arrived at Whasang at 8 p.m. to find that nine adults, English subjects, had been murdered and that all those alive at Whasang (nine) had been more or less severely injured, with the exception of Mr. Phillips, who had arrived at Whasang only two or three days before and was lodging at a native house some distance from the English cottages. I at once set to work to make the injured as comfortable as possible, and found Miss Codrington (English) had received one sword cut extending from the left angle of the mouth diagonally upward and downward seven inches in extent, completely dividing the lower lip and exposing the jaw-bone. One cut in the crown of three inches exposed the inner table of the skull; there was a cut across nose; under the eye a cut three inches long; on the right side of the neck two wounds, also wounds on the arms, and a deep wound on the right thigh, serious. Miss Hartford (American) received slight injury in chest, having been beaten by an assailant, while down. While the servant struggled with him she escaped to the hills and remained hidden until the affair was over. Her worst injury was shock. Mildred Stewart, aged twelve, was wounded; her right knee joint was exposed six inches; she had two wounds on the left leg, serious. Kathleen Stewart, eleven, slight bruises. Herbert Stewart, six, deep wound right side of the neck, four inches; compound comminuted fracture of the skull; on back of head wound through the skull, through which the brain was exposed; wounded left side of head; wound chest, stab back. He died thirty hours after, *en route*. Ewan Stewart, three, stab left thigh, bruised but not seriously. Baby, Stewart, thirteen months, stabbed in the right eye, wounded in the face and on the head; fractured skull several bruises, serious.

Of those killed, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, Miss Nelly Saunders, and Lena, the Irish nurse, were killed and burned with the house. Miss Hettie Newcombe was speared and killed by being thrown from a precipice. Miss Marshall's throat was cut, her head being nearly severed. Miss Stewart's body showed no wounds; death from shock probable. Miss Gordon had deep spear wounds on the face and neck and side of the head. Miss Topsy Saunders' death was caused by a spear wound entering the brain, right orbit.

The missionaries were apparently massacred by members of a Secret Society known as the "Vegetarians." The party is estimated to have consisted of eighty men armed with spears and swords, strongly organised and under one leader. There was no suspicion of an attack, which was sudden and terrible. The whole affair was over in thirty minutes. Miss Codrington says they begged for life and promised property and valuables. Some assailants were inclined to yield, but the leader, who carried a red flag, waved this and shouted to his men: "You know your orders, kill outright!" In the evening we placed the bodies in coffins and after much effort succeeded in getting the magistrate to order the coffins to be carried to Suikow and secure chairs for the survivors. We left Whasang at 3 p.m. on the 2nd of August for Suikow; travelled all night, arriving at 8.20 at Suikow. The party left for Foochow at 3 p.m. on the 3rd, and met a launch with the U.S. Marshal Hixson and Messrs. Wolfe and Banister, English missionaries, on board with supplies. We arrived at Foochow at 12.30 on the 4th."

Further telegrams were to hand on the 7th, 8th, and 9th August. They ran as follows :—

Foochow, 6th August, 10.30 p.m.

Affecting funeral of massacred this morning. This evening meeting at Club, all residents present. The Rev. Phillips, who saw nearly all, gave his harrowing account. Dr. Gregory, who arrived at Whasang after massacre, related all he saw. Resolution proposed by Mr. Westall carried, expressive of feeling of horror and indignation at the barbarous outrage and sympathy with friends of victims. Resolution proposed by Dr. Smyth carried, that moral force was no longer of use, and deprecating money compensation. Resolutions to be telegraphed to respective governments, 1,000 troops have been sent to Kucheng. A gunboat is due here to-morrow.

Foochow, 6th August, 7.45 p.m.

Secured forty-eight names of members of Vegetarian Society at Kutien. Nineteen are names of leaders, and two are believed to be names of actual murderers.

The above is from reliable sources. The Chinese officials are sending vague, indefinite reports about action taken at Kutien. The Viceroy has just stated that he had no information that any arrests have been made. The officials were not represented at the funeral of the victims this morning.

Foochow, 6th August, 10.10 p.m.

A mass meeting here has unanimously resolved that the American and English Governments must use severe measures, and never accept dollars for lives. The resolution was introduced by missionaries.

Hongkong, 7th August, 4.30 p.m.

A meeting to protest against the massacre at Kucheng will be held here to-morrow.

H.M.S. *Linnet* left for Foochow yesterday, but no troops.

Foochow, August 7th, 9.30 a.m.

Resolution passed here last night at indignation meeting that no confidence would be felt at this port until England had brought murderers and responsible officials to justice, and that Missionary Societies concerned decline in this case to be satisfied with a money indemnity; severely condemning the milk-and-water policy of the Foreign Powers in China where life and property are at present unsafe.

A later telegram has the sad news that one of the wounded Stewart children is very low and is not expected to live.

Hongkong, August 8th.

The public meeting held in the theatre at the City Hall this afternoon was crowded. Great indignation was expressed at the criminal connivance of the Chinese Government and the apathy of the British Government, which should demand strong, stern measures. The speakers were the Chief Justice Sir Fielding Clarke, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., Mr. G. B. Dodwell, Mr. Tom Jackson, and others.

There has been a riot at Fatshan, and the mission there was attacked. It is now alleged that the telegraph line is broken.

The French mission at Huyen in Kuangtung was attacked by a mob, and defended with fire-arms. Several of the rioters were killed, and the rest having received a ransom from the priests retired. No foreigners were killed.

Foochow, August 8th.

H.M.S. *Linnet* arrived yesterday, and the *Redpole* is due to-morrow.

News has come from Minching, thirty miles away, that the Vegetarians have robbed a Chinese Customs officer of five thousand dollars, in transit from Suikow. The officer and guard of eighteen men were killed. This news, telegraphed down to the authorities, is thought to be bogus.

The force of Vegetarians is said to be twelve thousand, a proportion of them being very well armed. Four hundred heads of the society meet daily in a village three miles from Kucheng. It is thought that the Viceroy is powerless to make arrests without extraneous help, though the military force in Foochow *on paper* is ten thousand.

Foochow, August 8th, 8.25 p.m.

It is reported that eight arrests have been made at Kucheng.

Foochow, 7th August 9.10 p.m.

Mr. Mansfield does not know yet of whom his military escort is to consist, but is awaiting news from Kucheng. The first thing the Viceroy's troops did there was to loot the late Mr. Stewart's house. I hear to-night that the Vegetarians are much stronger than was supposed. It may suit them to hand over some hirelings for massacre, otherwise the Viceroy will have to send up a stronger force.

H.M.S. *Redpole* has arrived here.

The following telegram from the Rev. G. B. Smyth has also been published :—

Foochow, 7th August, 9 p.m.

Hykes, Shanghai.

A special messenger from Kutien says that the Chinese soldiers sent to Kutien City to protect Mission property plundered all valuables in Stewart's house. The British and American Consuls should go to Kutien for a thorough investigation as here it is impossible. Delay longer and there is danger of riots elsewhere. Are the Foreign Ministers dead? Publish this. SMYTH.

News has just been received by wire from Foochow that a Chinese official conveying Government funds was last night killed, together with his guards, by the Vegetarians, one hundred *li* from Foochow at Mingching.

The Shanghai morning journal was informed that Colonel Denby has telegraphed that a U.S. gunboat has been asked for to proceed to Foochow. Also that the burying within the Foochow settlement of the bodies of natives who have died from cholera had just been forbidden by the Tsung-li Yamên.

Mr. R. M. Campbell took the chair at the Shanghai meeting of protest, held on August 5th. The gathering was one of the largest, most representative, and enthusiastic ever held in Shanghai. The following resolution was carried :—

That this meeting is resolved to appeal directly to our respective governments for protection from outrage by Chinese; and against the apparently inadequate manner in which the persons guilty of former outrages have been, and are being, dealt with.

With the heading, "The Situation," the leading Shanghai journal prints the following, under date 7th August :—

In reply to their telegram to Sir Nicholas O'Conor, the China Association received yesterday from Mr. George Jamieson, British Acting Consul-General, the following despatch :—

"I have received a telegram from Her Majesty's Minister in Pekin requesting me to convey through the China Association his profound sympathy with the relatives and friends of the British subjects foully murdered at Kutien.

"I am also directed to inform the Association that Her Majesty's Consul at Foochow has been instructed to proceed at once under military escort to the scene of outrage to hold an enquiry with a view to the prompt punishment of the culprits concerned, high or low, and such satisfaction as is now possible, and that an Imperial proclamation decreeing capital punishment on all the guilty will be issued forthwith.

"I am to add that the Chêngtu Commission inquiry will be held as soon possible. The general scope of this inquiry will be gathered from the following extract from the instructions addressed by H.M.'s Minister to Acting Consul Tratman, who will represent British and American interests at the inquiry.

"After directing Mr. Tratman to proceed to Chêngtu as soon as circumstances will permit, H.M.'s Minister continues, 'your duty there will be in conjunction with the Chinese officials mentioned and the Missionaries who will probably also be placed on the Commission to inquire in the first place into the origin of the riots and the adequacy or otherwise of the measures taken to prevent or suppress them by the officials concerned. . . . The findings of the Commission will not have a final character, its object being mainly to throw light on the causes of the outbreak and supply material for consideration here."

That the China Association or the Shanghai public can be content with such a reply as this is incredible. There are fatal blots in it. There is nothing to be said against the choice of Mr. Mansfield, H.M.'s Consul at Foochow, to go up to Whasang to make a proper enquiry there. Mr. Mansfield is an able Consul, and is not likely to be humbugged; but what is the character of his military escort? Is he to be accompanied by a rabble of coolies in uniforms, or has—as should have been done—a company of the Hongkong Regiment been sent up to Foochow? It is suspicious that the words "under British military escort" are not used; but we still hope that the escort is not to be Chinese. It is well that the guilty, high or low, are to be decapitated forthwith; Mr. Mansfield will no doubt secure that some innocent Vegetarians who never lifted a hand against the foreigners are not put forward as the guilty persons. It is significant that Chinese here laugh at the idea of Vegetarians having committed this outrage. It was no doubt, they say, the work of paid rowdies told to call themselves Vegetarians.

As to the Chêngtu Commission, our statement that Mr. Tratman is to be sole lay representative of British and American interests is confirmed. But Sir Nicholas is very careful not to say who his Chinese colleagues are to be; we know, however,

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that two of them are among the officials whose conduct should be enquired into. The Commission is confessedly a farce; for its findings are not to be final, but are only to supply material for consideration at Pekin, and we may trust Pekin to make that consideration last out until all the guilty parties have made themselves safe from pursuit.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the public meeting on Monday, the China Association despatched yesterday evening direct to Lord Salisbury the following telegram :—

"Public meeting Shanghai yesterday expressed horror indignation massacre by Chinese of English men women children Kutien Resolved appeal direct respective governments for protection from Chinese outrages and protested against inadequate manner persons guilty former outrages have been and are being dealt with also strongly against constitution Chêngtu Commission Americans telegraph Washington. Campbell, Chairman."

The Rev. J. R. Hykes, the Committee appointed at Monday's meeting for American citizens here, also sent the following telegram to Mr. Olney, United States Secretary of State, after it had been submitted to and approved by all the American citizens who could be collected together after yesterday's missionary meeting :—

"Public meeting Shanghai yesterday expressed horror indignation Kucheng massacre resolved appeal direct respective governments for protection from Chinese outrages and protested against inadequate manner persons guilty former outrages have been and are being dealt with also strongly protested against constitution Chêngtu Commission British cabled London."

Thus Shanghai has done what it can for the present. Meanwhile, we read with great satisfaction the news telegraphed by Reuter that the massacre at Kucheng has aroused the deepest horror and anger throughout England. There were reports here yesterday that an American mission station on the Yuenfu river, near Foochow, had been destroyed, and that Fukien was on the brink of a rebellion, but, it must be remembered that it is common thing for officials in whose district a riot occurs to try to shift the responsibility by declaring that the country is in a state of rebellion. We want justice, only justice, because ustice now means security for the future.

The *China Gazette* publishes the following :—

Foochow, August 5th, 1895.

Rev. H. S. Phillips, English Church Mission, has made the following statement :—

About 6.30 a.m. August 1st hearing shouting from the direction of the Stewart house (I was sleeping in a house five minutes' walk off, though spending most of the day with the Stewarts) I went out, and at first thought it was a number of children playing. But soon I was convinced that the voices were those of excited men, and started off for the house. I was soon met by a native who almost pulled me back, shouting the "Vegetarians" had come. I said I must go on, and soon got in sight of the house and could see numbers of men, say forty or fifty, carrying off loads of plunder. One man seemed to be a leader carrying a small red flag. I could see nothing of our Europeans; as this was in full view of the rioters, I crept up a hill in the brushwood and got behind two trees from twenty to thirty yards from the house. Here I could see everything, and appeared not to be seen at all. As I could still see no foreigners I concluded they had escaped off, and as to go down was certain death I thought better to wait where I was. After a minute or two the retreat horn sounded, and the Vegetarians began to leave, but before they did so they set fire to the houses; ten minutes after this every Vegetarian had gone. I came down looked about the front of the house, but could see nothing of any one, though I feared something dreadful had happened, as I heard the Vegetarians as they left say repeatedly "Now all the foreigners are killed." I just then met one of the servants, who told me the children were in the house in which Miss Hartford of the American Mission was staying. I found Mr. Stewart's eldest daughter Mildred here, with a serious wound on one knee, and another severe cut. When I had washed these and put what old calico we had to staunch the bleeding, I turned to Herbert, Mr. Stewart's son, who was fearfully hacked almost everywhere. Then Miss Codrington sent me a message that she too was in the house.

I found her in a fearful condition, but, with cold water and rags we managed to staunch the bleeding. She begged me not to wait, as she thought Miss Topsy Saunders was still alive; I then rushed up to the back of the house and found the bodies of Miss T. Saunders, Miss Stewart, Miss Gordon, and Miss Marshall. The latter was awfully cut, her head almost severed, but beyond wounds given in the struggle the bodies were not mutilated; then later I found Miss H. Newcombe's body at the foot of a hill in front of the house where it had evidently been thrown. As then I could see no traces of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, Miss N. Saunders, and Lena, the nurse, we hoped some had escaped and I returned to the house where the children (4 Stewart children) and Miss Codrington were. Presently Miss Hartford arrived; she had received a nasty cut under one ear, but had been saved from death by a native Christian. I learned later from Miss Codrington that the five ladies of the Zenana Missionary Society, who lived in the lower of the two houses which form the Kucheng Sanatorium, after a futile effort to escape, got out at the back and were immediately surrounded by Vegetarians. At first they said they intended to bind them and carry them away, and they begged if that was their intention they might be allowed their umbrellas, but this was instantly refused, some even of the Vegetarians seemed touched with their pleading for life; an old Huasang man alone of the natives who did not take part begged that their lives might be saved. Some of the Vegetarians were inclined to spare them, but were ordered by their leader to carry out their orders. Had they been able to escape into the brushwood round, there seems little doubt they might have been saved. The great misfortune was that only two were dressed. Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, I learned from Kathleen Stewart, were not dressed. Lena, the nurse, died protecting baby, whom Kathleen managed to carry her out of the house, though not before her (baby's) eye had been injured. Miss Nelly Saunders, Kathleen told me, was also knocked down at the nursery door going to help the children, and as we afterwards found the remains of a burnt body there, we had little doubt it was hers. For a long time we thought that at least Mr. and Mrs. Stewart had escaped, but later I found their bodies or rather ashes in what had been their bed-room. The Huasang people seemed to have as a whole no hand in the affair, though doubtless four or five Vegetarian families were concerned; the natives say a Vegetarian band came from the east road (of Kucheng city) many from Ang-tong and Adeng-bang within thirty or forty *li* of Kucheng. The Kucheng former magistrate, named Wang, came up in the evening to examine into the case.

BELGIAN CONSULAR POLICE COURT, NAGASAKI.

(Specially reported for the *Japan Mail.*)

Before F. RINGER, Esq., Consul.

The Public Procurator of Nagasaki versus Peter Verstappen, a Belgian subject, accused of the manslaughter of a Japanese woman named Nakamura Shige.

This case again came on, and the witnesses for the defence were now called.

Itoda Mon, until July 18th maid-servant in the house of Verstappen, was the first witness. By request of the counsel for the defence, the policemen present in court were directed to withdraw during the examination of this witness. Witness described how on the morning of the 18th July, Verstappen had brought the deceased back to his house in a jinrikisha. Witness was then sent by Verstappen to fetch deceased's clothing. When she returned to the house she heard Shige crying. Witness asked Verstappen not to offer Shige any violence, for he would get a bad name, and Verstappen promised not to do so. Just before dinner Verstappen called witness upstairs. Witness found Verstappen telling Shige that he had been to Amakusa with the baby to search for her. Witness also told Shige about it, and how she herself had gone with Verstappen. Shige said she had not known that witness and Verstappen had gone to Amakusa together, and that she did not wish to hear anything about it. She added that she, Shige, intended to leave the house the next day, taking the baby with her. After dinner witness asked Verstappen to give her her discharge, but he asked her to stay three days more. He said he intended to send Shige and the baby to Amakusa and would himself take them as far as Moji, and he wished witness to stay to take care of the house. As Verstappen pressed her to stay, she consented to stay, intending however, to run away. She refused to take three dollars that Verstappen offered her as wages for fear that he might be able to force her to stay if she accepted the money. At about two in the afternoon she ran away from the house. She had lived three months in Verstappen's house. She ran away because she thought that if Shige went to Amakusa, Verstappen would not let her (witness) go away. Shige had seemed angry in the morning. Witness had never thought that Shige was not right in her head. Witness had heard that Shige had been found with a razor in her hand. Asked if she had ever seen Shige struck by Verstappen, witness replied that she had seen Shige struck on the occasion of her return after running away the first time. Witness had heard that Shige had made use of false keys to steal money or clothes. Shige had cried out for help when she was locked up in the room upstairs on the morning of the 18th July. Witness saw Verstappen beat Shige on the morning of the 18th. He used his hand, not a stick, and did not beat her severely. Witness had never heard Shige threaten to commit suicide. Two ropes were shown to witness. She recognized the smaller one as one she had often used in drawing water from the well. It was usually kept in the kitchen.

Père Salmon, Roman Catholic Priest of Nagasaki, stated that the deceased and the accused were both personally known to him, and that he had performed the sacrament of marriage between them in December, 1892. On the second of May of the present year the youngest child of the pair was sent away from home and placed in charge of some person at Urakami. On the morning of that day Verstappen had told witness that he (Verstappen) had seen Shige with a razor in her hand, and that he was therefore alarmed for his son's safety. The witness believed that it was for this reason that the child had been sent away to Urakami. Witness believed that the deceased had reason to be jealous of her sister.

Urso Floruvante, compradore, of Nagasaki, had gone into Verstappen's house on the morning of July 18th. He saw Shige, and said good morning to her, but she paid no attention to his salutation, she merely stared at the ceiling and said "Hei!" Witness said to Verstappen that he was scared to stay there and he went out immediately. He was scared to stay because he thought that Shige was out of her senses.

Maurice Eden Paul, English medical practitioners, resident at Nagasaki, had attended the post mortem examination on the deceased. The actual cause of death was asphyxia. Witness then described the various marks of violence found on the body. Witness believed that concussion of the brain of a sufficient degree to cause insensibility could not be produced by a blow on the head without a bruise on the skin being caused by the force of the blow. In the case of a healthy young woman struggling with a man attempting to choke her, witness would have expected to find numerous and severe bruises caused in the struggle. Such bruises were not to be found on the deceased. Witness inclined to the opinion that death was due to suicidal hanging with a double rope about one quarter of an inch in diameter. This theory fully accounted for all the post mortem appearances, with the exception of the bruise on the left arm. The bruise on the head and the bruises on the right arm were too insignificant to be worth consideration. Witness had examined the state of health of the accused two days ago. The accused was suffering from inflammation of various peripheral nerves. His illness was of long duration. It had produced atrophy of the interossei muscles of both hands, and of the extensor muscles of the left leg. The grasping power of the accused's hands was unquestionably greatly diminished. Witness considered it in the highest degree improbable that the accused would have had sufficient strength to suffocate deceased by holding a handkerchief over her mouth and nostrils, if any resistance were offered. From the post mortem examination, it was evident that the deceased was in the early stage of pulmonary consumption. In this condition melancholia with suicidal tendency was not uncommon. The bruise on the left arm might certainly have been caused while taking the body out of the rope. The blow that caused the bruise beneath the skin on the back of the deceased's head would certainly not have been sufficient to produce insensibility. Had the woman first been smothered and the body then raised by an unaided person and the neck placed in a noose, the witness would have expected that additional marks of violence would be produced by the manipulation of the limp insensible body. Witness doubted greatly whether accused in the present state of his health, had physical power sufficient to lift a body weighing 103 lbs. off the ground, without mechanical assistance. Of two ropes produced, the smaller one might, if used doubled, have produced the marks on the neck.

S. F. Lawrence, British Consular Constable, knew the deceased very well. He saw her on the morning of the 18th July, and thought her conduct very queer. She did not respond to his greeting, as she was in the habit of doing. She was scrubbing a stone floor in which the stones were laid in such a manner that there were intervals of mud between them. Deceased was scrubbing away indifferently on the stone and on the mud.

Mr. Forster then summed up for the defence,

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He submitted that no evidence whatever had been produced by the prosecution to show that the accused had caused the death of the deceased. The case rested entirely on the hypothesis of the Japanese medical expert that the deceased was first choked, and then hanged by the accused to conceal the true cause of death. But even this witness himself admitted that the marks on the body were not such as he would have expected to find in such a case; and in cross-examination the Japanese expert had suggested that the patient had been struck on the head, that concussion of the brain had ensued, and that therefore there were no marks of a struggle. He admitted, however, that there was no external sign of bruising of the scalp, and Dr. Paul had testified that a blow on the head sufficiently violent to cause loss of consciousness would produce a bruise of a decided nature. The evidence given by the last named witness as to the physical weakness of the deceased went further to show that the charge was untenable. The witness Sato Kichijiro had testified that from his room he could see nearly the whole of the interior of Verstappen's kitchen. He returned to his house at seven-thirty p.m. The first thing that atracted his attention to Verstappen's house was hearing accused call for his daughter, and immediately afterwards he saw accused lowering the woman's body. If the deceased had been murdered in the way suggested by the prosecution, surely this witness's attention would have been attracted to the house by the sounds of a struggle. Mr. Forster regretted to be compelled to draw the attention of the court to the fact that during the cross-examination of the witness Nakamura Kuyo, sister of the deceased, when the witness was asked if she knew anything of the deceased's having been found with a razor in her hand, and she admitted that she had actually seen the deceased with a razor in her hand, the Japanese Police Inspector present in the court addressed a remark to the witness in a menacing tone. Witness thereupon retracted the statement that she had actually seen the deceased with a razor, and said she had only heard of it. Two of the medical witnesses, Dr. Ikebe and Dr. Paul, had testified that the marks on the deceased's body were typical of suicidal hanging. The other medical witness, Dr. Oyama, differed from them, but this witness's contention had been sufficiently shown to be a highly improbable one. Evidence of considerable weight had been brought forward to show that on the morning of July 18th deceased was not in her right mind, and Dr. Paul had testified that the deceased was in the first stage of pulmonary consumption, and that in this condition melancholia with suicidal tendency was not uncommon. Mr. Forster consequently asked for the acquittal of the accused in view of the fact that no evidence whatever had been brought forward to prove him guilty of the crime with which he was charged, while very strong *primâ facié* evidence had been adduced to show that the deceased had come to her death through suicidal hanging.

Judgment was reserved. The Court then adjourned.

CRICKET.

THE Y.C. AND A.C. VERSUS THE WILLARD OPERA COMPANY.

It speaks well for the sportsmanlike energy of the members of the Willard Opera Company that in the blazing heat of Saturday afternoon they made such a good stand against a team picked up by the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, and made the match a draw. Losing the toss, the visitors went out to field, Warrington and Munroe taking on the bowling. The ball, owing to the extreme dryness of the ground, rose from the pitch at a preat pace, and the first few batsmen were dismised with small scores. Warrington, a left handed bowler, was very swift in his deliveries, which were all the more deceptive from his quiet manner of approaching the wickets. Munroe bowls with the right hand, and keeping a good length obtains a leg break. Eight wickets were dismissed for 42 runs, and things looked black for the home side. The ninth man in stayed until ten had been added, then Libeaud and Kenyon became associated and a stand was made. The score rose rapidly, both men hitting freely and placing with judgment. The century was eventually passed, and at 5 o'clock, when the score stood at 111, the innings was declared closed.

The visitors, who had done some smart fielding in the course of the afternoon, then went in. They could not hope to win in the short time still remaining, and so played for a draw. Fearnley and Dunstable went in as first bats, and the former was bowled by Lias for 0. Them Munroe joined Dunstable, and with some capital play made the top score of the match, 36, not out. He only gave one chance early in the innings. His score included 4 threes, and 6 twos, the rest being singles. Others of the team, with the exception of Fletcher, 10, failed to get into double figures. Scores :—

YOKOHAMA.

Dr. Todd, b. Munroe	0
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. Warrington	7
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Munroe, b. Warrington	3
Mr. R. Campbell, b. Munroe	0
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Warrington	6
Mr. F. E. White, b. Munroe	18
Mr. G. Philp, b. Munroe	3
Mr. B. H. Pearson, c. Warrington b. Munroe	0
Mr. H. Tennant, b. Munroe.	8
Mr. E. J. Libeaud, not out	24
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, not out	34
Extras	8
	119

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. Munroe	85	46	3	5	—
Mr. Warrington	95	27	8	3	1
Mr. Fearnley	20	18	—	—	—
Mr. Smith	15	13	—	—	—

THE WILLARD OPERA COMPANY.

Mr. E. Fearnley, b. Lias	0
Mr. B. Dunstable, b. Lias	5
Mr. D. Munroe, not out	36
Mr. D. Warrington, run out	6
Mr. H. Hall, c. Todd, b. Lias	3
Mr. H. Smith, b. Edwards	0
Mr. F. Courtenay, b. Lias	0
Mr. J. Ross, b. Lias	0
Mr. F. Siam, run out	0
Mr. Fletcher, not out	10
Mr. A. J. Lowe, did not bat	0
Extras	8
	68

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Lias	45	30	3	5
Mr. White	90	13	—	—
Mr. Edwards	40	27	1	1

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 13.

Parliament assembled yesterday.

Mr. Gully has been rëelected Speaker.

The Queen's Speech will be delivered on Thursday next.

London, August 16.

The Queen's Speech, which was delivered yesterday, expressed a hope that peace between China and Japan would be maintained; that much regret is felt at the outrage upon missionaries in Fukien, China, and trusts that the Chinese authorities are taking rigorous measures—which it is hoped will prove effective—for the punishment of the murderers and others who may be proved to be responsible. The Speech also says that Her Majesty's Government is anxiously awaiting the decision of the Sultan in regard to the Armenian atrocities, and that the consideration of important legislative measures has been deferred to another session.

(FROM THE "KOBE CHRONICLE.")

Nagasaki, August 11, 3.20 p.m.

Fuller information received states that a Chinese Society, known as "Vegetarians," attacked the houses of missionaries at Whasang, near Kucheng, on the 1st instant, and killed ten English missionaries, eight of those killed being women. Many were injured and others are missing.

The Fatshan mission (near Canton) has also been attacked, and the French mission at Huyen in Kwangtung.

[FROM "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

Pekin, August 2.

The Chêngtu Commission cannot meet yet, as the Consul at Chungking, Mr. Trotman, cannot leave his post, and the state of the river prevents sending up a substitute, while time is needed to collect the depositions of the victims of the riots. The Tsung-li Yamên is being pressed to punish the guilty officials and suspend meanwhile those who are implicated.

London, August 1.

It is understood that the new Cabinet will not oppose the re-election of Mr. W. C. Gully to the Speakership of the House of Commons.

London, August 3.

Dr. Bickersteth, Bishop of Exeter, in a pastoral, enjoins a thanksgiving for the defeat of the party which was menacing the Church.

Messrs. Bingen Brothers, Bankers at Genoa, have failed, their liabilities being ten million *lire* (£400,000).

London, August 5.

M. Matakieff, a friend of the late M. Stambuloff, has been fatally wounded by assassins.

The reply by the Sublime Porte to the Powers, in reference to Armenia, is said to be unsatisfactory.

The Bulgarian Mission has received an ovation at Sofia on returning from St. Petersburg, and it is stated that they have arrived with instructions to demand the release of all unconvicted Armenian prisoners.

Great Britain, jointly with the Signatories of the Berlin Treaty, has informed the Porte that a European Commission is to be appointed immediately to administer the Province on behalf of the Sultan.

London, August 6.

The massacre at Kucheng has aroused the deepest horror and anger throughout England.

An interview has taken place between Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor, and Count Kalnoky, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, at which the foreign situation, notably as regards Bulgaria, was discussed.

London, August 7.

It is understood that the reasons for the delay in the departure of the Shahzada are political.

August 8.

Four British ironclads are to leave Gibraltar to-morrow under sealed orders. It is believed that their destination is Morocco.

Prince Ferdinand is still absent from Bulgaria, where the situation is grave and complex, owing to the overthrow of the hopes of a reconciliation with Russia under the present *régime*.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Osaka, August 12.

A case of cholera was reported among the Chinese prisoners, and their departure has been postponed until to-morrow.

Nagoya, August 12.

A number of Chinese prisoners, who have been staying at Nagoya and Toyohashi, left for Kobe to-day.

Yokkaichi, August 12.

The repairs of the track between Seki and Tsuge on the Kanzai Railway are completed, and traffic is once more resumed.

Hiroshima, August 12.

The captured ships *Chen-pien* and *Chen-chung* have arrived at Kure.

Shimonoseki, August 2.

The steamer *No. 2 Riojun Maru* (over 700 tons), which was captured at Port Arthur, reached here to-day.

Hiroshima, August 12.

Some 550 officers and men of the Imperial Guards, and 122 gendarmes leave Ujina to-night for Formosa.

Gifu, August 12.

An extensive landship occurred at Kawakami, Ikeda-gun, on the 5th inst. The *débris* fell into the river, and dammed the stream. A large pond was formed, and nine cottages were destroyed, four persons and one beast being drowned.

Nagasaki, August 12.

A Shanghai correspondent, under date the 9th inst., states that although the British Minister in Pekin has ordered Mr. Mansfield, British Consul at Foochow, to proceed to Kutien, he is stil at Foochow watching affairs at Kutien. It has been ascertained that 1,000 Chinese guards sent by the Chinese Governor-General are behaving in a riotous manner, and it is impossible to proceed to Kutien with Chinese escorts. The rioters are in possession of arms and will not easily be subdued. On the 6th inst., some Chinese officials, who were conveying money to a district near Kutien, were attacked by rioters and all the money was stolen. The British and American residents at Foochow and Hongkong are greatly excited. The rioters number 11,000, and have 400 leaders. They are meeting daily near Kutien. If the Chinese soldiers find it difficult to subdues the riot, British soldiers or British marines will be dispatched to deal with them. Eight men-of-war are at Foochow.

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Tsu, August 15.

The captured Chinese gun-boat *Chen-tung* arrived at Toba last night.

The following telegram by Admiral Count Kabayama, at Taipeh on August 14th, was received by Headquarters, Tokyo, on the 15th.

For the purpose of attacking the enemy at Miao-li, about 10,000 strong, the Imperial Guards were put in motion on the 13th inst., the front and the main body starting from Woo-tsz, and the left wing from Tofun. The front line met with 700 rebels in the neighbourhood of Oulong the same day, and, the enemy being defeated, the place was occupied. Our casualties were 7 killed and wounded. The loss of the enemy is not yet ascertained. The retreating Chinese ran toward Miao-li. The left wing reached Langi-shan the same forenoon without meeting any enemy. Early on the 14th the whole of the Guards moved to the attack of the enemy at Miao-li, but the latter made no stand whatever, and escaped towards Taiwan-fu. Thus Miao-li was occupied in the forenoon of the 14th without resistance. The residents of Miao-li are likely to oppose us, but the majority of them cleared out for the neighbouring hills. The Yamane Brigade will be stationed at Miao-li, and the Kawamura Brigade will proceed to Tsusho to-morrow (15th). The *Sumidagawa Maru*, which arrived at Chang-kong on the 12th, left for Kelung to-day after disembarking stores there. Oulong will be suitable for the landing of provisions.

Kyoto, August 16.

Although an application was made for permission to continue the Industrial Exhibition by organizing a private company for that end, the Government is not likely to accede to the request, and the promoters have abandoned arrangements to continue the Exhibition.

Hakodate, August 16.

Three British steamers have arrived here.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will re-open on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 189.

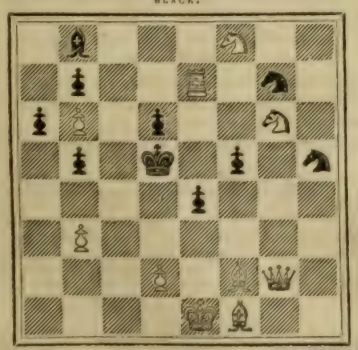
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K R 7	1—Q takes Q
2—Kt to Q B 7	2—P to Q 7
3—R to K 3, mate	
	if 2—Any other move
3—Kt to Kt 5, mate	
	1—Q takes B
2—Q takes P ch.	2—K takes Q
3—R to K 3, mate	
	if 2—P takes Q
3—R to Q B 5, mate	
	1—B takes B
2—Q to R 2	2—Anything
3—Q, mates	
	1—P to R 6
2—R to Q B 5 ch.	2—Q takes B
3—R to Kt 3, mate.	

Correct answers received from Shogi, W.H.S., Kr., Digamma, J.D., and E. J. King.

Problem No. 191.

By Valentin Marin.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Australian Championship.

We have not yet received the scores of the final games but it seems that Wallace maintained his title of Champion as per the following from the *San Francisco Chronicle*:—"Wallace beat Esling in a match played a few weeks ago, involving the chess championship of Australasia. The match created great excitement in the Antipodes. Esling played more brilliantly than his opponent, but went to pieces several times when victory was in his grasp. At the close R. L. Hodgson, at one time champion of Victoria, challenged the winner. The peculiarity of the match was that both the players were mere boys and hundreds of the enthusiasts who crowded around the boards during the games were old spectacled men.

Curt von Bardeleben defeated Teichmann in a match played at the Bohemia Chess Club, London, which was concluded on the 6th July. The final score:—Bardeleben 3 games, Teichmann 1 game, and 6 games drawn.

New Zealand

Our enthusiastic friend and chess-player Mr. Oscar Balk sends us a line from Dunedin, where he now lives. He has joined the *Otago Chess Club*, but could not achieve the Championship of that Club: a strong player of some note in the Southern hemisphere (Mr. R. A. Cleland) being too much for our friend. Lovers of chess in Japan will be delighted to hear of Mr. Balk's welfare from time to time.

When thou with study deep has toil'd,
And over dulled thy brain,
Then use this game, which will refresh
Thy wits and it again. —Barbier.

Evans Gambit (Albin.)

Herr Adolf Albin, late of Vienna, has recently been visiting New Orleans, and in *The Times Democrat* several games have appeared, wherein Black plays after move 5 (White), 5—, *B* to *Q* 3. Herr Albin's theory is that this defence, though not recognized as such, is satisfactory, and with it he has won a good many excellent games. We give two examples which are very interesting. We do not see any great feature in the new defence and shall look for some opinion of Steinitz or Lasker on the point.

Game No. 317.

EVANS' GAMBIT—ALBIN'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Mr. E. A. Farrar.	BLACK. Mr. A. Albin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to B 3	5—B to Q 3
6—P to Q 4	6—Q to K 2
7—Castles	7—P to Q Kt 3
8—Kt to K sq	8—P to K R 4
9—P to K B 4	9—P takes Q P
10—P takes P	10—Kt takes P
11—K to R sq.	11—Kt to K 3
12—P to K 5	12—B to B 4
13—K Kt to B 3	13—Kt to R 3
14—Kt to B 3	14—B to Q Kt 2
15—Kt to Q Kt 5	15—P to R 3
16—B takes Kt	16—P takes Kt
17—B to Kt 3	17—P to R 5
18—Kt to Kt 5	18—Kt to B 4
19—Q to Kt 4	19—Q takes Kt
20—Q takes Q	20—Kt to Kt 6 ch.
21—Q takes Kt	21—P takes Q
22—P to K R 3	22—R takes P mate

Game No. 318.

EVANS GAMBIT—ALBIN'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Judge Labatt.	BLACK. Herr Albin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to B 3	5—B to Q 3
6—P to Q 4	6—Q to K 2
7—Castles	7—P to Q Kt 3
8—B to Q 5	8—B to Kt 2
9—P to Q R 4	9—P to K R 3
10—Kt to R 3	10—B takes Kt
11—B takes B	11—P to Q 3
12—Kt takes K P	12—Kt takes Kt
13—B takes B	13—R to Kt sq.
14—P takes Kt	14—R takes B
15—P takes P	15—P takes P
16—B takes P	16—Q to K 3
17—P to R 5	17—R to Q 2
18—P takes P	18—R takes B
19—Q takes R	19—Q takes Q
20—P takes P and White wins.	

Game No. 319.

Another pretty game by Dr. Tarrasch. (Polziani's Opening.)

WHITE. Dr. Tarrasch.	BLACK. Herr Kürchner.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 3	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 4	4—P takes P
5—P to K 5	5—Kt to K Kt sq.
6—P takes P	6—P to Q 4
7—B to Q 3	7—B to Kt 5 ch.
8—Kt to B 3	8—K Kt to K 2
9—Q to B 2	9—B to R 4
10—Castles	10—Kt to Kt 5
11—Q to R 4 ch.	11—B to Q 2
12—Q takes K B	12—Kt takes B
13—B to Kt 5	13—B to B 3
14—B takes Kt	14—K takes B
15—Kt takes P ch.	15—Q takes Kt
16—Q to R 3 ch.	16—Kt to B 4
17—Q R to B sq.	17—P to Q Kt 3
18—P takes Kt	18—P to Q Kt 4
19—K R to Q sq.	19—Q to K 3
20—Kt to Q 4	20—Q to Kt 3
21—Kt takes B ch.	21—Q takes Kt
22—R to Q 6	22—Q to K 5
23—P to B 6	23—P takes R
24—Q takes P ch.	24—K to K sq.
25—P to B 7	25—R to Q B sq.
26—R to Q sq.	26—Q to R sq.
27—P to K 6	27—R takes P
28—Q takes R	28—P takes P
29—R to Q 7	29—Resigns.

Game No. 320.

A gem from the *Lehrbuch* (Allgaier Kieseritzky)

WHITE. J. Rosanes.	BLACK. Andersen.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—P to K R 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to B 4	6—P to Q 4
7—P takes P	7—B to Q 3
8—P to Q 4	8—Kt to K R 4
9—B to Kt 5 ch.	9—P to B 3
10—P takes P	10—P takes P
11—Kt takes Q B P	11—Kt takes Kt
12—B takes Kt ch.	12—K to B sq.
13—B takes R	13—Kt to Kt 6
14—R to R 2	14—B to K B 4
15—B to Q 5	15—K to Kt 2
16—Kt to Q B 3	16—R to K sq. ch.
17—K to B 2	17—Q to Kt 3
18—Kt to R 4	18—Q to Q R 3
19—K to B 3	19—B to K 4
20—P to Q R 4	20—Q to K B 8 ch.
21—Q takes Q	21—B takes P
22—B to K 3	22—R takes B & wins.

Game No. 321.

REMOVE WHITE'S Q.R.

WHITE. Mr. J. Dobrusky.	BLACK. Herr N.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Q to B 3
3—B to Q B 4	3—B to Q B 4
4—P to B 3	4—P to Q R 3
5—Castles	5—K Kt to K 2
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—P takes P	7—B to Kt 3
8—B to K Kt 5	8—Q to Q 3
9—Kt to Q B 3	9—Q to Q Kt 5
10—Kt to K 5	10—P to B 3
11—B takes P	11—P takes B
12—Q to R 5 ch.	12—K to Q sq.
13—Kt to B 7 ch.	13—K to K sq.
14—Kt to Q 6 dis. ch.	14—K to Q sq
15—Q to K 8 ch.	15—R takes Q
16—Kt to B 7 mate.	

Development.

If we were asked to declare what in our candid opinion is the first and most vital principle of chess, and what need be most strongly impressed upon the mind of any who desire to attain to moderate proficiency, the answer must of necessity be development. Let it ever be borne in mind that the pieces are generally of little use, and are often an impediment, at home. To become of service they must be brought into action, and you must endeavour to so open your game that each and all may be of service and in some sort of combination either for attack or defence or both.

And if the learner (this has a very wide application and includes all Openings as we have before noted) will school himself to such constraint as is necessary to avoid premature attacks he will have gone far on the road to becoming something like a strong player. You are a general, and chess is a battle. No sane general would venture on approaching the enemy's line with only one or two of perhaps his most valuable battalions, and pro-

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voking a contest with the whole of the enemy's forces, they being in their intrenchments and he in the open. But worse insanity than this may be observed any day in all our clubs and chess rooms. There is the hope of snatching a victory by some off-chance, and Queen and Kt are, with utter disregard of first principles, brought to bear on some point which is most easily defended; you, have to retire, your opponent has gained (while you have lost) time, you have provoked attack, perhaps carelessly lost a pawn or two at least in the encounter, and, forlorn and discouraged, you find your opponent in possession of the field with superior forces and yourself without a semblance of attack left. If you had devoted those few lost moves to development how superior would have been your position.

How to develop is a very practical question. Faults are easily pointed out, but what is the remedy? Learn the Openings by all means. But how? By striving in the first place to get this one principle—development—deeply graven on the mind. It will save from many a snare.

Generally, and especially until you learn certain Gambits pretty well, it may be wise to avoid advancing your pawns too far at first. You may steer clear of many troubles—especially as second player, and even with the move—by simply playing at an early stage such vitally important developing moves as P to K 3, followed by P to Q 4 and P to Q B 4. Then it is of supreme importance to bring out the Kts, and these should nearly always be played to B 3 squares. With K B at K 2 or Q 3, and Q B at Q 2 your game is fairly developed and you may soon find openings for interesting combinations and be ready to Castle and take the offensive with a fair prospect of success. If, meantime, the enemy approaches you will be ready for the encounter.

A good style may be cultivated, and development the more strongly impressed upon the mind, by the habit, now largely adopted by players of all ranks, of playing over and noting good published examples in the shape of games actually played. This can scarcely be stated with too great emphasis. The best examples of modern chess afford all the information any player needs, and that in the most pleasing and attractive form.—*Weekly Times.*

Lasker on Development.

The prudent commander will not venture an advance until he has completed the mobilization of his forces. An attack made with insufficient means will assuredly end in disaster; and even in the case of partial success the means of following up and taking advantage of it are wanting, and the safety of the whole line of defence will thus be endangered. The practised chess player proceeds exactly in the same way. On beginning a game he proceeds with the utmost expedition to develop his forces—that is to say, every move is directed to opening the lines for the pieces so as to secure for them all possible freedom and power of action.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 22nd.*
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 19th.†
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 30th.‡
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Aug. 22nd.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 25th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 30th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Sept. 4th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 10th.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco via Honolulu on August 3rd. † *Empress of India* left Vancouver on August 5th. ‡ *China* left San Francisco on August 13th. ‖ *Verona* left Hongkong on August 16th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Bellona* which left Hongkong on August 13th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 18th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 18th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Aug. 19th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Monday, Aug. 19th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Aug. 23rd.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 24th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 27th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 6th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, E. Norman, 10th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. E. Poole, 10th August,—Ujina, Troops.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, R. Irving, 10th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 11th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 3rd August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, 11th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 12th August,—Guam, Copra.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Amoy, German steamer, 647, Wolf, 12th August,—Kobe 11th August, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Aswanly, British steamer, 2,293, Murray, 12th August,—Yokosuka, Light.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 12th August,—Tsuchizaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 12th August,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 13th August,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 13th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 13th August,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Brunhilde, German steamer, 876, Biblde, 14th August,—Kuchinotz, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Decima, German steamer, 1,125, Christiansen, 14th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mathilde, German steamer, 1,018, Moos, 14th August,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Aubert, 14th August,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—Messaeries Maritimes Co.

Fidalia, German steamer, 873, Nissen, 15th August,—Kobe 13th August, Beans.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Curnow, 15th August,—Moji, Coal.—Ten Yetsu Kisen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. St. G. Lindsay, 15th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 8th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 15th August,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, 15th August,—Ujina, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 16th August,—Kobe 15th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Scotland, 16th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Straits of Sunda, British steamer, 1,531, Dewar, 17th August,—Oginohama, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 10th August,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Strathfillan, British steamer, 2,206, W. Osborne, 10th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Oceana, German steamer, 1,528, J. Behrens, 10th August,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Nicolai I. (24), Russian flagship, 11th August,—Hakodate.

Siam, British steamer, 1,897, E. G. Andrews, 11th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, J. B. MacMillan, 11th August,—Formosa, 1,150 Coolies.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyohashi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,870, R. Swain, 11th August,—Taku, Chinese Troops.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ormiston, British steamer, 1,846, Outram, 12th August,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, M. Hamada, 13th August,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amoy, German steamer, 640, Wolf, 12th August,—Shinagawa, General.—Nada Kogio Kabushiki Kaisha.

Kaiser (15), German flagship, Captain Jaeschks, 12th August,—Hakodate.

Arcona (18), German cruiser, Captain Sarnow, 12th August,—Hakodate.

Irene (22), German cruiser, Captain von Dresky, 12th August,—Hakodate.

Prinzess Wilhelm (22), German cruiser, Captain Holtzendorff, 12th August,—Hakodate.

Aswanly, British steamer, 2,293, Murray, 12th August,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Umbria (17), Italian cruiser, Captain Bertolini, 12th August,—Nagahama.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,934, J. E. Poole, 13th August,—Formesa, Coolies.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omba, British steamer, 1,940, Munroe, 14th August,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, 14th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, Chas. Hendry, 15th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iltis (4), German gunboat, Captain Ingenold, 16th August,—Hakodate.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 16th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Liddesdale, British steamer, 1,716, A. Clark, 16th August,—Australia viâ Kuchinotz, Light.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 17th August,—Nagahama, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Brunhilde, German steamer, 876, Biblde, 17th August,—Moji, Light.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Annal and child, Mr. J. Wallace, Lieutenant C. W. C. Knox, Mr. J. W. Davidson, Colonel Deba, Mr. S. Kiyomizu, Mr. M. Russell, Mr. G. C. Allcock, Mr. and Mrs. How and servant, Mr. Hansen, and Mrs. Ah Sam in cabin; two passengers on deck.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Dr. and Mrs. Espieux, Mr. de Carcer, Mr. Proton, Captain and Mrs. Roberts, Mr. Darbier and daughter, Mr. Andre, Mr. H. Veaux, Mr. Hatta, Mr., Mrs., and Miss George, Mr. Coytier and son, Mr. Figueiredo, Mr. Y. Kuhn, Mr. and Mrs. Kelbourne, child, and amah, Mrs. W. H. Smith and child, Mrs. Wilson and son, Mr. T. J. Morris, Mr. Jas. Wilson, Mr. Jas. Herford, Mrs. and Misses Buckheister (2), Mr. Schuffenhauer, Mr. Chaumont, Mrs. and Misses Brunat (2), Mrs. Sylva, Mr. Lapten, Mr. P. de Hesse, Mr. Horzensten, Mr. A. Crawford and sod, Mr. A. W. Hunt and boy, Mr. Liddell, Rev. Drumont, Mr. de Laripeite, Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Mr. R. Griffon, Captain Lang, R.N., and son, and Mr. Handelmann in cabin.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Barclay, Mr. and Mrs. G. Wright, Rev. W. H. Lingle, Mr. J. J. Kittlelea, Lieut. C. Mine, Mr. Ch. Mosle, Captain G. Olsen, Mr. Th. de Berigny, Mr. and Mrs. James R. Morse and servant, Mr. W. Thompson, and Mr. A. McConnell in cabin. For San Francisco:—Miss Mason, Mrs. Baggs and servant, Mr. Pao Tie and servant, Mrs. Geo. Flood, child, and amah, and Mrs. F. R. Ellsworth in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Messrs. S. Schwartz, E. Hickman, L. D. Abraham, Mrs. H. F. James, Messrs. H. W. Andreas, A. J. M. Somes, Minju, Thompson, C. Jubin, S. Jubin, Fergusson, J. Genniall, Baron and Baroness Van Seckendorff, Messrs. T. Truscott, W. Pavis, J. Carlsen, Mrs. Nitta Tsune, Messrs. Cheng Fat, Parlane, Shannon, Y. Yunaka, Mrs. Nonisson, child, and servant, Miss Jupin, Mrs. Natsukawa, Messrs. Stuart Harrison, Ganesco, Chas. Kerr, Saillot, Mrs. and Miss Ponnebery, Miss Booth, Messrs. G. Bulty, Shaik Mohamed, Durand, and E. Ellet in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Mr. J. C. Siegfried, Mr. Benito Santos, Dr. Louis Thomas, Mr. Maurice Bischoffsheim, and Mr. Ivor Bevan in cabin.

Per British steamer *Siam*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Morse and servant, Mr. and Mrs. B. Tidy, Mr. Saville Smith, and Miss M. Brian in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 684 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 54 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	LONDON.	OMAHA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	856	405	—	—	—	—	1,261
Hyogo	50	5	—	—	—	—	55
Yokohama.	3,177	—	—	—	—	—	3,177
Hongkong.	988	—	—	—	—	—	988
Total ...	5,071	410	—	—	—	—	5,481

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	416	—	416
Yokohama	—	873	—	873
Total	—	1,289	—	1,289

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Yarns and Grey Cloth—At last there are some signs of an awakening in this market, but not much business done as yet. Let us hope the sluggard will not roll over and sleep again, this time. Fancy Cottons—Some business done in T. Reds, Velvets, and Cotton Italians. Woollens—Fair sales of Italians, while Cloth and Mousselines have also participated to slight extent.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.20 to 2.50
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.75 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	41.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Bars and Plates weak, the town being full of Iron said to be all contracted "to arrive." Consequently holders of "Spot" cargo have to meet the market. Pig is in request. Nails move to a fair extent.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.20 to 3.25
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.25 to 3.30
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.20 to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.75

KEROSENE.

Quotations are marked down once more and still buyers only operated from hand to mouth. Deliveries are good for the time of year, and despite some recent arrivals the total stock is something below 10 million gallons. Holders say they will reduce no further; but they have said that before and finished by giving way once more. It seems certain that buyers must operate freely ere long.

American	$2.15 to 2.20
Russian	2.05 to 2.10
Langkat	1.90 to 1.95

SUGAR.

Brown—Small arrivals and fair sales in China and Manila sorts. Formosa nothing done, but prices are called firm at quotations. White—No change, a fair amount of business is doing at late rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.70 to 3.75
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.20 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A large daily trade has been done, and the eagerness of buyers has pushed up the market a bit. Settlements to date are considerably in excess of last season, and although arrivals have been on a free scale the available stock is not large.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 deniers	$890 to 900
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den	840 to 845
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	720 to 730
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	700 to 710
Kakedas—Extra	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 1	780 to 785
Kakedas—No. 1½	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Growers are apparently keeping back supplies of New fibre and are trying to sell their stocks of old Waste by telling buyers that there will be short supplies this season! But they have cried Wolf too often, and find no believers in their yarns. Meanwhile, transactions in old fibre are of a very retail nature: and the trade languishes. This market, indeed, presents a very marked contrast to that for Raw Silk.

TEA.

Holders have succeeded in raising prices about one dollar per picul all round—and buying seems to go merrily on at the advance. Stock down to 5,000 piculs, and the chief demand is for Teas between "Good Common" and "Fine." Settlements to date are 6,000 piculs ahead of last year.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange again closes weak.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/1⅞
— — 4 months' sight	2/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅜
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅓
On Paris—Bank sight	2.71
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.77
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight	72½
On India—Bank sight	195
— Private 30 days' sight	197½
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52½
— Private 30 days' sight	53½
— — 4 months' sight	54½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.18
— Private 4 months' sight	2.25
Bar Silver (London)	30⅜

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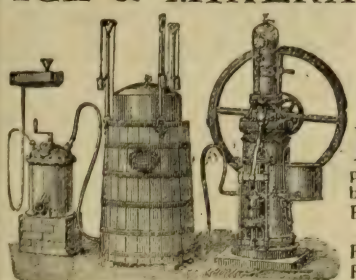

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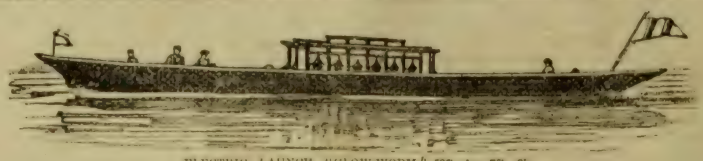

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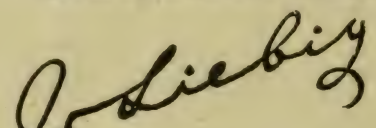

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January 1, 1895. Sept. 28, '95.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"PAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 24TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At No. 73, Bluff, on the 19th inst., the wife of L. POLLARD, of a daughter.

DEATH

At Nikko, on the 18th inst., at 2 p.m., MASUWO, second son of Mr. and Mrs. R. MASUJIMA.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MARQUIS KWAZANIN TADAMICHI died on the 15th inst.

THE condition of H.I.H. the Crown Prince is causing great anxiety.

A YOUTH was killed by an up-train at Shibahama, Tokyo, on the 16th inst.

H.I.H. PRINCE KUNI has removed to No. 13, Ichibeicho Itchome, Azabu, Tokyo.

LIEUT.-COLONEL IDRISHI has been appointed Director of the Artillery School, Tokyo.

HEAVY rains have fallen during the week in and around Tokyo and Yokohama

THE Tokyo fancy goods dealers have decided to separate from the Yokohama merchants in the boycott of the Chinese merchants at Yokohama owing to the disputes among the Yokohama merchants.

THE net profits of the Bank of Japan for the past half-year were *yen* 6,916,352.541.

MESSRS. DOI and NAKAYA have been appointed Secretaries of the Communications Department.

DIPHTHERIA is very prevalent among the gendarmes at the Military School at Toyama, Tokyo.

DYSENTERY is very prevalent in Kagoshima, Saga, Niigata, Okayama, Nagano, and Hyogo Prefectures.

SEVERAL fresh cases of cholera have been reported on board the Italian cruiser *Umbria* during the week.

CHOLERA is still very prevalent in over 30 districts of Japan. Osaka's death-rate from the disease is the highest.

MR. SODA KISAKU, a wealthy merchant in Yokohama, contemplates the establishment of bank with a capital of *yen* 300,000.

A JAPANESE seal-fishing company has been organised by Tokyo capitalists to compete with foreign sealers off the coasts of Japan.

THE New Willard Opera Company concluded their visit to Yokohama last Saturday, with a capital performance of "In Town."

IT is hoped that the Waterworks Commissioners of Yokohama will be able to restore the full supply of water by the end of the month.

THE Minister of Communications has issued a notification announcing the re-opening of the Japanese Post Office in Shanghai on the 17th inst.

THE Ishioka and Tsuchiura Section on the Japan Railway Co.'s line has been completed, and will probably be opened for traffic on the 1st prox.

THE "Sannomiya Cup" has been won by the 17-rater *Sans Nom*. The boat belongs to a French syndicate, and the Cup was presented by an Italian resident.

THE machinists and superintending experts of the raw silk inspection offices to be opened at Yokohama and Kobe in April next will be supplied from France.

THE match export for July was:—1,040,558 gross of safety matches, valued at *yen* 283,451.85 and 206,386 gross of phosphorus matches, valued at *yen* 63,070 50.

THE Kagawa Local Assembly, which was suspended for passing a vote of no confidence in the Governor and Secretary of that Prefecture, was dissolved on the 16th inst.

AN inquest has been opened in H.B.M. Court for Japan into the circumstances attending the death at Shoji, on the slopes of Fuji, of Mr. H. W. Brockbank, late of Manchester.

THE Minister of Finance issued on the 19th inst. a notification permitting the Bank of Japan to add *yen* 10,000,000 to its capital. The money will be raised in 50,000 shares.

A LONG list of honours is published in the *Official Gazette* this week, the recipients being Civil, Military, and Naval dignitaries who rendered meritorious services during the late war.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank has decided to establish a branch at Hongkong, with Mr. Nabekura Naoshi, of the San Francisco Branch, as Manager. Mr. Nabekura will be succeeded by Mr. Aoki Tetsutaro, of the London Branch, who will be succeeded by Mr. Tsuchiko Kinshiro.

MR. OTERA CHIYOTARO, son of the late Major-General Otera, who was killed during the attack on Weihaiwei, has been promoted to the rank of Baron in recognition of the meritorious services rendered by his father.

MR. UCHIDA, newly appointed Secretary of the Japanese Legation in China, was to leave Tokyo on the 23rd inst. with Lieut.-General Viscount Miura, who proceeds to Korea as successor to Count Inouye.

THE hearing of an appeal brought by John Thomas Bush, a coloured seaman of the U.S.S. *Yorktown*, against a decision of the U.S. Consul at Nagasaki, on a charge of having murdered a Japanese named Uyemura Kwanjiro, has concluded at the U.S. Legation, Tokyo, the man being sentenced to confinement for three years and fined $1,000.

REUTER telegraphs:—It is stated in St. Petersburg that the Egyptian Question is to be discussed at the opening of the French Parliament, when an attempt will be made to obtain the British evacuation of Egypt by united diplomatic steps on the part of France, Russia, and Turkey. Support is also hoped for from Germany, as a strong anti-English current of feeling is displayed in the German Press, England being accused of frustrating German colonial aspirations. *The Times* concurs with the protests of the European communities in China against the inadequacy of the demands for redress for the recent outrages as made by Great Britain and other Powers, and states that, if the Pekin Government is incapable to control the people, Great Britain must deal with the provincial authorities. Reuter has been informed that the Franco-Chinese Treaty only agrees upon certain rectifications of the frontier near Chienhung and does not grant the cession of the whole of that State east of the Meikong River; but that the portion ceded is so considerable that it is expected that the Anglo-Chinese Convention of 1894 will be annulled. Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria has returned to Sofia. At a meeting of the Church Missionary Society, it was resolved that no disaster shall be allowed to interfere with the Society's work. A German Company hopes to begin the Central African Railway next spring.

THERE is not much to be said about the Import trade. There has been a good amount of enquiry, which bids fair to be followed by a large Autumn trade, though holders would like to see stocks reduced a little further. Yarns and Grey Goods have been moved to some extent, but Cottons and Woollens are not yet in much demand. The Metal market is unchanged, the small amount of trade last reported being continued at late quotations. The Kerosene trade has not yet sprung into activity, though there are signs of an approaching demand. Holders are firm, though anxious for business. Sugar is unaltered in value, though indications make for a rise, which will ensue if a brisk demand sets in. The Silk trade is brisk, and large shipments have been taken by recent mail steamers. Prices have hardened, and will probably yet farther advance. There is nothing to report in Waste Silk, but that the undesirable parcels of old fibre referred to last week are still on offer, and still neglected. The Tea trade has seen daily settlements on a moderate scale at late prices for the leaf on offer, and shippers are fairly busy. Exchange has been steady, rates having altered but little and close fairly firm.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The lull in the political world was at one time in danger of being disturbed by Marquis Ito's refusal of the honours conferred on him by the Emperor, but things have once more settled down into quietness. It is a noteworthy circumstance that an attitude of weariness and apathy characterizes the nation at large. Even the ambitious politicians of the Opposition do not seem to be completely free from the taint of the general tone among the public. Nowhere is this state of things more apparent than in the field of journalism; the current topics being discussed in a half-hearted and spiritless manner. The nation, it seems, is taking a short rest after the excitement of the past twelve months.

* * *

The Liaotung question still forms one of the most frequent topics of discussion in the vernacular press. The discussion of the subject from the point of view of the Japanese Ministry's responsibility for the return of the peninsula has gone out of fashion. The recent interesting controversy between the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Nippon* seems to have been of great service in clearing up a mass of misconception and delusion that has obscured this question. It is now not so much the question of the Cabinet's responsibility as the future adjustment of the matter that engages the attention of the Japanese papers. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, alluding to a recent Paris telegram announcing that the three Powers demand the immediate evacuation by Japan of Liaotung without any reference to the question of indemnity, remarks that such a demand, if true, is most unjust to Japan. Japan promised to renounce her permanent possession of the peninsula, but she did not give up her right of temporary occupation, and consequently there is no justification on the part of the three Powers to demand Japan's immediate evacuation. Such a demand, says our contemporary, if really preferred, ought to be rejected without the slightest hesitation. The propriety of Japan's occupying the peninsula by way of guarranty for the indemnity can not be gainsaid, and the *Kokumin* further thinks that it is important for Japan for the sake of the peace of the East to continue its occupation for a number of years after the payment of the indemnity by China.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* observes that there are two ways in which the Liaotung question may be settled, namely, either by demanding a fresh indemnity in return for the territory to be renounced, or by demanding a temporary occupation of it. There are persons who recommend the combination of these two courses. The *Jiji*, for instance, insists that a large additional sum of indemnity should be paid, and that pending the completion of the payment of the money—spread over a long period of time, say, fifteen or twenty years—the peninsula should be occupied by Japan as security for the fulfilment of the promise made by China. The *Mainichi*, however, does not deem it necessary to insist on such advantageous terms. In its opinion, it is sufficient either to get a money consideration and quit the place at once, or to continue its occupation for a certain fixed term of years without insisting on a pecuniary recompense. Between these courses, our contemporary would choose the latter, for to demand a petty sum of money would be, in its opinion, mean and undignified. The Progressionist organ further thinks that China will not agree to an increase of the indemnity, and that, even if she agreed to it, the result would be to throw her more forcibly into the arms of Russia. Instead of pursuing such a course, our contemporary advises the Government to deal magnanimously with China and induce her to cöoperate with this country for the maintenance of peace in the East. In this way it will be possible for Japan one of these days to obtain sufficient influence to regain her foothold upon the continent of Asia.

* * *

Writing on the question of the development of Japan as a Naval Power, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* urges its countrymen to realise the full importance of the matter. No country can become a great maritime power merely by the increase of the number of its war-ships; the commercial marine must progress side by side with the Navy. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, the Asano Kwaisoten, and other shipowners are earnestly advised to extend their lines and develop their business. The importance of the construction of dockyards is next touched upon; and in this department, our contemporary expresses much satisfaction at the rise of several private projects at Yokohama, Shimoda, and other places. As to the Navy, our contemporary regrets to state that the number of the successful candidates for admission into the Naval College has been comparatively small this year. This is all the more remarkable, because the entrance examination of the Military College drew an extraordinarily large number of candidates. The insufficiency in numbers of the successful candidates in the case of the Naval College is in part explained by the fact that the standard of qualification was raised a little this year; but even after making due allowance for this circumstance, our contemporary thinks the number of successful candidates has been unreasonably small. Parents and educationists are called upon to try to inspire the rising generation with love for a seafaring life. There was formerly some prejudice against a naval career on the ground that men from localities other than Satsuma and Hizen had little hope of rising in the service. There is no longer any grounds for such complaint, and men in all parts of the country are advised to educate their boys for the Naval service.

* * *

Concerning the treatment of the insurgents in Formosa, the *Jiji Shimpo*, as already stated, very strongly urges the necessity of meting out the severest punishmeut to them. In the latest article on this subject, our contemporary considers the relations between the insurgents and the principal landowners in the island. Many of the latter class are reported to have long since fled to the mainland and to have sent notes thence to the Japanese Government in Formosa testifying to their fealty to their new rulers. But the *Jiji* believes that these Chinese, at least a large proportion of them, are the real instigators of the present disorder in Formosa. It is they, no doubt, who have supplied the insurgents with arms, ammunition, and provisions. In this respect our contemporary seems to believe that the numerous family of Lin are most culpable. It recommends the Government to show no mercy to these instigators of rebellion, and punish them by confiscating their property.

* * *

The diplomatic arrangement defining the boundary between the Japanese and Spanish territories in the Western Pacific has been the subject of some foolish writing in the columns of certain metropolitan journals. These articles have already been noticed, and need not be discussed here. Suffice it to state that these utterances are not approved by the sober-minded section of the people. It is well understood that they are the harmless exercises of ignorant young men who, in the profession of journalism, are on the lowest rung of the ladder.

* * *

Viscount Miura, the new Japanese Minister to Korea, enjoys the reputation of being an able man. For the past few years he has led the quiet and retired life of a Buddhist student. The *Chuo Shimbun*, in bidding him godspeed, observes that his Buddhist studies must have been an excellent training for the difficult post which he has been called upon to fill; for the aim of the philosophy of the *Zen* sect, which he has been investigating, is to raise one above the temptations of the world and render one equal to any difficulty or emergency. Our contemporary then proceeds to point out the policy which may be pursed by Viscount Miura in the peninsula. In its opinion, there are three courses open to him, namely, first to utilize the Tai Wön-kun to keep under control the politicians of the Ming faction; secondly, to gain over that Ming faction and let them carry on the Administration; or thirdly, to keep aloof from all parties, and let the faction which may prove strongest assume the control of affairs. To follow either of these courses, says the *Chuo*, presupposes a firm fundamental policy on the part of Japan.

* * *

Writing on China, the *Nippon* regrets to observe that affairs in that country are taking a course in the highest degree unfavourable to Japan. Contrary to the general expectation that after the restoration of peace Japan would have an opportunity to discharge her duty as the best friend of China, leading her in the path of progress and enlightenment,—contrary to this fond expectation, our contemporary regrets to perceive the chasm of doubt and suspicion is becoming deeper and wider between the two countries, and that the fruits of war are being snatched by Russia, France, and Germany. Unlike some of its contemporaries, the *Nippon* believes that China shows unmistakeable signs of her slow but steady awaking, among these signs being the project of a great railway and the efforts which are being made for the reorganization of her Army. Then alluding to the efforts which Germany and Russia are making to gain commercial advantages, our contemporary in conclusion calls upon its countrymen to watch with keen attention the course of events in China.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

WEDDING AT CHRIST CHURCH.

THE nuptials of Fraulein Anna Margarita Madeline Grobrügge, niece of Mr. W. Grosser, of Yokohama, and Herr Carl Dietrich Wilhelm Beurmann, of Shanghai, were celebrated at Christ Church, Yokohama, on Thursday afternoon. The Church was tastefully decorated with arches of bamboos along the aisles, evergreens wreathed around the gas-standards, and clusters of white lilies and China asters upon the pew-heads. The service was conducted in German, in accordance with the ritual of the German Evangelical Protestant Church, the officiating clergymen being Herr Pfarrer Christlieb, Ph.D., assisted by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A. As the bride entered the church, Mr. Schmidt (organ), and Mr. Ramseger (violin), played one of Handel's hymns, and later these gentlemen and Mr. Freyvogel (violincello), gave an exquisite rendering of Gounod's "Ave Maria.' The bride, who was dressed in a lovely costume of white satin trimmed with lace, had for bridesmaids the Misses Meier, Voigt, and Roosen, who were dressed in robes of white muslin let in with lace, and sleeves the same; and her train was borne by two wee ladies, the Misses Erna Grosser and Pors, who were attired in muslin frocks with wreathes of marguerites upon their dainty heads. The bridegroom's best man was Mr. Henry Baehr. As the bridal party left the Church, Mr. J. T. Griffin, played Mendelsohn's "Wedding March." A reception was afterwards held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Grosser.

MISS BURTON'S PAINTINGS.

WE see that the pictures painted by Miss Burton, sister of Professor W. K. Burton, during her residence in Japan, have been highly appreciated in London. The following paragraphs referring to them are taken from the *Daily News* of June 5th and *Echo* of June 6th:—

Miss M. R. Hill Burton is a colourist, and a gifted one, and those who know Japan say she has caught the true atmosphere in the collection of fifty-five water colours now being exhibited at the Clifford Galleries, in the Haymarket, the result of a six months' visit. Miss R. Hill Burton paints Japan as "the land of flowers," but eschews the chrysanthemum. The iris, the lotus, the azalea, and cherry blossom make demands enough on her palette and furnish her with lovely schemes of colour. To be noted are, "There's the Iris' Floating Purple Flags" (2); "Azalea Garden" (7), aflame with fiery bloom; and "Tea House, Kameido" (8), in which a great wisteria whose stem twists half across the picture, drops purple rain. The "Peony Garden" (16) is delicate pink and

light in tone. The artist's manner is bold and broad, and distinctly *personnel*. In seizing and dealing with masses of colour she savours of the Impressionist, as in "Lotus and Iris" (1), "Iris and Lily" (55), and the "Cherry Tree Avenue" (53), but there is a primitive minuteness in the rendering of detail in works like "Kamakura" (40), where the lotus leaves massed in the foreground sprinkled with pink blossoms are all of them careful studies. The artist is fond of blue upon violet, and this key of colour is effectively employed in several pictures as in "A Summer Night, Kyoto" (21), "Evening at Kyoto" (32), "Lighting up Kyoto" (23), in which the contrast of the figures against the lanterns is cleverly wrought. At the end of the gallery are some half dozen pictures in broad black flat frames, in which, while preserving her manner, the artist has left the delicate tone and diaphanous texture of most of her works for intense glowing colour, almost vitreous and enamel-like. This quality is most strikingly exhibited in "Entering the Temple, Shiba" (25). "The Rest House" (27) is bold in colour and treatment. Four figures are seated against a bright background. On the left, a tree of pink and flame-coloured blossom thrusts itself into the picture against the dark roof. "Main Street, Ikao" (29), shows a street of stairs winding between gables piled Pelion on Ossa to pine woods above. The colour is rich and subdued, relieved by the skilfully-grouped figures mounting the steps. "In the Temple Grounds, Kamakura" (31), is a notable drawing. The tree thrown across it reminds us of one of the features of Japanese Art. "In a Daimio's Garden" (46) and "Fishing for Tame Carp" (43) are both dainty studies of colour. The artist has seen Japan, and seen it in her own way, a way which is worth the telling. She makes bold use of her pencil, and is effective and rich in her colour, yet one feels that her work is realistic rather than decorative. All who see these drawings will join us in hoping that Miss M. R. Hill Burton will paint for us again, in Japan, or at home, or elsewhere.

The drawings of Scotch and Irish scenery which Miss Hill Burton exhibited three years ago in Bond-street were earnest that she was no amateur. The half hundred water-colour drawings of figure and flower in Japan which occupy the room at 21, Haymarket, prove that she is now a complete artist. Her accomplishment is the accomplishment of assured breadth, and she obtains fine colour with her fully charged brush often used for lightly superimposed washes of colour on colour. The people and the plants of Japan have been pictorially rendered by many artists, but perhaps none of them convey so strong a sense of veracity and are so effective as Miss Hill Burton. There is great charm in her loose, free touch, coupled as it is with security of drawing and glowing hues, and especially with her skill in rendering light—whether this be natural and evenly distributed, or is artificial and local by being transmitted through the sides and opening of paper lanterns. Figure is delightfully unstudied in attitude, yet is always put in with judgment, and the home life she frequently depicts, such as Women fishing for tame carp (No. 43), "Children playing among azaleas," "Feeding carp under the wisteria," or "Women tending flowers in a Peony House," is altogether a change from the street scenes or landscape which Mr. Menpes, Mr. East, and Mr. Fripp have chosen when treating Japan. Lantern light is given perhaps best of all in "Ikao, Evening" (which is curious by showing a village of bathing houses built over rapids of natural hot water), and in "A Summer Night;" while for evidence of good draughtmanship we may point to the perspective of an ascending street of steps and of the varied figures which are shown there in "Main street, Ikao." But, indeed, nearly all of the drawings command regard.

A LINE OF STEAMERS TO CENTRAL AMERICA.

THE *Kobe Chronicle* hears that it is reported on good authority that a line of steamers is shortly to be established which will run between Kobe and Yokohama on this side and Mexico, connecting with the Tehuantepec Railroad and thus with the Gulf or Cotton States. It will be worked under the auspices of the Osaka Cotton-Spinning Association with the view of bringing cotton direct from the States, and we understand that definite promises have been obtained of a subsidy from the Japanese Government. Besides cotton, it is expected that iron will be brought from a mine in the northern part of Mexico, which, on the authority of an analysis made by an English firm, is said to contain ore of superior quality. It is believed that paying return cargoes to Central America will be forthcoming of Japanese staples, matting for example, after the line has been in working order for some time, but the main object in view is the direct import of cotton. In consequence of so many of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamers being engaged on transport service, it was at first intended to run the line independently, but now that the transports are gradually being released, it is possible that arrangements will be made with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to work the line.

THE "CONFIDENCE TRICK" ON A LARGE SCALE.

A LIVERPOOL firm of shipbrokers have been the victims of a kind of "confidence trick" fraud which has more than once before been successfully carried out by Continental swindlers on confiding Britishers eager to secure an apparently big new connection. The Liverpool firm have been fortunate in getting off with a loss of not more than £400. In this instance the operators were located at Bordeaux. They proposed to transfer the consignments and general trade of their "line" from France—because of the heavy protective duties there—to Liverpool, and had chosen to confer the transaction of the lucrative business on the Liverpool firm in question. Correspondence was carried on for a couple of months, the letter-paper of the Bordeaux "house" being ornamented with a list of its ships, branch houses, etc., the official registers bearing out these details of information. Just here, as the Americans say, the story is a little difficult to follow. If the letter-paper of a famous Bordeaux shipping house was used, or forged, the replies from Liverpool should have reached, not the swindlers, but the eminent Bordeaux firm. May be a wrong address was adopted by the swindlers; anyhow the affair was successfully worked by them, and in due course the "son" of the principal put in his appearance at Liverpool—and then the old story was repeated. The "son," who created a most favourable impression on the Mersey by his exquisite manners, made some advantageous purchases for prompt payment, and the "father" was debarred by the intervention of a Sunday from sending instant remittances through his Paris bank; would the Liverpool firmly advance the young gentleman what he might require on the enclosed draft for 10,000 francs? Of course the "enclosed draft" was a bogus document; but the polished youth got hold of £400 and then cleared out. The police now have the matter in hand, and are, as usual, "very reticent," except that they are free to admit that the perpetrators of the swindle have done the same trick with similar results at various other British ports.

RUSSIA ON THE PACIFIC.

REFERRING to the movements of Russia in the North Pacific since her people first appeared in that part of the world, a London journal writes:—

It is a curious but little-known fact that she has been on the shores of that sea much longer than ourselves, but while we have been honestly trading, Russia has been plotting—always for the acquisition of empire. On every conceivable opportunity, when China has been in difficulties, Russia has taken advantage of the first weak point for pressing a claim or annexing territory, as will presently be shown. In 1639 a band of Cossacks first planted her standards on the shores of the Pacific, and secured their position in the far North, near Okhotsk, laying waste the country with fire and sword. This was exactly thirty-nine years after a charter had been granted to our Leadenhall merchants for trading in India, but before the first cargo of tea had left Canton for London.

In 1643 a report reached Moscow of fabulous wealth and valuable gold mines on the shores of the lower Amoor River, and on the 15th July one Peter Poyarkoff, with a numerous following of Cossack horsemen, crossed the Ural ranges bound for this El Dorado. Gathering in numbers as they went along, it was their luck to meet a formidable Chinese Manchu army, which quickly dispersed the Cossacks somewhere about the meridian of Pekin, but far to the north. At this date Russia appears to have taken her cue from England, for no sooner had the first British ship arrived in London direct from Canton than the Czar despatched an ambassador to Pekin. His murder being effected by Chinese agents south of the Amoor River, Russia at once sent Khabaroff in charge of a small army provided with shipwrights and artisans for constructing boats on the upper waters of that river, and so reaching the Pacific; but again a Chinese army of 18,000 men successfully opposed their passage, and compelled Russia to sign a treaty, at the frontier town of Nerchinsk, by which she for ever gave up all authority on the Amoor and recognised China as in possession. Still Russia or her agents always persevered, as they have done since in Central Asia, and to such an extent that in 1710 the Emperor of China sent the two Jesuit fathers, Jartoux and Fridel, to make a correct map of his northern boundaries; this they did so effectually that the present maps are nearly all based on the original. The boundary between China and Siberia shows unmistakably the comparative strength of China at that period—and for this reason, when Russia sent out her navigator to the Far East in the person of Vitus Behring, overland, he kept well north of the 57th parallel during his long journey to Okhotsk, where a ship had been previously built for him. The fact is, that at time Russia was, with all her vast extent of land, a very poor country, and completely at the mercy, so far away from home, of a Power like China.

The exploits of Behring are too well-known to warrant anything being said here beyond a running survey. He discovered Kamtchatka to be a peninsula, and not, as had been supposed, a part of Japan; he discovered Awatska Bay; (Petropolovski) the coast of America in 58° 30′ N., and the Aleutian archipelago; while returning to Awatska he was wrecked on Behring Island, where he finally died of scurvy and exhaustion. Here his crew built a small vessel from the wreck of their ship, and so returned to Russia. It is now generally supposed that this intrepid navigator did not discover Behring Straits, but supposed Cape Navarin, from which place he returned, to be the north-eastern point of Asia.

By virtue of his discoveries Russia claimed and took possession of Alaska, which, with Siberia, gave her a territory fully three times as large as the whole of Europe, but for purposes of trade at that date nearly worthless. In 1805 the Czar Alexander cast his eyes over the Amoor, and sent out Krusenstern with a squadron of frigates to assert the position his country had yielded to China in 1741. These war-vessels navigated the Amoor and founded thereon several Russian stations. In 1825-27 the voyage of the frigate *Krotky*, under Von Wrangel did much for Russia's position all over the Far East; but still it was discovered that China was too powerful in Manchuria for the success of a Russian seizure, and nothing was done of any importance till the great Quang-Si rebellion in China took the jealous eyes of the decaying empire away from Manchuria, when Russia at once seized the opportunity of breaking her treaty, annexing the lower Amoor, and founding the seaport of Nikovisk on its left bank near the mouth. This was in 1852. During the following year an English steamer was purchased in Southampton and left for the Amoor in company with the *Pallas* frigate. Coal had been discovered on the island of Saghalien, and Castries Bay was seized by Admiral Putiatin. In 1854 a paddle-steamer was built and her machinery manufactured by Belgian engineers at Petrovsk, 300 miles up the Amoor, for the purpose of towing barges and provisions to the Russian Pacific squadron, then engaged in war with Great Britain and France. On the conclusion of peace two steamers for the Amoor were purchased in America, large bodies of troops were sent overland, and another squadron of frigates despatched from Cronstadt.

During our war with China in 1860 Russia redoubled her efforts to get to the south in the Gulf of Tartary. German colonists and artisans were sent out round the Cape, vast numbers of convicts were hurried overland, condemned, it has been said, on the slightest evidence of crime. While Pekin was occupied by the British and French forces in 1860, the distracted Chinamen were compelled by Russia to sign a treaty by which the Amoor and the coasts of Manchuria, as far south as Vladivostock, were ceded. About this time no less than sixty towns, or trading stations, had sprung into life on the great river; the Russian steamer *St. Innbucentues* left Antwerp with two iron river-steamers of 60 h.p. each, and several barges, all ready for putting together, while later the steamer *Orus* left London with the parts of two other steamers amongst her cargo. Both these vessels were lost at Castries Bay, together with their contents, the result being that John Cockerell & Co., of Antwerp, got orders for several more river boats, which duly arrived at their stations, news of which reached St. Petersburg by telegraph, the laying of which overland, had just been completed. In 1861 two other steamers left San Francisco full of German colonists, it being discovered that the Cossacks, from their indolence and drunken habits, were quite unless for the purpose of developing a new country. It has been said in St. Petersburg that the war of 1860, waged by England and France, only brought advantages to Russia, which thereby took the opportunity of extending her boundaries 760 miles to the southward, and so acquiring the whole sea-coast of Manchuria, as well as such harbours as Olga Bay, Vladivostock, and many others. Still, the statesmen of Russia appear to have overlooked the fact that often more wealth can be got out of a foreign country by trading than by the actual possession of land. During the early years of this century the Russian trading flag was to be seen at Canton, together with those of other nations, but as years went on English competition

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became so powerful that one by one her ships dropped off, till in the early fifties they had completely disappeared and nearly all the tea used in South or Western Russia was conveyed there by transhipping steamer from the London emporium. The opening of the Suez Canal brought South Russia ten days nearer to China than London, and thus the "Volunteer fleet" from Odessa was established, but the enterprise is still far from being a great success, owing to a lack of capital in Russia generally, and to a want of outward cargoes, beyond Government stores and troops.

Thousands of tons of tea for Russia are still carried in British bottoms, not only from China but also from India and Ceylon. The construction and finish of the Siberian railway will of course place the whole of North China at the mercy of Russia; it will have Hankow perhaps as its eastern commercial terminus, but, considering the enormous cost of railway transport, will no more seriously affect British trade than do the American Pacific lines affect the San Francisco grain carriage by sea. In due course we shall probably hear that Russia, in return for her interference, has acquired Port Lazareff, but if the Loan is really negotiated, from that moment China will have placed herself in a position, in regard to Russia, the end of which it would be very presumptuous for anyone to attempt to foretell.

Great Britain will not take up a selfish policy of ill-will in this momentous question. The world is still big enough for all, provided all are reasonable enough to abstain from treading on each other's corns. Herein lies the danger. Great Britain will no more acquiesce in a policy of spoliation in China than she did a generation ago, when the Czar Nicholas offered her Egypt as the price of her silence in regard to Turkey. A formidable coalition of her power with the United States, Germany, Japan, and of course China, is not only possible, but even very probable, should Russia and France together attempt anything like a policy of conquest. We know that Peter the Great "left orders" in his will for the conquest of India, and after that the subjugation of all Asia: but for the present, at least, it is likely that Peter's descendants will have to be content with the cession of Port Lazareff.

HORSE BREEDING INVESTIGATION COMMISSION.

THE following persons have been appointed to sit on the Commission for the Investigation of Horse Breeding:—Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Chairman; Mr. Fujita Shiro, Director of the Bureau of Agriculture; Colonel Okura, Cavalry; Mr. Hagiwara, an expert; Captain Nishihata, Cavalry; Veterinary Surgeon-Captain Imaizumi, Professor Katsushima, of the Imperial College of Agriculture; Mr. Niiyama Shosuke, an expert of the Household Department; Mr. Hayakawa Tetsuya, Private Secretary to the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Nishikawa, an expert of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce; and fifteen other persons, including members of both Houses of the Diet and private breeders. Mr. Miura Seikichi, of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, is to be the manager of the Commission.

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY AT THE H. AND S. BANK AT KOBE.

ON Thursday morning, says the *Chronicle*, it was discovered that during the night a daring and very determined attempt had been made to plunder the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. On going to one of the safes at nine o'clock it was seen that the lock had been tampered with and a key had been broken in it. Further examination revealed that the thief, or thieves, had tried to open four safes, each in a separate room—the large office safe, the manager's safe, the comparadore's safe, and the accountant's safe. On inquiry last night we were informed that so far as is known the would-be plunderers left the premises bootyless, though it was evident they had tried very hard to get at the contents of the safes. Access was no doubt obtained through a window which the disappointed thief—or thieves—forgot to close on leaving what they found to be a palace of well-protected treasure.

FUNERAL OF THE KUCHENG VICTIMS.

THE funeral of the ten victims of the Kucheng massacre took place at Foochow on the morning of the 6th inst., at 5.30. There was a large assembly, and universal sorrow and horror was expressed. The sight, says a newspaper correspondent, was certainly awful—one large long grave in compartments, and there in coffins lay all that was left of our dead country-women. Well might we be excused for feeling that nothing too bad could be done to the instigators of the outrage. Archdeacon Wolfe and Mr. Eyton Jones read the service, and the English Consul, the Vice-Consul at Pagoda, Mr. Banister, and Mr. McClelland carried the little coffin containing all that was left of Mr. and Mrs. Stewart out of the chapel to the grave; the other coffins were put in the grave during the night. Mr. Banister spoke a few words after the service, asking that something be done to show the horror felt, but he could not go on, and completely broke down. Altogether it was the most appalling spectacle ever seen in this place. Each coffin had an inscription, and I thought that on Lena's (the nurse) most appropriate. It was "Faithful unto death." The poor girl died defending the baby under her charge.

METALS.

MESSRS. S. W. ROYSE & Co., in their circular dated June 9th, say:—"The Pig Iron trade during the first half of this month has been rather disappointing, prices having given way somewhat. Since the middle of the month, however, there has been an improvement, and values have advanced some 6d. to 8d. per ton. Shipments from Middlesbrough during this month are very satisfactory, being considerably heavier than in last month, and than in the corresponding period of June, 1894. There has been a fair business doing at Middlesbrough during this week, and though prices are at the moment a little easier, owing to slight weakness at Glasgow, there is a good feeling in the market and expectation of improvement. The higher-priced metals have not been moving well during the month. Copper has lost some 7s. 6d. per ton, and is now steady but quiet. Tin has given way steadily, and is some £2. 5s. per ton cheaper, and is easy. Spelter has lost ground slightly. Lead, after advancing a little, has given way, and is about 5s. per ton cheaper."

BRITISH SHIPBUILDING.

As an example of the facilities afforded to foreign governments by British shipbuilders, the following is worth quoting—Messrs. James & George Thomson, of Clydebank, have secured the order for the building of seven gunboats for the Spanish Government, to be engaged in putting down the insurrection in Cuba. The vessels will be from 100 to 300 tons displacement, and will have a speed of 12 knots. They will be armed with quick-firing Maxim-Nordenfeldt guns, and are to be completed in two months' time. It is evident that the Spanish Government finds that it does not pay to build in Spain, notwithstanding the attempts which have been made to establish large works at Bilbao and Cadiz. The time is certainly short to execute the work, but doubtless Clydebank will be equal to the occasion.

NEW STEAMER FOR THE AUSTRALIAN TRADE.

MESSRS. R. NAPIER & Sons, Limited, Govan, have received an order from the Eastern & Australian Steamship Company, Limited, London, to build a steel screw-steamer of about 3,500 tons deadweight capacity, and to steam about 12 knots. The vessel will be fitted for carrying first and second-class passengers, and also for carrying Chinese emigrants.

CHOLERA ON THE "ASHDOWN."

THE *Boyeki Shimbun* states that a German carpenter (age 27), on board the British steamer *Ashdown*, which arrived here on the 16th inst. from Kobe, was attacked by cholera the same day, and she was at once sent back to the Nagahama Quarantine Station. Two Japanese were attacked by cholera at Yokohama on the 16th instant.

MORE CANALS.

ANOTHER German canal is now talked of, viz., one to connect the Lower Elbe and Lower Weser just above Bremen, and plans for cutting a ship canal between the Rivers Dnieper and Dwina, and thus connecting the Baltic and Black Seas, have been handed over by the Russian Government to the Department of Fluvial Communications.

THE BRITISH BAR AT BANGKOK.

SOME months ago the lawyers at Bangkok memorialized the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs against Mr. de Bunsen's decision to admit foreign lawyers to practice in H.B.M.'s Consular Court. A reply, it is reported, has been received to the effect that only English barristers and solicitors are entitled to plead in the said court.

THE VICE-GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF FORMOSA.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* has it that Lieut.-General Viscount Takashima was yesterday appointed Vice-Governor-General of Formosa.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

MARQUISES ITO, OYAMA, SAIGO, and YAMAGATA are gazetted members of the House of Peers.

NEW JAPANESE MINISTER TO KOREA.

LIEUT.-GENERAL VISCOUNT MIURA is gazetted on Wednesday Japanese Minister to Korea.

INTEREST ON MONEY IN JAPAN.

The Department of Finance has undertaken interesting investigations about the rates of interest ruling at various places in the Empire during the three months of April, May, and June last. Among 105 places where one or more National Banks are in existence, the rates of interest on advances were highest in the Prefectures of Aomori, Fukui, Oita, Kumamoto, Miyasaki, Iwate, and Shimane. At Hachinohe, in the Prefecture of Aomori, the rate was 20 per cent. per annum, which is the maximum permitted by law. At Takebu, Saiki, Kawajiri, Hitoyoshi, Nobeoka, and Miyasaki in Kyushu—the ruling rate was 18 per cent., while at Tsuwano (Prefecture of Shimane), and Morioka (Prefecture of Iwate) the rate ranged between 15 and 18. The lowest rate reported is 5 per cent. per annum, but the locality where it prevailed is not named. The following table shows the averages of the highest rates reported from the different places during the three months under review for the two years, 1894 and 1895:—

	1895. per cent.	1894. per cent.	Difference. per cent.
April	13.60	12.52	Increase 1.08
May	13.60	12.66	,, 1.04
June	13.95	13 00	,, .95

The averages of the lowest rates reported from the different localities were as follow:—

	1895. per cent.	1894. per cent.	Difference. per cent.
April	9.56	9 00	Increase .56
May	9.56	8.83	,, .73
June	9.64	9.17	,, .47

With regard to the rates on deposits, the highest, 9.6 %, was reported from Kochi. Next comes Tsurugaoka, with 8 %. Other places reporting high rates were Nobeoka (7.6 %), Fukui (7.5 %), Toyama, and Sasayama (7 to 7.5 %), Miharu, Futamata, and Tokushima (7 %). Elsewhere the rates ranged between 1.8 and 6.8 %. The following table shows the averages of maximum rates on deposits ruling at different places:—

	1895. per cent.	1894. per cent.	Difference. per cent.
April	5.61	5.08	Increase .53
May	5.65	5.14	,, .51
June	5.71	5.21	,, .50

The averages of maximum rates were as follow:—

	1895. per cent.	1894. per cent.	Difference. per cent.
April	3.89	3.52	Increase .37
May	3.92	3.48	,, .44
June	4.00	3.54	,, .46

As to the rates of discount, Nabeoka heads the list with 6 *sen* per diem per 100 *yen*. It is followed by Miyasaki with 5 *sen* 5 *rin*. Then come Sakata, Kochi, Saiki, and Yatsushiro, 5 *sen*. In other places, the rates ranged between 1 *sen* 5 *rin* and 4 *sen* 5 *rin*. The highest averages for the whole country were as follow:—

	1895. Sen. Rin.	1894 Sen. Rin.	Difference. Rin.
April	3 7.9	3 5.4	Increase 2.5
May	3 8.7	3 5.1	,, 3.6
June	3 8.8	3 6.2	,, 2.6

The averages of the lowest rates for the whole country were as follow:—

	1895. Sen. Rin.	1894. Sen. Rin.	Difference. Rin.
April	2 9.8	2 9.7	Increase 2.1
May	3 .6	2 7.7	,, 2.9
June	3 .7	2 8.2	,, 2.5

INTERNET ARCHIVE http://www.archive.org/details/ URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE CROWN PRINCE.

H.I.H. the Crown Prince is seriously ill at the Palace of Takanawa. At the beginning of March last, His Imperial Highness was seized with influenza, from which he recovered in about a fortnight. To restore his health, he went to Hayama, in the vicinity of Zushi, on the 4th of May, where he rapidly gained in weight and was soon convalescent. But on the 21st of the same month, His Highness caught cold and suffered from catarrh. Completely recovered from this ailment, he returned to the capital at the close of the month, but only to become the victim of a fresh malady, for on the 2nd of June he contracted typhus fever of a rather severe character, his temperature rising at one time to 40.2° C. After several unfavourable changes, His Highness began to gather strength at the beginning of August. Being still too feeble to endure a journey, His Highness, who had hitherto been staying at the Aoyama Palace, moved to the Palace at Takanawa on the 8th inst. For two days, he showed signs of improvement, but on the 10th his temperature suddenly rose to 39° C., and the following morning symptoms began to manifest themselves of pleurisy and pneumonia on the right side. The temperature gradually fell until the 15th, when it began to rise again, and gradually inflammation spread over the right lung. The left lung is said to be unaffected. Since the 20th instant, the temperature is said to have gradually fallen, but His Highness's condition causes the gravest anxiety.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is believed that on Tuesday next a second distribution of honours will take place at the Palace. According to trustworthy information, Lieut.-Generals Baron Yamaji, Baron Sakuma, and Baron Katsura will be raised to the rank of Viscount. The rank of Baron will be conferred upon Lieut.-Generals Nogi, Kuroki, Oku, and Okazawa; Major-Generals Oshima Yoshimasa, Oshima Hisanao, Tatsumi, Oseko, Nishi, Hasegawa, Kodama, Ogawa, Inouye, and Terauchi; Paymaster-General Noda and Surgeon-General Ishiguro. At the same time, the heirs of the late Major-Generals Odera and Fukuwara will be raised to the peerage with the rank of Baron. Among the civil dignitaries, Viscount Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, will be promoted to be Count; Mr. Watanabe, Minister of Communications, will be created a Viscount, and Mr. Ito Miyoji, Secretary-General of the Cabinet, a Baron.

It is stated on good authority that the measures for the increase of the Navy have been completed and forwarded to the Cabinet. They include the construction of warships, the establishment of Naval stations, and the education of officers and men. It is aimed to carry out these measures within five or six years. The number and tonnage of the ships to be ordered are not definitely known, but the magnitude of these figures may be easily imagined when it is considered that these ships are to constitute the strength of the future squadrons of the Japanese Navy, the majority of the ships now in active service being old and unfit for use much longer. As to the Army Bills, the rough drafts have been completed, but they are so complicated that it will be some weeks before they will be ready for presentation to the Cabinet. Until their final completion, it will be impossible for the Department of Finance to draw up measures relating to the increase of the Ordinary Revenue. Under these circumstances, it is yet premature to say when, or even whether at all, an extraordinary session of the Diet will be convened.

The Codes Investigation Council is now in vacation, but it is reported that it has thus far made rapid progress, nearly seven-tenths of both the Civil and Commercial Codes having been finished. The laws of succession and family relationship remain to be examined. It was in connection with these laws that the Civil Code has been most severely criticised. The members of the Council are determined to give due importance to the time honoured customs and institutions of the country bearing upon these subjects, so that they hope that the new Code as revised by them will be acceptable to the Diet. The examination of these codes is to be finished some time next year.

The administration of the affairs of Okinawa (Riukiu) has hitherto been conducted in conformity with local customs and usages. Perceiving the importance of bringing it into closer harmony with the system followed in the other parts of the Empire, the authorities are now considering what reforms should be introduced. The greatest difficulty is said to be in connection with the question of taxation. A bill on the subject will be introduced to the Diet next session.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has just concluded a long series of well-written articles on the Situation in the Orient. Our contemporary seems to believe that China is doomed to be divided among the Powers. In such an event, it is Russia, says the *Mainichi*, which by her decidedly aggressive movements will place herself in direct opposition to the interests of Japan. In almost every other great adjustment of affairs in the East, Japan and her northern neighbour are destined to play antagonistic parts. Such, in the Progressionist organ's opinion, is the inevitable result of the geographical position of the two countries. With England, the case is different. With her, Japan will always be able to get along in peace and amity, for in the *Mainichi's* opinion, the two Powers have different spheres of military expansion. The only competition between them will be in the field of industry and trade. In this direction our contemporary is convinced that Englishmen will be glad to welcome their young emulators. As to the question of alliance, our contemporary does not think it necessary for Japan to form any such relation with any Power. It believes that, should occasion arise, Japan will find herself in such company as shall feel a community of interests with her.

The *Jiyu Shimbun* has been disowned by the Radical party. Such a result has been foreseen for a long time. The *Jiyu* has never adquately represented the great party of which it has nominally been the organ, and of late its utterances on important political questions have been observed to be in direct opposition to the known views of the Radicals. With the backsliding of the *Jiyu*, the Radical party has no journalistic organ to represent it. The *Mezamashi* represents a section of the party, but then it is not a political paper. The Radicals are therefore believed to have under contemplation the starting of a new journal.

A certain outsider, quoted by the *Kokkai*, offers some interesting comments upon the state of feeling in the provincial localities. Concerning the Extremists, he says they are lecturing in the vicinity of the capital, where they are well received and their addresses are listened to with attention. But their lectures seem to produce not the least impression upon their audience, and no sooner do they leave the place than the inhabitants appear to forget even the fact that these politicians had paid them a visit. As to the Radical lecturers, they seem to confine their efforts to the explanation of the policy decided upon at the head-quarters of the party. In short, they are more defensive than aggressive, and consequently they, too, fail to excite any enthusiasm on the part of their provincial followers. From these statements, it is evident that a general lull has come over the provincial political world.

The Bills for the increase of the Army are said to have been completed at the General Staff Office on the 21st instant. The Department of War on receipt of these Bills is stated to have at once begun the compilation of the estimates of the expenditure required. Nothing is known about the nature of the increments projected by these Bills. The compilation of estimates, though a laborious task, will not take much time, so we may expect that the Army Bill will be ready before long to be forwarded to the Cabinet.

As to the Naval Bills, which are now in the hands of the Ministers of State, the *Nichi Nichi* mentions that the completion of the measures proposed is to be effected in seven years. So far as the construction of warships and the increase of Naval stations alone are concerned, the work may be completed in a shorter time, provided the necessary funds are forthcoming. But the training of officers cannot be accomplished by money. Four years of instruction in the College and three years of practical training afloat are necessary to produce efficient officers. Hence the completion of the increase of the Navy cannot be expected in less than seven years at least.

Lieut-General Viscount Takashima, who has been on the reserve list, has been restored to active service, and appointed Vice Governor-General of Formosa. He is to command the army which is now being organized for the reduction of the southern part of the island. He will leave for the south in a few days.

CONCERT IN NIKKO.

The Chevalier de Kontski's concert in the Nikko Hotel on Saturday evening was an immense treat to the music-loving portion of the community that frequent the favourite mountain resort every Summer. It was a courageous essay on the part of the great pianist to give a concert at a place where so many difficulties presented themselves, and so little prospect offered of a profitable result. But the principal dining-room of the Nikko Hotel, spacious and well lighted, made an excellent salon, and a piano of fine tone was kindly lent by Captain Munter, so that the arrangements were completed with less trouble than might have been expected. The audience, though not numerous—as was inevitable under the circumstances—were thoroughly appreciative, and the Chevalier played with all his wonted skill and feeling, his wonderful power over the instrument sometimes electrifying his listeners. The programme was varied by four songs admirably rendered by a well known amateur. Madame de Kontski also gave two readings of a most interesting character from Memoires written by the Chevalier himself, whose association with Mozart and the other musical stars of seventy years ago has made him a veritable *répertoire* of anecdote and entrancing personal reminiscences. We append the programme :—

1.—Moonlight Sonata.....Beethoven.
Ch. de Kontski.
2.—Air from the Huguenots.....Meyerbeer.
An Amateur.
3.—Awakening of the Lion.....Kontski.
Ch. de Kontski.
4.—Air from Nieblunzen.....Wagner.
An Amateur.
5.—Interesting Memories, Weber.....Madame de Kontski.
6.—Romance from Marcella.....Kontski.
An Amateur.
7.—Souvenir des Huguenotes.....Meyerbeer.
Ch. de Kontski.
8.—Memories, Beethoven.....Madame de Kontski.
9.—Chanson Niennoise.....Mozart.
An Amateur.
10.—(a) Snow Spirits, Nocturne (b) Souvenir de Berlin... Kontski.
Ch. de Kontski.

We learn that Signorina Belinfante purposes giving a concert in the Nikko Hotel on Saturday next. Doubtless the opportunity of hearing such an exceptionally gifted singer will be availed of by all the foreigners now sojourning there. Professor von Koeber, whose exquisite playing on the piano would be in itself sufficient inducement to attract a large audience, has consented to play, so that a programme at once varied and delightful can be arranged.

Nothing is more easy than to grow rich. It is only to trust nobody, to be friend to none, to get everything and save all you get; to stint yourself and everybody belonging to you; to be the friend of no man, to heap interest upon interest, cent upon cent; and to have no man for your friend; to be mean, miserable, and despised for some 20 or 30 years, and riches will come as sure as disease and disappointment. And when pretty near enough wealth is collected by a disregard for all the charities of the human heart, at the expense of every enjoyment save that of wallowing in filthy meanness, death comes to finish the work—the body buried in a hole, the heirs dance over it.

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ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* states that the Japanese cotton spinning companies have on the whole realised encouraging results during the first half of the present year, as shown in the following table :—

	Spindles in Operation.	Profits. Yen.	Profits per Spindle Yen.
Koriyama Boseki	5,376	25,055.034	4.661
Kishiwada Boseki	10,281	47,574.394	4.627
Owari Boseki	15,712	60,650.857	3.860
Sakai Boseki	5,300	20,150.201	3.802
Settsu Boseki	35,149	138,134.446	3.760
Hirano Boseki	27,096	101,372.220	3.741
Kurume Boseki	10,000	36,295.162	3.630
Wakayama Boseki	9,760	35,237.369	3.602
Fukuyama Boseki	4,680	16,477.498	3.521
Kurashiki Boseki	10,664	36,684.876	3.440
Osaka Boseki	50,774	169,402.389	3.336
Ka negafuchi Boseki	40,057	98,923.126	3.210
Meiji Boseki	7,668	24,353.044	3.176
Miike Boseki	12,168	37,982.032	3.121
Uwajima Boseki	4,128	12,768.849	3.003
Amagasaki Boseki	26,320	75,032.617	2.852
Matsuyama Boseki	4,992	14,176.001	2.840
Miye Boseki	51,408	137,800.594	2.684
Senshu Boseki	19,264	48,873.171	2.537
Asahi Boseki	13,941	25,454.933	1.826
Tamashima Boseki	11,827	20,388.746	1.725
Himeji Boseki	10,000	17,216.857	1.722
Fukushima Boseki	10,410	15,443.673	1.484
Tokyo Boseki	21,520	30,824.951	1.433
Iyo Boseki	5,115	3,610.396	.706

Our contemporary ascribes three reasons for the generally favourable returns of the spinning factories, first, that speculative purchases in view of the revival of trade after the war led to an increase in the price of yarns; secondly, that the price of raw cotton has gradually risen; and thirdly, that the cost of coal has depreciated.

The same journal remarks that there is a growing tendency throughout the country to purchase imported rice. Correspondence from Sendai, Chiba, Shizuoka, Kofu, and Numazu, agree in stating that, in proportion to the rise in the price of the home produce, the demand increases for foreign rice, especially that of Saigon and Rangoon.

The projects of railway companies are so numerous that the total length of the lines for which charters have been applied for and not yet granted is over 2,000 miles, while the estimated capital exceeds 100,000,000 *yen*. Many of the projected companies will no doubt fail to obtain charters, while some will collapse after receiving official recognition. Making allowance for these eventualities, there will still be a large number that will carry out the projected lines.

It is stated that the Specie Bank of Yokohama has a project for increasing its capital by 5,000,000 *yen*, with a view to the extension of business operations. The present capital is 6,000,000 *yen*, of which 4,000,000 *yen* have been paid up. There is besides a reserve fund of 4,500,000 *yen*, so that the available amount of the bank's funds is 8,500,000 *yen*. But this sum is felt to be inadequate to meet the requirements of the rapidly increasing business of the bank. The establishment of a branch at Hongkong and the extension of transactions to the Australian colonies are also said to be under contemplation. These projects will be submitted to the shareholders at their general meeting in September.

The bad weather and the consequent apprehension of a scanty harvest have doubtless tended to operate as a check upon the reviving activity of trade and industry. But the recent return of fine weather seems to have improved the outlook, for it is now generally believed that, should the present weather continue and no disastrous storms occur about the time of *ni-hyaku-to-ka*, the harvest, though still unatisfactory, will not prove to be so bad as was at first apprehended.

The merchants of Yokohama propose the establishment of a warehouse company with a capital of 1,000,000 *yen* divided into 20,000 shares of 50 *yen* each. The company is to be styled the Yokohama Boyeki Soko Kabushiki Kaisha, and the site will be No. 1, Ichome, Sakaimachi. The following gentlemen have been appointed as a Committe of Constitution: —Messrs Iijima Yuzo, Katagi Yayekichi, Watanabe Teijiro, Matsuura Yoshimatsu, Takeoka Zenshichi, Hitomi Kuzo, Watanabe Shojiro, and Otomo Masanojo.

BANKING BUSINESS IN JAPAN.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* publishes interesting statistics in relation to banking business in Japan, where the number of banks is rapidly increasing. The following tables show the number and capital of the banks of various classes, existing in June, 1895, and in December, 1894 :—

JOINT STOCK BANKS.

	June 1895.		December 1894.	
Below Yen	No.	Capital Yen.	No.	Capital Yen.
10,000	33...	185,830	33...	186,930
Upwards of Yen				
10,000	77...	973,980	75...	974,980
20,000	90...	1,983,799	84...	1,856,800
30,000	92...	2,825,300	86...	2,646,300
40,000	20...	812,000	22...	897,000
50,000	179...	10,256,980	164...	9,701,980
100,000	101...	11,400,000	89...	9,980,000
200,000	25...	6,540,000	21...	5,340,000
500,000	9...	10,000,000	9...	10,500,000
Total	926...	44,977,889	583...	42,083,990

BANKS—UNLIMITED LIABILITY.

	June 1895.		December 1894.	
Upwards of Yen	No.	Capital Yen.	No.	Capital Yen.
10,000	4...	47,000	4...	47,000
20,000	3...	61,000	3...	61,000
30,000	2...	60,000	—...	—
40,000	—...	—	—...	—
50,000	5...	262,400	5...	262,400
100,000	3...	307,000	3...	307,000
200,000	1...	300,000	1...	300,000
500,000	1...	2,000,000	1...	2,000,000
Total	19...	3,037,400	17...	2,977,400

BANKS—LIMITED LIABILITY.

	June 1895.		December 1894.	
Below Yen	No.	Capital Yen.	No.	Capital Yen.
10,000	11...	55,890	10...	49,540
Upwards of Yen				
10,000	10...	115,000	10...	110,000
20,000	11...	258,800	11...	263,800
30,000	8...	245,000	6...	185,000
40,000	1...	44,750	1...	44,750
50,000	10...	555,000	8...	455,000
100,000	6...	650,000	5...	550,000
200,000	2...	400,000	2...	400,000
500,000	5...	3,000,000	5...	3,000,000
Total	64...	5,324,440	58...	5,058,090

PRIVATE BANKS.

	June 1895.		December 1894.	
Below Yen	No.	Capital Yen.	No.	Capital Yen.
10,000	10...	43,520	18...	48,420
Upwards of Yen				
10,000	14...	155,000	15 ..	165,000
20,000	7...	145,000	7...	145,000
30,000	9...	270,000	9...	274,000
40,000	1...	40,000	1...	40,000
50,000	10...	540,000	9...	490,000
100,000	8...	800,000	8...	800,000
200,000 Below Yen 500,000	2...	700,000	2...	700,000
Total	61...	2,693,520	69...	2,655,420

SAVINGS BANKS.

	June 1895.		December 1894.	
	No.	Capital Yen.	No.	Capital Yen
Upwards of 30,000 *yen* and below 40,000 *yen*..	32...	1,010,000	21...	670,000
Upwards of 50,000 *yen* and below 100,000 *yen*.	14...	720,000	8...	400,000
Upwards of 100,000 *yen* and below 200,000 *yen*	4...	1,000,000	4...	400,000
Total	52...	2,730,000	33...	1,470,000
Grand Total	822...	58,763,249	761...	54,247,900

It will be seen from the above that in the space of six months, the increase of banks was 61 in number and 4,515,349 *yen* in capital. The tendency for increase has not yet ceased, but, on the contrary, is going on at an accelerating rate. Such a state of affairs is an unmistakable indication of the progress which the country is making in the field of commerce and industry. But at the same time, a close inspection of the actual circumstances relating to the recent increase of banks leads the *Chugai Shogyo* to make a few observations by way of warning to the public in general and to the parties concerned in particular. Our contemporary perceives that the recent increase of banks has taken place in places which already enjoy sufficient banking facilities and not places where they are still wanting. Thus the result of the rapid increase which is now going on in the number of banks, instead of remedying the present inequality of the rates of interest in different parts of the country,—an evil which is much talked of but which still continues,—may, it is feared, result in ruinous competition between banking establishments. Our contemporary then goes on to explain at length the various injurious consequences of such a competition, but we do not think it worth while to refer to these points. Suffice it to say that the warning raised by it seems to us to be timely and important.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The twenty-sixth semi-annual meeting of the shareholders of the Bank of Japan was held in the rooms of the bank on Saturday last. President Kawata Koichiro was in the chair, there being also present 68 shareholders. The Imperial Household was represented by Mr. Iida Son. The proceedings were watched by Count Matsukata, Minister of Finance; Mr. Tajiri Inajiro, Vice-Minister of Finance; and Mr. Matsuo, the Government Inspector of the bank. The report on the working of the bank during the first half of the present year, read by a clerk, was unanimously passed by the meeting. The statement of accounts for the period were as follow :—

	YEN.
Gross profit	7,668,250.365
Loss	938,073.356
Net profit	6,730,177.009
Carried over from last account.	186,175.532
Total	6,916,352.541
First dividend (6 per cent. per annum)	300,000.000
Second dividend (9 per cent. per annum)	450,000.000
Special dividend	5,000,000.000
Set apart as reserve	800,000.000
Rewards and expenses	93,000.000
Set apart as expenses towards new buildings	100,000.000
Carried over to next account	173,352.541
Total	6,916,352.541

Of the net profits, 5,000,000 *yen* represented profits realized by the sale of gold and silver bullion which had been purchased when cheap. This sum had nothing to do with the ordinary banking operations, so it had been put down as a special dividend. The ordinary dividend alone, however, amounted to 750,000 *yen*, which would be at the rate 15 per cent. per annum.

With the passage of the above statement of accounts the ordinary general meeting terminated, but the Chairman declared that the meeting would continue as an extraordinary general meeting, there being some special matters requiring discussion. The first topic brought up for deliberation related to the amendment of some of the provisions of the constitution of the bank. The amendments proposed were two; first, whereas under the existing constitution the call upon the shareholders for the payment of the remainder of the face value should be made six months beforehand, and such payment in amount should be not less than 20 and not more than 40 *yen* per share at one time. It was proposed to revise the provision to the effect that the call for payment should be made two months beforehand, and that the sum should not be less than 20 or more than 50 *yen* per share; secondly, it was proposed that the number of shares necessary to constitute a quorum at a general meeting, hitherto 60,000, be increased to 90,000. The next matter submitted to the meeting was the increase of the capital of the bank to 30,000,000 *yen*. The amount of increase, 10,000,000 *yen*, to be divided into 50,000 shares of 200 *yen* each. These shares to be distributed among the present shareholders in proportion to the number of shares held by them at the rate of one new for each two old shares. Half the face value of the new shares is to be paid at first, and it was proposed that the sum of *yen* 5,000,000

put down as a special dividend in the above statement of account should be converted into new shares. As to this sum, it might be supposed that it would have been better to set it aside as a reserve, but the Chairman explained that, there being already a sufficient reserve, there was no necessity for increasing it by so large an amount. All the proposals submitted to the shareholders were unanimously agreed to, and the meeting adjourned at 2.40 p.m.

KOREAN NEWS.

Concerning the new Korean Cabinet, the Söul correspondents of the Japanese newspapers seem on the whole satisfied with its composition, which is as follows:—Kim Kashu, Minister President of State; Kim Inshoku, Minister of Foreign Affairs; Boku Teiyo, Minister of Home Affairs; An Keiju, Minister of War; Chin Sokun, Minister of Finance; Jo Kohan, Minister of Justice; Li Konyo, Minister of Education; and Kim Kachin, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. Li Inyo has been appointed Police Inspecter-General, while Gyo Inchu, former Minister of Finance, has been transferred to the Vice-Presidentship of the Privy Council. Kim Koshu's appointment has not yet been gazetted, because he is prevented from attending the Court by the death of his daughter. His fitness for the Premiership is not unquestioned. He is not particularly liked either by the King or the Queen; on the contrary, he seems to be feared and disliked by their Majésties. The new Minister of Finance, Chin Sokun, is stated to be a partisan of the Queen, whose confidenco he enjoys to a great extent. The new Cabinet is thus regarded as a coalition between the Ming faction and the Independent faction, of which Kim is regarded as the representative. Some correspondents doubt the durability of such a Cabinet, but those of the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Jiji* seem to think otherwise. They say that it is a mistake to suppose that the so-called factions of Söul are divided on account of political opinions. From this point of view, it is more correct to say that there is no party or faction in Korea. To say that one party is pledged to progress and that another is in favour of reverting to the old *régime*, and so forth, would be to attribute to Korean politicians ideas which have never entered their heads. Their sole object in life is said to be the promotion of their personal interests and ambitions, so that one faction is exactly the same as another so far as political questions are concerned. It will not do, say these correspondents, for the Japanese to make nice distinctions between the different factions and to favour one more than another. In their opinion, Count Inouye is believed to have grasped this truth, and acted in conformity with it in arranging with the King the composition of the new Ministry.

The release of Li Shun-yo from imprisonment by the special grace of the King is the subject of diverse speculations. As usual, absurd rumours are said to be current in Söul. One of these is that the King was moved to this act of benevolence on account of the annoyance which His Majesty had of late been subject to every night by the appearance of spirits demanding the pardon of the Royal captive. Such supernatural occurrences have not been uncommon in the Korean palace, and the King's troubled conscience may have been played upon by some rascals in ecclesiastical robes. A more probable explanation is that the piteous supplication of the captive's grandmother, the aged lady of the Tai Wön-kun, moved the hearts of the King and Queen. The latter, it should be remembered, owes much to the this lady as her instructor in girlhood and her principal supporter in her candidacy to the Queenship. This explanation seems sufficient, though some of the Japanese correspondents are not satisfied with it, but attach great political importance to the incident. Kim Koshu and Yu Kitsuei, say they, recommended the step to the King, because they thought that the release of his grandson would induce the Tai Wön-kun to once more enter the political stage and keep the Queen's influence under restraint. The Queen, on her part, is reported to have penetrated the motive of these politicians, but, instead of trying to frustrate their design, she resolved to turn their weapons against themselves as a means of accomplishing her own political scheme, namely, the recall of Ming Yong-ik and other partisans of her family who are in exile in China and elsewhere. She is already stated to have ordered four of her most trusted courtiers to proceed to China to bring her relatives back to Söul.

Whatever may have been the nature of the forces at work to obtain his pardon, Li Shun-yo is now a free man. He is said to have returned to his grandfather's villa at Kong-tök-ri on the evening of the 6th instant. The event was celebrated by the delighted grandparents by a banquet which lasted the whole night. Ascribing the release of his grandson to the representation of Count Inouye, the Tai Wön-kun is said to have sent a messenger to the Japanese Legation, acquainting the Count with the safe return of Li Shun-yo and thanking him for his kind intercession. The Japanese Minister at once dispatched Mr. Kokubu, translator of the Legation, to the Tai Wön-kun's villa, to tell the latter that his grandson's release was the spontaneous act of the King, and that he, the Count, had no reason to receive thanks. Still the ex-Regent refuses to think that the happy event would have come about but for the influence of the Japanese Minister, whom he is said to be never tired of praising as a just and high-minded man.

The work of reform seems to be making slow but steady progress. It has already been stated in these columns that a system of local government was recently promulgated. The newly appointed local officials, who had been staying in Söul pending the completion of the estimates of the local governments, are said to have left the capital for their respective posts at the beginning of the present month. A few days previous to their departure they were assembled in the Department of Home Affairs, and received from the acting Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Yu Kitsuei, and the Japanese adviser, Mr. Saito Shuichiro, minute instructions about the method of conducting local affairs.

The *Jiji's* correspondent states that the King recently asked Count Inouye as to the position occupied by the Emperor of Japan in the political world. The Japanese Minister drew up a long memorandum on the subject and presented it to the King at the time of his audience on the 6th instant. After perusing the document, His Majesty is reported to have said that he would have nothing to complain of were he permitted to maintain towards his Cabinet the position which the Japanese Emperor occupied with regard to his Ministers. The Korean King, it should be borne in mind, has of late been complaining of the encroachment of his Ministers upon the royal prerogative. The Ministers really seem to have been guilty of this. Pak, for instance, used, it is said, to affix the Royal Seal to State papers without any reference to the King.

Count Inouye is said to have on one occasion discussed with the King the question of the Korean students in Japan. He explained to His Majesty the situation occupied by the Keio Gijuku in the educational world, and described the personality of its celebrated originator and head, Mr. Fukuzawa. His Majesty is said to have expressed great confidence in Mr. Fukuzawa.

The vicinity of the capital is said to have been visited by great storms at the beginning of the present month. The river Han-gang rose so high that houses at Yongsan, which are usually fifteen feet above the level of the water, were in danger of being washed away.

The Korean Government recently addressed a note to the foreign Ministers, informing them that, Chol-yöng-do (Deer Island) at Fusan, being a place of great importance as a position of defence, no foreigner would be allowed either to own land on it or live there. The foreign Representatives assembled at the Japanese Legation, and after some deliberation decided to reject the note on the ground that a portion of the island in question was within a radius of 10 Korean miles from the foreign settlement, the space within which by virtue of the Anglo-Korean treaty foreigners may own real property. Moreover, the Ministers decided to demand the enlargement of the settlements at Fusan and Gensan.

FORMOSA NEWS.

Detailed accounts of the operations which for a second time were undertaken for clearing the Hakka villages of the insurgents, have just been received in Tokyo. The Naito Detachment left Haishankow on the 29th ultimo, and advanced in the direction of Shin-chuh by the right, namely, the seaward side of the railway. The Yamane Detachment moved out of Takoham on the 31st ult., and marched along by the left of the railway to Hsin-pu, a flourishing village about three miles east of Shin-chuh. The Naito detachment seems to have met with little opposition, but the Yamane detachment had several hard village fights. The detachment marched in two columns, the right, about 1,500 strong, under Major-General Yamane, and the left, about 800 strong, under Major Bojo. The left column had to advance over hills and valleys, fighting all the while with most determined parties of insurgents who opened fire from rifle pits on the hills. About 1.30 p.m., the two columns came in sight of Yung-tan-pe, a small town containing from 400 to 500 houses. The town itself had been burned on the former occasion, and the insurgents had, consequently, taken up their positions on the hillsides in the vicinity. They were attacked from three directions, and in the course of about an hour were put to rout, having sustained a heavy loss. That night the detachment bivouacked in the neighbourhood of Dolaken. The number of the enemy killed that day was over 100, the loss on the Japanese side being 1 killed and 4 wounded.

On the 1st instant toward evening the Yamane detachment arrived in the vicinity of Hsin-pu, after having driven several bodies of the enemy before them on the way there. The heat was intense, and the march of the troops over hill and dale is said to have been very trying, several men dropping out of the ranks. When the head of the column reached Hsin-pu, the gates of the town were all closed. A private of the first class climbed over one of the gates and opened it, but no sooner had he achieved this feat than he was shot dead by an insurgent firing from a house near by. Two of his comrades who rushed in to rescue his body were also wounded, so that they had to return without attaining their object. A body of Japanese troops, who had taken up a position on an eminence in the vicinity poured a volley into the town. But night drawing near, the attack on the place was deferred till the following day, and the detachment, retiring a little distance, encamped in the open, as on the preceding night.

On the 2nd instant, a battery planted on high ground at a suitable distance from the town opened fire at about 9 a.m. and shelled the place, beginning with its eastern extremity. Manwhile, a company of infantry engaged a party of insurgents stationed outside the village. As the cannonade proceeded, the insurgents, who had been keeping up a fusillade from the houses, began to fly and make for the mountains in the south, and the greater number of them were shot by the Japanese. At 11.30 a.m., the Yamane detachment was joined by the Naito detachment, which at once began to shell the place from the opposite direction. A little past noon the cannonading ceased, and two parties of infantry were ordered to enter the town. The gates had to be broken down, and when the Japanese got inside they were greeted with a shower of bullets from the houses, and three men were wounded. The insurgents being determined to hold the place to the last, the Japanese set fire to some houses, when about fifty Chinese rushed out and were either shot or cut down by the Imperial troops. It was 4 p.m. before the place was entirely occupied by the Japanese. The number of insurgents who took part in its defence is

HATHITRUST DIGITIZED BY GOOGLE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

put at 600, of whom at least 150 were killed. The casualities on the Japanese side were 3 killed and 6 wounded. In one of the houses, was discovered the salted head of the brave soldier who had been killed on the preceding day immediately after opening one of the gates. It was buried with ceremony. Hsin-pu is a small town of about 400 brick houses, very neat in appearance. The Japanese correspondents were much struck by the evident marks of comparative opulence in a small mountain town like this.

While the operation of clearing the district of the insurgents was going forward, H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, Commander of the Imperial Guards, and his staff, escorted by a body of troops, advanced to Shin-chuh, leaving Taipeh on the 29th and reaching the above mentioned place on the 31st ultimo. On His Highness's arrival at the station, he was welcomed by about 100 of the principal citizens of Shin-chuh, clad in their finest clothing and carrying several Japanese flags. Several of them had afterward the honour of being presented to the Prince at head-quarters. For a few days after his arrival at the place, Prince Kitashirakawa is said to have been slightly indisposed, but by the date of the letter from which we are quoting —namely the 5th instant—he had completely recovered and was personally superintending the affars of the army under his command.

Shin-chuh is said to be a very prosperous commercial centre, being in this respect second only to Taipeh-fu in the north of the island. According to the investigations conducted by the officials of the civil Government of the place, the population is put at 5,932, consisting of 3,360 males and 2,572 females. The gallant defence of the place by the Sakai Battalion against the repeated attacks of the insurgents, seems to have inspired the inhabitants with a wholesome sense of security and confidence under Japanese protection. The streets are said to be kept clean, and perfect order maintained in the place, under the energetic efforts of Mr. Matsumura, the head of the civil administration. The place has some interesting historical associations for the Japanese, for it is believed that it was in this vicinity that Koxinga—the celebrated Japano-Chinese who upheld the cause of the fallen Ming dynasty—first landed in Formosa. It is stated that a family living by the side of a shrine dedicated to him claims descent from him.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the staff of the Governor-General of Formosa consists of the following officers:—Major-General Oshima (Chief), Captain Tsunoda, I.J.N., Lieut.-Colonel Ito, Captains Kawai, Fujii, Hashimoto, and Matsuishi. His *Aides-de-Camp* are Lieut.-Colonel Tanabe, Major Hiraiwa, Captain Ogawa, and Captain Takishita.

The latest letters from Formosa, dated the 9th instant, describe the march of the Imperial Guards southward of Shinchuh. The ranges of hills to the south of that prefectural town, as far as Tsienpi-shan, had been guarded by a large force of insurgents, who made repeated though unsuccessful attempts to recover the possession of the place. Of these hills, Tsienpi-shan is said to be a position of great strategical importance, a small body of determined men being sufficient to hold in check a large army. The villages between Shinchuh and Taipeifu having been cleared of the armed aborigines who had given endless trouble to scouting parties and provision trains, Prince Kitashirakawa thought it safe to push southward and dislodge the insurgents from the strategical positions on the hills alluded to above. But previous to a general attack on these strongholds, it was advisable to drive the enemy from the hills to the east of Shinchuh. Accordingly, Major-General Yamane's detachment, which had been staying at Hsin-pu, was ordered to push forward to Peipu on the 6th inst., to attack the insurgents in the vicinity of Sinsienling the following day, and, thus advancing on the right flank of the enemy, take part in the general attack which was fixed for the 8th instant. At the same time, Major Isaki was instructed to leave Shinchuh on the 6th at the head of his battalion and maintain communication between that place and the Yamane detachment. These orders were executed without any hitch, and everything was ready for a general advance at the appointed date.

On the night of the 7th, the artillery were busily engaged in planting batteries in proper positions, and the bulk of the army began to move out of Shinchuh at 3 a.m. on the 8th. The army was divided into three bodies, the right and left wings and reserves. The right wing, under Major-General Kawamura, consisted of two regiments (minus two companies) of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, mountain artillery (6 pieces), machine guns, and a company of engineers. The left wing, under Colonel Naito, was composed of a regiment (minus a battalion) of infantry, half a squadron of cavalry, mountain artillery, machine guns, and a company of engineers. The reserves consisted of three companies of infantry, a squadron of cavalry, artillery, and medical corps. A company of infantry and a party with machine guns were left at Shinchuh under the command of Captain Sawasaki. The left wing was to be assisted by the Yamane detachment, which had advanced along the mountains to the east of Shinchuh, as stated above.

With the dawn of the 8th, fire was opened simultaneously by both wings of the Imperial army, the right wing against the insurgents at Chintoshan and the left against those at Keilanmen. The artillery duel lasted for some time, the insurgents working a number of mountain pieces which had been planted on extremely advantageous positions. Major Mayeda charged at the head of two companies of infantry, and driving before him about 500 insurgents, he easily took possession of the stronghold of the enemy's left wing; while a battery, consisting of two mountain pieces, was captured by 16 men under Sergeant Toyoda, the enemy leaving behind him, besides the two mountain pieces, 5 dead and a quantity of small arms and ammunition. The forts at Chintoshan having thus easily fallen into Japanese hands, they were at once destroyed, while the barracks and other combustible works were burnt down, the flames extending over two and a half miles.

Meanwhile, the Naito detachment took possession of Keilanmen, and the whole army soon advanced to the top of a range of hills opposite Tsienpi-shan, the most formidable barrier to the southward progress of the Japanese forces. There the army bivouacked that night.

On the 9th at 5.30 a.m. an attack was commenced upon the enemy on Tsienpi-shan. The insurgents, who seem to have lost heart from the way in which they had been handled on the preceding day, fled pell-mell in the direction of Miaoli, without offering any resistance worth speaking of. The bulk of the division then pushed on to the village of Chang-kong, while the Kawamura column advanced to the fort of Chang-kong, which lies a short distance further south. The Yamane detachment took up its quarters at Taofun, the Naito detachment being stationed between that place and Chang-kong village. During the operations of the 8th and 9th, two men of war bombarded the enemy. Throughout the engagements of the two days, the Japanese did not meet with any casuality except the death of a Lieutenant; and the loss of the Chinese was only 30 to 40 in killed, which shows the nature of resistance offered by the latter.

It is stated that of the insurgents who held this region, variously estimated at between 1,000 and 4,000, a large proportion were the regular Chinese troops, a circumstance which, in the opinion of the Japanese correspondents, accounts for the promptitude with which they took to their heels. One writer is inclined to think that the volunteers may venture to stay at Miaoli and try once more the chances of war, but that the regulars will not rally until they reach Changhua or Taiwan-fu.

During the five days ended the 5th inst. 10 Japanese residents (8 males and 2 females) were attacked by cholera at Ninsen, Korea, where 6 deaths were reported during the same week; 3 patients have recovered.

JAPAN AND SPAIN.

The Delimitation of Boundaries.

As the result of the conferences that have recently been held between the acting Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs and the newly arrived Minister of Spain, a Declaration has been agreed upon defining the limits of the boundaries between the teritories of Japan and Spain in the Western Pacific. The Declaration, published in the *Official Gazette* of Saturday, runs as follows:—

The Governments of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and of His Majesty the King of Spain, being equally desirous of promoting the cordial relations existing between the two countries, and believing it conducive to the attainment of the aforesaid object to make a clear definition of the boundary line between the territories of the two countries in the western part of the Pacific; the undersigned, Marquis Saionji Kimmochi, His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Minister of State for Education and acting Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and Don Jose de la Rica y Calvo, His Royal Spanish Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, deputed by their respective Governments, do hereby agree upon and determine the following Declaration:—

First, a line, parallel to a latitude, passing through the middle of the navigable part of the Bashee Channel, shall, under the present declaration, mark the boundary between the territories of Japan and Spain in the western part of the Pacific.

Secondly, the Government of Spain declares that it shall never lay claim to the islands lying to the north and north east of the above mentioned boundary line.

Thirdly, the Government of Japan declares that it shall never lay claim to the islands lying to the south and south east of the above-mentioned boundary line.

In witness whereof we make, and put our names to two copies of the declaration, in Tokyo, this 7th day of the 8th month, of the 28th year of *Meiji*, or the 7th August, 1895.

(Signed) Marquis Saionji Kimmochi.
Don Jose de la Rica y Calvo.

Some of the Japanese journals express discontent with the Declaration recently concluded between the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs and the Representative of Spain, delimiting the boundary between the dominions of the two countries in the Western Pacific. The reasons for their dissatisfaction are not unanimous. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for instance, states that "the Japanese cannot but be displeased with this Declaration, not because they regard it as an impediment to their policy of southward development, but because they perceive that the Spanish Government is incapable of understanding them." The Spanish Government, writes our contemporary, has shown much eagerness to conclude the diplomatic arrangement in question, because it had a a misgiving that Japan might encroach upon its dominions. "Japan," continues the same paper, "will not be guilty of such a proceeding without due and urgent reason; though she will not hesitate to take up arms against any Power that disturbs the peace of the East and injures her interests. If the Spanish Government is really so solicitous about the safety of the Philippine Islands, the best course for it to pursue would be to join Japan in opposing such Powers as may be inclined to disturb the peace of the East. Japan's ambition is to preserve the peace of the East and of the world. Instead of wasting time in the conclusion of a useless agreement like the one under review, we are disposed to think that the statesmen of Madrid would be better employed in reforming the administration of the Philippine Islands, where things are in a state of considerable confusion, and in restoring order in the much harassed island of Cuba, where anarchy prevails."

The *Kokumin Shimbun* is even more outspoken. It writes in the following strain:—"The occupation of Formosa is not the termination but the commencement of Japan development in the South. Is not the enterprising spirit of our people already hovering over the region beyond the Bashee Channel? Believing that a time will soon come when Formosa will be too small to receive the surplus of the Japanese population, we did not doubt

but that our Government has some great scheme in contemplation against that contingency. We are astonished to hear that a curious covenant has just been entered into defining the boundaries between the two countries. Spain is simply like a fox which assumes airs under the protection of a tiger. Alarmed by the southward march of Japan, she applied to the assistance of Russia, France, and Germany in order to prevent the occupation of Formosa by this country. She then changed her front, and demanded delimitation of boundaries. For a small and weak State like Spain, such conduct is impertinent, to say the least. Whether or not a declaration like the one just concluded is of any necessity to Spain, we do not knew. But so far as Japan is concerned, there is not the slightest necessity for such an agreement. On the contrary, it hampers the freedom of our expansion in the South, and impedes the carrying out of our great policy of national development. The relative position of Japan and Spain is not directly affected by this Declaration, but it places Japan under a sort of a moral obligation to the rest of the world, and one which cannot but restrict her freedom of action. It is our earnest wish that this compact should be rescinded on a suitable opportunity occurring. However, we must be understood as advocating the expansion of Japan toward the south by force of arms; our idea is that the national movement in that direction should be allowed to take its natural course, and that anything that impedes that course ought to be removed."

The effervescing silliness of some of the metropolitan papers on the subject of the declaration about the boundary line between the territories of Japan and Spain in the Western Pacific, has called forth well deserved ridicule and a rebuke from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. That Spain has shown needless anxiety and excitement in taking a precipitate step to secure the delimitation of the boundaries between her colonial possessions and Japan's newly acquired territory, is fully acknowledged by our contemporary, which also refers to the unreasonable alarm caused in Madrid in 1891 by the news that Japan had annexed three little islands in the neighbourhood of the Ogasawara-jima (Bonin) group. The Spanish Government hastily concluded that the islands in question belonged to Marianne group. That Government's action on the present occasion was caused by some irresponsible writings in the columns of an obscure Japanese newspaper. Had it been England or Russia, the utterances of such journals would have remained unnoticed. But the Spaniards, possessing the hot blood of the Latin race, their easily excitable nature would not permit them to assume an attitude of calm dignity. Indeed, their sensitiveness, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, borders on a definite disorder of mental balance. Thus, so far as the conduct of Spain herself is concerned, our contemporary has little to admire; but at the same time it maintains that there is no reason why Japan should not sympathise with the fears or foibles of her friendly neighbour and treat her with consideration, especially when by so doing she is in no danger of impairing her own interests in the slightest degree. The *Nichi Nichi*, therefore, fails to understand why, as one journal states, the Japanese should feel displeased on account of the hasty conduct of the Spanish Government. Still more difficult to comprehend is the extraordinary statement made by another paper, that the declaration in question restrains the freedom of Japan's expansion in the south. "If," says our contemporary, "if by expansion be meant encroachment by force, it would be better to carry out the design at once without giving Spain time for preparation. But if the phrase be used in the sense of the promotion of our interests and increase of our influence by peaceful intercourse and commerce, then nothing is more urgent than that a new treaty should be concluded with Spain so that our countrymen may obtain the right of free access to her possessions. Would it not then be the height of folly to refuse a harmless agreement to her, and thus retard the consummation of the object of peaceful expansion in the South?" The *Nichi Nichi*, in conclusion, strongly condemns the ignorant and irresponsible ebullitions in which some of its contemporaries are too prone to indulge on international questions.

"CHINESE CHARACTERS."

Looking back over the long series of years that commenced with the publication of Sir E. Satow's *Kaiwa Hen*, and ended with the appearance of Mr. Gubbins' "Dictionary of Chinese-Japanese Words," we are confronted by the fact that the works emanating from officials of the British Legation and Consular Service on the Japanese language, constitute a veritable library, and bring within the student's reach everything essential to the acquisition of that most difficult tongue. If we go a little farther afield and add Mr. Chamberlain's books on the same topic, we may fairly say that Englishmen have made Japanese known to the world. It is true that a high place still belongs to Dr. Hepburn's Dictionary, and that the gratitude of students must ever be given to that indefatigable worker. Dr. Hepburn's Dictionary, however, is on the eve of being supplanted by a work three times as full, in the compilation of which only one foreigner, an Englishman, has taken part. Thus we may justly claim for our countrymen something like a monopoly of the useful work done in this line. A valuable addition has now been made in the form of a work on "Chinese characters." The author is Mr. Arthur Hyde Lay, of H.B.M.'s Consular Service. It is remarkable that, after a residence of only eight years in Japan, Mr. Lay should have been able to produce such a work: he must have applied himself with very exceptional ability. The object of the book is to place before the student a selection from the twenty thousand ideographs that form the script of the Japanese language. Think what is involved in the attempt to master the ideographs *en bloc*, without any means of sifting the useful from the little used. Such a task might well break a man's heart. The writer of this paragraph well remember's his own experience in the days before any differentiating aids were available. Submitting blindly to the guidance of an over-erudite Japanese, he discovered, at the end of eighteen months' hard toil, that he had been plodding steadily through the Radicals, learning the greater part of the ideographs belonging to each in order, without any reference to the frequency or infrequency of their occurrence in every-day literature. A dozen years of steady application might give some serviceable scholarship under such a system, but might also, and very probably would, reduce the student to imbecility. Nearly two decades subsequently, the Rev. Mr. White published a work introducing students to a thousand of the commonest characters. It was a great boon, but as its publication preceded the days of the Diet and of the political discussions that grew up under constitutional institutions, its scope soon proved insufficient. Mr. Lay has now stepped into the breach with four thousand ideographs. He seems to have derived the idea in part from the *Hochi Shimbun*, which journal, three or four years ago, published a supplement containing three thousand characters, to the use of which the editors promised to limit themselves except on very special occasions. These Mr. Lay has taken, and adding another thousand carefully selected ideographs, has published the whole in a handy little dictionary, with good paper, beautifully clear type, and a method of spacing that confers an immense boon on the eyes. We need scarcely say that the Radical basis of arrangement has been adopted; that was almost inevitable. An appendix containing personal and local names is added, and will be found very useful. Mr. Lay has conferred an incalculable boon to students, many generations of whom will call him blessed. His selection, so far as we can judge, is admirable, and in the "Shueisha" he has found a firm of printers thoroughly qualified to fulfill the typographical requirements that count for so much in a book of the kind. The only regret we feel is that the author did not add the running, as well as the square, forms of the ideographs, and also tables of the *Kana*.

IJIN.

We observe that correspondents of the *Kobe Chronicle* have been discussing the significance of the term "*Ijin*," so commonly used by the lower orders in Japan to designate foreigners. Is the word intended to convey an insult or is it not? That is the question—a question that began to be considered, within our own memory, 27 years ago and seems to be still as perplexing as ever. A writer in the *Kobe Chronicle*, signing himself "Common Sense," says:—

As there appears to be an impression prevalent among many foreign residents that the word *i jin* is employed by the Japanese as an offensive epithet, permit me to say that I am unable to agree with this opinion.

I-jin as applied to foreigners as a generic term is always written 異人, the Japanese reading being *kotonaru hito*, and the meaning merely *stranger, alien, different person, foreign person.* This is clearly shown by the following examples:—異同 *i*-do="*difference* and similarity;" 異言 *i*-gen="*different* or foreign language;" 異時 *i*-ji="*different* time, or *another* time;" 異見 *i*-ken="*different* opinion, or *different* views;" 異國 *i*-koku="*foreign, strange, different,* or *alien* countries."

I-jin is always written in books and newspapers as 異人, and every Japanese will naturally write it that way.

Some of your correspondents endeavour to show that *I*, even when written 異, has a bad sense, but this is easily explained; 異 sometimes conveys the idea of *false*, as in 異心 *i*-shin, which is translated "treason," "treachery," "disloyal heart," &c., but this meaning has only come into existence by a process of perverted ratiocination. *I*-shin 異心 should be more correctly stated as "*different* sentiments or views"—*it has not the harsh sense of false, disloyal, or treacherous.*

The character *i*-jin 夷人 is never employed except when writing about *barbarians*, and is used in the same way and place as we would use the words *savage* or *barbarian* in describing the natives of Central Africa.

It must be remembered that custom has almost as much to do with the sense of a word as mere etymology. In our own English language there are numerous examples to be found of several meanings attached to one word, and yet no educated man mistakes the sense in which such words are used because *custom* has assigned a clear significance to them according to *position, employment,* and *accent.*

To merely dig up an etymon and argue from that alone would place a man in such a dilemma that he would be unable to converse with his fellows and would be a fit candidate for a position on the building staff tower of a modern Babel.

The only distinction between the two words for foreigner—viz., *Ijin* 異人 and *Gwai-koku-jin* 外國人—sometimes abbreviated as *Gwai jin* 外人—is that *Ijin* is the popular current word for "foreigner," while *Gwai koku-jin* is the formal word employed by the better classes.

I claim that *Ijin* as applied to foreigners in conversation means merely "foreigner" pure and simple, that it has absolutely no hidden meaning or *double entendre* in it whatsoever. I speak Japanese easily and fluently, and have travelled in nearly every part of Japan, and have had during ten years most intimate relations with all classes of the Japanese people, so I can instantly detect how a word is used; and yet I am certain that *Ijin* as used every day by Japanese is *not* intended to convey an insult.

To these comments may be added the fact that *i*, as constantly used in parliamentary language, has simply the significance "different." When the President of either House asks whether there is any objection to a certain course, the assenting members answer "*igi nashi*" "(there is no objection;" "agreed"), and a speaker refers to the argument of an opponent as "*go iron*." We take it to be quite certain, nevertheless, that when an educated Japanese applies the term "*Ijin*" to foreigners, he is at least guilty of a solecism. It is precisely as though an educated foreigner were to speak to a Japanese of a Japanese as a "native." There is, indeed, a difference between the histories of the words *Ijin* and "native," for whereas the former used certainly to be employed by the Japanese in a more or less opprobrious sense, it has lost that significance by familiarity, whereas the term

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"native," though originally quite inoffensive, has acquired an objectionable import by being applied almost exclusively to semi-civilized peoples. An Englishman would experience a shock did he hear a Frenchman or a German say, "On landing at Portsmouth I saw a number of natives mending their nets," and there is no doubt that the Japanese equally dislike to have the term "natives" applied to their people, though it must be confessed that their very natural prejudice in this respect receives little consideration at foreign hands. As for "*Ijin*," we should say that its exact equivalent in the ears of educated Japanese is "alien," a decidedly undesirable form of speech in polite intercourse. But just as the uneducated classes in England do not include the word "alien" in their every-day vocabulary, so the uneducated classes in Japan attach no such significance to "*Ijin*." They use it in frank good faith to designate foreigners, and they even, on occasion, add an honorific "*san*," or "*sama*," thereby clearly demonstrating their wish to be polite. It must have fallen within the experience of many of our readers to hear a Japanese gentleman rebuke a labourer or tea-house waitress for employing the term "*Ijin*," when obviously neither the coolie nor the girl had the slightest intention of being impolite, but was simply ignorant of the value of the expression in educated ears.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

The National Unionists have issued a circular to the members of the party explaining their attitude on current political questions. The document shatters whatever hope may have been entertained by the Extremists of gaining the support of the National Unionists in their programme for attacking the Cabinet on the question of the Liaotung Peninsula. The circular is for the most part a narration of the share which a few prominent members of the party had in the frequent meetings convened by the Opposition politicians just after it was known that the Government had yielded to the pressure brought to bear upon it by the three allied European Powers. This part of the document is of special interest, as it affords us a glimpse into the green-room of the political stage in Tokyo. It would be tedious to follow the narrative into the details of each successive conference. It will be sufficient for our purpose to notice one or two circumstances connected with these meetings. The first thing with which one is struck in perusing the paper is that, in bringing about these conferences, the most active agents were the Progressionists. Another circumstance worth notice is that at these meetings the Progressionists strenuously endeavoured to commit all present to an attitude of uncompromising opposition to the Ministry on the Liaotung question, while, on the other hand, such an attempt was as persistently thwarted by the Radicals, the National Unionists, and a section of the Constitutional Reformists. A third point is that the proceedings at these meetings, as given in the document before us, wear an aspect essentially different from that ascribed to them in the newspaper accounts published at the time. In the latter, care was always taken to have it understood by the public that unanimity of views prevailed at these conferences and that those assembled represented their respective parties. But according to the circular under review there was no such concurrence of opinion; neither did those present—at least the National Unionists—represent their parties. Finally, the National Unionists altogether ceased to attend these meetings, as did also the Radicals. In short, judging from the circular, the National Unionists never seem to have given the least indication that they were disposed to join the Extremists in their anti-Cabinet agitation. On the contrary, they adopted a declaration on the 24th of May last, making it clear beyond doubt that, while disapproving of the conduct of the Ministry in connection with the return of the Liaotung Peninsula, they were opposed to creating any internal dissension on this question, for the reason that questions of far greater importance demanded the undivided attention of the nation, namely, those relating to the development of the Army and the Navy. In conclusion, the circular says:—"It is now time to encourage and promote the development of industry and trade by abolishing duties on exports, extending the routes of our mercantile marine, and increasing railway facilities. Should either the Government or any of the parties dare to impede the progress of the Empire by its wanton love of political disputes, the National Unionists will never hesitate to condemn such a conduct." From the above *résumé*, it will be seen that the National Unionists have assumed an attitude of decided antagonism to the Progressionists and other Extremists on the question of ministerial responsibility for the return of Liaotung. On the basis of the calculations recently given by the *Nippon-jin*, the situation in the coming session of the Diet will be as follows:—

EXTREMISTS.

Progressionists	53
Constitutional Reformists	40
Chugoku Shimpo-to	5
Ote Club	15
Jitsugyo Club	6
Economical Reformists	5
Doshi-kai	1
Non party members	3
Total	128

MODERATES.

Radicals	107
National Unionists	31
Kishu Members	5
Choshu Members	3
Pure Ministerialists	13
Total	159
Neutrals	13

In the above table, the whole of the Constitutional Reformists are placed in the camp of the Extremists, but the circular just issued by the National Unionist party makes it plain that a section of them, led by Mr. Kawashima Jun, is inclined to a moderate course of action. At least such was its attitude until very recently. As to the Neutrals, they are described to be men who have not yet made up their minds as to the line of action they will pursue. Most of them are likely to cast in their lot with the winning side, so that it will be safe to put the majority of the Moderates at 40 at least.

THE SZECHUEN RIOTS.

Mr. Alfred Cunningham, sub-editor of the *Shanghai Mercury*, has collected and published in pamphlet form "A History of the Szechuen (or Szechuan) Riots." It is an excellent record of this most serious affair. We are somewhat surprised to find that Mr. Cunningham repeats the misapprehension originally circulated by some of the foreign journals in Shanghai, namely, that after receipt of the first intelligence relating to the riots the Foreign Representatives in Pekin, with the exception of M. Gérard, "were relying, after years of similar experience, on the faith of the Emperor to keep his promise and his ability to enforce his orders if so desired." It must have been well known at the time when this pamphlet was compiled that nearly the whole diplomatic labour connected with the outrages devolved upon the shoulders of Sir Nicholas O'Conor and Colonel Denby, and that M. Gérard's share in the business was comparatively small. It is impossible to deprecate in too strong terms the immoderate criticism penned by local journalists in the Far East with reference to the conduct of British officials whenever anything unusual occurs. If a tithe of the excitement and want of mental equilibrium displayed by these writers were suffered to sway the counsels of their country's diplomats, Great Britain would never enjoy a year's peace. Demos of the Press is as illogical an outcome of the nineteenth century as is that other Demos into whose uneducated, untaught, and unwashed hands political power is unhappily drifting. Reading the "cock-sure" comments of boy editors upon the whole science of statecraft and diplomacy, we cannot but recall the Laureate's immortal definition, "Blind and naked ignorance delivering brawling judgments all day long on all things unabashed." To return to the pamphlet, however. Inserted among the pages we find a loose leaflet with the following information:—"On Page 6, it is stated that the telegram of the U.S. Consul-General at Shanghai was refused. This is true, but that officer resented the refusal and forced his telegram through by an explicit and positive demand on the Taotai, saying that he would not allow an inquiry as to the condition of American citizens to be refused." This is conclusive as to the cause of telegraphic communication being suspended. At first the refusal of the Chinese operators to send messages was attributed to official instructions. Then a Shanghai journal published a paragraph saying that the difficulty must really be attributed to the state of the lines. But it as now plain that official obstruction was to blame, for if the United States Consul-General got his telegram through, it is evident that no mechanical obstruction existed. A terrible episode of the ten days passed in the Yamên is described by Dr. Stevenson. "Several of the ladies were quite sick, and we had but little medicine. One lady was completely prostrated, and a life was lost and its body gave us some anxiety. For what if they should find it? As a doctor I was asked to get rid of it, and I did? Shanghai friends may say this is disagreeable to write about. In the name of High Heaven, think what it is to bear these trials." The same writer describes the journey down the river:—

> We were escorted out on the pre-arranged lucky day, Sunday morning, at two o'clock, by the official and a crowd of yamên runners and soldiers, and we got into our boats a tired out but rejoicing set. Let me describe the boat we had. The other boat was more crowded. We had three rooms in which three families and our servants had to live. The sick lady could not be expected to move, yet the floor of her room had to be raised often to have the old craft baled out. In the room which I had, my wife, twins and baby, and a woman servant helping one of the other families, six in all, had to move, sleep, and have our being with a temperature often above ninety. I measured the room with a chopstick: it was seven chopsticks long by six wide—about the size of a Shanghai bed. In this room the meals for the boat had to be served, and the dishes, *pu kais*, and clothes had to be stored. Water had to be cooled here and syrup was often spilled on the floor. We had orders not to show our noses outside, or at windows or door. The whole front of our room had to be nailed and bolstered up because they carelessly ran into the other boat. This also caused a dish of hot cabbage to be spilled over the legs of our three children, which burnt them badly. One (the same which was dropped on the street) did not get well for nearly a month, as all the the skin was taken off the top of the foot. She was very nervous often after that. We had to keep strictly to our rooms, for if the children had been allowed to mix there would have been a constant howl. They were riot children. Poor babes, they were sick nearly all the time.

Yet Dr. Stevenson adds, "But there have been others tried more than we. A house-boat arrived at Hankow about the time we did in which it was said everybody was sick with dysentery. Two children soon died. These might have been living now in their happy Szechuan homes had it not been for the riot." Think of that! A boat full of ladies, men, and children, "packed like sardines," for ten days, and all sick with dysentery! One bright page in the cruel history is the conduct of the missionaries' Chinese servants. They seem to have shown remarkable fidelity and courage throughout. In some places the officials, also, did everything that could have been expected. Such was notably the case at Paoning-fu and Suifu. With regard to the latter place we read:—

> Dr. C. H. Finch, of the American Baptist Missionary Union stationed at Suifu, relates the story of the riot at Suifu. The missionaries at Suifu heard on Sunday, June 2nd, that their brethern at Chengtu had been attacked by the mob, and their premises destroyed. On June 3rd, the streets of Suifu were placarded to the effect that the following day the missionaries were to be attacked and their residences destroyed. The first placards were very porly written, and contained four characters, meaning: "The foreigners are to be destroyed on 13th day of the 6th moon" (Wednesday, June 5th). The Roman Catholic priests were the first to see the placards, and they at once communicated with the Yamên, with the request that the Yamên magistrate should suppress the publication of placards and take precautions.
>
> The *Chihien* magistrate, Kweh by name, at once doubled his forces of Chinese runners, and had all the placards they could find pulled down. On Tuesday, early in the morning, the French priests found more placards, and they again reported the matter to the Yamên. The head magistrate at once reprimanded his officials for allowing further placards to be posted and took up the matter him-

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self. He ordered his men to patrol the city and arrest any suspicious characters.

On Tuesday evening, under cover of darkness, the *Chihien*, and military magistrates patrolled the streets at the head of their forces and visited all the opium dens, closing the places early, and arresting suspicious-looking individuals. The gates, both of the city and streets, were closed early. On Wednesday the result of this vigilance and action was evident. There was no demonstration by the rioters as proclaimed. More placards were, however, posted postponing the attack till examination time—the prolific period of all riots.

On Thursday night, however, the house of Mr. Warner—another American missionary—was entered. This house house was situated outside the West Gate, It was entered by about a dozen men armed with knives, who commanded the servants to retire and keep quiet. The robbers took only a few articles and left. They were unaccompanied by either crowd or mob. Some time on Friday, the ladies' house next door to that of Mr. Warner's was broken into, but nothing serious resulted, the rioters being evidently afraid of the officials. On Friday afternoon, while Dr. Finch's servant was removing a few articles, the people on the street observed him, and knowing he was attached to the mission thought the missionaries were preparing to escape. A large number of people immediately collected and entered the house by the front door, and said they wanted to look around. Having obtained admittance, they commenced to lay their hands on various articles and smash the windows, and destroy the flowers. A servant was at once dispatched to the Yamên, and the magistrate, Kweh, immediately arrived, supported by the *u* and the military magistrate.

The magistrates at once stopped the riot and the *Chihien* personally chastised and arrested some of the rioters. In fact, every man found in the house and touching articles was immediately arrested and put in chains. About forty or fifty of the mob were put in chains. Whilst the arrests were proceeding the crowd hooted the magistrates, but, the ringleaders secured, the mob was soon dispersed. The *Chihien* immediately sealed up Mr. Finch's house with own seal and left several of his officers to watch and protect the premises, having previously taken an inventory of everything contained in the building. On Tuesday the following week the magistrate issued a proclamation that, as the foreigners had gone and left their property, he must protect it, and he asked the people to help him do his duty. Such was the beginning and the end of the riot at Suifu, and so far as the missionaries know their property there is in as good a condition as when they left it, they not hearing of any further attacks.

They were staying at a summer-house about five miles from the city, having removed their valuables thence, when the town was again posted. In consequence they got together their valuables and boarded two house-boats, intending to lay on the river below the city until the trouble was over. They got information on the Friday, however, from the magistrate that they were watched by robbers, and in consequence they left for Shanghai. Whilst at Chungking they heard from a native teacher that the people had threatened to take the life of the *Chihien* Kweh, who had protected the missionaries.

The missionaries' faith is certainly not to be measured by the proverbial grain of mustard seed. Dr. Stevenson writes:—"Our riot might have proved unbearable if our servants and native Christians had not under great trial proved true. We all feel that China ought yet to be the Germany of the East. Superstitions will by and by be driven away. All we ask for the great west province is that she may have more light. Our confidence is yet in Him who rules the nations." But when is the light to commence glimmering? Was the darkness ever more intense than it is now?

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE REWARDS.

The following honours were conferred at the Court yesterday by His Majesty the Emperor:—

Viscount MUTSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs.—Decorated with the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Count.

Mr. WATANABE, Minister of Communications.—Decorated with the First Class of the Order of the Mirror, and promoted to the rank of Viscount.

Mr. NISHI, Japanese Minister to Russia.—Decorated with the First Class of the Order of the Mirror, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Lieut.-General Baron YAMAJI.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Viscount.

Lieut.-General Baron SAKUMA.—Decorated with the First Class of the Order of the Mirror, the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun, and promoted of the rank of Viscount.

Lieut.-General KATSURA.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and First Class of the Order of the Mirror, and promoted to the rank of Viscount.

Vice-Admiral ITO, Vice-Minister of the Navy.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Lieut.-General OKAZAWA.—Decorated with the First Class of the Order of the Mirror, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Lieut.-General Baron NOZAKI.—Decorated with the First Class of the Order of the Mirror.

Lieut.-General Baron SHIGENO.—Same as above.

Vice-Admiral HAYASHI.—Same as above.

Major-General KODAMA, Vice-Minister of War.—Decorated with Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Double Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Lieut.-General KUROKI.—Same as above.

Lieut.-General OKU.—Same as above.

Vice-Admiral AIURA.—Same as above.

Lieut.-General NOGI.—Same as above.

Major-General HASEGAWA.—Same as above.

Major-General NISHI.—Same as above.

Major-General OGAWA.—Same as above.

Rear-Admiral TSUBOI.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and Medium Cordon of the Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Major-General KURODA.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Double Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Surgeon-General ISHIGURO.—Same as above.

Comptoller-General NODA.—Same as above.

Major-General OSHIMA YOSHIMASA.—Same as above.

Major-General OSHIMA HISANAO.—Same as above.

Major-General OSEKO.—Same as above.

Major-General TACHIMI.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and Medium Cordon of the Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Rear-Admiral SHIBAYAMA.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and Medium Cordon of the Rising Sun.

Major-General TERAUCHI.—Same as above.

Major-General SHIOYA.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Second Class of the Order of the Mirror.

Major-General INOUYE.—Same as above.

Rear-Admiral SAMEJIMA.—Decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite, and the Medium Cordon of the Rising Sun.

Rear-Admiral YABUKI.—Same as above.

Major-General NAGAYAMA.—Decorated with the Double Rising Sun.

Major-General YAMAGUCHI.—Decorated with the Double Rising Sun and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Comptroller-General YOSHIZAWA.—Decorated with the Second Order of the Merit and the Double Rising Sun.

Paymaster-General KAWAGUCHI.—Decorated with the Second Order of Merit and the Double Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Comptroller-General NAKAMURA.—Decorated with the Second Order of Merit and the Double Rising Sun.

Surgeon-General ISHIZAKA.—Same as above.

Major-General IBARAKI.—Decorated with the Second Order of the Merit and the Double Rising Sun, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

Surgeon-General DOKI.—Decorated with the Second Order of Merit and the Double Rising Sun.

Inspector-General of Hospitals and Fleets SANEYOSHI.—Same as above.

Major-General TSUCHIYA.—Decorated with the Second Class of the Order of the Mirror.

Major-General ATAKE.—Same as above.

Major-General ONUMA.—Same as above.

Major-General BETSUYAKU.—Same as above.

Major-General KATSUTA.—Decorated with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Second Class of the Order of the Mirror.

Major-General OKIHARA.—Same as above.

Surgeon-General SATO.—Decorated with the Second Class of the Order of the Mirror.

Major-General ISEJI.—Decorated with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Second Class of the Order of the Mirror.

Major-General KUROSE.—Decorated with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Medium Cordon of the Rising Sun.

Rear-Admiral TOGO.—Decorated with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Golden Kite, and the Minimum Cordon of the Rising Sun.

Rear-Admiral YAMAMOTO.—Decorated with the Fourth Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Double Rising Sun.

Count KURODA.—Decorated with the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun.

Mr. ITO MIYOJI.—Decorated with the First Class of the Order of the Mirror, and promoted to the rank of Baron.

THE DEATH OF MR. BROCKBANK.

Mr. Geo. Kircher, Usher of H.B.M. Court for Japan, returned from Shoji on Monday afternoon, bearing with him the exhumed body of the late Mr. Herbert W. Brockbank, whose death occurred a few days ago at an hotel at Shoji under peculiar circumstances. Mr. J. Carey Hall, the Acting Assistant Judge, in the capacity of Coroner, at once had a jury summoned to inquire into the circumstances attending the death, and the following gentlemen were empanelled, Messrs. A. C. Read, J. W. Cain, W. J. Robinson, Geo. Sale, and A. Le Prevost. The jury at once proceeded to view the body, which lay at the mortuary chambers of Mr. Hellendaal. They found that decomposition had wrought a terrible change, the features being almost unrecognisable. Drs. Wheeler, Munro, and Swan not having finished the autopsy, the inquiry was adjourned till ten o'clock Tuesday morning.

The deceased gentleman, who was about 38 years of age, came to Japan about two years and a half ago, having previously paid a flying visit to this country. He came of a family long and honourably associated with Manchester, and at once time was a partner in the firm of Carrick, Brockbank & Co., a mercantile house with a history extending back quite two hundred years. When Mr. H. W. Brockbank retired from the firm a circular was issued to its clients announcing the fact, and further stating that he was going to live abroad for the benefit of his health. Soon after arriving in Japan, Mr. Brockbank went to reside in the Miyanoshita district, but latterly he had removed to Shoji, to an hotel built near the ice-caves on the flanks of Fuji, by a naturalized Japanese named Hoshino. At the beginning of last week a medical man attended Mr. Brockbank and left him in an apparently reasonable state of health, but this same gentleman while on the way back to Yokohama was overtaken by a messenger from Hoshino, requesting him to give a certificate of death, Mr. Brockbank having just expired. This request appeared so strange that the doctor hurried on to Yokohama, with the result that the British Court took steps to bring the body into this port, and to institute a Coroner's enquiry into the circumstances attending the sad affair.

The remains were interred in Yokohama Cemetery at 8 o'clock this morning, the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine conducting the last sad rites, and Mr. C. D. Moss being the chief mourner. Two beautiful wreaths, sent as expressions of love and sympathy, were laid upon the coffin ere it was deposited in the ground.

Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

FUNERAL OF MRS. J. H. BROOKE.

In the calm, mellow brightness of an early August morning, and amid general expressions of pure esteem and deep affection, all that was mortal of the late Mrs. J. H. Brooke was borne to its last long rest, the pretty hill-side cemetery which overlooks the busy town and bustling harbour of Yokohama. Seldom has a more impressive and affecting scene been witnessed within the precincts of the little fane of Christ Church than that which took place on Friday morning when the service was opened by the Rector, the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine: and later on in the Cemetery itself—flooded with the rich sunshine of late summer, and bright with butterflies and flowers—the grief of the many gathered around the grave was most profound. The chief mourners were the husband, Mr. J. H. Brooke, the son, Mr. E. W. Brooke, and the sons-in-law Mr. R. N. St. John and Mr. R. Home Cook. The pall-bearers were Mr. Justice Mowat, Mr. E. Whittall, Mr. J. A. Fraser, Mr. W. R. Bennett, Mr. Consul J. Carey Hall, Mr. Jas. Walter, Mr. A. J. Wilkin, Mr. J. Rickett, and Mr. J. P. Reid. As the cortége formed for the sad journey to the Cemetery, Mr. H. I. Chope played the Dead March in *Saul*. The procession, which comprised representatives from nearly every class of the community, then took its way along the Motomachi to the lower entrance to the Cemetery. The Rev. E. C. Irwine, who was deeply moved, spoke a few words at the graveside. He said—I wish to say a few words ere we close this service for the dear friend whom we are laying in the ground to-day. In doing so, I desire to offer a word of comfort to those whose feelings are surcharged with grief this morning, and to assure them that there is not one of us here, nor of those who assembled just now at Church but felt this loss as a personal loss to himself or herself; and it may comfort Mr. Brooke and his family to know that every one here feels they have lost a dear and kind friend, who to them all, in sickness and trouble, was always ready to sympathise and comfort. They re-echoed that loving sympathy which she shed upon them for so many years, and felt that they were suffering a loss in common with those who were bound by closer ties. Turning away from that sad scene, let them lift their eyes to where they trusted He who had called her away would keep her in light, peace, and rest, and where we also hope one day to see her face again. Thinking of one who was very dear to him, and who had filled a place in her circle, similar to that held by Harriet Brooke among her friends, these words came to his mind, and they applied with equal force to her whose loss they mourned that day:—

> She, whom Thy voice has called away
> Shall rise at breaking of Thy day,
> A rose, reflecting but a ray
> Of Christ alone.

Sixty-five floral tributes were sent, among them being the following:—The Journalists of the Yokohama Daily Press, "With sincere sympathy;" Mr. Andreis, Mr. and Mrs. Budd, Mr. and Mrs. Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Blad, Mr. and Mrs. Baker, Mr. Baehr, Mrs. Paul and Mr. Boag, Mr. and Mrs. Bramhall, Mr. and Mrs. Bennett, Messrs. Black, Reid, Murray, and Dickinson, Mr. J. Colomb, Mr. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. Colomb, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Dare, Mr. Daniel, Dr. and Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. Dumelin, Mr. and Mrs. Engert, Mr. Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Hartland, Mr. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, Mr. and Mrs. Carey Hall, Mrs. Hegt, Mr. and Mrs. Healing, Messrs. Harris and Philip, Mr. and Mrs. How, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Jarmain, the Messrs. Kingdon, Mr. Kauffman, Mr. and Mrs. Keswick, Mr. Keil, Mr. and Mrs. Klobukowski, Mr. and Mrs. Kirkwood, Mr. Leopold, Mrs. Lowder, the Marquis and Marquise Nembrini, Mr. Edward Morriss, Mr. and Mrs. Mollison, Mr. and Mrs. Méier, Mr. and Mrs. J. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Mendelson, Mrs. Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Parsons, Mr. and Mrs. Pereira, Mr. Pigott, Mr. Reiffinger, Mr. and Mrs. Retz, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Reid, Messrs. Watson, Pollard, Fraser, and Ross, Mr. and Mrs. Carter Read, Mr. and Mrs. Rickett, Mr. M. Russell, Mrs. Salabelle, Mr. and Mrs. Strähler, Mr. and Mrs. Strome, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas, Dr. and Mrs. Tripler, Mr. and Mrs. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. Whittall, Dr. and Mrs. Wheeler, the Yokohama Nursery Co., Ld., *un Ami*, and tributes of affection from the family.

TRADE RETURNS FOR JULY.

The returns of the foreign trade of the country for the month of July last, as compared with the corresponding month of the preceding year, are as follow:—

MERCHANDIZE.

	July, 1895. Yen.	July, 1894. Yen.
Exports	10,564,333	8,355,051
Imports	9,396,601	9,883,227
Total	19,960,934	18,238,278
Exports in excess	1,167,732	—
Imports in excess	—	1,528,176

SPECIE AND BULLION.

	July, 1895. Yen.	July, 1894. Yen.
Exports	557,875	7,291,756
Imports	175,665	3,383,037
Exports in excess	382,210	3,908,718

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

July.	Yen.	July.	Yen.
1895	557,552	1894	458,708

There was thus an increase of 1,722,656 *yen* as compared with the trade for July last year. The total trade for the seven months of the present year amounts to 139,432,573 *yen*, the figures for the corresponding period of last year being 124,990,584 *yen*.

The quantity and value of the principal articles of Export and Import during the month of July last were as follow:—

EXPORTS.

	July, 1895. Quantity.	Value. Yen.	July, 1894. Quantity.	Value. Yen.
Raw Silk (catty)	411,866	3,507,797	322,027	2,165,086
Noshi and Waste Silk (catty)	278,538	202,066	145,981	119,789
Tea (catty)	7,918,800	1,747,109	6,380,542	1,287,122
Copper, wrought and unwrought (catty)	1,890,052	397,437	1,642,438	317,122
Coal (ton)	140,480	588,443	145,977	588,328
Habutaye (tan)	18,854	288,878	20,826	377,327
Silk Handkerchiefs (dozen)	135,903	983,771	111,244	279,833
Rice (piculs)	49,995	172,021	62,825	255,771
Matches (gross)	1,246,944	346,522	962,190	250,462
Other Articles	—	2,930,285	—	2,714,212
Total	—	10,564,333	—	8,355,051

	Difference. Quantity.		Value. Yen.	
Raw Silk (catty)	I.	89,839	*I.	1,342,711
Noshi & Waste Silk (catty)	I.	132,557	I.	82,279
Tea (catty)	I.	1,538,258	I.	459,988
Copper, wrought and unwrought (catty)	I.	247,614	I.	80,314
Coal (ton)	D.	5,497	I.	115
Habutaye (tan)	D.	1,972	†D.	88,499
Silk Handkerchiefs (dozen)	I.	24,659	I.	103,939
Rice (picul)	D.	21,830	D.	83,750
Matches (gross)	I.	344,754	I.	96,060
Other Articles		—	I.	216,073
Total		—	I.	2,267,282

IMPORTS.

	July, 1895. Quantity.	Value. Yen.	July, 1894. Quantity.	Value. Yen.
Cotton (catty)	9,707,804	1,527,218	12,985,985	2,324,502
Cotton Yarn (catty)	1,012,499	484,623	768,862	424,287
Grey Shirtings (yard)	4,708,210	312,051	3,226,914	256,851
Mousseline de Laine (yard)	1,377,254	266,104	1,440,761	234,405
Italian Cloths (yard)	32,479	9,663	199,267	55,755
Sugar (catty)	23,312,925	1,087,916	17,794,256	903,454
Kerosene (gallon)	5,884,640	579,151	5,938,811	473,914
Rice (picul)	251,349	470,100	240,963	594,379
Peas & Beans (catty)	12,259,242	260,531	18,420,563	382,032
Other Articles	—	4,403,239	—	4,231,389
Total	—	9,396,601	—	9,883,227

	Difference. Quantity.		Value. Yen.	
Cotton (catty)	D.	3,278,181	D.	727,283
Cotton Yarn (catty)	I.	253,637	I.	60,342
Grey Shirtings (yard)	I.	1,491,296	I.	55,199
Mousseline de Laine (yard)	D.	93,507	I.	27,699
Italian Cloth (yard)	D.	166,798	D.	46,092
Sugar (catty)	I.	5,518,669	I.	184,462
Kerosene (gallon)	D.	54,171	I.	105,236
Rice (picul)	I.	10,386	D.	125,638
Peas and Beans (catty)	D.	6,161,321	D.	122,401
Other Articles		—	I.	171,850
Total		—	D.	486,625

The following table shows the quantity and value of the principal articles of Export and Import for the seven months ending July, 1895:—

EXPORTS.

	1895. Quantity.	Value. Yen.	1894. Quantity.	Value. Yen.
Raw Silk (catty)	2,199,470	17,539,155	2,356,041	17,014,821
Noshi and Waste Silk (catty)	2,127,086	1,630,386	1,843,950	1,614,482
Tea (catty)	24,661,191	6,311,252	26,607,754	6,119,548
Copper, wrought and unwrought (catty)	13,375,318	2,777,662	15,747,261	2,991,990
Coal (tons)	1,008,822	4,479,397	1,127,934	4,210,542
Habutaye (tan)	345,683	5,537,210	192,289	3,852,935
Silk Handkerchiefs (dozen)	853,577	2,568,474	756,394	1,838,685
Rice (piculs)	1,588,973	6,330,712	981,883	3,733,481
Matches (gross)	9,041,891	2,080,797	7,128,410	1,902,848
Other Articles	—	10,083,845	—	15,829,573
Total	—	70,008,893	—	58,458,908

	Difference. Quantity.		Value. Yen.	
Raw Silk (catty)	D.	156,571	I.	524,333
Noshi & Waste Silk (catty)	I.	283,136	I.	15,903
Tea (catty)	D.	1,946,563	I.	261,703
Copper, wrought and unwrought (catty)	D.	2,371,843	D.	214,328
Coal (catty)	D.	59,122	I.	368,855
Habutaye (tan)	I.	153,394	I.	2,284,274
Silk Handkerchiefs (dozen)	I.	97,183	I.	799,789
Rice (piculs)	I.	607,090	I.	2,597,331
Matches (gross)	I.	2,513,481	I.	727,949
Other Articles		—	I.	4,254,372
Total		—	I.	11,549,985

IMPORTS.

	1895. Quantity.	Value. Yen.	1894. Quantity.	Value. Yen.
Cotton (catty)	86,101,243	13,085,376	78,794,875	12,646,792
Cotton Yarn (catty)	7,220,456	3,300,842	10,586,532	5,277,878
Grey Shirtings (yard)	22,079,609	1,423,720	16,511,564	1,103,405
Mousseline de Laine (yard)	11,349,667	2,100,941	11,929,899	1,948,846
Italian Cloths (yard)	925,520	273,618	2,941,115	494,835
Sugar (catty)	137,404,585	6,284,389	142,738,142	7,896,872
Kerosene (gallon)	31,271,432	3,034,964	33,161,362	2,889,901
Rice (piculs)	796,008	1,920,383	2,472,379	6,113,722
Peas & Beans (catty)	43,085,122	935,226	25,473,438	2,433,896
Other Articles	—	37,008,227	—	28,098,825
Total	—	69,423,680	—	66,531,676

	Difference. Quantity.		Value. Yen.	
Cotton (catty)	I.	7,306,368	I.	438,584
Cotton Yarn (catty)	D.	3,366,076	D.	1,977,036
Grey Shirtings (yard)	I.	5,568,045	I.	295,304
Mousseline de Laine (yard)	D.	580,832	I.	152,095
Italian Cloths (yard)	D.	1,015,595	D.	221,227
Sugar (catty)	D.	5,333,557	D.	1,612,185
Kerosene (gallon)	D.	1,889,930	I.	145,062
Rice (piculs)	D.	1,676,364	D.	4,193,339
Peas and Beans (catty)	D.	72,388,316	D.	1,498,669
Other Articles		—	I.	21,363,402
Total		—	I.	2,892,004

* Increase. † Decrease.

THE "KOKUMIN SHIMBUN."

Want of space has prevented us from referring to the *Kokumin's* latest article in answer to our comments, but we now proceed to rectify the omission. Our contemporary writes thus:—"If ever an opportunity presented itself for England to form an alliance with Japan, the Liaotung problem was certainly such an opportunity. But England remained as indifferent about the question as if she had nothing to do with it. Is such a country worthy of confidence and reliance as an ally? Has anything transpired since then to prove that she has changed for the better? That is the question that awaits solution. We do not insist that England is intrinsically a Power to be despised. What we mean is that England, as she has been and as she is, cannot be depended upon as an ally. Such is the general boundary within which we consider the present question. Diplomatic friendship or alienation is an affair of only an evening's memory. But a nation's destiny ought not to be hazarded for the sake of one or two honeyed words. If it ever becomes necessary for Japan to seek an ally among the Powers of the World, she will do so only on a footing of equality. She will never stoop to go begging for their favour. That is what we meant. Is not our position clear and unequivocal? But what did the *Mail* say? It replied to us in this strain:—"Do you speak of equality? Your spirit is excellent, but what is equality? Does the *Kokumin* seriously and honestly believe that Japan is qualified to enter into a compact of alliance with England on a footing of equality. Equality is a fine word; it signifies much when the party in question is a world-wide Empire. Is Japan prepared to fight for England in return for the latter's share in her wars? If not, there can never be equality between the two." It is evident from the above that the *Mail* does not place Japan on the same level with England. If there is to be an alliance, our contemporary maintains that Japan ought to bow her head before

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England and implore the latter's charity. We are not unwilling to discuss the question when an alliance between the two countries is really on the *tapis*, but we do not think it worth while to continue the contest after our contemporary has confessed itself an advocate of making Japan beg for England's mercy. Our position was plain from the beginning. A consummate master of style as well as of argument, the *Mail* tries to conceal the absurdity of its own position by charging us with misunderstanding, nay wilfully misunderstanding the argument. How can our contemporary be so unmindful of the responsibility attaching to a journalistic discussion? The *Mail* says that it would object to an alliance between England and a Japan represented by the *Kokumin*. Our contemporary must, then, be considered as having surrendered to our flag. Yet, after surrendering to us, it still endeavours to convict us of being unreasonable. Is that a true specimen of English character?"

This discussion has been plunged into a morass from which we scarcely feel sufficient energy to extricate it. We have stated in the most unequivocal terms that no idea of Japan's coming cap in hand to solicit an alliance with Great Britain was ever intentionally suggested by us. The controversy had its origin in an article of the *Kokumin's* belittling England and declaring her neither sufficiently trustworthy nor sufficently enterprising to be Japan's ally. That seemed to us a humorous assertion, but we treated it seriously, and observed that, despite such tall talk, Japan might be a little perplexed were she invited to form an offensive and defensive alliance on equal terms with an empire whose dominions are found in every part of the habitable globe. Thereat the *Kokumin* indignantly declared that we wanted Japan to humble herself before England and solicit as a mercy what she could not propose as a mutual advantage. What is one to say to such a school-girlish inference? As well assert that because a man has not the resources or the leisure to travel all round the world with a friend, therefore there can be no equal companionship between the two for a part of the way. We affirm without hesitation that in putting into our mouth words never used by us, and in deducing from our language a meaning repeatedly disavowed by us, the *Kokumin* is simply seeking to create a false prejudice against an English alliance by showing that it would involve national humiliation for Japan. We have said, and we repeat, that if such devices were endorsed by the Japanese nation, we should be sorry to see an Anglo-Japanese alliance at all. That avowal the *Kokumin Shimbun*, by some process of reasoning incomprehensible to us, construes as an admission of defeat on our part. We have no objection. The whole thing is too nebulous to distress practical folk. We find only one tangible argument in the *Kokumin's* article. It is that because England did not espouse Japan's cause against Russia, Germany, and France in the matter of Liaotung, therefore Great Britain can not be trusted or relied on as an ally. But there is another way of stating that proposition:—Because Russia conspired to rob Japan of the fruits of her victory and because England did not join that conspiracy, therefore Japan should seek an alliance with Russia and eschew one with England. How does the *Kokumin* find that view of the situation? Let us be pardoned if we remind our sensitive contemporary of one thing, namely, that Great Britain alone among European Great Powers displayed a really friendly attitude toward Japan in connection with the Liaotung Peninsula. But apparently her friendship counts for nothing with the *Kokumin* because she did not immediately strike in as an armed partizan. Is that the *Kokumin's* notion of international methods? And has it forgotten, conveniently forgotten, the kind of mien displayed by the Japanese towards England up to the moment of the Liaotung crux? Has it forgotten how every petty journalist in this country thought it a fine thing to aim his shafts of rancour against Great Britain, and has it also forgotten that its own columns were among the chief sources of that campaign of ill-will? Where are we to search for a state that will voluntarily rush into the arena, and accept the risks of a terrible war, merely to secure the possession of conquered territory to a nation whose newspapers make a habit of belittling and traducing it? We trust that our contemporary is a typical advocate of a Russian alliance. The project will never make much progress in such hands. In conclusion we place this on emphatic record:—Never at any time in these columns has there been published anything intended to suggest, or capable of being justly construed as suggesting, that to obtain an alliance with England Japan would have to assume the attitude of a suppliant, or to humble herself in the most infinitesimal degree. What we assert is that such an alliance—supposing it to be possible, which we greatly doubt—would have to be partial; that is to say, would have to be limited to a specific purpose. The ties that connect the Dreibund in Europe are strictly limited, yet no one dreams of imagining that the three high contracting parties are not allies on an equal footing. If, after this explicit disavowal, the *Kokumin Shimbun* persists in representing us as asserting or suggesting that Japan must bow her head to seek a British alliance, we shall be compelled to conclude that it is wilfully insincere.

CHINA NEWS.

According to the latest accounts, the demarcation work of the Sikkim-Tibet frontier is still practically at a standstill, as the Chinese Commissioner does not seem to have convinced the Lhassa Lamas that their hostile attitude is indefensible. Meanwhile, the British party can only do local survey work about the passes in the intervals of the heavy rainfall.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says that the unfortunate steamer *Catterthun* had a general cargo for Hongkong and Japan, and 1,200 tons of coal on board at the time of the disaster.

The premature death at the age of thirty of a first-rate man of business, an excellent companion, and a keen sportsman, Mr. Henri Hegnauer, Manager of Messrs. E. Bavier & Co., is announced in China papers. Mr. Hegnauer was only taken ill on the 8th inst., and his death, greatly lamented by many friends, occurred within about twenty-four hours.

At the first meeting of the newly elected general committee of the Eastern Bimetallic League, the following gentlemen were chosen as office-bearers for the ensuing year, viz.:—Mr. W. S. Wetmore, President; Mr. W. H. Talbot, Vice-President; Mr. E. B. Skottowe, Hon. Treasurer, and an Executive Committee was appointed, composed of the above gentlemen as *ex officio* members, and Messrs. Geo. Jamieson, H. Kopsch, E. A. Probst, and J. L. Scott. It was decided to prosecute the work with unabated vigour, and the accession of a considerable number of new subscribers is an earnest that public interest in the cause is on the increase and that the Committee can count upon the cordial support of residents generally in their efforts.

The *China Gazette* is informed that at the request of Mr. Hippisley, Commissioner of Customs, the Shanghai Municipal Council has sent up 12 Martini-Henry rifles and 1,200 rounds of ammunition to Chinkiang for the use of the Customs Staff at that port, as there is rather an uneasy feeling there.

Sheng Taotai, the notorious Customs Taotai of Tientsin, has resigned that position and in September will take charge at Shanghai of the Imperial Chinese Telegraphs and the China Merchants' S.N. Company.

The *N.-C. Daily News* prints two letters, one from the Rev. G. B. Smyth, the other from the Rev. J. R. Hypes, upon which it asks its renders to suspend judgment, both epistles bringing serious charges against the British Consul, Mr. Mansfield. The writers assert that Mr. Mansfield was upon the point of starting for Kuliang on a two days' holiday when the news of the Kucheng Massacre reached him, but despite this he went out to Kuliang and took no steps in the matter of the massacre beyond writing to the native officials asking for an appointment on the Wednesday following.

The French was vessels at Chefoo are to leave that port in a day or two under sealed orders.

It is reported in the *N.-C. Daily News* that the French gunboat *Lutin* has left Hankow for farther up river. Though only a small vessel she is prepared to land 100 men armed with Gatling guns, this being more than the number she can ordinarily land. It looks as if she had been re-inforced before she left Shanghai and that she means business, the more as some forty Roman Catholic stations have been destroyed recently.

It is not known what influences have moved him, but it is known, says the leading journal of Shanghai, that Colonel Denby, the U.S. Minister to Peking, has withdrawn from the Chêngtu Commission as formerly constituted by himself and the British Minister.

The prospects of getting the *Birkhall* up appear more favourable, and the attempt is now being made to lift her by means of lorchas, the pumping-out plan not having been a success.

The native papers of Shanghai report a curious case of suicide in the French Concession. A carrying coolie after placing his pole across the mouth of a well in the yard of the premises where he worked, fastened a rope to it and passed it round his neck. He then let himself down and was hanged.

A private letter of the 1st of August from Chungking mentions that Mr. Davis of the China Inland Mission at Wanshien (on the Yangtse, below Chungking) had been badly beaten. The local mandarin refused to give either of the missionaries there an audience, and *was encouraging a riot*. But Mr. Tratman had an interview with the Taotai at Chungking, on receipt of the news and the result was that the Taotai sent such instructions by wire as brought the Wanshien official to his senses. The examinations, remarks the *Daily News*, are in full swing at Chungking just now, but the officials are watchful and everything is quiet.

The days of hair-raising adventure are not yet passed so far as the China Sea is concerned. The light-keeper at the Saddles, according to the Shanghai papers, saw an exciting incident about a week ago. It is, of course, known that the Saddles are the hunting-ground of tribes of men who are fishermen by profession and pirates by practice. What appeared to be a big salt junk came sailing slowly along with one man at the helm and two or three sailors loafing on the deck. Two fast boats put off from the Saddles, with about ten armed men in each. The junk saw them and yawed about, trying vainly to escape. The boats pulled alongside and made fast one on each side of the junk. Instantly the junk's decks bristled with soldiers, who poured a volley from their rifles into the boats, then jumped down, killed all whom the bullets had spared, and threw the bodies overboard, after cutting off the heads of the two leaders. The apparently harmless salt junk had been chartered by a mandarin who was out pirate-hunting.

The following letter from Mr. C. F. Reid appears in the *N.-C. Daily News* under date the 12th August:—Sir,—Passing along the Rue de l'Administration this morning, not far from the Old North Gate, I saw posted in a barber's shop, in full view from the street, one of the foulest of Chou Han's pictorial placards. It was about fourteen inches square and was done up in striking colours. In the centre was a crucified pig marked with the Chinese characters for Jesus; kneeling in a semicircle around were a number of foreigners and natives of both sexes worshipping. In the foreground were several pictures of men and women too utterly indecent to be described. At the top of the placard were the characters, "Squeak of the heavenly pig-picture," but which, read aloud, have the same sound as "Church of the Lord of Heaven picture." The appearance of the placard indicates that it has been hanging in the same place a long time, and no doubt its vile meaning has soaked into the minds of many of our Chinese fellow-townsmen while they have been undergoing the manipulations of the tonsorial artist.

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Cholera is making great ravages in many parts of China just at present. In Pekin it is very bad, while during the past fourteen days or so, no less than fifty natives have died in one village at Yangtzepoo. The Chefoo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* says it was a terrible shock to the foreign community to learn that cholera had broken out aboard the two Russian warship, *Zabiaka* and *Bobre*; and that four patients had been taken to the General Hospital, three of them in a dying condition. The ships were quickly taken across to the Lighthouse Island where the sick were landed, and the ships disinfected. Fifty men in all were affected, but only four or five died, a rate of mortality too low for genuine cholera; and though the Russians were at first inclined to fix the blame on their contractor's beef, they were ultimately satisfied to ascribe it to the bumboats; particularly when the contractor demonstrated to them that a bumboatman, rigidly restricted to supplying eggs only to the sailors, was sending aboard large numbers of peaches, etc., wrapped up in white paper! A large number of cattle throughout the province, as well as at Chefoo, have died; the supply of milk has been short, and most of people have abjured beef also; the men-of-war ceased getting beef from ashore, falling back on their own stores of preserved meats; but by now most of them have returned to the ordinary routine, satisfied that the contractor's cattle, which are brought 14 days' march from inland and herded apart in the hills behind the town, are healthy.

From a telegram appearing in the Shanghai morning journal we gather that an indignation meeting has been held at Tientsin with Mr. Dickinson in the chair. The telegraphic résumé says:—An Indignation Meeting in reference to recent outrages was held here on Saturday, and the following telegrams were sent yesterday to the Press in London and America:—"The foreign community express their sympathy with the friends of the Kucheng victims. They consider the Chinese officials guilty. Both British and Americans blame the continued apathy of their governments for the situation. They regard England's demands in reference to the Kucheng massacre as useless. As before, the officials will buy innocent heads as substitutes for the actual criminals. The community protests against the Szechuan commission and the implicated officials thereon. England and America must send an ultimatum to Pekin and threaten reprisals; to trust to diplomacy is useless. The attention of the Press to the matter is implored." Messages were also sent to President Cleveland and Lord Salisbury, requesting their attention to the telegrams sent the Press.

It is reported in Chinese native official circles that an expectant *chehsien* of Hupeh, named Huang Chien-p'an has been appointed by the Wuchang high authorities to become provisional manager of the proposed Railway for the province Hupeh and that a Railway Bureau will soon be established either at Hanyang or Hankow.

The *Kiangfoo* arrived at Shanghai on Aug. 13th from Hankow having completed 600 round trips. The *Kiangfoo* was built on the old Ningpo Wharf in 1873 for the S.S.N. Co. by Mr. Coryell and was originally called the *Nanking*. Captain Bassett has been in command of the vessel since 1883, and Mr. Frank Prevost, her chief engineer, has made 540 trips in her.

Telegrams were received in Shanghai on the 13th instant announcing the wreck of the *Soochow* on the N.E. promontory. A correspondent writing to the *N.-C. Daily News* tells a story which may have some connection with this accident. He says:—On the morning of the 11th instant, signals were made from the lighthouse at the N.E. Promontory that an English man-of-war was reported ashore on the S.E. Promontory. The *Idsumi Kan*, just out from Weihaiwei, stopped and read the signal, made no answer, and then went on her way towards Japan. The *Feiching* examined the land for thirty miles down to the S.E. Promontory and past it, but saw no sign of any accident. No signals were made from the S.E. Promontory lighthouse, so they evidently knew nothing about it.

On 6th August a gloom was cast over the whole Settlement at Chefoo by the melancholy news of the death of Capt. S. Parkhill, the much respected and universally liked Harbour-master; he had been 35 years in the Customs, and nearly six years in Chefoo.

Telegraphic news was received at Shanghai on August 11th of the sudden death of Captain Shaw, of the China Navigation Co.'s steamer *Hunan*, at Chefoo. The deceased was one of the best known navigators on the coast, and last year he was President of the Mercantile Marine Officers' Association.

Writing on the proposed grand railway from Hupeh to Pekin, the *Hupao* states that Governor T'an Chi-hsün, acting Viceroy of the Hukuang provinces, received on the 29th ultimo an Imperial edict ordering him to report upon the best route for the proposed railway running through the province of Hupeh northwards, a month being given by the Emperor for the work. There are two highways to Pekin used by the Imperial couriers starting from Wuchang, one passing through the districts of Hanyang, Huangpo, and Hsiaokan, and touching at Hsinyang, the border city of Honan on the Hupeh frontier—a distance of 450 *li*, or about 150 miles. The other route, starting from Wuchang, passes also through the district of Hanyang, then to Hanch'uan, Yingch'eng, Chingshan, Chungsiang, Yich'eng, Hsiongyang, and Fanch'eng to the Honan border, a distance of 790 *li*, or about 260 miles. These two grand highways pass through mountainous districts which it would be necessary in some places to avoid. Two deputies have since been sent by Governor T'an to visit the various officials of the above named districts who are to furnish the deputies with all necessary information of the districts to be traversed in other to prepare a proper map to be sent to Pekin for the Emperor's inspection. A Honan despatch also reports that Governor Liu Shu-tang of that Province has received similar instructions to prepare a map and plans for the railway that is to pass through his province.

News comes through a Soochow correspondent of a Shanghai paper that in the neighbourhood of U Kiang, the soldiers of the official who is in command of the military for the suppression of salt smuggling, have rather met their match. It seems that some of those braves, finding their own occupation neither exciting nor particularly profitable, undertook something that they thought would be; so they forthwith proceeded to lay hold upon and take by force a lot of silk belonging to the villagers of the district, whereupon a great hue and cry was raised, gongs were beaten, and the whole country-side came to the rescue with a will; with the result that in the struggle that ensued twenty-seven of the Imperialists were killed.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 22nd June, contains the following decree:—"Liu K'un-yi, Imperial High Commissioner and Generalissimo of the Imperial armies within and without the Great Wall, reports that General Ho Ying-ming, Commander-in-chief of the foreign-drilled battalions from Shansi, has been found guilty of having filled his regiments with weakly and sickly men, utterly useless for practical purposes in time of war, and also when ordered to weed his ranks of these useless characters the dismissed men made a disturbance demanding the arrears which the said General owed them. In consequence of this sixty-five rifles were secreted and could not be found. Ho Ying-ming has proved himself an incompetent and dishonest officer, utterly unfit for the high post of trust hiberto confided to him. He is therefore to be cashiered at once and to make good the value of the missing rifles. The proper Boards are to take note of the above." Verily does this seem another case of straining at the gnat while the camel is swallowed unblushingly.

The International Cotton Manufacturing Company was successfully floated in Shanghai on 15th. At a meeting of the Directors, Mr. Brand was elected chairman.

In response to a communication from the American Consul at Ningpo, the high provincial authorities at Hangchow have issued a proclamation in favour of missionary work and enjoining all good citizens to do their best to prevent the mischievous influence of loafers and rioters.

From Pekin comes the report, says the Shanghai morning journal, that the high military authorities recommended to the Throne the building of a number of huge forts encircling Pekin to be armed and fortified after the latest Western pattern. This plan is said to have been suggested by a certain ex-officer in the French army.

The steamer *Soochow*, which was wrecked during a dense fog on the N.E. Promontory, while on a voyage from Woosung to Tientsin, was built in 1885 at Greenock, by Scott & Co., and engined by A. and J. Inglis of Glasgow. She was an iron screw steamer of 1,572 tons gross and 180 h.-p. and was 259.7 ft. long, 33.1 ft. broad, with 25.2 ft. depth of hold. She is a total loss, and one of the insurance companies has risks on her cargo to the extent of Tls. 25,000. No lives were lost.

The Chinese native papers, according to the *China Gazette*, are quite triumphant in tone over what they term the satisfactory progress of the investigations into the Szechuen outrages. They record that the new Viceroy Liu Chuan-lin has been working at the business with the greatest energy ever since he took over the seals of office. He has deputed seven or eight officials to travel into the interior in different directions and enquire into the riots at the various places where they occurred. It has been decided that Tls. 1,000 will be sufficient to pay for the Kiating outrages, and something under Tls. 100 for those at Weichow. The damage done to missionary property at Chengtu has not yet been assessed, but it is estimated the amount will be somewhere within one million taels. Some of the rioters have been arrested and locked up at the prison of the Viceroy.

Cholera is still prevalent in Nanking, but seems to be slightly abating. Affairs are quiet, but much illness prevails amongst the foreigners, many of whom have been compelled to leave. Altogether the abnormal summer has had a disastrous effect in the north of China, and Shanghai according to the *Mercury*, has proportionately suffered less than the interior cities.

THE WRECK OF THE "CATTERTHUN."

We received a telegram on Monday giving details of the loss of life at the wreck of the *Catterthun*, which show that among those drowned are Captain Shannon, the first mate, the third mate, all four engineers, the doctor, and the steward. Among the passengers five Europeans were lost, three males and two females, and only four Europeans were saved—the second mate and three passengers. Thirty-two Chinese were saved, probably passengers and crew. The names of those drowned as well as the saved will be found under the head "Telegrams."

KUCHENG.

A private telegram received in Shanghai late in the afternoon of August 9th states that the entire Kwangtung province is in a state of excitement and turbulence, and grave fears are entertained that there may be further disturbance.

The following is a copy of the telegram which American citizens in Shanghai sent on August 9th to the President of the United States. It was unanimously signed by all Americans who could be found, except by those in official positions:—

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND, WASHINGTON.

Americans Shanghai unanimously protest against action Minister Denby consenting British Consul represent Americans Szechuan enquiry. Recommend reconstruction Commission with American official adequate rank, excluding implicated Chinese officials; also recommend marine escort accompany Commission.

HYKES,
SEAMAN,
Committee.

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CÆSAR AND CHRIST.

TO the student of the origins of modern European civilization the two most interesting figures in history are those of JULIUS CÆSAR, the founder of the Roman Empire, and JESUS CHRIST, the founder of the Christian religion. At the first glance, the contrast between the two men is singularly instructive. CÆSAR, the Roman patrician, was before all things a man of the world; he passed his life in camps and assemblies; he was at once perhaps the greatest general and the greatest statesman that ever lived. CHRIST, the Jewish peasant, was an ascetic enthusiast; during the short period for which, at the conclusion of his life, he emerged from his native obscurity, he showed a conspicuous inability to grasp the significance of many of the most elementary relations of practical life; and though he had that singular charm of manner which inspires great personal affection in those that come immediately in contact with it, he had not a sufficiently commanding influence over even his most intimate adherents to make them trust and support him in the hour of trial. And yet, so much does the lasting influence of a man's work depend on the soil receiving it, that the importance of CHRIST can hardly be regarded as second to that of CÆSAR in opening the way along which men were to march towards the existing type of civilization.

In truth, the work of the visionary and the work of the man of action were necessary complements of each other. This is an interesting historical fact; one indeed the importance of which cannot he overrated so long as we view the matter with the clear eyes of science, and do not obscure our vision with the spectacles of theological mysticism. There are few topics in history on which more learned nonsense has been written than on the growth of the Roman Empire viewed as a "preparation in history" for the spread of Christianity. To the theologian, the simplest, most every-day occurrence appears miraculous when regarded through the mists of prejudice that the religious mind inevitably disseminates around everything connected with the origin of a cherished creed. We are told that since it is clear that but for the pre-existence of the Roman Empire Christianity would have had far more difficulty in taking possession of the western world, therefore the establishment of the Roman Empire was miraculously ordained by GOD to pave the way for Christianity. The only defect about this pretty train of reasoning is that it proves too much, for it proves that every occurrence without exception is miraculous, and thus utterly destroys the importance of any particular miracle. For of everything, however important or however insignificant, that exists at the present time, it is true that it exists only in virtue of the pre-existence in time of a long train of antecedent conditions (commonly called causes) which, as it were, brought it into being. Had any one of those indispensable antecedent conditions failed to appear, the thing the present existence of which depends on the pre-existence of that condition would likewise have failed to appear. Therefore, by parity of reasoning with the time-worn theological argument about the Roman Empire and Christianity, that pre-existent indispensable condition was miraculously fulfilled by the special intervention of GOD'S divine grace. In this sense the extension of the slave system of labour to some of the North American colonies was a miracle worked by the divine grace to lead to the American war of Secession; in this sense the coming of PERRY to Japan was a miracle worked by the divine grace to hasten the fall of the TOKUGAWA Shogunate; in this sense the adding of yeast to dough in all the bakeries of the world is a miracle daily worked by the divine will through the instrumentality of the bakers, whereby bread is made to rise and its consumers are saved from indigestion. If these things are miracles, then the growth of the Roman Empire is a miracle. If these things are not miracles, then the growth of the Roman Empire is what these things are, a condition shown on investigation to have been a necessary antecedent of the subsequent appearance of certain phenomena. Just as physical science only becomes possible by the conception of the interaction of certain inalterable physical forces, so it is only after we have eliminated from our minds these childish thaumaturgical notions that we can fruitfully proceed to the study of history.

It is only then that the interest of the mutual and collateral effects of Roman Imperialism and of Christianity becomes fully apparent. The ordinary Christian considers one side of the question only, the importance of Roman Imperialism to Christianity. He would be unwilling to change the point of view, and to regard Christianity merely as an instrument, serving a necessary place in history by its maintenance of the Roman tradition. Yet such an instrument it was. The ancient European world had two great things to hand down to us, two things that have now had their day, but were both indispensable at a certain stage in the growth of European civilization. The importance of Christianity in this respect is universally understood, and, indeed, almost universally overrated. The importance of the Roman Law and of other heritages of Roman Imperialism is known only to the few that have made a special study of the subject, but it was in no wise inferior to that of Christianity. It is well known how the Roman Emipre paved the way for Christianity; but how did Christianity return this obligation by preserving for us the best fruits of the Roman Empire? Shortly, in this wise. Rome, as a physical fact, was attacked by wave after wave of barbarian invasion, and, as a physical fact, it disappeared beneath the waters. But before Roman Imperialism had been seriously imperilled by the barbarian onslaught, Roman Christianity had begun to take its place. And barbarism, though it triumphed over physical Rome, was itself subdued by the spiritual power of Christianity. Thus it came to pass that Christianity as a spiritual fact held the world together through the dark ages, and kept alive the Roman tradition, without which it would probably have been utterly extinguished. This is among the greatest of the not inconsiderable benefits that the world owes to Christianity—a benefit that alone might suffice to outweigh, as the other benefits certainly would not, the serious evils that Christianity brought in its train. We can forgive much darkening of counsel when we remember that the religion of CHIRIST was indirectly instrumental in handing down to us all that was best in the statecraft of CÆSAR.

"SHOCKING AU JAPON."

MONSIEUR FERNAND GANESCO'S brochure, bearing the above somewhat bizarre title, re-opens a discussion long familiar. What path should Japanese artists resolve to tread? Ought they to adhere to the traditions and methods of their old schools, or should they seek to enter the routes of Occidental painting? These are the questions that M. GANESCO undertakes to consider and to answer. He has a charming pen. A literary artist, he may justly claim the right to criticise everything artistic. He has also another quality: that of arriving at very definite conclusions. Not the faintest shadow of doubt obscures his vision in this case. He holds that Japanese art must remain essentially Japanese or cease to possess any title to public esteem. In order to prove the correctness of this verdict he examines in detail the oil paintings shown at the Kyoto Exhibition, condemning them one and all in merciless terms. It is a field for the exercise of humour and sarcasm, and M. GANESCO exploits it to the full. One can not but laugh with him. It is his purpose to make every one laugh at these parodies of painting, and he succeeds. But we are conscious all the while that M. GANESCO touches only the very surface of his subject. What is this ancient art of Japan? What are the traditions and methods that its disciples should guard jealously against any intrusion of Occidental ideas? It is easy to ridicule the ridiculous daubs of Japanese painters in oils. It is easy to show how entirely such efforts lack any evidence of high inspiration or skilled technique. It is easy,

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in their presence, to recall with reverence the charming conceptions of OKYO, of HOKUSAI, of TANYU, of MOTONOBU, and so forth. But we must know where the line of division lies between the two schools before we venture to predict the impossibility of their coalescence. M. GANESCO tells us nothing of all that. He simply sneers at the new in detail and sighs for the old *en bloc*. Once only does he give us an insight into his ideas in the form of a quotation from "Things Japanese"—"The Japanese are undoubtedly RAPHÆLS of fishes, and insects, and flowers, and bamboo-stems swaying in the breeze; and they have given us charming fragments of idealized scenery. But they have never succeeded in adequately transferring to canvas the human form divine; they have never made grand historical scenes live again before the eyes of posterity; they have never, like the early Italian masters, drawn away men's hearts from earth to heaven in an ecstasy of adoration." That is perfectly true. We endorse every word of it, though by the author of "Things Japanese"—who does not always take the trouble to be just before he is satirical—it is based on a wholly false representation of our own views. It is also endorsed by M. GANESCO. "I should not wish," he says, "to add a single word to these lines so just. They comprise admirably, in my opinion, the observations I have made on the artistic evolution in modern Japan." But surely M. GANESCO must detect the dilemma in which he places himself by endorsing, on the one hand, this analysis of Japanese pictorial art, and insisting, on the other, that the old Japanese school must be kept free from all Occidental admixtures. Does he not perceive that under the pretence of preserving for Japan the admiration accorded—as he alleges—by the Western world to her ancient art, he is condemning her to a level of marked inferiority? We have so often discussed this subject that we refrain from again setting down our views as to the excellent features and conspicuous failures of undiluted Japanese art. But this we shall say, that we could never appreciate the logic of forbidding the Japanese to strive after the better lest, in the effort, they should lose the good. No, they must challenge destiny; they must determine whether their doom is to remain sketchers and decorators, or whether they may hope to rise to the rank of painters and artists. Meanwhile, robust criticism like that of M. GANESCO is wholesome and useful. We confess that his scalpel hurts even us, his fellow-thinkers, a little. He seems so ignorant of the terrible struggle amid which these poor pictures were produced; of the painful efforts, without patrons to encourage, without purchasers to reward, without opportunities to learn, that evolved even such worthless works. Had he known of these things, his laughter might have been less hearty.

"But what," we can fancy the reader saying, "what has all this to do with "Shocking au Japon?" Nothing in sooth. The fact is that M. GANESCO has chosen for his work a title borrowed from one little section of it—the section devoted to Mr. KURODA'S picture of a nude female, concerning which so much has been said. We should like to find an appropriate adjective for that picture, but the task defies us. Let the thing remain a nameless horror. How it obtained entry into the Art Gallery of the Kyoto Exhibition we can not conceive. Probably the most beautiful contours in nature are those of the human form, especially the female form. That painters and decorators should have large recourse to them is very reasonable, though nothing could possibly be less artistic than the riotous abuse of the nude perpetrated now-a-days in the field of Western art. We have nothing to say, therefore, against the principle of admitting pictures of the nude into any gallery of art, but certainly such pictures, to be admissible, must be so far idealized that the fact of nudity shall not be the only thing portrayed by them, and that to parade indecency shall not be their sole apparent purpose, as is the case in Mr. KURODA'S picture. It is not with the picture itself, however, but with M. GANESCO'S comments that we are concerned. He appears quite unable to understand why objections were raised by certain Japanese to a display of the nude in a gallery of fine arts, when the nude is everywhere to be publicly seen in Japan, in bath-houses, in the streets during rain or wind, and beside farm-houses in the country. Truly, it seems singular that misconceptions upon this score should exist in so many minds. The nude is seen in Japan, but is not looked at. Because a coolie strips himself to work with greater ease, or because a woman, taking her bath, does not court the privacy considered essential to such acts in the West, does it follow that the Japanese should find nothing shocking in the exhibition of nude figures in an art gallery? It is a question of system. In the Occident concealment is carried to excess; in Japan there is a degree of "frankness" at least equally striking. Yet in Japan the nude figure has invariably been excluded from the realm of art, because nudity is associated with vulgarity, with labour, with the life of plebeians whom necessity compels to be natural. A lady does not go to a public bath-house, any more than a gentleman takes off his shirt to toil. It is precisely because the nude has always been relegated to the ranks of the proletariat that its introduction into the realm of fine art astonishes and shocks the Japanese connoisseur.

We should like, without further comment, to take leave of this delightfully written and wholesomely inspired brochure, but truth compels us to say that despite the note of true art instinct sounded throughout the work, despite the general justice of the criticisms and the undoubted excellence of the literary style, the book is one of the most inartistic productions it has ever been our misfortune to examine. Why did M. GANESCO associate himself with Monsieur BIGOT? M. BIGOT, when he undertakes to portray Japanese types, sees everything through an atmosphere of inexpressible coarseness. His craft—we cannot call it art—has not the smallest grain of refinement. His pictures are caricatures suggested by rancour and elaborated by spleen. All that, however, might be pardoned in its place. We could even stop to laugh at such sketches were they limned upon a hoarding or scratched upon the blank wall of an alley. But see to what the man's proclivities have betrayed him. M. GANESCO writes thus:—

> The Japanese, who, out of a polite desire not to produce a painful impression, tell you with a smile upon their lips of the death of a father, a mother, a child, or a friend, weep very seldom." (Does M. Ganesco really believe this?) "In fact, I have not, for my own part seen a man or a woman shed tears in this country. The wife just widowed by war, conceals her grief. She is stoical, as have been, for the rest, all Japanese women throughout the war. Let us pay them homage. Since the days of Rome and her matrons we had lost the habit of finding among women similar examples of civic courage. I have often had occasion to read in the course of the campaign letters that astonished me by the greatness of the sentiments expressed, by the energy that they showed in their writers. "A soldier that fights for his country," wrote a wife to her husband, "ought never to expect to return to his home." "Do not think of your promise," said a mother to her son. "You are now affianced to death" "Conquer or die," wrote a grandmother to her grand-child. The Japanese woman—I wish to insist upon this—is energetic and strong. She has, in the highest degree, a respect for and a sense of, her duties, and she forgets willingly that she is a wife, a betrothed, or a mother, in order to remember that she owes to her country everything she possesses, including the treasures of her affection and her tenderness. Under an exterior very frail, she hides great valour.

How does M. BIGOT illustrate this fine eulogy, this honest tribute to one of the noblest traits of human nature? By a sketch of a revoltingly ugly imbecile, kneeling before a half-written scroll and grinning a grin of vacant idiocy! Again, M. GANESCO speaks with genuine admiration of the motive of a picture representing the attitudes of a wife and her two children on receipt of the news that the husband and father has been killed in battle. The mother, holding the fatal letter in her hand, and the brave little lad, do not weep: the one is too patriotic; the other thinks only of the sword that lies before him and that will help him to avenge his father: but the little girl cries bitterly. How does M. BIGOT illustrate this touching and nobly conceived scene? By a picture of a little girl crying over a broken doll that lies at her feet, a doll dressed as a soldier! Any man of artistic feeling and humane sentiment must hold that the title, "Shocking au Japon," applies to M. BIGOT'S illustrations rather than to Mr. KURODA'S abominable picture. M. BIGOT has spoiled the book. He has perverted a grave and useful critique into a coarse caricature. As for M. VILLETARD DE LAGUERIE, whose name stands at the foot of the preface, he is unintentionally comical. He thinks that to tell

the truth in Japan will set the rivers on fire, and that it was reserved to MM. GANESCO and BIGOT to discover facts that have been laid before the Japanese over and over again within the past fifteen years. M. DE LAGUERIE is a Professor of History in the University of France. We advise him to collect a little more information before he undertakes to tell the history of modern Japan.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Would it be an indiscretion to ask the age of that venerable pianist, the Chevalier de Kontski? Your issue of this date says . . . . . "whose association with Mozart and the other musical stars of seventy years ago, has made him a veritable *répertoire* of anecdote and entrancing personal reminiscences."

Is not your musical reviewer a little wrong in his chronology? It is well known that Mozart died on the 5th of December, 1791; Weber in 1826; and Beethoven in 1827 (after a quarter of a century of ill-health and deafness).

Yours faithfully, OMEGA.

Yokohama, August 19th, 1895.

A QUESTION FOR INVESTORS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The Banks having reduced interest on fixed deposits to 4 per cent., do I understand the following calculation to be correct?—H. & S. Banks are selling, say at 190 per cent. premium, that is $362.50 per share; the dividend due on 31 December, 1895, will be £1.10.0 per share.

The rate of exchange we will assume to be 2/1⅜, equals $13.98 or 3.85 per cent., say, per annum 7.70 per cent.

Is not this the best investment that can at present be found? Is there any reason why the premium does not rise to the basis of 4 per cent. per annum?

Yours faithfully, INVESTOR.

August 16th, 1895.

TREATY OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN JAPAN AND ITALY.

SIGNED AT ROME, 1ST DAY OF THE 12TH MONTH, 27TH YEAR OF MEIJI.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, and His Majesty the King of Italy, being equally desirous of maintaining the relations of good understanding which happily exist between them, by extending and increasing the intercourse between their respective States, and being convinced that this object cannot better be accomplished than by revising the Treaties hitherto existing between the two countries, have resolved to complete such a revision, based upon principles of equity and mutual benefit, and, for that purpose, have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, M. Takahira Kogoro, Jushii, Fifth Class of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of His Majesty the King of Italy;

And His Majesty the King of Italy, His Excellency, Baron Albert Blanc, Senator of the Italian Kingdom, Knight Grand Cross of the Italian Orders of St. Maurice and Lazarus and of the Crown of Italy, His Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs;

Who, after having communicated to each other their Full Powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

ARTICLE 1.—The subjects of each of the two High Contracting Parties shall have full liberty to enter, travel, or reside in any part of the dominions and possessions of the other Contracting Party, and shall enjoy full and perfect protection for their persons and property.

They shall have free and easy access to the Courts of Justice in pursuit and defence of their rights; they shall be at liberty equally with native subjects to choose and employ lawyers, advocates, and representatives to pursue and defend their rights before such Courts, and in all other matters connected with the administration of justice they shall enjoy all the rights and privileges enjoyed by native subjects.

In whatever relates to rights of residence and travel; to the possession of goods and effects of any kind; to the succession to personal estate, by will or otherwise, and the disposal of property of any sort in any manner whatsoever which they may lawfully acquire, the subjects of each Contracting Party shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other the same privileges, liberties, and rights, and shall be subject to no higher imposts or charge in these respects than native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation. The subjects of each of the Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other entire liberty of conscience, and, subject to the Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations, shall enjoy the right of private or public exercise of their worship, and also the right of burying their respective countrymen, according to their religious customs, in such suitable and convenient places as may be established and maintained for that purpose.

They shall not be compelled, under any pretext whatsoever, to pay any charges or taxes other or higher than those that are, or may be, paid by native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE 2.—The subjects of the Contracting Parties residing in the dominions and possessions of the other shall be exempted from all compulsory military service whatsoever, whether in the army, navy, National Guard, or militia; from all contributions imposed in lieu of personal service; and from all forced loans or military exactions or contributions.

ARTICLE 3.—There shall be reciprocal freedom of commerce and navigation between the dominions and possessions of the two High Contracting Parties.

The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties may trade in any part of the dominions and possessions of the other by wholesale or retail in all kinds of produce, manufactures, and merchandize of lawful commerce, either in person or by agents, singly, or in partnerships with foreigners or native subjects; and they may there own or hire and occupy the houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops, and premises which may be necessary for them, and lease land for residential and commercial purposes, conforming themselves to the Laws, Police, and Customs Regulations of the country like native subjects.

They shall have liberty freely to come with their ships and cargoes to all places, ports, and rivers in the dominions and possessions of the other which are or may be opened to foreign commerce, and shall enjoy, respectively, the same treatment in matters of commerce and navigation as native subjects, or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation, without having to pay taxes, imposts, or duties, of whatever nature or under whatever denomination levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public functionaries, private individuals, Corporations, or establishments of any kind, other or greater than those paid by native subjects or subjects or citizens of the most favoured nation, subject always to the Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations of each country.

ARTICLE 4.—The dwellings, manufactories, warehouses, and shops of the subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties in the dominions and possessions of the other, and all premises appertaining thereto destined for purposes of residence or commerce, shall be respected.

It shall not be allowable to proceed to make a search of, or a domiciliary visit to, such dwellings and premises, or to examine or inspect books, papers, or accounts, except under the conditions and with the forms prescribed by the Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations for subjects of the country.

ARTICLE 5.—No other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importation into the dominions and possessions of His Royal Italian Majesty of any article, the produce or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, from whatever place arriving; and no other or higher duties shall be imposed on the importation into the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan of any article, the produce or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of His Royal Italian Majesty, from whatever place arriving, than on the like article produced or manufactured in any other foreign country; nor shall any prohibition be maintained or imposed on the importation of any article, the produce or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of either of the High Contracting Parties, into the dominions and possessions of the other, from whatever place arriving, which shall not equally extend to the importation of the like article, being the produce or manufacture of any other country. This last provision is not applicable to the sanitary and other prohibitions occasioned by the necessity of protecting the safety of persons, or of cattle, or of plants useful to agriculture.

ARTICLE 6.—No other or higher duties or charges shall be imposed in the dominions and possessions of either of the High Contracting Parties on the exportation of any article to the dominions and possessions of the other than such as are, or may, be payable on the exportation of the like article to any other foreign country; nor shall any prohibition be imposed on the exportation of any article from the dominions and possessions of either of the two Contracting Parties to the dominions and possessions of the other which shall not equally extend to the exportation of the like article to any other country.

ARTICLE 7.—The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other exemption from all transit duties, and a perfect equality of treatment with native subjects in all that relates to warehousing, bounties, facilities, and drawbacks.

ARTICLE 8.—All articles which are or may be legally imported into the ports of the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan in Japanese vessels may likewise be imported into those ports in Italian vessels, without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in Japanese vessels; and, reciprocally, all articles which are or may be legally imported into the ports of the dominions and possessions of His Royal Italian Majesty in Italian vessels may likewise be imported into those ports in Japanese vessels, without being liable to any other or higher duties or charges of whatever denomination than if such articles were imported in Italian vessels. Such reciprocal equality of treatment shall take effect without distinction, whether such articles come directly from the place of origin or from any other place.

In the same manner there shall be perfect equality of treatment in regard to exportation, so that the same export duties shall be paid and the same bounties and drawbacks allowed in the dominions and possessions of either of the High Contracting Parties on the exportion of any article which is or may be legally exported therefrom, whether such exportation shall take place in Japanese or in Italian vessels, and whatever may be the place of destination, whether a port of either of the Contracting Parties or of any third Powers.

ARTICLE 9.—No duties of tonnage, harbour, pilotage, lighthouse, quarantine, or other similar or corresponding duties of whatever nature or under whatever denomination, levied in the name or for the profit of the Government, public functionaries, private individuals, Corporations, or establishments of any kind, shall be imposed in the ports of the dominions and possessions of either country upon the vessels of the other country which shall not equally and under the same conditions be imposed in the like cases on national vessels in general or vessels of the most favoured nation. Such equality of treatment shall apply reciprocally to the respective vessels, from whatever port or place they may arrive, and whatever may be their place of destination.

ARTICLE 10.—In all that regards the stationing, loading, and unloading of vessels in the ports, basins, docks, roadsteads, harbours, or rivers of the dominions and possessions of the two countries, no privilege shall be granted to national vessels which shall not be equally granted to vessels of the other country; the intention of the High Contracting Parties being that in this respect also the respective vessels shall be treated on the footing of perfect equality.

ARTICLE 11.—The coasting trade of both the High Contracting Parties is excepted from the provisions of the present Treaty, and shall be regulated according to the Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations of Japan and of Italy respectively. It is, however, understood that Japanese subjects in the dominions and possessions of His Royal Italian Majesty, and Italian subjects in the dominions and possessions of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, shall enjoy in this respect the rights which are or may be granted under such Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations to the subjects or citizens of any other country.

A Japanese vessel laden in a foreign country with cargo destined for two or more ports in the dominions and possessions of His Royal Italian Majesty, and an Italian vessel laden in a foreign country with cargo destined for two or more ports in the dominions and possessions of His Majesty

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the Emperor of Japan, may discharge a portion of her cargo at one port, and continue her voyage to the other port or ports of destination where foreign trade is permitted, for the purpose of landing the remainder of her original cargo there, subject always to the Laws and Custom-house Regulations of the two countries.

The Japanese Government, however, agrees to allow Italian vessels to continue, as heretofore, for the period of the duration of the present Treaty, to carry cargo between the existing open ports of the Empire, excepting to or from the ports of Osaka, Niigata, and Ebisuminato.

ARTICLE 12.—Any ship of war or merchant vessel of either of the High Contracting Parties which may be compelled by stress of weather, or by reason of any other distress, to take shelter in a port of the other, shall be at liberty to refit therein, to procure all necessary supplies, and to put to sea again, without paying any dues other than such as would be payable by national vessels. In case, however, the master of a merchant vessel should be under the necessity of disposing of a part of his cargo in order to defray the expenses, he shall be bound to conform to the Regulations and Tariffs of the place to which he may have come.

If any ship of war or merchant vessel of one of the Contracting Parties should run aground or be wrecked upon the coasts of the other, the local authorities shall inform the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent of the district of the occurrence, or if there be no such Consular officer, they shall inform the Consul-General, Consul, Vice-Consul, or Consular Agent of the nearest district.

All proceedings relative to the salvage of Japanese vessels wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of His Royal Italian Majesty shall take place in accordance with the Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations of Italy, and reciprocally, all measures of salvage relative to Italian vessels wrecked or cast on shore in the territorial waters of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan shall take place in accordance with the Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations of Japan.

Such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, and all parts thereof, and all furnitures and appurtenances belonging thereunto, and all goods and merchandize saved therefrom, including those which may have been cast into the sea, or the proceeds thereof, if sold, as well as all papers found on board such stranded or wrecked ship or vessel, shall be given up to the owners or their agents, when claimed by them. If such owners or agents are not on the spot, the same shall be delivered to the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, or Consular Agents upon being claimed by them within the period fixed by the laws of the country, and such Consular officers, owners, or agents shall pay only the expenses incurred in the preservation of the property, together with the salvage or other expenses which would have been payable in the case of the wreck of a national vessel.

The goods and merchandize saved from the wreck shall be exempt from all the duties of the Customs unless cleared for consumption, in which case they shall pay the ordinary duties.

When a ship or vessel belonging to the subjects of one of the Contracting Parties is stranded or wrecked in the territories of the other, the respective Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents shall be authorized, in case the owner or master, or other agents of the owner, is not present, to lend their official assistance in order to afford the necessary assistance to the subjects of the respective States. The same rule shall apply in case the owner, master, or other agent is present, but requires such assistance to be given.

ARTICLE 13.—All vessels which, according to Japanese Law, are to be deemed Japanese vessels, and all vessels which, according to Italian Law, are to be deemed Italian vessels, shall, for the purpose of this Treaty, be deemed Japanese and Italian vessels respectively.

ARTICLE 14.—The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, and Consular Agents of each of the Contracting Parties, residing in the dominions and possessions of the other, shall receive from the local authorities such assistance as can by law be given to them for the recovery of deserters from the vessels of their respective countries.

It is understood that this stipulation shall not apply to the subjects of the country where the desertion takes place.

ARTICLE 15.—The High Contracting Parties agree that, in all that concerns commerce and navigation, any privilege, favour, or immunity which either Contracting Party has actually granted, or may hereafter grant, to the Government, ships, subjects, or citizens of any other State, shall be extended immediately and unconditionally to the Government, ships, subjects, or citizens of the other Contracting Party, it being their intention that the trade and navigation of each country shall be placed, in all respects, by the other on the footing of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE 16.—Each of the High Contracting Parties may appoint Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Pro-Consuls, and Consular Agents in all the ports, cities, and places of the other, except in those where it may not be convenient to recognize such officers.

This exception, however, shall not be made in regard to one of the Contracting Parties without being made likewise in regard to every other Power.

The Consuls-General, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Pro-Consuls, and Consular Agents may exercise all functions, and shall enjoy all privileges, exemptions, and immunities which are, or may hereafter be, granted to Consular officers of the most favoured nation.

ARTICLE 17.—The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the dominions and possessions of the other the same protection as native subjects in regard to patents, trade-marks, and designs, upon fulfilment of the formalities prescribed by law.

ARTICLE 18.—His Royal Italian Majesty's Government, so far as they are concerned, give their consent to the following arrangement:—

The several foreign Settlements in Japan shall be incorporated with the respective Japanese communes, and shall thenceforth form part of the general municipal system of Japan.

The competent Japanese authorities shall thereupon assume all municipal obligations and duties in respect thereof, and the common funds and property, if any, belonging to such Settlements, shall at the same time be transferred to the said Japanese authorities.

When such incorporation takes place the existing leases in perpetuity under which property is now held in the said Settlements shall be confirmed, and no conditions whatsoever other than those contained in such existing leases shall be imposed in respect of such property. It is, however, understood that the Consular authorities mentioned in the same are in all cases to be replaced by the Japanese authorities.

All lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the said Settlements shall, subject to the right of eminent domain, be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart.

ARTICLE 19.—The present Treaty shall, from the date it comes into force, be substituted in place of the Treaty of Amity and Commerce of the sixteenth day of the seventh month of the second year of Keiou, corresponding to the twenty-fifth day of August one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six, and the additional Convention of the same date, and all Arrangements and Agreements subsidiary thereto concluded or existing between the High Contracting Parties; and from the same date such Treaty, Convention, Arrangements, and Agreements shall cease to be binding, and in consequence, the jurisdiction then exercised by Italian Courts in Japan, and all the exceptional privileges, exemptions, and immunities then enjoyed by Italian subjects as a part of or appurtenant to such jurisdiction, shall absolutely and without notice cease and determine, and thereafter all such jurisdiction shall be assumed and exercised by Japanese Courts.

ARTICLE 20.—The present Treaty shall not take effect until the sixteenth day of the seventh month of the thirty-second year of Meiji, the sixteenth day of July one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine. It shall come into force one year after His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government shall have given notice to His Royal Italian Majesty's Government of its wish to have the same brought into operation. Such notice may be given at any time after the sixteenth day of the seventh month of the thirty-first year of Meiji, the sixteenth July, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight. The Treaty shall remain in force for the period of twelve years from the date it goes into operation.

Either High Contracting Party shall have the right, at any time after eleven years shall have elapsed from the date this Treaty takes effect, to give notice to the other of its intention to terminate the same and at the expiration of twelve months after such notice is given this Treaty shall wholly cease and determine.

ARTICLE 21.—The present Treaty is written in six copies, viz.: two in the Japanese, two in the Italian, and two in the English language, and in case of dispute, the English text shall be considered as the original one.

ARTICLE 22.—The present Treaty shall be ratified, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Tokio as soon as possible, and not later than six months from the present date.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Rome, this first day of the twelfth month of the twenty seventh year of Meiji.

[L.S.] TAKAHIRA KOGORO. [L.S.] BLANC.

PROTOCOL.

The Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the Government of His Majesty the King of Italy, deeming it advisable in the interests of both Countries to regulate certain special matters of mutual concern, apart from the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, have, through their respective Plenipotentiaries, agreed upon the following stipulations:—

1.—It is agreed by the Contracting Parties, that one month after the exchange of the ratifications of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, the Import Tariff now in operation in Japan in respect of goods and merchandize imported into Japan by the subjects of His Majesty the King of Italy shall cease to be binding. From the same date, the General Statutory Tariff of Japan for the time being in force shall, subject to the provisions of Article nineteen of the Treaty of one thousand eight hundred and sixty-six at present subsisting between the Contracting Parties as long as the said Treaty remains in force and thereafter, subject to the provisions of Articles five and fifteen of the Treaty signed this day, be applicable to the goods and merchandize, being the growth, produce, or manufacture of the dominions and possessions of His Royal Italian Majesty, upon importation into Japan. But nothing contained in this Protocol shall be held to limit or qualify the right of the Japanese Government to restrict or to prohibit the importation of adulterated drugs, medicines, food, or beverages; indecent or obscene prints, paintings, books, cards, lithographic or other engravings, photographs, or any other indecent or obscene articles; articles in violation of patent, trade-mark, or copyright laws of Japan; or any other article which for sanitary reasons, or in view of public security or morals, might offer any danger.

It is, however, understood that in the event the application of the most favoured nation principles regarding customs duties which are guaranteed by the treaty signed this day as well as by this Protocol should be found unsatisfactory in actual practice, the two Governments will agree to substitute conventional tariffs in respect of those articles in the export of which they are each especially interested.

In all other respects the stipulations of the existing Treaty and Convention shall be maintained unconditionally until the time when the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day comes into force.

2.—The Japanese Government, pending the opening of the country to Italian subjects, agrees to extend the existing passport system in such a manner as to allow Italian subjects, on the production of a certificate of recommendation from the Italian Representative in Tokio, or from any of His Majesty's Consuls at the open ports in Japan, to obtain upon application passports available for any part of the country, and for any period not exceeding twelve months, from the Imperial Japanese Foreign Office in Tokio, or from the chief authorities in the Prefecture in which an open port is situated; it being understood that the existing Rules and Regulations governing Italian subjects who visit the interior of the Empire are to be maintained.

3.—The Japanese Government undertakes, before the cessation of Italian Consular jurisdiction in Japan, to join the International Conventions for the Protection of Industrial Property and Copyright.

4.—The present Protocol is written in six copies, viz.: two in the Japanese, two in the Italian, two in the English language, and in case of dispute, the English text shall be considered as the original one.

5.—The undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed that this Protocol shall be submitted to the two High Contracting Parties at the same time as the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation signed this day, and that when the said Treaty is ratified the agreements contained in the Protocol shall also equally be considered as approved, without the necessity of a further formal ratification.

It is also agreed that this Protocol shall terminate at the same time the said Treaty ceases to be binding.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at Rome, this first day of the twelfth month of the twenty-seventh year of Meiji.

[L.S.] TAKAHIRA KOGORO. [L.S.] BLANC.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

BISHOP HENDRIX VISITS JAPAN.

By the action of the College of Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South (U.S.A.), the Rev. Bishop Eugene R. Hendrix, D.D., LL.D., has been assigned to Episcopal supervision of the Mission Conferences of his Church in Japan and China. The Bishop has just arrived in Japan, coming as one of the passengers in the *Empress of India*, and is to preside over the Japan Mission Conference to be convened August 29th, in Kobe. Bishop Hendrix was educated in New England, being an alumnus of the Wesleyan University at Middletown. He pursued his theological course in Union Seminary, New York City, of which he is a graduate. Rising early to a prominent position in his communion, he was for several years the president of Central College in Missouri, and is now one of the trustees of Vanderbilt University. About ten years ago he was elevated to the Episcopacy, and as the representative of progress, as a preacher and flatform speaker, and as a wise Chief Pastor in administration, he exerts a strong influence in the Episcopal College and throughout his Church. Besides progressive culture and extensive travel throughout the world, he is a man of affairs. Descended from an old Maryland family, his father was prominent in business circles, and as a friend of education, his brother, the Hon. Joseph Hendrix, recently a member of Congress from New York, is the president of a leading banking house in New York City. About twenty years ago, with the lamented Bishop Enoch Marvin, he made a tour of the world for the study of Foreign Missions, including among other fields Japan and China; since which time he has followed closely the course of events in the East and the rapid march of progress of the Japanese nation. Though so well conversant with the great national and commercial problems of the Eastern Nations, he is none the less deeply interested in their evangelization. For many years he has been personally concerned in the cause of Foreign Missions, and indeed so strong was his zeal that he became financially responsible for the support of the first Missionary sent to China after the civil war by the Missionary Society of his Church. The friends of the "Mission of the Inland Sea" are to be congratutated upon the coming of Bishop Hendrix, for doubtless his visitation will bring much and varied good. We are sure he can but mark the great change that has taken place in Japan since his former visit twenty years ago.

THE KARUIZAWA CONFERENCE.

Karuizawa continues to be a favourite summer resort. The present season witnesses perhaps a still larger number of visitors than usual. Several new houses have been built, and these, with the houses already erected, and those for rent in the village, are all occupied, while the new Mampei Hotel has its full complement of guests. The weather here in July, as elsewhere throughout Japan, was anything but favourable, but August has brought a happy change, and a more lovely time for excursions, tennis, conference, and so forth, could scarcely be desired.

The Annual Conference was opened on the 12th inst., and continued on alternate days during the week, holding morning and evening sessions.

Dr. MacGregor, of Amoy, presided at the opening session on Monday morning, the subject being "Mission Work in China and Formosa." After the opening exercises, the Chairman addressed the meeting on the general topic of Formosa. He compared the physical character of the island with that of South America, having a long mountain chain running through it from end to end. On the west was a great plain, the best part of the island. Formosa was first made known to the world by the Dutch traders and by missionaries. The first occupation of the island by the Chinese took place during the Ming Dynasty. They settled on the west plain, driving back the aborigines into the mountains. The present inhabitants are: 1st, the Chinese living on the plain; 2nd, natives who have assimilated the Chinese civilization and live in the foot hills; and 3rd, the natives who still exist in their primitive savage condition in the mountains. Work in Formosa is carried on entirely by the English Presbyterians, who have made quite a good beginning in the island. In reference to the proposal made by the Synod of the Church of Christ in Japan to bring the Church in Formosa into organic union with the same body here, he thought the question of a different language was the chief difficulty.

The next speaker was Rev. Mr. Stanley, of the American Board Mission in Tientsin, who went to China in 1862. After referring to the history of the opening up of mission work in that part of China by the French and English wars, and of his own arrival in Tientsin, he mentioned that the first convert in that place was a blind man who was baptized on Christmas Eve, 1862, and afterward proved an earnest Christian worker—"the blind leading the blind." Seven stations are connected with their mission, and a native membership of about 1,800, all the societies working in that region having a total membership of about 10,000. Physically no field could be more discouraging than Tientsin on account of the floods which repeatedly deluge the whole region round about. The present outlook of Christian work is good, never better: the war affected the work very little.

Mid-China was represented in the Conference by Dr. Parker of the Methodist Mission, who, going to China in 1875, was located at Soochow. Soochow is a large city, 4 by 2 miles, surrounded by a large wall of brick and stone, and having a population of 500,000. The history of the city begins 519 B.C., and was founded by a son of the Emperor Chow. It is a hard part of China to work in, converts being less than in other parts. Four denominations occupy the city. All forms of work are carried on, education, evangelistic, and medical. Ten to fifteen thousand patients are treated in the hospitals every year. Dr. Parker himself is engaged chiefly in school work, and spoke in detail of that work, its grade, and method of carrying it on.

Following this, the Rev. G. Hartwell, of the Canadian Methodist Mission at Chengtu, spoke for west China. After describing the journey up the river from Shanghai, which occupies about three months, he gave a glowing description of the city of Chengtu and the province of Szchuan in which he had been working for about three years. The province is a broad, beautiful, and fertile plain, well irrigated, and the chief productions are rice, wheat, and opium. The city itself is one of the finest in China, well laid out, with broad and well-kept streets, and surrounded by a wall 40 ft. high and 40 ft. thick. It is in this city that the recent riots occurred, and Mr. Hartwell's description of them was so vivid that one could almost imagine oneself to have witnessed them.

The last speaker of the morning was Dr. Hart, of the London Mission, located in Hankow, who spoke for Central China. He remarked that Hankow was the heart of China, a city of 1,250,000 dirty, filthy residents, and celebrated for "smells, pigs, and people." It promised to become the great railroad centre of China. The speaker, among other things, referred to the great good accomplished by tracts, which were always sold, and gave a remarkable instance in which a whole village was converted mainly by the reading of Christian books.

At the Monday evening session, the Rev. E. S. Booth, of Yokohama presided, and after the opening exercises, introduced Dr. Ashmore, of the Baptist Mission, located at Swatow, Canton Province, who spoke as the representative of South China. Dr. Ashmore delighted his audience with his stirring and enthusiastic address, lasting an hour and a half. He is one of the oldest missionaries in China, having been in the service about 45 years. After a few reminiscences of his first impressions as a missionary and his earlier associations with such men as Burns, Goodslough, Happer, and others, he went on to say that the work in South China was not so progressive as in other parts, and the reason was the strong anti-foreign sentiment that existed among the people of that section. He affirmed that the people had a reason for their prejudice against foreigners, remembering the days of the infamous opium traffic and the even more iniquitous coolie traffic, of which he himself was an eye-witness in the earlier days of his missionary life; but although the field of South China was a difficult one, it was not so difficult as it used to be. The people are coming to give a more favourable hearing to the Gospel, and Christians are not so much persecuted. He urged upon his fellow-labourers the necessity of not allowing themselves to grow discouraged if results were not visible. The duty of the Christian worker was to bear witness to the truth and it was God's part to give the fruitage. The policy of his mission in training native workers was to get a class of men who would go out and preach, not to the *literati*, but to the multitudes. The speaker regarded the past religious history of China as specially providential to the introduction of the Christian faith. He thought the Almighty had allowed China to try all the devices of human wisdom before bringing to them the divine wisdom in order to teach them the insufficiency of the former and the necessity of the latter. The next point upon which the speaker touched was God's answer to prayer in opening up China. All these wars, English, French, Japanese, marked a stage of progress in favour of Christian missions, and, he believed, were God's means of answering the prayers of Christian people to open China to the Gospel. Speaking in particular of the late war, he said that for the last 10 or 15 years China had been on the back track, more or less. A national conspiracy had gradually been taking shape to crowd the foreigner out, and especially the missionary; who had penetrated the farthest into the interior. Had the war been with some western nation, very few of the missionaries would have escaped with their lives. But God chose his time and nation; He had been preparing a nation that had no missionaries in China to deal another blow at the hard conservatism of that country. He believed that the religious results of the war would issue in favour of Christian missions, notwithstanding the recent outbreaks and the sad stories lately come to us of the loss of missionary life. By this war a tremendous blow has been struck at the system of Confucianism and at the *literati* party of China. China was now beginning to see the necessity of a new system of education, and when she once breaks away from the old fetters it will mean new life to Christian missions. Dr. Ashmore closed his most interesting and eloquent address with an account of what he had recently seen of the movement of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour in the United States, and especially as manifested at the Cleveland Convention last year. He regarded this movement as one of the greatest encouragements to the success of mission work in modern times.

Second Day.

The Sessions of this day were devoted to Ladies' Work. The morning session was taken up with the subject of China and Formosa.

Mrs. W. J. White was in the chair, and after a few introductoty remarks relative to the interest of the work in China and expressing grief at the sad loss of life at the recent massacre near Foochow, introduced Miss Stewart, who spoke for the Women's and Girls' Work in Formosa. The head-quarters of the Missionaries are in Taiwanfu, the capital, a city of 150,000 inhabitants, where they have established schools, book and printing rooms, hospitals, and so on. Miss Stewart gave an interesting account of the work as carried on both among believers and unbelievers. Travelling is perfectly safe in the island, and tours frequently undertaken lasting from one to two months. A recent revival has given great encouragement to missionaries. Following this, Mrs. Drummond, of Nanking, spoke on the subject of foot-binding. She began by saying that it was a perplexing question on account of the different views held regarding it. Practically all the women in China, except dancing girls and prostitutes practice it to a greater or less extent. The origin of the custom in unknown. One tradition says that a former emperor's concubine, who bound her club-feet in order to straighten them, was the originator of this practice, and upon her liege expressing his admiration upon the result, it speedily became the fashion. Another account is that it was forced upon the women by the men in order to keep them at home. Suffice it to say it effectually prevents them from walking. The speaker next gave a vivid account of the manner of binding the feet; of the great suffering accompanying it, and compared the appearance of bound feet to a donkey's hoof. The present policy of their school is to compel the girls to unbind their feet as a condition of entrance.

The next speaker was Miss Latimore, also of Nanking, who spoke on women's work generally. The two great difficulties that met them were, firstly, that the people did not want them and that they were merely "foreign devils" who were there in some way to injure them. Secondly, to convince the people that they were really human beings and not spirits, as their white skin caused them to believe. Missionaries had first to convince the people that they were one kith and kin, with the same troubles, sorrows, sickness, and so forth, and that they had not come to injure but to help.

Mrs. Hart, of Hankow, was to have spoken, but was prevented by the sad news of the death of one of her relatives, a missionary in China.

The evening session was presided over by Miss Gundry, of the "Friends" Mission, Tokyo.

Miss Winn, American Presbyterian Mission, was the first speaker. She read a paper on "Evangelistic work in the Interior of Japan." Miss Winn's work has been for a number of years in Morioka, in the north. She had been seven years in school work before going into the interior, and found on beginning her new work that several months had to be spent in learning and unlearning lessons, to prevent making mistakes. Put in a nutshell, her duties as an evangelistic worker in the interior consist of visiting and receiving visits, holding Sunday-schools, training Sunday-school teachers, and teaching English. Sunday-schools

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are not confined to Sundays, but are opened on week-days after school, when boys and girls, grandmothers and babies, are gathered into little groups and taught the way of life. Great difficulty is found in getting Christians to keep the Sabbath. In connection with contributions for church purposes, Miss Wina tries to teach the Christians to consider giving a part of their Sunday worship as well as singing or praying. The above is the barest outline of a very interesting paper.

Miss Whiteman, of the American Baptist Mission, gave an account of evangelistic work in the neighbourhood of Tokyo. The leading features of her work have been tract distribution, children's meetings, talking to people by the wayside, and holding meetings in the inns.

Miss Claggett, of the same Mission, gave an address which dealt with work in the Asakusa district of Tokyo. The work began with house to house calling, giving tracts and conversing with the people. Then children's meetings were opened. The work has gone on for five or six years. The steps of the Christian workers have been dogged by the Buddhist priests. Often the lady missionary has met the priest coming out of a house as she went in, or entering as she came out. Evil results have followed these exertions of the priests. Sundry threats on the part of the priests, notably the threat to neglect the graves of their children have been effectual in keeping many of the women from meetings which they had once gladly attended. Asakusa is a priest-ridden district and the centre of heathenism in Tokyo.

Miss Spencer, of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, gave some information about Bible-women's work. The work of their church includes nine districts, from Hokkaido to the Loo Choo Islands. In all there are thirty Bible-women scattered through these nine districts. In each district a lady missionary—either an unmarried lady under the Women's Society, or the wife of a missionary under the general Society—superintends the work of the Bible-women. Statistical blanks are issued which the Bible-women pass in every month, recording the number of visits made, times when religious conversation was held, prayers offered, etc. The magic lantern is used frequently, and is found to be a wonderful help in educating the people in scriptural things and dispelling grotesque and mischievous ideas about Christianity. The Christians sometimes assist in paying the salaries of the Bible-women.

At this point in the meeting a duet, "The Master stood in His Garden," was sweetly sung by Mrs. G. W. Taft and Miss Belton.

The balance of the evening was given to questions, relating chiefly to women's work and girls' school work. In answering these questions a number of short, but excellent and instructive, addresses were given by ladies connected with various missions.

At the close of the meetings, a committee of ladies was appointed to draft a letter of sympathy to Dr. and Mrs. Hart, of the London Missionary Society, Hankow, at present in Karuizawa, who had just received news of the death of Mrs. Hart, their sister-in-law, in Central China.

THE DEATH OF MR. BROCKBANK.

INQUEST.

Mr. J. Carey Hall, acting as Coroner, opened the inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of the late Mr. Herbert William Brockbank—who died at Shoji last Wednesday—at the British Court on Tuesday morning. The Jury were Messrs. A. C. Read, Geo. Sale, W. J. Robinson, A. Le Prevost, and W. J. Cain.

Dr. Edwin Wheeler, sworn, deposed—I knew the deceased while he was alive, and I identified the body by two tattoo-marks on his left forearm. I performed the post mortem examination last evening, assisted by Dr. Munro, Dr. Swann, and Dr. Rokkaku. The body was in such a highly putrescent state that very little could be made out of a post mortem examination. Signs of external violence could not be made out properly. I will state the portions of the body which we found diseased. The right side of the heart was dilated and the walls atrophied. The walls of the left side of the heart were also affected: the valves were intact, but there was fatty degeneration of the walls. The liver was enlarged. The kidneys were slightly enlarged and flattened. The brain was semi-fluid, much decomposed, and in parts unrecognisable. I removed the stomach and contents, also portions of the liver and kidneys, in order that they might be sent to Dr. Divers in Tokyo, for further examination. I could not state the cause of death satisfactorily from the evidence adduced by the post mortem examination. Several of the organs were diseased. Decomposition had advanced to such a degree that I could not satisfactorily state the cause of death. I could only surmise it. I was surprised at the state of the body, not expecting to see decomposition so far advanced. In my opinion death much have taken place six days ago, although it must be allowed that in this hot weather decomposition quickly sets in. The deceased, too, had been in a delicate state of health for some time, and the tissues of the body were poor and much exhausted.

Dr. Niel Gordon Munro, sworn, deposed—I assisted Dr. Wheeler in his post mortem examination of the body of the late Mr. Brockbank. I have heard Dr. Wheeler's statement, and I think there is a little to add to it. The question of the time that has elapsed since death occurred is of course merely a matter of opinion, but I don't think it should be placed at six days. So many things have to be taken into consideration—whether the body has been interred in the earth, left in a current of air, etc.—and I think it is really impossible to state how long deceased has been dead. I quite agree with Dr. Wheeler that the state of decomposition was such that no opinion can be definitely formed as to the cause of death. The sudden withdrawal of all stimulants may have induced heart failure, but this is merely conjecture.

To Mr. Sale—There were no external marks of violence to be seen, except two bruises on the knees, which had been treated with Friar's Balsam; but decomposition had been too rapid to allow of tracing any marks of violence externally.

To the Coroner—I can form no opinion as to the cause of death—none at all. The body may have been dead from four days to two weeks, beyond that I cannot go.

The Coroner—Do you think that death could have been due to natural causes?

Dr. Munro—I could form no absolute opinion on the matter. The causes which might have induced death is this case may have been heart disease, on kidney disease, though personally I think from the result of the post mortem examination that deceased might have still been living, as the diseases were not far advanced. But the state of decomposition was such that it is impossible from my own observation and judgment to state what was the cause of death.

The Coroner—Do you think there could have been foul play. Could you see anything of that description?

Dr. Munro—No: it is quite impossible to say anything beyond what we have said, the state of decomposition was too advanced. There were no external marks of violence beyond the two bruises I have mentioned, while as to the state of the organs we must await the results of the chemical analysis.

Dr. J. H. Swann, sworn, deposed—I am a medical practitioner, and professionally visited the late Mr. Brockbank at Shoji. I was asked by Dr. Munro, on Saturday week last, the 10th inst., if I would go out to attend the deceased at Shoji. I left at 10.45 at night, and arrived at Shoji about 4.15 or 4.30 p.m. on Sunday. After arriving I had a conversation with Mr. Hoshino. He told me that Mr. Brockbank had been up to Miyanoshita and had got "on the spree"—drinking heavily—and that he, Hoshino, had brought him to his own place at Shoji. Hoshino said that a Doctor at Miyanoshita had told him that unless deceased was taken away from Miyanoshita, he would soon drink himself to death. Hoshino said he had great trouble in bringing the deceased to Shoji, and that he (deceased) had nearly died on the way. Hoshino then described to me the condition in which Brockbank was then lying. I then went and saw deceased. When I arrived at the deceased's room I found that the door was locked. Hoshino explained this by saying that he had locked the door so as to prevent the Japanese seeing Brockbank in his present condition. On the door being opened, the stench coming from the room was something awful. The deceased was lying naked on the bare floor, quite delirious. No covering of any sort was near. The lower extremities of his body were covered with the man's own excrement. There were two abrasions on both elbow joints and also on the knees. Hoshino then asked me if I had ever seen such a sight as this before. I said, "Certainly not, except among lunatics or imbecile patients." Hoshino and myself then placed the deceased on a mattress. I examined deceased and found that he was suffering from, I think, acute delirium tremens. He had all the symptoms of a man who was really dying. On physical examination, I found that the heart was affected; also that he had enlargement of the liver. The lungs I found were healthy, but as to the kidneys I could not really say, as I had not an instrument with me to examine the urine. I then told Hoshino, that Mr. Brockbank was really very ill, and to stop all stimulants, and to give him plenty of nourishing soups and beef-tea. He said, Certainly, he would give deceased everything he wanted. After leaving the room, I made up a draught, which deceased took and then went to sleep. In the morning I found my patient a good deal better, and the delirium partly gone. I then administered another draught. I saw him again in the middle of the day (Monday). In the evening I saw deceased again, and he was now quite rational. The dropsy had disappeared from the body, with the exception of the ancles. That same night I gave deceased another draught, and found next (Tuesday) morning, more or less to my surprise, that Mr. Brockbank was quite rational and I might say convalescent. I examined him again, and the only thing I could find wrong was the heart, which was slightly affected, and the liver enlarged. I then had a long talk with Mr. Brockbank, and warned him that if he did not give up drinking, it would kill him. I don't think I saw him after this conversation, which took place on Tuesday night. I left him then, in my opinion, quite recovered. I got up about half-past five o'clock on Wednesday morning. Mr. Hoshino came to my room and told me that he had word that there were two bicyclists coming along to his place. I told him then that I had to get away, as the ship I was on, the *Hankow*, was to leave on Saturday. I asked him how Mr. Brockbank was then, and he told me that he was all right, going along the same as usual, and that there was no necessity for me to see him that morning. Then Hoshino mentioned my account, and told me that he thought Mr. Brockbank was too shaky to sign a cheque. I told him that it really did not matter, as Dr. Munro would settle with me, and Hoshino said, Yes, that would be the best way to settle matters. I had my breakfast and left the hotel. This was about 10 o'clock, I think. Hoshino gave me instructions as to the nearest route home, advising me to go down the rapids. I climbed the hill to do so, but finding it very hot, came down again, and in passing the house saw Mr. Hoshino. He asked me to come in, but I declined as I wanted to be getting on. I stopped at a little village over night. Next morning, about half-past eight, as I was passing through a small village, Kameida I think you call it, where one takes the tram on the Shoji side, I was resting myself, when I saw a waggon and horse galloping toward me. The driver stopped when he saw me, and handed me a letter from Hoshino. This letter stated that Mr. Brockbank died at eight o'clock the night of the day I left. The following is the letter:—

DRAR DR. SWANN,—Please come back. Mr. Brockbank died to-night at 8.00 p.m., so I must have a death certificate and also arrange about your account.

Yours sincerely, Y. HOSHINO.

I replied to the letter as follows:—

DEAR MR. HOSHINO,—I cannot possibly go back. Will write from Yokohama. Must see Dr. Munro. I am awfully surprised to hear of Mr. B's death, as he was nearly well when I left

Sincerely yours, H. J. SWANN.

P.S.—I would not sign death certificate without seeing Dr. Munro first.

Then I proceeded on my journey, and got to Yokohama about five o'clock, and next morning made a report to the Consul, in which I stated that the death was shocking, sudden, and suspicious.

To Mr. Read—I certainly thought that the death was suspicious. As far as I saw, I think Hoshino did all that a friend could do for deceased.

To Mr. Robinson—I know all stimulants were stopped after I gave the order. It was more or less impossible for me to see if my order was carried out, the room being locked; I was a stranger in the house.

To Mr. Le Prevost—The man was under lock and key until the delirium left him, and until such time as I had cleaned him. The day before I left he was sitting up in a dressing-gown and was then not locked up.

To Mr. Sale—I don't think the stopping of the stimulants would have killed him so suddenly.

To Mr. Robinson—The deceased's heart was affected, but he had recovered from the delirium tremens when I saw him last. He was never a strong man, and disease of the heart was present.

To Mr. Read—Hoshino told me himself that he had stopped supplying the deceased with stimulants before I arrived. I found one empty whiskey bottle and a liqueur bottle.

To the Coroner—In my opinion Shoji was not a proper place to take a man suffering from delirium tremens. There was no nurse to attend him, while the danger of pneumonia was very great, the man being naked and the floor of his room quite bare. Shoji, the village, is two and a half miles away from the place where the hotel is situate. Hoshino had

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a large medicine chest in the hotel, among which was a bottle of pure chloloform.

To Mr. Cain—I don't think any Japanese doctor had been called in to attend on deceased. The medicine chest would have been accessible to Mr. Brockbank if he desired to get at it.

To Mr. Moss, who appeared on behalf of the family—Hoshino told me that he always kept a medicine chest. He asked me about the effects of tincture of digitalis, likewise strychnine. Hoshino was not a man qualified to take care of a man in deceased's condition. He was not qualified to look after such a case. Hoshino himself was attending Brockbank, so far as I could see, when I arrived. Hoshino was perfectly sober. There was a large supply of wines and liquors on the premises. So far as I know, the door of the place where the wines, etc., were kept, was always locked. My observations did not lead me to suppose that Hoshino treated the deceased with roughness, unkindness, or cruelty. He told me that he locked deceased in the room to prevent the Japanese from seeing a foreigner in such a condition. There were besides Hoshino's family and servants, carpenters and painters working about the house. Hoshino's letter says that deceased died at 8 o'clock on Wednesday. There was one other foreigner in the place besides myself, a Mr. Voight, a German gentlemen from Yokohama. He was there when I left.

To the Coroner—The place where deceased was living is an hotel, which Hoshino was just arranging.

To Mr. Le Prevost—I thought the death suspicious, because deceased had picked up so quickly when I attended him. He may have died of heart disease, or kidney disease, but my suspicions have not been removed.

To the Coroner—I don't think it is possible to state the cause of death until after the chemical analysis is made.

To Mr. Cain—I don't think Hoshino wished to keep me away from deceased. He made no attempt to do so.

To Mr. Sale—The questions about the chemicals were put to me because I was using them in my treatment of deceased. There was nothing in deceased's manner to suggest that he might commit suicide from intense mental depression.

To the Coroner—The strychnine belonged to me, the digitalis also; Hoshino had belladonna in his chest. I advised Hoshino to obtain some tincture of cayenne, a harmless but very useful stomachic drug. This was in the course of the conversation. The conversation was but of an ordinary description—the names of drugs and what they were used for. Hoshino's treatment of deceased could have been a great deal better.

The inquiry was then adjourned till 2 p.m.

Mr. C. D. Moss asked the Court whether the full report of the inquest could be withheld until the whole inquiry was finished.

The Coroner thought that such a course lay entirely within the discretion of the members of the Press.

The first witness called after the adjournment for tiffin was Geo. Kircher, of H.B.M. Court. Sworn, he deposed—I received orders on Friday last to go into the country to Shoji, and bring in the body of the late Mr. Brockbank. I left at 3.20 in the afternoon, and was accompanied by a Japanese police inspector and a detective. I arrived at Suzukawa at 7.50. Left there at about four o'clock next morning, and arrived at Shoji about 5.15 in the afternoon. I saw Hoshino and inquired of him where the body of Mr. Brockbank lay. He informed me that it had been buried the day before (Friday) in the village cemetery. I communicated with the police at once, and asked them if I could disinter the body that night. They said no, it could be done better the following day. With the assistance of the police we commenced the exhumation of the body about seven o'clock next morning, and disintered it about nine o'clock. I transferred the body to a shell that I had taken out with me. I commenced the return journey about 5.30 p.m., arriving at Yokohama about 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

To the Coroner—There was one Japanese doctor and his assistant at the grave. Hoshino was not present at the disinterment; he would not go. The grave was about one mile away from Hoshino's house. Mr. Brockbank's grave was pointed out to me by the Japanese police. I had some conversation with Hoshino. He asked me why I had come out to Shoji, and I said that I was sent to remove the body to Yokohama as there was to be a *post mortem* examination. Hoshino said he would be in Yokohama as soon as I was, in order to give information regarding the death. I do not know whether he has come in or not. Hoshino explained to me about the visit of Dr. Swann, after he had sent for Dr. Munro. Dr. Swann had treated the deceased, and he was almost well when Dr. Swann left. Hoshino then stated that soon after Dr. Swann left deceased was taken ill. Hoshino said he went into deceased's room and found that Mr. Brockbank was dying: Mr. Voight was present when deceased died.

To Mr. Read—I found the body in a roughly made box, square in shape. In the bottom of the box was a Japanese *futon*; and a bundle of straw was placed under the head for a pillow. The body was clothed in the short shirt in which deceased died, and the rest of the body was covered with an old overcoat, a newspaper being laid over the face.

To Mr. Sale—I had no conversation with Mr. Voight.

To Mr. Moss—There was no jewellery upon the corpse. The police gave me every assistance they possibly could. I examined the room in which deceased died. I found it to have a plain, ordinary, wooden, painted floor. The room was clean. Hoshina afforded me every facility for making enquiries. The box I found the body in was about 2 feet high, 6 feet long, and about 2½ to 3 feet broad. I searched the effects of the deceased, in company with the Inspector, and brought into Yokohama all letters and papers I could find. I could find no jewellery. I asked Hoshino if there was any money, and he answered, "No, not a cent."

Mr. Charles Davis Moss, Chief Clerk of H.B.M. Court, sworn, deposed—I have known the late Mr. Brockbank for the last five years. I know he drank very heavily at times. I know that he lent sums of money to Mr. Hoshino—comparatively large sums. But latterly deceased and Hoshino frequently quarrelled over money matters. I am aware that deceased was in receipt of £25 a month, and sundry other sums—£100 at a time. He was a man of invalid health. At the beginning of this month Hoshino took the deceased from Miyanoshita to Shoji when the latter was in a bad state of health, and against the doctor's orders. Shortly before this I had written to Dr. Baelz asking if something could not be done whereby the deceased could be better looked after. In answer, I received the following, dated 18th August, which evidently had been written by Dr. Baelz before he was aware of the death of Mr. Brockbank. It reads:—

Tokyo, Aug. 18th, 1895.

Dear Mr. Moss,—M. Brockbank is in a very dangerous way in consequence of hard drinking. He is half paralyzed, and when I saw him last, about 12 days ago, I told Mr. Hoshino expressly that he should not carry him off to Shoji before I had seen him again, as the thing seemed too risky, a hospital being the right place for the man. But in spite of all my warnings, Mr. Hoshino took him over to Shoji, where apparently he got worse and where, for all I know, he may die if he is not carefully looked after.

As you know the poor fellow's family, I must say I do not like the way in which Mr. Hoshino takes charge of all money matters of Mr. Brockbank. The latter has lent Mr. Hoshino 4,000 *yen*, and he may, in his present helpless and *utterly irresponsible* state be induced to give more money for things which he does not in the least understand.

I wish the Consul could get hold of Brockbank and place him under guardianship. But I do not know whether this can be done,

Yours very truly, E. BAELZ.

Further, I am informed—this may be confirmed or not—Hoshino took away deceased money and jewellery and left him to travel alone for nine hours, entirely without food or help; this was while he was taking him to Shoji. I had been up to Miyanoshita the Saturday before last an account of Mr. Brockbank, and there learnt that Mr. Brockbank, though in a very weak state of health, had left Miyanoshita, in company with Mr. Hoshino, for Shoji. Fears were expressed by many people who saw them as to the result of such a long journey upon the deceased. I wish to put in evidence a letter which I have received from Mr. Hoshino, it is dated 8th August, but this is clearly a mistake, as the postmark shows that the letter was posted on the 15th inst.

Shoji-ko, August 8th.

Dear Mr. Moss,—I am sorry to have to inform you of the death of poor Brockbank. He came here from Miyanoshita some 10 days ago: he had been on a heavy drinking bout and was in a very bad state. At first he began to mend, but 3 days after his arrival got D T.'s. The doctor came and pulled him through as he thought, but at 6.30 last night he had a fit and died at eight. As he is now very far gone I am making arrangements to bury him here this evening as it would take too long to bring him down. As soon as I get things fixed up I shall come down to see you.

Trusting you are well, I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

Y. HOSHINO.

Prof. Chamberlain, Mr. Chambers, and Mr. Voight are here, and Dr. Munro can tell you all.

After my visit to Miyanoshita I received a letter from Mr. Brockbank's house-keeper, in which she tells me about the state of Mr. Brockbank's health.

Mr. Read thought there was a discrepancy in the statement made by Hoshino in his letter to Mr. Moss, and the statement he made to Dr. Swann, as to the drinking bout.

To the Coroner—The relations between Hoshino and Brockbank have subsisted for about five years, though part of this time was spent by the deceased in England. Hoshino is a naturalized Japanese, though of English birth. Ten years ago he was a seal-hunter, after that he kept an hotel at Kowakadani, up till October last. The house at Shoji was of the nature of an hotel, and was built by money supplied by the deceased. Here are the stubs of some cheques drawn by deceased for $300, $2,500, $1,000, $340, and $100. These cheques were drawn for land, for Y. Hoshino at Shoji, etc. Hoshino's original name was Solomon. The relations between the two men were partly that of friends and partly partners in an hotel, at least I take it to be so. I do not think that Hoshino had any funds apart from those supplied by deceased. The cheques drawn in January of this year, which I have put in, I feel sure are drawn up in the handwriting of deceased.

Matsumoto Komoto, cautioned, said—I knew, Mr. Brockbank well, having been acquainted with him from the 5th October of last year, though I have known him by sight since the July of that year. I last saw him on the 3rd of this month at Miyanoshita at the *besso* of Yamaguchi. He left Miyanoshita that afternoon and went to the Tamanoyu at Tonosawa. Deceased, I heard, left Miyanoshita at the recommendation of Dr. Baelz, who said that deceased should go into a hospital in Tokyo. Dr. Baelz recommended Tonosawa as a quiet place, and Hoshino took him down there. The coolies on their return from Tonosawa said that deceased had quite broken down. Deceased stayed at Tonosawa till the morning of the 5th. She heard that after this he went to Kodzu in a *jinrikisha*. Hoshino spent the whole of the 4th at Fujiya, not at Tonosawa, leaving Brockbank down alone. I did not accompany Brockbank to Tonosawa, because deceased advised me to stay behind as I was not on good terms with Hoshino. Hoshino used to beat me. Hoshino accused me of makfng a fool of deceased and inducing him to drink, and used to say that if he remained in my company he would die. When Brockbank asked Hoshino to return him his money, there were quarrels. On one occasion they had a very violent quarrel. It occurred about the end of April, when two men came to Yokohama. The expenses of their amusement amounted to *yen* 122.80. Hoshino returned first and left Brockbank alone, and he was very surprised at the size of the bill, for eight days' amusement. Hoshino encouraged Brockbank to drink. I have seen deceased drunk. Hoshino also drank. At times Hoshino would deceive Brockbank, filling up Brockbank's glass of whiskey and leaving him to do all the drinking. I saw this at Fujiya's *besso* and also at the hotel. When Brockbank drank he would do anything. After three days of drinking he used generally to get very ill. On the 4th of this month a letter came from Dr. Baelz to Brockbank. Hoshino told Mr. Chamberlain that day that he and Brockbank were going to Shoji, and the letter came afterwards.

To Mr. Read—The quarrels between Hoshino and deceased were violent, but only once did Hoshino make as if to strike Brockbank. Deceased then took refuge in my room.

To the Coroner—I understand a little English.

The Coroner said that this was all the evidence he had to lay before the jury that day. The evidence of Dr. Divers would be required, and as the chemical analysis must necessarily take some little time he proposed to adjourn the inquiry until that day week, at 10 o'clock, when Dr. Divers' evidence as well as any other that might be forthcoming would be produced.

The inquest then stood adjourned.

THE KUCHENG MASSACRE AND SZECHUAN RIOTS.

IMPERIAL EDICT.

The *Hupao* has received the following decree by wire from Pekin, dated the 9th inst., which the *N.-C. Daily News* translates:—

Since the opening of international commerce with Western countries foreigners have always resided in the inland districts at peace and harmony with their native neighbours, and we in our impartial love for both native and foreigner alike have time and again commanded our high provincial authorities to pay extra heed at all times to protect the latter from harm. Judge of our extreme indignation then upon hearing recently, first of the riots in the capital of Szechuan, where chapels have been destroyed and burned down by the rioters, thereby fanning the flames of destruction far and wide, insomuch that a number of sub-prefectures and districts simultaneously followed in the footsteps of Chêngtu, and now to receive the news from Fukien reporting that evil characters have murdered and wounded

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a very large number of foreigners at Kutien, going so far in their ruthless ferocity as to murder even women and infants. With reference to the Szechuan riots, a number of the rioters have already been arrested and will undergo trial, but the chiefs and heads of the Fukien murderers are still at large, and we command Pien Pao-ch'uan and Ch'ing Yü (Tartar General of Foochow) to set to work without delay at the head of the military and district officials and speedily arrest these wicked characters, nor shall any be allowed to escape the meshes of the law. Indeed, it is the manifest duty of the local mandarins throughout the empire to be always on the alert and prevent such worthless characters from manufacturing scurrilous tales and exciting the populace; they should crush all incipient risings at the slightest sign. What sort of frivolity and indifference to duty is this then that has brought about all these recent serious outrages? We would also, therefore, command the various Tartar Generals, Viceroys, and Governors of the empire to impress upon all their subordinates the necessity of granting thorough protection to all the chapels, etc., in their districts. They are also to issue proclamations exhorting the people to abstain from listening to scurrilous tales which excite unfounded suspicions in the breasts of all. If there be any who shall dare to raise disturbances in the future they shall be at once punished with the utmost severity of the law, and as to such of the local officials as may use subterfuge and craft to avoid their duties, they are to be most severely punished, and no leniency shall be exercised in their cases. Let these commands be made known to all within his empire.

PORT ARTHUR AGAIN.

We reproduce below a letter of Colonel Cockerill's to the *New York Herald*. Our readers doubtless remember what recently passed about Lieut. O'Brien—how, because we did not attach any importance to a grossly falsified extract from a letter of his, the whole of which letter had been published by ourselves 24 days previously, and because we declined to construe his evidence as confirmatory of Mr. Creelman's exaggerations, when in point of fact Lieut. O'Brien's testimony was on precisely the opposite side; because we did not do these things, we were denounced as incapable of crediting a statement even of the Recording Angel if it were hostile to the Japanese.

Tokyo, Japan, June 19th, 1895.

The "atrocity" business has broken out afresh, I believe, in some parts of the United States. The publication of Minister Dun's despatch to the State Department, in which he very justly denounced the Creelman report of the Port Arthur affair as a gross exaggeration, has brought upon him an assault from the discredited correspondent, which is neither fair nor just. It is true that Mr. Dun was once in the service of the Japanese government and that his deceased wife was a Japanese lady, but to denounce him as "a subaltern to the Japanese Foreign Office" because he did not indorse a purely false and malicious account of the Port Arthur affair is quite unjustifiable.

Mr. Dun sent to the State Department all the facts he could gather about the so-called atrocities of the Japanese troops at Port Arthur, and said that their conduct "could not be justified by any rules covering the usual usages of modern warfare." He had no proof that a four or five days' slaughter had taken place there, because there was none obtainable. Colonel Taylor, the British surgical attaché, a gentleman of the highest standing, who saw, I have reason to believe, more of the actual fighting in the late campaign than all the newspaper correspondents put together, tells me that he saw the killing of the fugitive Chinese in Port Arthur on the day of November 21st, but he saw nothing of the kind on subsequent days, when, according to Mr. Creelman, the hideous work was going merrily on. He was in and out of the town all the while, and would have known if there had been any such alleged performance. Colonel Taylor says the first day's affair was deplorable, but he offers in palliation the horrible atrocities to which Japanese captives were subjected by the barbaric, throat-cutting, torturing, head-chopping Chinese. The incensed Japanese soldiers overcame all restraint and did kill a few hundreds of the citizens and masquerading soldiers on the first day. The same thing having occurred in all modern wars, he regrets for the good name of Japan, and excuses.

He does not, nor will any of the men who were at Port Arthur, and with whom I have conversed, confirm the exaggerated reports sent out by Mr. Creelman; but, then he was not interested in defeating treaty revision, and did not feel called upon to denounce the Japanese race as barbarians because a few of their soldiers were guilty of such an offence as stains the records of modern Germany, England, and the United States in warfare. To charge Minister Dun with being an employé of the Japanese Foreign Office because he feels it his duty to preserve amicable relations between the United States and Japan is simply to indulge in cheap vituperation. He is not here to play the swashbuckler or slander the people to whom he is accredited. That may be left to newspaper correspondents who touch the shores of Japan with a view to an early retirement therefrom. Mr. Dun has influence in Tokyo, which he uses in the interest of his countrymen when required to do so, and he is much respected by the Japanese government, but when a pugnacious newspaper writer comes along and demands an audience with the Emperor he does not exert himself to secure the same, for he knows that the proposition is preposterous and without precedent.

Mr. Dun's despatches to his government are indorsed by all the intelligent people here, and are only such as he could conscientiously make with the facts before him.

I may add that Lieutenant O'Brien discredits the statements made by Creelman as to a four days' butchery at Port Arthur, and denies emphatically that he ever said that he would seek recall because of the savagery he was compelled to contemplate. He said at Port Arthur that he was sent to the war to make note of the effect of small calibre arms and to observe new tactics, and as no small bore weapons were in use, and the Chinese were making no fight, he might as well be called home. Because Lieutnant O'Brien did not bear out the raw head and bloody bones stories of Mr. Creelman, that individual sneeringly says of him, "He had seen Dun." The facts are that as soon as Mr. Dun heard of the alleged atrocities at Port Arthur he wrote to his military attaché in the field —Lieutenant O'Brien—asking him if there was any foundation for them. Under date of December 28, 1894, at which time he had neither seen what Creelman had written nor was aware of what had been reported, he wrote to the Minister. In this he frankly said that on the first day's fighting he saw a number of Chinamen who had been unnecessarily killed. The Japanese, he said, had expected hard fighting after passing the town, and in clearing the way they got out of hand, and, being naturally incensed by the sight of the heads of some of their comrades suspended from trees at the edge of the place, they fell to shooting and stabbing such Chinamen as came in their way with little or no discrimination. In this letter Lieutenant O'Brien deplored the occurrence, because the Japanese troops up to that time had behaved so kindly and nobly under all provocation.

Upon the elaborate facts furnished him in this letter, Minister Dun based his report to the State Department, and he could not help denouncing the Creelman newspaper "coup" as exaggeration of the highest type, for Lieutenant O'Brien's report convinced him that order had been restored at the end of the first day's fighting, when all lawlessness ceased.

Lieutenant O'Brien insists now that there was no killing of Chinamen on the second or third day, as alleged. He himself attended a Chinese theatre in Port Arthur three days after the assault upon the town, the same having been opened to the public on the second day, at which time, according to Creelman, the fur was still flying. Lieutenant O'Brien informs me that the first day to the fifth he was in and about the town and on all the points fought over, and that there could have been no such occurrences as Mr. Creelman recorded without his being cognizant of the same. He is prepared to show that both during and after the fighting Mr. Creelman was not in the places he claimed to be in, and could not have described, as an eye witness, the mythical scenes which moved him so profoundly. He denounces Mr. Creelman in terms more severe than those employed by Judge Ridley, of Indiana, when he remarked that Jethro Rogers, the chief Ananias of his neighbourhood, had "a most remarkable memory for things that never happened."

As to Mr. Creelman, the truth may be easily written. He was sadly disgruntled upon his arrival in Japan because of a lack of official courtesies and attentions which he regarded as his due. He had not learned of the exceeding slow growth of the weed known as confidence in Japan. He was induced to believe by the merchants and traders of Yokohama that if a new treaty were made with Japan which recognized justice and right and which deprived foreigners of the blessings of extra-territoriality they would have to quit the country. In the field the jealousies of a rival Mordecai sitting at the king's gate embittered him, and when Japanese soldiers at Port Arthur, exasperated and maddened, committed an inexcusable breach of discipline, he saw an opening as he thought, to defeat the revised treaty with Japan, then pending in the United States Senate. He denounced the Japanese as barbarians, declared that their government was dominated by the bloodthirsty Satsuma men and the fierce swordsmen of three centuries ago. "Barbarism" was rampant, there was Hades to "pay," in marine vernacular, and no superheated pitch convenient. He left the plane of the war correspondent and entered the realm of the statesman. He would defeat the treaty. Chinamen had been slaughterod at Port Arthur. Ergo, the Japanese were barbarians. Therefore their treaty in Washington should be repudiated. But the treaty was agreed to. The soldiers of Port Arthur went to Weihaiwei through Siberian cold, experiencing hardships which few European troops could have endured, and after driving out the Mongol cravens put there to defend the almost impregnable works, they did not so much as harm a dejected queue.

It is shameful the way in which these wonderful, if not always admirable, people have been maligned. But the truths about their achievements have been burned into the pages of this century's history. Let those who would rub them out proceed. Menaced as Japan is to-day and temporarily deprived of her right to civilize, uplift, and improve the Eastern world, her destiny cannot be well foreseen, but the record of her intrepidity, her quickened intelligence, her self-reliance and her courage, made in the past year is ineffaceable.

But there will doubtless be more of this "atrocity" business. Down in Formosa there are bands of Chinese marauders looting towns, murdering citizens, and resisting, after a fashion, Japanese occupancy. The disorder there will not continue long. The Japanese have won Formosa, and they mean to have it. They will kill every Chinese brigand and every belligerent native savage on the island if necessary. The Japanese are not humorists. They are a very serious and earnest people when confronted with responsibility. We shall soon have accounts of their "atrocities" down there, for there are several of the professional sensation mongers of the press hanging on their rear. The frightful condition of things in Formosa requires a little prompt "atrocity" on the part of the Japanese. Pillagers, house burners, cut-throats and assassins are not usually accorded the courtesies due to honorable soldiers, and it would not surprise me at all if some of the Black Flag picnickers in Formosa found themselves greatly disturbed in their personal relations before they were much older.

CELEBRITIES AT HOME.

Sir Edwin Arnold, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., at Cromwell Mansions.

Poet, *littérateur*, journalist, traveller though he be, the handsome flat wherein Sir Edwin Arnold finds a *pied à-terre* bears few indications of his eventful life or of his long residence in India and wanderings over the Land of the Rising Sun, whose people he learned to love so well. A large square anteroom leads into what is naturally the most interesting portion of his home—the bright, cheerful study so characteristic of the man. A tiny despatch-box—the companion of many journeys—stands on a small table, and is quite large enough for one who, with such orderly, methodical habits, knows where to put his hand on any paper required, and "can write on the top of a hat as well as anywhere else." The bookcases contain only a few relics of a once vast library, for Sir Edwin dislike accumulations, and considers that portable property is a great nuisance. Wherefore he has twice dispersed his books and household gods among his children, so as to be free of effects: nevertheless, there are some little possessions of interest which he retains, "only for the present," he remarks significantly. "Those who see my flat know I live elsewhere; and though I make books, I never keep them." Among the pictures on the walls there is one of the Emperor of Japan on horseback, another of Prince Siddartha drawing the curtain over the couch of his sleeping wife before he went forth on his act of renunciation, and a fine proof-before-letters engraving of Noël Paton's "Oberon and Titania." There are plenty of deep, comfortable lounging-chairs, presumably for the use of his friends; for Sir Edwin himself, with perfect physical health, never knows what it is to be tired or to have had even one headache, and attributes it to the fact that he never frets, never hurries, and looks upon life as a fine art, and that it is as reasonable to study to preserve a healthy body for the soul as it is for a good soldier to keep his scabbard in order for the useful blade. And yet in a career so chequered, so full of incident, adventure, and unceasing work, it can only be the bright, optimistic spirit within that enables

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Sir Edwin Arnold to declare that, having done everything, seen everything, known most people, and had a vast experience of the world, he has a contented mind, and that to him to-morrow is always better than to-day. If asked when he is happiest, he would say on the present occasion, and he works simply because he loves work. Hence it is that his *entourage* is of slight importance; and though he laughingly assures you that he feels somewhat as Dr. Johnson felt when Boswell told him he was going to write his life, and could almost answer in the same words, "I will take your life if you do," he yields "for auld acquaintance sake, and a wish to please."

A born poet and a student from childhood, Edwin Arnold simply was weaned on books, and remembers well, when he was five years old, his father, who always did things on a large scale, sending up to his room a washing-basket full of quartos and folios, among which those of Dampier and La Perouse first fired his imagination with a love of history, of geography, and of travel; while Pope's *Iliad* he would devour in bed, turning his shoulder to the window to catch the last glimpses of the waning light. His schooldays were passed at King's School, Rochester, and King's College, London, after which he was elected to a scholarship at University College, Oxford, where he won the Newdigate prize for his English poem on *The Feast of Belshazzar*, and the following year was chosen to give the Address to the Prime Minister, Lord Derby, on the occasion of his being installed Chancellor of the University. Leaving Oxford with high honours, he was elected Second Master in the English Division of King Edward VI.'s School at Birmingham, and later, turning his footsteps towards the East, he was appointed Principal of the Government Sanskirt College at Poona, and Fellow of the Bombay University. The young Principal's quick mastery of Oriental languages and keen insght into the complex Oriental character, together with an innate tact in dealing alike with the native princes, the heads of departments, and the students, enabled him to be of considerable use in educational affairs, and he was twice thanked by the Governor in Council for his services. Nor was he distinguished in official and social life only. With the physical vigour and activity which do not generally go with powerful intellects, he was an ardent sportsman, and had many thrilling adventures while in pursuit of "big game" and out pig-sticking. Neither was his pen idle during those years. He contributed constantly on subjects of natural history to various journals, and poetry, as well as more abstruse subjects, also occupied his attention. An early work of his was *Education in India*—a question in which he was deeply interested—followed by *Griselda*; *a Drama* and *Poems, Narrative and Lyrical*; after which followed *The Euterpe of Herodotus* (which he translated from the Greek text, with vocabulary in English, Sanskrit, and Marathi) and *The Book of Good Counsel*—a metrical translation of a celebrated Sanskrit classical work. Following these came a history of the Administration of India under the late Lord Dalhousie. Among other productions were *The Poets of Greece, Hero and Leander*, and *The Indian Song of Songs*; by-and-by the famous and delightful epic poem upon the life and teaching of Buddha, *The Light of Asia*, charmed all the world, and passed through more than sixty editions in England and eighty in America.

Among some of Sir Edwin Arnold's earlier works, which are as widely read to-day as when they were first issued, are volumes respectively entitled *Indian Poetry, In an Indian Temple, The Song Celestial, Poems National and Non-Oriental, The Secret of Death, Death—and Afterwards*, and *Pearls of the Faith, or Islam's Rosary*, the "Pearls" being the ninety-nine beautiful names of Allah (Asmáel-Husná), with comments in verse from various Oriental sources. In later years he has published *Indian Idylls, In My Lady's Praise, Lotus and Jewel, Potiphar's Wife and other Poems, Japonica*, &c. With *The Light of Asia*, and *With Sadi in the Garden*, must be bracketed one of his most successful works, *The Light of the World*, which has lately been reissued in an *édition de luxe*, profusely illustrated with special designs by Mr. Holman Hunt, and which is dedicated to the Queen. A new volume of poetry is just published, entitled *The Tenth Muse*, which is "Ephemera, the Muse of Journalism," and is dedicated by invitation to the Duchess of York. In prose, two deeply interesting books have a fascination of their own, called *Seas and Lands* and *India Revisited*. He has also written a play in four acts, entitled *Adzuma, or the Japanese Wife*, and a prose work, *East and West*, is now in the press.

In 1861, when peace was restored, Sir Edwin Arnold quitted India for a brief rest after the harassing fatigues and anxieties of the Mutiny, and returned to England. It was then that his long and close connection with the *Daily Telegraph* began, almost, it may be said, by accident. He gives you a vivid account of how he was sitting alone in a punt in one of the most picturesque nooks of the river Dart, with fishing-rod in hand, basking in the quiet sunshine, with a copy of the paper beside him. His eye lighted on an advertisement in the journal for a leader-writer, and in a moment the current of his thoughts was changed. Should he or should he not answer it? On the one hand, he must resign the freedom of his official position, and give up his beloved India; on the other, a residence in London, but the companionship of his children. It was a momentous question. Slowly and deliberately, he tells you, did he weigh the merits of each course, with the result that he decided to apply for the post, to resign his appointments abroad, and to cast in his lot with the new mission of the popular press. It was a great change to one who had been practically his own master in the luxurious Eastern world, whether in the bustle of official position or in the solitude of the jungle, to consign himself to a town life and to the directorship of others. The brilliant young leader-writer soon found himself at home and happy in Fleet Street with congenial spirits, and ran up the scale so rapidly that it was not long before he joined the editorial staff. From that never-to-be-forgotten summer day in the punt to the present, he has contributed between nine and ten thousand leading articles to the columns of the *Daily Telegraph*, besides a long series of letters written during his residence in Japan, and when India was "revisited." He describes in characteristic words the fascination the Japanese people have for him. "They are so polite, cheerful, and clean," he says, "so simple in mode of life. They love old people, they respect their fathers and mothers, and are free from avarice."

It was Sir Edwin Arnold who suggested to the proprietors of the *Daily Telegraph* and who organised the first expedition of Mr. George Smith to Assyria; he was also largely associated with the arrangements made on both occasions for sending out Mr. H. M. Stanley by that journal, in connection with the *New York Herald*, to follow up the work of David Livingstone, and he relates an anecdote *à propos* of these expeditions. When Mr. Stanley was consulting him about a code of laws, to be drawn up in dealing with the people, Sir Edwin suggested that it should contain "death to any man who killed an elephant—noble, useful animal—for the sake of getting a paper-knife made out of its tusks," and, jokingly, death to any one who called his own river and mountain in Africa (the Edwin Arnold river which runs up into the Congo, and Mount Edwin Arnold, between Victoria and Albert Nyanza) by any other names. That geographical immortality has to be strictly defended is proved by the recent conduct of the Intelligence Department of the War Office, for in one of its late maps the name of Mount Edwin Arnold had been omitted, and that of Lobaba substituted—an error that has since been corrected.

With a mind attuned to all that is lofty alike in ideas and in aims and full of the imagery of poetry, Sir Edwin Arnold possesses a peculiar simplicity of character, together with a magnetic power of sympathy and a detestation of all uncharitableness. His conversation is full, now of sparkling anecdote, anon of thrilling pathos, as may suit the subject, while the gentle, courteous manner has a charm all its own. His brightness is infectious; it seems to brace and invigorate even the most depressed of those with whom he comes in contact, and to cause them to look upon life through his own rose-coloured glasess, as he quotes, in low, earnest tones from *The Light of the World*:

> Our worst of woes
> Is like the foolish anguish of the babe,
> Whereat the mother, loving most, smiles most.

Sir Edwin Arnold's foreign Orders alone are a collection of curiosities. *The Light of Asia* brought him the decoration of White Elephant from the King of Siam; the Order of the Lion and Sun came from the Shah of Persia on the production of another fascinting volume, *With Sadi in the Garden; or, the Book of Love*, a poem founded on a single chapter of the work of the Persian poet Sadi. In later years, during his visit to Japan, the Emperor conferred on him the Order of the Rising Sun, which carries with it the dignity of *Chokunin* of the Empire; not to speak of the Imperial Order of the Medjidieh from the Sultan, and the Imperial Order of Osmanie. The decoration Companion of the Star of India he received on the occasion of the proclamation of the Queen as Empress of India; and eleven years after he was created Knight Commander of the Indian Empire. He is likewise a Fellow of the Royal Asiatic and other societies, and Honorary Correspondent of the Geographical Society of Marseilles.—*World.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, August 21.

The House of Commons has voted the Address to the Throne in reply to the Queen's Speech.

London, August 22.

The Porte has again rejected the demands of the Powers for the foreign control of the reforms in Armenia.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, August, 7.

The following are the most recent movements of the men-of-war in the north:—

The *Peacock* arrived here on the 7th inst.; the *Pigmy* left this for Copper Island on the 10th; the *Caroline* arrived here on the 11th; the *Nicolai* arrived here on the 13th and left for Vladivostock on the 15th; the *Katsuragi Kan* arrived here on the 14th; the *Kaiser, Princess Wilhelm, Irene*, and *Arcona* arrived here on the 14th; the *Alacrity* arrived here on the 15th; the *Centurion, Undaunted, Edgar*, and *Spartan* arrived here on the afternoon of the 16th.

On the morning of the 16th the troopship *Tamar* arrived here bringing new crews for certain of Her Majesty's ships, and when the transfers have been effected the *Tamar* will leave for Hongkong with the time-expired men.

(FROM THE "KOBE CHRONICLE.")

The following are the names of the officers and passengers who lost their lives by the wreck of the *Catterthun*:—

Nagasaki, Aug. 19, 10.10 a.m.

In the wreck of the *Catterthun* the following were drowned:—

Captain Shannon.
Mr. Pinney, 1st mate.
Mr. Leffier, 3rd mate.
Mr. J. Harper, 1st engineer.
Mr. F. Wilson, 2nd engineer.
Mr. Adams, 3rd engineer.
Mr. Wolstenholm, 4th engineer.
Dr. Anderson.
Mr. Manning, steward.

Passengers:—

Mrs. Mathias (wife of the Captain of the *Cam*).
Mrs. Loring.
Miss Loring.
Mr. Fraser.
Mr. Smith.

Four Europeans were saved, their names being as follows:—

Mr. Lanfear, 2nd mate.
Mr. Fawkes.
Mr. Crane.
Mr. Copeman.

(The three last-named are presumably passengers.)

Twenty-two Chinese were saved.

[FROM "N.-C. DAILY NEWS."]

London, August 10.

The four British ironclads which left Gibraltar under sealed orders about the 8th inst. have arrived at Tangier; and the official reason of their visit is the presence there of men-of-war of other nations.

Foochow, Aug. 11, 845 p.m.

H.M.S. *Rainbow* and the U.S.S. *Detroit* are expected here. The report of arrests having been made at Kucheng is confirmed. Mr. Mansfield, British Consul, goes to Kucheng on Thursday, the 15th instant. The composition of his escort is not yet settled.

Support is also hoped for from Germany, as a strong anti-English current of feeling is displayed in the German Press, England being accused of frustrating German colonial aspirations.

Foochow, Aug. 12, 9.20 p.m.

Forty arrests have been made at Kucheng, but as far as known they are of doubtful importance.

The U.S.S. *Detroit* has arrived.

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Peking, August 10, 12 m.

The Tsung-li Yamên and British Minister hold daily conferences; result, so far, unknown, but in response to Viceroy Pien's memorial the Emperor has degraded the Kucheng Magistrate for inability to prevent massacre, but retained him to prosecute arrest of murderers. Viceroy Pien is ordered to exterminate the Vegetarians at all costs, and special edicts have been sent to the Fukien Commander-in-Chief Huang, and Admiral Yang at Amoy to send all available troops to assist the Viceroy at Foochow. The Censorate has somehow got reliable news that *Kolao Hui* Centres have sent representatives to meet the White Lily chiefs in Fukien and Kiangsi to organise alliance to oppose Imperial government. The Vegetarians are said to belong to latter society. It is likely that some Censors will use this news to denounce certain Viceroys and Governors whose provinces are the hotbeds of these secret societies.

Peking, 11th August, 3 p.m.

The Imperial government appears to be in thorough earnest about the construction of the projected Railway between Peking and Yangtze ports. All preliminaries have already been arranged, and work of laying the first rails will begin as soon as possible. The Assistant Grand Secretary and President of the Board of Civil Appointments, Hsü T'ung, has been appointed Comptroller-General of Railways, with special department at Pekin attached to Board of Revenue, and the Viceroys and Governors through whose provinces the railway is to pass are to have the title of Coadjutors, with two Taotais in each province to be working Directors or Managers. Most of these appointments have already been made by the Throne.

Foochow, August 13, noon.

British Consuls Mansfield and Allen, the Rev. W. Banister, the Rev. L. H. Star, U.S. Consul Hixson, a Lieutenant from the U.S.S. *Detroit*, and Dr. Gregory, are leaving Foochow at 4 p.m. to-day with Chinese escort, for Kucheng.

London, August 13.

The British Squadron has left Tangier.

An expedition consisting of four hundred bluejackets and native auxiliaries is proceeding to Mombasa to attack the Mymil tribe.

Foochow, Aug. 15, 8.45 p.m.

Consul Mansfield and party arrived at Suikou at noon to-day, *en route* for Kucheng.

London, August 16.

In his speech in the House of Lords, Lord Salisbury stated that the Sultan will be guilty of a grave error if he declines to aid the Powers to extirpate anarchy and cruelty in Armenia; and he defended the retention of Chitral.

(From the "Shanghai Mercury.").

Hongkong, Aug. 9th, 7.35 p.m.

His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong has refused to forward to Lord Salisbury the Resolution passed by the meeting held here, demanding swift, drastic measures, and censuring the apathy of the British Government.

Hongkong, Aug. 10, 6.54 p.m.

His Excellency the Governor of Hongkong denies that he has refused to forward the Resolution of the Hongkong Indignation Meeting to Lord Salisbury.

At the Meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank twenty-five shillings dividend was unanimously agreed to.

Foochow, August 10, 5.25 p.m.

Baby Stewart died to-day.

Foochow, August 12, 12.30 p.m.

Last night at 8 o'clock two stones were thrown into the Foochow Club.

The Foreign Cemetery has been broken into and some iron railings stolen.

Foochow, August 12, 8.25 p.m.

The United States flagship *Baltimore* and the *Detroit* have arrived at the Pagoda Anchorage.

(From the "Bangkok Times.")

London, July 26.

Baron Blanc, the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the House of Deputies, stated that he had received from Russia an intimation that her interests in Abyssinia were purely of a religious character. The Chamber subsequently discussed the prospect of a war with King Menelik.

London, July 29.

The anti-British feeling in Egypt is assuming grave aspects. A native mob at Cairo has hooted and stoned a British military funeral party. Excitement is intense. The Governor of Cairo has apologised to the British authorities.

A great demonstration has taken place in Sofia at the funeral of the Bulgarian soldiers killed while fighting along with the insurgents in Macedonia.

London, July 29.

The Lyons Chamber of Commerce is appealing to the other French Chambers to unite for the purposes of the commercial mission which is to be sent out to China. M. Rocher, Consul at Malta, has been appointed chief of the commission.

The National Bank of Russia has taken up six millions of the Chinese loan and the rest will be found by France.

Simla, July 29.

The British Pamir Commission has arrived at Bozai Gumbaz, on a tributary of the Pamir river and just within the Chinese boundary. It was met here by the Russian Commission, and the combined party then set off for Lake Victoria, about 30 miles north-west, where they are expected to arrive by the 23rd.

London, July 31.

The Times publishes a telegram from Madagascar stating that the Hovas are secretly suing for peace, but, fearing a revolution should the fact become known, are massing troops outside the capital.

The anti-European feeling is increasing, and the British Consul has enjoined all British subjects in the capital to make an exodus to the coast.

(From Tonkin Papers.)

Paris, August 2.

Japan having undertaken to evacuate the Liaotung Peninsula unconditionally, France and Russia are pressing her to evacuate accordingly, irrespective of the indemnity demanded from China on that account, the indemnity being, moreover, considered excessive.

Paris, August 4.

An Anarchist outrage has been committed at the Aniches mines. A miner wounded M. Vuillemin, manager, with a revolver. A bomb exploded while it was being prepared, killing an Anarchist and seriously wounding ten other persons.

Paris, August 6.

The Aniches affair was a matter of private vengeance.

Paris, August 6.

The Czar has decorated M. Lagarde and several officials at Obock.

(From the "Siam Observer.")

London, July 31.

The whole of the Mymie tribe, in East Africa, have risen in revolt.

A meeting is to be held at Chester on Tuesday next in connection with the Armenian question. The Duke of Westminster is to preside, and the speakers will include Mr. Gladstone and Lord Salisbury.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Shimonoseki, August 19.

The *Shibata Maru* collided with the British steamer *Quintus* (?) while putting into this port with 200 soldiers on board this morning. The British steamer is slightly injured, and as there is danger of water getting into the vessel her cargo is now being discharged. The *Shibata* sustained no injury.

The *Hashidate Kan* passed here bound west this morning.

Takamatsu, August 19.

The Prefectural Assembly, which has been suspended for passing a vote of no confidence in the Governor and Secretary, has been dissolved.

Söul, August 19.

Li Ko-shoku, Grand Master of Services to the Queen, has been appointed to be Ministe, of the Royal Household, and Li Han-shinr Manager of the Finance Department, to be Vice-Minister of the Royal Household.

Okayama, August 19.

Over one hundred cases of cholera were reported here yesterday.

Osaka, August 21.

A Pekin correspondent, writing on the 10th inst., states that the newly appointed Chinese Minister to Japan leaves there on the 12th inst. for his mission, *via* Tientsin and Shanghai, and he will reach Japan at the end of this month or the beginning of next.

Moji, August 21.

With a view to develope the industries in Kiushu, the Chinzei Kyokai has established an office for Formosa trade, and a deputy is to proceed to Formosa to inspect the condition of business there.

Aomori, August 21.

The election of half the members of the Prefectural Assembly took place yesterday, at which 13 *Kakushin* and 2 *Kaishin* candidates were returned.

The *Shibata Maru* left for the south yesterday.

The British steamer which was slightly damaged by the *Shibata Maru* left here this this morning.

Nagasaki, August 21.

The *Atago Kan* has left for Port Arthur.

Söul, August 21.

Thirty leading officials of the Imperial Household Department and other officers have been nominated by the King to proceed to Japan to study at the Keio-gijuku, Tokyo.

Fukui, August 21.

The damage caused to the Tsuruga Railway section by the late severe storm is estimated to cost *yen* 350,000 to repair.

Shimonoseki, August 21.

A workman at the *Bakan Mainichi Shimbun* office has been attacked by cholera, and the paper has been stopped for five days.

Osaka, August 22.

At 11.30 p.m. yesterday, a destructive fire broke out at Nichome, Tachiuribori, Nishiku, by which 78 dwellings and a school building were reduced to ashes. The celebrated brothels, Yoshida-ya and Kasagi-ya, were also burnt.

The Naniwa Railway was opened for traffic to-day.

A telegram dispatched by the Japanese Minister to China and received by the Government yesterday states:—

The Chinese prisoners were handed over to the Chinese commissioners on the 18th instant at Sancheng, near Taku, in the most satisfactory manner. The Viceroy Li entertained the Japanese officers on the 20th inst. at Tientsin.

Kyoto, August 22.

The Exhibition rooms, which have been opened for the sale of articles remaining unpurchased, were closed yesterday.

Takamatsu, August 22.

A violent storm has been raging since last night.

Nara, August 22.

High winds and heavy rain visited this place last night, but no great damage was caused to the crops.

Kyoto, August 22.

A severe storm prevailed here last night, but it abated considerably this forenoon.

Tokushima, August 22.

Rain commenced to fall last night, and was succeeded by violent blasts of wind and then by heavy rain this morning. The gale attained great force at one time, but it is now (1 p.m.) subsiding.

Okayama, August 22.

Strong winds and heavy rains prevail, and many rivers were now very full. The residents are panic-stricken.

The following telegram, dispatched by Mr. Futatsubashi, Japanese Commercial Agent at Vladivostock, on the 20th inst., has been received by the Government.

Cholera has broken out here, but it is said that the type is not of a serious nature.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Shanghai, August 23.

The *Saiyen-go*, formerly *Tsi-yuen*, arrived here yesterday from Weihaiwei.

Nagasaki, August 22.

The latest dispatch from Shanghai states that the British and American Consuls and their escorts arrived at Kucheng on the 16th inst., and some of the leading rioters were arrested. The people are quiet, and appear to be frightened at the arrival of the commissioners.

Osaka, August 23.

Three thousand soldiers belonging to the Fourth Division leave here in two days' time for Formosa.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will re-open on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 190.

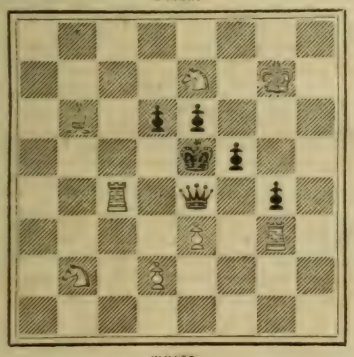
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q R 4	1—K takes Kt
2—B to B 6, mate	
	1—K to Q 6
2—Kt to Q 2, mate	
	1—B to B 8
2—Kt to B 5, mate	
	1—B to B 5
2—Kt mates.	
	1—Kt moves
2—Q to K B 5, mate.	

Correct answers from Digamma, W.H.S., Shogi, J.D., E. J. King, Kr., and E.D.

Problem No. 192.

By Fothergill.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Bardeleben-Teichmann.

Curt von Bardeleben after his drawn match with Blackburne proceeded to a contest with Teichmann, in which he proved the victor. The games are not specially interesting, most of them ending in draws. We give one below which Teichmann succeeded in winning.

Game No. 322.

WHITE. Bardeleben.	BLACK. Teichmann.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 3	4—B to B 4
5—B to K 3	5—B to Kt 3
6—Q Kt to Q 2	6—P to Q 3
7—Kt to B sq.	7—Kt to K 2
8—Kt to Kt 3	8—Kt to Kt 3
9—Q to Q 2	9—B to K 3
10—B to K Kt 5	10—Q to K 2
11—Kt to B 5	11—Q to B sq.
12—B takes Kt	12—P takes B
13—Castles Q R	13—Castles Q R
14—Kt (B 3) to R 4	14—P to Q 4
15—P takes P	15—B takes P
16—B takes B	16—R takes B
17—Kt takes Kt	17—R P takes Kt
18—Kt to K 3	18—R to Q 2
19—Kt to Kt 4	19—Q to Q 3
20—Q to K 2	20—R to K 2
21—K to Kt sq.	21—K R to K sq.
22—Kt to K 3	22—P to K B 4
23—Kt to B 4	23—Q to Q B 4
24—Kt takes B ch.	24—Q takes Kt
25—Q to K 3	25—P to K 5
26—Q takes Q	26—R P takes Q
27—P takes P	27—P takes P
28—P to Q B 4	28—P to K B 4
29—K to B 2	29—R to K 4
30—P to Q Kt 4	30—P to K 6
31—P takes P	31—R takes P
32—R to Q 2	32—R (K sq.) to K 5
33—P to B 5	33—R to B 5 ch.
34—K to Q sq.	34—R takes Kt P
35—R to Q B 2	35—P takes P
36—K to Q 2	36—R to K 4
37—K R to Q B sq.	37—R (Kt 5) to Q 5 ch.
38—K to B 3	38—R to K 6 ch.
39—K to Kt 2	39—R to Kt 5 ch.
40—K to R sq.	40—P to Kt 3 & wins.

Game No. 323.

A fine specimen of Mr. Shipley's play at a recent Club match in the United States.

Petroff Defence.

WHITE. Mr. S. Rocamora, Manhattan.	BLACK. Mr. W. P. Shipley, Philadelphia.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt takes P (a)	3—P to Q 3 (b)
4—Kt to K B 3	4—Kt takes P
5—P to Q 4	5—P to Q 4
6—B to Q 3	6—B to K 2
7—Castles	7—Q Kt to B 3
8—R to K sq.	8—B to K Kt 5
9—P to B 3 (c)	9—P to B 4
10—Q Kt to Q 2	10—Castles
11—Kt to B sq.	11—K to R sq.
12—Kt to Kt 3	12—B to R 5 (d)
13—B to K B 4	13—P to K Kt 4
14—B to Q B sq. (e)	14—Kt takes K B P
15—K takes Kt	15—P to B 5
16—R to R sq. (f)	16—Q to Q 3
17—P to K R 3	17—P takes Kt ch.
18—K to Kt sq.	18—B takes Kt
19—P takes B	19—P to Kt 7 (g)
20—R to R 2	20—Q R to K sq.
21—B to Q 2	21—B to B 7 ch.
22—K takes P	22—Q to Kt 6 ch.
23—K to R sq.	23—R to K 8 ch. and wins.

(a) Kt to Q B 3 or P to Q 4 may also be played according to inclination.

(b) Kt takes P at once is inferior, on account of White's reply Q to K 2.

(c) It turned out that B takes Kt at once was better, that piece being evidently a source of danger, especially after it became more fully supported on Black's next move.

(d) With an eye to the charming sacrifice, Kt takes B P, followed by P to B 5, regaining the piece with a splendid attack. See move 14.

(e) White had in any case a bad congested game; but having gone to B 4, the next best was to ch at K 5.

(f) This would give White some attack if now Black played immediately P takes Kt ch, but he will not be so accommodating.

(g) Splendidly played. If now K takes P, Q to Kt 6 ch, followed by B takes P ch easily wins, and any other course is, it will be seen, equally unsatisfactory. This game has much to suit all tastes, the finish being of a high order.

Game No. 324.

The following interesting game, between two members of the Nottingham Chess Club, was completed one evening recently. It commenced as a correspondence match, with the peculiar condition that Mr. Marriott was to play *sans voir*; but on the 21st move the players became impatient and agreed to finish it over the board in the usual way.

Muzio Gambit.

WHITE. T. Marriott.	BLACK. D. Adams.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Castles	5—P takes Kt
6—Q takes P	6—Q to B 3
7—P to K 5	7—Q takes P
8—P to Q 3	8—B to R 3
9—B to Q 2	9—Kt to K 2
10—Kt to B 3 (a)	10—P to Q B 3
11—Q R to K sq.	11—Q to Q B 4 ch.
12—K to R sq.	12—P to Q 4
13—Q B takes P (b)	13—B takes B
14—Q takes B	14—B to K 3 (c)
15—Q to K 5 (d)	15—Kt to Kt 3
16—Q to Kt 7	16—R to B sq.
17—P to K R 4 (e)	17—Kt to Q 2
18—P to R 5	18—Kt to K 2
19—P to Q Kt 4	19—Q to Q 3
20—Q to Q 4	20—P to K B 4 (f)
21—R to K 2	21—R to B 3
22—K R to K sq.	22—P to Kt 3
23—B to R 6	23—R to Q sq.
24—P to Kt 4 (g)	24—P to B 4
25—Kt to Kt 5	25—Q to Kt 6
26—P takes P	26—P takes P
27—Q to K 3	27—Q to Kt sq. (h)
28—P to Kt 5	28—P to K B 5
29—Q to B 3	29—R to B 4
30—R takes B	30—Kt to K 4
31—Q to R 3	31—R takes P
32—Q to R 4	32—P to R 3
33—R (K sq.) takes Kt	33—Q takes R
34—R takes Q	34—R takes R
35—Q takes P (i)	35—R takes P ch. and draws (k)

(a) Purposely avoiding the "book" continuation, 10 B to B 3, Q to B 4 ch, 11 K to K sq, Castles, which is theoretically a lost game for White.

(b) 13 Q to R 5 or R to K 5, postponing the exchange of pieces, would perhaps answer better.

(c) Not 11...P takes B on account of 12 Kt to K 4.

(d) If 15 Q to B 6 Black seems to get a safe position by 15... R to Kt sq, followed by Kt to Q 2. White's attack, almost all through the game, is paralysed by his being unable to get his Kt to K 4.

(e) He might play 17 Q takes R P, threatening 18 R takes B ch, but Black could reply 17...Q to K 2, eventually develop a counter attack on the K R file. The text moves would lead to some pretty play if Black ventured to take the Pawn—*e.g.*, 17... Kt takes P. 18 R takes P (not R takes B, which is unsound), R takes R, 19 R takes B ch, K to K 2, 20 P to Q 4, and Black must give up Q for R.

(f) To prevent 21 Kt to K 4, but in closing one weak spot he opens another, allowing White to concentrate his forces against the Q B.

(g) A powerful move, threatening to win a piece by 25 P to K Kt 5, &c.; and if Black avoids this by P takes P, then 25 Kt to K 4 wins the R. White would probably lose by 24 Q takes R, Q takes Q, 25 R takes B, Q takes P.

(h) 27...Q takes Q is decidedly preferable, though it would not save the piece. Black keeps on this diagonal to prevent the Kt checking.

(i) This hasty move throws away a won game.

(k) Very curious that White can only get out of perpetual check by sacrificing the Queen.

Wonderful Coincidence.

Game No. 325.

Played by correspondence, *Dublin Mail* tourney (Evans Gambit, Compromised Defence).

WHITE. P. Sanford. (Dr. Tarrasch.)	BLACK. W. Brunton. (Herr Kelz.)
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to Q B 3	5—B to R 4
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—P takes P
8—Q to Kt 3	8—Q to B 3
9—P to K 5	9—Q to Kt 3
10—Kt takes P	10—K Kt to K 2
11—B to R 3	11—R to Q Kt sq.
12—Kt to Q 5	12—Kt takes Kt
13—B takes Kt	13—P to Q Kt 4
14—P to K 6	14—B P takes P
15—B takes Kt	15—P takes B
16—Kt to K 5	16—Q to K 5
17—Q to K Kt 3	17—P to K Kt 3
18—Q to Kt 5	18—P to Q Kt 5
19—Q R to Q sq.	19—Castles
20—B to Kt 2	20—R to Q Kt 4
21—Kt to B 7 (a)	21—P to K 4
22—Q to B 6 and wins (b).	

(a) White's 21st move is splendid, and wins whether R or K takes Kt. The Q is also prettily en prise at the same time.

(b) Dr. Tarrasch has pointed out the marvellous coincidence that this game is identical up to move 21 with No. 185 in his Dreihundert Schachpartieen. Dr. Tarrasch continued 22, Kt to R 6 ch., K to R sq; 23, R to Q 8, K to Kt 2; 24, R takes R, K takes R; 25, Q to B 6 ch, K to K sq; 26, Kt to Kt 8, and easily wins.

Game No. 326.

An extraordinary game, played recently in Vienna:—

Irregular Opening.

WHITE. Herr B. Fleissig.	BLACK. Herr C. Schlechter.
1—P to Q Kt 4	1—P to K 3
2—B to Kt 2	2—K Kt to B 3
3—P to Q R 3	3—P to Q B 4
4—P to Kt 5	4—P to Q 4
5—P to Q 4	5—Q to R 4 ch.
6—Kt to Q B 3	6—Kt to K 5
7—Q to Q 3	7—P takes P
8—Q takes P	8—B to B 4
9—Q takes Kt P	9—B takes P ch.
10—K to Q sq.	10—P to Q 5
11—Q takes R ch.	11—K to K 2
12—Q takes B	12—P takes Kt
13—B to B sq.	13—Kt to Q 2
14—Q takes R	14—Q takes Kt P
15—B to B 4	15—Q to Q 4 ch.
16—K to B sq.	16—B to K 6 ch.
17—B takes B	17—Kt to K B 7

Black easily forces mate.

Hastings Tournament.

This has now been going on for a fortnight but as yet we have heard no results. We anticipate that a series of masterpieces will be the outcome of this renowned meeting, and shall not fail to publish some of the best games when they reach us.

A Chessplayer's "Move."

A characteristic story is being told concerning Steinitz, the famous chess-player. Steinitz is said to sometimes stand quite still in the midst of a crowded thoroughfare while he mentally considers some opening or end-game in all its bearings. "Move on," said a policeman to him on one occasion. "I beg your pardon, but it is your move," said Steinitz courteously, but with firmness.

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MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co	Friday, Aug. 30th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 25th.§
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Sunday, Aug. 25th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Aug. 30th.¶
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Sept. 4th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 9th.
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 10th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 12th.

† *China* left San Francisco on August 13th. § *Verona* will leave Kobe on August 24th. ‖ *City of Rio de Janeiro* left Hongkong on August 17th. ¶ *Natal* (with French mail) left Hongkong on August 21st.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Aug. 27th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Aug. 31st.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 6th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 7th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 7th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 9th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Sept. 13th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 7th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Diomed, British steamer, 2,436, 17th August,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Strathallen, British steamer, 1,489, McKenzie, 17th August,—Manila, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, 18th August, —Nagasaki, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,197, Iwanaka, 18th August,—Kobe 17th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 18th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 19th August,—Vancouver, B.C., 5th August, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,032, 20th August,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Yanariva, British steamer, 2,154, Weston, 21st August,—Kobe 20th August, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 22nd August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tamar, British troop-ship, 4,500, 22nd August,—Hakodate, Naval time-expired men.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 22nd August,—Hongkong, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenorchy, British steamer, 1,822, Sommer, 23rd August,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 24th August,—San Francisco 3rd August, viâ Honolulu 12th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Umbria (17), Italian cruiser, Captain Bertolini, 24th August,—Nagahama 24th August.

DEPARTURES.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Thomsen, 17th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Glenavon, British steamer, 1,911, E. Norman, 17th August,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, G. W. Conner, 17th August,—Shanghai and ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 18th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. St. G. Lindsay, 18th August,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Fidalia, German steamer, 873, Nissen, 18th August,—Kobe, Light.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Henrietta, American ship, 1,203, A. M. Ross, 19th August,—New York viâ Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 19th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 19th August,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Diomed, British steamer, 2,436, Bartlett, 22nd August,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 23rd August,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Himeji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,940, McKenzie, 23rd August,—Formosa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yanariva, British steamer, 2,154, Weston, 23rd August,—Vancouver, B.C., General.—Frazar & Co.

Mogul, British steamer, 1,827, Scotland, 24th August,—Australia viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,450, Aubert, 24th August,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Stephen Lucas in cabin. For Tacoma, Wash.:—Messrs. S. L. Royle, E. W. Kitching, and J. W. Thomas in cabin; 12 Chinese in steerage. For Victoria, B.C.:—6 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. G. Baur, Mr. W. Bartlett, Miss A. Heath-Brown, Mr. C. Beurmann, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Burden, Mr. R. J. Byland, Dr. F. H. Clarke, Mr. L. H. Corke, Miss D'Aubin, Mr. W. B. Davenport, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Martinez-Danson, Mr. F. R. Donisthorpe, Miss Donisthorpe, Mr. Frazer, Rev. and Mrs. T. H. Haden, Bishop Hendrix, Miss Yoshiko Hori, Colonel M. R. Jefferds, Rev. and Mrs. E. H. Jones and family, Mr. F. Laycock, Mr. and Mrs. Charles McLaren, Mrs. Danson Martinez, Mr. K. Mochizuki, Mr. J. C. C. Newton, Mr. H. J. Owen, Mr. G. Spence Payne, Mrs. J. R. Ritchie, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scharff, Madame Shimoda, Mr. J. W. Thomson, Master Thomson, Miss Thomson, Mr. E. Turnauer, Baron Von Treutler, Madame Von Treutler, Miss Ida M. Worth, and Mr. Tung Hon Wong in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Doughty, Rev. J. L. and Mrs. Atkinson, Miss Atkinson, Mr. A. Schwartz, Mrs. and Miss de Tilliere, Mrs. W. F. Fay, Mr. and Mrs. C. Bradbury and child, Mr. K. Matsumoto, Mr. and Mrs. Bentz, Mr. W. J. Gresson, Mr. W. F. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Grist, Mr. and Mrs. Ede, child and nurse, Captain Miller, R.N., Mr. J. Michael, Mrs. L. Dower, Mrs. H. Stone, Mr. Bow Wai Chui, Lieut.-Commander J. Miller, U.S.N., Mrs. R. MacKenzie, Mr. Adelodorfer, Mr. Van der Velde, Mr. Krasnou, Mr. A. Woffrich, Mr. G. Dobberke, Rev. H. C. Hodges, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hunt, and Mrs. A. Campbell, 3 children and nurse in cabin. For Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss J. Atkinson, Miss C. Judson, Rev. and Mrs. Severance, Mr. F. H. England, Mr. Kee Ow Yong, Mr. Leang Yong, Mr. Leong Lam, Mr. H. Schroeter, Mr. W. Ampenoff, Mr. W. A. Shwezoff, Mr. and Mrs. G. Clark, Mr. A. Michie, Mr. Brunat, Mr. A. MacIntyre, and Mr. Freer in cabin; 8 passengers in second class, and 364 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mrs. J. Lindquist, Major Koppe, Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Abbey, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Else, Miss Leighton, Mrs. M. E. Field, Mrs. McCully-Higgins, Miss Alice McCully, Mr. Millard Hunsiker, Mr. W. F. Burns, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Happer, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Wilder, Mr. S. Marcuse, Mrs. R. P. Myers, Mr. G. E. Boardman, Miss M. E. Wilson, Mr. A. McLean, Mr. and Mrs. Seybert, Mrs. W. H. Clark, and Mr. Hector Wayles in cabin; Mr. W. Burman, Mr. K. Watanabe, and 361 Japanese in steerage. For Nagasaki:—Miss Gertrude Taft, Mrs. J. L. Nevins, and Miss Bainbridge in cabin. For Hongkong:—Rev. A. D. D. Frazer in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Brown and child, Mr. T. Narisawa, Mr. Koano, Dr. Tripler, and Mr. J. Hitomi in cabin; Mrs. Negoro, Mr. Uda, Mr. Kanedy, and Mr. E. Viez in second class, and 41 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco:—Mrs. Boggs and infant, Mr. F. A. Bicknall, Mr. and Mrs. I. S. F. Dodd and infant, Mr. F. A. Downing, Mrs. F. R. Ellsworth, Mrs. Geo. Flood and infant, Dr. P. Gelpcke, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Hanbury and 2 children, Mr. H. J. Hunt, Miss Hunt, Mr. Chester Holcombe, Dr. F. Henneberg, Mr. James Hesford, Mr. Ralph King, Miss Lichtenburg, Miss Mason, Lieut.-Colonel Alex. Miln, C.I.E., Mr. R. Pollak, Mr. Pao Tie and servant, Mr. J. C. S. Parcher, Mr. James Parmelee, Mr. E. S. Robinson, Captain H. Storm, and Mr. F. A. L. Wallin in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. H. G. Watson, Mr. Forster, Mr. Samjastin and daughter, Mr. Ber, Mrs. Chlebinbock, Mrs. Rosse, Mr. and Mrs. How, Mr. M. F. Bengen, Mr. F. Jet Sang, Mr. F. M. Kingyue, Mr. Poo Kee, Mr. M. Marti, and Mr. A. Villeta in cabin; one Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Madame O'Gorman, Mrs. Dalymple, Miss McIntosh, Surgeon-Colonel and Mrs. Preston, Miss Preston, Miss Stewart, Mr. A. Shewan, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Carvalho, Mr. B. B. Deane, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Greaves, Mr. L. C. de Rozario, Mr. H. Pinkney, Mr. J. B. Coughtrie, Miss J. Irwine, Miss M. Melvin, Mr. Tsu Lien Tong, Mrs. Lindsay and 2 sons, Mr. and Mrs. Happer, Lieutenant Y. Paley, Mr. A. McCunnell, Rev. W. H. Lingle, Mr. W. Cope, Lord C. A. Conyngham, Mr. F. J. dos Remedios, Miss dos Remedios, Mrs. and Miss Wilcockson, Mr. Thomas and son, Mr. Thomas, R.N., Mr. C. Tullock, Mr. W. J. Gresson, Mr. M. Mees, Mr. Mitchell, Mrs. K. R. Benn, M.D., Miss Da Casta, Mr. Geo. D. Clarke, Bishop Hendrix, Messrs. Y. and H. Flood, Mr. J. A. Syloa, Mr. B. E. Howard, Mrs. Howard, Colonel and Mrs. McIver, Surgeon-Captain Henston, Don Castro Palomino, Mrs. Stafford, Mr. Arone, Mr. W. Vetting, Mr. and Mrs. Smith, child and amah, Mr. J. Copman, and Captain E. W. Very in cabin; Mr. D. Stenbury, and the Willard Opera Company (26) in second class.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. W. P. Ampenoff, Miss J. Atkinson, Miss E. R. Bender, Mr. Bryant, Mrs. Bryant, Mr. J. Bieber, Mr. Brunat, Mrs. Brunat, Misses Brunat (2), Mr. G. Clark, Mrs. G. Clark, Miss Cornelia Chandler, Mr. W. J. Cobin, Mr. W. Crane, Mr. J. L. Dardy, Mr. Frank H. England, Rev. F. W. Fisher, Mrs. F. W. Fisher, Miss Emma Fisher, Miss Amy Fisher, Mr. E. G. Foot, Rev. F. Frauson, Mr. C. L. Freere, Mr. Chas. E. Fripp, Major Helpman, Miss C. Judson, Mr. Leong Lam, Commander Conyers Lang, R.N., Mr. N. Laptew, Mrs. C. K. M. Martin, Mr. A. McIntyre, Mr. James S. Metcalfe, Mrs. Ezelia Metcalfe, Mr. Francis Metcalfe, Mr. A. Michie, Captain Miller, Mr. Charles Mosle, Mr. C. C. Murphy, Mrs. C. C. Murphy, Mr. C. Noyes, Mr. B. Hyde Pearson, Lieut.-Colonel W. C. Ramsden, Rev. C. M. Severance, Mrs. Severance, Mr. W. A. Shwezoff, Mr. E. G. Street, Mr. W. Thompson, Miss J. Tuason, Mr. W. E. Woomald, Mr. Kee Ow Yang, and Mr. Leang Yong in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Shanghai and ports:—Treasure, $3,000.00.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	ST. PAUL.	ST. LOUIS.	DEN- VER.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	1,502	—	272	125	—	—	1,899
Yokohama.	4,666	324	26	150	348	512	6,026
Hongkong.	493	—	—	—	—	—	493
Amoy	591	6,798	—	—	—	—	7,389
Total ...	7,252	7,122	298	275	348	—	15,807

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	360	—	360
Yokohama	—	663	—	663
Total	—	1,023	—	1,023

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 1,704 bales; Waste Silk, 19 bales.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,101	7,196	8,402	429	17,128
Hyogo	544	1,162	290	—	1,996
Yokohama ...	1,795	2,805	526	321	5,447
Hongkong.....	1,518	992	—	510	3,020
Amoy	—	—	4,459	—	4,459
Total	4,958	12,155	13,677	1,260	32,050

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	402	—	402
Hongkong.....	88	—	88
Yokohama	515	16	531
Total	1,005	16	1,021

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	31	20	51
Colombo	—	—	—	293	—	293
Foochow	4,802	—	1,918	295	—	7,015
Shanghai	2,011	4,506	4,787	—	—	11,304
Calcutta	—	—	—	112	—	112
Kobe	907	813	13	30	—	1,763
Yokohama ...	1,788	996	320	21	—	3,125
Total	9,508	6,315	7,038	762	20	23,663

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	15	—	15
Shanghai	306	—	306
Yokohama	289	8	297
Total	610	8	618

INTERNET ARCHIVE
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A fair amount of enquiry, but Importers would like to see the Goods move off a little more freely. There seems a fair prospect for a good Autumn trade especially in staples.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 25	to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.70	to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,.	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,.	2 00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16	to 0 22
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25	to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,.	0.75	to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75	to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.20	to 2.50
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 75	to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20	to 0.62½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00	to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00	to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00	to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.40	to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	41.00	to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.00	to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.00	to 49.00
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

Market unchanged. Some small sundries are taken daily at quotations, but the trade generally is not large.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.20	to 3.25
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.25	to 3.30
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20	to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40	to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30	to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50	to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.80	to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.20	to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70	to 1.75

KEROSENE.

Quotations unaltered. There are signs in the air of a better demand, and holders will not be sorry to see more trade with better prices.

American	$2.15 to 2.20
Russian	2.05 to 2.10
Langkat	1.90 to 1.95

SUGAR.

Brown—Fair business at unchanged prices, although at the moment the market seems inclined to go in holders' favour. White—Steady trade at late rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.70 to 3.75
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.20 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6.00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The trade increases daily, principal demand coming now from Europe and prices have again advanced. Recent mail-steamers have taken very large shipments and it looks as though some of the buyers for America will get "left" (at any rate on price) unless they fill their orders without delay.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 deniers	$910 to 920
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	890 to 900
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	740 to 750
Kakedas—Extra	None
Kakedas—No. 1	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 1½	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

No change to report, stagnant market and nothing doing.

TEA.

Fair daily settlements on the basis of our last quotations. Shippers are fairly busy and all the last-bound steamers get a share.

	PER PICUL.	
Choicest	$30	to $32
Choice	28	to 29
Finest	26	to 27
Fine	24	to 25
Good Medium	22	to 23
Medium	20	to 21
Good Common	18	to 19
Common	16	to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has altered very little during the week, and rates close fairly firm.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/1⅞
— — 4 months' sight	2/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2¼@⅜
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅜@½
On Paris—Bank sight	2.71
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.76@7
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅓
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	195
— Private 30 days' sight	197½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	52½
— Private 30 days' sight..	53¼@⅜
— — 4 months' sight	54 @¼
On Germany—Bank sight	2.18
— Private 4 months' sight	2.25
Bar Silver (London)	30⅝

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 31ST, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE condition of the Prince Imperial has much improved.

A GERMAN sailor died of cholera on board the British steamer *Ashdown*.

MR. UCHIDA, the new Secretary of Legation in Pekin, has gone to China.

COUNT INOUYE'S successor as Minister to Korea, Lieut-General Viscount Miura, has reached Korea.

THE water-frolics of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club passed off right merrily on Wednesday afternoon.

SEVERAL cases of cholera have been reported in Yokohama during the week, but on one day no fresh case occurred.

MR. ODA HANSUKE, M.P. for the Fifth District of Yamaguchi Prefecture, has resigned his seat owing to bad health.

AN electric tramway has been sanctioned for Tokyo: it will probably have to be run on the "elevated" system.

MAJOR-GENERAL INOUYE, Commander in Chief of the Sixth Brigade, has been appointed Chief Staff Officer of the Army Inspection Bureau, his late post being given to Major-General Miyoshi.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR commemorated on the 27th instant the twenty-seventh year of his accession to the Throne.

THE boiler of a sulphur factory at Yoneko-mura, Nagano, burst on the 26th inst., and several persons were injured.

MR. TAKAHASHI KOREKIYO, of the Bank of Japan, succeeds the late Mr. Koizumi, as manager of the Yokohama Specie Bank.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha has petitioned the Authorities for permission to open steamship communication with Formosa.

RUMOURS of further anti-missionary riots in China were circulated on Thursday and Friday, but they lack confirmation.

A SMALL fire broke out in a godown at the back of Main Street on Thursday; but a few pails of water extinguished the flames.

THE P.M. *China* brought the mails from San Francisco to Yokohama in the short space of 13 days 3 hours on her last trip.

AZUMA-YAMA, in Fukushima Perfecture, has been causing some uneasiness to residents in the vicinity by reason of renewed rumblings.

MR. OKAYAMA TERUHIKO, who has been absent in England in connection with the *Chishima-Ravenna* Appeal, returned to Tokyo on Friday.

LIEUT.-GENERAL VISCOUNT TAKASHIMA, the newly appointed Vice-Governor-General of Formosa, leaves Tokyo on the 31st instant for his mission.

ABOUT 3,000 soldiers belonging to the Second Army Division (Sendai) left Tokyo on the 27th inst. for Ujina, whence they will proceed to Formosa.

MR. HASHIGUCHI, formerly Consul-General for Japan at New York, has just returned to Japan, preparatory to taking up an appointment in Formosa.

IT is stated that the Committee appointed for the distribution of spoils obtained during the war has decided to distribute some articles among the elementary schools.

SEVERAL minor railway accidents, consisting mostly of derailments, have occurred on the Tokaido, Kansei, and Kiushu railways during the week. No loss of life resulted.

CAPTAIN MACKENZIE, of the *Himeji Maru*, has been exonerated of all blame in connection with the running of that vessel on some uncharted rocks at the Pescadores on the 1st June.

THE organization of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, which has been interrupted by the continued bickering of the petty merchants, is now making progress towards settlement.

DURING a destructive fire, which occurred in Osaka on the 21st inst., two firemen were seriously, and about fifty others slightly, wounded; a fourteen year-old boy was burnt to death.

THE Coroner's jury which inquired into the circumstances surrounding the death at Shoji on August 14th, of Mr. H. W. Brockbank, returned a verdict of "death from natural causes accelerated by intemperate habits."

EIGHT armed steamers were attached to the Navy since the outbreak of the war. They are the *Yamashiro Maru, Sagami Maru, Saikio Maru, Genkai Maru, Kanazawa Maru, Edo Maru*, and *Akashi Maru*, of which the *Yamashiro* and *Sagami* are now removing their armament.

COUNT MATSUKATA has resigned the portfolio of Finance, and left the capital. For the present, Viscount Watanabe holds the office in conjunction with that of Minister of Communications.

A RAILWAY corps lately proceeded to Formosa, to construct a railway between Shinchu and Chang-hua, a distance of 26 or 27 *ri* (one *ri* = 2½ miles). This will afterwards be extended to Tainan.

MR. OZAKI, a Public Procurator of the Yokohama Local Court, has been appointed to the Tokyo Local Court, and Mr. Miyagoshi, a Public Procurator of the Tokyo Local Court, to the Yokohama Local Court.

THE Tokyo City Assembly will not allow the Japanese Cast Iron Foundry Company to break its contract in regard to the supply of water-pipes, unless the Company takes the consequences of its breach of good faith.

REUTER telegraphs:—It is reported that the situation in Madagascar is of the gloomiest description, and that there are 5,000 French troops in hospital, amongst whom there is great mortality. The French have captured Andribo almost without opposition, the Hovas evacuating the place in a demoralized state. The French loss was trifling. Speaking in the House of Commons, the Hon. Geo. N. Curzon stated that it would be impolitic to raise the question of indemnity to be made to the families of the missionaries murdered at Kucheng, until the murderers had been punished, which was of primary importance. Lord Salisbury stated in the House of Lords that if China was neglectful or lukewarm in punishing the offenders in the recent outrages, further action will be necessary. *The Times* regards Lord Salisbury's statement with regard to Armenia as an emphatic warning to the Sultan that, unless reforms are introduced, it is improbable that the Powers will continue to guarantee the autonomy of Turkey.

THERE is a distinct improvement in the Import trade, both in present and future business. In Yarns and Grey Goods a fair amount of transactions are recorded, and Fancy Cottons are in better demand than for some time past, while Woollens are in request for forward delivery. In the Metal trade there is about as much doing as is usual at the time of year. Contrary to expectation, holders of Kerosene have given way, and a few transactions have been done at lower quotations. This has encouraged buyers to hold off for a further reduction, which will probably be effected before any great amount of Oil changes hands. The Sugar market is weak, small sales and heavy arrivals with only a light demand tending to lower quotations for Brown sorts; Whites are fairly active at late rates. Great activity continues in the Silk trade and keen competition among buyers has forced up prices, though holders declare they could take less money in a dead market. These remarks refer only to Raw Silk, for in Waste there is nothing whatever moving. The Tea trade continues active, and late rates are fully maintained, though the end of the season proper is approaching. Leaf costing from $20 to $25 per picul is most in request, and as suitable parcels are no longer abundant holders get the price they ask. Settlement and export figures now bear comparison with those of previous years, and if the quantity is forthcoming will probably exceed those of last season when the end comes. Exchange has been fairly steady, with only slight alterations in rates, the latest move being a rise of one eighth on the enhanced value of silver.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Count Matsukata's resignation has been the most prominent subject of discussion in the vernacular press during the week. Various rumours are circulated about the probable effect of the incident upon the position of the Cabinet. But they are for the most part mere conjectures without the least foundation. So far as we can make out, the incident is not likely to affect the political situation in any way. Of course, one or more changes of *personnel* may take place in the course of a month or so, but that can not produce any change in the situation. As has always happened in the past, the retiring Minister has been made a hero by the majority of the metropolitan papers, whether they like him or not. He is held up as a statesman who knows what is meant by political responsibility, and as an example which the present Ministers of State would do well to imitate. A man of sterling integrity and disinterested patriotism, the ex-Minister of Finance has hitherto abstained from meddling with parties, and his political influence outside the official circle is comparatively small. The only quarter in which he is supposed to possess some influence is among a certain class of business men. As to his supposed connection with the National Unionists, he has never been regarded as their leader; neither does he seem to have exercised any direct influence over the policy of that party. The circumstances that the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which is almost regarded as the organ of the Progressionists, was the first to announce his resignation, and that the Progressionist journals have generally manifested sympathy for him, seem to have some meaning, but on this subject we shall not hazard any opinion.

* * *

We have already reproduced the comments of the Tokyo papers upon this incident, but we may now offer one or two general observations upon the attitude of the papers. The *Jiji Shimpo* keeps strict silence upon the subject, not paying any attention to the controversy that is going on in regard to it. The *Kokkai* and *Nippon*, assisted by the *Kokumin* and the Progressionist organs, have taken up the Count's cause by extolling him at the expense of the Premier and other Ministers of State. The *Chuo Shimbun*, the National Unionist organ, criticises the conduct of both the ex-Minister of Finance and that of the Military authorities. Our contemporary cannot agree with the views enunciated by the Count in the memorial which he recently presented to the Cabinet on financial matters; neither does it think that he acted quite deliberately in laying down his Ministerial portfolio. But, on the other hand, it is disposed to think that the Military authorities have not been sufficiently prompt in drawing up the measures for the increase of the army. This article shows in what relationship Count Matsukata stands towards the National Unionist party.

* * *

Count Matsukata's resignation has furnished opportunity for the discussion of the questions of an extraordinary Diet and the increase of the Army and the Navy. It is now generally taken for granted that an extraordinary session will not be convened. If it be not convened, the reason must be sought in the fact that the military measures had not been completed in time. But the Opposition papers are not satisfied with this obvious explanation, and try to find some ulterior political motive for the course pursued by the Cabinet. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, for instance, observes that the Premier is opposed to an extraordinary session, because he is conscious of the disadvantages of confronting the Opposition while the Cabinet's position is far from strong. So far as the expenditures for the increase of the Army and the Navy are concerned, the Diet, says our contemporary, will be as ready to approve them as when it voted the War Loan in the Hiroshima session of last year. But, in the *Mainichi's* opinion, the passage of the ordinary Budget depends upon the degree of confidence enjoyed by the Cabinet. Apprehensive of this danger, the Premier has decided to incorporate in the Budget those expenditures which are required for the increase of the Army and the Navy, and to bring it before the Diet at its ordinary winter session. This, says the Progressionist, organ, is the reason why the Minister President is opposed to the convocation of an extraordinary Diet.

* * *

The absurdity of the views expressed by the above mentioned journal has been exposed in a ruthless fashion by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. Should the Cabinet Ministers purposely delay the preparation of the Military measures from such motives as those ascribed to them by the *Mainichi*, the *Nichi Nichi* would be the first to demand the dismissal of such unpatriotic Advisers of the Crown. But as a matter of fact, the Government is taking every possible step to expedite the conclusion of the task, the officers concerned being hard at work almost day and night. Moreover, there is no necessity for the Cabinet to be afraid of the opposition of the parties, for the Constitution provides the Government with ample means to carry out important measures of State, notwithstanding the objection of irresponsible politicians. But is it possible, as the Opposition journals seems to think, to separate the expenditure necessary for the increase of the Army and the Navy from the ordinary Budget? The *Nichi Nichi* answers decidedly in the negative. It is true that, of these expenditures, those which are to be defrayed during the current fiscal year are to be put together in the form of a Supplementary Budget, and might very properly be discussed in an extraordinary Diet. In case an extraordinary session is not convened, the Supplementary Budget will have to be introduced in the next ordinary session, separate and distinct from the Budget for the next fiscal year. The Opposition politicians seem to think that they will be free from blame in opposing the increase of the Army and the Navy, if they only voted the Supplementary Budget. They forget the important fact that the Supplementary Budget covers only a small fraction of the expenses required for the Military and Naval augmentation, and that the ordinary Budget has to contain the expenses caused by the increase of the country's fighting capacity. Therefore, in order to be logical, every member of the Diet who approves the Supplementary Budget will have to vote also the Military and Naval expenses in the ordinary Budget. Thus no advantage would be gained by the Cabinet by introducing the Military and Naval measures in the coming winter session of the Diet. Neither would the Opposition be released from the trouble of voting the ordinary Budget in that session by giving their consent to the supplementary Budget in an extraordinary session.

* * *

Concerning the increase of the Army and the Navy, the *Mainichi* draws the attention of the Government to the importance of deciding the national policy before setting about the discussion of this question. If the national policy be fixed upon a career of continental expansion, it will be necessary to have a large army, whereas the army will be of secondary importance if it be decided to pursue a policy of colonial and commercial expansion toward the south. Which of these courses does the Government intend to pursue? This is the point to which our contemporary calls the Cabinet's earnest attention.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* severely blames the authorities for their want of diligence and courage in connection with the question of the increase of the Army and the Navy. Five months have already passed away since the restoration of peace; but no step has been carried out in practice for the augmentation of the country's fighting capacity. The Army measures may take time to complete, but why should the Government delay the commencement of the work of Naval increase on which investigations have long since been completed? In the *Jiji's* opinion, the Government ought to have at once ordered the construction of warships, without waiting for a session of the Diet. Should this necessary step be disapproved by the Diet at the next session, the Ministers would have simply to resign, in which event they would have on their side the sympathy of the whole nation. But if they were afraid of the consequences of such a course, they might have convened an extraordinary Diet, when, in the *Jiji's* opinion, their proposal would have been unanimously voted. But instead of pursuing either of these courses the Government, our contemporary observes with regret, seems determined to pursue the worst possible policy, that of waiting for the next ordinary session of the Diet. "A country," it remarks in conclusion, "can only hope to maintain peace with other states in this age of so-called civilization by being prepared at any time to take up arms. But our Government is negligent in matters of warlike preparation. We are disappointed to find that it is so wanting in courage and so hopelessly untrustworthy."

* * *

The Liaotung question is never forgotten by the Japanese press. Alluding to a Vienna telegram which says that Russia is sending out fresh warships to the East for the purpose of demanding an immediate evacuation of Liaotung, the *Kokumin Shimbun* writes as follows:—"We do not know about the truth of this report; but should it be true, we advise Russia that such conduct on her part is inconsistent with a peaceful state of things; Japan's feelings toward her will become still more unfriendly, and not only the Japanese but all the world will condemn her conduct. We do hope that Russia will not be guilty of such a mistake."

* * *

The *Chuo Shimbun* says:—"The return of Liaotung has been announced by the Emperor, and the three Powers will never be allowed to meddle with the question any further. We shall return the territory when, and only when, we think it advisable."

* * *

The *Kokkai* repeats, what has already been pointed out over and over again by the Tokyo journals, that, Japan having never bound herself as to the time and manner of returning Liaotung, she is perfectly free to do as she pleases in these respects. Our contemporary cannot believe that the Japanese Government has demanded a paltry sum of 50 million *yen* in return for the receded territory, but it hints that a Cabinet which pursues a weak policy in Korea may be equally weak elsewhere.

* * *

The other topics discussed by the papers are the railway problem, the encouragement of marine business, rewarding the services rendered in the war, the settlement and colonization of Formosa, and so forth.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A NEW EXCHANGE.

A FEW weeks ago, writes the Paris correspondent of a London journal, I beheld for the first time a spectacle which is possibly peculiar to Paris,—at least I have never heard of the existence of a similar institution in London, though it may exist in Vienna. I had occasion to cross the Champs Elysées one Sunday afternoon. I passed through a compact crowd of people, mostly adults, who were watching with intense amusement the puppet shows, but when I had left the marionettes behind me, I found myself again in a crowd. It was composed chiefly of quiet, respectable-looking men, but there were also some boys, and even young girls in short dresses. They all had the same preoccupied, business-like air, and it was evident they were engaged in work of some sort, and had not come there merely to enjoy themselves by strolling about under the trees. Some of the men were plainly brokers or dealers in a large way. Each had a big book under his arm, to which he ever and anon referred, and sometimes he would examine "samples" through a magnifying glass. I peeped over the shoulders

of some of these brokers, and found that I had lighted upon the "Stamp Exchange." I watched several transactions which were conducted with as much method and circumspection as if they had been important commissions on the Bourse. Perhaps there are regular "account days," "ticket days," and "carryings over" on this curious little market. Perhaps one of these little girls in a short frock was a noted operator—a philatelic Jay Gould,—and had just made a successful "straddle" in "four-penny Capes" and "two-penny Vancouvers." Possibly—as every business has its organ in the present day—there is a journal which gives all the latest quotations of the Stamp Exchange, and informs its readers that "nine-penny blues were dull on a falling market," and advises subscribers to hold on to some particular stock, "which is sure to recover when the bears have finished." Joking apart, however, it is very convenient for the amateur and professional philatelists of Paris to be able to meet together once a week, or perhaps oftener, and sell, purchase, or exchange any stamps they may require. I noticed, too, that some of the dealers gave a good deal of information to youthful applicants who had become possessed of some stamps with which they had hitherto been unacquainted.

THE "HENRIETTA" ASHORE.

THE Kobe evening journal says that advice was received there on Monday afternoon that the American ship *Henrietta*, bound in from Yokohama, is ashore. Advice of the disaster was received by the Agents, Messrs. Delacamp & Co., Captain Ross having wired :—"*Henrietta* ashore Satoura—nine feet water in hold." The *Henrietta* is a ship of 1,203 tons nett, under the command of Captain Ross She sailed from Yokohama for Kobe on the 19th inst., and evidently made a good run down to the mouth of Kii Channel. She was passed by the Blue Funnel steamer *Diomed* off Hino Misaki on Friday, and it is said she was afterwards seen to put out to sea in view of the threatening weather. In the absence of advice it is reasonable to assume that there was no loss of life. Satoura, the place mentioned in the Captain's message to his Agents, is at the north-eastern corner of the island of Shikoku and close to the entrance to Naruto Passage. We understand that Mr. Ellerton, Lloyds' Surveyor, has already left for the scene to see if anything can be done for the vessel.

THE OBSERVANCE OF SUNDAY.

THE answers given by the Rev. Frederick Peake, LL.D., Secretary of the Lord's Day Observance Society, when questioned by the Lord's Day Observance Committee of the House of Lords, are worth quoting :—

Lord Thring :—What do you mean by secularising the Sunday?—Turning it into a common day of the week, instead of consecrating it to works of holiness.

Suppose I skate on Sunday, does that make the day a common day?—It would be difficult to draw the exact line, and, therefore, an Act of Parliament deals with facts of a broad type.

You speak of the public-house-frequenting classes; do you mean to tell me, with regard to the higher artizan and small shopkeeper, that there is any wrong in going into a public-house?—I am not a total abstainer myself, and therefore I do not use the expression in an offensive sense, but the persons referred to are known to me, as a parish clergyman as men who spend an undue amount of time and money in public-houses.

Then it is the quantity they take that makes them public house frequenters?—I say regular haunters of such places.

What reason have you for saying that if people engage in innocent recreation on Sunday it is not calculated to keep them out of the public-house?—Experience and the estimony of others.

Then what do you wish men to do on Sunday?—God has told them.

I ask you. Do not invoke the name of the Deity in this way.—In public worship, the instruction of the young, visitation of the sick, helping people in difficulty, and showing acts of kindness to one another. I find abundance of occupation for Lord's Day.

Suppose the case of a labourer who has worked hard all the six days of the week. Do you mean to tell me that his whole occupation on Sunday is to be going to church and visiting the sick?—I find men who take great delight in these things.

I ask you, is it rational to suppose that a man who works hard six days a week is to spend all Sunday in going to church and visiting the sick?—Yes; I should say it is his duty to remember the Sabbath day.

Do you consider that an innocent joke on Sunday is wrong?—It would very much depend on the nature of the joke. I should not consider it a wrong thing in itself.

Then you may laugh on Sunday; may you whistle on Sunday?—I have never considered the question.

Here is Johnson's definition of "to amuse"—"to entertain with tranquillity, to fill with thoughts that engage the mind without distracting it." Therefore, if that definition is correct, amusement is the correct thing on Sunday, is it not?—You are not, among other things, "to seek your own pleasure."

If you seek your own pleasure you are wicked, are you?—You are not to seek your own pleasure, according to the law of God.

May you tricycle on Sunday, which I happen to do?—I should look to the whole drift of a man's life; and if his cycling was a substitute for religious duties, I should say it is wrong. If I were going to take a distant service for a sick neighbour, and the only way of reaching the place was to have a tricycle, then—though I should own it was open to misrepresentation—I should not think it was wrong.

Suppose a man cannot walk and uses a tricycle, is that wrong?—I should not say so, if your life was a religious one as a whole, and that was simply one of the things that tended to keep you in health.

Questioned by Lord Hobhouse with reference to some of the lecturers and their views, and asked whether he had not heard learned and excellent men speaking of phenomena without approaching the awful problem of the origin of things, witness replied:—Imperfectly informed scientific men do. I am a believer in a far greater Astronomer Royal than Sir Robert Ball, even one who speaks of the heavens declaring the glory of God.

THE COLLISION AT MOJI.

FURTHER particulars to hand regarding the collision of the transport *Shibata Maru* with the British steamer *Quantock* on August 7th, show that the *Shibata* was making for an anchorage when she collided, and the *Quantock* was lying at anchor with a full cargo of rice. The *Shibata Maru* struck the *Quantock* on the port side, fore part of the bridge, and knocked a hole in her, extending from the water-line upwards, carrying away the main deck and lower bridge rails. At first the *Quantock* was making water, and signals were flying that they intended to beach her, but after getting a sail over the hole, the pumps were able to keep the water under. Her cargo had to be discharged. The *Shibata* is very slightly damaged; she had 800 soldiers on board at the time. The collision is said to have occurred through a mistake made by the engineer; orders were telegraphed from the bridge to the engine-room for half-speed ahead, and instead, the engineers put her half-speed astern and she struck the *Quantock* with her stern.

SILK IMPORTS TO THE STATES.

THE imports of Raw Silk at New York and San Francisco in July, 1895, were :—

	bls.	lbs.	$ Value.
New York	510 ...	106,764 ...	386,928
San Francisco ...	803 ...	98,613 ...	299,838
	1,313 ...	205,377 ...	686,766

The imports of Waste, Noils, and Cocoons in the same period were :—

New York	132 ...	44,400 ...	11,413

The imports of Japanese Piece-goods and Handkerchiefs, were from January 1st to June 27th, 1895 :—

Silk Piece-goods	300,255 Pieces.
Silk Handkerchiefs	345,951 Pieces.

PRESENTATION.

A NUMBER of ship-masters belonging to the chartered ships of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, have presented Capt. W. H. Forbes, the Company's Captain-Superintendent, with a handsome and novel time-piece, as an expression of their regard. The dinner at which the presentation was made, took place at the Club Hotel, and was of an enjoyable character.

AN AGED CABINET.

THE *Westminster Gazette* describes the new British Cabinet as essentially a Cabinet of old men. Indeed, it is decidedly the most aged Cabinet of recent times. Even the last Cabinet, with its octogenarian head, was young beside it. Its average age (at the time of appointment) was 56, or, without Mr. Gladstone himself, less than 53. The average age of Lord Salisbury's last Cabinet was 55. That of the present one is 58. It contains two members of three-score years and ten—Lord Cross, 72, and Lord Halsbury, 70; four between sixty and seventy—Sir H. James, 67, Lord Salisbury, 65, Mr. Goschen, 64, the Duke of Devonshire, 62. Next come: Mr. Chamberlain, 59; Lord Ashbourne and Sir M. Hicks-Beach, 58; Mr. Ritchie, 57; Lord Cadogan and Mr. Chaplin, 55; Sir M. White Ridley, 53; Lord Lansdowne and Lord George Hamilton, 50; Mr. Balfour is 47; and Lord Balfour, the youngest member, is 46. In this respect the New Cabinet is very unlike its predecessor, which contained five young men (as youth counts nowadays in politics)—Mr. Acland, 46, Lord Rosebery, 45, Lord Tweedmouth, 45, Mr. Arnold Morley, 43, and Mr. Asquith, 42. The figures refer in all cases to the ages of Ministers at the time of their admission to the Cabinet.

KING DAVID'S STRATEGY.

WE take the following from the *Literary Digest*:—

A very interesting study on the subject of King David as a general was recently laid before the French Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres by the explorer and archeologist, M. Dieulafoy, as we learn from *Biblia* (a journal of Oriental research in archeology, religion, etc.). In reviewing the tactics employed by David in his warfare against the Philistines, the learned scholar gives King David highest praise. He calls him not only the greatest strategist among the Israelites, who successfully kept the enemies of the kingdom at bay, but he considers that David invented and employed tactics against the Philistines which have been imitated by modern warriors with marked success. *Biblia* says:

"M. Dieulafoy has discovered the scene of King David's operations in the Valley of Rephaim, when by his rapid change of movements, as described in the Bible, he completely upset all the calculations of the Philistines, and not only gained victory over them for that day, but compelled them to accept very hard terms of peace. His tactics were the following: He brought forward his flank, then made a rapid change of front, and so entirely shut in the left side of the Philistine ranks that they fell an easy prey to his men. These, says M. Dieulyfoy, were precisely the same movements as were used in the year 1714 by Frederick II., at Mollwitz, and again in 1757 at Rossbach, and they were again employed with such signal success against the Austrians at Austerlitz. The manœuvres employed at Rephaim were, so far as we have any record of military display, entirely new, and we must, therefore, give the whole credit of their ingenuity to David.

The shepherd king here displayed not only remarkable powers of thinking out his plans, but he must have possessed great skill in the training of troops, to have brought them to the required stage of obedience and promptitude of action. We need not wonder, in the light of these extraordinary gifts, that he should have succeeded in his campaigns and in establishing the kingdom of Israel firmly in the midst of its enemies. In examining the district, M. Dieulafoy has come to the conclusion that David used every natural advantage which the country afforded, and lost no point which could have proved of help to him in his position."

SAMPLES AND PATTERNS.

THE Director of the Yokohama Post Office requests us to draw attention to the regulations affecting samples and patterns of merchandise sent through the domestic post, which were issued in a notification of Nov. 2, 1891, but which seem to be misunderstood, as they are constantly violated. The following is the portion of the notification referred to which it is desired to bring to the notice of the public :—

Transmission of samples and patterns of merchandise, by the domestic mail service, is only allowed between the dealers in such merchandise, or at least one of parties must be dealer in such articles. On the cover or wrapper of such mail matter the words "Samples or Patterns of Merchandise" must be written; also the names of the sender and receiver and signifying his or their occupation. When the above named requirements are not complied with the matter will be treated as first class mail matter and charged accordingly.

DAYLIGHT ROBBERY AT KOBE STATION.

A NOTORIOUS pickpocket named Watanabe Asakichi, of Osaka, fell in with a country gentleman at Kobe Station on Tuesday, who had a leather trunk with him. The pickpocket, perceiving how jealously the gentleman was taking care of the trunk, dexterously opened it and took out a bundle of paper money amounting to one hundred *yen*. A Japanese lady near by detected the theft and informed the gentleman, who started at once in pursuit of the thief. Seeing the impossibility of escape, the thief threw back the bundle and ran as fast as he could, but he was caught by some coolies, and handed over to a policeman.—*Chronicle*.

"THE LITTLE ELECTRIC MAGNET."

WE quote the title to this paragraph from a circular in reference to Miss Annie May Abbott,

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a young lady described as "The Eighth Wonder of the World." What electricity and magnetism have to do with the powers said to be possessed by Miss Abbott we fail to understand, and have not followed the performances in Europe and America close enough to give any opinion on the subject. Two performances are to be given next week in the Public Hall, when the public will see for themselves. The following is extracted from the circular :—

She can lay her open hands on your head and lift you in mid-air.—A stick laid on her open hands adheres so persistently that four men cannot pull is off though she does not grasp it.—She stands on one heel and four men cannot move her, push and pull as they will. She stands as firm as the Rock of Gibraltar.—An ordinary chair laid on her open hands cannot be removed by the strongest men. Little children by touching her become so charged with her powers that they cannot be lifted.—When such men as Sullivan, Muldoon, Kilrain, Jefferson, Mitchell, Sandow, and Sampson of England, Carl Abs, of Germany, the late Czar of Russia (perhaps the strongest non-professional in Europe) and thousands of others failed to lift her, it is pretty safe to say there is not a man on earth that can raise her. On the scales she weighs normally ninety-eight pounds.—During her performance her pulse and temperature assume an alarmingly abnormal condition.—She lifts with her open hands six or seven men at one time (you can put your hands between her's and the object upon which the men are placed and not the slightest pressure is felt, demonstrating that her power is not physical strength).—A pole may be held down by six or eight men and another seated on top. She lifts and carries the centre mass across the stage with her open hands laid against the pole.—Resists the strength of the strongest horse in town. Holds men in mid-air.

THE CORNELL DEFEAT AT HENLEY.

We take from the *Literary Digest* the following interesting *résumé* of American opinion with regard to Cornell's defeat at the Henley regatta :—

The Cornell "stroke" and general style of rowing seems to be doomed. The bad defeat of the Cornell crew by the Trinity Hall (Cambridge) crew at Henley is regarded as having settled the controversy as to the respective merits of the short stroke practised by Cornell and the long, slow stroke in favour in England. There were two races. In the first Cornell won on a technical ruling against the Leander crew, which failed to start when the signal was given and was declared out of the race. The second race, however, afforded a fair test, and the Cornell men were overwhelmigly beaten. Some claim that the Cornell men were overtrained, as some of them fainted at their posts and dropped the oars, but the predominant view is that "the stroke did it." The American sporting editors, in commenting upon the result, console themselves with the reflection that the defeat of the "vicious" stroke will insure its abandonment by American colleges and establish American supremacy on a sounder basis.

A Deserved Defeat.—"We sympathize with the Cornell men. Their ambition soared to the top of the mountain at the first flight, but it failed to raise it owners after it. They defied all comers on the waters where the best rowing in the world is seen, but without success. Now that it is all over, however, we are free to say that it would have been a scientific calamity if Cornell had won. It would have been a contradiction of all the principles which experience had laid down as sound if the rapid, choppy, exhausting stroke developed in America, and practised particularly by Cornell, had beaten the long-drawn-out sweep of the oarsmen of England. Years of study by the best masters have reached the conclusion that the longer, slower stroke with a fiercer, more concentrated attack on the beginning, and less violent and less frequent swinging of the body, drags the lungs and muscles less and covers more ground than the quicker, shorter, and jerkier movement that springs more from impatience than from well-reasoned theory. It has always been so, and it is not unsafe to say it always will be so ; and no doubt it will be better so.

"The first great revelation of this for American oarsmen was when the spasmodic fifty-a-minute stroker, James Hamill, was almost lost to sight by that most elegant of English scullers, Henry Kelly. It was so when the Harvard four oar of 1869 came in behind the Oxford men on the Thames. It has been so for years past in the races between Harvard and Yale, when Yale has pulled long and Harvard has pulled short.

"American oars will sigh for the trailing of American colours at Henley ; but they will find no little content in reflecting that so far as the art of rowing is concerned the result is as it should be. Cornell's defeat may be highly beneficial in its effect on American rowing."—*The Sun*, New York.

Let us Profit by the Experience.—"One of the prime advantages of these international trials is the experience gained. If the American stroke, as represented by Cornell, needs modification, as seems possible from the result, it should be changed. No false pride or prejudice should be allowed to obstruct needed reforms. By taking advantage of the information gained from the victors, the latter may in the next contest be converted into the vanquished. The Englishmen said over and over again that, if Cornell won at Henley with that stroke, English crews would have to revolutionize their style of rowing, and they probably meant what they said. The English are brusque and cross-grained almost to the extent of brutality in their treatment of rivals in sporting matters, but they appear to be anxious to be fair, and to be ready to adopt anything that occurs to them as an improvement. The Americans are, as a rule, more courteous and hospitable in their treatment of Englishmen who come to this country, and they should be as ready to profit by any experience thus furnished."—*The American*, Baltimore.

"The gonfalon of American Amateur rowing droops limply from the cross-yard this morning, its streamers are inscribed 'Henley was our Waterloo,' 'We came, we were conquered,' and 'We have met the enemy and we are theirs.' Our latest aquatic expedition has been a sad failure. Each of the two Canadian scullers was beaten in his trial heat, while the eight of Cornell University, after rowing over alone in a preliminary trial, through bungling and a misunderstanding at the start, were easily beaten in their first race, the crew collapsing in the final half-mile."—*Spirit of the Times*, New York.

MISSION WORK IN JAPAN.

At one of the Sessions of the International Missionary Union at Clifton Springs, N.Y., June 12-19 inclusive, the following resolution was passed :—

Since it has pleased God in the order of His providence to bring the Empire of Japan into such a position of prominence as she occupies to-day, this International Missionary Union deems it advisable to urge upon all the Evangelical Churches the necessity of taking advantage of the present crisis in the history of Missionary effort in eastern Asia, and would beg especially to emphasize the following points :—

1.—That no pains be spared in the development of an efficient native ministry.

2.—That the present staff of foreign Missionaries be not only continued, but increased when necessary.

3.—That those who are sent out to Japan as missionaries should be persons of superior equipment, and that they should go with a determination to acquire the language and give their lives to the work.

4.—That increased attention be given to Christian educational work.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Owing to a luggage train being derailed near Hiratsuka station early on Monday morning the passenger traffic on the Tokaido line was much delayed. Some Yokohama residents who are sojourning at Kamakura took the usual morning train expecting to arrive here at 9 o'clock. At Ofuna they heard of the breakdown, and some at once decided to take *jinrikishas*. Those who decided to stop until connection was restored had three hours to wait, it being twelve o'clock ere they arrived in Yokohama. The *jinrickshas* were in long before.

CHENGTU.

It is reported from Chêngtu, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that the ex-Viceroy Liu Ping-chang, who is charged with originating the riots there, has been appointed by the Throne "Joint Imperial Commissioner to investigate the Missionary Riots." This does not seem possible, but the news comes on good authority.

THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that the resignation of Count Matsukata, Minister of Finance, was accepted by the Emperor yesterday, and Viscount Watanabe, Minister of Communications, received the additional appointment of Minister of Finance.

CAUGHT RED-HANDED.

A Japanese coolie was arrested by the police on Sunday, while in the act of selling 17 large brass nuts at Matsukagecho, Yokohama, for *yen* 6.75. The articles are supposed to have been stolen from some vessel in harbour or from the Custom House.

CRICKET AT KOBE.

The Willard Opera Company, assisted by three members of the K.C.C., only managed to knock up 40 runs on Saturday, while Kobe made 182 for six wickets.

THE FORMOSAN SLANDERS.

The *Japan Gazette* is compelled to plunge into a morass of falsehood in the hope of eluding the responsibility of its original slanders against the Japanese troops in Korea. "The *Mail*," writes the *Gazette*, "says we charged the Japanese with being more bloodthirsty and inhuman than the Kurds. We said nothing of the kind. Indeed we expressly omitted all reference to the Kurds." The *Gazette* actually makes such an allegation, though the second sentence of its article of the 3rd instant runs thus :—"The shrieks of the massacred Armenians have roused European indignation, yet Japan in Formosa is repeating the Port Arthur atrocities with cold-blooded resolution and not a voice is lifted in condemnation." It was the Kurds that massacred the Armenians. Nevertheless the *Japan Gazette* pretends that "it expressly omitted all reference to the Kurds!!!" Then our incomparable contemporary shows that even this marvellously audacious falsehood has not exhausted its courage. "Nor did we say," it adds, "that the Japanese were worse than the Huns." It did not say that the Japanese were worse than the Huns!! What did it say then? "This sickening massacre of the innocents is not war. Before this hideous sacrifice of life the atrocities of a Herod seem inoffensive. We can recollect nothing like it in history unless we go back to the days of the Huns and even they sometimes spared the women." Yet the *Gazette* did not say that the Japanese were worse than the Huns!! It merely said that history furnished no example of soldiers so savage and cruel as the Japanese except the Huns, and even the Huns sometimes spared women, whereas the Japanese "ruthlessly butcher men, women, and children." Yet it did not say that the Japanese were worse than the Huns!!! We have never had to deal with such dementia as that of the *Japan Gazette*. There is nothing like it in journalistic history, even though we go back to the days of the Huns.

FORMOSA NEWS.

The following telegram from Rear-Admiral Tsunoda, Staff Officer, dated Taipehfu 22nd instant, has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo :—

"On the 22nd instant, the *Yoshino Kan* returned to Tamsui. She had left Kelung early on the morning of the 13th instant, and, cruising off Chang-kong, gave assistance to the troops on shore. On the following day, she lowered boats and landed a party at Ta-an. On landing, the party met with resistance, but defeating the enemy, they burnt the barracks. There were about 1,000 insurgents at Ta-an and Tatiao, but they all fled in the direction of Chang-hua, by way of Geomatao. On the 16th, the Kawamura detachment occupied Tong-sian without meeting any resistance. The state of affairs remains unchanged in the vicinity of Miaoli. On the afternoon of the 17th, a scouting party came to Ta-an and effected a junction with the fleet. The Imperial Guards Division will occupy Tatiao on the 23rd instant and then advance towards Taiwan-fu."

The following telegram from Governor-General Count Kabayama, dated Taipehfu 23rd instant, has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo :—

"The Imperial Guards Division occupied Miaoli without opposition on the 14th instant, whence the van advanced as far as Tong-sian, and the left wing as far as the vicinity of Oulan, so as to cover the roads from Taiwan and Chang-hua. On the 22nd a party of the advance guard moved from Tai-kia to Geomatao, and the left wing reached the former place on the same day. The head-quarters of the Division have also been moved to Tai-kia to-day. The bulk of the troops are pushing southward slowly and gradually, the programme being that the rear reserves shall reach Tai-kia on the 25th or 26th instant."

CURRENT TOPICS.

Rumours of Cabinet changes are again circulated in Tokyo. Attention now centres upon the movements of Count Matsukata, Minister of Finance, who left the Capital for Osaka on Sunday evening. It seems true that, on the eve of his departure, he tendered his resignation, but the circumstances that led him to take that course are not definitely known. Some persons, however, take it for granted that he was influenced by the Cabinet's decision not to convene an extraordinary session of the Diet. It is understood that the calling of such a session at the earliest possible opportunity was one of the conditions upon which he had consented to withdraw his resignation two months ago. At that time the Ministry was in favour of such a course, and every possible effort was made to expedite the completion of the Military and Naval Bills. The latter have already been finished and forwarded to the Cabinet, but the former are still in the hands of the authorities of the War Office, and rumour says that it has been found impossible to complete them in time for an extraordinary session. The Minister of Finance then conceived the idea of drawing up financial bills independently of those relating to the increase of the Army, and of submitting them to an extraordinary session, so that the new rate of tax on *saké* might be put into force from the 1st of October, the date on which the *saké* tax begins to be collected in the ordinary routine. But that course is said to have failed to receive the endorsement of his colleagues, who are in favour of presenting the financial bills in the form of Estimates, conjointly with the military and Naval measures, in the next ordinary session of the Diet. That, according to some persons, is stated to have been the cause of Count Matsukata's resignation. But it may be taken for granted that the Count's action is connected with circumstances not known to the general public and likely to essentially modify the aspect of the situation when they come to be known.

Besides the rumours about Count Matsukata, it is reported that Count Inouye, on his return from Korea, will be re-appointed Minister of Home Affairs; that Baron Ito, Secretary General of the Cabinet, will receive the portfolio of Agriculture and Commerce; that Baron Nishi, Japanese Minister to Russia will be Count Mutsu's successor at the Foreign Office; and that Viscount Nomura, the present Minister of Home Affairs, will be transferred to the Department of Communications. How far these predictions are well founded, we do not venture to say. It seems probable, however, that some changes in the Cabinet will take place before long.

Commenting on the *Jiji's* strong pleading that some orders for war-ships should be given to America builders, the *Nichi Nichi* observes that, according to Lord Brassey's Naval Annual for the current year, it seems a dangerous experiment to test the skill of the naval architects in the United States. Instead of incurring such a risk, the *Nichi Nichi* would advise the Government to order ships from constructors of proved competence in Europe, and, at the same time, to take steps for the development of Japanese shipbuilding business, so that in future all war-vessels may be constructed in home dockyards.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* stands at the head of the commercial papers in Japan. It possesses exceptionally good sources of information, not only commercial but political, and it often beats the political papers in their own special department. Its circulation having greatly increased of late, our contemporary has just extended its space, so that the new series contains at least eight pages instead of six as heretofore. The office has also been removed to spacious brick buildings in Kitajima-cho, Nihonbashi District, where new printing machines just received from France have been set up. The rapidly increasing prosperity of this well edited journal may be regarded as a sign of intellectual progress in business circles.

Count Matsukata, who left Tokyo on the evening of the 25th instant, instead of going straight to Kyoto, passed the night of the 26th at Tsu, in Ise, and after staying a day at Kyoto proceeded on the 28th to his villa at Mikage, where he will remain for the present. Concerning his position in the business world, it is stated that the influence he possesses is immense, especially in Osaka and its vicinity. Of all the business men, the *saké* brewers in the neighbourhood of his villa are said to regard him with the greatest respect and trust, which will not be diminished now that it is known that one of the principal reasons why he urged the convocation of an extraordinary session of the Diet was to protect them against an unexpected increase of their burdens. Concerning his resignation, it is also rumoured that the incident has given no small satisfaction to Count Okuma. The Progressionist leader is reported to be a great admirer of the ex-Minister of Finance. But we cannot vouch for the truth of this rumour.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* was the medium through which Count Matsukata's resignation and the circumstances that had immediate connection with it were first announced to the public. But the paper which has taken up the ex-Finance Minister's cause with the greatest zeal is the *Kokkai*, whose proprietor and editor are believed to be intimate with him. Our contemporary published a lengthy statement, the object of which is to contradict the *Nichi Nichi's* account of the incident and its causes, already reproduced in these columns. There are two points in the *Kokkai's* statement which are worth noticing. The one is that Viscount Kawakami, Vice-President of the General Staff Office, heedless of his promise to Count Matsukata to complete the military measures by the end of June, delayed their conclusion week after week on various pretexts. Taking this statement on trust, some other paper has been rash enough to charge the Premier with having caused Viscount Kawakami to postpone the completion of the military measures for the sole purpose of preventing the convocation of an extraordinary Diet. Such an imputation is entirely unfounded, and does not deserve the attention of any sober-minded person. Another point to which the *Kokkai* draws attentions with particular emphasis is, that at the Cabinet meeting of the 15th instant Count Matsukata had obtained the agreement of not only the Premier but the rest of his colleagues to draw up fiscal measures on the basis of the approximate estimates of the expenditure required for the increase of the Army. Had such agreement been really secured by the ex-Minister of Finance, there ought to have arisen no difficulty at all about the question, neither would it have been necessary for him to resign his office. It is a question of fact, but the statement is so improbable on the face of it that it is impossible to accept it, especially on the second hand authority of the *Kokkai*.

Count Matsukata's resignation, as already stated, is regarded by the press as the last blow to the hope of an extraordinary session of the Diet. The news has been a disappointment to the Opposition politicians, who, according to a certain paper, had agreed to devote themselves in the extraordinary session to the passage of the Military and Naval measures and other bills of economical and industrial importance, and backed by the popularity thus obtained, to attack the Cabinet in the ordinary winter session on the question of the Liaotung peninsula.

The *Doshi-kai* was to issue its manifesto on the 27th, but owing to same unexplained circumstance its publication has been delayed. But its general purport is announced by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*. The *Doshi-kai* advocates a strong foreign policy, and will not show any indulgence to the Ministers of State whenever their conduct is open to censure. In short, it aims at being the centre of the political camp opposed to the Cabinet on the question of the Liaotung peninsula. The *Doshi-kai* politicians also regret the division of the political world into so many separate parties, and announce it to be their object to promote the amalgamation of these various political bodies into one great party.

The Korean students in Tokyo, who number nearly two hundred, recently organized an association with head-quarters at the Legation of their country, with a view to the maintenance of harmony and union among themselves and to the publication of a periodical to be sent home and distributed among their countrymen. The first number of the journal will come out on the 10th of September. The contents will be in the popular style, with Korean letters interspersed between Chinese ideographs exactly in the fashion of the style in commou use in this country. The articles will be written by the Korean students and will cover all varieties of subjects coming under observation. It is expected that the periodical will prove a very useful means of infusing the spirit of progress and reform into Korean minds. The printing will be undertaken at the Shu-ei-sha, one of the two establishments where Korean type is used, the other being the Tsukiji Type Foundry. Mr. Fukagawa has contributed 300 *yen* to the fund for the publication of the magazine, while the Korean Minister is expected to assist the undertaking by a monthly subscription of 20 *yen*.

COUNT MATSUKATA.

Count Matsukata's resignation has been granted by the Emperor, and the portfolio of Finance laid down by him has been given to Viscount Watanabe in addition to his office of Minister of Communications. Rumour has it that Count Inouye, who will return home before long, will be appointed Minister of Home Affairs, Viscount Nomura, the present occupant of that post, being transferred to Communications, which in turn will be vacated by Viscount Watanabe, whose combination of two portfolios is regarded as a temporary measure. Some people, however, seem to believe that Count Inouye will not be inclined to accept a Ministerial position, his wish being to resign office altogether and take his seat in the House of Peers. He has a large number of friends and followers in that House, and he can easily become leader of a the majority. But it is impossible to predict what course he will pursue on his return from Korea, for, a man of intensely chivalric sentiments, he may find it impossible to reject the request of his friends and lifelong colleagues to share power with them. Digression aside, we will notice the comments of the vernacular press upon Count Matsukata's retirement.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* regrets that Count Matsukata in resigning office has acted in a precipitate and irresponsible manner. Had he any confidence in the wisdom or justice of the course proposed by him, he ought to have exhausted every means to bring his colleagues to his own way of thinking. At all events, he ought to have waited until a final and definite decision should have been arrived at by the Cabinet upon his proposals, before making up his mind to resign an office which he had accepted only a few months ago in grateful deference to the special trust which His Majesty had condescended to repose in his loyalty to the Throne and his financial ability. To tender his resignation and leave the capital at once before the question brought forward by him had been definitely settled, is conduct that shows want of respect to the Sovereign and lack of regard for himself as a responsible statesman.

The *Choya Shimbun* writes in a similar strain. It considers that Count Matsukata has been rash and inconsiderate, but our contemporary goes on to remark that he is not the only statesman who has behaved in a similarly blameworthy manner under similar circumstances. "There is," says the *Choya*, "a tendency among the Ministers of State to act in this irresponsible fashion, and we think this a fitting opportunity to draw their attention to the fact, so that they may avoid such grievous errors in future."

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, far from thinking that Count Matsukata has acted precipitately,

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regrets that he did not resign sooner. In our contemporary's opinion, the proper time for convening an extraordinary session of the Diet was immediately after the conclusion of peace at Shimonoseki, the Cabinet being, in the Tokyo journal's opinion, morally bound to take the people so far into its confidence as to inform them of the course of diplomatic affairs since the opening of the war. Such a step, says the *Kokumin*, would have been the natural sequence to the course adopted by the Cabinet at the commencement of war, when the Premier reported to the Diet at the memorable session at Hiroshima what had passed between the governments of the two countries previous to the declaration of hostilities. Instead of wondering at the uncommon zeal shown by Count Matsukata for the convocation of an extraordinary Diet, our contemporary regards it as singular that the Premier should have been so incomprehensibly indifferent in regard to it. The *Kokumin* does not hesitate to say that the objections raised against the course recommended by the ex-Minister of Finance are mere subterfuges having no value at all. "We strongly regret," says our contemporary, "that Count Matsukata did not leave the Government sooner. But when it is remembered that he has endured an unpleasant position so long purely out regard to his Majesty's commands and for the sake of carrying out important fiscal measures, we may apply to him the old saying that 'virtues may be revealed by errors.' However, we are concerned less with his resignation than with the fact that with his retirement has vanished all hope of an extraordinary session."

The *Mainichi Shimbun* undertakes to discuss the effect which Count Matsukata's resignation will have upon the situation of the National Unionists, with whom he is generally regarded as in close relationship. Our contemporary's opinion is that his retirement will not materially affect the position of that body of politicians. The party owed its origin to the powerful support of some high officials while he was at the head of the Cabinet. But his connection with it was more nominal and real. Ostensibly Marquis Saigo was its leader, but it was practically under the control of Viscount Shinagawa and Mr. Shirane, Minister and Vice-Minister of Home Affairs respectively. A part of the party is now under the influence of Marquis Yamagata, while the rest still follow the lead of Viscount Shinagawa and Mr. Shirane. Viscount Shinagawa has shown some sympathy with the Cabinet and is opposed to the Extremists. As to Marquis Yamagata, he sometimes differs from the Premier in political opinion, but the two statesmen are bound together by indissoluble ties. So the National Unionists will continue to support the Ministry, notwithstanding the resignation of Count Matsukata. It was this circumstance that enabled the Premier to part so easily with a Minister whom he had but a few months ago pursuaded with honeyed words to accept office. Such is the exposition of the situation offered by the Progressionist organ. It cannot be expected to be just when speaking of Marquis Ito, but its remarks upon the position of the National Unionists may be of some service for the proper understanding of the situation.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MERCANTILE MARINE.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce recently addressed to the Ministers of State for Finance, Agriculture and Commerce, and Communications a Memorial on the development of the Japanese mercantile marine. The document being extremely lengthy, we cannot do more than give a résumé of the principal points discussed. The subject is considered under three headings, the Education of Seamen, Shipbuilding, and Marine Transport Business.

The question of the education of seamen is subdivided into the education of officers and the training of common sailors. Concerning the education of officers, the memorialists, in the first place, recommend enlargement of the Commercial Navigation School (Shosen Gakko) of Tokyo. At present, the number of students at that institution is 160, equally divided between the courses of Navigation and Engineering. The graduates number 30 in both courses combined. The memorialists recommend that the students be increased to twice their present number. They also urge an increase of two more sailing vessels as training ships, there being at present only one training ship for the school. The training vessels should be placed under the management of a competent merchant or a firm having extensive business connections with foreign ports, so that the expenses of voyages made by these ships may, in part at least, be recovered by the freight they earn. Thirdly, it is recommended that the Government take steps to direct national attention to marine business and to marine education. Fourthly and lastly, steps should be taken to impart adequate instruction to ordinary sailors of experience so as to fit them for becoming officers. As to the training of ordinary sailors, the memorialists advise that the State should give a special subsidy to the Japan Seamen's Relief Society (*Nippon Kai-in Ekisai Kai*), to enable that association to extend the scope of the work now carried on by it, and that, conditional upon the grant of money, the society should be required to give scientific instruction to such ordinary seamen as may be judged capable of becoming officers.

With regard to shipbuilding business, the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce recommends State subsidies to shipbuilders. So far as the skill and experience of architects and artizans are concerned, a great improvement is said to have been made by the Japanese, so that it is now possible to build first class ships in this country. But owing to the fact that two-thirds of the material necessary for shipbuilding must at present be imported from abroad, the Japanese cannot compete with foreign builders in point of expense. It is, consequently, urged as necessary that, until the circumstances disappear that contribute to make shipbuilding expensive in this country, subsidies should be granted to builders to enable them to develop their business. As to these subsidies, it is suggested that they be granted only for iron or steel steamships of 1,000 tons and upwards. Sailing vessels and wooden steamers are rapidly falling out of fashion, and their construction need not be encouraged. The smaller types of steamers are likewise excluded from the benefits of State aid, because, in their case, the comparative costliness of navigating them to this country from the place of their construction in the West is sufficient to prevent their being ordered from abroad. The rates of subsidy recommended are 20 *yen* per ton displacement, and 6 *yen* per horse power. These rates are based upon the experience of practical men engaged in the shipbuilding business, and are determined on a basis such as shall render it possible to have all steamships above 1,000 tons built in Japan more cheaply than they could be procured by ordering them from foreign countries. Some persons suggest that materials imported from abroad be exempted from duties, but the memorialists think it unwise to take such a course, since there is no possibility of clearly distinguishing material used for shipbuilding from that intended for other purposes. The period for which subsidies are granted should be fixed for ten years, at the expiration of which time the rates should be changed in accordance with circumstances. In the course of that time it is believed that much of the material now obtained from abroad will be procurable in Japan. If, before the expiration of the ten years, import duties on building material be increased, the rates of subsidies should be proportionately raised. The memorialists further recommend that subsidized shipbuilding yards should be favoured with orders for the construction of war-ships. It may be too much for the present to expect that private shipbuilders should construct steel battleships, but cruisers and coast-defence vessels may be ordered from them. Such a step is considered useful as a means not only of encouraging private ship-builders, but also of securing the independence of the country in matters of warlike preparations. Lastly, it is recommended that building regulations should be enacted, and that no ship should be deemed qualified either for a subsidy or for registration as a Japanese vessel, unless these regulations have been rigidly complied with in its construction.

Concerning the marine transport business, the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce recommends the granting of subsidies to ships plying between Japan and foreign parts situated from 110° to 150° of East longitude and north of the Equator, and also on account of special routes to foreign countries. As to subsidies of the former class, they are to be given only to steamers of and above 1,000 tons, and are to be in proportion to tonnage, speed, and length of voyage. Their classification should be as follows:—

	Sen.
1.—For steamers of and above 3,500 tons (gross), with a speed of 15 knots or upwards; per ton per 1,000 miles	65
2.—For steamers of and above 2,000 tons (gross), with a speed of between 12 and 15 knots; per ton per 1,000 miles	35
3.—For steamers of and above 1,000 tons (gross) with a speed of 10 to 12 miles; per ton per 1,000 miles	25

The rates mentioned in this table are to be given in full to steamers for five years from the date of their construction. After five years, the subsidies should be decreased each year by 5 per cent., and should altogether cease on the completion of the twentieth year after the ship's construction. As to ships built abroad, they should not be entitled to subsidies until after three years from the date of their registration in Japan. Ships employed on specially subsidized routes (referred to presently) should be excluded from the benefit of the subsides under consideration. In return for subsides, shipowners are to be under the obligation of placing their vessels at the disposal of the Government in times of emergency, the rate of remuneration to be fixed beforehand. The memorialists recommend that the system of subsidies thus far described should continue in operation for ten years, at the end of which period it should be renewed with such modifications as may have been suggested by experience. Besides the method of encouragement considered above, the authorities are urged to give special subsidies to large steamships constructed under the superintendence of the Admiralty with a view to fitting them out as cruisers in time of war. It is also recommended that fees charged on ships clearing for foreign waters should be either entirely abolished or largely diminished.

With reference to the subsidizing of special routes, the memorialists dilate on the importance of extending the steam service of this country to America, Europe, Australia, and other foreign parts. Seven such lines are mentioned. First, the Tientsin line, to connect Japan with the ports of Korea and North China. This should be immediately opened as a mail line with one vessel every week. Secondly, the Shanghai line. This, too, should be a mail line with weekly service. Thirdly, the Wladivostock line. This is to touch Korean ports *en route*, and to be a mail line with weekly service. Fourthly, the China Sea line, touching at ports in South China, and extending as far as Tonkin, Saigon, and Siam. This, too, is a mail line with fortnightly service. Fifthly, the European line connecting Japan and London or Liverpool. This should be opened gradually; the first step being to convert the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's present Bombay service into a mail line and to arrange that the company shall establish a periodical freight service to Europe by way of trial. Sixthly, the American line. This should be run as a mail service at least once per month, by large steamers capable of being converted into cruisers in time of war. Seventhly and lastly, the Australian line. This is to have either Melbourne or Adelaide as its objective point, and its immediate opening as a monthly mail line is recommended.

The Memorial is accompanied by a financial statement showing the amount of money required for carrying out the measures recommended in most cases. But the memorialists do not think it either possible or necessary to give an estimate

of the sum needed to subsidize the seven routes to foreign ports. They leave the matter to the authorities, observing merely that the allowance must necessarily vary according to the articles of contract. With the exception of this heading, the total estimated annual outlays required are as follow :—

	Yen.
Education of Seamen	70,000
Encouragement of Shipbuilding	260,000
Encouragement of Navigation	639,025
Total	969,025

A further sum of 200,000 *yen* will be required at the outset for the purchase of two training ships.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The following table shows the amount of specie that flowed out of the country since the commencement of the war, that is to say, during twelve months ending June last :—

	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.	Excess of Imports. Yen.	Excess of Exports. Yen.
July, 1894	7,292,756.35	3,383,037.52	—	3,908,718.83
August, 1894	1,582,307.13	832,655.08	—	749,652.50
September, 1894	594,911.43	1,629,979.93	1,098,068.50	—
October, 1894	1,368,925.82	2,393,080.44	1,024,154.62	—
Nov., 1894	5,487,282.70	1,755,707.97	—	3,731,574.73
December, 1894	2,833,144.34	709,660.97	—	2,123,483 37
January, 1895	2,335,908.35	449,771.09	—	1,885,937.26
February, 1895	4,038,056.35	1,136,636 26	—	2,901,420.06
March, 1895	3,959,175.88	289,381.13	—	3,669,794.75
April, 1895	3,471,822.69	84,018.29	—	3,380,904.40
May, 1895	1,709,547.87	208,102.76	—	1,501,445.11
June, 1885	2,051,259.88	105,737.46	—	1,945,423.42
Total Excess of Exports				23,682,230.86

The long expected steamship competition seems to have already commenced. According to the *Chugai Shoygo Shimpo*, a certain shipowner recently agreed to carry coal from Otaru to Yokohama at the rate of 1 *yen* 20 *sen* per ton; while another owner is stated to have shipped goods from Hokkaido at half the usual rate of freight. Other circumstances, says our contemporary, indicate that a ruinous competition is just beginning.

As already noticed in these columns, the dockyards in Japan have been found entirely insufficient for performing the repairs of the ships now being released from service as Government transports. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha has decided to have its vessels repaired in Shanghai.

Keen competition is going on among the warehouse companies of Tokyo. These companies have their head-quarters mostly at Fukagawa, and rice is the principal commodity entering their warehouses. Some time ago, nearly 500,000 *koku* of the cereal were collected at Fukagawa, and the companies drove a roaring trade, but the quantity has now diminished to a little over 200,000 *koku*; and, as a result, sharp competition is taking place. The rates of interest per diem per 100 *yen*, on articles deposited in the warehouses are as follow :—The Tokyo Soko Kaisha, 2 *sen* 5 *rin* to 2 *sen* 7 *rin*; the Mitsui Soko Kaisha, 2 *sen* 4 *rin* to 2 *sen* 6 *rin*; and the Tokyo Beisoko Kaisha, 2 *sen* 6 *rin* to 2 *sen* 8 *rin*. The tendency is to reduce the rates still lower.

The extension of the city line of the Kobu Railway from Misaki-cho to the Megane Bridge has been approved by the Tokyo City Improvement Committee, on condition that the line be elevated so that it may ultimately be connected with the elevated railway to be laid through the heart of the city, connecting Shimbashi and Uyeno.

News comes from Okayama that Mr. Kagawa Shinichi and a few other prominent men of the place have under contemplation a project for organizing a silk-spinning factory with a capital of 500,000 *yen*.

The Japanese army in Formosa has advanced to the central part of the island, and things being quiet through the whole of the northern districts, it has been decided by the Government to permit voyages by private ships and travel by private individuals to the island, under the provisions of the Regulations promulgated in the *Official Gazette* of the 17th of January last. This step will in a measure quiet the complaints recently formulated by the press against the veto imposed upon visiting the island.

There are men who fear that, the harvest prospect being unsatisfactory, a disastrous depression of trade may result. But the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* is disposed to take a more cheerful view of the situation. Our contemporary even mentions that a decided improvement has taken place in the tone of business, for, contrary to expectation, large orders have come from the provincial localities for commodities of luxury which the farmers are in the habit of purchasing at the *bon* summer holiday. Unless unforeseen circumstances turn the current the other way, our contemporary seems to be convinced that the revival of trade will go on steadily and without interruption.

It was understood that a large amount of money had been advanced to the Government by the Bank of Japan during the war. From the statement of account laid before the recent general meeting of shareholders, the following figures have been extracted by the *Chugai Shogyo* :—

Balance against the Government as carried over from the latter half of last year	*yen*	37,500,000
Advanced to the Government during the first half of the present year		5,000,000
Total		42,500,000

Of the above sum, *yen* 8,000,000 were repaid during the period in question, that so the actual actual amount due to the bank at present is *yen* 34,500,000, which, it is understood, will be cleared off when the first instalment of indemnity is received from China.

The deposits in the Bank of Japan have of late greatly diminished. They are at present as follow :—

DEPOSITS FOR FIXED PERIODS.

Head Office	*yen*	14,000
Osaka Branch		3,000
Total	*yen*	17,000

CURRENT DEPOSITS.

Head Office	*yen*	1,287,921.961
Osaka Branch		4,410.577
Sapporo Branch		4,606.553
Hakodate Branch		348.978
Nemuro Branch		31.470
	yen	1,297,313.539

This increase is to be ascribed to the fact that the Bank of Japan has ceased to pay interest on current deposits.

The actual advances and notes discounted by the Bank of Japan amount altogether to *yen* 40,049,932.855 :—

ADVANCES FOR FIXED PERIODS.

Brought over from the latter half of last year	*yen*	10,599,788.000
Advanced during the first half of the present year		41,308,619.500
Total	*yen*	51,908,407.500
Amount paid back		30,248,078.500
Amount remaining		21,660,329.000

CURRENT ADVANCES.

Brought over from preceding period	*yen*	5,964,824.272
Advanced during the current period		66,890,222.531
Total	*yen*	72,855,046.803
Amount paid back		69,324,595.668
Amount remaining		3,530,451.135

NOTES DISCOUNTED.

Brought over from preceding period	*yen*	14,987,302.284
Discounted during the current period		43,445,249.906
Total	*yen*	58,432,552.190
Amount redeemed		43,573,399.470
Amount remaining		14,859,152.720

Count Matsukata's resignation is said to have been felt at the Stock Exchange, shares having gone down considerably as soon as the news reached there. The War Loan went down 30 *sen*, the Ryomo Railway 1 *yen* 30 *sen*, the Tanko Railway 80 *sen*, the Boso Railway 40 *sen*, and so on. It is a fact that the ex-Minister of Finance enjoys the confidence of a large section of business men, but it is a question whether he monopolizes their confidence to the extent of causing a feeling of uncertainty at the Exchange on the receipt of news of his resignation. The incident may possibly have been utilized by speculators, but it seems to be an exaggeration of facts to ascribe the recent fall in shares to the Count's retirement.

The extraordinary increase of insurance companies during the past few years, and the nature of many of the latest additions, are beginning to attract the attention of men who have the development of sound business at heart. Five or six years ago, insurance companies could be counted on the fingers of a single hand, but there are now more than fifty. This enormous increase has been almost exclusively in the department of life insurance, marine and fire insurance companies being still very few. Many of the smaller and later companies are said to be so intent upon enhancing the market value of their shares as to declare all the profits as dividend without setting aside anything in the form of reserves. Moreover, so keen is the competition going on between these companies, that people fear that it will lead to disastrous consequences. The *Chugai Shogyo*, from which these facts are quoted, urges the authorities to exercise a judicious control over these companies.

The national banks, whose charters are to expire in the course of a year or so, are reported to be taking steps to present a petition to the Diet next session for the renewal of their charters. The Government, it is said, will not grant the renewal, even if both Houses of the Diet may recommend such a course; and it is doubtful whether their petitions will be approved by the Diet.

The scheme for the construction of a harbour in Tokyo is engaging the attention of the City Improvement Committee. The matter has also been taken up by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce which recently appointed a committee to investigate the subject. The first meeting of the committee took place on the 26th inst., there being present Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Watanabe Hiromoto, Sakuma Teiichi, Umemura Seiichi, Yamanaka Rinnosuke, Kato Masanosuke, Gimbayashi Tsunao, and Nonaka Mansuke. The meeting was also attended by an expert, Mr. Furuichi, and Mr. Nambu, a secretary of the Home Department. Mr. Watanabe was appointed chairman of the committee. Mr. Furuichi, at the request of the committee, explained at length the various engineering schemes thus far proposed since the matter was mooted in 1881. He also alluded to the investigations that are being conducted by the City Improvement Committee, of which he is a member. At the conclusion of Mr. Furuichi's remarks, the Chamber's committee decided to confine its researches to the commercial and economical aspects of the subject, leaving the engineering side to the City Improvement Committee.

The Railway Council resumed its sittings on the 26th instant, after a long vacation. The number of companies applying for charters is said to exceed seventy. The Council is reported to be in favour of granting charters as far as possible.

THE CROWN PRINCE.

On Tuesday's *Official Gazette* has the following report concerning the condition of the Crown Prince :—On the 24th : temperature, between 37.15° C. and 38.0° C.; pulse, between 76 and 92; respiration, between 29 and 36; on the 25th : temperature, between 36.8° C. and 38.0° C.; pulse, between 64 and 96, respiration; between 32 and 40. The condition of the right lung is much improved, the inflammation having gone down. The Prince's spirits and appetite are fair, while he also sleeps well.

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KOREAN NEWS.

The *Hochi Shimbun's* correspondent, writing under date of the 18th instant, explains the reasons why the actual income of the Korean Government falls this year far short of the estimates. The amount of taxes collected thus far is stated to be only 230,000 *yen*. The estimated income for the current year is about 1,500,000 *yen*, and it is not to be expected that the remainlng amount will be realized during the rest of the period. One of the principal causes is embezzlement by local officials. The latter are now strictly prohibited from modifying the rate of taxation arbitrarily; neither are they allowed to extort loans from wealthy people. But such is the force of their habit of making illegitimate gains, that they now steal from the State what they have hitherto forced out of the people. So instead of sending up the net residue of taxes, they pocket a large proportion of the amount as expenses of collection. The tendency to resort to such malpractice is certainly not checked by the state of uncertainty prevailing in the central Government at Sŏul. It is, however, a noteworthy circumstance that, if the Korean local officials are not yet free from corrupt practices, they are no longer able to rob the people directly by imposing duties at their will. This is an important achievement, of which the reformers in Sŏul may justly be proud. As to the embezzlement of public money by local officials, it will be stopped to a great extent, if not altogether, when the recently promulgated system of local government is in working order.

As announced in a recent telegram, Mr. Kim Koshu, President of the Privy Council, has been appointed Minister President of State, his successor at the Privy Council being Mr. Gyo Inchu. These two statesmen are believed in Korea to be first rate men. They are on very friendly terms with each other. They are not liked by the Queen; and the King, evidently at her instigation, is stated to have at first showed some hesitation in approving of their appointments, especially that of Mr. Kim. But Count Inouye's influence is believed to have smoothed over all objections.

Cholera seems to be still prevalent in Sŏul, the total number of new cases during the five days from 9th to 13th instant being 489.

According to the report of a clerk of the Japanese Consulate at Sŏul, who has travelled in the north of the peninsula, most of the villages along the road between Phyŏng-yang and Wi-ju are said to be still deserted by the inhabitants. They had fled into the mountains when the Chinese troops passed through on their way to Phyong-yang shortly before the battle at that place, and many of the villages were burnt by the Chinese. After the district fell into Japanese hands, the officers in command of the commissariat stations, working in concert with Korean local officials, did much to induce the inhabitants to return to their homes. But notwithstanding their united exertions, two-thirds of the villagers are still absent.

CHINA NEWS.

From a letter dated Ichang, 13th inst., the Shanghai papers learn that Mr. T. J. Olsen, the Local Postmaster at that port, died there after a few hours' illness.

The Chinese vernacular papers report that Tê Hsing, Governor of Kiangsi, with the district magistrates of Nanch'ang, Hsinchien, and Fêngch'eng, and civil adjutant of that Governor, have been denounced by a certain Censor on certain charges relating to the collection of the recent war loan, and that H.E. Chang Chih-tung has been deputed by the Throne to investigate the matter.

From Newchwang it is reported, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that owing to the serious famine now raging in Manchuria the Chinese authorities are distributing charity in all the districts east of North Kinchow, and even the territory still occupied by Japanese troops, no opposition being offered by the latter to the good work. The assistance given is 1,440 cash to each adult sufferer and half that amount to children under twelve years of age.

It is rumoured, remarks the same paper, in native official circles that the Kansu Mohammedan rebellion has received a check in its eastward tendency, but that in four western departments, viz., Hsŭnhua (where the rebellion originated), Hochou, Yenpêh and Titao, the rebellion is in full swing and anarchy and terrorism are rampant there. There is also a vague rumour of some rising in the eastern portion of Chinese Turkestan, near the so-called Desert of Gobi—Gobi being also the Mongol term for a desert. But according to a recent telegraphic memorial from the Governor of Turkestan, which apparently refers to it, this was merely a local disturbance against a dishonest mandarin which extended not to Mohammedans alone but to all sections of the population of the city.

"Cosmos," writing to the morning journal of Shanghai, under the caption "One side of the Missionary Question," observes, "The Kucheng Massacre brings the missionary question again very much to the front, and although no diversity of opinion exists as to the quick vengeance that should be taken on the cowardly butchers, whether the actual perpetrators of the deed or their employers, one cannot help enquiring, why were those poor women and children left to the tender mercies of savages? Because no one can dispute the fact that although the average Chinaman is the mildest and most easily governed of men, the tiger is latent there as in all other races of mankind; and it is patent to everyone that a mob (hired assassins probably in this particular case), even in the most civilised countries, under the potent influence of racial or class hatred, and that tacit sanction of, and impulsion to, all enormities committed, that each individual in the riotous concourse receives from every other, stops at nothing as long as its onward rush is unchecked, or its vengeance or lust of blood unsated. The query, "Why were those poor women and children left to the tender mercies of savages?" may be considered at the same time as the broader one of, what is the intent and general purpose of missionary enterprise in China? For the end I have in view I am willing to accept the altruistic intent—that of bettering the temporal condition of the people and the rescue of as many as possible from eternal perdition. But another question now presents itself. Why go so far a field when so great a need of altruistic energy, wide-reaching philanthropy, beneficent succour, and soul-saving solicitude, exists at home in the great cities of Britain and America? Why expend millions sterling and jeopardise the lives and honour of our women in a country whose people does not object to trade with us, but do wish to be allowed the privilege of retaining their own religious practices; do wish their domestic life, as far as may be, to remain a sealed book to the prying eyes of the Western; a people whose social habits and customs are apparently unsusceptible of change, *i.e.*, if any judgment can be formed after an experience of upwards of half-a-century. Why then, may I ask, waste so much good feeling, so much good money, in such a fruitless task, besides incurring the certainty of a periodical horror like that of Tientsin or Kucheng—the outcome of a race hatred produced by various causes, but intensified to a white-heat by our unflagging insistence in interfering with their social institutions? Such a course persisted in must eventually lead to a bloody war of extermination or annexation of much undesirable territory. The same means and energy wasted here, employed at home, if not always securing personal gratitude as a reward, would secure to the altruist that, to him, greatest of all rewards—the consciousness of well-doing in a good cause; and would also often afford him the satisfaction of witnessing the substantial good effected amongst those of his own kith and kin, who are now, in great measure, crying out unheeded for the commonest necessaries of life, while those our unsought beneficence is forced on, want it not, and even sting the hands that give. The attempt to influence public feeling at home with regard to missionary enterprise in the Far East may be futile, but missionary societies may be induced to confine their female workers strictly to Consular districts, and even the married missionary to carry his self-abnegation a little further and forego those domestic comforts to which he has accustomed himself, when he goes further afield, in order to ensure the safety of those dear to him. The *raison d'être* for the lady missionary exists in proportion as much within as without the radius referred to, and she would, while finding ample scope for the exercise of her benevolence, infinitely lessen the chance of such blood-curdling occurrences as this now agitating the minds and harrowing the feelings of all Christian peoples, and the object for which she sacrificed herself as a voluntary exile, if attainable, be just as surely compassed."

The *China Gazette* learns that Col. Denby, U.S. Minister at Pekin, only withdrew his sanction of Mr. Tratman, the British Vice-Consul at Chungkiang, taking part in the Chengtu Commission on behalf of the United States as well as Great Britain, and of the Rev. Spencer Lewis representing American Missionary interests, on receipt of the telegrams sent from the meeting of American citizens held at Shanghai last month.

The question as to Colonel Denby, U.S. Minister to Pekin, consenting to the formation of the Chêngtu Commission is now cleared up. On the 20th inst., the *N.-C. Daily News* printed this statement:—The following telegram, delayed in transmission owing to the Yellow River inundation, was sent by Colonel Denby, the U.S. Minister, on the 17th inst. from Pekin, with the request that it should be communicated to us:—"I did not consent that British Consul should represent American interests at Chêngtu. I withdrew from the proposed Commission three weeks ago. Sir Nicholas O'Conor did not telegraph Mr. Jamieson that Mr. Tratman would represent American interests at Chêngtu. The announcement was a mistake." It will be seen on reference to the reply of Sir Nicholas O'Conor to the China Association, published in our columns on the 7th, that the announcement that Mr. Tratman would represent American interests does not form part of the British Minister's telegram. It was mentioned in a previous despatch to Mr. Jamieson, the gist of which the telegram gave Mr. Jamieson permission to make known, and at that time Mr. Jamieson had not been informed that Colonel Denby had withdrawn from the Commission.

Coolie faction fights are frequent in China, and the latest news from the province of Shashi is that the rival factions of Wuchang and Hanyang coolies, whose deadly feud against each other caused all the shops in that market town to close their doors for something like five weeks; have had their difficulties settled by the headman of the Szechuan traders at Shashi, backed by the moral influence of the remaining representative parties composing the various sections of the Shashi community, who threatened to combine forces to compel peace.

China evidently intends to keep some of her Treaty promises. It is reported at Hangchow that the high provincial authorities in that city intend to lay out a settlement for the Japanese for trading purpose in accordance with the recent Treaty between the two countries. The spot chosen for this purpose, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, is outside the principal Custom-house of Hangchow, beginning north of the Kungcheng bridge and having a lateral area east and west of three miles, or fifteen *li*. The people living within these limits will be allowed to sell land to the expected strangers, but the selling of any other land will be visited with punishment on the offender.

A Chunking correspondent writes to one of the Shanghai papers as follows:—

There is a Deputy Magistrate at Fut'ou-kuan, the fortified city commanding the narrow neck of land that joins Chungking to the mainland, whose duty now is to inspect every one entering the city, this precaution being one of the most useful taken by the authorities here since the riot at Chêngtu. The other day he observed a suspicious

character staying at one of the many inns of which, eked out by memorial arches and monuments in the seal character, the fortress town chiefly consists. It turned out to be the son of Ue Mentze, who got up the riots at Tatsou a few years ago, openly fought the soldiery sent to quell them, escaped to the mountains, and has never yet been captured. The son had a retinue of some twenty followers, and was evidently much too formidable a character for the Deputy Magistrate to tackle. However, he sent word to the Magistrate, who immediately sent a company of soldiers to assist the Deputy and his men. They surrounded the inn at night and whilst everyone slept got hold of Ue Mentze's son. The young man on being questioned said: "You have no need to torture me to find out why I am here. I will confess everything at once. It is very simple. Hearing that the foreigners at Chungking are going to be attacked and their property taken from them I am here to have a hand in it. And I am waiting four miles off for the news of the outbreak, when I am going to have a share in the plunder." He was, I hear, beaten for his impudence, and will probably be retained a prisoner in the hope that his long-sought-for father may come to seek him. But if the authorities here were not vigilant we should ere this be on our way down river, for there is a much bigger and worse set of rowdies here at any time than at Chêngtu. The question, however, that arises in my mind is: "Is Ue Mentze's son well informed?" Some people say the spirits of the junior members of the Customs Staff have already risen in consequence. They have been firing at bottles and hitting them to the wonder and admiration of their soldiery, and are burning to show what they can do before an infuriate foe.

The proposed great railway in China is still a topic of active discussion in Pekin. The local authorities are also bestirring themselves, and we gather that the Peiyang officials have appointed Mr. Chim Tien-yow, a returned American student, who formerly studied civil engineering in the Sheffield Scientific College of Yale University, U.S.A., to be Surveyor-in-Chief of the proposed railway between Yangtze ports and Pekin, and a fellow student, Mr. Ch'eng Ta-ch'i, together with several foreigners will be associated with Mr. Chim in this work. The Directors of the North China Railway are to have the chief direction of the new railway only as far as the province of Chihli is concerned.

H.E. Wang Chih-chûn, the Special Ambassador to Russia last year, who was shot in the left arm by a would-be assassin while driving in a carriage at Saigon on his way back to China, and who asked for and obtained from the Throne one month's leave of absence to heal his wound in Shanghai, has progressed so far as to be able to start on the morning of the 20th ult., for Pekin. It is now alleged that H.E. was fired at by one of three Japanese passengers who accompanied him to Saigon, and who are presumed to have been *soshi* disgusted at the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula to China, an event which they attributed to the mission of H.E. to Russia.

Captain Cooke, of the *Soochow*, has been exonerated by the Naval Court of Inquiry, held at Shanghai, of all blame in connection with the loss of that vessel. The Court in its finding desired specially to direct attention to the fact that the syren attached to the N.E. Promontory light-house would appear in foggy weather to be absolutely inaudible, seeing that the *Soochow* was within a two-mile radius of the lighthouse for at least thirty minutes without hearing any sound.

Some thousand odd of General Nieh's disarmed Hupeh troops mutinied at Tientsin on the 16th because they were defrauded of their pay, and murdered a General officer and a Colonel. They were quickly surrounded, several were decapitated, and others were drowned in their stampede across the floating bridge. There was no alarm in the settlements at Tientsin. Such is the brief announcement made in a Shanghai paper: but what a flood of fight, if such were needed, does it throws upon China's military affairs.

The new Viceroy Lu has posted the following proclamation at Chungking:—

Proclamation by the Szechuan Tartar-General Kung and Viceroy Lu.

A proclamation to make known that the foreigners who have established their chapels and hospitals in Szechuan do so in accord with an Imperial proclamation which has everywhere become a matter of record. Moreover, that the officials are bound to protect them, and not permit evil characters to avail themselves of rumour to make disturbances, has also become everywhere a matter of record.

On this occasion the destruction of the religious places of worship was due, in the first place, to ill-feeling on the part of the stupid people occasioned by quarrels, and because they were too ready to lend an ear to and be stirred up by evil persons. It was due, in the second place, to evil persons by talk stirring up trouble, so that, both within and without the capital, there has been widespread destruction. This, verily, is contrary to treaty and a serious offence against the laws. Already have we, the Tartar-General and Viceroy, sternly commanded the magistrates of every place to ferret out and seize those who have caused the disturbance. They must, without fail, be arrested, tried, and punished.

In our opinion, you stupid people who have been led astray by evil persons, are objects of pity, and may this once be pardoned your past transgressions; but, in order to put you on your guard in the future, we issue this sternly prohibitive proclamation. By it we trust that all magistrates and smaller officials, all Tartars and Chinese, even all classes of people, will thoroughly understand the matter. You must know that the establishment of chapels and hospitals by foreigners is permitted by the Emperor, and that the destruction which has occurred is tantamount to breaking the Emperor's laws, and that payment must be made for the losses which have been incurred.

Further, the Catholic and other religions are such as exhort to virtue, the same as do incense-burning Buddhists and others, with no purpose whatever to do people harm. You must by no means listen with believing ear to idle tales, thereby causing doubts to spring up. But if you do cherish doubts, you should make the matter known to your local magistrates who will be able to inquire and discriminate clearly for you. Why do you, on your own responsibility, join yourselves to the multitude and make a disturbance? This all comes from those idle fellows who love this sort of thing, exciting the multitude by rumours to the point of producing a riot. In the midst thereof bad men through desire for plunder take occasion to involve good people.

After the issue of this proclamation let every one attend to his own duties and not lightly believe rumours set afloat by evil men. We desire, in a word, that the Christians and the people, whether Chinese or foreigners, should be at peace, with perpetual regard for harmony. If anyone dare to fabricate rumours and collect crowds, thereby disturbing the places of worship, let the local magistrates use severity in arresting and punishing, thus putting an end to evil practices. Let all obey this!

The proclamation contains brave words, but as with its Imperial prototype issued a few days previously, foreigners place little reliance upon any good that might be effected by it. The chances are so much against either being obeyed.

The charges of supine lukewarmness brought against Mr. Mansfield, H.B.M. Consul at Foochow, are warmly repudiated by the local correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*. Says this writer: "Scandalous, infamous, outrageous, were some of the terms I heard applied to it (the letter) by many of the British community. The more staid among us declared that it could not be a letter of Mr. Smyth's, it was the effusion of an over-wrought and over-excited brain. I never thought it possible to make so much out of so little."

Archdeacon Wolfe has published the statement given below in an "Express":—Referring to Mr. Smyth's express of 10th instant, and his insinuation that H.M. Consul, when he heard the news of the massacre on his way to Kuliang, treated the matter lightly by continuing his way up the mountain instead of returning at once to Foochow, as I was the person who first met the Consul and communicated to him the sad news, I beg most emphatically to deny that he treated the matter either lightly or indifferently. We discussed the matter for some time, and his first impulse was to return at once to Foochow, but he was half-way up the mountain when I met him and had dismissed his coolies and sent his clothes on before him, and as he had neither sun-hat nor umbrella, it was as much as his life was worth to return to Foochow, a distance of 7 or 8 miles, in the broiling sun. It was therefore agreed that it was best under the circumstances for him to go on and send off his dispatches from Kuliang by a post messenger to the Viceroy and his telegrams to Pekin and the Foreign Office, with a note of instruction to Mr. Pitzipios, and that he himself would return to Foochow at the earliest moment, which he did early the same evening.

In addition to a Concession at Tientsin, Germany is to have one at Hankow, and arrangements are already *en train* to prepare it.

China after all may be awakening to the crying nature of its needs, though great is the army of pessimists who hold that the giant is merely turning in its sleep. Among the reforms recommended to the Throne by the high authorities we learn are the doing away with the expense of the Director-Generalships of the Grand Canal and the Yellow River; the substitution of Railways for the Imperial post couriers; and the complete transformation of the territorial sedentary armies into disciplined battalions after the German system. Also, to qualify for the licentiate and *chujên* degrees, a knowledge of mathematics, international law, and foreign history will be essential in future literary examinations. These reforms, it must be observed, are still in the embryonic stage of "recommendations."

The *Shanghai Mercury* printed on the 23rd inst. the following telegrams:—

Hongkong, August 22nd, 7.10 p.m.

An armed mob looted the American Mission Chapel and Schools that are situated eight miles outside of Foochow. Four native Christians were wounded, but no foreigners. Capt. Newell, of U.S.S. *Detroit* proceeds to Kucheng to-morrow.

Foochow, August 22nd, 6.12 p.m.

An armed mob looted a building used as chapel and school, and broke up and carried away the furniture. They killed two and wounded four natives, but no foreigners. This occurred 24 *li* north of city.

Foochow, August 23rd, 10 a.m.

The report as to the destruction of American buildings is confirmed here.

Hongkong, August 23rd, 3.40 p.m.

Telegrams have been received here from Swatow stating that a mob attacked a Roman Catholic Mission at Kayingchow, near Hoyun, in the province of Fuhkien, and murdered two of the Fathers.

We suppose that it is in reference to this news that the *N.-C. Daily News* writes, on the 24th, that it has gathered that a dispatch from Foochow in answer to an enquiry of the local mandarins as to the truth of the statement that further disturbances had occurred at Kucheng, states that there is no foundation for the rumour, and that beyond the fact of a large number of the Vegetarian murderers having already escaped into Kiangsi, and that the common people have willingly aided the authorities to arrest the implicated parties, the country has been very quiet all around Kucheng and in cities within a couple of days' journey of the capital city of Foochow.

The *China Gazette* learns that the French claims in the sequel of the Szechuen riots have all been granted, Bishop Durand, who held the full delegated powers of the French Minister, gaining every point. The terms, as published in that journal, are said to be:—

The further degradation of the ex-Viceroy Liu Ping-chang.

The degradation and dismissal of his Secretary, who was promoted to the office of Taotai in a neighbouring city after the riots. (He has already been removed from his new office.)

The degradation and dismissal of the two Prefects who stirred up the riots by giving open credence to the slanders against foreigners.

The full reinstatement of the French Missionaries and the public recognition of their status by the Szechuen officials.

The rebuilding of all the missions, hospitals, schools, etc., belonging to the French (on a larger scale than before), at the expense of the Chinese officials.

The payment of compensation of between Tls. 700,000 and Tls. 800,000 by the ex-Viceroy, Liu Ping-chang, *out of his own private hoard*.

Viscount Aoki, Japanese Minister to Germany, has been permitted by the Decorations Board to accept decorations conferred on him by the German Emperor, the Regent of Bavaria, and the Sultan. Mr. Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies, and Mr. Ito Yukichi, a Master of Ceremonies, have been allowed to accept decorations conferred on them by the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Schewerin.

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THE PROSPECT OF THE RICE CROP.

A certain specialist, quoted by the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, is of opinion that the rice crop for the whole country will show a decrease of from 10 to 20 per cent. as compared with that for an average year. In the provinces of Kyushu, Chugoku, and Hokuriku, the growth of rice plants has been comparatively good. Next come the provinces of Shikoku, San-yo-do, and those around Kyoto; while the worst reports come from Tokaido, Kwanto, and the North-East.

A writer on the *Jiji Shimpo* takes a somewhat different view. In Chugoku, namely, the provinces between Osaka and Shimonoseki, the harvest is, according to him, expected to be normal. In Kyushu, the growth of rice has been healthy, and a good crop would have been secured had it not been for the strong gales that recently visited that island. Consequently the crop in those localities will show a decrease of from 10 to 15 per cent. as compared with a normal year. While more or less decrease of yield is expected in all localities, there are two provinces in which the farmers are said to be congratulating each other upon an exceptionally good prospect of harvest. These provinces are Awa and Kazusa, which form the peninsula separating the Bay of Tokyo from the waters of the Pacific. In this region water is so scarce that a plentiful crop is only possible in a rainy year like the present. Another explanation is that the weather has been more steady there than in other parts of the country.

Such are the views expressed by the two papers enjoying the best reputation in business circles. That the crop will not be so bad as had at first been apprehended, is a generally received opinion, as may be seen from the tendency of the Rice Exchanges throughout the country. At one time, rice was quoted as high as 10 *yen* 30 *sen* per *koku*, but the price has rapidly fallen from 9 *yen* 50 *sen* to 9 *yen* 40 *sen*. It is believed that the price will fall below 9 *yen*.

DOCKYARDS IN JAPAN.

The establishment of dockyards is engaging the serious attention of the Japanese nation. At present there are two Government and nine private establishments. The former are at Yokosuka and Kure. At the latter place, a new dock capable of admitting ships of 25,000 tons capacity is in course of construction, being expected to be finished by the end of 1896. Of the private dockyards, the one at Nagasaki, owned by the Mitsubishi Company is of good dimensions, but the rest are only fit for repairing small steamers and launches. Five of them are in Osaka, one in Tokyo, one at Nagasaki, one at Toba, province of Shima, and one in the province of Mikawa. With the exception of the Mitsubishi dockyard at Nagasaki and another at Osaka, which are of stone, the rest are constructed of timber.

There is a number of projects on foot for the construction of new and large private dockyards. The first to be projected was that at Shimoda, the promoters of which include many of the leading business men Tokyo. Another project is under contemplation in Yokohama among its capitalists. A third scheme is contemplated by the principal merchants of Hakodate. The magnitude of their plan may be imagined from the fact that should it be carried into effect, the Naval Department would be under no necessity to construct a dockyard in Hokkaido. The latest project is reported from Osaka, where the shipbuilding business has of late made considerable progress. The projectors caused experts to examine the sea front in the vicinity of Osaka and Kobe, but finding no place suitable for the location of a dockyard, a search was made on the island of Awaji, where a fitting site for docks was discovered at Iwaya. The dock to be constructed there will be capable of receiving ships of 10,000 tons. The estimated cost is about 500,000 *yen*, while an additional outlay of from 200,000 to 300,000 *yen* will be required for the construction of the accessory works and plant.

SPELLING REFORM.

The Anglo-Saxon world is threatened with another spelling reform. It has been started by the Funk and Wagnalls Company of publishers, and they undertake to employ the new system of orthography in the four periodicals (*Literary Digest*, *Homiletic Review*, *Missionary Review of the World* and the *Voice*) controlled by them, provided that a reasonable number of other periodicals, writers, and business men will join the movement. The circular inviting adhesion to the scheme, gives a list of about 300 words by way of examples, of which the following are a few:—

Abrest,	Chil,	Ilness,	Saffire,
Accomplisht,	Clozure,	Intestin,	Shril,
Advertizment,	Curtesy,	Jelousy,	Skul,
Adz,	Defness,	Maiz,	Sofistry,
Altho,	Derth,	Mold,	Staf,
Amfibious,	Distil,	Orthografy,	Stedfast,
Autograf,	Docil,	Overspred,	Telegrafy,
Avalanch,	Dredful,	Paragraf,	Tho,
Aw (for awe)	Endevor,	Parafernalia,	Thred,
Beutiful,	Enrol,	Parlament,	Thret,
Bedsted,	Lufony,	Pedler,	Thru,
Befrend,	Favorit,	Pel-mel,	Thruout,
Bewich,	Feminin,	Perquisit,	Trechery,
Bluf,	Forgivness,	Fantom,	Treatis,
Blunderhed,	Gaf,	Farmacy,	Tressel,
Bodygard,	Gaus,	Plum, (for plumb)	Triumfant,
Brekfast,	Gazel,	Pontif,	Whisky,
Buxum,	Glimps,	Premis,	Yern.
Bygon,	Garantee,	Relm,	
Camfor,	Gard,	Receit,	
Catalog,	Handcuf,	Rime,	

Of course the proposal is variously criticized. The New York *Sun* is notably opposed to it. One of the reasons advanced depends upon the fact that our sense of humour would be outraged by some of the changes:—

This is a consideration which does not appeal strongly to some philological reformers, but it is nevertheless operative in the public mind. There is something inherently and irremediably ludicrous in aw for awe, fantom for phantom, and skul for skull. As to the last mentioned change, it will be a long time before people learn that skul means the cranium, and not the place where children are educated; inasmuch as some projects of orthographic reform have already proposed skule for school. Buxum is comic. Thret is trivial. The words belonging to the class of tho, altho, thru, and thruout, have never ceased to appear grotesque when so printed; and altho an esteemed friend, the Hon. Ellis H. Roberts, has laboured for years in the columns of *The Utica Herald* to make them familiar to the eye, he has gained few adherents, if any, in that particular specialty of reform. We do not like whiskey without the 'e' in it; and as for bluf, with one 'f,' in the words of the late Artemus Ward, "This is 2 mutch!"

MR. OZAKI YUKIO INTERVIEWED BY COLONEL COCKERILL.

In one of his recent letters to the *New York Herald*, Colonel Cockerill gives the following account of an interview with Mr. Ozaki Yukio, the well known *Kaishin-to* politician:—

"There is a some talk of a special session, Mr. Ozaki. Do you think that such a one will be convened."

"We, the Opposition members, have petitioned for one, or rather demanded one. It is possible, however, that no session will be held before the regular date in November."

"What will be the burning topics of the coming session?"

"Ministerial incapacity, the utter injustice and scandalous nature of the revised compact with China."

"Do the Opposition members then believe that a better treaty might have been made?"

"Of course we believe this."

"But how about the Triple Coalition?"

"Japan should have presented a bold front, in which case neither Germany nor France would have carried matters to extremes. We should have had only Russia to deal with."

"Then you think Japan capable of holding her own with Russia?"

"Decidedly so; the conflict has only been postponed, and must ensue before long. Had we opposed force to force at the time—before the ratification at Chefoo—we should have easily come off best."

"Do you believe that your attack on the present Premier and his Cabinet will have any effect?"

"I do. This time we believe that we shall effect the fall of the 'Camera Cabinet' (Kuro-maku naikaku). Count Kuroda is about to resign; Matsukata has already done so, while Viscount Mutsu's resignation is no less certain. He has no stomach for the coming battle royal."

"But there has always been great friction between the various parties composing the Opposition; shall you be able to work in harmony this time?"

"We shall, unquestionably. We are already entirely agreed upon our plan of action, and private or less important points of disagreement will be forgotten in our great war upon the Ministry."

"The result of such an attack has hitherto invariably been the dissolution of the Lower House; are you not apprehensive of enforced dissolution this time as well?"

"Apprehensive? No! The people are heartily tired of these frequent elections; if dissolution does ensue, a still larger Opposition majority will be promptly returned. We are quite prepared for any contingency."

"In what manner will you attack the Cabinet with regard to the revised treaty with China?"

"We shall declaim against the ministerial pusillanimity in yielding so promptly to the 'friendly advice' of Russia, Germany, and France; we shall argue that the proper precautions to prevent such an intervention should have been taken long beforehand, as the government had full warning of what was to be expected, and we shall urge that to cause His Majesty the Emperor to sign a revised treaty, with China's most important concessions omitted, after having signed another earlier treaty of wholly different tenor, was equivalent to bringing disgrace on the Emperor and consequently on the country at large."

"But could all this have been avoided?"

"Certainly; the action of the Cabinet in this matter was monstrous."

"Have you the people on your side?"

"We certainly think so."

"What is thought of Germany's share in the triple coalition?"

"The greatest indignation is expressed and felt. Germany has always professed such friendship for Japan that her action in the matter is simply inexcusable. Moreover, we well know that Germany was the instigatrix of the alliance. If it had not been for her we should have had Russia alone to deal with."

"And France?"

"Oh, that immature Republic always follows in Russia's wake. Besides, she wanted Formosa badly. But, no; Germany could have kept France from making common cause with Russia in the matter, had she so desired."

"A good deal has been said and written about dishonesty among the army contractors: does the Opposition intend to speak of this in the coming session?"

"Yes, the question will be brought up and the offenders brought before the tribunal of public justice. There was a great deal of wrong-doing."

"What is the prevailing sentiment of the Japanese people?"

"One of humiliation and bitter regret. Our victories are lost sight of in the moral defeat we have suffered at the hands of the Triple Coalition."

"How does the United States stand in popular opinion?"

"Higher than ever. We know that in that direction we have a firm, unfaltering friend and ally."

"But Mr. Foster acted as China's counsellor in all she did with regard to the treaty."

"That is so, but he acted so in the interests of peace and in order to bring a devastating war to a prompt conclusion. There is no ill will felt on that score, for, if Chinese interests in Japan were looked after by the American Minister, American officials in China did all they could in behalf of the Japanese subjects there."

"A last question then. Are the immediate prospects of Japan bright or gloomy?"

"I should say 'gloomy,' decidedly, until the end of the present year; after that the future will grow brighter."

Mr. Yufu Takesaburo, President of the Tokyo Higher Commercial School, has been released from his post, Mr. Koyama Kenzo, Private Secretary of the Minister of Education, being appointed to succeed him. Mr. Nakagawa Kojuro, an attaché in the Educational Department, has been appointed Private Secretary of the Minister of Education; Mr. Sawamura, President of the Iwate Normal School, has been transferred to the Shizuoka Normal School, and his previous position has been given to Mr. Suda, President of the Kanagawa Normal School, who has been succeeded by Mr. Nakamura Goroku, an Instructor of the Female's Higher Normal School, Tokyo.

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COUNT MATSUKATA.

THE long train of circumstances leading up to Count MATSUKATA'S resignation is minutely described by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, which believes that his retirement will be sanctioned by the EMPEROR. The account commences with the tender of his resignation on a former occasion some months ago, while the Court was still in Kyoto. The cause of the Count's desire to leave the Cabinet on that occasion is not stated, but we are assured that it had no connection whatever with the question of an extraordinary session of the Diet. Shortly after his appointment to the post of Minister of Finance in March last, Count MATSUKATA enunciated certain views to the Premier on important affairs of State, and it appears that his resignation at that time was a consequence of the reception given to these opinions. The Premier prevailed upon him to postpone any final step until HIS MAJESTY'S return to the Capital, which was to take place in a few days. The Minister of State for Finance then went back to Tokyo before the EMPEROR, and retiring to his private residence, refused to see any visitor, even excusing himself from going to the station to welcome the EMPEROR. By special command of the SOVEREIGN, Marquis ITO called on Count MATSUKATA on June the 7th, and in the course of a long interview strongly advised him to reconsider his resignation. On June 23rd, the Minister of Finance visited the Premier, and for the first time spoke about the desirability of convening an extraordinary session of the Diet. Marquis ITO answered that he was not in any way opposed to such a step should the Military and Naval measures then in course of compilation be completed in time. The same topic was again broached by Count MATSUKATA at a meeting with the Premier three days afterwards, when he informed his chief that, according to what he had learned from the Military and Naval officers engaged in the task, the bills would be finished ere long. He received the same answer from the Premier as on the former occasion. That evening, namely, June 26th, Marquis ITO wrote to Count MATSUKATA, requesting him to withdraw his resignation, but the Count in reply asked for time to consider the matter more deliberately. On the 28th, Marquis SAIGO visited the Count and advised him to stay in office. The following day the Minister of Finance called upon the Premier, and announced his determination to withdraw his resignation, at the same time requesting that a Cabinet Council be convened for the purpose of discussing the question of an extraordinary session. The Council took place on July 2nd, when it was decided that, so soon as the Military and Naval measures were finished, an extraordinary session should be convoked, and instructions were issued to the officers concerned to complete the drafts as soon as possible.

Thereafter great efforts were made to expedite the drafting of the Military and Naval bills, but it was found that, whatever industry were employed, the Military bills would require a long time to complete. In view of this circumstance, Count MATSUKATA presented a long memorandum to the Premier on the 15th instant, recommending the opening of an extraordinary session for the purpose of introducing projects of law relating to increased taxation, on the basis of the approximate sums that would be required for augmenting the Army and Navy. Such a proposal was impracticable on the face of it, but what surprised the Minister President and the rest of the Cabinet most was an accompanying statement to the effect that, "in spite of his having presented to his colleagues drafts of fiscal measures, and in spite of his urgent recommendation to convene an extraordinary session, the Cabinet had procrastinated and arrived at no decision." This was, indeed, astonishing news to the Ministers, for they had never until that time been favoured with any views of Count MATSUKATA'S on fiscal measures, and moreover the question of convening an extraordinary session by the Diet had been definitely settled on the 2nd of July. Hence, at the Cabinet Council of the 20th instant, the Premier demanded an explanation of the extraordinary statement just quoted, but the Minister of Finance could not offer any. On the following day Count MATSUKATA invited to his residence the Minister and Vice-Minister of War, and the Vice-Minister of Finance, and discussed with them whether it would not be possible to compile approximate army estimates without completing the details of the Military and Naval measures. The result of the discussion was that no means existed of preparing even approximate estimates without first determining the details of the measures then under consideration. Count MATSUKATA, who, it seems, was determined to demand the opening of an extraordinary session under any circumstances, then hit upon the idea of introducing the taxation bills independently of the Military and Naval measures. In compliance with his request, a conference was convened at the Premier's official residence on Saturday the 24th instant, when Marquis ITO, after pointing out several objectionable features of the course recommended by the Minister of Finance, explained at length the inexpediency of asking the Diet to vote an increase of the people's burdens without having previously determined by thorough research how much money would be needed in addition to the present revenue. Count MATSUKATA'S plan was exactly the reverse of normal financial methods: instead of increasing the revenue on the basis of an increased expenditure, he proposed to fix the revenue first and then adapt the expenditure to it. The one and only point in favour of the course urged by him was that, unless such a step were taken, it would be impossible to collect the increased tax on *saké* from the commencement of the next taxation period, namely, the 1st of October. But the value of that argument disappears when we remember that the contemplated military and naval development will not involve any considerable increase in the Ordinary Expenditures during the first year. The money required during the first year will be chiefly for the purpose of granting rewards and pensions to officers and men, and for paying interest on the War Loan, items aggregating about 10,000,000 *yen*. Such amount could be very easily provided without going to the expense and trouble of convening an extraordinary session of the Diet. For these reasons, the Premier asked Count MATSUKATA to reconsider the matter. Viscount NOMURA and a few others tried to effect a compromise by proposing that it might perhaps be practicable to convene an extraordinary session, if the Minister of Finance would modify his plan in the sense that the Naval measures and the bill for the increase of the tax on *saké* be introduced to the Diet as correlated projects, the amount required for Naval increase being covered by the *saké* tax. Count MATSUKATA declined to state his views as to that proposal, and the meeting was adjourned without any decision being taken. On parting, the Count told his colleagues that he would soon request another conference to discuss the same question. But suddenly, on the following morning, he forwarded a letter of resignation to the Premier, and at the same time repaired to the Palace, where he explained to the EMPEROR his reasons for seeking to be released from office. He left the capital for Osaka by the 9.55 p.m. train the same day. Marquis ITO had gone to Oiso early that morning to visit Count MUTSU. Hence he did not open the packet from Count MATSUKATA until Monday morning. On the afternoon of that day, the Premier sought an audience with the EMPEROR, and it is understood that His Majesty will receive Count MATSUKATA'S resignation.

Such is the substance of the statement published by the *Nichi Nichi*. A strange feature of the affair, as pointed out by our contemporary, is that the *Kokumin Shimbun* of the 25th instant published an account, containing some mistakes, but on the whole tolerably correct, of what had passed at the Cabinet Council of the preceding day, with a prediction that Count MATSUKATA would resign and go to Osaka or Kyoto. It follows that the editor of that journal must have been placed in possession of the information by 6 or 7 p.m. at latest—that being the time at which the Tokyo journals usually go to press—on the 24th instant, that is

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to say, almost immediately after the adjournment of the Cabinet meeting at which the Ministers were given to understand by Count MATSUKATA that the matter would be discussed more fully at a future conference. The inference is almost inevitable that, even while giving that assurance, the Count had made up his mind to resign and leave the capital. A still more significant circumstance is that, of all the papers, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, a strong sympathizer with the Progressionists, should have been chosen as the medium for announcing Count MATSUKATA'S resignation. If the *Nippon* may be trusted, the *Kokumin* enjoys special facilities for obtaining information about Count MATSUKATA'S doings.

THE SO-CALLED "FORMOSA ATROCITIES."

ON the 5th inst., the *Japan Gazette*, in an article headed "Atrocities in Formosa," published one of the most sweeping and terrible accusations ever preferred against the troops of any country under any circumstances. The unspeakable brutalities perpetrated recently in Armenia; the awful savagery of HEROD; the wild barbarities of the Huns; the pitiless butcheries perpetrated by CROMWELL in Ireland; the mad excesses committed by WELLINGTON'S troops at the sack of towns in the Spanish peninsula—all these appalling pages of history were cited, not as parallels of the horrors occurring in Formosa, but in order to show that the annals of humanity contain nothing comparable with the ruthless bloodthirstiness of Japanese soldiers and Japanese commanders. "Japan's inhumanity in Formosa calls aloud for protest," said the article. "The shrieks of the massacred Armenians have roused European indignation, yet Japan in Formosa is repeating the Port Arthur atrocities with cold-blooded resolution. * * * The Japanese are now burning each village in which any opposition is encountered, and ruthlessly butchering men, women, and children. * * * This sickening massacre of the innocents is not war. Before this hideous sacrifice of life the atrocities of a HEROD seem inoffensive. We can recollect nothing like it in history unless we go back to the days of the Huns, and even they sometimes spared the women. CROMWELL in Drogheda made a terrible example of the garrison, but he only killed the men. * * * In the Peninsula campaign, on the capture of Badajos, the savage spirit latent in the British soldier broke beyond control, and many women and children suffered. But many of the offenders were shot and such deeds were the outcome of frenzy, not the result of deliberate instructions issued by the officers in charge. In Formosa it is part of the orders. * * * Reverse the present picture, and let us suppose Japan has ceded Kiushu to China. * * * Imagine the Chinese soldiers burning the villages as they went, slicing to pieces helpless infants, infirm women, and mothers with child. Civilized Christianity, infuriated at the sight, would teach such a lesson to the ruthless Celestial as would cause Pekin to shudder, and men to speak in affrighted whispers in Far Turkestan of the wrath of the West. · · · The Japanese should pause. Infanticide and a craving for the blood of helpless women is (*sic*) an appalling legacy for heredity (*sic*) to transmit to posterity."

Such was the accusation formulated by the *Japan Gazette*. There was no question of troops' breaking away from control on a solitary occasion under the influence of strongly exciting circumstances. The charge was that the Japanese commanding officers, Admiral Count KABAYAMA and His Imperial Highness Prince KOMATSU, had deliberately planned and ordered a campaign of savage atrocity without parallel in the annals of the world from the time of the Huns to that of the Kurds in Armenia.

This awful charge naturally excited much surprise and comment. Nothing in the accounts hitherto received had suggested the least inkling of such fearful brutality. On the contrary, all observers had agreed in extolling the clemency of the Japanese, their admirable discipline and the kindly consideration shown by them toward the people of Formosa. Evidently the Governor-General relied upon conciliation rather than force to subjugate the islanders.

What then had occurred to suddenly transform merciful and life-protecting officers into ferocious savages, more bloodthirsty, inhuman, and passionate than HEROD, the Huns, or the Kurds? On what evidence did the *Japan Gazette* base its damning accusations? What proof could it adduce that "deliberate instructions had been issued by the Japanese officers in Formosa" for "the sickening massacre of innocents;" for "the ruthless butchery of men, women, and children;" for "the slicing to pieces of helpless infants, infirm women, and mothers with child?" These were questions that naturally presented themselves to every one; for while all civilized persons would have joined to swell the *Japan Gazette's* indignant protest had its truth been established, they would equally have joined in condemning the mad recklessness of a newspaper that could ventilate such charges without sufficient evidence of their justice. The *Japan Gazette*, however, tendered no evidence. "Private advices from the North of Formosa" were the sole testimony on which it invited the public to believe that Governor-General KABAYAMA, Prince KOMATSU, and the other commanding officers in Formosa were the most damnable and sanguinary savages ever entrusted with the control of troops, and that the men under their orders were willing instruments of their barbarian ferocity. "Private advices from the North of Formosa!" We called upon the *Japan Gazette* to give some detailed statement as to those "private advices;" to tell what they contained, what acts they described, where and when the horrors they embodied had occurred. The *Gazette's* answer was that it declined to be judged by the *Japan Mail*. Unconscious of its responsibility toward the public whom it had invited to denounce Japanese savagery; unconscious of its responsibility toward the Japanese officers and the Japanese troops, whom it had placed below HEROD, the Huns, and the Kurds, its whole moral horizon was occupied by the shadow of the *Japan Mail*, and it hid its head behind the miserable subterfuge of an objection to its judge.

Nothing remained, then, but to wait. Since the *Japan Gazette* was content to figure as an accuser without a fragment of testimony to support its appalling charges, its readers could only suspend judgment. There was, indeed, no reason to imagine that the *Japan Gazette's* channels of information excelled those open to the general public, or that its "private advices" could anticipate the intelligence furnished to other newspapers. Still, such a possibility existed, and was certainly more conceivable than the notion that any journal, however reckless, could have formulated such accusations without conclusive evidence. But more than three weeks have elapsed since the *Japan Gazette* wrote, and we still await any proof of the truth of its indictment. Moreover, in the interval other evidence has been furnished. Mr. DAVIDSON, the one and only foreigner that actually witnessed the military operations in Formosa, has come forward and publicly declared that the *Japan Gazette's* story is wholly inconsistent with the events seen by him; that had such atrocities been perpetrated, they must have come under his notice; that, so far from behaving with needless cruelty or ferocity, the Japanese had shown a spirit of the utmost clemency and forbearance; that all the foreigners in the north of Formosa were loud in their praises of Japanese discipline and moderation, and that though driven at last to adopt more drastic measures, the Japanese were not exceeding the limits of stern necessity. Are we then to conclude that the *Japan Gazette's* damnable accusations were simply reckless vapourings, or are we still to set some store by its mysterious "private advices"? The question can now be answered conclusively. The *Japan Gazette*, forgetting apparently the wholesale indictment preferred by it on August the 5th, summed up the facts thus in its issue of August 17th:—

We then arrive at the following conclusions. Villages were burned; Mr. Davidson says the fighting men only were exterminated; Japanese reports merely say all were exterminated, our own

advices simply state that every living soul was killed, while the *Hongkong Telegraph* adds that women and children were pitilessly butchered. There the matter rests. Mr. Davidson is a gentleman in whom we would put every confidence and we do not doubt that he states what he believes to be true. Taking all the circumstances into consideration, our readers will probably decide that the Japanese have adopted very harsh measures and a great deal of killing has been done. But it was fortunately not on such a scale as the Hongkong and Japanese reports, standing alone, would have led us to believe. They will also agree that with so many reports in circulation it was well that the truth should be sifted.

Before commenting on the extraordinary revelation contained in this extract, one gross misstatement must be pointed out. "The *Hongkong Telegraph*," says the *Japan Gazette*, "adds that women and children were pitilessly butchered." That is untrue. The *Hongkong Telegraph* did nothing of the kind. Its Formosan correspondent has made two references and two only to the matter. In one he mentioned "a report" that the Japanese, "as they retreated" from a crushing defeat at Tokoham, "destroyed every house they chanced to pass and killed every man, woman, and child they either got hold of or could get a shot at." Now the Japanese were never defeated at Tokoham. The retreat referred to never took place. Hence the report noted by the *Hongkong Telegraph's* correspondent is conclusively proved to be untrue. He, however, was careful to mention the tale as a mere report. It remained for the *Japan Gazette*, knowing that the defeat and the retreat were alike apocryphal, to resuscitate as credible the story based on them, and to falsely describe it as an actual statement made by the *Hongkong Telegraph*, whereas in truth it was published as a "report." The second reference made by the Hongkong journal was to "Chinese rumours," which, at the same time, the correspondent condemned as probable exaggerations. On which of the Hongkong journal's references does the *Japan Gazette* rely? On the "report" subsequently proved to be based on imaginary occurrences, or on the Chinese rumours announced by the correspondent as probable exaggerations?

But the most remarkable part of the extract is this:—"Our own advices simply state that every living soul was killed." Here, then, at last we have an explicit statement as to the nature of the "private advices," on the strength of which the *Japan Gazette* originally formulated its awful accusations. "Our own advices simply state that every living soul was killed." Such was the evidence that induced the *Japan Gazette* to charge the Japanese troops with "ruthlessly butchering men, women, and children" in "every village where any opposition was encountered"; with perpetrating "a sickening massacre of the innocents"; with "slicing to pieces helpless infants, infirm women, and mothers with child." Such was the evidence that induced the *Japan Gazette* to publicly and in the most confident terms accuse the Japanese commanding officers of deliberately ordering savage atrocities more inhuman than anything recorded in history of HEROD, the Huns, or the Kurds. It is no business of ours to find terms appropriate for denouncing such conduct as that of the *Japan Gazette*, neither does it fall within the limits of permissible language to describe the procedure of a journal which, after preferring charges so terrible as those contained in the *Japan Gazette's* article of the 5th instant, now, without one word of apology or manly retractation, tacitly abandons its whole position and contents itself with this paltry subterfuge: "Taking all the circumstances into consideration, our readers will probably decide that the Japanese have adopted very harsh measures and that a great deal of killing has been done." But it is our business to ask, what has become of "the hideous sacrifice of life before which the atrocities of a HEROD seem inoffensive"? What has become of the Huns who, since "they sometimes spared women," were superior to the Japanese? What has become of the Kurds, "the shrieks of whose massacred victims have roused European indignation" whereas Japan in Formosa is doing worse things unrebuked? And what, finally, has become of the *Japan Gazette's* "private advices," for they, too, have disappeared, and in their place we have "Hongkong and Japanese reports"? That is to say, the *Japan Gazette*, having taken "private advices"—which "merely stated that every living soul had been killed"—and having, with eager credulity, made them the avowed basis of the most appalling accusations ever preferred against an army and it officers, now pretends that the whole evidence forthcoming was "Hongkong and Japanese reports; having seized upon a mere shred of general testimony to weave detailed and shocking particulars of savage brutality, and to degrade Japanese soldiers and officers to a lower level than that of HEROD the Huns, or the Kurds, this truthful and accurrate journal now writes that "fortunately the killing was not on such a scale" as it had been led to suppose by reports published in Hongkong and Japanese papers. Finally, to cap this unparalleled example of journalistic recklessness, prejudice, hypocrisy, and insincerity, the *Japan Gazette* writes:—"It was well that the truth should be sifted"!! To set about the process of sifting the truth by publishing a series of the grossest conceivable falsehoods is a kind of investigation with which honest people are not familiar.

THE Directors of the P. & O. Company have presented the officers of the 1st Batt. Rifle Brigade with a very handsome silver vase in recognition of the services of the battalion during the coolie strike in Hongkong.

CHINA'S RESPONSIBILITIES.

AT no time during the past thirty years have the various foreign communities in the Far East displayed such a spirit of indignant protest against the methods of their Governments as they evince in connection with the Szechuen and Kucheng outrages. The fact, thus broadly stated, is disquieting. It is not well that the proud feeling of security which enables a handful of British subjects to pursue their business placidly among millions of possibly hostile Orientals, should be disturbed. The moral force based upon that feeling is enormous, and though it is not for a moment to be contended that all the doings of Europeans and Americans in the Orient illustrate a high type of civilization, there can be no manner of doubt that the sooner this Occidental leaven permeates the whole of the Oriental lump the better for the cause of humanity. There is no need to compose a panegyric comparing the immense results that have been achieved by a few foreigners with the paltry material means at their disposal. But there is need to recall the truth that without implicit reliance on the ability and will of the home Government to enforce the treaties, and to insist upon the obligation of the Chinese Authorities to protect foreign life and property within Chinese borders, no such results would now be on record. It must therefore be regarded as most unhappy that this faith should be shaken. Even in the absence of sufficient grounds to undermine it, the bare fact that it has been undermined, must be held to indicate defective methods on the part of the home Governments. We are disposed to think that some of the mischief is due to the habitual intemperance of the local foreign press. Evidently if the extremely violent tone adopted by many foreign journals in the East in connection with every inter-racial question were fairly representative of their readers' sentiments, European and American statesmen would not be justified in attempting to shape their policy by such an index. But it is a part of the duty devolving upon responsible statesmen to be able to discount these utterances, and they can not escape blame if they suffer a want of necessary confidence to grow up among their nationals merely because some of the organs that undertake to express the latter's views are hopelessly intemperate. On the other hand, we have always to remember that there is a limit to methods compatible with the preservation of international amity. Certain crimes excite so much horror and indignation—as, for example, the Kucheng massacre—that the extremest measures seem almost inadequate to expiate them. But so long as England remains at peace with China, such measures can not be employed. Recourse must be had, in the first place, to the Chinese Authorities, and not until

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breach of faith or incompetence can be unquestionably charged against them, is Great Britain at liberty to stretch out her own arm. Recognising all that, however, as well as the consequent difficulties lying in the path of British officials, who are required, on the one hand, to conform with the usages of peaceful diplomacy, and, on the other, to obtain redress for treaty-violations that seem to demand belligerent methods, we are constrained to think that the action taken by HER MAJESTY'S Government in the sequel of the Kucheng massacres falls short of the requirements of the case. An incident so exceptional, so appalling, certainly called for striking and unusual treatment, whereas the despatch of a Consul, under Chinese escort, to conduct investigations at the scene of the atrocities, is a hacknied device, such as would have been employed, and has frequently been employed, under circumstances of incomparably less gravity. It seems to us that the First Secretary of H.B.M.'s Legation in Pekin might very well have been sent on such a mission; that he should have been accompanied by the Consul and by the best interpreter in the service, and that the escort should have included a strong force of British marines and blue-jackets. It was not a question merely of securing the party against Chinese violence. It was a question of proving, by an unmistakable object lesson, to the officials and people of the Middle Kingdom, that a country capable of such abominable crimes is separated by a very small interval from the horrors of war. Not having, for our own part, the smallest confidence that diplomacy will ever reconcile the masses in China to foreign intercourse, we set little store by any expiatory graces that China may be induced to display for the sake of averting the vengeance of an outraged Occident. But since a Power like Great Britain must be consistent, as far as possible, with the moral standards it professes, amicable expedients should be exhausted before the sword is drawn. None the less a Consular investigator escorted by Chinese soldiers, seems an altogether inadequate recognition of the just and burning indignation that has been roused among all foreigners in the East by the Kucheng atrocities, and is further calculated, we think, to convey to the Chinese a very false impression of the value that Great Britain sets upon the lives of her subjects.

TWO RECENT DISCOVERIES IN CHEMISTRY.

THE year 1895 will probably be noted for two important chemical discoveries, one of great theoretical importance and the other bidding fair to be of great practical importance. In August of last year it was announced, without detailed proofs, that there was a new element in the atmosphere so closely united with nitrogen that the separation was exceedingly difficult. This substance exists in enormous quantities all about us and yet there is no proof that its presence had been suspected before the investigations made by Lord RAYLEIGH. The history of the discovery is, briefly, as follows.

Lord RAYLEIGH has been engaged for some years in determining the densities of the permanent gases. In determining the density of nitrogen he was struck by an anomaly that had been noticed before and ascribed to the presence of impurities in the atmosphere. This anomaly was that nitrogen obtained from the air was heavier by about 0.7 of one per cent. than nitrogen obtained from various other compounds. He was so sure that all his measurements had been carefully guarded against error that he could not ascribe the discrepancy to impurities. The weight per litre of nitrogen obtained from chemical compounds was 1.2505, and that of nitrogen obtained from the air was 1.2572, so the discovery has well been called "the triumph of the last place of decimals." At the meeting of the British Association at Oxford last year, this anomaly was spoken of, and formed the subject of a paper read by Lord RAYLEIGH before the Royal Society. At that time, Prof. RAMSAY asked permission to investigate the matter, and he and Lord RAYLEIGH, working independently, succeeded in separating the new gas from the nitrogen of the air. Lord RAYLEIGH proceeded by the method of sparking with electricity, a method used by CAVENDISH in his classical experiments on air reported in 1785. CAVENDISH noted then that there was a small residue for which he could not account quite satisfactorily, and he reported: "If there is any part of the phlogisticated air of our atmosphere which differs from the rest, and cannot be reduced to nitrous acid, we may safely conclude that it is not more than $\frac{1}{120}$th part of the whole." He was thus very near adding to the 18th century a triumph which belongs to the 19th.

Prof. RAMSAY separated the new gas by chemical processes, first taking the oxygen from the air by means of red-hot copper and then the nitrogen by means of red-hot magnesium. As to the chemical properties of the new substance, the most striking is its inertness. It has not been made to combine with any substance. It was this property that gave it the name of *argon*, from *argos* used in New Testament Greek, as in Matthew 20.6, "Why stand ye here all the day *idle*." No account is given of the choice of this name for the "lazy gas." Whether argon is an element or a compound is not yet certain. The weight of evidence is rather on the side of its being an element, but there are some difficulties. Its properties have been elaborately examined already. Professor CROOKES, in England, has examined the spectrum, which seems to indicate that argon is a compound substance. Prof. OLSZEWSKI, at Cracow, has liquified and frozen the gas at very low temperatures. As to the amount of argon in the atmosphere, it is not so great as to make it necessary to change the rough statement that the atmosphere consists of four-fifths nitrogen and one-fifth oxygen. The new figures will probably be roughly 78 per cent. nitrogen, 21 per cent. oxygen, and 1 per cent. argon. Thus it seems that CAVENDISH slightly under-estimated the amount of his unaccounted for residue.

What practical use argon is does not yet appear. Nitrogen feeds plant life and by its inertness dilutes the too active life-giving oxygen. It may be that its unaided inertness is not sufficient to render the oxygen endurable.*

The second discovery is as essentially practical as the first is theoretical. Acetylene is a gas that has been known for a long time, and in 1836, it was obtained by WÖHLER, who made calcic carbide and from this with water produced acetylene, but the calcic carbide was too expensive to make the process of any commercial importance. Last year, Mr. T. L. WILLSON, using an electric furnace to experiment with alloys of calcium, noticed that a mixture of lime and powdered anthracite formed a substance which he threw away into a bucket containing water. Gas in large quantities was produced, with a pungent odour, and it burnt with a bright flame. He had formed calcic carbide by accident, and this with water had produced acetylene. The brightness of acetylene, bulk for bulk, is ten times that of good coal gas, and it is asserted that calcic carbide can be made so cheaply as to render the use of acetylene either alone or mixed with coal gas a commercial possibility. Already a lighting apparatus has been devised to use this gas as an illuminant. A cylinder contains a certain amount of water into which the proper amount of the solid calcic carbide is put. A very small flat-flame burner is attached, and an intensely bright light is produced for a length of time varying with the amount of calcic carbide. Such a light would be most suitable and economical for use in railway carriages. A private house in New York is lighted with acetylene, though not as a commercial venture. It is said that calcic carbide can be made at a cost of $4 a ton, which would yield 11,000 cubic feet, and that, allowing for bye-products, would be at the rate of 6s. 4½d. per 1,000 cubic feet. Five cubic feet an hour give a light of 240 candle-power.

Gas first came into commom use about 76 years ago, the electric light about ten years ago, and now it seems likely that another illuminant is to find an important

* A Japanese student imagines that as a country increases in civilization the amount of argon in the atmosphere decreases. It is laziness that is the cause of barbarism, and the lazy gas that causes that evil.

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place. If so, there will be quite a cycle of changes to produce the light. Coal will be converted into mechanical power, and that into electrical power, which will bring about a chemical combination, and a second combination will evolve the gas. Since powdered carbon in any form—coal, coke, or graphite—may be used with chalk or lime to produce the calcic carbide, the material used is not costly. The costliness comes in with the necessity of the electrical furnace.

It is well known that from the bye-products of coal gas manufacture various substances, such as aniline dyes and flavouring extracts, can be made. Acetylene, a hydro-carbon, lends itself even more easily to the preparation of other substances. It is easily converted into bruzol, from which the cheap aniline dyes are made. It can be made into ethyl alcohol, from which a great number of organic substances may be manufactured. It may be that this use of the old gas will exceed its use as an illuminant. The new, inactive, and apparently useless constituent of the atmosphere, and this widely useful gas, will make the discoveries of the year famous both theoretically and commercially. Since writing the above, a newspaper report of a meeting of the Chemical Society has been received, and it is probably a correct one. At that meeting Lord RAYLEIGH was presented with the FARADAY Medal for his discovery of Argon. Prof. RAMSAY read a paper announcing the discovery of a new element occurring in connection with Argon. This element, known as Helium, had by the evidence of the spectroscope been proved to be present in the sun, but heretofore its spectrum had not been seen from any substance on our planet. Prof. RAMSAY was trying to make Argon combine with some other substance, and in the course of his experiments he obtained from Cleveite, a rare substance, Argon mixed with Helium. On examination with the spectroscope by Prof. CROOKES, the Helium line of the spectrum was seen.

A FORGOTTEN CHAPTER IN THE HISTORY OF JAPAN.

THE story of the Chinese invasion of Japan in the fifth month of the fourth year of the Koan era (1281 A.D.), during the reign of the Emperor GO-UDA, is historically familiar to all. Its details are on careful record, and even to this day, although the event happened more than six centuries ago, Japanese hearts swell with pride remembering how an army of 100,000 braves, equipped by the great KUBLAI KHAN, was stoutly met and almost annihilated. That was certainly the most critical of all Japan's foreign complications, not even excluding her late war. But for the success that shone on her arms, she might have had to bow her neck under a foreign yoke, and her civilization and prosperity might have been retarded for centuries.

That, however, was not the only foreign invasion met and repelled. Another, not indeed so formidable, but still terrible enough, marks an epoch in Japan's history. The incursion of the so-called Toi Tribe, one of the many Tartar hordes, was directed against the coast of Kyushu in the third month of the third year of the Kwannin era during the reign of the Emperor GOICHIJYO; in other words, about the year 1,000 A.D., or some two and a half centuries before KUBLAI'S attempt to subdue Japan. Happening in such ancient times, the former event has not been so carefully transmitted as the latter. Fragmentary records alone are found in several works written during the ascendancy of the FUJIWARA Family. It results that this memorable incident is but imperfectly known even by educated Japanese, if indeed it be known at all to others than those that make a special study of the nation's history.

As the signal repulse of the YUAN expedition was attributable to the decision and vigilance of HOJYO TOKIMUNE, so to the merit of FUJIWARA TAKAIYE, Governor-in-chief of Kyushu, the ignominious repulse of the earlier invaders was due. Several circumstances combine to enhance the achievement of TAKAIYE. In the first place, he was a courtier and had been educated for a purely civil career. Further, the era in which he lived differed radically from that of HOJYO TOKIMUNE, when the military influence completely overshadowed Imperialism, TOKIMUNE himself being at the head of the Regency. To complete the contrast, the invasion in the time of TAKAIYE was sudden and entirely unexpected. On the other hand, the dimensions of the hostile armament were comparatively small. It consisted of about sixty warships, but as to the exact strength of the forces they carried it is impossible to speak with any certainty. Adopting the strategy subsequently pursued by the YUAN invaders, they directed their first attack against Tsushima, the Warden of which, unable to offer any effective resistance, fled to Dazaifu in Chikuzen. Having overrun the island, the Tartars next proceeded to Iki, where they completely routed the little garrison, and killed the Warden, together with the greater part of the islanders. It is recorded that only one priest succeeded in escaping to Dazaifu to convey the alarm. On the 7th of April, that is to say, ten days after they had reached Tsushima, the invaders appeared off the coast of Ido District, in Chikuzen Province, and carried havoc and destruction into the surrounding countries. They made prisoners of some five hundred men and women and slaughtered a far larger number of the inhabitants, without distinction of sex or age. But their triumph did not last long. Never was there a more signal example of circumstances begetting the men to deal with them. TAKAIYE, though a purely civil official, and still further incapacitated by blindness for the discharge of military duties, promptly summoned the troops from all the neighbouring districts, and organized them with a view to meeting the enemy, and, at the same time, guarding the coast. A sanguinary and stoutly contested battle ensued, in the sequel of which the Tartars had to retire. But their strength was not broken. On the very next day they made their appearance in Hakata Bay and occupied an island there as a basis of operations. Hakata itself was in great peril. On the 9th of the same month the invaders approached the town and attempted to set it on fire. They were fiercely opposed by the garrison, who at length succeeded in repulsing them and forcing them to retire to the island. On the two succeeding days, a storm prevented the invaders from renewing their attack, and this respite was turned to full account by the Japanese troops. They strengthened the defences of the coast, and temporarily repaired their ships. On the 12th, as soon as the storm subsided, TAKAIYE ordered SHONI TOMOKUNI and OKURA TANEKI to assume the offensive. About thirty Japanese ships under the command of these two men attacked the enemy's head-quarters, dislodged him, and drove him out to the open sea. But the Tartars were splendidly pertinacious: next day they appeared off the coast of Matsuura in Hizen and effected a landing. The Warden of the district marshalled all the troops at his disposal to repel the invaders, and promptly conveyed intelligence of their landing to the Central Office at Dazaifu. TAKAIYE immediately despatched strong reinforcements, and by these, acting in concert with the garrison of Matsuura, the enemy was at last routed. Repeatedly baffled in their attempt to effect a lodgment on the mainland of Kyushu, the invaders finally abandoned their intention and sailed away toward Korea, carrying with them a large number of Japanese prisoners. Meanwhile, news of the appearance of the hostile foreign flotilla had excited much anxiety at the Imperial Court in Kyoto. Delegates were promptly sent to the Shrines of Ise and the other Ten Shrines to supplicate divine aid, and the tutelary deities were thanked with equal fervour when, four days later, tidings came from Dazaifu reporting the successive repulses of the invaders.

The vessels employed by the Tartars on this occasion seem to have been of inconsiderable dimensions—from 54 to 72 feet long with banks for 30 to 40 oars. The invaders were armed with halberds, swords, bows and arrows, and shields. The halberdiers occupied the front rank; then came the wielders of broad swords, and the bowmen brought up the rear. Each carried a shield. Their arrows measured little above

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a foot in length, but so great was the strength of their bows that the shafts are said to have killed men protected by shields. It is recorded that they were great eaters, and that they consumed large quantities of water, an unusual taste among warriors nine centuries ago. Their exact numerical strength was never known. The actual combats between invaders and invaded did not last long, but the casualties on the side of the peaceful inhabitants of the district were heavy. The total killed, men and women, amounted to 471, while captives to the number of 1,280 were carried away, together with 380 head of cattle. On the other hand, a number of the invaders were made prisoners, and when examined they were found to be for the most part Koreans. They declared that the marauders belonged to the Toi tribe, which had long harassed the coasts of Korea and carried away Koreans to fight under their banners. This was corroborated by the account of a Tsushima official who, having been captured by the Tartars, made his escape when the ships reached Korea, and succeeded, not only in getting back himself, but also in rescuing his wife and children who had been carried off at the same time. In September of that year a delegate arrived from Korea, escorting 280 Japanese, of whom 60 were men and the rest women. He was richly rewarded by the Imperial Court. Such was the first foreign trouble that overtook Japan during the era of authentic history.

The Toi were one of the Tartar tribes that subsequently grew powerful enough to defeat and displace the Liao from the northern districts of China bordering Liao-tung Bay, and to establish there an independent kingdom called Chin. This kingdom was afterward conquered and absorbed by the famous tribe of Tartars, who under GENGHIS KHAN, TAMERLANE, and KUBLAI, gradually subdued the whole of China and even carried terror to Europe. A few words may be added about TAKAIYE. He was the second son of FUJIWARA MICHITAKA, who held for some time the highest post in the State, that of *Kwanpaku* (Prime Minister), and his eldest sister was the consort of the Emperor ICHIJYO. But the branch of the great FUJIWARA Family of which TAKAIYE was a descendant, had gradually declined in power and prosperity, and been overshadowed by another section of the same Family, that of MICHINAGA, TAKAIYE'S uncle. Thus the relations between uncle and nephew were anything but cordial. Great and able as MICHINAGA was, he held his nephew in awe, for TAKAIYE was a man of strong mind and varied capacities. Nevertheless, the prosperity of TAKAIYE'S house could never be restored to its former state, and, despairing of rebuilding its fortunes, he applied for the position of Dazei-gon-no-sotsu, or Governor-General of Kyushu, an office generally occupied by some high official sentenced to exile. When TAKAIYE was about 41 years old the invasion of the Toi tribe happened. A short time previously he had been attacked by eye disease and became totally blind. He died in the year 1044 A.D.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

BAD ENGLISH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—For the benefit of workmen who are not entirely familiar with the tools they attempt to use, I beg to suggest that "preventitive"—which frequently appears in the columns of one of your Yokohama contemporaries—is not a word of the English Language, and is denounced as "a gross blunder" by authoritative dictionaries. Its habitual employment is an offence to

CORRECT DICTION.

August 20th, 1895.

"CÆSAR AND CHRIST."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me to make a few comments on the article "Cæsar and Christ" which appeared in yesterday's issue of your paper.

Though much might be said from a theological point of view about the manner in which Our Lord Jesus Christ is spoken of in your article, I shall in no wise attempt to touch upon that point. Newspapers, in my opinion, and those published in the East more especially, are not fit mediums for the discussion of theological matters, for the reason that their readers are not qualified to appreciate at their true value the arguments which might be brought forth.

But setting aside all theological discussion, I feel constrained to say that your article must have deeply wounded the feelings of all those of your readers, who, like myself, with heart and soul believe in the divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ. One is painfully surprised to find in your paper such an uncalled for offence to the most sacred feeling of the Christian public.

As to the opinion of the writer of the article regarding the relative positions occupied by the Roman Empire and Christianity in the progress of civilization, I have no desire to dispute with him. Not a jot will it influence the plans of Divine Wisdom nor the teachings of History.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

P. M. OSOUF,
Arch. of Tokyo.

Tokyo, Aug. 23rd, 1895.

We do not understand the complaint of our correspondent. No question whatever was raised in our article as to the divinity of Christ. That matter was not touched at all. On the contrary, the supernatural side of the problem was carefully and explicitly put aside. What the writer of the article undertook to do was to draw a purely historical parallel between Christ and Cæsar in so far as concerned the influence of each upon modern European civilization. A special phase of Christ's life and teaching was considered from a purely scientific point of view, just as a meteorologist might consider the climatic influence of a chain of mountains without any reference whatever to their origin.—ED. *J.M.*]

ADMIRAL BELKNAP.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My attention has just been called to a letter published in your weekly issue of the 16th March last, in which the writer, over the signature of "An Englishman," mentions "the vulgar virulence of Admiral Belknap."

Let me crave a brief space in your columns at this late day to say that what I have written for the home press concerning recent events in the Orient has been published over my own name. Whatever I may have said displeasing to that Englishman, or to any other individual of that strong and masterful race, the shelter of an anonymous or generic name was not used for such purpose.

I had the pleasure of meeting and knowing many Englishmen at Yokohama but a short time ago. They were men who seemed to have the courage of their convictions. They were neither afraid nor ashamed to come out into the open and say or write what they felt or thought, face to face, or over their own unhesitating signatures. Let me commend their spirit and fearlessness to your correspondent, so that the pluck of the true Briton may be revived in his breast, and his own honourable name and high standing be proudly revealed to all.

None may gainsay that John Bull is one of the greatest factors in the world's affairs to-day, and his sons are amply able to repel what they may deem to be assaults upon his grandeur and achievements without resort to the cover of anonymous resentment. If, sad to say, some of us Americans are "vulgar" or "sham patriots," or "micromatic," we may possibly have inherited such traits from our British ancestry. The roots of some of us, indeed, run back to men and women born in the mother isle in the days of Queen Bess—days when the amenities of life were not such as govern Anglo-Saxon Norman communities in this day of progress and enlightenment. At all events, we Americans like to have our faults flung at us, if the thing is to be done at all, in bluff old Elizabethan or Cromwellian fashion. We shrink not from any blows that may be given us, and pray that the folk in motherland may hold their tempers in the same way. In short, let clubs of known handling be used—not pens of anonymous wielding.

It must be admitted that "An Englishman" has given the public a very readable letter, though not, in every particular accurate in its statements. The venerable Lloyd Garrison alluded too died in 1879. The recent Garrisonian correspondent of the London *Times* is a son of the late eminent abolitionist. He is not regarded in this country as a very weighty exponent of general sentiment upon any public question.

British opinion had as much to do in arresting the lynching and burning of negroes in the South as public opinion in this country had to do in arresting the dealings of Governor Eyre and his subordinate officials with the negroes of Jamaica in the ridiculous scare of 1865, when, in a few brief weeks, according to the report of the Royal Commission, "four hundred and thirty nine persons were put to death, and over six hundred, including many women, were flogged, some under circumstances of revolting cruelty. Cats made of piano wire were in some instances used for the better effect of flagellation." These cruelties were justified in all their barbarity by such representative Englishmen as Alfred Tennyson, Charles Kingsley, John Ruskin, Thomas Carlyle, Benjamin Disraeli, and other distinguished personages. *Vide* McCarthy's "History of Our Own Times," or Sanderson's "History of England and the British Empire"—good English authorities.

I would be glad to answer "An Englishman's" vigorous letter in detail, but the distance is too great for effective fire, and I fear to trespass further upon your patience and space.

Your obedient servant,

GEO. E. BELKNAP.

Brookline, Mass., July 19th, 1895.

PERSONAL REMINISCENCES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your issue of the 20th inst., under the heading, "Personal Reminiscences," I am requested to give the precise date of my birth, and though all anonymous attacks do not deserve any mention, I take the trouble (not in view to satisfy "Omega"s curiosity, but for the pure benefit of your readers) to state that I was born in 1816. At the end of 1824 Baron Markendorf (the private secretary of the King of Saxony, and the favourite pupil of Carl Maria von Weber) being a personal friend of my parents, and my first musical adviser, took me to Vienna and introduced me to Beethoven. In 1825 Beethoven's health became so impaired that a change of air was ordered to him. He went in the country to remain with his brother Johann. This incident interrupted my musical studies and we left Vienna; but my mentor on hearing that Mozart's son was living at that time in Lemberg, Austria, took me to him. The young Mozart (he was about 38 years old or 40) and was an employé of the Austrian Government, was anything but a great musician, still he possessed the real traditions of his father's works. He played for me nearly all of them, while before our departure he offered me one of his own sonatas. His great delight was also to relate to my mentor the numerous incidents and anecdotes connected with his father's eventful life. All those present at the reading of my Reminiscences on the 17th inst. heard distinctly that I was speaking of Mozart's son, whom I have known personally, but not of the great Mozart.

I remain, Sir, sincerely yours,

A. DE KONTSKI.

Nikko, August 24th, 1895.

"CHINESE CHARACTERS."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the *Japan Mail* of yesterday I have read with much interest the review of "Chinese Cha-

racters for the use of Students of the Japanese Language" by Mr. Arthur Hyde Lay. The critic bestows a good deal of praise on this work, which is called "an incalculable boon to students, many generations of whom will call him (the author) blessed." Now it is not my intention to detract from the real merits of a work which gives the public for the first time a selection of 4,000 characters with their *on*, *kun*, and English translation—a selection comprising in fact the whole of the characters in daily practical use. Such a selection has long been a *desideratum*, and must prove indeed a boon to every student of the Japanese language. At the same time I think it would have been but fair if the shortcomings of the book in question had also been pointed out, for the shortcomings mentioned in the review—absence of running-hand characters and of tables of the *kana*—are scarcely to the point, as neither *sōsho* nor *kana* has anything to do with the plan of the work. Allow me therefore to draw attention to some other shortcomings of the same, which, in my opinion, must be considered real obstacles to its obvious object, to facilitate the study of Chinese characters in this country.

In the first place I have been surprised by the extraordinary number of misprints which occur almost on every page, beginning from the very first (in the preface) and continuing throughout the whole book. Nor are these misprints limited to English words, but—what is worse—they occur as frequently in the Romaji and sometimes even in the characters themselves, for example 復 (p. 14) instead of 復 which of course belongs to Radical 彳; 廠 instead of 敞 (p. 42); 采 instead of 采 (p. 54); 損 instead of 損 (p. 55); 晴 instead of 晴 (p. 60); 稟 instead of 稟 (p. 88); 芃 instead of 芃 (p. 90); 緣 instead of 緣 (p. 94); 采 instead of 采 (p. 123); 飽 instead of 鮑 (p. 135).

By the by—how on earth comes the Buddhistic symbol 卐 (p. 22, placed under Rad. 十!) into the company of Chinese characters!

Now for something else. In many—although by far not in all—cases, where there exists, besides the principal form of a character, an abbreviated, or obsolete one, which I for brevity's sake will call secondary form, this latter is given below in small print. That in itself of course would be very laudable, did it not rather often happen that the secondary form is given the place of the principal, and *vice versa*. So we find the original positions exchanged between 刺 and 刺* (p. 19); 塲 and 場 (p. 30); 岩 and 嵒 (p. 39); 嶋 and 島 (p. 40—the form 島 is wanting altogether); 概 and 槩 (p. 65); 携 and 攜 (p. 57); 澁 and 澀 (p. 74); 稚 and 稺 (p. 88), 算 and 筭 (p. 91); 脇 and 脅 (p. 100), 芽 and 芽 (p. 103); the correct forms 刃 垂 言 and 音 are not given at all, but only their variations 刄 埀 言 and 音 and on.

If not only the "principal," but also the important "secondary" forms were to be included in the compass of the work, it is difficult to understand why we do not find 尊 besides 尊, 凡 besides 凡, 劍 besides 劍, 忍 besides 忍, 寧 besides 寧, 并 besides 并, 研 besides 研, 普 besides 普, 吊 besides 弔, 棄 besides 棄, 往 besides 往, 汗 besides 汚, 決 besides 決, 添 besides 添, 畫 or 画 besides 畫, 眞 besides 眞, 乱 besides 亂, 辞 besides 辭 & on & on. The principal of giving also the secondary forms as far as they are of frequent occurrence ought to have been carried through—why was it not?

The same question might also be asked with regard to the synonyms which, in some cases have been added and in others not.

The characters are arranged under their Radicals according to the number of their strokes; but unfortunately this principle is very often broken through, so that *e.g.* amidst characters with 8 strokes there suddenly appears a character with 9 or 10, or perhaps 7 strokes, as the case may be. There are still other drawbacks which stand in the way of making practical use of the book as a dictionary. In the first place, the Radicals do not sufficiently strike the eye, being only indicated on the margin, and not made conspicuous in the text itself, so that it is not evident at the first glance where one Radical is at an end and where a new one begins. Then the Radicals on the margin—which sometimes are not indicated at all, as 支 on p. 57, or stand not in their right place, as 儿 on p. 17 (its place being on p. 16), or 己 on p. 40, or 彳 on p. 44; the very order of which appears sometimes inverted, as in the case of Rad. No. 95 and 96 (p. 79-80), and No. 165 and 166 (p. 123)—ought to be accompanied by their *number*, as this number is most essential—in fact the *conditio sine quâ non* for the practical use of dictionaries of this kind. Perhaps it would also have been better to employ, instead of the horizontal arrangement in squares, the usual vertical order as found in the dictionary of the Rev. Gring, of which also the distribution of the characters belonging to the same Radical under the three initial strokes 一 丨 丿 might have been borrowed to the great advantage of the work.

Some characters occur under Radicals where, under ordinary circumstances, they are not looked for, *e.g.* 眞 under 匕 instead of 目, 局 under 口 instead of 尸, 染 and 渠 under 氵 instead of 木 and so on. On p. 93 the character 穀 quite unaccountably makes its appearance under the Rad. 米. To have done with the chapter of Radicals I should still mention, that it would have been very desirable if Radicals having no existence as independent characters—and the number of such is very conspicuous—had been distinguished from the other characters by some mark.

But the shortcoming which, in my opinion, is the most serious of all, has still to be pointed out. It is this. A great number of *kun* or *yomi* are given which are quite valueless because not in practical use; there would be no harm in this, provided that they were discernable from those *kun* which *are* in use; but unfortunately such a distinction has not been made. In some way or other the latter ought to have been distinguished from the former, which only render the meaning of the character, but are never employed when *reading* or *pronouncing* it. To give only a few examples: 座 (p. 42) is never read "*idokoro*," but always *za*; 嫡 (p. 35) cannot be read "*tadashii*" or "*kimi*," but only *chaku*; 德 (p. 45) is never read "*megumu*" nor "*saiwai*" either, but always *toku*, and besides—but only in names—*nori*; 灣 (p. 75) never "*mizu no kuma*" but always *wan*; 衙 (p. 108) never "*matsurigoto-dono*," but always *ga*; 譜 (p. 113) never "*fuda*" or "*tsuzuki*" but always *fu* and so on and so on. The otherwise excellent dictionary of the Rev. Gring partakes of the same inconvenience in a still higher degree and is, by its indiscriminate amassing of so-called "*yomi*," rendered comparatively useless. So it gives *e.g.* for the character 行 no less than 17 *yomi*, of which however only 2, *okonau* and *yuku*, are of practical value; the character 衍 is furnished with even more (21!) "readings," of which not a single one is ever employed, the character being invariably read after its *on* only. It really is a great pity that the latest, just published selection of Chinese characters should not have kept itself free from this fault of making no difference between genuine *Kun* and mere expletive Japanese translations, for if it had avoided this most embarrassing ambiguity, its value for students would have been incomparably greater than it is now.

Whereas so many useless *yomi* are given which can only have the effect of puzzling the student, many a really important, genuine *yomi* has been omitted, *e.g. mazu* for 先 (p. 16), *hatsu* for 初 (p. 19), *o*, *on*, *mi* for 御 (p. 45), *omote* 表 (p. 108), and others.

Also among the *on* we meet a good many which would better have been dropped, or at least put in brackets to indicate their comparative insignificance. Moreover, quite a number of the *on* given in the text are erroneous, as *e.g. shi* (*sha*!) for 差 (p. 40), *tatsu* (*shō* or *sha*!) for 姐 (p. 33), *chū* (*chō*!) for 惆 (p. 47); *kan* (*kwan*!) for 慣 (p. 49), *kai* (*gai*!) for 拐 (p. 52), *san* (*satsu*!) for 撒 (p. 56), *ha* (*han*!) for 播 (p. 56), *hō* (*bō*!) for 旁 (p. 58), *dō*, *nō* (*jō*!) for 曩 (p. 60), *shō* (*jō*!) for 牀 (p. 62), *jin* (*shin*!) for 稔 (p. 88), *san* (*zan*!) for 簪 (p. 89), *ha* (*hi*!) for 簸 (p. 92) and so on. Many errors occur also as to the length of vowels, *e.g. ko* (*kō*!) for 敲, *rio* (*riō*!) for 料, *ho* (*hō*!) for 方—all three examples taken from p. 58; *sho* (*shō*!) for 昌 (p. 59), *shū* (*shu*!) for 狩 (p. 78), and many others. Sometimes important *on* have been omitted, as *jitsu* for 十, *nitsu* for 日, *ketsu* for 欠, *motsu* for 物 and so on. Nor is there any consistency in the order of the *on*, sometimes *Kanon*, sometimes *Goon* taking the first place. Take p. 33: *jo*, *nio*; *do*, *nu*, etc., are in the *Kanon-Goon* order, but *miō*, *biō*; *sai*, *sei* are in the *Goon-Kanon* order. This inconsistency is to be regretted, for it is by no means immaterial to know which of two given *on* belongs to *Kanon* and which to *Goon*.

In cases where the meaning of a character depends on its *on*, or, perhaps more correctly, where the *on* of a character depends on its meaning, as *e.g.* 易, which, when pronounced *eki* means *exchange*, but when pronounced *i*, means *easy*; or 樂 (*gaku*: music; *raku*: joy), this difference ought to have been pointed out.

But this letter has already attained such an unwarrantable length, that I now must hurry to the end. I have noticed the absence of some for the most part very common, characters, as 厄, 叫, 塋, 貧, 夸, 獎, 嬉, 寶, 惻, 戰, 捍, 構, 揣, 搭, 棊, 椒, 旋, 旌, 歡, 歎, 瑤, 菩 and many others. It is possible that some of these may be in the book, but certainly I did not find them under their usual Radicals. It also happened to me that I looked in vain for the very common character 減, until I discovered that it stands under the Rad. 氵 in the rather unusual form 減.

In the Appendix a list of *nanori* is given, which (in the preface) is said to be "fairly representative"; I failed, however, to find in it such well-known *nanori* as *Kiyomori*, *Yoshitsune*, *Yoritomo*, *Nobunaga*, *Iyeyasu*, *Hidetada*, *Iyemitsu*, *Yoshimune* and so on.

The list of *kuni*, *fu*, and *ken* would be much more serviceable, if it were arranged alphabetically, and if such common Sinico-Japanese designations as *Banshū* (for *Harima*), *Bōshū* (for *Awa*), *Geishū* (for *Aki*), *Jōshū* (for *Kōzuke*), *Kōshū* (for *Kai*) etc. had been included. The old poetical name "*Michinoku*" ought to be replaced by *Mutsu*. The second character in *Kagoshima* (兒) is wanting. The orthography is sometimes inconsistent; *cf. Bichū*, *Rikuchū*, but on the other hand *Etchiū*; *Miye*, but *Akiie*, etc.

I am, Sir, yours most sincerely,

P. EHMANN.

Mitake, August 18th, 1895.

* I always give the "principal," that is the correct, or at least the more usual form first.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

The following telegram to the *New York Herald*, dated London July 27th, discloses an uneasy state of affairs in Europe:—

Since a large Conservative majority in the House of Commons is seen to be assured, there is a resurgence of jingoism in the press and from the platform. This condition of affairs heralds a stormy time if Lord Salisbury should seek to satisfy the aspirations of his followers.

The foreign papers are all alert to the situation. The French papers are assiduously advocating the use of the Franco-Russian alliance to drive Great Britain out of Egypt and to meet her intrigues with the Porte. The Italian papers claim that the change of government here will result in a revival of the Salisbury-Crispi *entente*, while the Berlin and Vienna journals hail the restoration of a Conservative policy, declaring that it is almost tantamount to the incorporation of Great Britain into the Triple Alliance.

The Globe, a conservative paper, to-day strikes a key note, advocating the boldest attack by Great Britain on France at every point where their interests may come in collision. France, this paper says, must be made to understand that there is no hope of the evacuation of Egypt until Great Britain deems the time fitting. It adds that the ridiculous claims of France to an extension of her sphere of influence in the Soudan must be met by a British advance from Uganda and from Egypt simultaneously. The Mahdi should be suppressed by a campaign from Egypt, and Great Britain should hold sway from the Upper Nile to Alexandria. In Siam the French claims to the eastern bank of the Meikong River must not be allowed. Siam, it declares, is ripe for a British protectorate.

Continuing, the *Globe* says that Russia cannot be permitted to acquire Port Lazareff, but if she does acquire that place Great Britain must receive a *quid pro quo*.

These musts and must nots fairly represent the ideas entertained by the Conservatives, and it will be seen that should the government make an attempt to carry them to their logical conclusion, there will be stormy times ahead, diplomatically, if not otherwise.

The *Statist*, commenting on the uneasy feeling in regard to European politics, says that it had led to large sales. Consols, which during the second week of July were quoted at 108, with dividend, are this week as low as 106⅛, and all foreign stocks are heavy.

Lord Salisbury has sent a protest to Paris and Pekin against China ceding or France accepting territory that is included in the Anglo-French Buffer State agreement of 1893.

The contingency to which attention was first drawn by the European edition of the *Herald* in an editorial transmitted by Commercial Cable and

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published in these columns on Friday last, has now, as the foregoing despatch shows, attracted the attention of the London press. As the Russian statesman who was interviewed by a special correspondent of the *Herald* in St. Petersburg said, Russia will consider herself entitled to act with France in regard to Egypt—in other words, the French government will now find itself, with a backing which Lord Salisbury will scarcely find it possible to disregard.

This Egyptian question, as all the world knows, is one upon which France feels very strongly. Ever since she withdrew from her partnership with England in regard to Egyptian affairs, thirteen years ago, she has never ceased to aim at ousting her successful rival from the land of the Pharaohs, and as the years have gone by and England's hold upon the country has grown stronger this desire on the part of France has become constantly more intense. It received emphatic expression a few weeks ago in the Presidential address delivered at the first meeting of the new "Egyptian Committee" recently formed in Paris. In the course of his address, M. Deluns-Montaud, president of the society, said:—

We have in Egypt, at Cairo, at Alexandria, all along the Nile, a prosperous colony. French capital is doing wonders; it is establishing workshops and holding in its hands a large portion of the industry and trade. By a tradition dating back more than three centuries we are by virtue of the famous Capitulations the protectors of the East. We enjoy among the Egyptians prestige and glory. Our officers have been the instructors of their armies. Our *savants*—Champollion, Mariette, Maspero, Grebaut—have revealed to the world this venerated mother of civilizations.

"Our work will consist in bringing about the military evacuation of Egypt by the free adhesion of the English to the sole solution meet for their dignity and for ours as well as for the interests of all nations. This solution is a return to the *status quo ante*. Egypt would be independent under reservation of the rights of suzerainty of the Porte and the control of its creditors. It would be fitting to place this independence under the guarantee of a neutrality analogous to that existing in Europe in the case of certain states. It is solely to shed light upon the question and to bring to an end deplorable misunderstandings that we form this committee."

The French colony in Egypt, to quote M. Octave Uzanne, in a recent letter to the Paris *Figaro*, is the Alsace-Lorraine of the East. French political power in Egypt may not be strong, but the influence of France is still everywhere apparent. The official language is still French, the clubs are French, plays and opera are given in the theatres in that language, and two newspapers, the *Journal d'Alexandrie* and the *Journal Egyptien*, represent the French press. The French colony consists of 15,700 persons, and the commerce with French is fourth in order of importance, coming after that of England, Turkey, and Russia.

The typical English view of the Egyptian question is summed up in the following sentences, taken from an editorial in a leading London weekly on the subject of the visit of the British fleet to Alexandria:—

"Nor should this superb naval demonstration be without some profit for those jealous European Powers which want to get the English out of Egypt. It signifies in the plainest possible way that the same sort of instrumentality which ousted Arabi would be employed without hesitation were due occasion to arise for the defence of Nileland against outside interference. England says to the Powers, individually and collectively, 'Je suis, j'y reste.' Her troops will embark when their work is done, but not a moment before. 'For how long?' indignantly ask our neighbours. Well, the duration of our stay mainly depends upon whether France expedites or delays the progress of our administrative programme. The less opposition it encounters the earlier will be the date of evacuation. In the meanwhile, an occasional naval demonstration off the coast may serve as a reminder that the British bulldog, although a poor hand at barking, bites to the bone."

As a symptom of French feeling in regard to Egypt we may take the acceptance by the Chamber of Deputies of a painting offered to it last month by an Egyptian journalist, Mr. Mustapha Kamel, who is shown presenting a petition to France. "The Liberator of Nations," for the deliverance of Egypt. Egypt is represented in fetter and guarded by a figure symbolical of brute force. The picture is entitled, "Appeal for help of the Egyptian People to France, the Liberator of Nations."

Besides the Egyptian question, Lord Salisbury will have another problem to solve. As stated in the foregoing cable, he has filed a protest against "China ceding or France accepting territory that it included in the Anglo-French Buffer State agreement of 1893." This protest is directed against the convention between France and China signed last month, which convention completed the northern boundary of the French possessions in Indo-China and definitely settled all the economic and commercial questions that had arisen between France and China. Part of the territory conveyed to France under this convention consisted of the Shan State of Kiang-Hung, over which England once claimed proprietorship on the ground that the Shan chiefs were vassals of Burmah. She, however, later abandoned her rights to China, but with the proviso that "His Majesty the Chinese Emperor could not, without previously obtaining the assent of Her Britannic Majesty, cede" this territory or any fraction of it to any foreign nation.

Despite this reservation the territory in question has been ceded by China to France, and Lord Salisbury may find some difficulty in giving effect to his protest. M. Hanotaux, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been highly praised by the Paris press for his success in this matter, and will not early abandon the newly acquired territory. As one Paris paper said recently:—"This constitutes for us a precious advantage which we must not allow to be lost by our indifference, timidity, or ignorance."

AQUATIC SPORTS AT YOKOHAMA.

The annual aquatic sports, or, more properly speaking, water frolics of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, were favoured with perfect weather on Wednesday. At four o'clock, when the first event was supposed to start, but did not, the surface of the harbour fronting the Boat-house was as still as still could be, and so it remained throughout, not a ripple disturbing its glassy placidity. Yet the temperature of the water was not disagreeably high, allowing the competitors to remain in almost as long as they liked without sustaining the fatigue inseparable from over warm water. The polo-match was the feature of the affair, and this year the ladies, of whom there was a large assembly, were able to follow the fun more closely, the "debateable territory" being arranged closer in. The tilting tournament ended in a draw greatly in favour of H. Goldman, last year's winner, though Gibbs made a gallant fight of it. Still with the failing light—it was a quarter to seven o'clock and the moon had long been up—and an indifferent weapon, no other result could have been expected. The officials were, Mr. J. Rickett, Captain; Mr. F. J. Hall, Hon. Sec., and Mr. C. K. M. Martin, time-keeper. Details:—

BATH-TUB RACE.

G. Hood—1.

Four started, G. Hood, E. H. Irwine, W. D. Moss, and Harold Y. Irwine. The course was about forty yards, out and home. Moss was the first to hurriedly leave his tub on the paddle out, but all the others managed to turn for home. Harold Irwine led easily at this point, with Hood close up. Harold grew excited, however, as he saw the water gradually enroaching upon his sitting-room and in a short space he was completely swamped and heeled over. He managed to empty his tub of the superfluous water, but to get into it again and resume the race was a far more difficult matter. Eventually the other competitors also came to grief, leaving Hood alone to paddle in, and win at his own convenience.

TILTING TOURNAMENT.—1ST HEAT.

R. Abenheim beat P. E. Webb.
E. H. Irwine beat R. Böhlke.
H. Goddard beat L. Goetschel.
J. B. Gibbs beat H. F. Arthur.
N. J. Sargent beat H. S. Goddard.
R. Ackland beat E. A. Morphy.
H. Goldman beat W. D. Moss.
G. Hood, a bye.

The first heat passed off rather tamely, most of those "knocked out" overbalancing themselves almost before the tilting-pole touched them. The bout between Irwine and Böhlke was well fought out.

2ND HEAT.

J. B. Gibbs beat H. Goddard.
R. Abenleim beat E. H. Irwine.
N. J. Sargent beat G. Hood.
H. Goldman beat R. Ackland.

3RD HEAT.

J. B. Gibbs beat R. Abenheim.
H. Goldman beat N. J. Sargent.

Both these contests were of a keen nature, "two all" being called before the decider.

FINAL.

H. Goldman and J. B. Gibbs, a draw.

Gibbs' tilting-pole broke off at the head twice, and as the evening was drawing on, and the contest seemed most undecided, the competitors agreed to call the bout a draw.

GREASY POLE.

H. F. Arthur.

Twelve out of the fifteen entries essayed the attempt, these being R. Ackland, H. F. Arthur, W. M. Carst, J. B. Gibbs, H. Goldman, G. Hood, E. Irwine, H. Y. Irwine, W. D. Moss, N. J. Sargent, and P. E. Webb. The duck and its basket fell into the water after the second competitor had started, but this was due to the vibration of the pole. The basket was again placed in position, and at the eleventh attempt—made by Master Carst, who got a good way out—the duck escaped from the basket altogether and made tracks for the shipping. Immediately, every one on the Bathing Barge who could was in pursuit, and after a short but smart chase the quarry was caught by one of the brothers Goddard, and once more returned to its confinement. Yet again the bird effected an escapse, and this time it was picked up by a gentleman on a sampan, where it remained. Arthur was eventually adjudged the winner of the event.

WATER POLE.

Red—(Tea, Silk, Curios, and Insurance).

Mr. Schellenberg, goal; K. Kingdon, A. L. Mottu, backs; H. R. Mair (Capt.), C. Abenheim, H. Goldman, half-backs; H. S. Goddard, H. F. Arthur, E. H. Irwine, forwards.

White—(The Rest).

P. E. Webb, goal; G. Hood (Capt.), H. Goddard backs; H. A. Poole, R. Ackland, half-backs; N. J. Sargent, E. A. Morphy, W. D. Moss, forwards.

Seven minutes were allowed for each end. Red opened strong, and were soon pressing their opponents' goal. White managed to clear their lines, and soon after a free throw from the line fell to the Red. Again the Whites' were hard pressed and a goal nearly resulted. H. S. Goddard finally secured the ball and by a clever throw secured the first goal for his side. In the second half Red notched two more goals, one being obtained by H. S. Goddard and the other by Mottu. The Red team thus won by three goals to *nil*.

CALITHUMPIANS.

For this time-honoured "turn-out," only three men put in an appearance and which of the lot carried away the palm it was very hard to decide. H. F. Arthur appeared as a Chinese steward; Eric Irwine was attired in parti-coloured robes and tail, which one might have taken as representing the "Wild Man of Borneo," or a Manchurian tiger; while P. E. Webb, in a chaste and simple white night-gown of antique pattern, struck an attitude suggestive of a sweet Water Nymph: only the battered silk top-hat which covered his head rather destroyed the illusion.

SAMPAN RACE.

A. L. Mottu and L. Salabelle; J. Carst, and W. M. Carst; dead heat.

Eight sampans started but only the two given above finished the course. Coming down for home these two sampans got too close together, and interfered with each other's progress so much that neither could win.

YOUTH, LOVE, AND DEATH.

Youth came to her one morn, and kissed her eyes,
With pearly kisses pale and pure.
Soft promises he sang; and subtle lies,
Most tempting sweet, most sweetly sure.
She clasped him in her arms, and bid him stay:
He kissed her brow of snow; then fled away:
For Youth must yield to Age: Night follow Day!

But while pink youth still linger'd, Love came by:
He kissed her lips, so ripe and fair.
Red roses bloomed, and white stars lit the sky;
And Love, he languished in her hair.
She clasped him to her breast, and bid him stay;
He kissed her upturned face, then sped away:
For Passion yields to scorn,—the Sages say!

Then Death draws nigh; and, with his kisses cold,
He woos and wins that weary heart.
Her yielding form his hungry arms enfold;
"Sweetheart!" he breathes, "we ne'er must part!"
"Ah! welcome Death!" she sighs, "I bid thee stay;
Thy bride, she drinks thy rapturous kiss to-day;
Sweet Youth, rich Love, they both hence fled away!"

* * * * * * * * *

Then Death, he drew her head upon his breast,
And wafted o'er her lips the kiss of Rest!

E. M. D'A.

LETTER FROM HONGKONG.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Hongkong, Aug. 10.

Like all the foreign communities in the East, and indeed like all the civilised world irrespective of race or religion, Hongkong has been stung to the core with burning indignation at the Chinese atrocities in the neighbouring province of Fukien: atrocities perpetrated perhaps in the name of religion, or of colour, or of political objects, or local disputes, but none the less atrocities perpetrated upon those who should, who must, in the name of all that is human, be regarded as safe from such troubles, those whose lives are jealously guarded as sacred in every land, but China—helpless women and little children, from tiny fair-haired darlings of a few months or three and four years, to gentle ladies of good birth and noble character, all cut and hacked, and mangled, and torn with fiendish glee by a filthy mob of pestilential reptiles who did not even stop to kill their prey outright before burning the house overhead! It is a hideous story, more awful and repulsive than Rider Haggard's "Hot-pots," for the victims here are not strong men but weak women and babies in arms. And it is not the doing of a few slaves at the bidding of a monstrous despotic maniac, but it is the crime of a whole community which joined with delight in the horried carnival of torture, a whole nation which revels in similar scenes whenever and wherever two or three helpless ones are gathered together without a strong arm to defend. It is foolish of the missionaries, it is a thousand pities that they leave women and children without a body-guard; but none the less it is a crying shame, a disgrace to humanity, that a race of brute beasts addicted to such excesses should longer be allowed to indulge its frightful passions with freedom and impunity. These are not individual crimes, they are notional characteristics, developed slowly and surely by centuries of uninterruped crystallisation since the days of Attila.

Details of the sorrowful story I need not give you now, as they have reached Shanghai first and will be in your hands before now. A meeting was held in Hongkong last Thursday, as I have already informed you by telegram, and resolutions were passed expressing sympathy with those bereaved, and indignation first at the murderers, secondly at the Chinese Government which connives, and thirdly at the British Government which could put an end to these outrages but never does. The meeting was unanimous, and cordial enough; but the circumstances under which it was held were not creditable to Hongkong. In the first place, as the only British possession in this part of the world, Hongkong should have been first in the field with a public demonstration, whereas it was last. Nobody would take the lead, nor apparently offer to follow the lead of anyone else. The Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council talked about it in a half-hearted way and finally decided that they could not call a meeting for various reasons, all satisfactory for men who do not wish to do anything. The Chamber of Commerce could not regard the matter as their affair. The officials were barred, as representatives of the British Government, from taking part in a demonstration against a "friendly" government. And those are all the leaders we have in Hongkong. We have no organisation for giving vent to public feeling. We have no public feeling to give vent to, as a general rule; every man is for himself and the devil takes the Colony. In the Hongkong Directory there is a Hongkong branch of the China Association, theoretically just the thing; practically it does not exist except in the directories. In the pigeon-holes of somebody's office desk there is a draft scheme for a Ratepayers' Association, if the rats have not nibbled it all away; it has been there two years, since it was provisionally approved by a public meeting and referred to a committee.

There are many individuals in conventional leading positions in the Colony, but they never lead. There are members of a millionaire family which takes its name from the Armenian village known to the world by the atrocities over which Britain is showing so much agitation; but these millionaires, who have made their millions under the British flag, showed only a languid kind of agitation over atrocities committed upon British women and children. There is a flourishing Armenian colony here, but it was too diffident to reciprocate by calling a meeting, or by speaking when the meeting was called. There are capitalists who sit on every directorate in the colony, but would not direct public feeling now. There are men whose names figure at the head of every movement which requires mere names, every sleepy society, church bodies, charities, subscriptions, and the rest; but this was a case for action, and they did not think themselves required. I know some who had to be shamed into it by their wives—for the women were roused over this massacre of the Innocents, and every English mother who heard the horrible story of the infants slaughtered would have dragged her husband to the front by the coat collar if necessary; and in some cases it was almost necessary.

But it must not be supposed that Hongkong people are callous. Some are; some fear the eternal bugbear of offending the Chinese and so having the commerce of the colony injured; some think meetings useless, but offer nothing better, while willing enough to act if told what to do. All we want is a leader, and Dr. Cantlie came forward, a man always full of spirit, and only doubtful about doing what would more appropriately be done by others, for he has not their status as a leader of the community. But without him the meeting would not have been held, for he only took it up when the others had dropped it.

I need not describe the meeting, as you will of course get it through the usual channels. But there are some facts which have not appeared in the newspapers. I know of a man who wrote offering his services voluntarily in any punitive expedition that might be sent to Fukien; a man of military experience. Others there are who contemplate organising an expedition if the Government fails in its duty—an expedition not to "investigate," but to promulgate Lynch Law in Kucheng; for it is on record, proved by scores of cases, that a dozen men can lay down the law to any number of Chinese. In Canton last year a mob set to work to murder two ladies of an American medical mission for attending to plague patients; and when one man of the I.M. Customs appeared on the scene, the crowd melted away at the sight of his gun. In Chengtu only last month, the whole townful of crawling reptiles was held at bay by two men. It was not love or goodwill that made the Chinese spare their lives. In Kwangtung, too, there was a regular seige of a French mission for ten days by four thousand Chinese with cannon and 500 rifles, against a score or so; and not a soul of the defenders was hurt. In Fatshan last week it was the same. So it would not be difficult for a handful of determined Britons to do what they like in Fukien; and if, as seems likely, the British Government fails to do what all here ardently hope, perhaps there may be an amateur *vendetta*. There are few indeed in Hongkong who would not welcome the project, and there are some who would be only too glad to take part. It would not be particularly difficult to get over or round the opposition of the supine British authorities, and the rest is easy.

LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

(From our Correspondent.)

Healesville, Victoria, July 15th, 1895.

The speech of Mr. H. R. Reid, brother of the present premier of New South Wales, the retiring President of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, delivered at the Annual Meeting of the Chamber a few months ago, was of unusual interest. In a most thorough manner Mr. Reid discussed the policy which is responsible for a large amount of the existing depression in the colonies, and then proceeded to show that there are unmistakable evidences that a turn in the tide has already taken place. Australia is now suffering from the effects of wild extravagance extending over many years. The extravagance was nourished by excessive borrowing. According to Mr. Reid, the total indebtedness of the Australian Colonies to the people of the United Kingdom is not less than £300,000,000, involving an annual payment of interest of, say, £12,500,000. Of this Victoria's indebtedness does not fall short of £80,000,000. Passing on to the Bank Crisis of 1893, Mr. Reid argued that the system of banking which has prevailed in Victoria for many years requires to be entirely recast. A mixed mercantile and mortgage business cannot be carried on to the satisfaction of either borrower or lender. When assets are liquid, the banker can always satisfy the demands of depositors, but when assets consist of a class of security not realisable in a time of depression, mortgages on real estate, the old adage, safe as a bank, no longer holds good. The question of how far it is the duty of the government to render assistance to solvent banks in time of stress is one on which great variety of opinion has been expressed. Mr. Reid drew attention to the fact that during the great financial crisis in England in 1793, Mr. Pitt assisted bankers and merchants most successfully by the issue of Government bills to the extent of £2,200,000, and that of the 228 firms thus aided only two became bankrupt. An act authorising the issue of Treasury bills with the above object in view was passed by the New South Wales Parliament two years ago. On the enormous fall in prices which has taken place during the past few years, Mr. Reid expresses the opinion that the low rates are the result of the immense improvements effected in the modes of production and in the exchanges of commerce. Every new discovery in practical science lessens the cost of production. Where a six-furrow plough does the work in a sixth of the time that it took the single furrow plough to accomplish, the product of the soil is enormously cheapened thereby. "But if you ask me," says Mr. Reid, "What are the greatest obstacles to the Colony's progress my answer would unhesitatingly be—high freights, high interest, fratricidal tariffs." After dealing with these subjects in detail, Mr. Reid went on to discuss the diminution of population in the large cities of Victoria. Melbourne alone has during the last four years lost no less than 82,600 of her citizens. This fact Mr. Reid regarded as a hopeful sign of the times: since the majority of the men who had migrated from the city to the country had swelled the ranks of the producers. And there was no denying that upon the diligence and perseverance of the producers the future of the colonies depended. The following returns show the amount of produce imported into the United Kingdom in 1894:—

	1894.		
	Value of Total Imports.	From Australasia.	From Victoria.
Animals living and meat dead..	£31,823,000	£2,772,000	£167,60
Wheat, barley, oats, flour, maize, &c.	48,223,000	1,097,000	288,355
Butter	13,470,419	No return	833,624
Margarine	3,644,781	Nil	—
Cheese	5,467,337	No return	12,492
Eggs	3,780,320	No return	312
Raw fruit, including hops	6,270,824	No return	541
Wine	5,010,007	60,120	26,008
Leather	7,094,156	624,728	197,578
Tallow and stearine	2,344,775	1,808,076	269,194
Hides, dry and wet	2,230,151	105,018	555
Flax	2,526,207	Nil	—
Poultry and game	480,890	No return	900
Raisins	900,977	Nil	18
Olive oil	894,151	Nil	—
Rape	319,153	Nil	—
Lard	2,758,416	Nil	—
Brandy	1,442,109	No return	7,790
Wood and timber, of all descriptions	16,084,207	No return	998
Oil seeds, of all kinds	653,937	Nil	—
Oil seed cake	1,707,350	Nil	—
Linseed and flax seed	3,941,997	Nil	—
Milk, condensed or preserved...	1,097,425	Nil	—
Sugar	19,149,576	Nil	—
Tobacco	3,512,601	Nil	—
	184,243,564	—	1,805,973

Wool is not included in these figures.

A very warm contest has been going on for some months between Judge Molesworth, a county court judge, and the Government on the subject of judicial independence. It seems that the judges of the Supreme Court have always been free from political influence and control. Their commissions have been made, not as in former days in England, *durante bene placito*, but *quamdiu bene se gesserint*, and their salaries have been absolutely secured to them during the continuance of their commissions. But the reverse has been and still is the case with the County Court judges. In January, 1878, these judges, the police magistrates, and the coroners of Victoria were all summarily dismissed, and the Courts in which they had administered justice were closed. Now these judicial officers possess very great and extensive powers. They transact by far the greatest part of the litigious business of the colony. Fully one-half of the criminal jurisdiction of the country is dealt with by them, the insolvency law, actions both in law and equity up to £500, and by consent of parties, and in mining suits to any amount, actions against the Victorian Railway Commissioners and water supply claims for compensation, without in some instances any right of appeal from their decision. Hitherto the public has been of opinion that an Act passed in 1884 secured to these functionaries the independence enjoyed by judges of the Supreme Court. But recent disclosures have shown that these administrators of the law are still mere Cabinet Stipendiaries. They are appointed during good behaviour and can only be removed for misconduct upon an address of both Houses of Parliament, yet irrespective of their conduct, the Legislative Assembly has the power to deprive them of their salaries and the Council has no voice in the matter. Against this state of things Judge Molesworth uttered in the Insolvency Court, over which he presides, an earnest protest. He pointed out that when it was his duty to deal with the cases of friends of a Minister in power these was the constant danger that impartiality might cost him a considerable reduction in his salary. He stated that numerous cases of bankrupt members of the Legislative Assembly, involving very large amounts, had come before him; that in some of these cases illegal compounding with creditors and other devices for defrauding creditors had been resorted to, and

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that to deal with such cases as they ought to be dealt with it was absolutely necessary that a judge should be both pecuniarily and judicially independent. These remarks led to a long correspondence between the Judge and the Attorney-General, without, however, resulting in any satisfactory solution of the difficulty or in any material alteration in the situation. The public is justly dissatisfied with the state of affairs. "A suitor who knows the real situation," says one writer on the subject, "must have some misgivings when he, for instance, finds himself defendant in an action in which an influential member of parliament—say, the speaker—is plaintiff, with the Minister of Justice or the Attorney-General as legal adviser or counsel. He must feel that the judge will probably be overawed and afraid to offend such powerful persons." Quite recently an application was made to one of these judges to issue an injunction against the Treasurer and another person. Shortly after the Treasurer had to decide what salary that judge was to receive the following year. These judges are under various Acts arbitrators and umpires in cases where large claims are made against the Government. Yet they are in the absolute power of one of the parties to the arbitration. They are expected to resist a temptation to which it is scandalous to expose them. It is to be hoped that the strong feeling which has been shown since the real state of affairs has been disclosed will result sooner or later in the passing of an Act the object of which will be the placing of inferior judges and other administrators of justice on the same independent footing as is accorded to judges of the Supreme Court.

Mr. D. Wilson's annual report of the export trade of the Colony contains some interesting items of information. Last year the total exports of butter were 7,315 tons, which, at a net value of 11d. per lb., gave a total value of butter exported of £761,273, 6s. 8d. This year the total exports for the season have amounted to 11,584¾ tons, which, at an estimated net value of 10d. per lb., give a total value for the year of £1,081,243. The export trade in butter has been gradually on the increase since 1889, as the following table shows:

Year.	Weight. Tons.	Value. £
1889-90	369¼	51,300
1890 91	759¼	91,200
1891-92	2,139½	225,000
1892-93	3,613½	404,432
1893-94	7,652½	761,273
1894-95	11,584¾	1,081,243

It is estimated that every pound of butter requires 2½ gallons of milk. So that no less than 64,874,500 gallons of milk had to be collected and separated in order to produce this enormous amount of butter. The complete return of shipments through the refrigerating depôt in Melbourne for the season is as follows:—

Produce.	Quantity.	Freight. £	s.	Net Value Estimated. £
Butter, tons	11,584¾	94,844	0	1,081,243
Cheese, tons	370¾	3,021	0	16,421
Rabbits and hares, pairs ...	89,417	2,744	0	10,896
Poultry (mixed), pairs... ...	10,388	1,057	0	3,588
Game, pairs	15,061			4,000
Lamb (3,495 carcases), lb. ...	146,647	612	0	1,560
Eggs, doz.	11,796	123	0	420
Vegetables, cwt...	47	18	0	40
Beef, lb.	1,173	4	0	10
Veal, lb.	1,323	5	10	660
Concentrated milk, lb. ...	5,040	19	0	20
Bacon, cwt.	108	47	0	216
Pork, lb.	12,200	56	0	150
Honey, tons	15	64	0	450
Total		102,604	16	1,19,676

Efforts are being made to reduce the freight on all perishable articles to ½d. per lb., to obtain three times the present frozen storage capacity at the receiving depôt, and to insure regular weekly shipments of not less than 600 tons each during the season, say for six months in the year, and regular fortnightly shipments during the remaining months. It is pointed out that since produce has fallen quite 50 per cent. during the past 5 years, it is imperative that freights should be lowered in a corresponding ratio. In the matter of cheese Victoria is not making the progress that she might. The quality of Victoria cheese is still vastly inferior to that exported from Canada. New Zealand is bent on learning the art of success from the Canadians themselves. She has secured the services for one season of a Canadian Government cheese expert, who is now in New Zealand visiting the different factories and instructing the managers in the art of cheese-making according to the Canadian Cheddar system. The desirability of Victoria's adopting a similar course has been urged, but hitherto to no purpose. There is little sale for Australian butter in London during the summer months, say from May to September. It is these months that the Victorians need to devote to cheese-making. Otherwise the butter made during the winter in Australia is largely in excess of the demand in London in October and November, and when placed on the market causes a glut and a consequent reduction in prices.

There is still much talk about Free-trade and Federation, though, in the opinion of some, the two things are by no means likely to go together. A general election is about to take place in New South Wales, which it is confidently predicted will give Mr. G. H. Reid a free-trade majority. But it is contended that the adoption of a free-trade policy by only one of the colonies is likely to retard rather than accelerate Imperial federation. While the oracles of the sister colonies are giving utterance to wise platitudes on the desirability of bringing New South Wales and Victoria into closer union, a most barbarous border warfare is being waged on the banks of the Murray. Before a commercial traveller can cross the bridge that joins the two colonies the brands and colour of his horse and a description of the harness and buggy must be registered. Otherwise the said traveller will be liable on his return to pay a duty of £2 10s. on the horse, about the worth of the animal in these bad times, 45 per cent. on the harness and £15 on the buggy. A poor struggling bankrupt farmer a little time ago arrived at the border with all his belongings in a trap and found that the duty on his horse, trap, and harness would amount to three times the price he gave for them. A butcher who lives on one side of the river and serves customers on the other has to keep a record of every pound of meat carried over the border and to pay 7s. duty on every 100 lb. For every gallon of wine conveyed from one colony to the other 12s. per gallon or about 2s. per bottle have to be paid. Was ever such a sorry spectacle presented under that boasted emblem of liberty, the British flag? How idle sound the perorations of the leading political orators of the two colonies respecting federation in the face of such facts as these. I may be wrong, but the impression which several years study of Australian life and institutions has left on my mind is that federation is yet a great way off. Each colony, each shire, each municipality, has its own narrow interests. To defend these interests against those of their neighbours seems to be the chief aim of life with the vast majority of colonials. Disinterested and public-spirited politicians exist, but not in sufficient numbers to carry the day against the multitude of mammon-worshippers and place-seekers with which the colonies are infested. To the theory of United Australia there is little or no public opposition, but no sooner are any steps for reducing the theory to practice proposed than there is a regular howl of opposition from the men whose coffers have been regularly filled by the heavy protective duties now in force. If New South Wales succeeds in establishing a free-trade policy and has the fortitude to sustain the losses which she will be called upon to undergo for the first few years of her new era, Victoria first, and afterwards the other colonies, will join hands with her in her efforts to remove that greatest of all barriers to federation—protective and restrictive tariffs. But the fear is that neither Mr. Reid's cabinet nor any Ministry that may follow will prove equal to the task of stemming the tide of opposition with which the self-interested section of the community will confront the new reformers. Whatever the result, the contest will be watched with keen interest by the outside world.

In the meantime the results of the parliamentary elections in New South Wales will do much towards clearing the way for improved commercial relations between Australia and Japan. Although a number of side issues were raised during the contest, it was generally admitted that the real contention was whether the fiscal policy of the colony should be based on free trade or protection. Mr. Reid, the New South Wales Premier, is a thorough going free-trader, and has always been such. Sir George R. Dibbs was originally a free-trader, but, having changed his views, has become the leader of the protectionist party. Sir Henry Parkes has always declared himself a free-trader, but latterly he has preached the doctrine that the fiscal question should be placed on one side until the federation of the colonies had become an accomplished fact, when the new Federal Parliament should decide the fiscal policy of the federated colonies. This proposition gained for Sir Henry the support of large numbers of the protectionists, Sir George R. Dibbs diplomatically retiring into the background, but it also made the free-traders more determined than ever. Hence the extraordinary display of party feeling evinced in Sydney during the elections. So far as the leading speeches by Sir Henry Parkes, Mr. Reid, and their principal supporters were concerned, Sir Henry's addresses were composed largely of abuse of Mr. Reid, who was depicted in the darkest colours; while Mr. Reid, nothing loth, was ever ready with a Rowland for each Oliver. But the latter had one advantage, he had placed before the electors a clearly defined policy, while Sir Henry refused to furnish any at all, save that of federation. The results were exactly what might have been anticipated: the electors preferred the substance to the shadow and sent Mr. Reid back to parliament to fight the battle of free trade.

There is now but little question of Sydney and Newcastle becoming practically free ports within the next few months, and one effect of this will be to largely diminish the shipping business of Melbourne and other Australasian ports where heavy customs duties are imposed. Already the other colonies are taking alarm. In Western Australia a large number of articles have been struck out of the tariff, and allowed to enter duly free. In South Australia, the free trade movement is gaining ground; and in Victoria the work of tariff revision is being actively proceeded with, although the reductions fall in depriving the tariff of much of its prohibitory character. All these changes point to an approaching rapid increase of pastoral, agricultural, and mineral production in New South Wales, if not in the rest of Australia. A systematic effort is being made to establish direct communication between Manchester, Sydney, and Melbourne, with the view of enabling a fresh market for Australian meat to be opened. The British manufacturing districts can readily consume every pound of food produce shipped from Australia, but it is naturally expected that in return the colonists shall become purchasers of British manfactures. There must be reciprocity of some kind. It is the same with the direct trade now growing up between Hull, Glasgow, and other British ports, and Australia, which is rapidly becoming a leading source of food supply to the mother country. Indeed, it seems as if a new page in the commercial history of the world was on the point of being opened. Should nothing interfere with the accomplishment of Mr. Reid's intention to abolish the customs house in New South Wales, the ancient glories of Venice may become revived in the southern hemisphere, and a greater future than ever Sir Henry Parkes has dreamed of, be awaiting the Britain of the South.

JOHN PLUMMER.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

Sydney, July 26th.

Japan is to have a visit from another Australian special commissioner. Mr. J. L. Parsons has been entrusted by the Government of South Australia with an honorary commission "to enquire into and report on the possibilities of establishing trade relations between Japan, China, and South Australia." Whether he will be enabled to state anything new remains to be seen. He will leave Adelaide within the next two or three weeks, taking with him shipments of various kinds of South Australian products. In South Australia, as in Queensland, the colonists are anxious that the Governments should take the initiative in the matter, but a difficulty, in the shape of the Japanese commercial treaty with Great Britain, is beginning to crop up. In the Victorian Legislative Council, the Colonial Solicitor-General was questioned respecting the participation of the Australasian colonies in the treaty by giving notice of their intention within the next twelve months. His reply was to the effect that the matter was occupying the attention of the Victorian Ministry, which was in communication with the other colonial Governments, with a view to arranging, if possible, some basis of united action. It is possible that on the return of Mr. Marks to Melbourne, he will be invited to meet the Victorian Premier on the subject.

KARUIZAWA CONFERENCE.

THIRD DAY.

The Rev. Mr. Stevens occupied the chair at the morning session and introduced Rev. J. B. Porter of Kyoto, who read a paper on "Christ, our Sacrifice." The speaker did not aim at discussing theories of the atonement, but taking Christ's sacrifice as a fact, endeavoured to set for the atonement of Christ as revealed in the Scriptures, and as held by the Church in all the centuries of its history. It was an able paper; very clearly setting forth the scriptural doctrine, and as nothing but the *ipsissima verba* could do justice to it, we shall not attempt to give a synopsis of it.

He was followed by the Rev. Mr. Dearing, of Yokohama, who opened the general discussion, presenting what he termed "a few additional notes" on the subject. Mr. Dearing touched upon the various theories held at different times showing the insufficiency of any but that of vicarious substitution to meet the requirements of Scripture and to satisfy the needs of man.

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The discussion was continued by Dr. Ashmore, Rev. Mr. Ambler, Dr. McGregor, Rev. Messrs. Standley, Landis, MacNair, and Booth.

The Evening Session was presided over by Rev. B. Chappell, of Aoyama, the time being devoted to questions. Many interesting questions were asked in regard to the work in China and Japan, and were answered in an equally interesting manner.

Thus closed a very profitable and successful conference.

The Church building was tastefully decorated by a committee appointed for that purpose, and the choir added much to the occasion by its successful rendering of appropriate music.

During the Conference the two following resolutions were passed :—

First :—Resolved. That we, as missionaries representing various Mission Boards working in Japan, in Conference assembled at Karuizawa, in view of the various reports that have gone forth concerning the need of more foreign workers in Japan, would express it as our opinion that not only has the time not come for the withdrawal of the missionaries already on the field, but we believe that there is still a need of many more foreign workers in this land.

Second:—Resolved by the Conference of Protestant Missions met at Karuizawa, Japan, 16th August, 1895 :—That we have with great pain heard of the attack made, near Foochow, in China, on our fellow-labourers in the work of the Gospel, in which so many have been cruelly murdered, and others greviously injured ; and we desire to express our deep sympathy with the surviving sufferers, with the Missions who mourn the loss of faithful workers, and with the relatives and friends of the dead.

As regards those who have fallen there is no need for sorrow. They have finished their course ; they have kept the faith, they have passed into the presence of the Master and received the reward of faithful servants.

But, in the present need of faithful and experienced workers on the mission field, we appreciate fully the loss sustained by the Missions who have been called to meet this trial, and our prayer is that He who can make even the wrath of man to praise Him, may, out of this sad event, bring blessing to His Church and to His work in China.

As regards the bereaved on whom this trial has most heavily fallen, we sorrow with them ; but He who is the God of all comfort,—and He alone can comfort them, our prayer is that He who was made in all things like unto His brethern, and can enter with the mourner into every sorrow, may be with them in their time of trial. It is but a little while, and them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. May this blessed hope cheer the hearts of them that mourn.

It was further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Rev. Mr. Phillips of the C.M.S., Foochow, to be by him communicated to the Missions and friends of the sufferers.

The latter especially was adopted by an enthusiastic rising vote.

THE INQUEST ON THE LATE MR. BROCKBANK.

VERDICT—DEATH FROM NATURAL CAUSES ACCELERATED BY INTEMPERATE HABITS.

The adjourned inquiry into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Herbert William Brockbank, who died at Shoji on August 14th, was resumed at the British Court on Tuesday, Mr. J. C. Hall, Acting Assistant Judge, sitting as Coroner. The jury were, Messrs. A C. Read, Gen. Sale, W. J. Robinson, A. Le Prevost, and J. Cain.

Dr. Edward Divers was the first witness. Having been duly sworn, he said—I am Professor of Chemistry at the Imperial University of Japan, and reside at Tokyo. Before giving my evidence proper I should like to say, as a guard against any presumption that may arise as to the weight of my evidence, that all my life I have been a professional chemist. I was a lecturer on *materia medica* and therapeutics in the Medical School at Queen's Hospital, Birmingham, and also for four years a lecturer on medical jurisprudence at the Medical School of the Middlesex Hospital, London. I duly received through this Court two sealed bottles containing portions of the kidneys and stomach of the late Mr. Herbert William Brockbank. I have no desire, unless the Court wishes me to do so, to enter into minute details as to the state in which I found the contents of these two bottles, but I should like to state that the specimens were sent to me in spirit and while they were in an offensive state from decomposition, their internal contents, particularly of the stomach, were free from all signs of putrescence. To this I will only add, that the contents of the stomach were of a very simple character—a dark brown chyle, free from particles of vegetable matter—crushed seeds or leaves, in which form poison might be presumed to have been administered. There were no signs of such substances as rice or potatoes, or any matters of that kind. The contents of the stomach were very uniform in character, consisting of fine granular fibres, in quantity about four ounces, corresponding to what one would expect to find after a person had taken mock turtle soup. Having received no special instructions from the Court, and simply bearing in mind what had been given in evidence before it, I had to keep in mind the occurrence of any of the more ordinary poisons, the number of which is rather considerable. Well, I found no evidence of poison whatever. The coats of the stomach were fairly healthy, not ulcerated. And here I should like to digress for the benefit of explaining these matters more fully to the jury. The fact that I could not discover any poison is not a proof that none was ever administered—we chemists hold that the absence of poisons in the system is merely to be taken as not absolute proof of their administration. It is an axiom of technicologists that only the fact of the actual presence of poison can be taken as absolute proof. Therefore we are not qualified to assert that poison has not been administered, especially certain kinds of poison. I did my best to examine this matter thoroughly and met with no suspicious circumstances at any period of the examination: and I feel justified in stating that the deceased received no poison in the sense implied by the expression foul play. He received, as we know by the evidence of Dr. Swann, two great poisons, which were administered in the course of Dr. Swann's admirable medical treatment of deceased some few days before his death. These poisons were digitalis and strychnine : but they were given in such small particles of a grain and so many hours elapsed after their administration and the time of death, that it is not in the least strange that I did not detect them in my examination. I tried to detect the presence of digitalis and strychnine but failed. This then is the result of my chemical examination. I may, however, be permitted to speak upon the history of this case. Dr. Swann said in his evidence that when he arrived at Shoji he found the late Mr. Brockbank in a state bordering on extremis. In one or two and a half days he effected a marvellous change, the recovery of his patient to a very large extent. We may well call such a result a marvellous change. But it must be borne in mind that such a result in cases of this kind is not unusual. The deceased had been suffering from an acute attack of delirium tremens, and Dr. Swann, in my opinion, took a bold and wise course in his treatment of the case when he administered digitalis and strychnine to induce a rally. It was in no way astonishing, however, that he revived his patient from a state of almost death to one of improved health. Yet he was not prepared for the end that came so suddenly. Indeed, he says the death of the late Mr. Brockbank came upon him as sudden and unexpected. Dr. Swann described his patient as being, when he last saw him, in a state of convalescence ; but one of the jury rightly understood the deceased's condition when he asked a question which elicited the reply that by convalescence the doctor meant recovery from the state of delirium tremens. It was no case of convalesence in the ordinary meaning of the word. It is a pure superstition which ascribes the wonderful agency which various vegetable akaloids produce in their action upon the system, as renewing vital energy and restoring health ; the small quantity administered acts upon the disordered state of the body and upon the shattered framework in the same manner as do the large doses. Their action is to paralyze a portion of the nervous system. In the case of delirium tremens a portion of the nervous system has suffered serious injury and ceases to act. The other portions of the nervous system are therefore to that extent uncontrolled, and the forces thus uncontrolled upset the balance of nature. Nature acts upon this balance in every thing. The action of the heart's beating is under the influence of certain nerves acting against each other. The mere action of walking is dependent on this same balance of natural forces. Well, disease causes damage to one or other portion of our nervous system and we see at once the effects of the uncontrolled nerves. Mr. Brockbank had a diseased heart, then digitalis comes in and paralyses more or less the healthy organs which had got out of control—a balance was thus restored, though only temporarily. There still remained a most serious state of things. Dr. Baelz in a letter which has been read in this Court, said that if Mr. Brockbank was left unattended—if proper attendance was not procured for him—he might die at any time. The deceased was a man of feeble heart and in an alcholized condition. Under the circumstances, after digitalis had been administered he should have been kept in a recumbent position and properly nursed. He should not have been allowed for some time to come to leave his recumbent posture even to answer the calls of nature. Then he might have recovered and have been living now. The marvellous effects which Dr. Swann's able treatment effected therefore really left the patient in a serious way—it had only produced an unstable equilibrium and the patient remained in imminent danger. The death of Mr. Brockbank may be ascribed to heart failure or to sudden and serious entry of water into the ventricles. Death was due to perfectly natural causes, and was the natural end, if I can use the term, of an unnatural life. All my examination does no point to or suggest the suspicion of foul play.

The Coroner—You could find no traces of poison ?

Dr. Divers—None whatever.

Hoshino Yoshitaro, formerly an Englishman, but now a naturalised Japanese, an hotel-keeper living at Shoji, Yamanashi Ken, sworn, deposed —I have had monetary transactions with the late Mr. Brockbank. How much the various sums amounted to I cannot say, as they were all mixed up. We lived together for years, spent money together, had good times together. The money I received from the late Mr. Brockbank I look upon in the light of a moral loan. I cannot state the amount of money which passed without consulting my papers. I gave Mr. Brockbank no acknowledgement for the money as it was not received on any terms at all. We understood between ourselves that we both went into the Shoji scheme. He never asked for the return of the money as the house at Shoj was built because he desired to have a quiet place to live in, and in which he could have a good time.

The Coroner—To what do you attribute the late Mr. Brockbank's death ?—Whiskey.

Have you ever given him whiskey ?—Yes.

Have you ever drank with him ?—Yes : in moderate quantities ; my policy was to keep him away from the drink.

Why did you take him away to Shoji ?—This time it was not the right thing, but I have taken him there on similiar occasions before. I took him out at his own request.

Was he in a fit condition for such a journey ?—I do not know. But he wished to go there, although Dr. Baelz told me not to take him until he had seen him again. We went to Tonosawa from Miyanoshita. I went back up the hill again, and Dr. Baelz said he would come and see Brockbank on the second day. I heard Brockbank was drinking at Tonosawa, and on the morning of the second day I went down to him, and without waiting to see Dr. Baelz we went off to Kodzu. From Kodzu we went to Gotemba and got to Subashiri, where we stayed the night. At Subashiri I got a horse and rode on to the next halting place to prepare an hotel for Brockbank.

To the Coroner—This is the easier route. I think it is easier than by Suzukawa, there is less railway and more boat travelling.

The Coroner—Is it quicker ?—Well, I think it is about the same.

Now describe the incidents of this last journey of Mr. Brockbank's.—I left Miyanoshita about the 3rd or 4th. It was on a Monday morning, and we arrived at Shoji on Tuesday night. Mr. Brockbank's legs were paralyzed, the same as they had been at Miyanoshita before he left for Tonosawa. I arranged for a long *kago* to meet us at Gotemba, and in this Mr. Brockbank travelled to Subashiri. There was no accident on the way.

The Coroner—Dr. Swann testified to the skin of the elbows and knees of deceased being abraded ?—That was caused by his crawling on the floor.

Did he not use his hands in crawling ?—He was too weak for that, and fell on to his elbows : he could only crawl on his elbows. I put him in bed, but he rolled out, so then I took the bed away and gave him a mattress on the floor. He was paralyzed with alcohol.

And yet you took him away to Shoji against Dr. Baelz' orders ?—Not against Dr. Baelz' orders ; against his advice.

What was your object ?—He wished to go. He used to go there before when in this state. I used to keep all liquor away from him, and in ten or twelve days he would return a new man. This time he was going to Shoji for good, and intended not to go back to Miyanoshita.

Were there any nurses at Shoji ?—I nursed him, and I also had an old carpenter to look after him. We had at Shoji a woman servant, a cook, and the carpenter ; the women was about 25 or 26 years old, and the cook between 18 and 19.

And at this place you intended to entertain fo-

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reigners?—No; foreigners came there to see the scenery, and we would put them up. The village had no accommodation for them. There were about 60 to 70 people at the village, which was about a mile or so away. There was no doctor there. He lived another mile or so away. When Mr. Brockbank got worse I telegraphed to Dr. Baelz and also sent a messenger to Dr. Munro. I telegraphed saying Brockbank was much worse, and would he (Dr. Baelz) come. I wrote Dr. Baelz afterwards.

You say Brockbank was anxious to go to Shoji?—Yes.

Are you quite sure?—Yes. I think he said so in the presence of Dr. Baelz, but of that I won't be certain. I think Dr. Baelz was present. I can't be sure whether Dr. Baelz said that the proper place for Mr. Brockbank was the hospital. I heard from friends at Miyanoshita that unless Brockbank stopped drinking he would either be dead or in a lunatic asylum. I told Dr. Baelz about our money matters on this occasion, and said I was anxious about them, and him.

Why were you anxious about him?—No man likes to lose a friend.

The Coroner at this point showed witness a small leather-covered account book, and in answer to questions, witness said—I recognise the book as the cash-book of Mr. Brockbank, though I never saw him make any entries in it. I do not know how or why some leaves are torn out.

The Coroner—Now go back to Shoji. What happened after you arrived at Subashiri?—We took *kago* to Kudachi, arriving there at 2 o'clock on Tuesday. This place is within three *ri* of Shoji, and we debated whether we should stop there the night or push on. I gave Mr. Brockbank some sandwiches and some port wine and water, or brandy and water, I am not sure which. We decided to go on, and we started, I walking, he in a *kago*. We took boats across the two lakes. We left Kudachi about 3 o'clock, arriving at Shoji at 10 at night. It took us a long time to get through the forest, as it was so dark. Brockbank was about the same as he was on starting: in fact he was a little better, and sat up to dinner. Next day he did not want to get up, so I took him some beef-tea, and toast which he took as he lay in bed. All that day he was alright. He drank a great deal, being thirsty, and I gave him limejuice and water, and oatmeal and water. He also had four drinks, though Dr. Baelz said I was only to allow him three a day. These drinks were either port wine or brandy. He said he felt weak. Next day he seemed to get a little stronger, but before the day was out he began to see monkeys and other things. I had seen people in that way before, so I shut off his liquor. I gave him food myself that day. Early next morning he stripped off all his clothes and began to crawl about the passage. Then I put him into his room and locked the door, so that the Japanese passing through the house should not see him in that state. The carpenter and myself looked after him, and I did my best to keep him clean. He got worse and still crawled about: then he began to swell up, and I at once telegraphed to Dr. Baelz and sent off for Dr. Munro. Mr. Voigt arrived about the same time as Dr. Swann. Dr. Swann arrived on the Sunday afternoon and at once treated Mr. Brockbank. Brockbank was crouching behind the door when we entered the room. The stench was horrible. Dr. Swann left on Wednesday morning. On that morning he asked how Brockbank was, and I said "Alright, he is asking for whiskey again." I refused to give him whiskey, though he said he felt low. Dr. Swann left about 10 o'clock and again passed house about 12.30 o'clock having found the pass at the back too high. It confused his head he said. He refused to come in and have refreshment when I asked him, saying that he desired to push on for Suzukawa. Everything was alright with Brockbank until the evening. At 4 o'clock I took him some tea, having previously given him some soup. He told me that he had had a "bit of a time" while I was away, and had felt "like pegging out." He died at eight or half-past, in the presence of myself and Mr. Voigt. Before this I should say, I had helped him out of bed. At 6 o'clock he first began to breathe heavily and soon after I found that he did not recognise me. He was buried on the second day after death. I waited, expecting the Doctor to return with my messenger, and the doctor not returning I made arrangements with the authorities to bury him in the village cemetery. A Japanese doctor saw him before he was buried. The weather was very hot, so I abandoned the intention of sending down to Yokohama for an undertaker and then sending the body in. We buried him on Friday morning at 9 o'clock. I attended the funeral, but I did not accompany Mr. Kircher to the disinterment.

To Mr. Sale—It was from Subashiri that I rode forward to prepare the hotel, not my hotel, but the one at Kudachi. I generally walk all the way. Properly speaking there is no hotel there, it is a temple.

To Mr. C. D. Moss—I have received no letter from Dr. Baelz addressed to myself or Mr. Brockbank. I have a telegram sent to Mr. Brockbank by Mr. Hulse, a friend of his. A letter from Dr. Baelz may be at Shoji now, but letters take a long while in reaching there.

Mr. Moss—Have you any other letters, accounts, or photographs belonging to the deceased which you have not handed over to Mr. Kircher?—I can't say until I unpack the things. Our things are on the way out to Shoji and are all mixed up.

Did you send away the attendant who was looking after the deceased shortly before he died?—Oh, no. He might have gone away to the village on an errand, nothing else.

He was not sent away two hours before Mr. Brockbank's death?—I think he was there when he died.

What is the meaning of the only entries in the cash-book you have just indentified, and the front leaves of which are torn away, though the stubs remaining show they were entered up—the entries are, Hoshino $200, Langfeldt $200, cash $90, Chambers?—Those were made at Kowakidani at Christmas. That is all I know about them.

Were you sober all the time you were at Miyanoshita this last time?—I can't say I was quite sober. At Tonosawa I was sober.

Were both you and Mr. Brockbank very drunk at Tonosawa?—No, not Mr. Brockbank. He had had more than he should have had, but he was not what you might call very drunk. I had a few drinks in me, but nothing to speak about.

Knowing that he was so ill, did you feel justified in taking him on such a long and arduous journey?—He wished to go. He lay in a *kago* all the time, and in my opinion he was quite as comfortable as if he had been in bed.

You are positive it was his wish to go?—Yes.

To the Court—I have a little to say in regard to the burial. We did the best we could for him. Mr. Kircher can testify to the trouble there is at Shoji to get planks. Brockbank was pretty far gone when I put him in the only coffin I could contrive. The job made me ill. He had under his bed a little Japanese straw pillow; and was clothed in his night shirt. I put the paper over his face to prevent the dust which floated into the cracks of the green wood, from settling on his face. The mattress in his room was the only one we had left. The bed-clothes I have destroyed. We kept everything just as he died until we found the doctor was not coming back. Although Dr. Swann saw him when he was as filthy as a man could be, yet I did all I could to keep him clean. I have nothing more to add.

To Mr. Robinson—I kept him as clean as I could: it was the worst job I have ever had.

To the Court—Perhaps I ought to say that several times during his illness he wanted to make a will. He called for pen and paper, asking the Japanese about the house for them. As I knew what he wanted to do I refused to allow pen and paper to be taken to him. I told him that he would have plenty of time to make a will when he got better. After this I promised to do several little things for him if anything happened, which at that time I little expected to occur.

The Coroner—What was your motive in refusing to let him have pen and paper?—Am I obliged to answer?

Not unless you like.—Well, he wanted to make a will in my favour, and I thought that he was not responsible for his behaviour. He had told the Japanese of his intention.

This concluded the evidence.

The Coroner, who unfortunately was most indistinctly heard from the unfavourable seats occupied by the reporters, then summed up. He said that the evidence in the case was neither long nor complicated, but as a week had elapsed since the inquest was opened he would briefly refer to the leading points. The evidence of the post mortem examination might be dismissed, as owing to the advanced state of decomposition in which the body was, the doctors had been unable to state the cause of death. They could not declare that death was due to natural causes, because, although the walls of the heart were atrophied, the liver enlarged, and the kidneys affected, still there was not enough organic disease, in the opinion of the three doctors, to justify them in accounting for death within the time. The Coroner then went on to refer to the evidence of Dr. Swann, dealing with the condition in which he found the late Mr. Brockbank at Shoji, and of the measures taken by him to produce a rally. Such a rally was a necessary basis for any further measures of medical treatment. Dr. Swann had pursued, as Dr. Divers had declared, a proper course in such a case, and when on his return journey to Yokohama he heard of the death of Mr. Brockbank he was surprised and shocked at the news. Dr. Swann left Shoji on the Wednesday, expecting his ship to sail on the Saturday—it had not yet sailed—but he expected that it would. He the Coroner, must express regret, in which the jury would no doubt agree, that Dr. Swann did not go to in to see his patient on the Wednesday morning before returning to Yokohama. If he had done so, it would have thrown additional light and carried them further into the last hours of Mr. Brockbank's life. They had only Hoshino's statement as to the condition of the deceased from the Tuesday night until the time of death. Dismissing the evidence of Mr. Kircher as purely formal, the Coroner said, before turning to Mr. Moss's statement that he would draw attention to Dr. Swann's remark, he considered that there was something suspicious about the whole case. He had been both shocked and surprised on receiving Hoshino's intimation of Brockbank's death, as from the examination he made after affecting the wonderful rally, did not lead him to fear such an immediate collapse. The evidence of Mr. Moss was to the effect that he had known Mr. Brockbank for years, and was also aware of the relations subsisting between Hoshino and Brockbank. He produced Brockbank's cheque-stubs showing that Brockbank had lent or paid various large sums, amounting to some thousands of dollars to Hoshino. Then they came to the evidence of the girl Matsumoto. She testified that she had seen Hoshino and Brockbank drinking together: that Hoshino filled up Brockbank's glass, drinking little himself but inducing Brockbank to drink much. Mr. Moss, who knows the deceased's family, became very anxious, and wrote to Dr. Baelz to see if something could not be done, and Dr. Baelz's reply throws a flood of light on the relations existing between the two men. They had heard the evidence of the man Hoshino that morning, and it was for the jury to say whether he had rebutted the suspicion aroused, when, in the face of the express warning of Dr. Baelz, he deliberately removed a weak invalid—in an *utterly irresponsible* state says Dr. Baelz—to a distant place involving a long, and arduous journey. It appeared to him, the Coroner, that from this point of view Hoshino's action in removing Brockbank while in his dangerous condition, was the direct cause of Brockbank's death. It appeared to have been done with deliberate intent; if not with malice to cause the man's death, yet with a clear perception that the effect of such a journey at this season of the year, and with Brockbank in his dangerous state, would have that result. If that was also the opinion of the jury then the verdict which they could return would be none other than one of wilful murder against Mr. Hoshino. What verdict they could return if their opinion coincided with that he had just stated, passes comprehension to perceive. Hoshino deliberately took the man by way of Gotemba to Shoji. Now careful inquiries were instituted at this Consulate before Mr. Kircher set out last week, as to the easier and quickest route to Shoji, and from all that we could gather, the way by Suzukawa was found to be the quickest and easiest. That appears to have been the conclusion arrived at by Dr. Swann, for he took it, after attempting the other. Hoshino says there is no difference either way. He put it to the jury, what could have been the intention of a man to remove an invalid in such weather as the present; what induced him to undertake a trying and exhausting journey to such a place as he described, a lonely hotel in the wilds of Fuji, two and a half miles from a village, and that a small one—what could have been his intention when he took the deceased away at that time, to such a place and under such circumstances? Might he not have anticipated what actually did take place? He, the Coroner, was not surprised to hear Dr. Divers state that no poison was to be found in the body of deceased. This did not overshadow the fact that the deceased was dangerously ill when Hoshino took it upon himself to remove him to Shoji. A man must be presumed to intend the natural and necessary consequences of his acts. The law in such a case presumes malice. If the jury thought there had been any such intention or malice in this case then they would return a verdict of wilful murder against Hoshino. A weak and defenceless man could be murdered just as easily as a strong and prepared man. It might be by the quick action of a bullet or by a longer process of poison or ill-treatment. The law allowed a year and a day from the doing of an injury to its resultant death, in cases of wilful murder: if the period passed that limit then manslaughter was designated as the nature of the crime. Murder might be encompassed in every conceivable way. After quoting the law upon murder from Jervis' "Duties

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of Coroners," the Coroner allowed the jury to retire to consider their verdict.

On their return, after an absence of about twenty minutes, the foreman, Mr. A. C. Read, said—We find that the deceased, Herbert William Brockbank died, on July 14th, from natural causes accelerated by intemperate habits.

The Coroner—I agree with your verdict, but consider that it does not go far enough. I thank you for the way you have discharged your duty: you have followed the evidence with great care and ability, and have returned your verdict after a conscientious weighing of the evidence. You are thanked and dismissed.

LETTER FROM PARIS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

July 20, 1895.

That political crime, the murder of Stambuloff, involves the loss of the well wishers of Bulgaria, who will never accept assassination as an instrument of government. The abominable event will unite more closely the Triple Alliance. Prince Ferdinand is isolated; henceforth very little importance will be attached either to him or his mamma—his all round ambassadress. The general public think more of the deed than they express. Another unexpected consequence, and not at all to be regretted, Turkey comes now to the front for bulwark duty; there will be no more invasions of Macedonia with impunity—the Turks will be called in to keep the Bulgars in order. The struggle between Austria and Russia for the Balkans now becomes intensified, and the dénouement, cannot be very long delayed. Now is Servia's opportunity; if she pulls straight with Austria, and all that the latter represents and has at her back, she can reap the advantages Bulgaria has so ignominiously forfeited. Stambuloff's stern patriotism will be estimated, as one is more, or not at all, Russian in their sympathies. Lucius Brutus loved first his country; and after condemning his two sons—the Panitzas and Karavelofs of their day for conspiring to restore the Tarquins—he withdrew to mourn as a father.

Perhaps Morocco may even precede Bulgaria in causing the European conflagration. The French are extremely uneasy at the turn the intervention of Germany may take. Germany has outrages to be redressed by the Sultanate, and is quite right to allow of no dictation as to the manner in which she will act to obtain satisfaction. We want more of that Palmerston-Salisbury style of dealing with the relics of barbaric states, than that exising, through fear of provoking a conflict between the Powers. If German and Dutch warships seize ports in Morocco till they be conceded reparation, there is no need for France to cross into Morocco and occupy territory. That would be the surest way of making Germany and Holland fixtures, and would instantly lead to the occupation of Tangiers by the Anglo-Italian fleets. Other countries would of course cut in—to be later cut out. To make the Powers evacuate Morocco fires would certainly be kindled elsewhere.

The "understanding" between Italy and Great Britain is an important political fact for both nations. Henceforth, Italy has a big brother at her side, and the Mediterranean ceases to be an anxiety for both nations, and can never experience a surprise. It would be folly not to recognize in that *entente* the right foot forward of England into the Triple Alliance, a result every one discounted, as the natural reply to the Franco-Russian alliance. The political situation becomes improved by the attitude of the several Powers being defined. Between all these alliances, good humoredly intended to guard the peace of Europe, the millennium, not Armageddon, ought to be nigh. The odds are in favour of the latter arriving first.

The Salisbury Cabinet, with its able members and enormous majority, has produced, not so much astonishment, as consternation, on the Continent. The era of pulling the British Lion's tail has closed; those in the habit of finding themes, only in the abuse of the Anglo-Saxons, have already put water in their wine. The best way to maintain amicable relations is to let it be clearly known that their disruption is a matter of supreme indifference. It is a relief for English ears to no longer listen to the Continental litany, that the British were about being wiped out in the Far East, and to receive marching orders to quit Egypt, with other political pimento served daily to those jealous of England's richness, vexed at her power, and envious of her rôle of go-a-head in the work of civilization. There is this curious fact to record, that on the Continent British subjects, whether Unionists or Separatists, are glad to see the foreign policy of their country directed by vigorous brains and resolute hands. The best statue to erect to Oliver Cromwell, is to imitate his exterior programme of standing no nonsense. Even Americans concur in that patriotic unity and directness.

The government deserves chalks for its courage in accepting the resignation of the Council of the Legion of Honour. The latter decided that M. Eiffel was an honourable man, after the Court had condemned him to two years' imprisonment for scooping the Panama funds of profits as high as his own Tower and pocketing monies for the execution of works that he never existed, crimes that he confessed to; and for saying it required the unanimous vote of the Chamber of Deputies to degrade M. Eiffel, and send the Legion of Honour Council into resignation. It is to hoped that the new Council to be entrusted with recompensing Bayards, will extirpate the abuse of conferring the decoration of the Order on individuals on the ground of "exceptional services," and make known of what these services consist—it will be news for the public and cease to be a puzzle. The search-light cannot be turned on too strongly when honour presents its claims for reward. In China, before a man can obtain the crystal button or the peacock's feather, his deeds must be detailed with the fullness of a German treatise on some kind of philosophy—presuming they exist at all.

For consummate impudence, the Mayor of Mont-de-Marsan and his coadjutors have no equals. They have resigned because the government very properly insisted upon the law being observed, that no bull-fights must take place in France. Of late the law was simply laughed at; the fights continued more briskly than ever, and more bulls were slaughtered in the arenas, than hitherto. Why even at Mont-de-Marsan no less than 12 bulls were recently put to death to delight the eyes of citizens and visitors. The Government took its bull by the horns. It expelled the toreadors, picadors, and the other "artistes," always Spaniards, for violating the laws of France; hence, bull fights have ceased for want of professional hands to kill the bulls. The Mayor, in his reply to the decree for the expulsion of the Spaniards, deplores the degeneracy of the Third Republic; is indignant at that inroad on the rights and innocent amusements of the townspeople which shows the rottenness of that classes the earwig the government and discourages the arts! As a Parthian arrow the Mayor regrets the good old times of the Second Empire, that never opposed the recreation and ennobling pleasures of bull fights—which is true, because the Empire would not tolerate any, so that there were none to oppose.

The city is rapidly thinning after the national holiday. That only renders Paris more agreeable. Each cab that rolls along with baggage and travellers constitutes a kind of relief for those who cannot imitate them. But those who remain need not take their pleasure sadly: they have the river boats to sail upon till twilight, and down and up the river is the best place to escape the abominable odours of the city sewers. If you prefer a drive, a cab will bring you till midnight among the solitary alleys of the Bois de Boulogne, where next to a seaside freshness can be enjoyed. The theatres and lyrical establishments being closed, only the concert gardens of the Champs Elysées are open to the musical, where the pièce de resistance is: "Do you wish any lobsters?"—that comic song is general.

Society is very much alarmed at the increase of inebriety, and above all, with the younger people. The workmen indulge in their nips just as extensively as do their employers. All classes, and apparently all ages, drink. The Academy of Medicine has just dealt with the subject; the Secretary has declared that the evil has become a social danger, and is destroying the population. On every occasion of enjoyment it is necessary to drink: he is aware of an instance where an assembly took place, of very serious persons, for the suppression of drinks, when the guests, glass in hand, toasted the downfall of liquors! Dr. Daremberg would be content if only the beverages were freed of their chemical poisons: he hints the cognac now sold in the low pubs. is less impure, and five times cheaper, than that vended in the first-class restaurants—though both are equally dangerous. M. Rochefort has joined in the crusade for the suppression of the sale of adulterated drinks that decimate the nation more effectually than a German invasion.

Under the Second Empire, no one could establish a public house without permission of the authorities: then there were 56,000 wine shops or "rum holes," in France, to-day there are 400,000, of which 27,000 are in Paris alone. This augmentation is due to the Third Republic having abolished the obligation to obtain permission to open a dram shop. Deputy Reinach would restore what the republic repealed. M. Bergeron would prohibit the selling of brandy on credit, not only to clients, but on account for the distillers; he would imprison all vendors who supplied cognac to applicants under 15 years of age. Any person can perceive the number of public houses that exist and still spring up; every corner shop in a street is a pub., so is the coal man's black shop, the costermonger's back parlour, the sellers of tobacco and of postage stamps. No licence is necessary to vend any drink, and the trade tax is struck, not upon what you sell, but the importance of your business and the rent value of the premises. That the drink evil is painfully serious may be judged from the fact that the Minister of Public Instruction has issued a circular directing school teachers to inculcate, during lessons, the evil consequences of drink and the duty to avoid it. This teaching has annoyed publicans and sinners. The State, say they, interferes with our business, while the sinners do not like to be let down in the eyes of their children, if they indulge in a nip or a green absinthe pick me up. The law punishes severely those who sell adulterated beverages; but France has neither hygienic inspectors nor chemists sufficiently numerous to cope with the infractions. No drunkards must be admitted into a pub.—that is quite unnecessary; they are a class of clients who never have money in their pockets, so are undesirable either to retain or to admit. Another misfortune; it is on the alcohol tax that a large part of the revenue is raised.

A new idea for the 1900 Exhibition; in the different classes or groups to place wax statues of the most eminent men distinguished in the arts, industries, &c., or the domains of invention or discovery, a group dressed according to their period. In a word, a cosmopolitan wax works museum.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, August 26.

It is reported that the situation in Madagascar is of the gloomiest description, and that there are 5,000 French troops in Hospital amongst whom there is great mortality.

London, August 27.

The French have captured Andribo almost without opposition, the Hovas evacuating the place in a demoralized state. The French loss was trifling.

London, August 28.

It is reported that Germany has instructed her Minister at Peking and Consuls in China to protect the foreign missions to the utmost, and to summon her war-ships directly that disorder is threatened.

["Special" Telegram to "Japan Mail."]

Kobe, August 27, 7.15 p.m.

Captain Ross has arrived here, and reports his vessel, the American ship *Henrietta*, a wreck at Satoura, in the province of Awa, after having dragged her anchors in the gale of Saturday last.

[From "N.-C. Daily News."]

London, August 19.

Speaking in the House of Commons, the Hon. Geo. N. Curzon, Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, stated that the Government had not been informed as to the terms of the Franco-Chinese Convention, which is still unratified, but that they would take all necessary steps to prevent disregard of the Chinese engagement with Great Britain with reference to the territory affected by this Convention.

Foochow, August 19.

Consul Mansfield wires that the high Chinese official declines to allow the British and American Consuls to be present at the examination of the men arrested at Kucheng.

London, August 20.

An expedition under Rear-Admiral Rawson and General Matthews, from Zanzibar, stormed and captured Mweli on Saturday. Seven Europeans, including General Matthews, were wounded, also three porters. Two native regulars were killed and one wounded.

Lord Wolseley is to succeed H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge as Commander-in-Chief.

Foochow, Aug. 20, 8.40 p.m.

The Rev. Mr. Star has arrived from Kucheng with despatches, and has taken them down to

ORIGINAL FROM UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

the U.S.S. *Detroit*. H.M.S. *Rainbow* has arrived.

Foochow, August 19.

The Prefect of the District promises that the executions will take place at Foochow.

The Chinese soldiers, who went up from Foochow as escort to the British and American Consuls and their party, are foraging in the country round about the city for provisions, and their conduct has given rise to great fear and much anger amongst the common people throughout the district. These people are going about saying openly that if there were no foreigners in the country there would be no Christians, and if there were no Christians there would be no trouble.

The situation has assumed a more serious aspect. That is how it is regarded in Foochow.

London, August 21.

According to French accounts a Hova army, four thousand strong, is near Andribo, and is ably commanded. It is stated that the French troops are surrounded by spies.

Hankow, August 21.

The French gunboat *Lutin* arrived at Yochow on the 19th inst.

Foochow, Aug. 22, 6.40 p.m.

H.M.S. *Rainbow* left this morning for Wênchow and Yokohama. She ought to be replaced at once.

The Rev. Mr. Star returns to Kucheng to-morrow. The captain of the U.S.S. *Detroit* goes with him.

The Hon. Geo. N. Curzon, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, speaking with the fullest reserve, stated that the Government had addressed France regarding her movements on the Niger, and that they were ignorant of the French expedition to Equatoria. He also stated that the time had not yet arrived for reconsidering the evacuation of Egypt, and that the Government was not prepared to announce their policy regarding the Buffer State. Their policy as to Kincheng beyond the Meikong would be the same as Lord Rosebery's. Regarding Siam, the object of the Government was to vindicate British interests and to safeguard the integrity and autonomy of Siam.

He further stated that the Government would see that China granted to Burmah the same advantages as had been accorded to Tongking.

London, August 23.

The Right Hon. Geo. N. Curzon, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, states that he agrees with Mr. Stanley as to the political and commercial advantages of the Uganda railway.

Foochow, 23rd August, 10 p.m.

The Rev. Mr. Star left at noon for Kucheng. Captain Newell of the U.S.S. *Detroit* will follow. It is understood that the examinations will commence on the return of Mr. Star, the Consuls and their *suites* being present.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Yamada, August 28.

Count Matsukata will remain at Futami for over two weeks.

Shimonoseki, August 28.

Mr. Uchida, the newly appointed secretary of the Japanese Legation, arrived here last night by the *Higo Maru*, and Lieut.-General Viscount Miura, the new Japanese Minister to Korea, reached here to-day by the *Yoshidagawa Maru*.

Lieut.-General Viscount Miura leaves here on the 30th inst. at 6 a.m. by the *Higo Maru* for Ninsen, where he will arrive on the 1st prox. about 6 a.m.

Moji, August 27.

A dredger captured at Port Arthur was brought here to-day.

The *Houn Maru* arrived here this morning with four 24 c.m. guns, captured in China.

The *Sankai Maru*, which struck the rocks in Korean waters the other day, sank on the 17th inst.

Kumamoto, August 28.

A violent earthquake took place at 10.44 o'clock last night. The residents ran out of their houses. Over ten after-shocks were experienced. Much anxiety prevails.

Nagano, August 28.

The locomotive of a luggage train was derailed between Nagano and Sakashiro, yesterday in consequence of a landslip, which had been caused by a heavy shower.

Nagasaki, August 27.

Messrs. Okamura Teruhiko and Terao Toru have returned from Europe.

Saga, August 28.

A severe shock of earthquake was felt last night.

Aomori, August 28th.

A French man-of-war arrived here with the French Consul-General, who at once left for Tokyo. The war-ship proceeded to Hakodate.

Nagasaki, August 29.

The *Omi Maru* has left for Formosa, and the French warship *Lion* has arrived here from Chefoo.

Pekin, August 28.

The Viceroy Li arrived here to-day.

Shimonoseki, August 29.

Lieut.-General Viscount Miura, Japanese Minister to Korea, embarked to-day on board the *Higo Maru*, which is carrying Mr. Uchida, Secretary of the Japanese Legation in China, for his mission. The *Higo* will call at Ninsen on the way to China.

Otsu, August 29.

Mr. Kataoka, an Imperial Chamberlain, arrived here on the 27th inst. to inspect the condition of the devastated districts.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will re-open on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No 191.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K B 3	1—P takes Q
2—R to K 2	2—P takes R
3—B to K Kt 2, mate	
	1—B to B 2
2—Q to Q 3 ch.	2—P takes Q
3—B to Kt 2, mate	
	if 2—K to B 3
3—R takes B, mate	
	1—K to B 3
2—R to K 6	2—Anything
3—Kt to K 7, mate.	

Correct answers from Digamma, Kt., Shogi, W.H.S., E. J. King, and J.D.

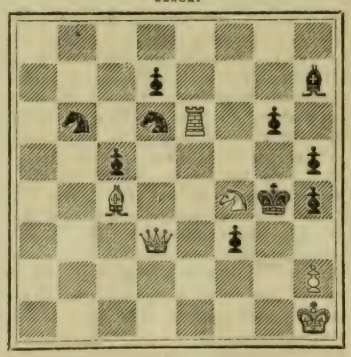
E.D.—Your solution breaks down if Black at his first move plays his B to R 2. There is something deeper in this fine problem than you imagined; study the solution given above and you will be delighted with the charming sacrifices, etc.

We congratulate our solvers on the success attained with Problem 191. It is a fine and difficult conundrum: and though some of the band had to work long and hard at the solution they have come off generally with flying colours.

Problem No. 193.

By Karl Musil.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Chess Championship of Australia.

FINAL SCORE—WALLACE, 7½; ESLING, 5½.

The great match is at last over, and the two heroes of the struggle are not sorry. The wear and tear on the mind and body are terribly severe, and it will take victor and vanquished some time to recover from the effects of the battle. Mr. Wallace retains his title, but the closeness of the score—seven wins to the champion, five to Mr. Esling, and four draws—indicate that there is but little difference in the chess strength of the combatants. The games have been very instructive and more interesting than those in the last championship match. Some of the games will rank high in Australian chess literature. It is a matter of regret that some of the Victorian's games should have been blemished by direct oversight. Mr. Wallace played more evenly, and avoided anything in the shape of obvious blunders.—*Sydney Mail.*

We publish below the 14th, 15th, and 16th games.

Game (XIV.) No. 327.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Mr. Wallace.	BLACK. Mr. Esling.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 3	5—Castles
6—B to Q 3	6—P to Q Kt 3
7—Castles	7—B to Q Kt 2
8—P takes P (a)	8—P takes P
9—Kt to K 5	9—P to Q B 4
10—P to K B 4	10—Kt to Q B 3
11—R to K B 3	11—Kt takes Kt
12—Q P takes Kt	12—Kt to K 5
13—R to R 3	13—P to K B 4
14—Q to K R 5	14—P to R 3
15—B takes Kt	15—Q P takes B
16—Q to Kt 6 (b)	16—Q to K sq.
17—R takes R P	17—Q takes Q
18—R takes Q	18—K to B 2
19—R to Kt 3	19—Q R to Q sq.
20—P to Q Kt 3	20—R to Q 6
21—B to Kt 2	21—K R to Q sq.
22—P to R 4	22—B takes P
23—R to R 3	23—B to K 2
24—P to K Kt 4	24—P takes P
25—R to K Kt 3	25—R to Q 7
26—R to Q Kt sq.	26—B to R 5
27—R takes P	27—B to K B 7 ch.
28—K to B sq.	28—B to R 3 ch. (c)
29—K to Kt 2	29—B takes P dis. ch.
30—K to Kt 3	30—B to B 7 ch.

And Mr. Wallace resigned.

(a) White exchanges this P somewhat prematurely.
(b) The whole attack is too much rushed to be sound. Here he should have played R to Kt 3.
(c) The undeveloped Q side now falls an easy prey to Mr. Esling's skilful stroke.

Game (XV) No. 328.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Mr. Esling.	BLACK. Mr. Wallace.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 3	4—B to B 4 (a)
5—Castles	5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q B 3	6—Castles
7—B to R 4 (b)	7—Kt to K 2
8—B to K 3	8—B to Kt 3
9—B to B 2	9—Kt to Kt 3
10—P to Q 4	10—B to Kt 5
11—P to K R 3	11—B to R 4
12—Q Kt to Q 2	12—Q to Q 2
13—K to R 2	13—Kt to K R 5
14—R to K Kt sq.	14—P takes P
15—P takes P	15—Q R to K sq.
16—Q to K B sq.	16—Kt takes Kt ch.
17—P takes Kt	17—B to Kt 3
18—P to K B 4 (c)	18—Kt takes K P
19—Kt takes Kt	19—B takes Kt
20—B takes B	20—R takes B
21—R takes P ch.	21—K takes R
22—Q to Kt 2 ch.	22—K to R sq.
23—Q takes R	23—P to Q 4
24—Q to K B 3	24—P to K B 4
25—R to K Kt sq.	25—P to B 3
26—R to Kt 3	26—Q to K 3
27—Q to Q sq.	27—R to K Kt sq. (d)
28—Q to Q 2	28—B to Q sq.
29—P to R 3	29—B to K R 5
30—R takes R ch.	30—K takes R
31—Q to Q R 5	31—P to Q R 3
32—Q to Q B 7	32—Q to K B 2

And the game, by mutual consent, was declared a draw.

(a) Theorists unanimously pronounce against 4—B to B 4, but in practical play it takes a lot of beating.
(b) This seems to lose time.
(c) White has now the better game, but the text move equalises matters. 18—Q to Kt 2 was the right move.
(d) It is obvious that neither player can win in this position; that is, with the best moves on each side.

Game (XVI) No. 329.

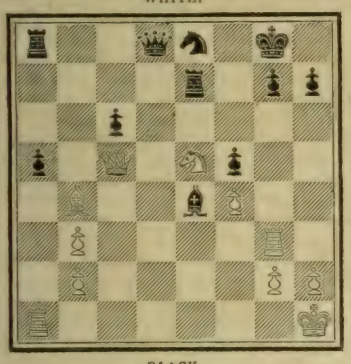
PHILIDOR'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Mr. Wallace.	BLACK. Mr. Esling.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—P to Q 3 (a)
3—P to Q 4	3—Kt to Q 2 (b)
4—B to Q B 4	4—B to K 2

5—Kt to Q B 3 (c)	5—P to Q B 3
6—Castles	6—Kt to K B 3
7—B to K 3	7—Castles
8—B to Q Kt 3	8—Q to Q B 2 (d)
9—Kt to Q 2	9—P takes P
10—B takes P	10—P to Q Kt 3
11—P to K B 4	11—Kt to B 4
12—P to K 5 (e)	12—Kt takes B
13—R P takes Kt	13—Kt to K sq.
14—Q to K 2	14—P to K B 4
15—R to B 3	15—P takes P
16—B takes P	16—B to B 4 (ch.)
17—K to R sq.	17—Q to K 2
18—Kt to R 4	18—B to K 3
19—Kt takes B	19—P takes Kt
20—R to K 3	20—Q to Q 2
21—B to B 3	21—B to Q 4
22—Kt to B 4	22—Q to Q B 2
23—B to K 5	23—Q to Q sq. (f)
24—R to Kt 3	24—R to B 2
25—B to B 3	25—R to K 2
26—Q to B 2	26—B to K 5
27—Q takes P	27—B takes Q B P (g)
28—Kt to K 5	28—B to K 5
29—B to Kt 4 (h)	29—P to R 4

The position at this stage is shown in the accompanying diagram.

WHITE.



BLACK.

30—Q takes R	30—P takes B
31—Q to B 7 ch.	31—K to R sq.
32—Q to B 8, mate (i)	

Winning this game made Mr. Wallace the winner of the match by 7½ points to Mr. Esling's 5½ points. It may be noted that according to the conditions the winner was to score seven points, and drawn games after the first three were to count as half a point to each player. Now, assuming absolute equality in their chess skill, each player would have scored seven points by playing 17 drawn games. This is the maximum number also. The total number of games actually fought out was 16, and the comparison of 16 with 17 is an effective numerical measure of the severity of the Wallace and Esling contest.

(a) A defence now obsolete; its adoption by Mr. Esling was one of the surprises of the match.
(b) Known as Lord's variation.
(c) Much stronger was 5—P takes P.
(d) A queer sort of position to be in when the other man requires but a draw to win the match.
(e) White now takes the initative, and plays with faultless precision.
(f) He can only potter about and wait for trouble.
(g) A mistake which loses quickly.
(h) A neat rejoinder which at once scores.
(i) A fitting termination to a great match.

The following reviews of the play in the late match are from the Melbourne chess press, the first from the *Leader* and the second from the *Australasian* :—"In reviewing the play of the two champions, we cannot but admit that in their present form the result is what might have been expected. While Mr. Esling has shown greater forcing power, there can be no doubt that Mr. Wallace has played the more correct chess, and has shown his superiority in that most important part, the end game. As soon as he obtained the slightest advantage, he continued to improve it, till it resulted in victory. Mr. Esling, on the other hand, after gaining a winning position, allowed the game to slip through his fingers. Thus he ought to have won the first and fifth games, which he only drew, and the third game, which he lost, while he should have drawn the eighth game. The second game was also absolutely thrown away by an obvious blunder in the opening. It is manifest that no player can afford to handicap himself in this fashion. Had these games resulted as they naturally should have done in a contest between experts, the match would have terminated with the thirteenth game; and the final score would have been—Esling seven, Wallace four, drawn two. Mr. Esling has paid the penalty of not having trained himself for so important a contest by practice against strong opponents, which alone can harden the play, give precision in the conduct of the end game, and secure immunity from blunders. If he takes this lesson to heart, it will stand him in good stead in any future encounter with his present opponent, whom no doubt he will not allow to remain long in quiet possession of honours gained on this occasion. It is to be noted as an evidence of the severity of the contest that it has extended to within one of the maximum number of games which could have been played under the conditions of the match. Had every game terminated in a draw, the score at the end of the seventeenth game would have been seven all and three draws. It only remains for us to record with pleasure that the relations between the principals have throughout been of the most cordial character, and Mr. Wallace by his demeanour succeeded in making a friend of every member of the Melbourne club., That this feeling is reciprocal is shown by the letter from the champion, which is conceived in the most generous spirit, and will do much to promote harmonious relations in the future between the chess-players of the two colonies."

"A correspondent, who is an excellent judge of quality in chess play, and who has carefully examined the whole of the games of the match, writes to us as follows:—'On their respective forms the best man has won. It is easy to go over the games and say that Mr. Esling ought to have won this game or that game. The fact remains that he did not. The blunders which cost him certainly two games are part of his present form. On the other hand, Mr. Wallace having obtained a strong lead, instead of playing tamely for draws, as he might justifiably have done, opened some games with exceeding rashness. This he would scarcely have done had the score not been greatly in his favour. The great test of a chessplayer is the end play, and in this part of the game Mr. Wallace excels. In the conduct of some games Mr. Esling came out distinctly best. In the actual result there is not much difference between the two. Though defeated, Mr. Esling is not disgraced. Another encounter between the same players might quite possibly end differently, but on present form the actual result attained seems to be according to merit. It may be doubted whether in the whole course of the match Mr. Esling made any greater mistake than in adopting the Philidor Defence in the last game. At best that opening means a draw, and a draw would have been equivalent to a loss for him. Also, in close games Mr. Esling had not appeared to advantage; he seemed to be at his best in free open games. The adoption of that line of defence in the sixteenth and last game gave his friends a premonition of defeat. The coming event cast its shadow before. Mr. Wallace is to be congratulated on a well-earned victory. He is careful and accurate, and at the same time very quick. He made no gross blunders. Of course some of his calculations proved unsound, and he is, perhaps, overbold in attack. This is a good fault, and chess would never be dull and uninteresting if played in his style. On the whole he consumed much less time than his adversary. Being very young, it may be assumed that he has not yet reached his best form, and Australian chess should benefit largely from the accession to its ranks of so strong, and I trust still improving, a player."

Game No. 330.

The following highly interesting game is a specimen of Steinitz's play in his early days (Dufresne's *Handbuch des Schachspiels*) :—

WHITE. Dubois.	BLACK. Steinitz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—Castles	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3
6—B to K Kt 5	6—P to K R 3
7—B to K R 4	7—P to K Kt 4
8—B to Kt 3	8—P to K R 4
9—P to K R 4	9—B to K Kt 5
10—P to Q B 3	10—Q to Q 2
11—P to Q 4	11—P takes P
12—P to K 5	12—P takes P
13—B takes K P	13—Kt takes B
14—Kt takes Kt	14—Q to K B 4
15—Kt takes B	15—R P takes Kt
16—B to Q 3	16—Q to Q 4
17—P to Q Kt 4	17—Castles Q R
18—P to Q B 4	18—Q to Q B 3
19—P takes B	19—R takes K R P
20—P to K B 3	20—Q R to K R sq.
21—P takes P	21—Q to K sq.
22—Q to K sq.	22—Q to K 6 ch.
23—Q takes Q	23—P takes Q
24—P to Kt 3	24—R to R 8 ch.
25—K to Kt 2	25—R(R sq.) to R 7 ch.
26—K to B 3	26—R takes R ch.
27—B takes R	27—R to B 7 ch, and wins.

Game No. 331.

A smart attacking game, played in Russia :—

WHITE. Schiffers.	BLACK. Jankovio.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—Q P takes B
6—Kt takes P	6—Kt takes P
7—Kt takes Kt	7—Q to Q 5
8—Castles	8—Q takes K Kt
9—R to K sq.	9—B to K 3
10—P to Q 4	10—Q to Q 4
11—Kt to Q B 3	11—Q to K B 4
12—R to K 5	12—Q to Kt 3
13—Kt to K 2	13—Q to Kt 5
14—P to K B 3	14—Q to R 5
15—P to K Kt 3	15—Q to B 3
16—B to Kt 5	16—Q takes P
17—B takes B	17—K takes B
18—Q to Q 2	18—K to Q 2
19—K to K B sq.	19—Q to Kt 5
20—R to Kt 5 and wins.	

Game No. 332.

CHESS IN ROME.

Specimens of play in the Eternal City have become, from unexplained reasons, unhappily very rare, so that we are the more indebted to a correspondent for one or two recent specimens. The following is one of these :—

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. Guglielmetti.	BLACK. Sacerdoti.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to Q B 3	5—B to Q B 4
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—P to Q 3
8—P takes P	8—B to Q Kt 3
9—Kt to Q B 3	9—B to K Kt 5
10—Q to Q R 4 (a)	10—B to Q 2
11—Q to Q Kt 3	11—Kt to R 4
12—B takes P ch.	12—K to B sq.
13—Q to B 2	13—K takes B
14—P to K 5 (b)	14—P to K R 3
15—P to Q 5	15—K to B sq.
16—P to K 6	16—B to Q B sq.
17—K R to K sq.	17—Q to B 3
18—B to Q Kt 2	18—Kt to K 2 (c)
19—Kt to K 4	19—Q to Kt 3
20—Kt to K R 4	20—Q to K R 4
21—Q to B 3 (d)	21—R to K Kt sq.
22—Q R to Q sq.	22—Q takes Kt
23—Q to K B 3 ch.	23—K to K sq.
24—Q to B 7 ch.	24—K to Q sq.
25—B takes K Kt P	25—R to K sq.
26—B to K B 6	26—Q to Kt 5

White mates in four moves.

(a) Hardly sound, as Black can play B takes Kt followed by B takes Q P. B to Q Kt 5 is good instead, or even B to K 3.
(b) The sacrifice, necessitated by Q to Kt 3, is hardly sound, but it must be admitted White has now a good and promising game.
(c) It was very desirable to develop the Kt early; but it is not so easy to suggest the exact point.
(d) A very good and sufficient reply to a somewhat troublesome move.
(e) A too venturesome capture; but there was little opening left for defence, and none for attack. Now White finishes the game excellently well.—*Weekly Times*.

The Hastings Tournament.

The *China* brought us the first news. Play was duly commenced on 5th August and three rounds had been played when the mail left San Francisco.

Of the thirty-eight claimants for admission to the Hastings International Congress only twenty-two succeeded in obtaining the necessary permit from the selection committee. Baird, Davison, Hanham, Lee, Locock, Loman, Metger, Mortimer, Rumball, Van Lennep, and Van Vliet were among the unsuccessful candidates, the fortunate ones being Steinitz and Pillsbury, representing the United States; Albin, Gunsberg, Marco and Schlechter, Austria; Blackburne, Bird, Burn, Mason, Pollock and Tinsley, England; Lasker, Bardeleben, Mieses, Tarrasch, Teichmann and Walbrodt, Germany; Viagari, Italy; Janowski, Poland; and Schiffers and Tschigorin, Russia.

SCORE AT THE END OF THE THIRD ROUND.

Albin	1½	Pillsbury	2
Bardeleben	2½	Pollock	½
Bird	2	Schiffers	2½
Blackburne	2	Schlechter	1½
Burn	1	Steinitz	2½
Gunsberg	1½	Tarrasch	1
Janowski	2	Teichmann	1½
Lasker	1	Tinsley	1
Marco	1	Tschigorin	2
Mason	1	Viagari	0
Mieses	2	Walbrodt	1

ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 1st.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 10th.†
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, Sept. 4th.‡
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 9th.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Sept. 4th.‖
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 8th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 12th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 13th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 20th.

* *Siam* (with English mail) left Hongkong on August 24th. † *Belgic* left San Francisco on August 24th. ‡ *Gaelic* left Hongkong on August 27th. § *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on August 27th. ‖ *Hohenzollern* left Hongkong on August 30th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 1st.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Sept. 6th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 7th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 7th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 9th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Sept. 13th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 7th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 17th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ormiston, British steamer, 1,846, Outram, 24th August,—Niigata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 25th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 17th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Oolong, British steamer, 1,970, Allen, 25th August, —London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 25th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, 16th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 26th August,—Shimonoseki, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Boynton, British steamer, 1,630, R. Irving, 26th August,—Kobe 25th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Omba, British steamer, 1,907, Munroe, 26th August,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Byers, 26th August,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 7th August, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, W. G. Bannister, 27th August,—West Coast, Rice.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 27th August,—San Francisco 13th August, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, Brown, 27th August,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tritos, German steamer, 1,085, Desler, 27th August,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,304, Voss, 27th August,—Kobe 26th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 28th August,—Yokkaichi 27th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,648, 28th August, —London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Nuestra Senora de Loreta, Spanish steamer, 1,050, C. de Suzariaya, 28th August,—Manila, Sugar. —Browne & Co.

Albert Rickmers, German ship, 2,398, Warnecke, 28th August,—Cardiff, viâ Nagasaki, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 29th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, Murray, 29th August,—Portland, Or., 1st August, viâ Honolulu 13th, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Duncan, 29th August,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tetartos, German steamer, 1,578, Dionse, 29th August,—Kobe 28th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Verron, 30th August, —Marseilles 21st July, Hongkong 21st August, Shanghai 24th, Nagasaki 26th, and Kobe 28th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 30th August,—Yokkaichi 29th August, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Ashdown, British steamer, 1,893, Jas. Cowie, 24th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tamar, British troopship, 3,500, 24th August,—Hongkong, Time-expired men.

Suminoye Maru, Japanese steamer, 856, Kori, 24th August,—Formosa, Coolies.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 25th August,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Wood, 25th August, —Kobe, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Aggi, Norwegian steamer, 1,286, Hahtman, 27th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 26th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 27th August,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, R. Forsyth, 27th August,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bellona, German steamer, 2,663, Von Binzer, 28th August,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Byers, 28th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Mandjur (6), Russian gunboat, Captain Andreef, 28th August,—Target Practice.

Dalgonar, British ship, 2,565, J. Kitchen, 28th August,—Tacoma, Wash., 4,970 tons Tea.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, C. A. Anderson, 28th August,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oolong, British steamer, 1,970, Allen, 28th August, —London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 28th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 29th August,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tritos, German steamer, 1,085, Desler, 29th August,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 29th August,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, J. Murray, 30th August,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ormiston, British steamer, 1,846, Outram, 30th August,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 30th August,—Nagahama, Ballast.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. W. Deming, Mr. David Syme, Mr. and Mrs. J. Anderson, Mrs. Newman, Miss Bayley, Mr. E. E. Andrus, Mr. Bavalevsky, Mr. Klingen and servant, Mr. Smykow and servant, Mr. Simasen, Mr. J. Birley, Mr. Joseph Dubois, Mr. B. Mason, and Mr. G. Christopher in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Miss Holmes, Mr. E. Owen, Mr. J. B. Dick, Mr. Che San, and Mr. and Mrs. Lecaroz in cabin; 1 European and 1 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco:—Mr. Irving M. Scott, Dr. Geo. Chismore, Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Sale and family, Mr. H. D. Newcomb, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Jewett and family, Captain Maschke, I.G.N., Mr. F. A. Wendt, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Holton, Mr. N. Hashiguchi and family, Rev. W. McS. Buchanan, Miss E. Thornton, Miss Annie Dowd, Miss Florence D. Patton, Miss Russell, Miss M. B. Torrence, and Mrs. J. Tremain Smith and daughter in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. J. W. McKenzie, Rev. Lacy Little, Miss Eliz. Talbot, Dr. and Mrs. W. H. Curtiss and family, Dr. and Mrs. Geo. C. North, Miss Pauline Du Bose, and Miss Josie Woods in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Mrs. J. C. Leonard in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mr. Aubrey Fair and Mr. S. M. Mears in cabin.

Per British steamer *Asloun*, from Portland, Or., viâ Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. Skimchorn and Mr. Smith in cabin; a number of Japanese and Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Natal*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. S. Okamura, Mr. A. Krayer, Mr. Crombre, Mr. Malsbraith, Mr. Zinzshus, Mr. Y. Ikeda, Mr. Terao, Mr. M. S. Pott, Mrs. and Miss Alse, Mr. and Mrs. M. S. Castamoda, Mr. Vidal, Mr. J. H. Laforer, Mr. and Mrs. Adler, Mr. R. M. Eisenstar, Mr. C. W. Dickson, Captain Smith, Miss Smith, Mr. Stanley Mylins, Mr. P. Meitoes, Mr. S. Butchart, Mr. Frank Nevills, Mr. Scriba, Mr. H. Tripp, Mr. T. Lenz, Mr. H. Russell, Mr. R. Norostran, Mr. Chom Che Ten, and Mr. Lum Kau Kai in cabin; 3 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. de Berigny, Mrs. Jane Hervey, Mr. and Mrs. Pors and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Wagott, Dr. Scriba, Mr. and Mrs. Gully and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Parker, Miss M. E. Pyles, Dr. Anne Walter, Mrs. Peterson and 3 children, Mr. A. W. Hunt, Colonel de Wogack, Miss Gaillard, Rev. H. C. Hodges, Mr. B. Bomar, Miss L. E. Hughes, Mr. G. Dobberke, Mr. A. Wottrich, Mr. R. Griffon, Mr. Ackerman, Mr. D. Percebois, Mr. Ede, Miss Margaret Holme, Miss E. Stanley, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. da Souza, Mr. John Northey, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Ah Hep, Mr. Wong, Mr. Ruper, Mr. W. Drage, Mr. A. G. Corder, Mr. Simon, Mr. Pinel, Mr. and Mrs. Sprout and 3 children, Mrs. Theo. Guigard, Mr. G. Adet, Mr. Koreyoshi Suye, and Mr. E. Bosa in cabin; 10 Japanese in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro* for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mr. and Mrs. J. Andersen, Miss Bagley, Mr. W. Baralevsky, Mr. Bertram Francis, Mr. L. H. Greenwood, Mr. F. G. High, Mr. Geo. W. Hume, Mr. Charles E. Hume, Mrs. Marie Lange, Miss Lange, Miss Pauline Lange, Lieut. Commander J. M. Miller, U.S.N. Mrs. Newman, Mr. Wm. Nicholsen, Mr. Wladimir Samoiloff, and Mr. G. F. Smithers in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki:—Mrs. John L. Nevius, Miss Bainbridge, Mr. Clifford Young and servant, Mr. and Mrs. G. Bateson Wright, Rev. H. V. S. Peake, Mrs. C. Palmer, Mr. F. A. Wendt, Miss M. Duryea, and Mr. E. Schmidt in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 1,618 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 100 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	ST. PAUL.	ST. LOUIS.	DENVER.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	2,254	—	—	378	—	—	2,632
Yokohama.	765	—	—	—	—	—	765
Hongkong.	145	—	—	—	—	—	145
Total ...	3,164	—	—	378	—	—	3,542

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	259	—	259
Yokohama	—	718	—	718
Total	—	977	—	977

Per British ship *Dalgonar*, for Tacoma, Wash.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	6,738	9,085	3,043	—	18,866
Yokohama ...	10,633	13,021	8,511	...	32,165
Total	17,371	22,106	11,554	—	51,031

RATES.

Tea..... ⅜ cent gold per lb. gross.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain J. T. Smith, reports:—Left Hongkong the 17th August, viâ Nagasaki. Arrived at Yokohama the 25th August at 7.10 a.m. Passage, 7 days 15 hours 38 minutes.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left San Francisco the 13th August; had fine weather entire passage. On the 23rd at 3.30 a.m. passed steamer *Coptic*; on the 25th at 12.35 a.m. passed steamer *Empress of China*. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th August. Time, 13 days 3 hours.

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LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The improved market continues, and there is a good outlook for business when the summer heat is past. In Yarn and Grey Goods some business is passing, while Fancy Cottons are in better demand than for some time. Woollens are in some request for forward delivery.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.25 to 2.85
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	7.70 to 3.10
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2 00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 16 to 0 22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.25 to 9.50
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1 70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.75 to 2.00
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.20 to 2.50
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 75 to 3.10

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0 60 to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$33.00 to 33.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	34.00 to 35.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.40 to 38.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	41.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	46.00 to 49.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market quiet with small doings, as usual at this time of the year.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.20 to 3.22
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.25 to 3.30
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 8.75
Wire Nails, assorted	5.80 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.20 to 5.40
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.70 to 1.75

KEROSENE.

Holders have (quite unexpectedly) been pressing sales, and have lowered quotations again. Some few transactions have been done on the new basis, but buyers now hold off expecting a further decline!

American	$2.05 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	Nom.

SUGAR.

Brown—Market tending downwards owing to heavy arrivals of Manila sorts, with very small sales. White—Moderate trade at last quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.70 to 3.75
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.50
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.20 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6 00 to 9.25

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market booms along merrily, and sellers declare that they have to put up quotations owing to the strong competition among shippers; although they (the sellers) would be quite content with former rates! Any way the business goes on to a great time, and the Mail steamers both East and West bound get plenty of Silk freight.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 deniers	$930 to 940
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	760 to 770
Kakedas—Extra	Nom
Kakedas—No. 1	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 1½	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770

WASTE SILK.

No life here. Producers do not send in the New crop in any quantity; and until that arrives buyers will not operate.

TEA.

Market active at late rates; teas costing from $20 to $25 being in good request; Settlement and Export figures both keep well up to the mark.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been fairly steady, and rates have altered very little, the latest movement being the rise of one-eighth in sympathy with silver.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2
— — Bills on demand	2/2⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅝
— — 6 months' sight	2/2¾
On Paris—Bank sight	2.74
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.80
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	197
— Private 30 days' sight	199½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	53
— Private 30 days' sight..	54
— — 4 months' sight	54¾
On Germany—Bank sight	2.20
— Private 4 months' sight	2.27
Bar Silver (London)	30 9/16 @ 5/8

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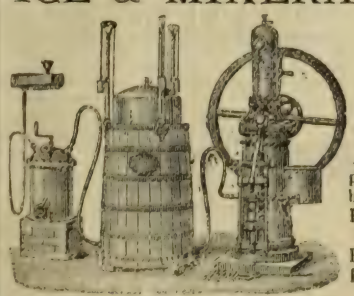

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 7TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE CROWN PRINCE is steadily improving in health.

DYSENTERY is still very prevalent in many parts of the country.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE was sixteen years of age on the 31st ult.

ONE or two cholera cases a day are being reported in Yokohama.

SURGEON KONDA NOBUCHIKA has been decorated by the Emperor of China.

THE establishment of the Yokohama Japanese Chamber of Commerce has been sanctioned.

SHANGHAI will send a cricket team over to Yokohama in the autumn to play the local club.

MISS ANNIE ABBOTT, "the little electric magnet," drew a crowded house at the Public Hall on her opening night.

A SOSHI threw a stone at H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, as the latter was driving through Tokyo on Wednesday.

GASSED-YARN spinning mills are being promoted at Aichi, Osaka Awaji, Tamba, and Fukuchiyama.

THE members of the Press were requested to retire from the half-yearly meeting of shareholders of Messrs. Brett and Company, Limited, held on Monday last.

MR. QUIN, H.B.M. Consul at Nagasaki, has gone to Shanghai for a trip, for the benefit of his health.

THE Japan Edible Seaweed Company lost *yen* 57,165.523 last year, and *yen* 487,122.709 the year before.

THE promoters of the Takasaki Chamber of Commerce received a charter from the Government on the 24th ult.

A DETACHMENT of the Salvation Army, all officers, arrived at Yokohama on Wednesday by the German mail steamer.

LIEUT.-GENERAL VISCOUNT TAKASHIMA, Vice-Governor-General of Formosa, left the capital on the 1st inst. for Formosa.

A FOUR-YEAR-OLD boy was drowned in a pond at Suyeyoshicho, Yokohama, on the 2nd inst., while pursuing dragon flies.

IT is expected that Count Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, will resign that portfolio should Count Inouye be induced to accept it.

COUNTESS INOUYE has had a long audience with the Queen of Korea: she is greatly impressed with the Queen's intellectual capacity.

THE abandonment of the boycott against Chinese firms in Yokohama has led to the withdrawal of the *soshi* from the Chinamen's doors.

MR. UYEDA NOFU, ex-M.P. for Iwate Prefecture, who has been suffering from mental disease, committed suicide on the 29th ult.

THE officers of the Japan Railway Co. have presented 20,000 towels and 20,000 fans to the Japanese soldiers and seamen in Formosa.

MR. KAMIYA, who lately returned from America, proposes to establish a beer brewery in Kiushu to supply the demands of Kiushu consumers.

IT is stated that Mr. Suyematsu, Chief of the Legislative Bureau, was assaulted by a Fukuoka *soshi* on the 1st inst. while on the way to Oiso.

THE investigations of the Kucheng Commission are now proceeding apace, and more prison accommodation has been demanded of the Viceroy.

THE General Guild of Yokohama Dealers is to be dissolved, and various Guilds, each representing a particular trade or industry, will take its place.

COLONEL KOJIMA, Commandant of the First Infantry Regiment of the Imperial Guards Division, succumbed to cholera in Formosa on the 31st ult.

LIEUT.-GENERAL VISCOUNT MIURA having reached Sōul and had an audience with the King, it is reported that Count Inouye will return to Japan within the next two weeks.

THE Privy Council in London have sustained the appeal in the case of Tsune Kijima *versus* the P. & O. Company. The whole of the costs are to be borne by Tsune Kijima and the 60 other plaintiffs in the action.

THE Minister of Agriculture and Commerce granted a charter on the 31st ult. to the promoters of the Yayeyama Sugar Manufacturing Co., promoted by Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Oye Taku, and other capitalists.

THE tramway between Odawara and Yumoto has been sold to Messrs. Watanabe Chiyemon, Imamura Seinosuke, Wakao Ippei, and a few other capitalists of Tokyo and Yokohama, who propose to change it into an electric railway.

THE depth of a boring which has been made in the compound of the Imperial University in Tokyo for the purpose of earthquake investigation is now 1,200 feet.

A FATAL landslip took place at Kawabe, Shinto-gun, Hyogo Prefecture, on the 24th ult., two persons being crushed to death and five others seriously wounded.

OVER thirty Korean students, specially selected by the King left Ninsen, arrived on the 1st inst. by the *Asahi Maru* to pursue their studies at the Keio Gijuku, Tokyo.

THE total tonnage of the Government transports was 187,830.37 tons on July 10th; it decreased to 165,832.40 tons on the 1st inst. These figures do not include ships below 1,000 tons.

A STRONG shock of earthquake was felt at Kumamoto on the night of the 27th ultimo. No lives were lost nor buildings overthrown, but three houses were burnt, the fires being caused by lamps upset by the earthquake.

REUTER telegraphs—A packet containing explosives has been addressed to Baron Alphonse Rothschild in Paris, whose secretary, on opening it, had his fingers and one eye shattered. Lord Lansdowne, Secretary of State for War, has brought forward the military scheme, which is based mainly on the conclusions arrived at by the Hartington Commission. Lord Wolseley, as Commander of the Forces at home and abroad, will be the principal adviser of the Secretary of State for War. The Commander of the Forces and the other heads of departments will act as a Board to discuss matters referred to them by the Secretary of State for War. Forty per centum of the French troops in Madagascar are unfit for duty. The anniversary of Sedan has been celebrated with immense enthusiasm in Germany. Russia has presented a large quantity of war material to Montenegro.

THE improvement in the Import trade continues, and the prospect is once more bright. Yarns have advanced in Manchester, and a good business has been done here for better prices, which will probably further harden. Grey goods are still in request, and more money is asked, Velvets and Turkey Reds being also in demand at higher figures. The Woollen trade is beginning to improve, and enquiries are better than for some time past. In the Metal trade there has been more business, and slightly lower values have induced bargains in Iron, principally Pig and manufactured. Wire Nails move fairly well at late rates, and the stock is rather light, while Galvanised Sheets and Tin Plates are taken at an advance. In the Kerosene trade there is more inclination to buy, and deliveries of late sales are good. Sugar is generally dull, a small demand and heavy stock having depressed Java and Manila sorts. Whites are in better odour, and prices tend upward. After two months of heavy trasactions in the principal Export, demand has slackened, which is not surprising when the extent of recent shipments is considered, and prices for all descriptions of Raw Silk are for the moment nominal. New Waste has at length come to hand in considerable quantities, but the prices asked for it preclude all chances of business at present. There is still a steady trade in the Tea market, and the stock of leaf is down to 7,000 piculs, while shipments show a million pounds over those of the same date last year. Rates of Exchange have varied very little during the week, and remain about the same.

INTERNET ARCHIVE
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Count Matsukata's resignation still continues to engage the attention of a certain section of the metropolitan press. Anonymous correspondence and articles signed by fictitious names are published by some papers in which anything seems to be welcome that tends to injure the reputation of the Premier. Of the Sat-cho statesmen, the ex-Minister of Finance has always been well thought of by the politicians outside the Government, who, even while attacking him as a political opponent, did not refuse to give full credit to his disinterested zeal for the good of the country. Much of the strong sympathy shown for him at the present juncture by the organs of the Extremist parties, may, consequently, been taken as the expression of their genuine sentiments. But there is no gainsaying the fact that their object is not so much to defend him as to attack Marquis Ito. As usual, personalities are so freely indulged in, that the controversy in no longer worth any attention in these columns.

* * *

A favourite theme of discussion by the *Jiji Shimpo* during the past few months, has been, as already noticed in these columns, to advocate the formation of a coalition Cabinet by inviting into the present Ministry such statesmen as Count Okuma, Count Itagaki, and so forth. Such a combination, impracticable under ordinary circumstances, can be easily effected, in the *Jiji's* opinion, at a juncture like the present, when all true lovers of the country ought to be united in order to carry out certain measures which are of paramount national importance. Our contemporary is genuinely sorry to perceive that those in power do not seem to be in the least disposed to act upon the advice so repeatedly and earnestly offered by it. It is still more concerned to notice that the elder men in the Cabinet are not only lacking in decision to join hands with the distinguished statesmen out of power, but are equally deficient in courage to conduct important affairs of State in a bold and energetic manner. Their attention, continues the *Jiji*, seems to be wholly absorbed in the petty question about the management of the Diet. Such a state of affairs is unendurable to our contemporary, which, consequently, once more offers advice to the Ministers. If they are unable either to share power with Counts Okuma and Itagaki, and so forth, or to pursue a strong and definite policy, they are advised to resign their posts in favour of men of the younger generation, for they are no longer entitled to steer the ship of State through the dangerous sea on which it is now floating. They may say that to leave the direction of affairs in the hands of younger men is a dangerous experiment; but they are reminded that it is only a piece of vanity to think so. Our contemporary is convinced that the country will be much safer in the hands of younger men than in those of the present Ministers; for among the younger generation there is a large number of men perfectly qualified to be entrusted with the most important affairs of State. Looking at the matter from the view of their own personal convenience, the present is the best time for the elder statesmen to resign, for, as the result of the recent war, they have now attained the highest honours they can hope for; in other words, they stand at the zenith of their political fame. They may think that as their new honours add to their prestige, their power may be prolonged. They are, however, told that they will be grievously disappointed if they do think so. The result expected by them might have been attainable in an age long since gone by. Instead of being regarded with greater respect, they are now the objects of increased and increasing envy and dislike. Consequently, our contemporary fears that, if they remain longer in office, troubles may multiply thick and fast in their path. However, the prime object of the *Jiji* is not to urge their resignation, but nothing would give it greater satisfaction than to see its original advice about a Coalition Cabinet adopted.

* * *

The clamour is still kept up by the Opposition journals for an extraordinary session of the Diet. In reply to these papers, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* points out once more that there is no necessity for such a step. According to the Constitution, the Diet, whether ordinary or extraordinary, can be convened only for the purpose of deliberating upon projects of law, the Budget, the raising of a loan, draft contracts of a nature to create liabilities over and above the Budget, and Imperial Ordinances requiring *post facto* approbation. It cannot be convened either for the declaration of war, or, by implication, for the purpose of laying before it a report upon the progress of war and the diplomatic complications that may have arisen out of a state of war. The only reason thus far advanced which is worth consideration is that in order to collect the saké tax from the next fiscal year according to the increased rate, it is advisable to effect the increase of the rate before the 1st of October. But Income and Expenditure cannot be separated from each other; and at present the details of the Military measures being still incomplete, it is impossible to compile estimates. Moreover, the amount of money that will be required during the current year for the increase of the Army and the Navy will not be great, at least not so great that the Treasury will be unable to make the required payments without having recourse to an extraordinary session of the Diet. Should any measure connected with the increase of armaments be deemed to be of exceptionally urgent necessity then it may be carried out as an urgency matter. So from every point of view, there is, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, no necessity for convening an extraordinary session of the Diet.

* * *

What should be the proper degree of the increase of the Army and the Navy, is a question which engages the serious attention of the metropolitan press. There is a disposition among some of the papers to think that the Government is determined upon an increase on a scale out of proportion to the resources of the country. The *Nippon*, the *Kokkai*, and a few others belong to this category. The experience of Italy is cited by these papers as a warning to Japan. An article in the *Nichi Nichi* on the subject is well worth consideration. Our contemporary notices that some of the papers have taken much trouble in reasoning, by means of statistics, that considered in proportion to the income, Japan is already spending more than the great Powers of Europe are paying for their armaments. But the *Nichi Nichi* states that these statistics are not accurate, and that in point of fact Japan is spending less proportionally than the European Powers. The statistical data upon which it bases this assertion are reserved to a future opportunity when it promises to discuss the subject at greater length. Considering the present economical condition of the country, when foreign trade is increasing by leaps and bounds, and when the farming class as a whole is in easy circumstances, the increase of the tax on *sake*, the income tax, the trade tax, and so forth, so as to get about 20,000,000 *yen* in addition to the present revenue, is not, in the *Nichi Nichi's* opinion, sufficient to retard the economical progress of the country. As to the strength required by the Japanese Navy, our contemporary is of opinion that it should be much superior to the strongest foreign fleet in these waters. As to the Army, our contemporary remarks that attention should be directed to completing the coast defence, to the increase and improvement of cavalry and commissariat, and strengthening of the infantry to such a point that a sufficient number of troops may at any moment be ready to leave the country for the shores of the Sea of Japan and the China Sea. The question of Military and Naval augmentation is discussed by some journals in combination with the question of alliance. In our contemporary's opinion, the two questions ought to be considered independently, or rather that the question of alliance should be dismissed altogether as being outside the sphere of practical politics. In the present state of affairs, the *Nichi Nichi* thinks that Japan ought to pursue an independent policy, for alliance with either England or Russia is impracticable. The question of alliance is more fully discussed by our contemporary in another article which will be noticed more in detail and separately.

* * *

The situation in the East is discussed in several articles. The *Kokumin Shimbun* surveys the position of China, and reminds its countrymen of the fact that the recent war has had an exactly opposite result to that which had been expected by them. While the war was in progress, the Japanese hoped that, after the conclusion of hostilities the Chinese would open their eyes to the actual state of affairs, and, recognizing the needs of their country, would be more friendly to Japan than formerly. But the result is that they are more soundly asleep than ever, and, instead of coming into closer relations with Japan, they have allowed themselves to fall into the hands of Russia. Thus, instead of increasing the security of the peace of the East, the late war has created a new danger. Japan, says the *Kokumin*, has only obtained one or two-tenths of her original object, and unless she be wise she is in danger of losing what little she has got. Other papers write in a similar strain, urging the Government not to be a mere spectator in the diplomatic game now being played in China.

THE INCREASE OF BANKS IN JAPAN.

Some time ago we quoted from the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* some interesting figures showing the recent extraordinary increase of banks in this country, a warning being raised by our contemporary against the evil consequences of a sudden expansion of banking business. The subject is now discussed by the *Nichi Nichi*, the latter differing from the first mentioned journal. The *Nichi Nichi* observes that the private banks to which charters have recently been given are not new institutions, but in most cases establishments which have been doing business for a long time, and which have modified their constitution and name so as to come under the scope of the Banking Regulations issued in 1890. Until that year, the Government had entirely refrained from interfering with private banking business. But perceiving the necessity of exercising a general control over these establishments, the above mentioned Regulations were promulgated and the process of converting private houses into officially recognized banks, which has been going on ever since 1890, has received a new impetus from the revival of business activity after the conclusion of peace. Such being the case, our contemporary welcomes the increase of private banks as a sign of the gradual improvement of banking business in Japan. The following figures are said to have been obtained from the most trustworthy source in the Government:—

Date.	National Banks. No.	Capital. Yen.	Private Banks. No.	Capital. Yen.
December, 1890	134	48,644,662	272	25,571,175
December, 1891	134	48,702,100	294	27,060,775
December, 1892	133	48,325,690	323	28,317,975
December, 1893	133	48,416,100	627	37,128,490
December, 1894	133	48,816,100	761	54,147,900

Date.	Companies akin to Banks. No.	Capital. Yen.	Total. No.	Capital. Yen.
December, 1890	70 2	14,513,616	1,108	88,728,453
December, 1891	678	13,827,434	1,106	89,580,309
December, 1892	680	13,944,644	1,136	90,588,219
December, 1893	—	—	761	85,544,590
December, 1894	—	—	894	103,064,000

Of the private banks December, 1893, the number of savings banks was 24, with the aggregate capital of 1,140,000 *yen*. The number of savings banks in December, 1894, was 34, with the total capital of 1,470,000 *yen*.

"Daddy," asked little Danny Grogan, "what is this new woman business, any-how?" "It manes," said Mr. Grogan, after a moment's thought, "shot instid af a man an' his wife bein' wan anny more, shot now he is wan man an' she is another."

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EDITORIAL NOTES.

KOREAN FEMALE STUDENTS IN TOKYO.

THE arrival of two Korean female students in Tokyo has naturally excited much curiosity and attention. They are the wife and sister of Mr. In Chigo, a brother of Mr. In Chiko, a distinguished Korean official. Mrs. In Chigo, is about twenty-four or twenty-five, and Miss In about twenty years of age. It being known that they were to arrive in Tokyo on the 29th ultimo, some persons were sent to Shimbashi station by Mr. Fukuzawa to welcome them and conduct them to a house specially prepared for them in the compound of the school. Meanwhile, the train arrived and all the passengers alighted, but there were no Korean ladies, and the men sent out by the school were about to return without their guests when their attention was attracted by a party of three persons, apparently country people, two women in Japanese and a man in European clothing. They were the last to alight from the train, and as soon as they were on the platform, they opened their umbrellas. This unusual movement and certain peculiarities in their dress and manner, excited suspicion, and it was soon found that they were the party sought for, the man in European clothes being the servant of the ladies. They had travelled in their national costume as far as Ninsen, where the ladies, fearing they might be laughed at in Japan should they come in Korean garments, dressed their hair in Japanese fashion and attired themselves in Japanese *hitoyemono*. On arriving in Tokyo, the first two days were employed by the ladies in ordering new Japanese clothing and articles of ornament and rearranging their hair in the *sokuhatsu* style. Understanding not a word of Japanese, their first business will be to study the language, for which excellent arrangements are made in the school. Their husband and brother, Mr. In Chigo, formerly a student at the Keio-gijuku, is now in Söul, but he is expected in Japan to complete his education. As the *Fiji Shimpo* observes, the fact that Korean ladies of quality, who have hitherto lived in strict seclusion from the members of the other sex, should have undertaken a voyage abroad in search of education, certainly deserves serious attention, as it indicates how strongly the influence of Japan's civilizing efforts is felt in Korea.

CHINESE IN JAPAN.

LIU UTIEN, a representative of an ancient and wealthy Ming family in Liaotung, who is now staying in Tokyo, has already been mentioned in these columns. He and his servant accompanied Marshal Oyama to Japan when His Excellency returned here in May last. Liu is now an employé of the Military Department. He intends to become naturalized and settle in Tokyo, where he will bring his whole family and many of his relatives who are now staying in Liaotung. Liu is a young man of fair complexion with a pleasing address. He is said to be under the special protection of Marshal Oyama. Of the several hundreds of other Chinese who welcomed the arrival of the Japanese troops as their deliverers from the oppression of officials, about 160 are reported to have applied to Governor-General Viscount Sakuma in Liaotung for naturalization as Japanese subjects. Their families number from 700 to 800 persons in all. It is not yet decided whether or not to grant their request, but it is believed that the Japanese Government will allow them to come over to this country, when they will be provided with land in Hokkaido.

BATTLE WORN.

ONE gets to realise in war-time, remarks a contemporary, what the human body can stand in the way of being slashed and pierced and bruised without the spark of life being actually extinguished. Among the Sepoys who received the Order of Merit for the relief of Chitral is one who had no fewer than 31 wounds, probably a record number. Another man, a Siah, furnished a spendid example of pluck and endurance. He was shot in the side at the Koragh Defile, when Ross's party were cut up. He could feel the bullet in his body and so worked away at it with both hands, gradually pushing it outwards until he had extracted it. Then he shouldered his rifle again and did his march of 20 miles or so, in spite of loss of blood. He is alive and well, with the Order of Merit as his reward, and future promotion doubtless awaiting him.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for July, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1894. SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	8,355,051.480	10,564,333.980
Imports	9,883,227.000	9,396,601.750

Total exports and imports	19,960,935.730
Excess of imports	1,167,732.230

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	213,214.781
Imports	328,979.767
Miscellaneous	15,358.106
Total	557,552.654

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports, Silver Yen.	Imports, Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Hongkong	1,383,924.900	786,741.530	2,170,666.430
China	880,966.570	1,109,938.640	1,990,905.210
British India	236,679.270	1,272,304.300	1,508,983.570
Korea	273,218.500	239,832.500	513,051.000
Russian Asia	95,253.970	366,278.280	461,532.250
Annam & other French India	2,168.250	437,234.910	439,403.160
Philippine Islands	20,919.960	128,852.050	149,772 010
Siam	171.000	26,382.790	26,553 790
Great Britain	273,561.730	2,706,133.000	2,979,694.730
France	1,144,437.640	357,245.910	1,501,683.550
Germany	148,392.090	831,333 640	979,725.730
Italy	311,854.170	9,887.800	321,741.970
Belgium	2,400.990	165,122.350	167,523.340
Switzerland	37,428.050	98,924.460	136,352.510
Russia	17,315.000	474.280	17,789.280
Holland	4,876.900	6,916.400	11,793.300
Spain	2,877.000	3,495.900	6,372.900
Denmark	1,340.000	2,260.800	3,600.800
Turkey	3,045.910	31.680	3,077.590
Austria	1,916.000	886.060	2,802.060
Portugal	—	1,341.580	1,341.580
Sweden & Norway	150.000	1,041.200	1,191,200
United States of America	4,877,022.870	737,095.230	5,614,118 100
Canada & other British America	348,415.110	179.800	348,591.910
Peru	3,240.540	1,177.480	4,418 020
Australia	150,281.570	69,170.530	219,452.100
Hawaii	58,909.420	—	58,909.420
Other Countries	29,519.330	36,319.650	65,838.980
Total	10,310,287.740	9,396,601.750	19,706,889.490

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	6,140,583.580	4,034,530.920	10,175,114.500
Kobe	3,426,396.820	4,652,949.900	8,079,346.720
Osaka	105,941.050	205,522.540	311,463.590
Nagasaki	370,110.540	427,065.670	807,176.210
Hakodate	74,685.310	7,720.300	82,405.610
Niigata	5,654.590	3,751,910	9,406.500
Shimonoseki	140,241.200	50,963.030	201,205.230
Moji	66,216.000	—	66,216.000
Hakata	—	5,039.000	5,039.000
Karatsu	25,175.000	—	25,175.000
Kuchinotsu	135,700.000	—	135,700.000
Idzugahara	2,364.570	2,627.100	4,991.670
Shishimi	2,119 040	370.200	3,489.240
Sasuna	333.460	2,328.450	2,661.910
Fushiki	2,871.050	3,731.730	6,603.780
Muroran	13,987.000	—	13,987.000
Otaru	30,953.770	—	30,953.770
Specie and Bullion { Exports		557,875.620	
Specie and Bullion { Imports		175,665.240	
Total		733,530.860	
Excess of exports		382,210 380	

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	1,925,966.160	
By Japanese Merchants { Imports	2,122,148.170	
Imported by Government	93,920.420	

VALUE OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM JAPAN EACH MONTH THIS YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	12,704,459.990	9,862,419.680	22,566,879.670
February	8,633,963.380	8,239,136.430	16,873.099.810
March	9,638,333.280	9,939,827.600	19,578,160.880
April	8,498,406 640	9,974,473.310	18,472,879.950
May	9,540,340.470	11,021,372.740	20,861,722.210
June	10,129,046.910	10,989,848.710	21,118,895.620
July	10,564,333.980	9,396,601.750	19,960,935.730
Total	70,108,893.650	69,423,680.220	139,132,573.870

THE "VERONA" CHOLERA CASE.

COCKSURE comments were made upon the quarantine officials when their medical men declared a Chinaman on the *Verona* to be suffering from cholera and had the man removed to Nagahama. These comments, as might have been expected, are now proved to have been much "too previous," and the sequel shows that the quarantine medical staff know their business, which is not at all "inexplicable," seeing that they are experts who have studied the subject for a long series of years. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* thus refers to the case :—A Chinese fireman on board the British steamer *Verona* was attacked by vomiting and purging on the 28th ultimo. The following day the Japanese quarantine officials proceeded to the ship, and found that the Chinaman was suffering from cholera. The steamer was at once sent to the Nagahama Quarantine Station. Strong comments, says the Tokyo paper, have been made upon the Japanese commissioners for deciding that the Chinaman was attacked by cholera, especially as the ship's doctor was not of the same opinion. Drs. Miyajima and Sasaki have now discovered comma bacilli in the excreta of the patient who is at Nagahama, and thus they verify the conclusion of the Japanese authorities.

WINES AT THE BORDEAUX EXHIBITION.

THE Philomathic Society of France has organised an exhibition which has just been opened at Bordeaux, and, naturally, wines form a very large and important portion of the exhibits. For the following interesting essay in connection with this subject we are indebted to the French Consul :—

L'Exposition des Vins à Bordeaux vient de s'ouvrir. Pourrait-il se produire, dans la capitale de l'antique Guyenne, une manifestation des forces industrielles, commercials, scientifiques, et agricoles comme celle qu'a organisée la Société Philomathique, sans que les vins, et surtout ceux de la Gironde, y vinssent occuper une place prépondérante? Non. Le vin joue un rôle trop grand dans le monde pour ne pas figurer au premier rang des produits du sol. Au point de vue économique, ceux qui touchent à la question vinicole ne sauraient se désintéresser de ce qui leur permet d'étendre leurs connaissances sur les ressources vinicoles du globe, et l'Exposition universelle qui s'ouvre à Bordeaux se prête merveilleusement à l'étude de ces ressources.

La production universelle des vins peut être évaluée actuellement à 138 millions d'hectolitres par an, soit une augmentation de quelques millions d'hectolitres sur les évaluations d'il y a quelques années, par suite de l'extension des plantations de vignes qui s'est produite un peu partout, et là même où naguére l'on ne songeait pas à faire du vin. Tel aura été l'un des effets du phylloxera, qui a révolutionné le monde viticole. Antithèse vivante, puisqu'il est destructeur en même temps que propagateur. N'a-t-il pas, en effet, en menaçant de détruire à jamais la plus riche production francaise, incité les autres nations à élargir le champ, jusque-là relativement restreint, réservé à la précieuse Ampélidée? L'Italie et l'Espagne arrachèrent des oliviers—ce qu'elles ont regretté depuis—pour mettre de la vigne à leur place; l'Australie et la Californie ont voulu faire en quantité du Médoc et du Bourgogne, ainsi que du Champagne; la Russie, sous ses latitudes tempérées, a multiplié les ceps; la République Argentine, le Chili, le Brésil, le Mexique, etc., et plus près de nous, le Portugal, l'Algérie, la Tunisie ont planté et plantent à profusion l'arbre de Noé; de sorte que le vin est aujourd'hui plus abondant que jamais.

Mais si la quantité existe, en est-il de même de la qualité? Sans doute, les moyens de culture et de vinification se sont perfectionnés, mais l'on a surtout visé à la quantité. C'était naturel, puisqu'a un moment on croyait que le vin allait manquer, et que le peu qui s'en récoltait était arraché à gros prix au producteur. C'est même à la faveur de cet état de choses qu'à pu prospérer la fabrication de pseudo-vins, heureusement en décroissance marquée aujourd'hui parce qu'elle est moins lucrative depuis que le vin naturel ne manque pas.

On a donc planté partout. Des cépages les plus renommés des contrées à vins fins ont été transportés sous tous les ciels, placé dans tous les terrains. Mais il est deux facteurs importants de la qualité du produit qui n'ont pu suivre cépages et méthode; ces facteurs sont le sol et le climat. De sorte que les vins d'Australie et de Californie ne sont heureusement pour la France qu'un lointain souvenir de ses produits authentiques. Et c'est pour elle une des branches de salut dans la crise viticole qu'elle traverse. Le viticulteur français intelligent le comprend si bien qu'il redouble d'efforts pour maintenir à ses produits la vieille renommée dont ils jouissent. Il n'épargne ni peine ni sacrifice d'argent pour atteindre ce but. Espérons que la réussite couronnera son œuvre.

Si la culture de la vigne s'est généralisée en dehors de la France, est-elle devenue pour les pays qui s'y sont livrés une source de richesses? Il est encore un peu trop tôt pour dire si en définitive elle a augmenté le bien-être de ces pays. Passagèrement cela s'est produit pour l'Espagne, le Portugal, et l'Italie, pendant des années de forte exportation; mais l'engouement pour l'arbre à vin qui s'en est suivi n'a-t-il pas frappé la médaille d'un triste revers en suscitant des enterprises viticoles qui ont périclité depuis? Quant à l'Australie et quelques autres contrées, il est notoire qu'à l'heure présente la vigne n'y est généralement pas une source de grands profits, que le découragement s'est emparé de plus d'un viticulteur, que dans le premier de ces pays, l'Etat a dû créer des subventions pour la viticulture, et que dans les autres on a, sur plusieurs points, arraché les plantations pour mettre autre chose à la place.

La consommation universelle du vin ne s'est peut-être pas développée, durant les vingt dernières années, autant que sa production naturelle. Naturelle est ici

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un mot d'une grande valeur, car la fabrication de boissons de toutes sortes décorées du nom de vin et souvent d'étiquettes renommées, jetées sur tous les marchés du monde par de cyniques fraudeurs, fournit un fort contingent à la consommation, nuisant et aux producteurs véritables et aux consommateurs, qui s'intoxiquent à la longue.

Il est permis de croire que, malgré l'extension donnée à la viticulture, il n'y aurait pas surproduction, c'est-à dire que les 130 millions d hectolitres de vins produits chaque année seraient consommés si ces mélanges innombrables, qui ne redoutent ni le phylloxera, ni la gelée, ni la grêle ou autres fléaux et peuvent se vendre a bas prix, ne venaient se mêler aux bons produits.

Aussi chaque gouvernement doit-il avoir à cœur, ne fût-ce que dans l'intérêt de l'hygiène publique, de faire une guerre sans merci aux produits sophistiqués et de propager le bon vin.

Les considérations d'ordre social et économique qui militent en faveur de semblable action de la part des gouvernants sont nombreuses, et il sera bon de les examiner.

MATHESON AND GRANT'S ENGINEERING TRADES' REPORT.

THE last half-yearly report of this well-known firm is dated July 17th, 1895, from which we extract the following:—

The expected boom has not yet arrived and prices, which at the beginning of the year were still falling, seemed to have touched their lowest in January, and how then settled into a permanent stagnation. There has ever, of late been a distinct revival in the engineering trades, which, though it has as yet only slightly affected the values of coal, iron, and steel, still continues, and is likely to go further. Everywhere there is a feeling that the worst of a bad time is over, and when the Parliamentary Elections now in progress are completed a steady and improving trade may be anticipated. In the United States there is already a marked revival. . . . . The prices of pig iron have, during the last six months, fluctuated only within a narrow range, but during the last few weeks there has been a distinct advance which gives promise of further improvement. . . . . The output capacity of the large steel works, as compared with the present demand, still keeps down prices, but the demand is increasing and prices are tending upwards. . . . . Railway Carriage and Waggon Builders still complain of insufficient work and unprofitable prices. The reduced traffic returns of the home railways restrict orders from this source for waggons, and most of the railways are able in their own workshops to meet their requirements for carriages. South America and India continue to order sparingly for current needs, but an early improvement may be looked for in both these markets. Steel under-frames for bogie cars are being made in increasing numbers of pressed steel, but so long as only passenger carriages are in this country made to run on bogies, the requirements here will never attain the importance of the system on the American lines, where most of the goods waggons are so constructed. . . . . Notwithstanding the insufficient employment of the available steamers, with the consequent low freights and diminished earnings, there is a growing expenditure in vessels which, by their design and equipment, afford a better carrying and earning power. Both on the Clyde and in the principal English yards the present trade and prospects are good, though as yet not sufficient to bring back prices to the prosperous standard of 1889-90. War vessels are likely to be in increased demand; both China and Japan will probably spend as far as their means allow, and builders in this country will get their full share The revival of competition between Great Britain and the United States, as shown in the building of Ocean steamers in the latter country, marks a new era in this trade, but it will be some time before American builders can compete in price in the open market. . . . . The makers of bridges, buildings, and roofs, who, under the stimulus of increased demand a few years ago enlarged their works, have, as in the case of other branches of trade, found the very improvements then effected tell against them in the recent dull times. . . . The price of cement in the London district has risen slightly during the last two months. At present the export cask of cement, 400 lbs. gross is selling at about 5s. 6d, and the improvement in the demand continues. The controversy is still unsettled concerning the admixture by some makers of other material in a raw state with the calcined chalk and clay, of which English Cement is made. In conclusion, the vast accumulation of money in this country can only find employment in directions which will benefit the engineering trades. The outlet afforded by gold mining during the last few years is not nearly sufficient to compensate for the lack of other enterprise. There is no lack of sound and profitable schemes ripe for commencement but which have been put aside for more favourable times, and as there is a fashion in enterprise, so undertakings of similar kinds follow rapidly when one or two are successfully initiated. Transport by land or sea calls for the aid of steel makers as well as engineers, and will, during the next few years, tax all the powers available in this country. A revival will reveal how greatly the manufacturing skill and capacity of the country have been improved during the last few years. The restriction of hours and other demands of workmen have encouraged every kind of labour-saving appliance which will assist greatly in the competition to be expected not only from the Continent but from the United States. The opening of new ports in China will go far towards the introduction of more British made machinery, but the Chinese policy of forbidding any occupation of the soil of the country by foreigners must be modified before railways or mines can be properly developed.

THE "EQUITABLE."

"SATISFIED," says a London journal, is the name of a very handsomely got up pamphlet just issued by Messrs. Munkittrick and Triggs, the British managers of the Equitable Life of the United States. It looks a quaint and puzzling title; but a glance at the contents of the little book discloses its appropriateness. It was our fate for years to hear of the "disappointment" felt by the tontine policy-holders of this great Society at the assumed failure of the results to realise the estimates. This pamphlet is the answer to these croakings, of which, let us hope, we have now heard the last. The "disappointed" ones were very diffident about putting in an appearance, and it is only reasonable to infer that they were like the spirits called from the "vasty deep," who would not come when they were called. This book, on the other hand, is a record of the "satisfied" ones. Here we have a reprint of a hundred letters—most of them from well-known and influential people—testifying to their great satisfaction with the profitable results of their tontine assurances; or, in the case of ordinary policies, it is the survivors who express their gratification at the liberal bonuses and prompt payment. In "Satisfied" I think the London managers of the U. S. Equitable have given the cavillings of the past their *quietus*. Every one should read it.

MR. BONSAL.

REFERRING to the new U.S. Secretary of Legation in Tokyo, the *Sketch*, of July 24th, says:—It may be remembered that some brilliant special correspondence from Morocco was done by a young American journalist, Mr. Stephen Bonsal, who afterwards published a book on that "distressful country." Latterly he has been combining diplomatic with literary work during his sojourn at Madrid as *Chargé d' Affaires* at the American Legation, and now it seems he has gone off to Tokyo to take up a similar appointment with the United States representative there. Perhaps, by-and-by, we shall have a book from him on the Far East, viewed possibly not altogether from Mr. Henry Norman's standpoint.

OBSERVATORY ON FUJI-YAMA.

MR. NONAKA ITARU, a member of the Japan Meteorological Society, is reported to have set up an observatory on the top of Mount Fuji, intending to make continued observations all the year round. In January last he made the ascent of the mountain, and found that the cold at the summit is not so intense but that a man might pass the winter there. He will be assisted by a few experts from the Central Observatory of Tokyo, the Director of which, Mr. Wada Yuji, will pay a visit to the plucky meteorologist on the top of Fuji in the beginning of October.

SALE OF THE "FIDELIO."

A KOBE contemporary learns that the *Fidelio* was transferred to the Japanese flag last Friday, and renamed the *Hoko Maru*. The buyer is Mr. Hachima Kanesuke, of Nishinomiya, who paid £10,500 for the vessel. The sale was conducted by Messrs. Sennett & Co., the late charterers of the steamer.

PRECEPT AND EXAMPLE.

HERE are the terms in which the British electors who have voted against Independent Labour candidates are described by a writer in Mr. Keir Hardie's organ, the *Labour Leader*:—"Curs, caitiffs, cads, numskulls, ninnies, nithings, slaves, sycophants, spitlickers, sweaters, scoundrels, cacophonous caddis-heads, crapulent cowards." Another opponent is referred to as a "cabbage-headed Cockney Scotsman." By the Tennysonian motto which adorns the front page of the journal the Editor asks for "sweeter manners," for "the larger heart, the kindier hand." He evidently knows his own needs remarks the *Kobe Chronicle*.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

Count Matsukata's resignation is said to have been felt at the Stock Exchange, shares having gone down considerably as soon as the news reached there. The War Loan went down 30 *sen*, the Ryomo Railway 1 *yen* 30 *sen*, the Tanko Railway 80 *sen*, the Boso Railway 40 *sen*, and so on. It is a fact that the ex-Minister of Finance enjoys the confidence of a large section of business men, but it is a question whether he monopolizes their confidence to the extent of causing a feeling of uncertainty at the Exchange on the receipt of news of his resignation. The incident may possibly have been utilized by speculators, but it seems to be an exaggeration of facts to ascribe the recent fall in shares to the Count's retirement.

The national banks, whose charters are to expire in the course of a year or so, are reported to be taking steps to present a petition to the Diet next session for the renewal of their charters. The Government, it is said, will not grant the renewal, even if both Houses of the Diet may recommend such a course; and it is doubtful whether their petitions will be approved by the Diet.

The extraordinary increase of insurance companies during the past few years, and the nature of many of the latest additions, are beginning to attract the attention of men who have the development of sound business at heart. Five or six years ago, insurance companies could be counted on the fingers of a single hand, but there are now more than fifty. This enormous increase has been almost exclusively in the department of life insurance, marine and fire insurance companies being still very few. Many of the smaller and later companies are said to be so intent upon enhancing the market value of their shares as to declare all the profits as dividend without setting aside anything in the form of reserves. Moreover, so keen is the competition going on between these companies, that people fear that it will lead to disastrous consequences. The *Chugai Shogyo*, from which these facts are quoted, urges the authorities to exercise a judicious control over these companies.

The scheme for the construction of a harbour in Tokyo is engaging the attention of the City Improvement Committee. The matter has also been taken up by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce which recently appointed a committee to investigate the subject. The first meeting of the committee took place on the 26th inst., there being present Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Watanabe Hiromoto, Sakuma Teiichi, Umemura Seiichi, Yamanaka Rinnosuke, Kato Masanosuke, Gimbayashi Tsunao, and Nonaka Mansuke. The meeting was also attended by an expert, Mr. Furuichi, and Mr. Nambu, a secretary of the Home Department. Mr. Watanabe was appointed chairman of the committee. Mr. Furuichi, at the request of the committee, explained at length the various engineering schemes thus far proposed since the matter was mooted in 1881. He also alluded to the investigations that are being conducted by the City Improvement Committee, of which he is a member. At the conclusion of Mr. Furuichi's remarks, the Chamber's committee decided to confine its researches to the commercial and economical aspects of the subject, leaving the engineering side to the City Improvement Committee.

The Japanese merchants of Yokohama have applied for and received official recognition of the Chamber of Commerce they have decided to establish in accordance with the provisions of the Chambers of Commerce Regulations. Among the projectors of the scheme, may be mentioned Messrs. Hara Zenzaburo, Otani Kahei, Ono Mitsukage, Kimura Riyemon, Takashima Kayeman, and so forth.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

FORMOSA NEWS.

The *Chuo Shimbun's* correspondent describes the capture of Oulan and Miaoli by the Imperial Guards. The former place was occupied on the 13th and the latter on the 14th instant. The only resistance worthy of the name offered to the advancing Japanese took place on the hills to the south of Miaoli, immediately beyond its south gates. There several hundreds of Chinese held strong places and did not yield until they were surrounded on almost all sides by the Guards, who crawled up the face of the hills under cover of mountain guns. It took the Japanese a little over two hours to obtain complete possession of these hills. The casualties on the Japanese side were 1 killed and 5 wounded, including a sub-lieutenant. The exact loss of the insurgents is not given, but from the fact that nearly 50 were shot down in their flight across rice patches, it may be inferred that the total in killed alone must have been not less than 70 or 80. This engagement took place immediately after midday on the 13th. On the 14th, the Guards advanced toward Miaoli, some over the hills and the rest round their base through the fields. The town of Miaoli was found almost entirely deserted, and the residents had carried off the valuable portions of their movable property. It is a newly settled town, containing about 1,000 houses and enjoying the reputation of being one of the most difficult places to govern in the whole island. The place had, until a few days before, been held by one of the trusted captains of Liu Yung-fu, and extensive preparations had been made for giving a hot welcome to the Japanese. But the report of the treatment which their comrades had received at Chintoshan and Tsienpishan a few days ago frightened the insurgents stationed here, who were sensible enough to beat a retreat in good time in the direction of Chang-hua. The last mentioned place is about thirty-five miles south of Miaoli.

The Imperial Guards division is thus pushing southward, slowly but steadily. Meanwhile, preparations are vigorously going on to collect in some part of the island a large body of additional troops, variously estimated at 40,000 and 50,000. The new army will be composed of the whole of the Second (Sendai) Division, and part of the First (Tokyo) and the Fourth (Osaka) Divisions. The total strength of the Japanese army in Formosa will thus be increased to about 60,000 by the middle of September, when the reduction of the southern part of the island will be undertaken on a large scale. It is expected in Tokyo that the complete restoration of peace in the island will be effected in the month of November.

Lieut.-General Viscount Takashima, the newly appointed Vice-Governor-General of Formosa, who will take command of the army that is being sent there, will leave Tokyo on the 1st of September by the 11.40 a.m. train. Staying a few days at Kobe, he will leave for the south on board the transport *Yokohama Maru* on the 6th of the month. His suite will consist of Lieutenant-Colonel Ijichi, Lieutenant Takashima (his son), Captain Utsunomiya, and a number of clerks. There was recently a rumour that, upon the arrival of Viscount Takashima in Formosa, Count Kabayama would return to Tokyo. But this report has been contradicted.

A railway corps has been organized in Tokyo for service in Formosa. Its mission is twofold, to work the existing lines and open new ones. It has been placed under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Yamaye, and will leave for the south in a few days.

The following telegram from Governor-General Count Kabayama, dated Taipeh August 29th, 12.25 a.m., has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo :—"The vanguard of the Imperial Guards Division, which left Tai-kia on the 24th instant, reached the left bank of the Tai-to river on the 26th, while the main body of the Division at the same time arrived at the Tai to and Geoma-tau. On the same day the left column attacked Taiwanfu, which it took with a loss of 15 killed and wounded.

"On the 28th, early in the morning, the right wing, under Major-General Kawamura, began to advance by the way of Benshito, while the left wing, under Major-General Yamane, commenced its attack upon Hakkesan. At 7.30 a.m., Hakkesan and Chang-hua more completely occupied. The casualties on our side were 9 killed and wounded; the enemy's loss being still unknown. The strength of the enemy was about 5,000, and the bulk of this force fled in the direction of Chia-i, while a part took the road to Lo-kiang. Chief among the spoils are about 400 pieces of ordnance of various kinds and ages. The insurgents in their flight towards Chia-i were pursued by a battalion of infantry and a troop of cavalry, while a mixed detachment was sent in the direction of Lo-kiang. The bulk of the Division encamped the same day at Chang-hua.

"I have issued orders to the Imperial Guards to remain at Chang-hua and not to advance further south, my intention being to give them time to rest and recoup their strength. The number of available men has been reduced to nearly one-half of the original strength. Previous to their advance south of Shin-chuh, they had undertaken the arduous task of clearing away the ferocious insurgents. And after entering on the southward march on the 8th instant, they valiantly pushed forward over a rough and difficult country regardless alike of scanty provision and intense heat. Driving the enemy before them everywhere, they have already pushed far on their southward march. After leaving Tai-kia, they relied entirely upon what provisions the localities they passed through afforded them, and thus relieved of waiting for the arrival of provision trains from the rear, they were enabled to occupy important places like Chang-hua and Taiwan in a short period of time, thus completing the subjugation of the whole of the northern part of the island. During the recent march of the Guards Division, our fleet cruised along the coast and on several occasions rendered effective assistance to the land forces, thus facilitating the latter's southward advance."

From the above telegram, it is to be inferred that the Imperial Guards Division will stay in the vicinity of Chang-hua, until the preparations now going on shall have been completed for a general advance upon the strongholds of the insurgents in the south of the island.

The following telegram from Major-General Oshima, Chief Staff Officer, dated Taiphefu, August 30th, 11 a.m., has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo :—

"After taking Chang-hua and Taiwan with exceeding hardships and privations on the 25th inst., the Imperial Guards Division despatched a detachment to Lo-kiang, which was taken possession of without much difficulty. On the same day, a battalion of horse, supplemented by an infantry battalion, pursued the enemy, and, killing a large number on the way, advanced as far as the vicinity of Torokumon.

"At the battle of Chang-hua, the enemy's loss was about 650; a number of prisoners were taken; among the spoils being 400,000 rounds of ammunition and a quantity of telegraph apparatus. The telegraph line between Chang-hua and Koshiho remains intact. Yesterday the division ordered a body of troops to make a search in the vicinity of Chang-hua, in the belief that, the attack having been rapid and energetic, a large number of the enemy might have been unable to make good their escape and might be lurking there still."

Lo-kiang is a sea-port town about 8 miles west of Chang-hua; Koshiho is not on the map, neither is Torokumon; but they seem to be intermediate stations south of Taiwan.

The following telegram from Major-General Baron Oshima, Chief Staff Officer, dated Taipehfu, September 1st, 2 p.m., has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo :—

"According to the information of the inhabitants and the telegrams left behind by the enemy, it is evident that the troops that had come up to Chang-hua from Tainan had been despatched by Liu Yung-fu in reply to an urgent request for reinforcements by the Governor of Chang-hua. The main portion of the reinforcements from Tainan were still on the way when Chang-hua fell into our hands; they probably did not expect that our troops would so quickly advance upon that place. That the insurgent troops at Chang-hua suffered from want of provisions is proved by the telegrams daily wired by the Governor of that place. That official is reported to have fled on foot in great haste toward Taiwan, as soon as he heard the reports of our artillery attacking Hakkesan. A large number of loaded guns were left in the buildings of the prefectural government at Chang-hua. Between Chang-hua and Lo-kiang not a single enemy is to be found. The pursuit of the cavalry battalion was so hot that the insurgents fled leaving all their arms and ammunition as well as uniforms behind them. The inhabitants at Chang-hua are gradually returning, and commodities are also collecting there."

The Emperor was pleased to send the following telegraphic message to Governor-General Count Kabayama on the 30th ultimo :—

"We are highly pleased with the loyalty and valour displayed by the different corps under your command, which, in spite of heat and difficulties, have in so short a period succeeded in driving the insurgents out of Taiwanfu and Chang-hua, thus completing the subjugation of the northern part of the island. The lingering heat of summer being still intense, it is Our wish that every one of you should take good care of yourselves."

The Empress also caused the following message to be transmitted to the Governor General :—

"Her Imperial Majesty the Empress has been exceedingly gratified to hear of the occupation of Taiwanfu and Chang-hua by the Guards under the command of the Governor-General. Her Majesty has been profoundly pleased with the loyalty and valour shown by the officers and men, on whose account she feels especially concerned as they are operating in so hot and unfavourable a climate."

According to a private letter from a certain official interpreter attached to Count Kabayama's staff, published by the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the aboriginal tribes of Formosa, at least some of them, seem to be well affected toward the Japanese. When the Japanese troops entered Miaoli, some tribesmen through the medium of a Chinese, begged to offer alliance to their new rulers. They were told that if they wished to offer allegiance, they should come in person to the camp. A few days afterward, three chiefs arrived at Miaoli, and begged the acceptance of the assistance of the tribesmen in the subjugation of the southern part of the island. They said that some time ago Liu Yung-fu had sent a messenger to them, with presents of liquor and other things, asking their cöperation in attacking the Japanese. As this request was rejected, the messenger, Wu by name, who seems to have been accompanied by a body of soldiers, attacked the tribesmen. The latter, said the chiefs, were consequently burning with indignation against the Chinese insurgents. As the proof of their fidelity, the chiefs produced a wooden board on which a Japanese proclamation was inscribed, and which they stated they had received from the Japanese General on the occasion of the expedition in 1874. It was thought imprudent to place implicit reliance upon their expressions of fidelity, but they were dismissed with various presents. Afterward they again came to the camp, this time followed by a number of young men armed with their weapons of war, and begged for permission to accompany the Imperial troops in an attack upon the insurgents. As their entreaties were exceedingly pertinacious, the chief staff officer granted their wish. These facts, says the writer, were duly telegraphed to the Governor-General.

We have already reproduced an official interpreter's letter describing how the chiefs of the aboriginal tribes implored for and received permission to accompany the Imperial troops in their southward march. This letter was based

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upon a telegram said to have been received at Taipehfu. The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, who accompanied the Guards in their march to Taiwanfu, writing from Miaoli, has the following story about the aborigines:—"Shinkiang is a hamlet to the east of Oulan. The inhabitants are aboriginal tribesmen who settled there under Chinese rule. They had been subjected to frequent annoyances by the insurgents stationed at Miaoli, being thereby compelled to take up arms and defend themselves. They were consequently much relieved at the advance of the Japanese troops, whom they welcomed with unmistakable goodwill, offering presents and otherwise busying themselves in the interest of their new rulers. Several of them acted as guides, and when the defences in the neighbourhood of Miaoli were attacked, they rendered valuable service to our troops, always sharing the danger with the latter. While the troops were quartered in the vicinity, the villagers did everything in their power to please them." Perhaps this story may have been the original of the version given by the official interpreter at Taipeh, a supposition which is all the more likely because no other story of the aborigines joining Japanese forces is told by any of the correspondents.

KOREAN NEWS.

A telegram, dated Söul, August 30th, 2.50 p.m., published by the *Jiji Shimpo*, states that a conspiracy has been discovered at Chhöl-wön, in Kang-wön-do, that the conspirators, pretending to act under a secret mandate from the King, had opened communications with their partisans in Chol-la-do, Kyong-san-do, and Ham-gyöng-do, and that the ringleaders have been arrested. Chhöl-wön is a prefectural town among the mountains about 40 miles north of Söul. Nothing is yet known of the nature of the alleged conspiracy, but it appears that a more or less uneasy feeling exists in provincial districts. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent, for instance, writing under date of the 15th ultimo, makes the following statement:—"At present the provincial localities seem to be enjoying peace and tranquility. But this apparent quiet is not the result of either increased confidence in the central Government or the dissemination of a better spirit of discipline among the people. It is to be ascribed entirely to the presence of Japanese troops at all important places. These troops are not only feared, but respected and admired. Within the sphere of their vigilance and inspection, the Korean local officials dare not indulge in rapacious practices. These troops are, consequently, regarded by the people as their benefactors. Their withdrawal will be the signal for the revival of all the arbitrary and exacting conduct of the local officials with redoubled violence." The writer is convinced that insurrections would rise up throughout the country, should the Japanese troops be withdrawn.

Concerning the new coalition Cabinet, most of the correspondents believe that it will not last long, some even putting its life at a month or two at most. It seems to be generally understood that so long as Count Inouye remains in Söul the Cabinet may continue united, but that upon the withdrawal of his personal influence the inherent animosity between the different factions of which it is composed will break out with renewed force.

As to the rumour that the Queen has wired to Ming Yong-yik, advising him to return home, the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent rejects it as a groundless story, probably invented by the followers of a certain aged plotter.

Although the reform of local administration remains to be carried out and local affairs are in a state of great disorder, signs are not wanting of material improvement in the capital and a few other principal centres of trade and politics. One of the most remarkable changes for the better, says the *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent, is the breaking down of the barrier that has hitherto existed between the gentry (*yang-pang*), and the common people. Since the reforms of last year, the political privileges of the *yang-pang* class have been disregarded, and important official positions are now held by men of plebian extraction. To this catalogue belong Mr. An Keiju, Minister of War; Mr. Yu Kitsuei, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs; Mr. Kim Kachin, Minister of Agriculture, and several others. The abolition of all class distinctions in the dress of the people, has also had beneficial effect, there being now, at least in Söul, an equality between men of all classes.

The advantages of the postal system recently established by the Korean Government is said to be slowly receiving recognition by the people. But how slow the progress is, may be seen from the fact that the average number of letters posted in Söul is about 60 per day. Steps are being taken by the Government to extend the route to Fusan.

According to the report of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce at Ninsen, the total trade of the port for the month of July was 459,198 *yen*, of which imports amounting to 363,306 *yen* and exports to 95,892 *yen*. Compared with the returns for the preceding month of June, an increase of 103,125 *yen* is observed in imports, and a decrease of 5,995 *yen* in exports. The increase of imports is ascribed to the efforts of the Chinese merchants, who are steadily coming back to the place. Compared with the month of June, the imports by Chinese merchants increased by as much as 118,167 *yen*, while those by the Japanese show a decrease of 15,129 *yen*. A favourable sign for the Japanese is the increasing demand for cotton yarns. Cotton yarns were first tried at Khang-hwa, and the market has thence extended to the south-western part of Kyöngkwi-do and the western coasts of Chhungchhöng-do. The Koreans have found it more economical to weave material for their garments out of these yarns than to buy shirtings from the Chinese. At this rate it is hoped that Chinese trade in shirtings may be displaced to a large extent by the Japanese trade in yarns. Yarns No. 16 are said to be most in demand.

The recent organization of the coalition Cabinet with Kim Koshu at its head is regarded by well informed persons as proof of the complete success which has attended Count Inouye's policy of conciliating the Ming or Queen's faction and at the same time removing the unpleasant feelings with which the Tai Wön-kun and his followers have regarded Japan. Such is the view of the situation taken by the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, who seems to be more or less in touch with the springs of political activity in Söul. He states that, as the result of carrying out this policy, the Court and the Ming faction, whose feelings against Japan were embittered first by the Tai Wön-kun's coming into power and then by Pak's arbitrary conduct, now regard Japan with entire confidence and gratitude. The changed attitude of the Court and the Ming faction toward Japan is proved by the despatch of thirty students to Japan at the expense of the King. These youths have been selected from families with the highest connections, and they are to be trained in various administrative affairs, so that on their return home they may be appointed to important posts in the Government. As to the Tai Wön-kun's grandson, who was recently released from imprisonment, the writer observes that the young man is keeping himself very quiet, and that the party to which he belongs does not seem to be disposed to enter upon political intrigue. Kim Koshu and other members of the new Cabinet are in perfect harmony among themselves. In short, the Japanese Minister's policy has been crowned with complete success.

It is a question, however, whether this is destined to last long. Indeed, most of the Japanese correspondents in Söul appear to doubt the durability of the present arrangement. They complain of the increasing influence of the Queen and the Ming faction, and predict that their return to power will prove anything but favourable to Japanese interests. But those who take this view show themselves ignorant of the true state of affairs in the peninsula. "It must be remembered," says the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, "that Korea now occupies a position essentially different from that which she occupied formerly, neither is the Ming faction in the same position as before. Will it be possible for the Queen by her own unaided efforts to reinstate her faction in power? No, she is not in a position to carry out her wishes without the consent of her country's adviser. Perhaps with the exception of the Queen and the principal leaders, the rank and file of the Ming faction are unable to account for the reviving influence of their party. It is no wonder that outsiders should indulge in various groundless speculations. It may help these persons somewhat to understand the state of things to be told that the Queen is dependent upon another's goodwill and friendship for the security of her position and the revival of her party's influence, and that she is genuinely grateful for the support afforded her by that personage." The writer, however, is quite aware of the danger involved in the recall of the Ming faction to power. Now that the suspicion and antipathy with which the Ming politicians have regarded Japan are removed, the rest says, the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, depends upon the tact and management of the Japanese Minister, or in other words, upon the policy pursued by the Government of Japan.

The situation in Söul is rendered still more plain by a private latter published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. The writer points out that it is a mistake to suppose that the Queen and the Ming faction are necessarily opposed to reform and Japanese interests. It is true that the party was once opposed to improvement and was also in sympathy with China; but that state of affairs was, in his opinion, the result of a mistaken policy followed by Japan, which, by taking an attitude of decided partiality to Kin Ok-kyun and Pak Yong-ho, drove the Ming into the hands of the astute Chinese Resident, Yuen Shikai. That the Ming are not positively opposed to Japan may be seen from the fact that, when the Hermit Kingdom was first opened by Japan, it was the Queen herself and her partians who, rejecting the conservative policy of the Tai Wön-kun and others, welcomed the Japanese proposition as to the employment of Japanese officers in drilling the troops. Moreover, so long as it is impossible to keep the Queen completely out of the political arena, the writer thinks it a wiser policy to recognize her political position definitely and utilize her extraordinary talent and influence for the benefit of the country. To attempt to keep her in check would be simply to drive her into the dangerous practice of clandestine intrigue. "In our eyes," remarks the writer, "the only point of importance is the maintenance of the present close relations between Japan and Korea. It is not, consequently, diplomacy to make any distinction between the different political factions. It is unwise to attempt to judge the influence of Japan in Korea by the decline or prosperity of the Ming faction, especially when Count Inouye continues to exercise so vast an influence over the Korean Court."

On the 23rd ultimo, Countess Inouye had an audience with the King and the Queen. The latter talked with her for two hours, the conversation turning principally upon the incidents of Her Majesty's eventful life since the opening of the country for foreign intercourse. The Countess is said to have been struck by the powerful memory and extensive information displayed by the Queen. This was the first meeting between them, Countess Inouye having been unable to attend Court earlier on account of indisposition since her arrival at Söul.

Much importance is attached to the despatch of more than thirty students to Japan at the expense of the King. They are stated to have left Ninsen by the *Asahi Maru* on the 1st instant. Previous to their departure, they were received in audience by the King who exhorted them to use their time well while in Japan, so that on return they might be qualified to assist His Majesty in the work of national regeneration. On the evening of the 22nd ultimo, they were invited to the Japanese Legation, where they were addressed by Count Inouye in a long speech, telling them the reasons why they had been selected by His Majesty to proceed to Japan, and giving them many useful hints about the manner in which they should prosecute their

studies there. They will stay at the Keio Gijuku, under the special superintendence of Mr. Fukuzawa. Count Inouye has also been requested by the King to keep a watch over them while in Japan. The period of their stay in Japan will be a year or a year and a half.

The much talked of Edict about amnesty was promulgated by the *Official Gazette* of the 20th ultimo. The benefit of amnesty is to extend to all offences other than conspiracy, murder, theft, robbery, adultery, and the obtaining of money by false pretences. Besides conspiracy, there is another political offence of a similar nature, namely, that of invoking foreign aid for an internal political revolution. These two offences have never hitherto been placed in the category for amnesty, and the reason that the precedent has been established is that several of the Ming family are in exile on account of this offence. Other crimes covered by the act of grace are the receiving of bribes, extortion, and other malpractices of administration. The number of the prisoners liberated is twenty-eight. As to Ming Yong-chun, it is said that a messenger has been sent from the Court to recall him from Shanghai.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun's* correspondent remarks that Count Inouye enjoys the complete confidence of the King, who is reported to have expressed his wish that the Japanese Minister might be allowed to stay long in Korea. His Majesty is also said to have an especially high opinion of the zeal and integrity of Mr. Takehisa, Japanese Adviser on police affairs.

CURRENT TOPICS.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has the following note:—"Count Matsukata is the centre of the Satsuma politicians, and his movements cannot fail to produce direct effects upon the Satsuma men both within the Government and outside of it. It appears that his resignation has brought about general excitement among his clansmen. The excitement is not confined to young men, but extends even to the men of the older generation. There are two factions among Satsuma men, the *Doshikai* and the *Dokuritsu* Club. They are usually antagonistic, but on the present occasion they act in common, and seem to have forgotten their old antipathy. How will the relations between Satsuma and Choshu men be settled in future?" It seems to be believed in certain quarters that a longitudinal, and not a lateral cleavage of the political world is inevitable before long. For our own part, such a result seems not at all improbable, but we cannot believe that Count Matsukata's retirement will have any power either to accelerate or retard such a consummation. Present appearances indicate that the Sat'-Cho elements in the government are more firmly united than ever.

The Radical party's messengers are everywhere well received by their provincial fellow thinkers, though the prevalence of cholera in many places prevents the holding of public meetings. But the organs of the parties opposed to the Radicals are indefatigable in circulating rumours, which, if they be true, point to a hopeless disintegration of the party. Among the provincials, those in the prefecture of Hyogo are reported to be in a most refractory mood. They are said to insist that, if the Radical party is to give support to the Cabinet, a distinct pledge should be extorted from the latter to introduce a system of government by party, and that, in addition, the Ministers should consent to revise the Public Meetings Regulations and the Newspaper Regulations, as suggested by the Radicals. On this basis alone will they, the Radicals of Hyogo, agree to follow the course decided upon at head-quarters. These rumours are reproduced for what they may be worth.

Several Extremist politicians have been arraigned on the charge of publishing incendiary pamphlets without obtaining the previous permission of the Authorities. Among the accused are two members of the Diet from the Prefecture of Niigata, namely, Messrs. Otake and Naito. The rest are the local Progressionist politicians of Ibaraki and Tochiki. The documents printed in violation of law are said to relate to the question of the Liaotung peninsula. They were distributed in the Prefectures of Niigata, Ibaraki, and Tochigi.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* is a difficult journal to deal with, for it is an adapt at imputing to others opinions which they have never expressed. Our contemporary charges us with having called it a Progressionist organ. We wish that it would point out a single instance in which we have designated it by that name. In a recent Weekly Summary, we incidentally remarked that the *Kokumin* "is almost regarded as the organ of the Progressionists." We believe there is nothing incorrect in this, because it is a well recognized fact that our contemporary is strongly in sympathy with the Progressionists. In the very next paragraph, we used the phrase "the *Kokumin* and the Progressionist organs," thus clearly distinguishing the two in the most unmistakable manner. Another point on which our contemporary pretends to think itself wronged is that we expressed surprise that Count Matsukata's resignation was first announced by the *Kokumin*. Our surprise, as we showed at the time, was not merely that the *Kokumin* was the first to report the matter, but that our contemporary was put in possession of the news almost immediately after the breaking up of the Cabinet meeting at which Count Matsukata gave his colleagues to understand that he was going to ask for another conference. If such a circumstance be not matter for surprise we do not know what can be. Our contemporary lastly charges us with weaving a romance out of circumstances which are unconnected with each other. The fact is simply that we merely hinted that there might be some meaning in the "circumstances that the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which is almost regarded as the organ of the Progressionists, was the first to announce his resignation; and that the Progressionist journals have generally manifested sympathy for him." Now, there being no question about the correctness of these two circumstances, was it not natural that some meaning should have been attached to the incident? We simply said that there seemed to be some meaning, but we did not insinnate, as the *Kokumin* would have it believed, that there appeared to be a serious conspiracy.

The *Doshikai*, the professed object of which is to bring about the amalgamation of the different Opposition parties, does not seem to be in a prosperous condition. Of late its members have been engaged in drawing up a manifesto, and several drafts have been prepared, but none of them has been found satisfactory, so that, after debating the matter long and, as it seems, to little purpose, the idea of publishing a manifesto had to be given up altogether.

The *Teikoku Teishin-sha* (Imperial News Agency) is responsible for the following item:—"Concerning Count Mutsu, contradictory reports are circulated, some saying that he will resign and others denying it. According to what we hear, the Minister of Foreign Affairs is said to have tendered his resignation to the Premier toward the end of last month on account of his illness, which, though not immediately dangerous, required complete rest from political work. The Cabinet, however, being in danger of more or less change in consequence of Count Matsukata's resignation, the Premier paid a visit to the invalid Minister at Oiso on the 26th ultimo, and prevailed upon him to withdraw his resignation for the present. Count Mutsu willingly consented, but should Count Inouye return from Korea and a suitable successor be found for the post, he will retire from the Government in order to rest and recuperate."

Viscount Miura, the new Japanese Minister to Korea, reached Söul on the 1st instant, and had an audience with the King on the 3rd. Much curiosity is evinced about the diplomatic career of this Buddhist soldier. In nature he is the opposite of Count Inouye; he has nothing of the fiery and impetuous temper of his predecessor. On the eve of his departure from Tokyo, he is reported to have delivered himself as follows:—"I have for same time been looked upon as a stranger by the statesmen in power, and my retired mode of life has made me unfamiliar with the state of things in the Government. By profession a soldier, I have had no experience in diplomacy, but I have a diplomacy of my own, which I propose to try in Korea. I am naturally unskilled in the art of mimicry. Some persons in the diplomatic service took pity upon my inexperience and offered to give me lessons in diplomacy, but I declined all their well meant offers, being content to rely upon my own resources. Count Inouye is urging me to be quick in coming to Sŏul. I suspect he, too, is desirous of giving me lessons in the manner of discharging my duties. Haste is the beginning of mistake, so I am in no hurry to get to Söul. If possible I should like to meet Count Inouye at Ninsen on his way home, so that I shall not be required to listen to his lectures. The post of Japanese Minister to Korea is one of great difficulty, but I believe that it is a fit place to try my own theory of diplomatic methods. What I dislike most is the interference of other persons. As to the Japanese Advisers to the Korean Government, I have written to Count Inouye to say that I will not endure any person who may come into collision with me."

Count Okuma recently returned from Oiso where he had been staying for a fortnight. Immediately after arrival in the capital he is reported to have remarked with regard to Count Matsukata's resignation:—"Count Matsukata's resignation is the subject of various criticisms, but nobody seems to understand the true state of affairs. Ostensibly the Cabinet appeared to be opposed to Count Matsukata's resignation, but in reality it is glad of his retirement. Count Matsukata's object was to satisfy the wishes of the people by summoning an extraordinary session of the Diet and by laying before it a report on affairs relating to the conclusion of peace and the friendly warning of the three Powers. But Marquis Ito is of opinion, that should an extraordinary Diet be convened, the Military and Naval measures would have to be submitted to its deliberation, and in that case the Cabinet would be deprived of the only instrument by means of which it can hope to manage the Diet in the coming winter session. This is the difference existing between the views of these two statesmen. Being an honest man, Count Matsukata implicitly believed the Premier, when the latter assured him that the Diet would be convened as soon as the Military and Naval measures should have been completed. He did not suspect that the Premier meant quite another thing. A man of strong sympathies, Count Matsukata perhaps did not think it proper to resign at once, and thus to disregard the advice of his colleagues. It is also conceivable that, being unskilful in the use of his tongue, he was probably unable to fully express his views at Cabinet Councils in opposition to the eloquent exposition of the Premier. Such I believe to have been the actual state of things. In that case, Count Matsukata deserves thorough sympathy. As to the Cabinet, it must be glad to have disposed of Count Matsukata, for his presence would have been an impediment to the carrying out of its policy."

THE CROWN PRINCE.

The *Official Gazette* publishes the following report concerning the condition of the Crown Prince:—On the 26th ult.: temperature, between 36.65° C. and 38.1° C.; pulse, between 70 and 88; respiration between 30 and 40; on the 27th: temperature, between 36.6° C. and 38.5° C.; pulse, between 70 and 104; respiration, between 26 and 36; on the 28th: temperature, between 36.6° C. and 38.1° C.; pulse, between 80 and 100; respiration, between 26 and 36; on the 29th: temperature, between 36.6° C. and 37.7° C., pulse, between 68 and 94; respiration, between 24 and 32; on the 30th: temperature, between 36.4° C. and 37.9° C; pulse, between 74 and 96; respiration, between 22 and 28. The Prince is making slow progress towards recovery.

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COUNT MUTSU.

Concerning the report that Count Mutsu intends to resign his Ministerial post upon the return of Count Inouye from Korea, the *Nichi Nichi* remarks that, according to the information of a certain individual who lately paid a visit to the Foreign Minister at Oiso, the story is unfounded. It is true that he tendered his resignation some time last month, but in deference to Marquis Ito's advice, it was afterwards withdrawn, and the Count has now no idea of retiring from office. The reason why he tendered his resignation is explained thus:—"Unlike some of his colleagues, who command great respect and admiration among the civil military servants of the State, Count Mutsu believes that his only utility consists in applying himself to the business of the State with zeal and industry. In the case of the elder statesmen, their usefulness remains more or less the same whether they attend office or remain at home confined to a sick chamber, for in either case their personal prestige adds to the Cabinet's power. But as to himself, he considers that his delicate state of health deprives him of a title to retain his place in the Cabinet." Actuated by these motives, he forwarded his resignation to the Premier, who advised him to withdraw it, telling him that, Treaty Revision and some other questions, on which he had thus far been engaged, being still uncompleted, his continued direction of affairs was absolutely necessary, and that, under such circumstances, his prayer to be released from his official duties would simply lead to the prolongation of his leave of absence by the Emperor. Upon this, Count Mutsu willingly withdrew his resignation, assuring the Premier that, since it was His Majesty's pleasure to allow him to direct the affairs under his charge to the best of his ability, bearing in mind the condition of his health, he was but too glad to devote himself to His Majesty's service as long as he was spared by death. The news agency which circulated the above-mentioned erroneous report about Count Mutsu's resignation mixed it up with Count Matsukata's resignation. There could, however, have been no connection between the two, because it was on the 25th ult. —namely, before the Premier had received Count Matsukata's resignation—that the Minister of Foreign Affairs withdrew his resignation. As to his condition, the *Nichi Nichi* states that, although he can not be said to be making much progress toward recovery, he is not seriously ill. He is in good spirits, and is prone, in spite of his physician's advice to the contrary, to indulge in long and animated conversations. It is believed, says our contemporary, that he may return to the Capital before the end of the present month.

THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS.

Particulars of the voyage of the *Toyohashi Maru* to Taku, with the Chinese prisoners on board, and about their return to the Chinese Government, are published in the *Osaka Mainichi, Shimbun*. After taking on board the captives who had been collected from the respective places of their detention, the transport left Kobe on the 13th ultimo, and touching at Mitsugahama to ship those kept at Matsuyama, she weighed anchor on the morning of the 14th. Nothing worth notice took place on the voyage, but there were frequent quarrels among the Chinese about food and drink. About 2 a.m. on the 18th, the *Toyohashi* dropped anchor about 7 miles from Taku. The poor captives had been in a state of excitement during the whole night; they shaved, dressed their pigtails, and in other ways busied themselves in preparations for landing. At dawn they were dressed in the new clothes given them by the Japanese Government on their departure from Japan. At 11 a.m., Captain Wang and two other Chinese Naval officers and a civil official, accompanied by Captain Kajikawa, the Japanese Military agent at Tientsin, and Mr. Osugi Sutematsu, a clerk of the Japanese Consulate at Tientsin, came off to the ship in a steam launch, which was soon afterward followed by two tugs with a number of junks in tow. After a conference between Lieut.-Colonel Murayama, and the Chinese officers, the whole party, prisoners included, proceeded toward Sinchen at 1 p.m. It being the Chinese Emperor's birthday, the forts of Taku were flying hundreds of flags and pennons, while both banks of the river were thronged with a numerous crowd of people who had collected there to see their countrymen come home from their land of captivity. From the way in which the people shouted and cheered it looked, says the writer, as though they were welcoming home their troops after a glorious war. As the prisoners landed at Sinchen, they were given a loaf of bread each by Chinese soldiers stationed at the wharf for the purpose. Shortly after the whole party had landed, Major-General Lo arrived, and conducted them to the barracks at Sinchen, where the ceremony of the transfer of the men was completed between him and Lieut.-Colonel Murayama. Of the prisoners thus received, the sick were at once sent to hospital, while the rest were consigned to dirty sheds in the garrison. According to information afterward obtained, it is stated that the returned prisoners were not allowed any food that evening. Those who had money were told that they might go home at once; but those who were penniless were ordered to wait until the next morning, when provision would be made for them by Viceroy Li. But the provision promised turned out to be a paltry sum of 3 dollars each to officers and half a dollar each to non-commissioned officers and men. About a hundred of these liberated prisoners are said to be desirous of returning again to this country. One of them particularly, namely, Ma Tsintau, is said to have made preparations for leaving Tientsin for Osaka in the beginning of this month. The Japanese officers, after handing over their charge to General Lo, went to Tientsin by invitation of Viceroy Li, who entertained them at dinner. As to the Japanese prisoners in China, their delivery to Japan was to be effected somewhere in Liaotung in exchange for about 600 Chinese prisoners kept in the occupied territory on the 1st instant. But it is stated that, as the preparations were not complete, the Chinese General appointed for the task has asked for a delay of a month, and that the request has been agreed to by Lieut.-General Viscount Sakuma, Governor-General of the occupied territory in Liaotung. The number of Japanese prisoners is variously estimated to be between six and eleven. Most of them are supposed to be military coolies.

MUTINY AT TIENTSIN.

According to trustworthy information received by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, it is stated that a mutiny broke out in the barracks at Yaoh-a, Tientsin, at 3 p.m. on the 16th ultimo, resulting in the massacre of about 100 persons. It was rumoured that Wu, the officer in command of the forces, had been killed, but this seems to have been incorrect. The cause of the mutiny is ascribed to the discontent of the soldiers on the question of pay. At eight in the evening, the Captain of the Japanese gunboat *Chokai* received from the Captain of the H.B.M.S. *Swift* information of the mutiny and of the landing of a party of British marines to protect the Settlement, and asking his assistance should the apprehended danger come to pass. The Captain of the *Chokai* consequently landed a party from his vessel for the protection of the Consulate. But the mutiny did not spread or cause any further mischief.

The scheme of reaching the North Pole by means of a balloon is to be put into operation by Mr. S. A. Andree, a Swedish civil engineer. He proposes to start from Spitzbergen in a balloon holding gas sufficient for thirty days, and to travel northward with two companions. Andree expects to reach the pole in six days, and takes a photographic outfit with which he expects to make pictures of the objects of interest around the pole. The car is to be provided with sails for steering the balloon.

THE SHOJI AFFAIR.

The Coroner's charge to the Jury at the Brockbank inquest seems to have caused much excitement. A correspondent, now travelling in the interior, writes as follows:—"I have lived a good deal with Hoshino and Brockbank, and know them both well. It was the very reverse of Hoshino's interest that Brockbank should die, inasmuch as Brockbank shared his allowance with Hoshino, and this share of the allowance was the only means of subsistence that the latter had, till such time as the hotel at Shoji was finished. Hoshino did not encourage Brockbank to drink, but, on the contrary, to my certain knowledge, checked him, often throwing his drink out of window. Brockbank was, in fact, always in good condition when Hoshino had him under his control, away from Miyanoshita, or any other place where he could get unstinted whiskey by signing or paying for it. The reason why Hoshino took Brockbank to Shoji was quite simple. Brockbank had on several previous occasions got into quite as bad a condition as he seems to have been in this last instance, and had recovered almost miraculously in a few days at Shoji, where he was under strict control, and especially where he was away from Matsumoto, a bad woman, who apparently was in the habit of making him drunk for the purpose of taking his money from him, and who used to stop his letters. Of course Hoshino committed a grave error in disregarding Dr. Baelz' recommendation, but I can quite understand how he came to do so, having myself seen the wonderful effect that the mere journey to Shoji had on previous occasions in pulling Brockbank together. I have in my house a letter written in pencil by Brockbank on sheets torn from a note-book. I believe this to be the very book with sheets torn from it of which so much was made at the inquest. None of these points came out in the evidence. Yet surely it is the duty of a Coroner to get at the full truth in such matters, and all the facts I have stated were readily obtainable. It almost seems as though there was no earnest desire to elicit them. Possibly the course pursued at the inquest was influenced by the talk of a certain section of the Yokohama Community. Among some persons there existed a strong dislike for Hoshino, because, being a Britisher, he had become a naturalized Japanese, and had very emphatically declared that he had never had any reason to regret the step, and that all the stuff talked about terrible things in store for foreigners when they come under Japanese jurisdiction was pure moonshine. Something of the feeling seems to have been reflected in the Coroner's summing up. · · · The Jury, it will be seen, gave a verdict exactly opposite to that which, according to one version at any rate, they had been directed to find. This showed that they, at any rate, thought the summing up unfair. I admire them that, in the face of popular prejudice, they had the courage of their opinions."

It will of course be understood that in publishing the above, we do not endorse the latter portion of it, for we know Mr. Consul Hall to be entirely beyond the reach of prejudices such as our correspondent attributes to him. But we are bound to say that he seems to have exceeded his functions when he suggested to the Jury that they might bring in a verdict of murder. It is not within the legitimate province of a Corner's Jury, as we believe, to bring in such verdicts. Their sole business is to determine the cause of death. As for Mr. Hoshino, he deserves much sympathy. Evidently he acted to the best of his judgment in the interests of his friend, and his reward has been to be saddled with a suspicion as unwarranted as it is terrible. But we venture to hope that he has been fully righted in public opinion. We have not permission to publish the name of the correspondent quoted above, but we assure our readers that his testimony is of the highest value.

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INSURANCE STATISTICS.

Dr. Indo Gentoku, formerly Professor in the Imperial College of Medicine, medical adviser to the Meiji Life Insurance Company, has prepared elaborate statistical tables embodying the results of the examinations of men and women whose lives are insured by the above named company. The tables being too minute for reproduction in these columns, we shall give only a résumé of his figures. The following table shows the results of the examination of 20,000 men of different ages :—

Age.	Number of men examined.	Stature (average). Centimetres.	Weight (average). Grammes.	Circumference of chest (average). Centimetres.	Difference chest expansion and Contraction (average). Centim.
15	79	150.62	43,870.00	76.70	6.84
16-20	839	156.71	50,243.46	81.14	6 76
21-25	2,231	158.99	52,347.82	83.37	6.70
26-30	3,772	159.69	52,989.85	84.65	6.74
31-35	3,977	159.48	54,012.97	85.15	6.55
36-40	3,691	159.24	55,141.04	86.15	6.50
41-45	2,584	159.21	55,065.07	86.48	6.49
46-50	1,528	158.73	55,573 68	86.89	6.26
51-55	900	157.38	54,244.40	86.51	6.13
56-60	399	157.17	54,017.20	85.75	5 90
Total	20,000	157.72	52,750.55	84.28	6.49

Depth of Chest (average.) Centimetres.	Breadth of Chest (average.) Centimetres.	Lung Capacity (average.) Cubic Centim.	Number of inspirations per minute (average.)	Pulse beats per minute (average.)	Circumference of Body at Abdomen (average) Centim.
17.41	22.86	2,502.00	19.97	75.61	65 05
17.94	24.27	3,009.32	19.62	75 17	68.18
18.24	25.12	3,153.39	19.57	74.89	70.14
18.41	25.36	3,233.43	19.43	74.59	71.78
18.85	25 64	3,180 65	19.36	74.68	73.42
19.11	25.86	3,188.58	19 08	73 61	74.92
19.23	25 89	3,118.82	18.91	72 96	76.67
19.52	25.87	3.041.44	19 07	72.76	76.20
19 54	25.88	2,928.07	18.91	72.30	77.42
19.49	25 59	2,768.73	18.76	72.87	77.44
18.77	25.23	3,012.44	19.27	73 94	73.12

The following tables shows the figures for 3,000 women examined :—

Age.	Number of Women examined.	Stature. (average). Centimetres.	Weight (average). Grammes.	Circumference of chest. (average) Centimetres.	Difference chest expansion and Contraction (average). Centim.
15	19	143.03	44,498.42	77.89	6.24
16-26	190	147.63	46,800.05	79.89	5.86
21-25	360	147.64	46,231.77	80.42	5.92
26-30	374	147.08	46,294.86	80.91	5.99
31-35	383	147.06	46,744.24	81.12	5.93
36-40	409	146.98	47,195.53	82.15	5.87
41-45	410	147.36	47,516.45	82.17	5.84
46-50	358	146.34	46,780.21	82.01	5.75
51-55	304	146.12	44,784.07	81.38	5.81
56-60	193	146.31	44,544.16	81.24	5.63
—	3,000	146.33	46,138.98	80.92	5.88

Depth of Chest (average). Centimetres.	Breadth of Chest (average). Centimetres.	Lung Capacity (average). Cubic Centim.	Number of Inspirations per minute (average).	Pulse beats per minute (average).	Circumference of body at Abdomen. (average). Centim.
17.18	22.32	2,110.53	20.37	81.68	67.05
17.66	23.21	2,307.16	20.27	78.78	67.55
17.78	23.70	2,335.46	19 91	78.01	68.55
18.18	23.97	2,373.47	19.71	76.89	69.35
18.30	24.09	2,369.67	19.62	76.77	69.98
18.45	24.24	2,350.01	19.42	76.47	72.14
18.71	24.50	2,271.81	19.32	75.99	72.31
18.61	24.32	2,328.02	18.98	74.93	72.04
18.55	24.23	2,231.34	19.28	75.87	71.25
18.38	23.91	2,166.12	19.25	74.87	71.76
18.18	23.85	2,284.36	19.61	77.03	70.20

CURRENT LITERATURE.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* has an interesting article upon Crispi, but the real subject of criticism is not the Italian but the Japanese Premier. Some of the more conspicuous features of Crispi's public and private life are considered one after another, and although not one word of direct reference is made, our contemporary manipulates its pen so cleverly that the dullest of its readers can not fail to understand that Marquis Ito is the subject of its biting criticisms. The final verdict pronounced by the *Kokumin* is that the Japanese Crispi is a coward; while, with all his faults, the Italian original has the merit of being courageous.

The same journal suggests that the Ministers of State should advise the Emperor to make a tour in the Occident. The victories obtained by Japan in her late war have attracted widespread attention, and she has risen considerably in the estimation of the nations of the West. But our contemporary regrets to observe that the general idea entertained about Japan by Europeans and Americans at home is extremely superficial. In their eyes, Japan is a semi-civilized country, equipped with the latest military and naval inventions. It is as a military power, and not as an enlightened nation, that the Japanese have become known to the West through the recent war. These statements are illustrated by quotations from the writings of distinguished men and journals in the West. In order to remove these mistaken notions, and to let the peoples of the West know that Japan's recent successes in arms are the result of the civilization attained by her, the most effective course is, in the opinion of the *Kokumin*, the foreign tour of the Emperor followed by a large number of the prominent civil and military dignitaries. Such a tour, says our contemporary, will also be the means of removing the false ideas that may be entertained about Japan at some of the European Courts.

The *Jogaku Zasshi* recommends the sending of female students to America or Europe. The reaction against female education has passed away, and better days are dawning. In our contemporary's opinion, this reaction has been useful as a means of testing the mettle of the pioneers in the cause of female education and the elevation of women's position; and the *Jogaku* is glad to observe that a number have passed through the ordeal with safety. In order to still further promote the education of women, it strongly urges those who can afford to do so to send their girls to the west to complete their education.

CHINA NEWS.

In a footnote to a Foochow telegram telling of the slow progress made by the Kucheng Commission, the editor of the *N.-C. Daily News* says :—It will be seen that our correspondent reports slow progress, and from another reliable source we learn that some eighty persons are in prison, of whom only two have so far been convicted. One had organised the massacre, and the other participated in it. Of those in prison there is a strong suspicion of guilt. One man was found to be in possession of some clothing which had belonged to the murdered missionaries. The alleged original founder of the Society was arrested on the 22nd. Our correspondent states, it will be observed, that all the Commissioners are present, and in this connection we may add that for having the door opened we are indebted to a very urgent and peremptory demand of the U.S. Consul-General, made where it could be most effective. It will be recollected that when reports were received of the Chêngtu riots and no messages could be sent, it was Mr. Jernigan's representations to a high Chinese official here that caused a message to go through, and a reply to be received at once.

Some definite news has at last been obtained in Shanghai as to the state of the Mohammedan rebellion in the North-West of China. A telegram from Kansu, which reached Hupeh on the 15th August, is printed in the Shanghai morning journal. It reads :—"The prefectural city of Hsining is now completely invested by the rebels who also hold all the towns belonging to the jurisdiction of that prefecture. The Mahommedan rebels from Millê-kou and Maying having approached Pingfan-hsien, were attacked by Kuei, acting magistrate of Lianghsien, at a place called Yaochieh, but he was defeated. In consequence of this the rebels have also attacked Pinfanghsien and the telegraph lines connecting cities west of that city have on that account been torn down and destroyed by the brigands. Hohsien is still besieged and hard pressed, and our affairs are in a critical state. It is therefore urgently requested that orders be sent to Generals Tung Fu-hsiang (Commander-in-Chief of Kashgaria), and Ma Pi-shang, that they hasten to the rescue by forced marches into the disturbed districts. A very urgent and important telegram." On the 28th August the *N.-C. Daily News* said :—Information to hand from our Shensi correspondent emphasises the importance of the official telegram we published on Monday as to the grave state of affairs in the North-West. The rebellion is extending, and though it is difficult to gain authentic news, it may be regarded as tolerably certain that the Imperial Government has now to face thousands of organised and determined Mahommedans armed with weapons which have, it is asserted, a Russian origin. The rebels are being joined not only by the *Kolao Hui* and other secret societies, but by deserters from the Imperial forces. The object appears to be the establishment of an independent State in Central Asia, including Tibet, Ili, Kansu, and Mongolia. The rebellion at present seems to be centred in Hochou (180 *li* from Lanchou). Unless the troops being hurried forward by the central government show up well, the consequences will be important. Meantime, panic prevails; villages are being deserted and cities closed. It is pitiful to see the terror-stricken people flying to the cities in order to seek shelter.

The Laou Kung Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ld., in Shanghai, has been successfully floated, the required capital having been fully subscribed.

Truth is loved in the abstract by some of China's Mandarins. It is reported from Hankow that upon the representation of the British Consul there that they encouraged opposition to foreigners amongst the natives, Governor Tan, of Hupeh, prohibited the sale in the province of all books and coloured prints containing untruthful representations of events connected with the recent fighting against the Japanese at Kelung and Taipehfu.

The Directorate of the Chinese Telegraph Administration declare a dividend of 20 per cent. for 1894, which is ten dollars per share over and above that settled by Government.

Despatches received by the *Hupao* from Pekin report that the Emperor acquiesced in the joint recommendation of the Board of Punishments and the Imperial Clan Court to reduce the sentences by one degree of all officers found guilty of cowardice or misdemeanour during the recent war with Japan. This means a reprieve for not a few of the military officers now lying in the condemned cells of the Board of Punishments at Pekin, as well as for those who are still at large but whose arrest has been ordered.

A correspondent writing to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Chinanfu, says :—We were shocked to hear some days ago of the sudden death in Téngchoufu, on the 21st of June, of the Rev. Dr. Charles R. Mills, of the American Presbyterian Mission, one of the veterans of Shantung and a man of lovely Christian character. Dr. Mills came to China in the fifties and was first stationed in Shanghai, whence he removed after a few years for reasons of health to Tênchoufu, where he has ever since resided. A man of extreme modesty and of true humility of character, Dr. Mills was never known to push himself forward or claim any undue recognition. He was a man of large culture and wide reading, which made him a most desirable addition to any social gathering. Death was apparently due to heart disease.

China is displaying her usual short-sighted obstinacy at Tientsin in regard to the grant of a Japanese Settlement, but it is expected that she will give way to due pressure. The place selected by the Japanese for their proposed settlement is said to consist of the villages of Tawang, Hsiaowang, and T'angchiakou, on the opposite banks of the Peiho. In connection with the German Settlement at the same port, the *N.-C. Daily News* prints a paragraph which says :—The native papers state that a number of the land owners of the proposed German concession at Tientsin gathered the other day to protest against the low prices offered by the new concessionaires for land, the rate offered being only Tls. 30 per *mow*, while the owners demand nearly ten times the amount. The Chinese

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officials delegated to perform the duty of marking out the boundaries of the new settlement were mobbed, but rain fortunately came on and drove the crowd off.

A report has found credence in Shanghai that Sheng Taotai has decided to set apart a portion of the annual earnings of the Chinese Telegraph Administration for the purpose of establishing in the various maritime provinces of the empire a number of schools where the elementary branches of the modern languages of Europe will be taught. The brightest of the graduates of these schools will then probably be sent to Europe to complete their studies.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., says the *Daily News*, have decided to establish a Cotton Mill in Hongkong, and for the purpose of superintending its inception Mr. James McKie will leave Shanghai for the Colony in a few days.

A telegram from Shantung which appears in a Shanghai paper, reports the overflow of the Yellow River and the breaking down of the southern embankments of the twenty-third section. No less than seven districts were immediately submerged, including the historic towns where the Philosophers Tsêng (the second disciple of Confucius) and Mencius passed their youthful days.

Telegraphic news, which the *N.-C. Daily News* says comes from an authoritive native source at Chêngtu, is to the effect that H.E. Lu Chuanlin, the Viceroy of Szechuan, has summarily executed four of the alleged ringleaders in the recent riots at Chêngtu. The rowdy element, trusting in numbers, two-thirds of them being armed with pistols or guns, tried to get up a public demonstration amongst the Chêngtu population against the extreme measures inaugurated by the new Viceroy, and they succeeded in terrorising some of the shop people into closing their doors and going on strike for three days. Rumours were also disseminated warning the Viceroy that if he did not release the forty odd men who had been arrested, an attempt would be made by the mob to break open the prisons. The Viceroy, however, has replied to these threats by ordering more arrests and posting proclamations advising the mob to disperse within a certain period on pain of wholesale executions. Another despatch from a private source reports that some of the mob-leaders made no hesitation in declaring that as they had official consent of the highest man in the province to do what had been done, it was a shame that they should be made to suffer for an act of obedience.

HONGKONG NEWS.

The *Daily Press* received the following telegram from Foochow, dated the 24th August —"The latest advices from Kucheng are that the Chinese have yielded the point as to foreigners being present at the trial. On Wednesday the Mixed Court began its sittings. All the foreign members were present. Torture opened mouths. Six murderers have been convicted and eighty arrests made. The officials are co-operating and extending every facility. Both Consuls (British and American) are firm. Home guards are protecting every village." Commenting on this news, the Hongkong journal says:—A Foochow correspondent, telegraphing with regard to the Kucheng Commission, states that the two Consuls, meaning the British Consul and American Consul, with other Europeans, were present at the trial of the persons accused of being implicated in the Kucheng massacre, and that "torture opened mouths." We await further explanations, and in the meantime can only express the hope that the foreigners neither assented to nor witnessed the torture. If they did, it would be the crowning horror of this horrible business and would inflict indelible disgrace on all concerned. No one, however high his position, who has any part in the infliction of judicial torture, can himself be considered very far removed from a state of savagery.

"O.P.B.," writing to the *Daily Press*, declares that a genuine Cremona violin has just been sold by auction in Hongkong for $200, the purchaser being Mr. Maclehose, buying on behalf of Captain Cruikshank. "O.P.B." says the violin "is rather small in size and bears the ticket—

Peter Guanerius fecit.
Cremonæ Anno 17

Now, I am inclined to think it the work of the younger Peter Guanerius, son of Joseph (not the great Joseph del Jesu), and grandson of Andreas Guanerius, the first who made this name great. Peter flourished just about the middle of the eighteenth century, working first at the town of Cremona (1725-1740) and for the next twenty years at Venice. Taking up the violin as it lay in its case in the auction room, I played a few chords on it. The first and second strings were strong and sweet. Each note was exquisitely clear. The third and fourth strings, however, were weak and tubby, particularly the latter. On these failings alone it would not be safe for one to disparage the merits of this masterpiece, for it appeared to feel the estrangement of a new bridge, which not infrequently accounts for the incomplete harmonious rendering of the notes as a whole. It has been found that an old seasoned and well fitted bridge is almost as essential to good tone as any one of the vital parts of a violin. The varnish retains its lovely brilliancy. The purfling and corners are not quite what one is wont to see in a 'Strad.' But taken as a whole the violin is a thing of beauty and should be to its possessor a joy for ever."

It is proposed to raise a memorial to the victims of the Kucheng massacre, which will be erected at Foochow. The cost is estimated at $1,000 and subscriptions are limited to $1. Bishop Burdon is heading the movement in Hongkong. The design is after that of the Cawnpore Massacre Memorial.

The German barque *Paul Rickmers*, with a cargo of coal on board for Amboyna, has, we learn from the *Straits Times*, been wrecked in the Ombai Passage (Moluccas). The crew are safe and have arrived at Macassar, where news of the disaster was received on the 13th August.

The Portuguese community of Hongkong have presented Dr. Marques with an address of sympathy bearing close upon a thousand signatures. The reason for the demonstration, says the *Daily Press*, was that in the report of the recent Medical Commission, Dr. Marques, an officer of the Government medical staff of the colony, was referred to in terms far from complimentary to his professional reputation.

The *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tsz Yat Po*) says that on the 22nd August at Canton a criminal was put to death by *ling-chih*, or the horrible slicing process, for the murder of his father. The criminal was a native of Haiyang district, near Swatow, and had been brought from there to Canton for trial and punishment. It was alleged that he did the act under the influence of liquor.

H.M.S. *Pique*, which has arrived in Hongkong to relieve the cruiser *Leander*, is a twin-screw cruiser of 3,600 tons and 7,000 horse-power, and is commanded by Captain H. C. Bigge. She was commissioned at Devonport on April 23rd. On her way out the *Pique* was ordered to Jeddah, where she remained two months, leaving that port on the 28th July. The following is the list of officers on board:—Captain—Henry C. Bigge; Lieuts.—(G) John J. Graham, (N) Edmund P. F. G. Grant, Thomas L. Thrope-Doubble, Bertram S. Thesiger; Lt. R.N.R.—Charles W. Unwill (act.); Staff Paymaster—Arthur E. Tuson; Staff Engineer—Mathew W. Ellis; Sub-Lieut.—Edward H. Donovan; Assistant Paymaster—Sydney Benetts; Engineer—Francis E. Lamb; Gunner—Geo. Rodden.

By the North German-Lloyd steamer *Oldenburg*, which came in from Europe this morning, says the *China Mail* of the 25th ult., there arrived a detachment of the Salvation Army bound for Japan to carry on evangelical work amongst the Japanese. Colonel Wright is in command, and the party includes—one major, one captain, one lieutenant, and two ensigns (male) and two captains and one lieutenant (female). One lieutenant (additional) is Japanese—a convert from San Francisco. There is a Miss Newcombe in the party. We are informed that she is a sister of Miss H. Newcombe who was killed at Kucheng; she was in the Zenana Mission at one time, but left to join the Salvation Army. A specially blessed banner has been brought out, to be unfurled upon arrival in Japan.

The *Times of Ceylon* of Tuesday, 13th August, says:—We stated yesterday that the P. & O. Company's local agents had become alarmed about the safety of the *Australia*, which, though due here on Saturday evening with the mails of July 26th, had not arrived yesterday afternoon, and that the P. & O. *Bengal* had been sent out in search of her, Captain Bayley going with the *Bengal*, which left the port at 4 p.m. She steamed off at the rate of 12½ knots an hour and had been out about 6½ hours when she sighted a vessel which eventually turned out be the *Australia*, and as she was then moving along at the rate of over 12 knots an hour they did not go alongside but contented themselves with merely exchanging signals. The *Bengal* turned round and came back with the mail steamer and they could have reached Colombo late last night but decided not to enter the port before daybreak. The *Australia* consequently came in and was moored at 6 a.m. to-day. Her forward cylinder broke down, it seems, about 120 miles to the westward of Minicoy, on Friday morning, and she had to lie to as a result while the engineers ascertained if she could continue her voyage with her low-pressure cylinder. This was a work that involved some time arranging, the ship's run for that day being less than 20 knots. Soon after she hove to, a Netherlands-India mail steamer, the *Prince Hendrick* passed her, and on being signalled and told what had happened she stood by the *Australia* till the engineers reported that the latter vessel could proceed. The captain of the *Prince Hendrick* was most courteous, and offered, in the event of the *Australia* not being able to proceed, to tow her to Colombo. This, however, was not necessary, for the engineers found that the *Australia* could go on, and she came on at a reduced speed and reached our harbour as we stated. What will have to be done to her engines here cannot be known till the exact amount of the damage is ascertained, and it will take from 36 to 38 hours to find out this. There is, however, no truth in the report that the *Australia* will have to go to Bombay for repairs, and that the *Thames* has been sent for from Bombay to take her and her passengers and mails to Australia. If she can go on with her low pressure cylinder she will probably do so for, even steaming at the rate of 12½ knots only, will reach Australia in good time, according to her mail contract. As far as her advertised times go, she is here exactly to date, the P. & O. time table marking her due here on the 13th inst.

The following Express has been issued:—

Foochow, August 21, 11.30 a.m.

Referring to the statements made in Expresses now before the Foochow Community regarding the action of H.B.M. Consul and the Kutien Massacre, I feel it my duty to state that: At 5.30 on the afternoon of Saturday, August 3rd, in company with the Rev. Mr. Star, I called at the house of Mr. Cave-Thomas at Kuliang where we had an interview with the Consul and read to him a communication from the U.S. Consulate asking for volunteers to proceed to Kutien that evening and aid in conveying the wounded to Foochow.

The Consul repeatedly informed us that he had no intention of returning to Foochow until Monday morning. Later in the interview, we informed him of our intention to go to Foochow that evening so as to be at hand if it was thought necessary to send any relief to Kutien; and asked to whom we could appeal for advice if he were absent from the British Consulate. It was then the Consul changed his attitude and agreed to go to Foochow with us. He added, however, that in his opinion, any relief party was a mistake, and his object in going down was to do what he could to prevent it.

JOHN CROSS, M.B., C.M.,
English Presbyterian Mission.

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INTERNATIONAL MORALITY.

SOME time ago, when it was rumoured that the three Powers, united on account of the Liaotung Peninsula, were pressing China for some material recognition of their efforts to stay Japan's conquering hand, we ventured to express the opinion that whatever course might be adopted by the individual units of the combination, it was not to be supposed that they would act collectively in the sense ascribed to them. There is still a limit to the license that States allow themselves. They do not, indeed, pay any attention to canons of conduct the neglect of which, in the case of a private person, would expose him to social ostracism. But the callousness of the international conscience has not yet found such flagrant expression as would be displayed by a combined effort on the part of three Great European Powers to traffic in purloined goods. The interference of Germany, Russia, and France in the matter of the Liaotung Peninsula, was openly based on the principle that the retention of the Peninsula by China would be necessary to the peace of the Orient and to the independence of Korea. Having induced Japan to promise the surrender of the peninsula in deference to that principle, there could certainly have been no more undignified transaction than that the three Powers should require China to buy back the Peninsula from themselves. It had been ceded to Japan by right of conquest, and neither Germany, France, nor Russia could justly advance the smallest title to make profit out of its retrocession. We are compelled to confess, however, that we credited the units of the Triple Alliance with a degree of morality not warranted by events. They commenced by constituting themselves China's bankers. We say "they" advisedly, for though Germany had no actual share in this pecuniary manœuvre, her isolation was not the result of choice. On the contrary, when she discovered that her bonds of alliance with France and Russia had held throughout the working stages of the union only, and had been snapped by her confederates so soon as the era of rewards arrived, she betrayed much umbrage, and made no attempt to conceal her indignation at being thus left out in the cold. In saying this, however, justice compels us to note that if Germany's original action was dictated by an honest belief in the view she enunciated—the view that Japan's possession of Liaotung would unduly disturb the balance of power in the East—she had an unquestionable right to be consulted by her allies in every particular of the events arising out of their joint interference. Assuredly her object in uniting to deprive Japan of the fruits of victory was not to raise Russia and France to a position of dictatorship in the Far East. It does not follow, therefore, that if the German statesmen complained of the independent course pursued by France and Russia with respect to the Chinese loan, they were influenced by thought of profit. Considerations of high policy alone may have swayed them. But France and Russia, taking quick advantage of the commanding position that Germany had helped them to attain, set about reaping material advantages for themselves, so that the former was enabled to feed to her bankers and capitalists a financial plum of considerable lusciousness and size, while the latter acquired a strong lien upon the Middle Kingdom. Nor did France stop there. She pushed her claims still further, and obtained from China a large slice of territory, forming part of the Anglo-French buffer State, the integrity of which had constituted the object of an agreement between China, France, and Great Britain, only two years previously. The methods of Russia and France in this instance have been characteristic. France is always thoroughly frank in her processes of aggression. She strikes quickly and openly, often prematurely. But Russia invariably hides her hand and plays a waiting game. Her diplomacy is as astute as it is patient, and her large faith in time seldom fails to receive the endorsement of events. She has as yet no material and present profits to show as the outcome of a situation created mainly, though not avowedly, for her benefit. But she has three moral gains which may prove immensely valuable when their time of maturity comes. She has established her title to figure as the guarantor of Korean independence. She has acquired an inferential right to control the disposal of Manchurian territory. She has become the residuary legatee of China, a position with large eventualities should China die intestate, as she certainly will. Russia, in fact, is now the principal figure upon the Far Eastern stage. But it must be noted that not one of her pretensions has received British recognition. We are already familiar with the spectacle of Great Powers playing shadowy dramas in the Orient, and producing very remarkable spectacular effects, but we have also learned to be sure that so long as England remains an independent spectator among the audience, the curtain is not unlikely to fall upon a fiasco for the actors. Whatever the future may bring forth, however, there can be no mistake about the profits that Russia and France have secured by championing a principle incapable of being reconciled with the uses to which they have applied it in their own interests. Germany alone has gained nothing. It is true that she has obtained a Concession for her subjects in Tientsin, but that must have come in any case, and moreover, the arrangement will inure to the benefit of other nationals also. In truth, events tend only to confirm our original analysis that Germany committed a serious blunder when she joined France and Russia to interfere between China and Japan. The final account figures out disastrously for her. Her prime purpose—that of modifying the character of the Franco-Russian *entente*—has not been achieved; on the contrary, she has thrown the two Powers into closer and more exclusive union than ever. In China she has not gained prestige: on the contrary, there is a disposition to make her the scape-goat of the empire's military disasters. In Japan, she has impaired the friendship that her attitude in previous years established. But it must be recorded to her credit that she has not sought to make profit for herself out of the Liaotung intervention. Her conduct throughout has been consistent and dignified. We believe that when her avowed purpose is achieved, she will step out of the unnatural alliance in which she allowed herself to become entangled without mature reflection.

THE MISSIONARY QUESTION IN CHINA.

THE Kucheng massacre has once more revived the hacknied question, should foreign Governments insist on liberty of religious propagandism in China, and, by way of corollary, should females be included among the propagandists. It is too late to consider these matters seriously now. That a great deal may be said not only against the general principle involved in bringing religious affairs within the sphere of international treaties, must be frankly admitted. That the missionaries themselves have not always refrained from abusing the privileges thus secured to them, must also be admitted. Indeed, the Kucheng massacre itself vividly recalls a phase of propagandism that has long been a source of keen anxiety to British officials; a phase that has been more than once commented on in these columns. With our reader's permission we desire to quote from an article published in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of January 6th, 1894:—"The missionaries sometimes take steps designed, apparently, for the express purpose of provoking disasters. The scheme of the Swedish mission at Kwaihwai-ching, beyond the Great Wall in a region near the borders of Mongolia, is a flagrant example. There have been sent to that remote region twenty Swedish women of various ages, several of them possessing conspicuous personal attractions. It does not appear that these girls have any special competence for the work of Christian propagandism. Enthusiasm is their one qualification. They know little if anything of the Chinese language. They never preached religious doctrine in their own country. Their idea, seemingly, is to have recourse to revivalist methods. We hear of them, dressed in Chinese costume, going out into the grimy alleys of sordid, toil-worn Chinese cities, and

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there thrumming on guitars and singing hymns, a spectacle as grotesque as it is incomprehensible to the people. The most terrible part of the story is its practical side. These girls receive an annual allowance of 200 dollars. Out of that pittance they must contribute 20 dollars each to provide a house. There remains to them, therefore, for purposes of sustenance and clothing, a sum of 15 dollars monthly. The misery to which they are thus condemned is imaginable. The luxury of a genial fire they cannot know; we hear of them clubbing their pitiful mites to contrive a united coffee-drinking once a week; and even the privacy so dear to a modest woman in the West is denied to them, since the paper fronts of their wretched dwellings cannot protect them against the prying eyes of curious Chinese. Every one is entitled to lead the life of a martyr. These poor girls must be allowed to mortify their flesh if they please. For our own part, we think a strait waiscoat, or a twelvemonth in the penitentiary would be the only becoming recompense for the culpable individual whose money supports them, and for the still more culpable persons who brought them out. But larger considerations present themselves in connection with the question whether any one is entitled to plant a community of European women under such circumstances in a remote region of the Chinese empire. May we not at any moment receive from Kwaihwai-ching news of a catastrophe that would revolt the whole civilized world? Have reckless enthusiasts the smallest right to endanger international relations by offering such an incentive to rapine and outrage? It is true that Swedish subjects alone are directly concerned. But if twenty Swedish girls were overtaken by a fate such as befel the Sisters at Tientsin in 1870, could helpless Sweden be left to vindicate treaty privileges and civilized liberty single-handed? Besides, this is not a question of one nation or an other. It is a question of twenty European women deliberately banished to a life of useless suffering and exposed to perils the thought of which makes one shudder. Who among the sternest sticklers for treaty privileges will defend such cruel recklessness? Should a day of heavy reckoning come for China, it will be well to remember what manner of folks were engaged writing up the accounts on the foreign side."

We make this quotation, not, of course, for the purpose of comparing the female missionaries in the north of China with the unfortunate women and children that were massacred at Kucheng, but merely to recall the fact that Christian propagandism has its reckless side, and that foreigners sometimes expect from China displays of liberality and magnanimity inconsistent with the semi-barbarous character that they attribute to her people. The time to discuss such questions is past, however. The Chinese have removed the matter entirely from the sphere of peaceful controversy and taken it into the realm of force. It is no longer possible for any of the Western Powers, least of all for Great Britain, to listen to arguments for restricting the field of missionary labour. Concessions in that sense, made in the face of acts such as the Szechuan outrages and the Kucheng massacre, must create a most mischievous impression throughout the East, and tend to precipitate rather than to retard the final collision between Chinese seclusion and Western progress. The situation, so far as concerns the missionary himself, is most pitiable. He can no longer carry his wife and children into the interior without exposing them to terrible risk, and he can scarcely afford to provide for their safety by leaving them in a Consular district. By him, therefore, the settlement of the present complication must be breathlessly watched, for the fate of his home life depends, in great part, on the measures now adopted. If they are measures so drastic as to deter repetition of these abominable crimes, and rouse the Chinese to a thorough appreciation of the penalties inevitably consequent upon sanguinary and savage violations of the treaties, then the missionary may look forward to some degree of domestic security. But will they be measures of that kind? Are measures of that kind possible so long as China remains under its present rulers?

JULIUS CÆSAR AND JESUS CHRIST COMPARED.

HAVING given space in our leading columns to a contributed article on "CÆSAR and CHRIST," we now take a similar course with regard to the opposite view of the same question.

There is a striking similarity and no less forcible contrast between the characters of CHRIST and CÆSAR, their careers, and the results that have flowed from them. Both met their death illegally, and yet in both cases as the result of the force of Roman Law. CÆSAR was stabbed by a self-constituted court of conspirators for the real crime of overturning the constitution of the Roman commonwealth; while CHRIST was crucified for calling himself a King, and thus setting himself up against CÆSAR'S successor. Although CÆSAR had that singular charm of genius that inspires great personal loyalty in those that come immediately in contact with it, he had not a sufficiently commanding influence over even his most intimate friend, BRUTUS, to prevent him from stabbing him in the hour of trial. JUDAS went and hanged himself in remorse for betraying his master. BRUTUS committed suicide because unsuccessful in his ambition. There are some who think that the object of JUDAS in the betrayal was to force his lord to take his place at the head of the people as their temporal prince. Be that as it may, both CÆSAR and CHRIST were deserted by their followers in their hour of trial; both had traitors among their friends and followers; both apparently failed utterly at the hour of death to accomplish their mission, and both were ultimately successful in the results of their lives.

When CÆSAR cried, "The die is cast!" and crossed the Rubicon, the republic was doomed, and military Imperialism was instituted. CÆSAR was, to be sure, sacrificed as a victim, but the Empire remained, and Imperialism is to this day the most stable and successful form of government on earth. Frenchmen and Americans may feel inclined to deny this, but the most ardent republican among them, if sane, would not commend that form of government to Japan. The CZARS and the KAISERS, take their titles from the name of CÆSAR.

CÆSAR was certainly in some respects the most conspicuous if not the greatest character in history, and we must concede that if CHRIST were not more than mere man, he was somewhat less than CÆSAR, for the reason that he refused to be a CÆSAR. Three centuries after the Crucifixion his followers had climbed the throne of the CÆSARS. This fact makes it seem not entirely impossible that CHRIST should have in his own person ascended to the same place of temporal power. When the populace came to take him by force to make him a King he hid himself; had he, on the contrary, placed himself at the head of the nation, then fired with a deep feeling that it was the chosen people of GOD, and he the heaven-sent MESSIAH, it does not seem impossible—remembering how hateful the reigning tyrant was to the empire, and how frequently afterwards men born out of Italy became Emperors—that CHRIST should himself have become a CÆSAR. CHRIST "showed a conspicuous inability to grasp" a throne; he was not sufficiently selfish and was wanting in worldly ambition. He not only refused to attempt to be a CÆSAR, but he was not even willing to make himself the temporal king of the chosen people. He chose instead of a throne the Cross; and, when crucified thereon, he cried, "It is finished:" his spiritual sovereignty over men of all nations and tongues for all time and to eternity was thenceforth firmly established. Both CÆSAR and CHRIST were worshipped as gods after their death, but though all the power of Imperial Rome was brought to bear to compel the burning of incense before the statues of the CÆSARS, that worship has entirely died out, while before the pictures and images of CHRIST incense is burned and the pure offering of prayer and praise is raised to this day. Strength was the most striking feature of CÆSAR'S character and of the Empire that he founded; but all its armies could not keep the CÆSARS enthroned among the gods, while CHRIST commands the free and will-

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ing homage of the best minds of now nearly twenty centuries and is everywhere worshipped as "GOD manifest in the flesh." The CÆSARS themselves bow before the Cross and place the glorified emblem on their flags. Not only do they acknowledge the force of CHRIST in war, but his blood-red cross is the sign of peace, healing, and safety for the sick and wounded; a prophetic sign of the time when the power of CHRIST shall be so fully felt that wars shall cease and He shall really reign as the Prince of Peace. It may be freely conceded that the transmission of Roman Law to the world is due more to the conservative influence of Christianity, than the preservation or propagation of Christianity is due to the conservative influence of Roman Law—CÆSAR owes more to CHRIST than CHRIST owes to CÆSAR. It appears the more remarkable that Christianity should have been the ark to carry Roman Law over the black waves of a thousand years of barbarism when we consider that for centuries all Christians were constant lawbreakers, their assemblies were unlawful, and the crime of meeting for worship was punished with death. It seems strange that a society of peasants, fisher-folk, artisans, and even slaves should have cared to preserve that Roman Law that had caused the blood of their brethren to flow like water upon the sandy arenas of a hundred theatres throughout the Empire.

This difficulty becomes less as we study the constitution of the society founded by these fisher folk. CHRIST had promised them thrones and crowns; they were to be kings and priests. The character of the society as an *imperium in imperio* was early recognized by the wise and good Roman Emperors. The sensual and profligate Emperors relaxed the rigour of the persecutions, while men like MARCUS AURELIUS and DIOCLETIAN were most relentless, seeing clearly that the Empire must conquer the Church or the Church would conquer the Empire. The Church was regarded by the believers in those days as the very Kingdom of GOD here on earth; not in any unreal mystical sense, but as actual visible fact and reality. Believers obeyed religious laws bound upon their consciences that enforced the civil law when not in conflict with the higher law of the Kingdom of GOD. The Majesty of the Roman Law backed up by the armies that had subdued the civilized world and made the barbarians in the gloomy fastnesses of their northern forests to tremble, was not only defied but defeated in a struggle of three centuries by the successes of a band of feeble women and cowardly fisher-folk, the followers of a crucified carpenter. The Christians could never have accomplished this miracle had they not worn *spectacles*. Their vision was so obscured by "the spectacles of theological mysticism" that they actually believed in the "Resurrection of the body, and the life evarlasting." Had they viewed the matter with "the clear eyes of science," they would have known that no amount of evidence can prove a miracle, and that the facts of the faith attested by 500 chosen witnesses of the resurrection, were the lurid images of a distorted imagination, projected upon the mists of prejudice that the religious mind inevitably disseminates around everything connected with the origin of a cherished creed. If the Christians had not believed in the facts of the faith, they would not have stood out against the laws and power of Imperial Rome, but would have faded away at an early day. If they had not conquered the Empire, there would have been no Christian Emperor JUSTINIAN to compile the code, and the religion of CHRIST would not have been instrumental in handing down to us all that is best in the statecraft of CÆSAR.

It appears then, that we are really indebted to the theological spectacles for this result. There are some persons who consider even JULIUS CÆSAR as inferior to NAPOLEON BONAPARTE. Now NAPOLEON died in the faith, and left a strong testimony to his belief in the Divinity of JESUS CHRIST. To quote but a short extract:—"You speak of CÆSAR, of ALEXANDER, of their conquests, and of the enthusiasm which they kindled in the hearts of their soldiers; but can you conceive of a dead man making conquests with an army faithful and entirely devoted to his memory? My armies have forgotten me even while living, as the Carthaginian army forgot HANNIBAL. Such is our power! A simple battle lost crushes us and adversity scatters our friends. Can you conceive of CÆSAR as the eternal Emperor of the Roman senate, and, from the depth of his mausoleum, governing the empire, watching over the destinies of Rome? Such is the history of the invasion and conquest of the world by Christianity; such is the power of the GOD of the Christians; and such is the perpetual miracle of the progress of the faith, and of the government of his Church. Nations pass away, thrones crumble; but the Church remains. ALEXANDER, CÆSAR, CHARLEMAGNE, and myself founded empires. But on what did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon force. JESUS CHRIST alone founded his Empire upon love; and at this hour, millions of men would die for him. CHRIST speaks and at once generations become his by stricter, closer ties than those of blood—by the most sacred, the most indissoluble of unions. He lights up the flames of a love that prevails over every other love. CHRIST'S greatest miracle is the reign of charity."

The total number of Chinese residents in Japan at the end of July last was 2,874, of whom 9 lived in Tokyo, 29 in Hokkaido, 119 in Osaka, 1,475 in Kanagawa Prefecture, 732 in Hyogo Prefecture, and 510 in Nagasaki Prefecture.

WOMAN'S DRESS.

IT almost seems as though the bicycle were destined to bring about the long desired reform in female apparel. For hundreds of years women must have felt the utterly unpractical character of their garments. A skirt trailing in the dust and clinging to the knees; at once a collector of dirt and an impeder of motion; offering no sort of protection against cold, but, on the contrary, suffering draughts and wintry atmosphere to have free access to all the lower half of the body—could any more illogical and irrational species of habiliment be invented? Hampered by such a garment, it is not possible either to walk or to run as nature dictates:—instead of direct forward motion, something between a shuffle and a side-long gait has to be developed. But while conscious of all these disadvantages, ladies have not ventured to rebel practically against them. It is not a mere question of being out of fashion, terrible as that contingency seems to the average female mind. There is the super-added consciousness that to be singular in such a sense is to invite charges of immodesty and of a general want of moral equilibrium. Once in a long while some society has been started to popularize the bloomer costume, but the faith of fellowship has never survived the shock of singularity. What was wanted was a *raison d'être* for reform, over and above the mere question of utility and common sense. Such a *raison d'être* has been supplied by the bicycle. To ride with the conventional skirt on a bicycle is impossible except at a distinct sacrifice of modesty. A lady can play lawn-tennis in the old-fashioned costume—that is to say, she can play after a manner, speed of movement being sacrificed to appearances. But she can not ride a bicycle without having recourse to the divided skirt, or some other contrivance of the kind. Now it appears to be accepted as an axiom that ladies are not to be excluded from the delights of cycling. In France, in England, in America, in Australia, thousands of woman are riding bicycles, and all wear bloomer costumes. There has been an attempt in some quarters to decry the innovation, on the ground that delicacy and modesty alike forbid it; but such senseless conservatism can not live in the light of nineteenth century progress. The divided skirt has fairly asserted itself. It has come to stay, and though the number of female cyclists may be comparatively limited, there need be no limit to the number of those that don a costume sanctioned by the practice of many thousands of their sisters. There is, however, one trouble about the matter, and there is also a danger. The danger is that the female cyclist may go too far in the direction of assimilating her costume to that of the male. Already a tendency of the kind is distinctly visible. A billy-

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cock hat, a stand-up collar, a scarf and pin, knickerbockers with side-pockets—nothing is wanting to transform the sex of the wearer save short-cropped hair and a meerschaum. That sort of excess will, of course, be quite fatal if it become a feature of the new departure. But we may hope that there is too much in the reform to allow it to be wrecked on a silly extravagance. Much more serious is the question of picturesqueness. Women will never permanently adopt anything that is not pretty, and bloomers are not pretty. One critic suggests that no resource offers except the page's dress of mediæval romance—a close-fitting bodice, short trunks or breeches, and tights. Before the introduction of side-saddles woman always rode astride on horseback, and wore a page's dress for the purpose. Such a costume displays the figure fully and offers opportunities for the use of the richest materials. But if bloomers are supposed to offend against modesty, trunks and tights will prove a sharper shock to morbid sensibilities. Yet how little consistency there is in such objections! When have women allowed modesty to govern fashion? Could anything be more immodest, for example, than the evening dress of the present era? There is only one social paradox equally striking, namely, the delirious morality that allows a man to hold a girl in his embrace while he jumps with her around a room, but pronounces it a deadly offence that he should do the same thing to her for an instant while standing or sitting still. When Japanese ladies seemed likely to commit the mistake of abandoning their national costume in favour of Western garments, we did what we could to avert the catastrophe, and pointed out that in the *hakama* Japan already possesses an ideal divided skirt, combining at once beauty and utility. It is a veritable pity that some prominent lady cyclist does not discover the *hakama* and bring it into use. It would become the vogue at once, and might easily be the means of at once popularizing the excellent reform now begun; a reform of which PAUL HERVIEN justly writes:—"That exaggeratedly different being whose dress placed her in pronounced and intentional contrast with the male, that *other* being whose long and trailing skirts laid universal emphasis upon the woman, is beginning now to appear more to men as a normal creature in her *culottes*, simple, viridical, thenceforth very near to them. The former feminine creation, with its artificial appearances and secret forms, that vaguely intimidating creature feared in the singularity of her accoutrements, now shows herself in the familiarity of her structure, in the cordiality and good-fellowship of her analogies as a sympathetic biped."

DURING the five days ended August 15th, nine Japanese men and two women were attacked by cholera at Ninsen, Korea. Six deaths occurred during the same period.

"SOSHI."

WHETHER the result be attributable to the caprice of fashion, or to the development of a higher political standard, or to the poverty of politicians, it is satisfactory to see that the vicious practice of employing *Soshi* in the sphere of politics is now far less prevalent than it used to be. The number of *bonâ fide Soshi* has dwindled to a very insignificant figure. *Soshi* are not a new *genus*. On the contrary, even in former times, whenever any important political change was impending, public tranquillity was liable to disturbance by persons corresponding to the modern *Soshi*. For example, just prior to the Restoration, when the country was passing through one of the severest crises on record, and when a fierce struggle was in progress between the Imperialists and the Shogunate adherents, a large number of *Soshi*, known at that time under the title of *Ronin*, ranged themselves on either side, especially that of the Court, and played a very conspicuous part. It fact, chiefly to the instrumentality of *Ronin*, favoured as they were by the tide of fortune, may be attributed the initiation and consummation of the Restoration. Several Ministers of State of our own day, and not a few others now occupying subordinate yet eminent positions within or without the Government, were, in practice, *Soshi*, who agitated either for the Court or for the Shogunate. On the completion of the Restoration and the return of public tranquillity, these *Soshi* or *Ronin*, there being no further occasion for their services, grew fewer and fewer and finally disappeared altogether. Whatever must be written against their methods, we are driven to confess that the *Soshi* of those days espoused the right cause, and that their exertions promoted the country's interests.

During more than two decades subsequently nothing was heard of *Soshi*, though the men that assaulted the late Prince IWAKURA with murderous intent soon after the Cabinet crisis brought about by the *Seikan-ron* (proposal to despatch an expedition against Korea), the gang of assassins that killed the late OKUBO, and the murderer of the late Viscount MORI, may be placed not unjustly in the ranks of the *Soshi*. But it was not until the year 1889, when Count OKUMA, then Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, undertook to effect Treaty Revision, that a genuine *Soshi* agitation set in. Undoubtedly the re-appearance of these "stalwarts" is attributable to politicians outside the Government that could not brook the idea of foreigners sitting as judges, in however small numbers, on the Japanese bench—one of the conditions then deemed essential to placing foreigners under Japanese Jurisdiction. It was then for the first time that the term *Soshi* began to carry with it a new and disreputable significance, for the expression, in its literal meaning of "intrepid man," had formerly been applied in a good sense. Count OKUMA, though backed only by one small party, the Progressionists, pursued with admirable courage the task he had undertaken, thus rousing the Opposition to still greater indignation, until finally, on the 18th of October of that year, the tumult culminated in the throwing of a dynamite bomb at the Count as he was entering the gates of the Foreign Office in his carriage. KURUSHIMA TSUNEKI, who threw the bomb and then cut his own throat, was a member of the Genyosha, a large *Soshi* association in Fukuoka, led by the notorious demagogue TOYAMA MAN. Three years previously, the Government had endeavoured to purge Tokyo of political agitation by a bold stroke of policy. In the latter part of December, 1886, they hastily drew up—"made in one night," as some critics satirically observed—a set of laws called the Peace Preservation Regulations, under the provisions of which about two hundred politicians and *Soshi* withdrew for the space of three years beyond a radius of three *ri* from Tokyo. On that occasion Messrs. HOSHI TORU, KATAOKA KENKICHI, OZAKI YUKIO, and others now of high repute, were included among the proscribed. But though this measure temporarily freed Tokyo of *Soshi*, their activity did not suffer any material check. In the Summer of 1890, as the date for the first general Parliamentary election drew near, the number of *Soshi* both in the capital and in the country became greater than ever. Then first appeared upon the scene the organized body of *Soshi* known as "Young Radicals" (*Seinen Jiyuto*), under the leadership of SUGENO DOSHIN, NAKAMURA KEITARO, FUKUI MOHEI, and several others. In September of the same year, when Mr. OI KENTARO, another notorious demagogue who had seceded from the Radical Party in consequence of a quarrel with Mr. HOSHI, undertook to celebrate at the Yayoikan in Shiba the inaugural ceremony of his ephemeral and insignificant party, the *Kwanto Jiyuto*, rival *Soshi* created a tumult at the place of meeting, and despite the presence of a strong force of Police, almost prevented the ceremony from proceeding at all. Thus far the Progressionists seem to have held aloof from *Soshi* agitation, but the formidable struggle that ensued between the Government and the Opposition—of which the Progressionists formed a wing—in the first session of the Diet, with reference to the reduction of administrative expenditures, led to the organization of a body of *Soshi* called "Young Progressionists," whose rôle was to intensify the anti-Cabinet struggle within the Diet by fomenting agitation outside. The "Young Progressionists" numbered about seventy, and to their credit, or rather to the credit of those who presided over them, it must

be added that they were far more orderly in their methods of procedure than were other cognate bodies. About the same time the Radicals organized another *Soshi* association at Kanagawa, its leaders being Messrs. SETOOKA TAMESABURO, M.P., ISHIZUKA SHOKO, M.P., and KOJIMA UNOSUKA, Chairman of the Kanagawa Local Assembly. About 130 *Soshi* were borne on its list. The appearance of so many *Soshi* was obviously inconsistent with the preservation of good order, and their repeated acts of violence against moderate Members of Parliament culminated in a second enforcement of the Peace Preservation Regulations and the expulsion of another large batch of *Soshi* from the capital.

Even officials themselves, however, can not be wholly exempted from the blame of having indirect recourse to *Soshi* aid. This blot on the official escutcheon belongs to the history of the years 1891 and 1892. In the second session of the Diet, the Government were eager to carry the Bill for the construction of war-ships. Shortly before that time, Mr. OKAMOTO RYUNOSUKE—a Colonel who had been deprived of his commission in connection with the Takehashi riot of the Body Guard in 1878, and who is now an adviser of the Korean Government—had organized a pro-Government body of *Soshi*, termed "*Hokkaido Giyu Dantai*" (the Hokkaido Patriotic Association), numbering as many as 150 members. It is true that the association was organized avowedly for the purpose of diverting *Soshi* labour to the beneficial purpose of reclaiming a wild tract of land in Hokkaido. But that pretext was not generally credited. The public believed that Mr. OKAMOTO had collected a number of *Soshi*, if not directly under official patronage, at least swayed by pro-Government sympathies. Mr. OKAMOTO and his fellow patriots endeavoured to persuade members of Parliament to espouse the side of the Cabinet. But little success attended their efforts. On the contrary, they rather marred the cause of naval development, for their too ardent assiduity to promote it aroused suspicion, the result being that Mr. INAGAKI SHIMESU moved in the House of Representatives that steps be taken to investigate a rumour about alleged corruption of certain members of Parliament. The motion was rejected, but so was the Bill for the construction of war-ships, and the House was at last dissolved. On the occasion of the general elections in February of the following year, the Government fell under suspicion of employing *Soshi* on an extensive scale. In almost every district where a noted Opposition candidate encountered a Government supporter, violent struggles occurred between the *Soshi* of the respective candidates, blood being freely shed in several instances, and the services of gendarmes and troops having to be requisitioned. It is impossible without fuller evidence to apportion the blame of these proceedings. That men standing in Government interests should employ force to repel force was inevitable, man's nature being human; and though the Opposition bitterly denounced the immorality of such methods, they seemed to forget that the responsibility of inaugurating them rested with themselves. The employment of *Soshi* in the field of practical politics reached its climax on that occasion. Thenceforth, though not entirely dispensed with, the services of these stalwarts began to be less and less resorted to. The total number of *Soshi* throughout the country at that period was unusually large. At once time there existed at least as many as eighteen *Soshi* associations, some eight of which had their head-quarters in the capital, where their members aggregated about five hundred. The total throughout the country must have been at least three times that figure. No organized body of *Soshi* is now known to exist anywhere.

It is commonly assumed that the *Soshi* are ex-students, who, having made educational failures through idleness or dissipation, have been deprived of pecuniary aid from their families. That is doubtless the case with a majority of these stalwarts, but there are others who, though numerically small, must be regarded as far more dangerous. The Japanese are precocious. We find mere striplings, just out of their teens, talking politics with the air of venerable statesmen. There is a want of moral equilibrium. These boy politicians, with exquisite assurance, think themselves called upon, in the discharge of their duty to their country, to teach Ministers of State and white-haired administrators how to govern the realm, and they believe that violent means may be employed to save their counsels from contempt. Youths of this stamp are most commonly found in the provinces, as witness NISHINO BUNTARO, the assasin of the late Viscount MORI, and KURUSHIMA TSUNEKI, the bomb-thrower, both of whom arrived in Tokyo shortly before they carried out their desperate designs. KOYAMA TOYOTARO belongs to the same category, though it is true that he lived for some years in Tokyo before he proceeded to Shimonoseki to attempt the life of the Viceroy LI.

The *bonâ fide Soshi* possess an ordinary degree of education and are also more or less skilled in swordmanship, especially those enrolled in the three great *Soshi* associations, namely, the Senyosha of Fukuoka, the Eishinsha of Kaga, and the Hokkaido Giyu Dantai, alluded to above. As for the pecuniary reward accruing to them, it varies, according to circumstances, from twenty-five *sen* to 1 *yen* or even 1½ *yen* per diem. When the duty to be performed is merely disturbing a rival party's meeting, the remuneration is at the lowest rate, with promise of an extra allowance should injury be sustained in a scuffle. A general election used to be a red-letter day for the *Soshi*. They then received the highest wages and had plenty to eat and to drink as well. As the date of the election approached and as the contest grew keener, the pay rose to as much as a *yen* and a half daily. It must be noted, however, that only *Soshi* indifferent as to principles and ready to be temporarily hired for any purpose, received a regular allowance. In each party there were and still are young devoted followers of some prominent member who never attached any importance to the question of remuneration. *Soshi* are very expensive to maintain and very difficult to rule. Even notorious demagogues like TOYAMA MAN, who had at one time as many as six hundred followers, ENDO HIDEKAGE, whose *Soshi* numbered about two hundred, and OI KENTARO, who controlled the service of at least as many, found their fortunes consumed by these parasites, and were obliged after a while to devise means of getting rid of them. In fact, these politicians were caught in their own trap, for the *Soshi* with whom they had surrounded themselves proved to be an insufferable drag, and impeded their free motion. After various fruitless attempts to shake off the incubus, OI and ENDO, if the vernacular press be credited, resolved to carry their truculent followers as emigrants to Burmah.

If it be true that more than one thousand *Soshi*, formerly prominent figures on the political stage, are now no more visible, the question arises, what has become of them. We are told that they have adopted two entirely different courses. One section—a small one—mended their ways and became industrious units of society; the other, and larger, who had followed the trade of *Soshi* merely for the sake of the money that was in it, fell away from grace altogether. To the former category belong men who have attained prominent positions as members of the Diet, of Local Assemblies, or of the political parties with which they were identified as *Soshi;* men who are sub-editors of newspapers or prosperous figures in commercial circles. Many, too, have become personal guards of members of Parliament. On the other hand, the majority of those belonging to the second and disreputable category, have degenerated into black-mailers who maintain themselves by discovering or inventing personal scandals; into newsboys, into street vendors of ballads which they compose and sing in a certain peculiar fashion devised by themselves, and even into a new class of actors. Some few have become political spies of the Metropolitan Police, and are unprincipled and base enough as to collect information against their original patrons. On the whole it seem to be agreed that very few *Soshi* now meddle in political affairs, and that

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those doing so are not genuine *Soshi* at all. Even the number of *Soshi* aspirants is far smaller than ever before. We are credibly informed that it has diminished to about one hundred in the capital, and that these eke out a worthless life by black-mailing. It is against such dregs of society that the Premonition Law may be enforced advantageously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

IOWANS IN JAPAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I shall be greatly obliged if all natives, or former residents, of the State of Iowa, now resident in any part of Japan, would kindly send their names and addresses to the undersigned at 43, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

Yours respectfully,

(Mrs.) LUCETTA H. CLEMENT.

August 29th, 1895.

"CÆSAR AND CHRIST."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Owing to absence in the country I have only just seen your issues of Aug. 22 and 26.

The great majority of your readers will have read with respectful pleasure Archbishop Osouf's protest against the publication in the *Japan Mail* of your leading article on "Cæsar and Christ," and will have been obliged to you for printing it.

Your defence of the writer of the article as "carefully putting on one side the supernatural side of the problem and drawing a purely historical parallel between Christ and Cæsar, in so far as concerned the influence of each on modern European civilization," suggests that your own perusal of his words must have been for some reason very cursory. Let it suffice to mention that among other phrases, all most painful to sincere believers in Christianity, the article described our Lord Jesus Christ as a "visionary," and Christianity as one of "two great things which have now had their day," and as a religion which, but for the fact that it helped to maintain the Roman legal system, would have done more harm in the world than good.

In other words, it directly and (it must be added) in a most contemptuous tone assailed the truth of the Christian Religion in the person of its Founder.

Now I submit that, as the believers in Christianity among your readers do not ask you to defend their Faith in your Leading Articles, they have a right to feel aggrieved as well as pained when you allow them to be used for attacks on their most cherished beliefs.

I do not believe that it is your desire that this should be the rôle of the *Japan Mail*, and I therefore venture to ask you to offer us (the phrase is your own:—*Japan Mail*, Aug. 26) "one word of apology or manly retraction," and to assure us that the *Japan Mail* will not make itself responsible in future for such attacks on our Faith.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

EDW. BICKERSTETH,
Bishop.

August 28th, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your reply to a criticism on an article of yours under the above heading, you say, "No question whatever was raised in our article as to the divinity of Christ. That question was not touched at all." Probably you did not intend to touch that question at all, but allow me to again call your attention to a few expressions in the article that to me seem to touch very seriously the divinity of our Lord. You say, "Christ the Jewish peasant was an ascetic enthusiast; during the short period for which, at the conclusion of his life, he emerged from his native obscurity, he showed a conspicuous inability to grasp the significance of many of the most elementary relations of practical life; and though he had that singular charm of manner which inspires great personal affection in those that came immediately in contact with it, he had not sufficiently commanding influence over even his most intimate adherents to make them trust and support him in the hour of trial."

Now it must be apparent to all, that if Jesus "showed a conspicuous inability to grasp the significance of many of the most elementary relations of practical life," he was not only not divine, but even inferior to many ordinary human beings, for I suppose even the Editor himself believes there are many who are able to "grasp the significance of many of the most elementary relations of practical life." How then you can say "That matter was not touched at all," I cannot understand. And will you please to point out at least some of the "many of the most elementary relations of practical life" that Jesus "showed a conspicuous inability to grasp?"

Further, the Editor seems to accept the gospel narrative that Jesus was a Jew, that he led a comparatively obscure life, that "at the conclusion of his life he emerged from his native obscurity," that he was tried and put to death, that he had "great personal affection," and "charm of manner." Would it not be the part of candour to also accept what else is said about him from the same source and also the prophecies pointing to this same fact and see that his birth, "charm of manner," "trial," desertion, and death, were prearranged and purposely entered into by himself rather than from an inability to command an influence over those who deserted him" in the hour of trial?" Allow me to refer briefly to a few Bible facts on this line. I shall only speak concerning his death, to show that it was not for lack of ability to command an influence over his adherents. Isaiah, some seven hundred years before it occurred, says: "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised and we esteemed him not. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. Yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. . . . He was oppressed and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. . . . And he made his grave with the wicked and with the rich in his death; because he had done no violence, neither was any deceit in his mouth. *Yet it pleased the Lord to bruise him.* . . . Therefore will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; *because he hath poured out his soul unto death*":—(Isaiah 53). Nothing is clearer according to the prophet, than that it was according to the purpose of God and the will of Jesus for the latter to give his life for our redemption. Jesus himself says, "All ye shall be offended because of me, this night, for it is written (Zech., 13.7), I will smite the shepherd and the sheep of the flocks shall be scattered abroad (Matt., 26 31.). "Jesus said unto him [Peter], verily I say unto thee, that this night, before the cock crow thou shalt deny me thrice" (verse 34.) "And behold one of them which were with Jesus stretched out his hand, and drew his sword, and struck a servant of the high priest, and smote off his ear. Then said Jesus unto him, "Put up again thy sword into its place, for all they that take the sword shall perish by the sword. Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels? *But how then shall the scriptures be fulfilled, that thus it must be*" (verses 51—54). He says further: "Even as the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto but to minister and to give his life a ransome for many" (Matt. 20 28). "I lay down my life for the sheep. . . . No man taketh it from me, *but I lay it down of myself*. I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of the Father" (John, 10.15 18). As I have already stated, these facts (and many more that can be given) are taken from the same source as are those the Editor has given about the "Native obscurity," the short period of his ministry, his desertion, his trial and death. It seems to me that no one, free from purely arbitrary principles to select what suits the purpose and reject what does not, can fail to see that Jesus's death, so far from being a source of disappointment and a lack of power of "commanding influence over his most intimate adherents to make them support him in the hour of trial," was the consummation of his own will in carrying out a purpose of which man is not worthy—the redemption of his soul.

Again, the Editor seems to regard Christianity "merely as an instrument serving its necessary place in history by its maintainance of the Roman tradition," and that having served this purpose it is one of "two things that have now had their day." Was it the purpose of Christianity to merely preserve Roman tradition? Then again, the Editor's denial to the contrary, this touches seriously upon the divinity of Jesus; for of all the utterance of Jesus, the prophets and the apostles, not one of them says that the purpose of the Gospel was to maintain Roman tradition! Hence it makes out the whole lot, from Abraham to John on the Isle of Patmos, as impostors and deceivers, Jesus himself not being excepted. Among the numerous passages concerning the purpose of Christianity I shall only give a few: "And thou child (John the Baptist) shall be called the prophet of the Highest; for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his way: to give knowledge of salvation unto his people by the remission of their sins, through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us, *to give light to them that sat in darkness, and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet in the way of peace.*" And the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour which is Christ the Lord." Lord Jesus himself says: "And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth in him, *may have everlasting life*: and I will raise him up at the last day." "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world *but that the world through him might be saved.*" But I could fill a number of pages with such passages as to the purpose of Christianity. Let any one, if he can, sincerely read these and many like passages and then say with candour that Christianity was merely to maintain Roman tradition! It is hard for me to believe that the Editor wrote seriously and with due consideration. If this was the purpose of Christianity, then Jesus was either deceived or knowingly taught falsehood through life: in either case he could not be divine. *Cæsar and Christ.* Cæsar was assassinated contrary to his own will or knowledge, upon which the Roman Empire, then at the zenith of its glory, tottered and fell, never to rise again. Jesus died according to a definite and long line of prophecy that had gone before several hundred years which he knew and often quoted in confirmation of the necessity of his death; and also himself pointed out accurately the very details of the same; the purpose of which was the foundation of his kingdom and the redemption of the world; since which the Church has ever been a living, acting power in the world. And that it is not, as the Roman Law and tradition, a thing of the past as myriads in every country and clime to-day can rise up and testify.

Most respectfully, J. M. McCALEB.

12, Tsukiji, Tokyo, August 30th, 1895.

A QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The article "Japan as a Mission Field," reprinted in the *Japan Mail* of yesterday from the *Chicago Record* gives food for reflection. One finds in it the astounding proposition that "Even the development of patriotism has been found to receive its most active impulse from the religion carried to Japan by the missionaries;" it further is asserted that "no one is better aware of what Christianity has done for Japan than the Emperor himself;" that "the Japan of 1852 could never have become the Japan of 1895 without the work of the missionaries," and that "the work of the 463 evangelical missionaries in Japan, backed up by 110,520 native Christians and the schools they support, is the key to the mystery of Japan's recent progress."

Of course no sensible person out here would think of treating such stuff seriously; its absurdity is too glaring to need any commentary. But it must be kept in mind that the article was not written for Japan—nobody would dream of *such* a thing—but for Chicago, where people are not so well informed of the real state of things in this country, and where consequently such bold assertions may well make an effect. Now it would be very interesting to learn, where all these palpable falsehoods quoted above may have had their origin, for it is scarcely to be supposed that the *Chicago Record* should have invented them on its own account. Who then may be responsible for the gross misrepresentations in the American journal by furnishing it with such false information?

I am, Sir, yours most faithfully, SIXTUS.

August 28th, 1895.

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A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the Weekly issue of your paper, dated Aug. 24th, under head of "the Karuizawa Conference," I find a report of an address on Formosa by Dr. MacGregor, in which occurs the following: "In reference to the proposal made by the Synod of the Church of Christ in Japan to bring the Church in Formosa into organic union with the same body here," &c.

As a member of the Synod referred to, who sat through all the proceedings of its recent session in Nagoya, I beg to say that to the best of my recollection no such "proposal" was made by that body. The question of undertaking missionary work in Formosa was brought before the Synod in the shape of an overture from the Chinzei Presbytery. The Presbytery asked that a committee be appointed to visit Formosa and to report upon the prospects for work, and also upon the advisability of establishing some sort of connection with the Church already existing in that country. But in taking action upon the matter the Synod voted to strike out the clause referring to connection with the Formosan Church, and appointed the committee with instructions to visit Formosa, carrying the greetings of the Church of Christ in Japan to the Church there and to report upon the advisability of the Synod's beginning missionary work on the island in the near future.

Yours faithfully, T. T. ALEXANDER.

27, Tsukiji, Tokyo, September 1st, 1895.

LETTER FROM PEKIN.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

Pekin, August 21st, 1895.

The mists are in no hurry to clear away from China. The mists now and then become a deep fog. The Japanese Minister still remains here ready to negotiate with the Central Government. He refuses to go to Tientsin to consult with any one of the three Viceroys, Li Hung-chang, Liu Kun-yi, and Wang Wen-shao. He says that if they want him to consult with Li Hung-chang, he must come to Pekin, and become a member of the Foreign Office. The Japanese Minister is establishing a good custom for all the foreign Ministers. There has been too much of the shuffling between Pekin and Tientsin. The Japanese Minister impresses all as a man of ability, the equal of any in the diplomatic body, unless I except Count Cassini.

The Chinese were very anxious to have the question of Liaotung settled in Pekin. The new Minister to Japan, Yü-kêng, was even more anxious for this. None the less, Tokyo seems to be the place for arranging the terms. The new Minister from China is of the Manchu race, while his wife is of American extraction and speaks English. They and their children are very pleasant and cordial and have none of the anti-foreign proclivities. I fear, however, that the contest with the Japanese will be rather one-sided as in the war.

While the war is supposed to have ceased, there are still many inquiries among the Chinese as to the fate of Formosa and Liu Yung-fu. Rumours go abroad of the success of the Black Flag leader, and many still vainly hope that the Japanese will be driven out. There have been sold on the streets of Pekin different tracts, referring to the Japanese in far from respectful language. They are spoken of as "foreign devils," and are thus mixed up with the general mass of foreigners, or rather foreigners are now classed along with the hated Japanese.

The anti-foreign spirit has become more intense. The riot in Szechuan was the first outburst. Then came the atrocity in Fukien. In the demand for redress, the latent feeling was summoned forth, and everywhere there is a growing opposition to all foreigners. The guilty parties in the riots receive but little blame from the Chinese. The contest again narrows itself down to Chinese on the one side and foreigners on the other.

A few changes have occurred in the Pekin government. Four of the members of the Foreign Office have withdrawn, two on plea of sickness, Fu-kun and Lün Yü-wen; one by transfer, Liao Shen-hêng, and one by Imperial orders, Hsü Yung-i, who is also degraded from the Grand Council. The two new members of the Foreign Office are the two prominent members of the Grand Council, Wêng Tung-ho and Li Hung-tsu, men noted as conservative and anti-foreign. The Foreign Office has only one person in its councils who came into the body when Prince Kung and his associates were dismissed 11 years ago, namely Prince Ching.

BRETT & COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE PRESS REQUESTED TO RETIRE.

The half-yearly meeting of shareholders in Messrs. Brett & Company, Limited, was held in Kiel's Building on Monday afternoon. There were present, Messrs. J. F. Lowder, A. F. MacNab, G. C. Charlesworth, H. MacArthur, C. W. Ure, F. R. Daniel, R. N. St. John, J. H. Curtis, R. Home Cook, G. Blundell, J. H. Boag, and A. T. Watson (Managing Director).

Mr. A. T. WATSON occupied the Chair, and in opening the meeting submitted the following report and accounts.

REPORT.

The statement of Assets and Liabilities and the Profit and Loss Account for the half-year ended the 30th June, 1895, accompany this Report.

Business for the past six months has been very good, and although the Accounts appear very unsatisfactory, the loss has been previously incurred, full explanations of which will be given at the meeting.

The Managing Director resigns his position and it will be necessary to elect another.

The Agreement with Mr. Watson, Manager, expired on June 30th: some arrangement will be necessary for him to continue.

The Managing Director, immediately after his appointment, with the advice of the Advisory Committee, had the books put in thorough order and, as now closed, they present a true and correct statement of the affairs of the Company.

ARTHUR T. WATSON, Managing Director.

21st August, 1895.

BALANCE SHEET.—30TH JUNE, 1895.

Liabilities.		
Capital.—2,800 shares (fully paid up) $10.00 per share		$28,000.00
National Bank of China Limited.—Overdraft on current account		12,471.05
Debentures.—38 Debentures at $100.00		5,800.00
Sundry Creditors.—Amounts owing		143.49
		$45,414.54
Assets.		
Stock.—Value of Stock as per Inventory and Stock-Books:—		
Drugs, Chemicals, etc., in Store and Godown	$24,401.99	
Aërated Water Stock	1,177.01	
Outstanding Consignments	256.65	$23,836.25
Plant, Furniture and fixtures,—Value per Inventory of Aërated Water Plant and Fixtures	1,235.49	
Store and Godown Furniture and Fixtures	3,780.06	5,015.55
Goodwill.—Value of Goodwill as per Prospectus of the Company (30th June, 1892)		4,500.00
Cash.—Cash in hand		46.68
Fire Insurance.—Value of Unexpired Policies		148.25
Sundry Debtors.—Accounts, due unpaid at 30th June:—		
Sales Ledger	$2,273.52	
Ship Ledger	762.69	3,036.20
Aër. Water Ledger	614.73	
Corean Advent. A/c.	208.65	823.38 3,859.58
Balance at Debit of Profit and Loss account		6,008.23
		$45,414.54

WORKING ACCOUNT.—JANUARY 1ST TO JUNE 30TH, 1895.

To Salaries and Wages		$3,554.52
To General Expenses		416.90
To Interest:—Bank and Debentures		640.53
To Advertising		77.60
To Commission:—Discounts on Local Bills		79.09
To Fire Insurance		148.25
To Rent		755.00
To Aërated Water Plant Depreciation		10.31
		$5,682.29
By Profit on Sales:—		
Goods	$1,439.54	
Aërated Waters	134.15	
Corean Business	21.57	$1,595.28
By Transfer Fees		3.00
By Balance, being Loss on Business for six months ending 30th June, 1895, transferred to Profit and Loss Account		4,084.01
		$5,682.29

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.—30TH JUNE, 1895.

To Balance:—Per Balance Sheet, 31st Dec., 1894			$1,499.53
To Errors and/or Omissions in Balance Sheet of 31st Dec., 1894:—			
1. Cash Balance as per Balance-Sheet	$333.15		
Against Actual Cash on hand at 31/12/94	263.40	$ 69.75	
2. Value of Goods supplied to "Soda Water Factory" included in Sundry Debtor Balance 31/12/94		330.04	
3. Uncollectable Accounts omitted to be written off at 31 Dec., 1894		1,218.22	1,618.01
To Balance transferred from Working Account 30th June, 1895			4,084.01
			$7,201.55
By Sundry Errors and/or Omissions in Balance Sheet 31st Dec., 1894:—			
Sundry Debtor Balances as per Sales Ledger	$5,077.43		
Given in Balance-Sheet of 31/12/94 as	3,884.11		$ 1,193.32
By Balance			6,008.23
			$7,201.55

E. & O. E.

I certify that I have examined the foregoing Accounts and compared them with the Books and Vouchers of the Company and find them to be correct.

JNO. H. BOAG, Auditor.

Yokohama, 14th August, 1895.

The CHAIRMAN said the report and accounts had been in the hands of shareholders for some time, and he thought that it would be unnecessary to read them.

Mr. CHARLESWORTH proposed and Mr. BLUNDELL seconded that the report and accounts be taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN—Gentlemen, the accounts have been audited by Mr. Boag and have been carefully and conscientiously gone through, is it your wish that they be passed? Shall we pass them before proceeding further?

Mr. LOWDER thought it would be for the benefit of shareholders if the Chairman, before proceeding further, gave some explanation of the following paragraph in the report:—Business for the past six months has been very good, and although the accounts appear very unsatisfactory the loss has been previously incurred, full explanations of which will be given at the meeting. As a shareholder, he should greatly like to have one explanation, because, upon referring to the accounts he found under the head of working account the item:—By balance, being loss in business for six months ending 30th June, 1895, transferred to profit and loss account, $4,084.01. This was for six months ending the 30th June, 1895, while the loss on the working account for the whole year 1894, is given as $2,461.37. He would like an explanation of the reason why the loss for the last six months was put at $4,000 odd, while the loss for the whole year preceding was returned at $2,461.37. Of course he saw that the $4,000 was stated to be due to error in previous accounts, but in the face of the report, which distinctly promised an explanation, a few words from the Chair regarding the item was certainly advisable. The paragraph of the report which he had quoted said that their business for the past six months had been good, yet the loss for the last six months was greater than for the whole preceding year.

The CHAIRMAN said he had anticipated the point, but a question arose as to the advisability of letting the details of their business go forth to the public. For his own part he had nothing whatever to conceal, but those present at the meeting were all shareholders in the Company, and it was for them to decide whether it would be advisable or not to let the details of their business be known to outsiders.

Mr. LOWDER—I don't know whether you are appealing to me, but you know my views on the subject.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes, I understand them. But is it the wish of the meeting that the reporters remain?

Mr. URE—I move that the reporters do not remain present.

Mr. BLUNDELL.—I move, as an amendment, that they do remain.

The CHAIRMAN—We must take a vote. I second Mr. Ure's motion on principle.

Mr. DANIEL—And I second Mr. Blundell's amendment.

Upon a show of hands being taken, nine voted that the reporters remain and two—Messrs. Watson and Ure—that they be asked to retire.

Mr. URE—I now ask for a ballot, so that the question be decided upon the number of shares held.

Mr. MACARTHUR—I object to such a ballot. The consensus of opinion of this meeting is decidedly in favour of the reporters remaining—it is nine to two.

Mr. URE—I ask for a ballot in the interest of the business. Last year the report of the proceedings was published and it did the business a great deal of harm. I think we should follow the example of our neighbours, Messrs. North and Rae; they keep all their meetings private.

Mr. MACARTHUR—Nothing is to be gained by putting the thing into a bag. If the reporters remain, what we say will be known: if they retire then what passes here will be guessed at, and instead of facts we shall have surmises.

The CHAIRMAN said that he thought the Articles of Association did not provide for a ballot.

Mr. URE—I certainly think I am entitled to the right of asking for a ballot. I can show the rule.

Upon the rule being turned up in the Articles of Association, the CHAIRMAN announced that a ballot could be called for by five persons present at a meeting, or by a person holding one-fifth of the capital present at the meeting. Under those circumstances, he found that the number of shares held by those in favour of the reporters not being allowed to remain was 1,140. Mr. Ure held registered proxies for E. H. Sharp, and Mrs. E. H. Sharp, beside his own shares. There were also his (the Chairman's) shares. The amendment that the reporters remain was therefore lost.

Mr. CURTIS—How many shares do you, Mr. Chairman, hold?

The CHAIRMAN—Seven hundred.

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SEVERAL SHAREHOLDERS—But you forfeited 500.

Mr. BOAG—And they lost their voting power after 30th June.

Mr. LOWDER—Oh, no, those shares were not forfeited, they are held as security.

The CHAIRMAN—Fair play, gentlemen. I appeal to you.

Mr. LOWDER—The number of shares held by those who object to reporters being present outnumbers those held by shareholders who desire them to remain?

The CHAIRMAN—That is so. The number is 1,140 out of 2,800.

Mr. LOWDER—Is there not a rule requiring proxies to be registered at least 24 hours before being used at a public meeting?

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Ure's proxies have been registered some time.

Mr. LOWDER—I am quite satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN—I will give you the date, 29th July, 1895.

Mr. LOWDER—As I said before, I am quite satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN, in asking the reporters to retire, said that he had no objection to their knowing what passed during the ordinary business of the meeting. The reason why he did not wish them to be present was that questions would be put which would open up a wide field, interesting of course to the shareholders, but possessing no interest for the general public.

Mr. LOWDER said he had asked his question merely from a desire to expedite matters. He had no doubt that the explanation to be given would be quite satisfactory.

The reporters then left the room.

YOKOHAMA SAILING CLUB.

A MEMBER EXPELLED.

An extraordinary general meeting of members of the Yokohama Sailing Club was held at the Club Hotel on Thursday afternoon to consider a special resolution of which notice had been given by circular. Over fifty members were present, including Messrs. J. F. Lowder, G. H. Scidmore (Hon. Secretary), C. B. Clausen, F. E. Worth, Captain Martin, B. H. Pratt, J. Eyton, J. L. Eyton, J. L. Whateley, C. V. Schmidt, C. K. M. Martin, J. O. Averill, C. S. Averill, R. Abenheim, T. Abbey, N. P. Kingdon, S. A. Mansfield, G. Philip, R. Lane, G. Hodges, A. Weston, A. Owston, F. Owston, W. H. R. Carew, J. McLean, F. Herbert, R. McCance, W. Tucker, J. B. Gibbs, Jun., G. Rice, Alex. Waugh, F. L. Elliott, E. Andreis, B. Martinelli, L. Salabelle, W. McGee, G. R. Birmingham, F. Stornebrink, and many others.

Mr. LOWDER was voted to the Chair, and Mr. Robert Hay was delegated to act as Secretary, Mr. Scidmore, as one of the interested desiring to stand aside.

The CHAIRMAN first read the notice calling the meeting, which was to the following effect:—"Yokohama Sailing Club:—Notice is hereby given, under the provisions of Rule 10, that an Extraordinary General Meeting of this Club will be held at the Club Hotel, Yokohama, at 5.30 p.m., on Thursday, September 5th, 1895: To consider a resolution for the expulsion of Mr. E. V. Thorn from membership. For the Committee of the Yokohama Sailing Club, G. H. Scidmore, Honorary Secretary, Yokohama, Aug. 24, 1895." By the rules of the Club, notice of such a resolution must be given to the member interested ten days before the holding of the meeting. He, the Chairman, would first ask whether this rule had been complied with?

Mr. SCIDMORE—A copy of the notice which has just been read was delivered at the residence of Mr. Thorn on the morning of the 25th August, and a receipt was given for it by one of Mr. Thorn's servants. Another copy was also mailed to him the same day, along with those sent to each member of the Club, to which fact Mr. Averill can certify.

The CHAIRMAN—I take it then that due notice has been given of this extraordinary general meeting, which has been specially called by the Committee of the Sailing Club for the purpose of considering a resolution which is to be presented to us now. I will ask that the resolution be read.

Mr. SCIDMORE—On behalf of my colleagues of the Committee, I ask you, Mr. Chairman, to read the following written resolution.

The CHAIRMAN then read the following:—

"Proposed by the Committee of the Club; Seconded by

"Whereas, E. V. Thorn, a member of this Club did, in a letter, dated August 11, 1895, written and delivered by him to the Officer of the Day of this club for the Sailing race of August 10, 1895, charge the owner of the yacht *Daimyo*, a participant in said race, with substituting a handicap, different from the handicap known to the said Officer of the Day previous to and during said race, to the prejudice of the said E. V. Thorn, and, by implication and innuendo did charge the said owner of the yacht *Daimyo* with fraudulent and dishonourable conduct in connection with said race and handicap;

"And, whereas, upon investigation, this club finds said charges to be unfounded and untrue;

"And whereas, the said E. V. Thorn refuses either to apologize for said charges or to resign from this club;

"Therefore, be it resolved that the said E. V. Thorn be, and he is hereby, expelled from membership in this club."

This gentlemen, should it find a seconder, is the resolution upon which you will shortly be called upon to vote either in favour of or against.

Mr. BERMINGHAM—Will the voting be open or by ballot?

The CHAIRMAN—By ballot; closed ballot. Does this resolution which I have just read find any seconder at this meeting?

Mr. BERMINGHAM—I second it. The question before us narrows itself into a small issue: is our worthy Secretary guilty or not guilty of the charges of which he has been accused?—that is the whole thing in a nutshell.

The CHAIRMAN—The resolution having found a seconder is now open for discussion.

Mr. WAUGH—I move that this resolution be tabled indefinitely. It was not seconded 10 days ago, as the rule provides, but is presented by the Committee and seconded by, as the Chairman read it, Mr. Blank. It can not be seconded at the meeting this evening.

The CHAIRMAN—The seconding of the resolution at this meeting is quite proper. I rule against you.

Mr. WAUGH—Then I must take the sense of the meeting. The resolution should have been seconded 10 days ago to have a standing in law. I bow to the decision of the Chair, but appeal to the sense of the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN—You cannot do both. To what rule do you refer me?

Mr. WAUGH—To any rule of parliamentary procedure that ever was printed.

The CHAIRMAN—That is very vague. According to Rule 7—I will read it to you:—"The Committee may on ten days' notice, convene extraordinary general meetings of the Club, specifying in the notice convening the meeting, the object or objects for which the meeting is called, and to which the discussion must be strictly confined." My ruling is based on that Rule.

Mr. WAUGH—With all due deference, Mr. Chairman, the seconding of this resolution at this meeting is not in accordance with parliamentary usage. If the Committee drew up that resolution ten days ago, then it should have been seconded ten daysage.

The CHAIRMAN—It is not so provided in the Rule under which this meeting is called. Your objection is therefore overruled.

Mr. SCIDMORE, in support of the resolution, then read the series of letters which have already been published. They comprised Mr. Thorn's protest against the *Daimyo* being awarded the Gillig Cup; Mr. Laffin's letter to the Committee; and the Committee's reply to Mr. Thorn's protest. Continuing, Mr. Scidmore said—We have here the handicap which was attached to the Bulletin Board at the Rowing Club before tiffin on the day of the race. After tiffin I went to the Boat Club to see the Officer of the Day, but owing to his being delayed through business, I failed to see him. I had to get aboard my boat, so I left the score-book in care of a gentlemen belonging to the Press here, who afterwards delivered it to Mr. Laffin on board the Bathing Barge, and previous to the race.

The CHAIRMAN said the point at issue, which the meeting was called to decide was, in his opinion, after a careful perusal of all the documents, properly raised upon the correspondence which had just been read. Upon that correspondence the Committee had acted: they had drawn up a resolution and properly called an extraordinary general meeting of the Club. He understood that a considerable amount of feeling had been evoked about the resolution, and he was not at all surprised at the fact, for a more serious position than that of a member of a Club about to be expelled, or who might be expelled from that Club, was difficult to find. That man certainly ought—and so long as he (Mr. Lowder) was Chairman of the meeting he should—have the amplest opportunity of explaining his conduct and of clearing himself of the charges preferred against him by the Committee. He hoped that Mr. Thorn might be present at the meeting, so that he might have an opportunity of hearing what appeared to his (the Chairman's) mind in regard to the affair. He was not an active member of the Club; still he took a very great interest in all its doings, and as such he could not help following the developments of this matter. Mr. Thorn had accused the Officer of the Day and the owner of the yacht *Daimyo* of a conspiracy to defraud him of a prize to which he considered himself legitimately entitled, and of endeavouring to do this by a fraudulent act in substituting another handicap for the handicap agreed upon by the members of the Committee. In other words, they had been guilty of a criminal offence. Such an offence, if they should have been guilty of it, would have brought them within provisions the law of their country—whatever it may be—and would have rendered them liable to fine and imprisonment. As Chairman of the meeting, he should not have gone to this extent, but his reason for doing so was this. He was convinced that Mr. Thorn did not properly or clearly realise the gravity of the charges which he preferred against the two members of the Sailing Club. This was how the matter presented itself to his (the Chairman's) mind. If, therefore, Mr. Thorn did not really intend to go to that extent when he wrote his letter, then he would take his (the Chairman's) advice, and proffer an apology to Mr. Scidmore and to Mr. Laffin at once. Then the matter could drop. Otherwise, the affair had come to such a serious pass, that there was nothing for it but to submit the whole question for the decision of the Club, whatever that might be.—(Applause.)

Mr. WAUGH asked pardon for again interrupting, but he wished to remark that he thoroughly agreed with the Chairman when the latter said that he had gone a little too far, considering that he was presiding over the meeting. Most assuredly had the Chairman gone too far in his remarks. He had accused Mr. Thorn of preferring a charge of conspiracy against two members of the Committee. Mr. Thorn had accused no one of conspiracy. Mr. Thorn, he contended, had not brought that charge against two members of the Committee as the Chairman alleged.

The CHAIRMAN—I only wished to endeavour to lay before the meeting the conclusion I had arrived at as an individual - not as the Chairman of this meeting—and as the result of a careful reading of the correspondence it appears to me that the charge made by Mr. Thorn amounts to that. I wish that Mr. Thorn were here, so that he might have an opportunity of saying that he had no intention of saying all that he did. I can arrive at no other conclusion, but that he did not realise the gravity of his charge, for what he does charge is that two members of the Club conspired to defraud him of the Gillig Cup.

Mr. WAUGH—It is getting late, and many are anxious to get away, so to bring matters to a head, I will ask one question:—How many members are there on the Committee?

The CHAIRMAN—Five.

Mr. WAUGH—And three members only of that Committee signed the letter calling upon Mr. Thorn to apologise or resign, which was their answer to his protest. Mr. Scidmore, charitably and gentlemanly, and Mr. Laffin, also charitably and gentlemanly, did not sign that letter. One was owner of the yacht *Daimyo*, the other the Officer of the Day. But there was another member of the Committee, Mr. Gibbs, who, if the protest had been upheld, would have been interested in the result. He had no business to sit on that Committee under the circumstances, and what I contend is that the Committee had no legal right to do what they did, for this reason—there were only two Committee men left who were uninterested in the race, and as our Committee consist of five, and it requires three to make a quorum, the protest could not have been considered.

The CHAIRMAN—Do I understand you to mean that Mr. Gibbs' name is not rightly attached to that letter?

Mr. WAUGH—There were only two members of the Committee who were uninterested.

The CHAIRMAN—Is Mr. Gibbs present?

Mr. Gibbs—Yes, Sir.

The CHAIRMAN—Did you support the Committee in the step they took, and sign this letter.

Mr. GIBBS—I may explain that I was interested in the race, but not in the first prize.

The CHAIRMAN—Did you endorse the action of the Committee? Was the letter signed by you?

Mr. GIBBS—Yes: it was.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Waugh, your objection is overruled.

Mr. WAUGH—You misunderstand me. If the first prize had been given to Mr. Thorn, then Mr. Gibbs would have received the second prize.

The CHAIRMAN—The question is, did Mr. Gibbs sign the letter or not; you have heard him declare that he did. We must take the action of the Committee as a whole or not at all. We cannot go into the motives of individual members of the

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Committee. If we did that this discussion would be never ended. The question was raised as to whether a quorum of the Committee acted in this matter: we have heard that they did, and that ends the question.

Mr. BERMINGHAM—We are wandering; the whole question is very simple. Is our Secretary guilty or not guilty of these charges? Did he substitute one handicap paper for another?

The CHAIRMAN—We know that he did not.

Captain LEE asked if the representative of Mr. Thorn could state to the meeting whether Mr. Thorn would withdraw his charges and tender an apology.

The CHAIRMAN was not disposed to take the question out of the hands of the meeting. He was surprised that Mr. Thorn was not present in person.

Capt. LEE—Will Mr. Thorn's representative tell us whether or not Mr. Thorn will apologise.

The CHAIRMAN—He should have gone to the Committee, I think, before this, if he wished to apologise. As I said just now, I do not feel inclined to take the matter out of the hands of the meeting.

Capt. LEE—I ask the Committee, are they inclined to accept an apology?

Mr. SCIDMORE—We will be satisfied with a written apology, which must be printed in the newspapers, and with nothing else.

Mr. WAUGH—I appear to be here under false colours.

The CHAIRMAN—We hope not.

Mr. WAUGH—I am only one of the members of the Sailing Club, nothing more. I am not Mr. Thorn's representative here, although I am his servant in his office. I merely desire to see a fair, sportsmanlike spirit prevail, and to see this question properly discussed. I know there are many points through which Mr. Thorn could upset and overthrow this resolution, even putting aside the legal one. I am not here, Captain Lee, as Mr. Thorn's representative, but merely as a member of the Club willing, like many of you here are able, though perhaps not willing, to stand up for him.

Captain LEE said that he had been under a misapprehension.

Mr. WAUGH then quoted the Rule of the Club, relating to protests. It ran:—"Should the owner of any boat, or the person acting as his representative, consider that he has a fair ground of complaint against another for foul sailing, or any violation of these rules, he must, if it arise during the Race signify the same to the Officer of the Day in writing within two hours of the arrival of the protesting boat, unless such arrival shall be after 9 o'clock p.m., in which case the time shall be extended to 10 o'clock a.m." I should like to move, said the speaker, an amendment to the resolution on this Rule. Now, Mr. Laffin, what time did you receive this protest?

The CHAIRMAN—Order, please. You must not carry on your argument in that way. You must address the chair.

Mr. WAUGH—Good enough for me sir, I shall continue. The Rule goes on to say, "In the latter case if the day following the race be a Sunday, the time shall be further extended by twenty-four hours." Now this race closed long before 9 o'clock, but the protest did not go in till the day following the race; therefore it is not a legal protest.

The CHAIRMAN—I rule that any discussion on Rule 24 is not before this meeting.

Mr. WAUGH—I must keep solely to the matter before us?

The CHAIRMAN—That is all.

Mr. WAUGH—Then I bow to your will. I thought that the meeting was a Court before which Mr. Thorn appeared as defendant. He has been charged with a heinous offence, and every opportunity should be given to enable him to clear himself—that, he took it, was the reason for Courts of Law, to give a man a fair hearing.

The CHAIRMAN—My reason for this arbitrary ruling is based on Rule 7, which I have before quoted. We must confine ourselves solely to the resolution which the Committee state in the notice to be the object of calling the meeting. The question as to whether Mr. Thorn lodged his protest in accordance with Rule 24 not does not come within the power of this meeting. Mr. Thorn is not here. Now if you refer me to a Court of law, allow me to say that if a man is called before it as a defendant, and does not appear in person at all, and is not represented by an attorney—then judgment is given against him by default.

Mr. WAUGH said he had no authority to act as Mr. Thorn's representative, but he wished the matter to be properly investigated.

After a few remarks from Mr. BERMINGHAM,

Mr. LANE proposed that the resolution be put to the meeting. Mr. Thorn had not thought fit to appear there, but that was no reason why the resolution should not be put.

Captain LEE again asked if there was a possibility of Mr. Thorn withdrawing and apologising: if he did, then the whole matter stopped right there. If not, then a vote would be taken, and the possibilities were that Mr. Thorn might be turned out. It was only harmony which the speaker asked for, nothing more. The Committee were willing to accept Mr. Thorn's apology even now, if Mr. Thorn would tender one.

Mr. N. P. KINGDOM thought that Mr. Thorn had had plenty of time in which to send in an apology to Mr. Scidmore. He had not done so; he refused to apologise. If an apology were given now by Mr. Thorn it could scarcely release him, for in the speaker's opinion Mr. Thorn's conduct was now an offence done to the Club.—(Applause).

Mr. J. O. AVERILL said the Committee had sent their representative to Mr. Thorn three times, on three different occasions. He had refused peremptorily to apologise in any way. The Committee had been very reluctant to push matters to an extreme issue, but there was now nothing else for them to do. Mr. Laffin had gone to Mr. Thorn as the Committee's representative, and he can bear out what I say.

Mr. LAFFIN—Yes.

Captain LEE—It is never too late to do good.

The CHAIRMAN—I will act upon Captain Lee's suggestion. Is Mr. Thorn present?—[No answer.]—Is any representative of Mr. Thorn here?—[No answer.] I have received no answer to my calls. The meeting must be asked, Captain Lee, to take a vote on the resolution, for the matter cannot now be allowed to pass.

The CHAIRMAN then explained that the vote would be by ballot, the papers not being signed: a mark X would exclude, while a blank paper or any other mark would be taken in favour of Mr. Thorn. According to rule, 21 must vote to make a ballot, and a two-thirds majority was required.

Mr. CAREW proposed, and Mr. McLEAN seconded, that the Chairman be scrutineer. Forty-three ballots were cast: 31 were in support of the resolution, and 12 in favour of Mr. Thorn. Twenty-eight votes were the required two-thirds majority.

After a double scrutiny,

The CHAIRMAN said—By the result of this ballot I declare that Mr. Thorn is expelled from this Club.

Mr. WAUGH—I move we resign—I mean that the meeting adjourns.

The CHAIRMAN—This is all the business before the meeting.

The meeting then dispersed.

ADOPTION IN JAPAN—ITS LAWS AND USAGES.

Adoption is one of the most important factors in the family system of Japan. It is necessitated by the custom of ancestor-worship and the consequent desire to extend the family from generation to generation. Though of great importance in the social mechanism of the country, adoption has never been popular, as is attested by a current proverb, "never become adopted so long as you have at your disposal 3 *go* of rice bran" (*konuka san go motchya yoshi ni naruna*). This aversion for adoption seems to have increased of late years: a younger son is less disposed than ever to become the heir of another family unless he is closely related to it, or is under some special obligation. Nor is a family that has no heir more eager about the matter. The truth is that the recent sudden changes in the social and domestic systems of the country and the subsequent loosening of restraints, have so far undermined the manners of the people that it is now a very common thing to hear of a wealthy house brought to ruin by the prodigality of an adopted heir. It is no wonder, therefore, that considerable hesitation is felt before adopting a youth. When such a course is determined upon, should there be no eligible young man among the near relatives of the would-be adopter, a candidate of promise from among the younger sons of some poor family is selected and educated, and when the adopter is thoroughly convinced of the honesty and trustworthiness of the young man, the latter is wedded to a daughter of the house. In the highest circles where the perpetuation of the family is one of the gravest duties devolving upon its head, it is a common thing to adopt an heir even when there is no daughter of the house to be made his wife, and to hand over the estate to him in due time. This custom is also frequently followed in the houses of celebrated artists, in order to perpetuate the fame of the family.

Adoption is a very ancient custom in Japan, so ancient indeed that the orthodox Japanese annalists quote no less a personnage than Amaterasu-o-mikami as the earliest authority on the question. Omitting, however, any instances said to have occurred during remote antiquity, we come down to the time of the Emperor Mombu, in the second year of whose illustrious reign (702 A.D.), the celebrated body of laws known in history as the Taiho Code—the first of the kind ever drawn up in this country—was promulgated.

The Code established a fixed system of adoption and contained rules with respect to succession and inheritance. In the laws relating to the census it was provided that persons destitute of male issue should be permitted to adopt anyone above the 4th degree of consanguinity. The commentary on the Code, compiled under the auspices of Kiyowara Natsuno in 833 A.D., during the reign of the Emperor Junna (824-833 A.D.), says that as males were permitted to marry when they reached the age of 15, it was necessary for an adopted heir to be younger than his father-in-law by at least 15 years, and that unless this qualification in age were satisfied, no one, however closely related by consanguinity, could be adopted. Consequently, those eligible for the purpose of adoption were confined to the following: brothers, nephews, grandsons (consanguinity of 2nd grade); cousins, sons of uncles by different fathers, sons of wives or mistresses prior to cohabitation (consanguinity of 3rd grade); second cousins, grandsons of brothers, grandsons of uncles by different fathers, nephews on the maternal side, grandsons (consanguinity of 4th grade). Thus there were two qualifications necessary for eligibility in adoption, namely, age and consanguinity. One exception to this rule existed, namely, that a foundling under 3 years of age might be adopted and made an heir without any question of consanguinity. If a son of another family totally unconnected by blood was adopted as heir, the offence was punished with penal service for the space of one year, while the man that allowed his son to be adopted in that unlawful manner received 50 blows. An adopted heir had the same rights and obligations as the real issue, but laboured under some disability according to the official rank of his adopted father. Thus an adopted heir, the official rank of whose father by adoption was under the 5th grade, was precluded from enjoying the privilege of becoming a probationer and of receiving an honorary title. Such an heir was, therefore, obliged to undergo a civil service examination if he aspired to enter the ranks of officialdom. In all other respects, as regarded inheritance, for instance, an adopted heir enjoyed the same rights as those of the real issue. When, however, an heir was a son of a brother his treatment did not differ in any respect from that accorded to the real issue. In case a son was born after an heir had been adopted, that son was treated as a stepson. A distinction was made in the relative severity of punishment when an adopted heir was killed by his father-in-law and when an heir of his own flesh and blood was killed. The punishment in the former case was severer by one degree than that inflicted in the later.

No limit seems to have been enforced as to age when adoption was permissible, the restriction about age being confined to the provision about the relative age of a father-in-law and his heir. One noteworthy point about succession was that, whereas no less than three princesses ascended the throne prior to the drafting of the Code, daughters of subjects were precluded from enjoying the right of succession. For the period of about 5 centuries—during which time imperialism retained its sway either directly or indirectly through the intervention of the Fujiwara Family, which had almost exclusively supplied consorts to the court for many generations—regulations relating to adoption as set forth in the Code mentioned above were generally observed.

An important modification gradually took place with the transference of administrative power to military clans, namely, the inauguration of the custom of allowing a daughter of the house, in case there was no male issue, to succeed the family and to inherit its estate by contracting a marriage with a son of another family. The innovation was distinctly set forth in the Jyoyei statutes (1232 A.D.) compiled and proclaimed when Hojyo Yasutoki held the reins of administration.

During the latter stage of the Muromachi (Ashikaga) Administration, when the unity of the country had entirely vanished, the recognized usages of adoption like every other social institution, were thrown into great confusion, and were flagrantly abused for the purpose of compassing political ends. Oda Nobunaga and Toyotomi Hideyoshi resorted freely to this artifice. Thus when Nobunaga invaded and defeated Kitabatake Tomonori, Lord of Ise, and the latter sued for peace, he was obliged to adopt Nobunaga's second son as heir. Hideyoshi, among other innumerable instances, at one time intended that Mori Terumoto, a celebrated fore-father of the present illustrious house of Prince Mori, should

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adopt a nephew of his wife; but this plan was frustrated by Terumoto's nomination of one of his own nephews as heir. Apprehensive that Hideyoshi's displeasure might otherwise be incurred, Kobayakawa Takakage adopted the nephew of Hideyoshi's wife. Such abuses of the custom of adoption were due to ambitious designs upon the domains of others, or to schemes of personal aggrandisement. The restoration of peace by the establishment of the Tokugawa Regency on a firm basis, was naturally followed by a regular systematization of the usages of adoption. They were embodied in the "One Hundred Articles of the Regulations for the observance of *Samurai*," the fundamental statutes of the Tokugawa Regency. For purposes of succession, feudal lords and *samurai* were allowed to nominate male issue of half blood in case there was no legitimate son to succeed them. If the *pater-familias* died under the age of 15, his next brother was to succeed him; but in default of such a successor the house became extinct. In such a case adoption was forbidden. That restriction was prompted by a desire to weaken the power of barons. The above limit of age was due to the fact that in former times a male was considered to have come of age when he was 15 years old, so that when he died at that age he might have left offspring. In the "Regulations for the observance of *Samurai*," promulgated in the 3rd year of Kwanbun (1663 A.D.), it was expressly provided that when an heir was to be adopted a report must be sent to competent authorities while the head of the family was alive. An heir adopted immediately prior to the death of the head of family was not legally recognised, except in certain special cases. An heir to be adopted was to be selected from among younger brothers, nephews, cousins, and second cousins, all coming of the same family stock and bearing the same family name. In default of these, sons of the sisters of the family chief married into another house, or his younger brothers by a different father—provided that the father was of respectable position—were eligible.

Regulations for Adoption and Succession were issued in 1667 A.D., but they were materially the same as those previously in vogue. A special article, however, was appended, strictly forbidding the selection of an heir from a non-related family. It further enjoined that an heir be selected from the relatives on the maternal side, in case there was no one eligible among the paternal relatives, and ordered that a report be submitted when the choice was determined. It also contained strict warning against the practice of nominating an heir out of a family entirely unconnected by blood for the sake of money—a proceeding to be visited with severe punishment.

The rules concerning adoption and succession enforced by the Tokugawa Regency for more than a century previous to the time of the 5th Regent were far more stringent than those subsequently observed. This was entirely due to the Regency policy of lessening the number of powerful barons and centralizing the administrative power. In pursuance of that policy, no less than 130 barons, representing more than 13 million *koku* of fief, were declared extinct during that period. In place of them about 110 barons were newly established, but their aggregate fief did not exceed 5 million *koku*. The Sixth Regent adopted a more lenient policy and a new process for preserving the prestige of the Shogunate was devised, which consisted in causing feudal lords to apply for permission to adopt the Shogun's younger sons as heirs, even in cases where they had already heirs of their own. The latter were deposed on the pretext of imbecility. Some times even the lord himself was obliged to retire on one pretext or another, while he was still young, and a son of the Shogun or of a scion of the reigning family was installed in his place. Attempts to depose a legitimate heir on the ground of imbecility and so forth, and to nominate the favourite son of a favourite mistress of the head of the house were also frequent occurrences, and constituted one of the standing causes of trouble in a *daimyo's* household.

The Restoration produced no small change in the usages of adoption, though in the country those in vogue during the period of the Tokugawa Regency are still widely followed. In general, a ceremonial similar to that observed in taking a wife is customary at the adoption of an heir. A family of means is at liberty to adopt several sons and to cause them to establish distinct households of their own. In case of disinheriting an adopted son, a similiar procedure is generally followed to that taken when a husband divorces his wife. A son-in-law (*muko yoshi*) divorces his wife and thus severs his connection with the house of adoption. "Usages on Civil Matters," complied some time ago by the Department of Justice, mention some interesting customs that are, or were, prevalent in various parts of the country in connection with adoption.

In Minauchi District, Shinano Province, for instance, adoption is not considered permissible unless the would-be father is above 50 years of age. No other instance of the kind is known elsewhere in the country. To provide against domestic troubles incidental to the not improbable birth of a child in the adopting family after the adoption of an heir, it is customary, when anyone consents to become the heir of another house, to enter into an agreement as to the amount of estate to be handed over to him.

As regards the succession of sons-in-law, usage differs greatly according to localities. Thus in Nishi Hojyo, Mimasaku Province, a son-in-law is not allowed to succeed to the house until after a child has been born to him or his conduct has been closely watched for two or three years. When a son is adopted by another family, he is bound irrespective of age, to obey his parents by adoption just as if he were their real issue, and to apply himself to family affairs. He has no power over the estate until his installation as head of the family. Even afterwards, it is thought obligatory for him to ask the advice of the relatives when he intends disposing of any immovable property. The above case refers to the custom prevalent in Niri District, Chikugo Province.

In Miwa District, Awa Province, it is customary for the parents-in-law to establish themselves as a distinct household within a year or a year and a half of the time of adoption. In Ishikawa District, Kaga Province, when an estate is transferred to an adopted heir, he, as a rule, forwards a receipt, not to the father-in-law, but to the head-man of the village or town in which he resides.

Another interesting point about adoption is the dowry. In Yashiro District, Kai Province, an adopted heir generally holds certain acres of farm or forest land of his own, or brings a certain amount of ready money to the house of adoption. In Kanbara District, Echigo Province, an heir adopted from another house brings with him a large amount of ready money as dowry, generally on condition that his father-in-law retires from life and hands him over the estate. In some cases a contract is entered into between the adopter and the adopted, to the effect that the latter will give to the former a certain sum of money on his succession to the estate. Pending the consummation of this payment, interest on the stipulated sum is paid by the adopted heir. The custom in Takai District, Shinano Province, is for the real father to pay, during a period varying from three to five years, the expenses necessary for the maintenance of his son adopted into another house. Sometimes a *yoshi* holds certain acres of land of his own, but these belong to him, and his parents by adoption have no power over them. Another usage in vogue in Miyoshi District, Awa Province, is for a *yoshi* to bring with him two sorts of dowry on the occasion of his adoption, one called *miyage-kin* (gift money), which the heir is entitled to claim again if the adoption be dissolved and he return to his parental home; and another called *jisan-kin* (properly dowry) to which no such distinct right is recognized, though to claim its restoration is considered permissible.

Usages differ also as to the disposition of offspring born after a family has adopted an heir. Both in Toyora District, Nagato Province, and in Akita District, Ugo Province, even if offspring is born after the adoption of an heir, it is usual not to dissolve the adoption, but to treat the offspring as a younger brother of the adopted son. In the latter district, in a case of the kind, the younger son receives a quarter or a third of the estate, to enable him to set up a distinct household. Again, in Ishikawa District, Kaga Province, and also in Shinane District, Izumo Province, such offspring is adopted by the *yoshi* as his heir, and the estate is even handed over to him in due time though the heir by adoption may have issue of his own. When the offspring is a girl, she is generally made to set up a new branch house by marrying. The usage prevalent in Mii District, Chikugo Province, with regard to the case under consideration differs widely from any given above. An heir by adoption is, it is true, nominated as head of the family, but as to the estate the adopter is at liberty to endow his own children with seven parts out of ten, leaving only three parts as the share of the adopted son. The father is, moreover, entitled either to give his offspring to another family or to cause him to set up a distinct household.

The dissolution of adoption, in consequence of difficulties between an adopter and adopted, or for other causes, is a recognized practice and is universally resorted to in almost every locality. There are one or two exceptions, however. In Kawakita District, Kaga Province, for instance, when once the estate has been handed over to the adopted son, on no ground is the adopter permitted to dissolve the relation. Consequently, when the adopter and adopted find it impossible to live altogether in peace, it is customary for them to divide the estate and to live separately. In Miura District, Awa Province, when an adopted heir conducted himself in a discreditable manner, it was usual for his father-in-law to cause him to sever his connection with the house, the father-in-law being himself obliged to submit to a similar arrangement, *mutatis mutandis*. This custom is, however, now almost obsolete.

When adoption is dissolved, the dowry brought by the adopted son is generally carried back by him. Of the children born of the adopted son and his wife, the boys as a rule go with him, and the girls remain in the house. This is the custom prevalent in Kamakura District, Sagami Province. In Hanishima District, Shinano Province, a contract is entered into between the adopter and the adopted, a go-between standing as surety, to the effect that in case it is found impossible for the two to live together peaceably the latter shall be returned to his home.

The above are the rules and usages in vogue in olden times and to some extent in the present day. The custom is, however, considerably deranged now that most of the social and domestic institutions are in a transition stage. Until a few years ago, conscription was the most potent factor in creating disorder. The old conscription regulations excluded an heir from the service, and hence every young man who had an elder brother to succeed to the house eagerly sought to be adopted into a family that had none. A vacant heirship was competed for by several candidates, with the result that it came to be bought and sold. It was a golden time for poor widowed parents with no heir to support them. The relations between them and their would be heirs were, however, very slight, being cut off as soon as the danger of conscription was avoided. Adoption was effected in a very simple manner; namely, by merely transferring their census register to the adopting houses, though they themselves continued to live under their parental roof. When this connection was to be dissolved, the register was simply re-transferred to its original place in the census record. The amendment of the regulations entirely put an end to this scandalous mode of adoption, for since then every male, when he reaches the age of 20, is obliged, whether he be an heir or not, to enter the military service, provided that he be physically qualified for it and the lot fall to him. "Conscription Adoption," as it was termed in those days, though unquestionably a gross outrage on the usage of adoption, preserved one semblance of decency, namely that the ages of the adopter and adopted were in almost every case at a reasonable distance. Even this custom is set at naught by another outrageous mode of adoption which the elections to Local Assemblies and especially to the Diet have called into existence. Various are the shifts and contrivances resorted to by politicians desirous of entering Parliament in order to make themselves eligible. Among the most popular modes of effecting this, followed by an aspirant who finds the election district where he is registered already occupied by powerful candidates, or who has no means to show the necessary qualification, is to become heir of a wealthy house. Taking advantage of the absence of any law of adoption, he does not allow himself to be deterred by any scruples, and it frequently happens that an adopter is far younger than the ostensible heir. As such an aspirant only becomes adopted when the time of election approaches, and dissolves the relation as soon as the necessity for it ceases, it is not infrequent for him to have his name changed several times within a few years.

We append below a few articles bearing on adoption that were embodied in the Book on the Law of Persons of the Civil Code issued about five years ago, the enforcement of which was deferred indefinitely, owing to the objections raised against it by the public. The Code, and another not yet in force, will become operative prior to July, 1899, when the Revised Treaties between Japan and Great Britain and the United States of America and Japan are to go into operation.

Art. 106.—No person can adopt another unless he or she is older than one who is to be adopted, and a major.

Any person having the legal capacity to make a will can adopt by will.

Art. 107.—Any person having a son to succeed to the *katoku* (headship of a house) cannot adopt.

Art. 111.—Any person that has become the *koshu* (*pater-familias*) by succession to the *katoku* cannot be adopted by another house. A presumptive heir to the *katoku* is also unqualified for adoption.

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Art. 112.—A foreigner cannot be adopted by a Japanese.

Art. 113.—Adoption is made with the consent of both parties. This consent is given by the celebration of the formalities of adoption in the presence of two witnesses in conformity with usage. * *

Art. 115.—The adoption of a child that has not attained the full age of fifteen years can be made with the consent of the father and mother of the child. * * * *

Art. 116.—Any person who has attained the full age of fifteen years can consent to adoption with the permission of the father and mother. * * *

Art. 121.—In respect to the adoption of *mukoyoshi* (an adoption made with a view to marriage with a daughter of the adopting house) the parties shall, at the time of stating the marriage, acquaint the civil official with their intention to make such adoption. Where the conditions required for such adoption are wanting, the civil official can stop the celebration of marriage. Such adoption comes into existence by the celebration of marriage.

Art. 134.—The adopted child has from the day of adoption the rights and duties of a legitimate child of the adopting house.

Art. 135.—The adopted child has the right of ownership of the profits acquired by carrying on business separately and of the property originally held by him or her or acquired by succession, donations, or legacies. * * *

Art. 137.—The adopter and adopted can dissolve the adoption by mutual consent. * * *

Art. 140.—The dissolution of adoption can only be demanded for the following causes:—

1. Outrages, threats, desertion, or grave insults committed by the adopted towards the descendants in the adopting house or by them towards the adopted;
2. Punishment for crimes;
3. Punishment of major imprisonment for one year or more for the offence of theft or swindling;
4. Prodigality.

Art. 145—The dissolution of adoption cannot be effected after the adopted has succeeded to the *katoku*.

Art. 147.—An adopted child whose adoption has been dissolved can demand, without regard to the presence or absence of his or her fault, only such property as is owned by him or her, except that which has been consumed by the adopting house.

THE FOREIGN COMMERCE OF JAPAN.

The Consul General for Japan in London, Mr. Gonsuke Hayashi, delivered an address on the "Foreign Commerce of Japan" before the London Chamber of Commerce on the 12th of June last, in the Hall of the Salters' Company, St. Swithin's Lane, London, E.C.

Sir Albert K. Rollit, LL.D., M.P., the President of the London Chamber of Commerce, occupied the Chair. There was a numerous and brilliant attendance, including representatives of the Diplomatic and Consular Services (amongst whom was His Excellency Takeaki Kato, the Japanese Minister at the Court of St. James), Members of Parliament, and London merchants. The Japan Society and the Japanese Colony in London were fully represented.

After having been formally introduced to his audience by the President, the lecturer proceeded as follows:—

The subject of my paper, as was announced, is "The Foreign Commerce of Japan." At present everything connected with the Far East is absorbing the attention of European thinkers, and it will not be without a certain interest if I attempt to dwell on a more peaceful side of the question of the Far East, namely, the Commerce of Japan. You may regard the Japanese as a skillful people, and as successful competitors to your producers; but, on the other hand, the Japanese are a people who do not hesitate to buy anything from abroad that may be useful to them, and, in fact, they are among the best customers of Western producers, especially of English manufacturers. Again, the progress which Japan has made industrially and commercially is, yet, very modest; and there is a vast and vigorous future, full of hope and promise, for the development of which your energy and the help of your surplus money are eagerly awaited.

FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN BEFORE TREATY RELATIONS WITH WESTERN POWERS WERE OPENED.

What was the condition of the foreign trade of Japan before 1854, when she entered for the first time into the comity of nations by concluding treaties with the United States of America, Great Britain, and Russia? The foreign trade of Japan up to that time had been confined to the Dutch, Chinese, and Koreans, and under very strict regulations and narrow limitations. Nagasaki was the only channel through which the insignificant trade with the Dutch and Chinese was allowed to be carried on, while the still more insignificant trade with Korea was carried on at Fusan, at present the largest port of Korea, and at Izugahara, a port in the Island of Tsushima. We may fairly say that the country was entirely closed until 1854.

The policy of shutting up the country from foreign intercourse was adopted by Iyemitsu, the third Shogun, sometimes called Tycoon, of the Tokugawa Government, in the years between 1634 and 1639. This was principally due to the policy of the rulers of those times in expelling the Portuguese from the country. The Portuguese had then a considerable trade with Japan, had even a settlement of their own at Nagasaki, called Deshima. With them Christianity was introduced into Japan, and many converts were made, including even some of the powerful feudal chiefs or Daimios. The Dutch had also a considerable trade with Japan; and, owing to jealousy or other reasons, they informed the Tokugawa Government that the attempt to Christianise the country was but a step towards their ultimate aims. The Tokugawa Government had come into power after a long period of internal warfare, and an unsuccessful and expensive invasion of Korea. Peace was therefore the first object of the Government, which did not wish to see any political difficulty with foreign powers created. The Government, which had been informed of the aggressive designs of the Portuguese, had consequently taken steps on several occasions to discourage Christianity, until finally, seeing no other effective means, they had to adopt extreme measures. The Portuguese were either expelled or persecuted. They were prohibited to enter or trade with Japan. Not satisfied with this, the Government used every means to prevent foreign intercourse. The Dutch were the only people of the West who were allowed to trade with Japan, because they were not Catholics, as the Portuguese were; but even this voluntary concession to the Dutch was confined to the narrowest possible limits, and the foreign trade of Japan thus received a fatal blow from her own rulers.

It was really a fatal blow, because the foreign trade of Japan, before these strictly prohibitive measures were adopted, had begun to be in a fair way to make progress. Iyeyasu, the founder of the Tokugawa Government, came into power at the beginning of the seventeenth century. He was as able a statesman as Japan had ever had, and to promote foreign trade was one of the objects of his enlightened policy. With regard to Korea, he tried every effort to re-establish friendly and commercial relations with her; and the Prince of Tsushima, the feudal chief of the island of the same name, was made a medium in carrying out this policy. This was rather a difficult mission, because it was not long after the destructive and unsuccessful invasion of that country; but the effort was successful, and the opening of the port of Fusan to Japanese settlement and trade was the result. The Loo-Chew Islands were subdued in the year 1608 by the Prince of Satsuma, the feudal chief of the province bearing that name, which will be familiar to some of you, because you had a naval engagement there in 1863. It was intended by Iyeyasu to use the influence of the chief of the Islands to re-open commercial intercourse with China. In those times there were a number of comparatively large vessels that traded with foreign countries. They were called "Goshuin-Buné," meaning "licensed vessels." In the year 1616 they numbered about two hundred. These ships traded with China, Siam, Tonquin, Annam, Formosa, Philippine Islands, Java, &c., &c. Some of these vessels were said to be as large as forty yards long and eighteen yards wide, and to have taken at one time about three hundred passengers on board. In Siam, there were, it is said, about seven hundred Japanese residents. Let us just glance at what was going on in England at the corresponding period. If I remember rightly the history of those times, you were then actively engaged in colonising a part of North America, and also in extending your trade to the coasts of the Mediterranean and India. It is a curious coincidence that the same activity shown by your ancestors was also displayed by our own. It is to be regretted that, while you have continued to progress, our forward movement had received a check for more than two hundred years.

Well, if I have dwelt too long on the past history of Japan, it is because I want to explain to some extent that the apparent inactivity of Japan, in which state she had remained for a long time almost secluded from the rest of the world, knowing nothing about what had been going on outside the country, was not the true characteristic of the people. It was merely a rest, a long sound sleep. It is no wonder, then, that Japan, when she received a rude shock forty years ago, was able to rise again with fresh strength of life.

DEVELOPMENT OF FOREIGN TRADE OF MODERN JAPAN.

In order to show the development of the foreign trade of modern Japan, I will make the year 1868 the starting point, because at the very beginning of that year the Government of Tokugawa, which had lasted more than two hundred and fifty years, was abolished, and the Government of Japan was at the same time restored to the Imperial authority. It is not my business now to dwell upon the causes which produced this remarkable change in the history of Japan; but I will only state here that the sudden appearance of Commodore Perry in 1853, and soon after this the pressure exercised by the Powers of Europe to open up the country which had enjoyed its self-imposed secluded life, were the immediate causes which led to the political change just referred to. This pressure was no doubt more keenly felt than the combined pressure recently exercised upon my country by certain great military powers of Europe. But Japan was able to get the better of the shock out of which an entirely new order of things has since been evolved.

When Japan awoke to the necessity of opening up the country to foreign intercourse, the whole nation saw that they were, as a nation, immensely behind when compared with most of the Western Powers, and they determined to make up the gross neglect of the past. It is satisfactory to notice that this determination has, so far, been successful in regard to foreign trade as in other matters. The following table shows how rapidly the volume of foreign trade of Japan has grown from the insignificant figure of yen 26,246,545 in the year 1868, to yen 230,728,042 in 1894.

TABLE SHOWING FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN DURING THE TWENTY-SEVEN YEARS FROM 1868-1894.

Year.	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
1868.	15,553,472·87	10,693,071·79	26,246,544·66
1869	12,908,977·99	20,783,633·09	33,692,611·08
1870.	14,543,012·51	33,741,637·36	48,284,649·87
1871.	17,968,608·66	21,916,727·65	39.885.336·31
1872.	17,026,647·22	26,174,814·93	43,201,462·15
1873.	21,635,440·85	28,107,390·03	49,742,830·88
1874.	19,317,306·09	23,461,814·40	42,779,120·49
1875.	18,611,110·61	29,975,627·62	48,586,738·23
1876.	27,711,527·50	23,964,678·96	51,676,206·46
1877.	23,348,521·60	27,420,902·95	50,769,404·55
1878.	25,988,140·28	32,874,834·17	58,862,974·45
1879.	28,175,770·19	32,953,002·39	61,128,772·58
1880.	28,395,386·66	36,626,601·00	65.021,987 66
1881.	31,058,887·93	31,191,246·02	62,250,133·95
1882.	37,721,750·57	29,446,593·98	67,168,344·55
1883.	36,268,019·59	28,444,841·78	64,712,861·37
1884.	33,871,465·50	29,672,647·45	63,544,112 95
1885.	37,146,691·43	29,356,967·92	66,503,659·35
1886.	48,876,312·79	32,168,432·26	81,044,745·05
1887.	52,407,681·15	44,304,251.69	96,711,932·84
1888.	65.705,510·21	65,455,234·01	131,160,744·22
1889.	70,060,705·82	66,103,766 60	136,164,472·42
1890.	56,603,506·03	81,728,580·50	138,332,086·53
1891.	79,527,272·34	62,927,268·38	142,454,540·72
1892.	91,102,753·63	71,362,079·50	162,428,833·13
1893.	89,712,864·59	88,257,171·71	177,970,036·30
1894.	113,246,086·15	117,481,955·49	230,728,041·61

You will see from the above table that the growth of the foreign trade of Japan, both in imports and exports, has not only been rapid, but, generally speaking, regular and steady, more particularly of recent years. One more point to notice in these figures is the balance of trade. The balance had generally been against Japan up to the year 1881, that is to say, the imports had been greater than the exports; but since that year the balance has been, with only the two exceptions of 1890 and 1894, to the credit of Japan. I suppose many of you have read an interesting article on "The Commercial Development of Japan," by Mr. J. H. Gubbins, Secretary to the British Legation at Tokyo. It appeared in the October number of *The Chamber of Commerce Journal*, 1894. The figures I have given above are somewhat different from those given in his article, but both sets of figures agree in showing the general tendency to a rapid and steady growth of trade. As to the supposed errors in statistics, and the changes of method in the compilation of returns at the Customs of Japan, I refer you to his able paper.

It will be interesting just to compare the volume of foreign trade of Japan with that of the neighbouring Empire of China. China has, not including Manchuria, Mongolia, Tibet, Eastern Turkistan, &c., about ten times as large an area, and ten times as large a population, as that of Japan, and she has a greater number of ports opened to foreign trade than Japan has, numbering twenty.

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Notwithstanding this larger area and population, this greater number of open ports, and supposed boundless resources (and no doubt they are immense), China's foreign trade last year (1894),—in which year the volume of trade amounted to the highest figure ever attained, as was the case with Japan,—was in Mexican dollars, which are equivalent to silver *yen*, only 443,563,577, not quite double the amount of the foreign trade of Japan in the corresponding year. Again, the rate of the growth of foreign trade of Japan has been greater than that of China, though I will not trouble you with dry satistics on this point.

I entirely agree with Mr. Gubbins, that the rapid development of the commerce of Japan is largely due to "the enterprise and perseverance of the foreign merchants" resident in Japan, who numbered at the beginning of 1894 little over 4,000, together with many other people who are not merchants (Chinese are not included in this number). But the development is still more largely due, no doubt, to the rapid increase of both the producing and the buying power of the people, favoured by the improved system of roads and other means of communication, extension of railways, and the development of the coasting traffic. According to the latest statistics, there are over 2,000 miles of railway open to traffic; these are owned by the Government and fifteen railway companies. As to the shipping of Japan, there was a paper read before "The Japan Society" by Dr. Elgar, a very able paper, which attracted the attention of the British public. There is one more factor which favoured the increase of the producing power of Japan, namely, the depreciation of silver. But even without this depreciation of silver, I am of opinion that Japan has still been able to increase her producing power, on account of the cheap and abundant supply of coal and labour, and of the easy access to her principal markets. With regard to gold-using countries, the reasoning that Japan's export trade has been favoured by the depreciation of silver alone does not apply generally, for we had an instance of an enormous decrease of exports to the United States of America, in 1893, caused, no doubt, by the disturbance of the economic affairs there in consequence of the violent fluctuations in silver.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF EXPORT AND IMPORT.

The chief articles of import are generally known as: kerosine oil, mousseline de laine, Italian cloth, sugar, raw cotton, cotton yarn, shirtings, arms, machinery, instruments, &c., and metals and manufactures of the same.

With all but the first two items of these imports, England or her colonies have great concern.

KEROSINE OIL.—The importation of kerosine oil has steadily increased. The amount imported in 1894 was 55,643,719 gallons, valued at *yen* 5,135,000, figures never reached before. In the last two or three years, Russian oil has been bought in bulk, and the oil from the United States of America, which still has the far greater share in the trade, has to compete with it. The demand for kerosine oil in Japan has increased not only for ordinary use, but also for the purpose of preserving the cultivated fields from the injuries of insects, thus taking the place of camphor, which had been used for the purpose.

MOUSSELINE DE LAINE.—Of this article France is the principal supplier. It is chiefly imported in its plain form, and the printing of it is done in Osaka or in Kyoto; an industry which has recently sprung up in those localities. The quantity imported in 1894 was 19,042,850 yards, valued at *yen* 3,151,000; greater both in quantity and in value than the previous year.

ITALIAN CLOTH.—England has the largest share in the import trade in this article. Among sundry other purposes, this is used for making cheap umbrellas. The quantity imported in 1894 was 6,481,638 yards, valued at *yen* 1,760,000, of which imports the share than by England was 6,348,086 yards, valued at *yen* 1,706,000. These figures are a little over those of the previous year.

SUGAR.—The increase of the imports of sugar, both white and brown, has been steady, with the exception of one or two years. White sugar is brought from China and the Philippine Islands. Imports of sugar in 1894 were:—

White Sugar	*Catty	109,343,475
	Yen	8,690,000
Brown Sugar	Catty	113,806,711
	Yen	4,562,000

* A Catty is 1⅓ pound.

If the direct traffic of Japan with the Island of Formosa is opened, I think that sugar refining will become one of chief industries of that island.

RAW COTTON.—The reason of the rapid increase of the import trade of raw cotton into Japan is already well known to the English public so that it scarcely needs any further explanation. So long as the imports of cotton spinning machinery, which will be treated elsewhere, continue to increase, the imports of raw cotton will also continue to increase, unless checked by some unexpected cause which might affect the spinning industry of Japan. The following figures will show you the imports of cotton for the last three years, with the respective amount of imports from China, the United States, and India out of the total.—

IMPORTS OF RAW COTTON.

		1892.	1893.	1894.
From China	quantity (catty)	32,721,488	30,283,891	52,783,548
	value (yen)	4,820,072	7,806,000	8,120,417
„ U.S.A	„	9,185,290	6,160,340	22,056,816
„ „	„	1,435,862	1,273,492	2,680,672
„ India	„	36,213,191	36,392,406	42,354,246
Other countries	„	4,691,770	6,052,048	7,846,589
Total ...	„	78,647,573	93,835,718	108,415,609
	„	11,026,637	15,294,898	19,103,923

COTTON YARN.—Owing to the growth of the cotton-spinning industry in Japan, the decrease of the imports of cotton yarn was considerable from the year 1888 up to the year 1892, in which year the imports showed a slight increase. Since 1892, although we have seen the fall of imports in quantity, the imports in value, notwithstanding the fall in imports in the aggregate quantity, may be accounted for by the comparative increase of the imports of yarn of finer counts, which is, of course, dearer than that of the lower counts, and partly from the rise of the price of yarn itself in the producing countries, caused by the depreciation of silver, and other local causes. The imports of this article for the last three years are as follows, showing the respective shares of imports from Bombay and England out of the total.—

		1892.	1893.	1894.
From Bombay	quantity (catty).	8,258,369	4,865,040	2,333,625
	value (yen)	1,814,393	1,243,103	687,556
From England	quantity (catty).	16,048,317	14,527,812	23,606,172
	value (yen)	5,316,082	6,033,005	7,288,690
Total	quantity (catty).	24,308,491	19,405,352	25,942,707
	value (yen)	7,132,980	7,284,243	7,977,366

SHIRTINGS.—Gray shirtings are the most important among the imports under this head, and England is the country that supplies almost the whole. The imports of this article were largest in 1879, since which year the imports have been very fluctuating. But in the last few years the trade has had a tendency to revive, the figures of the last three years being as follows:—

	Yards.	Yen.
1892	32,966,223	1,727,186
1893	38,970,851	2,315,124
1894	41,439,972	2,935,034

ARMS, MACHINERY, INSTRUMENTS, ETC.—Imports under this head have steadily increased, and very likely will continue to increase. The figures, in round numbers, of the imports of the last three years are as follows:—

	Yen.
1892	4,113,000
1893	6,036,000
1894	15,990,000

Steam vessels, spinning machinery, and locomotive engines were the three principal imports under this head, their respective imports being as follows:—

	1892. No. 8.	1893. No 12.	1894. No. 38.
	Value (yen)		
Steam Vessels	431,875	865,428	8,202,549
Spinning Machinery.	354,624	1,912,013	2,858,321
Locomotive Engines.	200,418	356.534	1,580,273

From the above figures it will be seen that the enormous increase of imports of this class last year was due to a number of steam vessels transferred to the Japanese in that year. Out of 38 vessels, 32 were bought from British owners; and as this demand was caused, no doubt, by the war with China, this increase may be regarded as abnormal. As to the other items of imports, spinning machinery and locomotive engines, the English share in 1894 was respectively, yen 2,785,825 and 989,625, the former being nearly the whole of the imports and the latter little more than 60 per cent.

METALS AND MANUFACTURES OF THE SAME.—The import trade under this class, which had declined since 1888, began to increase after the year 1892, the following being the figures of imports for the last three years:—

	Yen.
1892	3,715,689
1893	5,367,126
1894	9,178,769

The imports in 1894 of the more important articles under this head are as follows:—

	Catty.	Yen.
Pig-iron	61,081,416	743,553
Iron, Bar and Rod	46,839,223	1,339,034
Iron, Plate and Sheet..	22,204,212	726,739
Rails	57,772,865	1,209,205
Iron Nails	25,320,959	1,332,638
Steel	4,985,909	362,366
Iron Pipes and Tubes.	—	484,086
Tin Plates	—	296,285

Of these, iron nails come mostly from Germany, while the share of England and Belgium, taken together, amounts to only about one-third or one-fourth of the whole imports. Iron, bar and rod, is imported from England, Germany, and Belgium, but the increase in this import trade is mostly noted from Belgium and Germany. Plate and sheet-iron is supplied from England and Belgium. Rail is imported mostly from England, and to a slight extent from Germany and Belgium. Pig-iron, steel, iron pipes and tubes, and tin-plates are imported mostly from England. If England has competitors in the import trade of metals into Japan, they are, no doubt, Germany and Belgium.

To the articles already enumerated as the principal imports, I will add here one or two more, namely wool and rice. I speak of wool because its import trade, though yet insignificant, has become a promising one; and of rice, because I think you had no idea that Japan has become its great importer.

WOOL.—There are several woollen factories in Japan, where woollen cloths and blankets, mostly for the use of the army, and such textiles as flannels, travelling rugs, shawls, &c., are made, to a certain extent, mostly for the home markets. Woollen yarn is not yet made in those mills; yarn being imported, not from England, but mostly from Germany, a country which is noted for making cheaper and apparently better articles. Wool is mostly imported into Japan from Australia, and to a less extent from England, China, and British India. The imports for the last three years were as follows:—

	Catty.	Yen.
1892	843,233	302,502
1893	1,140,275	425,120
1894	1,485,526	567,192

RICE.—Japan has imported rice within the last five years, from 1890 to 1894, in quantity 11,802,619 piculs,* and in value 29,931,766 silver yen; therefore, with the yearly average in quantity and value of 2,360,524 piculs and 5,986,353 silver yen respectively. The quantity of rice imported far exceeds the quantity of rice exported in the same period. The import trade in rice, just as its export trade, has been fluctuating, but the importance of the trade lies in its being a regulating factor of the price of rice in the home market. It is a well-known fact that rice is a chief article of food in Japan, but its produce depends much upon the mercy of Nature, and hence a sudden rise of price has often occurred. The imports of rice, therefore, from the countries where it is cheaper, and abundantly produced—from Siam, French India, China, and Korea—have proved a great benefit to the labourers and poorer classes in Japan, and indirectly to the trade in general. At the same time, it is fortunate that no cry has been raised by the farmers in Japan against foreign competition.

Let me turn now to the chief articles of export from Japan.

SILK.—The greater bulk of silk exported from Japan is going over to the United States of America. France is the next country which takes silk from Japan. The English share in this trade is almost insignificant, while I fancy that a certain amount of silk exported from Japan finds its way every year to the English market, not in its raw state, but as manufactured goods from France. The value of silk exported in 1894 was yen 42,892,751, a little over one-third the whole value of exports.

SILK PIECE GOODS.—The export trade of silk piece goods last year was very active. The amount exported was more than double that exported in 1893, the greater bulk being absorbed by the United States. The exports of these goods for the last three years were:—

	Yen.
1892	4,434,178
1893	4,074,993
1894	8,430,001

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS.—The export trade of silk handkerchiefs has, like that of silk piece goods, grown to a considerable amount. Great Britain is becoming one of the great customers for this article, and next only to the United States of America. Out of the aggregate amount of 1,435,674 dozen which was exported in 1894, America took 834,746 doz., and England 177,248, the remainder being distributed among sundry other countries. Of the total amount of yen 3,628,129, the English share was yen 569,853, or a little over 15 per cent.

RICE.—This export trade, is affected by the yield of the harvests, not only at home, but in the other rice-producing countries, a chief reason of fluctuations often seen in this trade; but in the last three years it has been a comparatively satisfactory one. England is the largest consumer of rice exported from Japan. Hongkong has apparently a greater share, but rice goes there only to be re distributed

* A picul = 133⅓ pounds.

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to several other parts of the world. The following figures show the share England takes in the whole export trade :—

	Total.		England.	
	piculs.	yen.	piculs.	yen.
1892	2,216,666	4,162,452	226,517	786,485
1893	1,588,538	5,001,158	293,280	688,158
1894	1,452,129	5,593,152	307,004	1,273,364

Tea.—The export of tea from Japan consists mostly of green tea, and the most of it goes to the United States and Canada. It is curious to notice that your sister people across the Atlantic take a fancy to green, while you here mostly stick to black tea. The value of tea exported in the last three years respectively was :—

	Yen.
1892	7,525,316
1893	7,702,088
1894	7,930,287

Of this value, in 1894, the United States of America took yen 6,267,365, and British America 1,460,517.

Copper.—China and England are the largest customers of this article. The exports of the last three years of copper (ingot, slab, sheet, &c.) were as follows :—

	Catty.	Yen.
1892	29,966,009	4,863,822
1893	25,530,209	4,569,229
1894	25,404,092	4,900,753

Dried Fish and other Marine Products.—China furnishes a great market for these products, in which we have a large export trade. Shrimps, cuttle-fish, shell-fish, *beche de mer*, shark's fin, and sea-weeds are among the principal exports.

Coal.—The exports of coal from Japan for the last three years were as follows :—

	Tons.	Yen.
1892	648,422	2,207,610
1893	829,667	2,647,084
1894	1,031,153	3,917,266

Besides these exports, coal supplied for ships' use amounted yearly to 400,000 tons. The markets for Japanese coal are mostly China and Hongkong, which latter place is a great shipping centre of the East, but of late Japanese coal is finding its market further south in the Philippine Islands and the Straits Settlements. The increase of this export trade has especially been noted in the last two years; favoured, I believe, to a certain extent, by the great coal strike in England the year before last, and by the fluctuations of exchange, which no doubt checked, more or less, the export of coal to the Eastern markets from England or from Australia.

Cotton Yarns and Cotton Textiles.—The yearly increase of the produce of yarns at a number of mills which have sprung up rapidly in Japan has mostly been for supplying the home market, but of recent years Japan has become, though yet to a very insignificant extent, an exporter of the article, chiefly to China; and the only check to the growth of this export trade will be the introduction of the industry into China herself. Exports of cotton yarn of the last three years were as follows :—

	Catty.	Yeu
1892	32,754	7,720
1893	315,993	59,176
1894	3,538,868	955,530

We have also seen the rapid increase of the export trade of cotton textiles, especially of recent years, China and India being the chief markets. These exports for the last three years were as follows :—

	Yen.
1892	598,032
1893	1,241,813
1894	1,994,750

Perhaps they are cheaper than even the cheap German articles of a similar description.

The export trade in cheap carpets, made of mixed cotton and hemp, has also grown up, the chief market being the United States of America. Last year (1894) the export of carpets of this description amounted to 540,091, valued at yen 1,134,073.

Articles classed as Sundries.—There are many articles under this head, the more important of which are, for instance, matches, mats, straw-plaits, umbrellas, porcelain and earthenware, lacquered ware, glass ware, paper ware and paper leather, fans, screens, wood ware, bamboo ware, &c. The figures of exports of these, together with many other minute items, for the last three years, are as follows :—

	1892.	1893.	1894.
Value (yen)	9,749,197	12,968,366	14,223,544

Besides the articles already enumerated, there are such exports as paper, camphor, drugs, fish oil, vegetable wax, &c.

One general remark in connection with the subject of export and import trade is this, that the growth of import trade is more conspicuous in the imports of raw material than in the case of manufactured articles (except the imports of machinery, ships, &c.), and that the increase of export trade is chiefly noticeable in the exports of manufactured articles, a sure sign of the healthy development of industrial power of the people.

TRADE WITH GREAT BRITAIN AND HER COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS.

Below I give you the figures for the last three years :—(1) Of the amount of trade of Japan with several important countries trading with her; (2) of the import and export trade of Japan with Great Britain; (3) the same with Hongkong; and (4) the same with other British Colonies and Possessions. The figures are all in silver yen.

(1)

	1892. Yen.	1893. Yen.	1894. Yen.
Great Britain..	24,711,085	32,925,603	48,140,072
Hongkong ...	20,274,263	23,956,946	25,199,199
Other Colonies & Possessions	11,207,900	14,096,968	18,138,518
U.S.A.	44,663,025	33,829,867	54,306,116
China	18,868,270	24,810,395	26,325,490
France	21,714,194	22,837,253	23,846,824
Germany	7,315,831	8,698,174	9,427,091
Italy	1,322,011	1,718,486	3,070,729
Russia	1,421,091	2,492,952	2,194,123
Total	162,428,833	177,970,036	230,728,042

Great Britain :— (2)

	Imports from. Yen.	Exports to. Yen.	Total. Yen.
1892	20,789,332·07	3,921,752·83	24,711,085
1893	27,929,628·47	4,995,974·46	32,925,603
1894	42,189,873·62	5,950,197·94	48,140,072

Hongkong :— (3)

1892	6,985,722·57	13,288,540·08	20,274,363
1893	8,268,071·13	15,688,874·71	23,956,946
1894	8,999,718·10	16,199,480·73	25,199,199

Other Colonies and Possession :—(4)

1892	7,965,415·42	3,242,354·71	11,207,900
1893	9,014,692·35	5,082,276·02	14,096,968
1894	11,140,606·49	6,997,911·23	18,138,518

The share taken by Great Britain, not including the shares taken by her colonies and possessions, in contributing to the total foreign trade of Japan, was 15 per cent. in 1892, 18 per cent. in 1893, and 21 per cent. in 1894. The share of her colonies and possessions was 19 per cent. in 1894. The percentages of other countries in those three years were respectively as follows :—

The United States of America	27	per cent.	19	and	23½
China	11⅓	per cent.	14	and	11
France	13	per cent.	12-13	and	10-11
Germany	4½	per cent.	5	and	4

Thus we see, speaking of the last three years, that Great Britain was the only one, among the countries above mentioned, whose trade with Japan increased, not only volume but in percentage also; a matter of great satisfaction.

Trade with Hongkong is growing steadily. No doubt more than half the amount of the trade either passes to, or comes from China, but still Honkong enjoys its increasing prosperity by its being a shipping and distributing centre. Among the other colonies or possessions of Great Britain, Canada, like the United States of America, is one of the best customers of Japan, while India and Australia are getting more closely connected with Japan, with a promising future, in supplying her with cotton and wool, and taking from her sundry articles in return.

With regard to the trade between Japan and England, it must be said that England is the greatest contributor to Japan's import trade, nearly 36 per cent. of the total imports in 1894 being supplied by England alone. England may suffer a little in her export to Japan of cotton goods, but that she will gain in other branches of her exports is plain enough if the statistics of the last few years speak the truth. A fear that the manufactures of Japan "are driving Western producers from the field" is only a dream, and I believe that the position of England towards Japan, as the greatest contributor to her import trade, will be maintained for years to come. For the materials for railways, which are still to be largely extended; for the materials for telegraphic lines or submarine cables, which latter are almost sure to be laid down between Formosa and the Loo-Choo on the one hand, and Japan on the other; for the materials for many engineering and mining works which are to be done, not only in Japan, but in the newly-acquired Island of Formosa; for ships, both merchant and war vessels, especially large ones, of which we want many more in the near future, and for the construction of which ship-yards in Japan are not yet sufficiently developed; for machinery of sundry descriptions which Japan is not able to make, and the introduction of which is needed in order to develop or improve her innumerable industries; for all these, to what foreign country will Japan come and look? No doubt to the market where they are made best and cheapest. And if feeling has anything to do in connection with the international trade, Japan will choose, other things being equal, to come to the country which has earned her best esteem. It scarcely needs saying that I refer to England.

A NEW COMMERCIAL ERA FOR JAPAN.

For the last twenty years or more the question of the revision of treaties, which Japan was forced to conclude with the Powers of Europe and the United States at the beginning of the last half of this century, has occupied the foremost position in questions before every Cabinet of Japan, and its solution has been the principal national end. More than one Minister of State who occupied the post of Foreign Secretary lost the position in connection with this question. Viscounts Mutsu and Aoki are to be highly congratulated on their success in this connection by concluding the treaty with Great Britain last July; but, at the same time, Japan should never forget, nor will she forget, the goodwill shown by the Government and people of this country in concluding with her this new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation.

Yes, we have heard so much about the goodwill which was no doubt heartily received, and will long be remembered in Japan. But the new treaty is based, not only upon the principles of equity, but upon those of mutual benefit. This benefit will be, in my opinion, not only great on the part of Japan, but on the part of the party who showed the goodwill. I will here only summarise those points which are interesting to those concerned in the trade of Japan. As to the particulars of advantages which the new treaty provides, I refer you to the treaty itself, the full text of which was published a long time ago and is within the reach of everybody. Hitherto, you were allowed to reside and trade only at certain prescribed spots of Japan, where you remained happy and contented. But if you once know that the whole breadth and length of Japan, from the Island of Yesso in the north down to the Island of Formosa in the south, is to be opened to you in the near future, you will, I hope, recognise the change as an immensely agreeable and profitable one. You may, then, not only travel and reside in any part of Japan you like, but may engage in trade and industry on a spot of your own choice. There you may "own or hire and occupy the houses, manufactories, warehouses, shops, and premises . . . . and lease land for residential and commercial purposes . . . ." To such places or ports in the Dominion of Japan which are or may be opened to foreign commerce, you may freely come with your ships or cargoes. As to warehousing, bounties, drawbacks, and facilities, you are to be placed exactly on the same footing as Japanese subjects; and so it is as to the protection of patents, trade-marks, and designs. In residing in Japan, you need have no fear of compulsory military service or exactions; so that even in time of war, of which I hope we may have no more, you may rest quietly and engage in your line of business. Of course the most favoured nation treatment as regards commerce and navigation is secured in the new treaty. The right of ownership by British subjects of real estate in Japan is not regulated in the new treaty, the matter being left, I think, to the Home legislation of Japan; but for practical purposes, there will be no inconvenience, as you can hold land under lease for any time you wish. "It is as a trader, and not as a landowner, that the interests of Britain are supreme in the Far East." *

If Japan's foreign trade and industries have made a very rapid development within the space of a generation, their progress in the coming generation will, I think, be still greater, in consequence of the opening up of the whole country to foreign trade in the course of a few years. If in Japan labour is cheap, and coal abundant, you can utilize them for your own purposes. If in Japan cotton-spinning companies are paying dividends of upwards of 15 or 16 per cent. a year, you can start there a fresh company, or any number of companies you desire. Well, if you have surplus energy and surplus money, there is in Japan a vast sphere for them. This influx of energy and money from a country which has earned of late the undying gratitude of Japan will not only be quite welcome to her, but will open to her a new Commercial Era.—(Loud Cheers.)

At the conclusion of the lecture several speeches were delivered, one of the most remarkable being that of His Excellency Takeaki Kato, the Japanese

* Page 831, June number of *Contemporary Review*, 1895.

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Minister in London. His Excellency endorsed the statements of the Consul-General and, whilst not overlooking the commercial aspect of the relations between England and Japan, insisted particularly upon the cordiality of the relations between the two countries, a cordiality which, he said, was sincere, as recent events had proved. His Excellency resumed his seat amid loud cheers.

THE NEW TREATY PORTS IN CHINA.

Referring to the four new Treaty Ports in China to be opened on the 17th of October next, in accordance with the terms of Shimonoseki Treaty, a London journal thus describes them:—

Sha-tsze, the first town on the list, is, like all others above Hankow, but little known to the maritime world of Europe. In that excellent up-to-date work called "Through the Yang-tsze Gorges," Mr. A. J. Little speaks of this place as a populous centre of trade lying on the north bank of the river, just a little west of the 112th meridian of longitude from Greenwich. He refers to Sha-tsze as being regularly passed by all steamers plying between Hankow and Ichang, and as having ten times the trade of the latter town. Its population, guessed at, is about 600,000; Chung-king having the same. During the summer floods here the river widens from one mile to five, and the stream runs about three knots to six, according to position. Near Sha-tsze the water rises from 10 ft. to 15 ft., and thus floods hundreds of miles of agricultural land, owing to the decay of the embankment on that side. Thus the Toong-ting Lake, near by, is swelled from 2,300 to 4,000 square miles, from May to September. On the north shore the dykes extend continuously as far down as Hankow, some 250 miles. Sha-tsze is the most important *chen*, or mart, in that part of the empire, at which during all seasons of the year a perfect forest of masts of junks may be seen. These are of various tonnage, from 10 to 50, according to the size of the rivers and affluents they navigate. The name of the city in English is "Sandmarket," such probably designating its origin in the remote past. The city is built upon a great dyke 25 feet above the surrounding country, which for miles is below the level of the river, even during the dry or winter season. Many of our best and latest maps of China place this important town on the *south* bank of the Yang-tsze, but Mr. Little puts it on the north, and in a somewhat different longitude to that given above. It has a noble stone embankment, built years ago during China's greatness, facing the south and south-west, constructed in three different tiers each twelve feet high and ending in what has been a grand and spacious promenade on the top, but "a degenerate people" have so far projected their wretched habitations on the roadway that in 1888 there was in many places barely room for a sedan chair to pass. The otherwise beautiful embankment is now disfigured by hundreds of tons of filth and town rubbish, which have been cast over into the water, but which the tide has not taken away. Immediately facing the embankment there is little or no tide near the shore, and this is taken advantage of by "tiers upon tiers of junks" being moored along the whole extent of the city front with their bows to the banks and planks to the shore. Fine stone stairs crowned by archways, for securing the continuity of the upper roadway, have been let into the face of the wall at regular intervals, but these have been long ago all but covered up by the deposit of tons of town refuse—the accumulation of ages—over which the merchandise of the port is now regularly carried by coolies. These "muck-mounds" are still being added to with all kinds of nameless filth from a city equally filthy, though possessing many very fine public buildings of stone, such as guild houses, monasteries, bridges, and lofty pagodas. Some 60 miles above Sha-tsze the Rapids or, "Yang-tsze Gorges," commence, the latter being stupendous walls of perpendicular cliff attaining a height of 700 ft. and upwards. It is here where the river has cut a channel through the mountains. These peculiar chasms are narrow and the water generally insufficient for the passage of large steamers; the bottom is rocky and the current runs about 6 knots an hour.

The large junks navigating these rapids do not generally carry over fifty tons of cargo or draw more than eight feet. The smallest cargo-boats carry about two tons, and like the others, are towed up the rapids by their crew tracking with ropes along the shore. These craft are invariably built to suit the navigation of the rapids, and do not descend the river below Sha-tsze, where all freight and passengers are transhipped into larger vessels called Hunan boats, in which the traffic of the lower river has been carried on since a date long prior to Confucius, B.C. 550.

Chung-king is the second city named in the Treaty, and lies on the north bank of the Yang tsze a little west of the 107th meridian, according to Mr. Little's map. Its distance above Ichang is about 360 nautical miles, 720 from Hankow, and 1,309 from Shanghai. In time, by large passenger junks, the distance is about 42 days from Ichang, the delay being partly caused by having to await turn in towing up the rapids; time distance from Hankow 80 days, and about 120 from Shanghai, or an average of 11 miles per diem. Another source of delay is the antiquated Custom House system, where at many points on the river all cargo has to undergo a thorough examination before being permitted to proceed.

By the Chefoo Convention of 1877, under which Ichang opened, it was promised that the opening of Chung-king would soon follow, but although Great Britain more than fulfilled her part of the bargain, China "went back" on hers and afterwards pleaded the unreasonable excuse that such a measure would throw tens of thousands of junkmen out of work.

The opening of the unimportant city of Ichang was demanded in consequence of the murder of Mr. Margery. Until a good chart has been made of the Upper Yang-tsze by a competent naval surveyor, like those which exist of the lower river between Hankow and the sea, it will be impossible to speak with any degree of certainty of the various details of navigation between the rapids and Chung-king, a distance of some 300 miles. Mr. Little estimates that part of the stream to be from 800 yards to one mile broad, with various sandbanks and islands, but easily navigable for steamers of moderate tonnage that "do not draw more water than the large junks." Coal is plentiful and of good quality at many places between Hankow and Chung king. The chief difficulty—though by no means an insurmountable one—to steam navigation are the Rapids, extending over a course of 80 miles, but as large junks are readily tracked up by their crews, or can sail up when the wind admits, there should be no trouble with light-draft steamers of ten knots speed. The rate of tide above the rapids is about an average of two knots. Chung-king lies on the confluence of two rivers and in a splendid situation as the commercial centre of two popular provinces; it is the most western city of the four soon about to open.

Soo-chow, the third port named in the treaty, is nearly the same distance from the sea as Hankow—say 600 miles—the course over the Yang-tsze being the same as far as the 116th meridian. At this point vessels will branch off into the Po-yang Lake, an extensive sheet of water covering some 1,600 square miles, at the south-west end of which the town is approached by a considerable river, and lies some 70 or 80 miles from its mouth. From Soo chow there is river communication nearly all over the south and west of the populous province of Kiang-si, particularly to the south, for a distance of 200 miles. In the south-east, one branch of this river has its sources in the same districts as those from which spring the River Min, at Foochow, so well known to all Chinese merchants. Though the navigation of the Yang-tsze, 600 miles from the sea, is nearly as well known as that of the Thames, there still remains much of detail to be learnt from European surveys of the Po-yang Lake, and the smaller River Chang, on an arm of which Soo-chow is built. The head of navigation for large junks is said to be about 400 miles above Chung-king, and therefore 1,700 from the sea, in which case it reaches to a point not far removed from the city of Yünnan.

Hang chow has already been described, as far as is consistent with facts. Its grand situation at the head of the Gulf of Hang-chow will, in the near future, constitute it as great an emporium of commerce as Hongkong or Shanghai.

It is easy to understand the strong objections of ultra-conservative China to opening her ports for foreign commerce, machinery, and what not, when we remember that only a few years ago rooted antipathy was expressed by the working millions of Europe against the introduction of machinery, and hence it is not surprising that on nearly every occasion Chinese cities have been opened only at the point of the sword. Further than all this, in the case of China, her corrupt officials, high and low, can see that such a measure will at once rob them of their *cumshaw* or "squeeze-pidjin." After the war of 1842 Britain demanded the opening of Amoy, Foochow, Ningpo, and Shanghai. To these in 1858, by the Treaty of Tientsin, were added Swatow, Chinkiang, Kiukiang, Hukiang, Chefoo, Newchwang, Tientsin, and other minor ports. In 1876, by the Chefoo Convention, there followed Wenchow, Wuhu, and Ichang, while at the same time permission was unwillingly given for foreign vessels to load and unload at Ta-tung, A-king, Hu kow, Woo-sue, and the present Sha-tsze, although foreigners were not then permitted to form establishments of manufacture or trade as has just now been conceded.

In the popular question of developing the trade of China, much has been written about railways, particularly those which are to tap the country from Burmah and Tonquin; but as the western provinces do not contain more than two-tenths of the entire population, there will still remain a great multitude who can best be reached for the present and for generations to come by the magnificent rivers, than which no country has been so richly endowed as China. Three great rivers, with their broad affluents ramify like a vast network the greater part of the empire and already carry the "ships" of China to nearly every individual market of any consequence. Tributary streams, large enough to float flat bottomed steamers carrying 500 tons of weight, reach out for hundreds of miles to every point of the compass, and it is not too much to say—as far as travellers have informed us—that there is no considerable town in China without its river and larger or small ship, already capable of carrying the contents of several railway trucks. There are no people in the world who can more readily adapt themselves to the management of boats, and none where men, women, and children more generally are born in boats and live in them all through their lives. These are features which will powerfully operate against the construction of railways so long as the rivers exist, together with other causes, such as the drain now made upon Chinese capital by the Loan, the enormous comparative cost of railways, the ineradicable prejudices of the people, at the bottom of which are religious scruples about their ancestors whose graves already cover nearly every rood of ground. After that stupendous mountain has been removed there will still remain the doubtful policy and enormous cost of building railway bridges and embankments through a country that is so frequently in flood. Certain British firms engaged in the China trade are already launching steamers of 6,000 tons to replace vessels of half the size, but although these new open ports will assuredly give a vast impetus to all sea-borne trade, it is extremely doubtful if China will be ready—even if willing—to adopt any general railway system so long as her superb rivers are open for steam navigation.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 2.

Forty per centum of the French troops in Madagascar are unfit for duty.

The anniversary of Sedan has been celebrated with immense enthusiasm in Germany.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, August 28.

Russia has presented a large quantity of war material to Montenegro.

Foochow, August 23.

The wounded reported in Thursday's telegram were Chinese. It was a local affair only. No foreigners were present.

Foochow, August 28.

Written news from Kucheng to the 25th advises that one hundred arrests had been made to date, and it was anticipated that there would be daily additions to the list. The Viceroy has been telegraphed to for extra prison accommodation and more jailors. The work was going on satisfsctorily.

(FROM THE "SIAM OBSERVER.")

London, August 13.

The Times, is a leading article to-day on the question of the Upper Burmah boundary, writes with approval of the step which have been taken to affirm the British right to the Meikong States (Keng-hung, Keng-cheng, and Keng-tung), and declares that the French claim to them is absolutely baseless.

London, August 14.

The Times states that the Chinese Government is quite helpless in face of the prevailing confusion, and is incapable of any decisive action.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Utsunomiya, September 5.

The Sendai troops, numbering 1,700 in all, have passed here on their way to Hiroshima.

Kobe, September 6.

Lieut.-General Viscount Takashima, Vice-Governor-General of Formosa, left here for the south by the *Yokohama Maru* to-day.

Omiya, Sept. 6.

At 11.40 a.m. to-day the 9 a.m. Mayebashi train and the 10.30 a.m. Uyeno train collided when entering this station. One railway employé was killed on the spot, two engineers were badly wounded, but all the passengers are safe. The locomotives and the track were more or less severely damaged.

Osaka, September 6.

Forty Korean students arrived here yesterday from Kobe, and put up at the Osaka Hotel. They visited the Mint, Arsenal, and barracks this forenoon under the guidance of a local official. The Spinning Factory and other establishments will be inspected this afternoon. The party proceeds to Kyoto to-morrow, whence they will leave for Nagoya on the 8th, reaching Tokyo the following day.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will re-open on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 192.

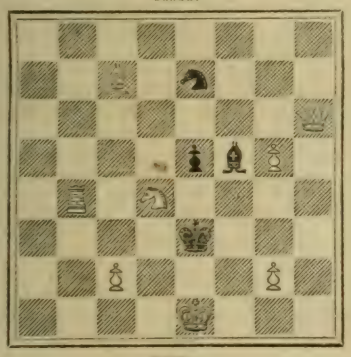
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to Q 3	1—Anything
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct answers from E.D., Digamma, Kr., W.D.C., Shogi, W.H.S., E. J. King, and J.D.

PROBLEM No. 194.

By WALTER PULITZER. NEW JERSEY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

NOTE.—This problem (so writes Mr. Pollock, the chess editor of the *Baltimore News*) is the first two-mover that Mr. Steinitz, during the last 35 years, has failed to solve within 15 minutes. Here is a chance for our solvers to score off the ex-champion.

GAME No. 333.

WHITE. Bardeleben.	BLACK. Teichmann.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to B 4	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 3	5—Castles
6—B to Q 3	6—P to B 4 (a)
7—P takes B P	7—Kt to B 3
8—Kt to K B 3 (b)	8—B takes P
9—Castles (c)	9—P takes P (d)
10—B takes B P	10—Q to K 2 (e)
11—B to K Kt 5	11—R to Q sq.
12—Q to K 2	12—Q to B sq. (f)
13—P to K 4	13—B to K 2
14—P to K 5	14—Kt to K sq.
15—Q to K 4	15—P to K R 3
16—B to K 3	16—B to Q 2
17—P to Q R 3	17—P to Q R 3
18—B to Kt 6 (g)	18—K R to Kt sq. (h)
19—Q R to Q sq.	19—B to B sq.
20—P to Q Kt 4	20—B takes P (i)
21—P takes B	21—Q takes P
22—R to Kt sq.	22—Q takes Kt
23—R to Kt 3 (k)	23—Resigns.

(a) As second player we prefer to reserve this move till P to Q Kt 3 and Q Kt to Q 2, etc, have been played.

(b) To prevent P to K 4. It always seems to us that the White Q B is in a somewhat precarious position on K B 3.

(c) P takes P would have been our choice, for if Black then replies with P takes P, 10 B to K Kt 5 might be of some use.

(d) Not a favorable exchange, as it gives free scope for the operation of White's minor pieces, particularly B to K Kt 5 in conjunction with Kt to K 4.

(e) Apparently not suspecting the difficulties in store for him through B to K Kt 5. We do not like the move of P to K R 3, but Kt to Q 2 has good points.

(f) An awkward defence, but necessary, in anticipation of Kt to K 4.

(g) White makes the best of his chance by a clever disposition of his forces.

(h) Curiously enough if R to B sq. then 19—Q R to Q, Kt to Kt sq.; 20—Q takes P wins the exchange.

(i) This looks very plausible. It seems as if Black is certain to get his piece back, as the Queen will attack two pieces after retaking the Pawn.

(k) A pretty catch. If P to B 4. 24—Q to K 2.

GAME No. 334.

CHESS IN ADELAIDE.

The following game was played at a recent meeting of the Philidorian Society:—

STAUNTON'S OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. H. W. Apperly.	BLACK. Mr. A. J. Laughton.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 3	3—P to Q 3 (a)
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to Q 2
5—P to Q 4	5—P to Q R 3 (b)
6—B to R 4	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to B 2	7—B to Kt 2
8—Castles	8—B to B 3
9—P to Q Kt 4 (c)	9—P takes P (d)
10—Kt takes P	10—B takes Kt
11—P takes B	11—Kt takes Kt P
12—B to Kt 3	12—Q to K 2 (e)
13—Kt to B 3	13—P to Q R 4
14—P to Q R 3	14—Kt to Q R 3
15—R to R sq	15—P to Q B 3
16—P to B 4	16—Castles (f)
17—Q to K 2	17—Q to B 3
18—P to K 5	18—P takes P
19—Q P takes P	19—Q to Kt 3
20—P to Q R 4	20—B to Kt 5
21—Q to B 2	21—P to Kt 5
22—Kt to K 4	22—Kt to B 2
23—Kt to Q 6 ch.	23—K to Q 2 (g)
24—Kt takes B P	24—B to K 3
25—Kt takes K R	25—Q to K sq.
26—B takes B ch.	26—Q takes B
27—P to B 5	27—Q to K sq.
28—P to K 6 ch.	28—K to B sq.
29—Kt to B 7	29—R to Q 4
30—B to Kt 2	
(39 minutes)	(80 minutes)

And Mr. Laughton resigns,

(a) As was pointed out a few weeks ago, the best defence is ...P to Q 4.

(b) Freeborough gives 5...Kt to B 3.

(c) The after play apparently justifies Mr. Apperly's sacrifice of a Pawn for position.

(d) If instead 9...B to K Kt 5, White plays 10 P to Q 5, and Black will have a cramped and difficult game.

(e) This is bad. 12...P to Q B 4 would at least give a fighting position with some possibilities about it.

(f) Though not altogether satisfactory, 16... Kt to K B 3 is preferable to the text move.

(g) As Mr. Apperly's continuation shows, this entails the loss of a clear Rook. It would have been better to exchange the Queen's Rook for Knight and Pawn.

GAME No. 335.

Played recently at Beaver Creek, N.W.T., Canada.

CENTRE COUNTER GAMBIT.

WHITE. Mr. George.	BLACK. Mr. Holland.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q 4 (a)
2—P takes P	2—Q takes P
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Q to Q sq (b)
4—P to Q 4	4—B to K B 4
5—Kt to K B 3	5—P to K 3
6—B to Q B 4 (c)	6—Kt to K B 3
7—B to K B 4	7—B to Q 3
8—B takes B (d)	8—P takes B
9—Castles	9—Castles
10—R to K sq	10—Q Kt to B 3
11—Q Kt to K 2	11—P to Q 4
12—B to Q Kt 3	12—P to Q Kt 4 (e)
13—Kt to K Kt 3	13—B to Kt 3
14—P to Q B 3	14—Q to Q 3
15—P to K R 3 (f)	15—K R to K sq.
16—Q to Q 2	16—P to K 4 (g)
17—P takes P	17—Kt takes P
18—Kt takes Kt (h)	18—R takes Kt
19—R takes R	19—Q takes R
20—R to K sq.	20—Q to Q 3
21—R to K 3	21—R to Q sq.
22—Kt to K 2	22—B to K B 4
23—Kt to K B 4 (i)	23—B to K 3 (j)
24—Kt takes B	24—P takes Kt
25—Q to K 2	25—R to K sq.
26—Q takes Q Kt P	26—P to K R 3
27—R to K B 3	27—R to K B sq.
28—B to Q B 2	28—Q to K 4
29—R to K 3	29—Q to Q 3
30—Q to Q 3	30—Q to K 2
31—R to K B 3	31—Kt to K 5
32—R takes R ch.	32—Q takes R
33—P to K B 3	33—Q to B 4 ch.
34—Q to Q 4	34—Q takes Q ch.
35—P takes Q	35—Kt to Q 3
36—B to Q 3	36—Kt to Q Kt 2
37—P to K B 4	37—K to B 2
38—P to K Kt 4	38—K to B 3
39—K to B 2	39—Kt to Q 3
40—K to B 3 (k)	40—P to K Kt 4
41—P takes P ch.	41—P takes P
42—K to Kt 3	42—P to K 4
43—P takes P ch.	43—K takes P
44—P to K R 4	44—P takes P ch.
45—K takes P	45—K to B 5
46—K to R 5	46—P to Q 5
47—P to Kt 5	47—K to K 6
48—P to Kt 6 (l)	48—Kt to K sq. (m)
49—B to Q Kt 5	49—Kt to Kt 2 ch.
50—K to R 6	50—Kt to B 4 ch.
51—K to R 7	51—P to Q 6
52—P to Kt 7	52—Kt takes P
53—K takes Kt	53—P to Q 7
54—B to R 4	54—K to K 7
55—P to Q Kt 4	55—P queens.
56—B takes Q ch.	56—K takes B
57—P to Q R 4 and wins (n)	

(a) Played, as we have previously noted, in order to avoid beaten tracks and the gambits, and to get a little freedom early in the game. The drawback is that for some time Black must be subjected to attack and lose a little time until his pieces are developed; when with Q file open, &c., supposing all goes well, he ought to have a good playing game.

(b) Some play 3 Q to R 4 which is safe; but the text move has many advocates still.

(c) B to Q 3, offering the exchange here, has points.

(d) We do not approve of these early exchanges. Hence we prefer B to K 3 for White's 7th move and P to Q B 3 for Black.

(e) This pawn was advanced apparently to no purpose, and the isolated pawn was left unprotected and ultimately lost.

(f) A wasted move. Kt to K 5 was very good now. The piece would be planted well in the centre, could not safely be captured, and could be supported throughout the game if need be.

(g) Which, of course, is excellent, and illustrates the preceding note.

(h) And here, not the exchange, but Kt to Q 4.

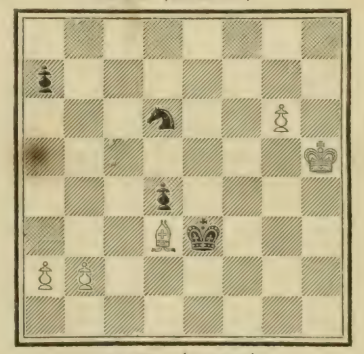
(i) Kt to Q 4 is also good here. The text move is inferior. It is a trap only, and the Kt is not so well posted as at Q 4.

(j) He should have played now P to Q 5, instead of thus losing pawn.

(k) A natural move, although P to K R 4 seems better. It then 40—P to Kt 4; 41, B P takes P ch, P takes P; 42 P to R 5, K to Kt 2; 43, P to Q Kt 4.

(l) We give a diagram of the position at this juncture. It illustrates a point in practical play that may well be noted, as it frequently occurs.

WHITE.—(HOLLAND).



BLACK.—(GEORGE).

(m) K takes B was the move. Then, if P to Kt 7 he can play Kt to K sq, threatening Kt to B 6 ch if the Pawn Queens. We have tried, also, the variation P to Kt 8, claiming a Kt, &c. Black wins in all cases by K to Q B 7 after.

(n) After the 48th move there is nothing of great importance. The game is interesting as one of a triangular match played where few chess matches can occur. Messrs. George, Holland, and Hollis were the players. Learners may profitably study such games, which are more instructive than those in which no mistakes are made. But the play here is, indeed, very creditable, if by no means perfect.

GAME No. 336.

CONSULTATION CHESS.

The following is a fine consultation game recently lost by Dr. Tarrasch at the Nuremberg Chess Club to an aggregate of talent, consisting of Herren P. Gutmann, W. Hahn, M. Kurschner, and L. Regensburger. The score and notes (condensed) are from the *New Orleans Times Democrat*, which acknowledges its indebtedness to Dr. Tarrasch's chess column in the *Frankfurter General Anzeiger*.

FALKBEER GAMBIT.

WHITE. Dr. Tarrasch.	BLACK. The Allies.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P to Q 4
3—P takes Q P (a)	3—P to K 5
4—B to Q Kt 5 ch.	4—P to Q B 3
5—P takes Q B P	5—Kt takes P
6—Q Kt to B 3	6—K Kt to B 3
7—K Kt to K 2	7—Q to Q Kt 3
8—P to Q 4	8—B to Q Kt 5
9—Castles	9—Castles
10—B to Q B 4 (b)	10—B to K Kt 5 (c)
11—B to K 3	11—Kt to Q R 4 (d)
12—B to Q Kt 3	12—B take Q Kt
13—Kt P take B	13—Q to Kt 4
14—K R to K sq.	14—Kt to Q B 5
15—B to Q B sq.	15—Kt to Q 4
16—P to K R 3	16—B to K 3 (e)
17—P to Q R 4	17—Q to B 3
18—P to K 5 (f)	18—P to Q Kt 4
19—B takes Kt (g)	19—P takes B (h)

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20—B to Q R 3	20—K R to K sq.
21—K to R 2	21—Kt to K 6
22—Q to Q B sq.	22—Kt takes Kt P
23—K takes Kt (i)	23—P to K 6 dis. ch.
24—K to Kt 3 (j)	24—B takes K R P
25—K takes B	25—Q to K B 6 ch.
26—Kt to K Kt 3	26—R to K 3
27—B to K 7	27—R to K R 3 ch.
28—B to K R 4	28—Q takes K B P
29—R takes K P	29—Q takes B ch
30—K to Kt 2	30—Q to R 7 ch.
31—K to B sq.	31—R to K Kt 3

And Dr. Tarrasch resigns (k).

NOTES.

(a) This is a faulty move.

(b) Losing time in order to avoid the exchange of this Bishop for the adverse Queen's Knight.

(c) Threatening . . . Kt takes Q P, and if Q takes Kt . . B to Q B 4.

(d) Much stronger than 11 . . . R to Q sq.

(e) 16 . . . Kt takes Q B P would have been unsound, because of 17 Kt takes Kt.

(f) To drive away the adverse Knight at Q B 4 by R to Q R 4 whenever feasible.

(g) If instead 19 P takes P en passant, Black secure possession of the Queen's file.

(h) Far stronger than taking with the Queen.

(i) If instead 23 R to K B sq, Black would win by 23 . . . Kt to K R 6, 24 Kt to Kt sq, P to K 6, &c.

(j) Best, otherwise Black would win still more speedily by . . . . Q to B 6.

(k) The Knight is lost, and, in addition to superiority in material, Black retains a decisive attack.

Game No. 337.

"RUY LOPEZ."

WHITE. Max Weiss.	BLACK. W. H. K. Pollock.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q Kt 4
6—B to Kt 3	6—B to B 4
7—P to B 3	7—P to Q 4
8—P takes P	8—Kt takes P
9—Q to K 2 (a)	9—Castles
10—Q to K 4	10—B to K 3
11—Kt takes P (b)	11—Kt takes Kt
12—Q takes Kt	12—Kt to Q Kt 5 (c)
13—Castles	13—Kt takes Q P
14—Q to R 5 (d)	14—B takes B
15—P takes B	15—R to K sq.
16—Kt to Q 2	16—Q to K 2
17—P to Q Kt 4 (e)	17—B takes P ch. (f)
18—K to R sq.	18—Q to K 8
19—P to R 3	19—Kt takes B (g)
20—R takes Q	20—R takes R ch.
21—K to R 2	21—B to Kt 8 ch.
22—K to Kt 3	22—R to K 6 ch.
23—K to Kt 4	23—Kt to K 7
24—Kt to B sq.	24—P to Kt 3
25—Q to Q 5 (h)	25—P to R 4 ch.
26—K to Kt 5	26—K to Kt 2 (i)
27—Kt takes R (j)	27—P to B 3 ch.
28—K to R 4	28—B to B 7 ch.
29—P to Kt 3	29—B takes P mate.

(a) 9 Castles, threatening Kt takes P, followed by P to Q 4, is better play here. For if 9 B to K Kt 5; 10 P to K R 3, B to R 4 (if 10 B takes Kt; 11 Q takes B, Q Kt to K 2; 12 R to K sq.); 11 P to Kt 4; B to K Kt 3; 12 R to K sq., &c.

(b) Again 11 Kt to Kt 5 was preferable; for if 11 P to Kt 3; 12 Kt takes B, &c.

(c) A sound and brilliant sacrifice. The opening is the stale and stereotyped Ruy Lopez, but it is spendidly illuminated by the brightness of Mr Pollock's imagination.

(d) Here also 14—Q to Kt 3, B to Q 3; 15 Q to B 3 was a better contnuation for White.

(e) If 17 Kt to B 3, Kt takes B P; with a great advantage.

(f) Splendidly played, as White cannot takes the piece, on account of the threatened mate in two moves by Q to K 6 ch, &c

(g) Another magnificent sacrifice such as has very seldom occurred in actual play.

(h) Evidently overlooking Black's beautiful rejoinder. 25 Q to R 6, however, would have been useless on account of 25 Q R to K sq.; 25 R x P (if 26 Kt x R, B x Kt ch; 27 Q to R 4, R to K 5 ch, wins), 26 Q R to K 5 ch; K to Kt 5, R to K 4 ch; 28 K to Kt 4 (if 28 K to R 4, R (K 6) to K 5 ch; followed by B to B 7 ch, and mate in a few moves), 28 R (K 6) to K 5 ch. 29 K to B 3, R to B 5 ch; 30 Q x R, Kt x Q; 31 K x Kt, R to K B 4 ch, &c.

(i) Really magnificent. Steinitz declares this game to be one of the finest monuments of chess ingenuity and to belong to the most brilliant gems in the annals of practical play.

(j) If 27 Q x R, P to B 3 ch; 28 K to R 4 B to B 7 ch; 29 P to Kt 3, R x Kt P and wins. If 27 Q to Q 7, R to Q sq.; 28 Q x R, R to K 4 ch; 29 K to R 4 B to B 7 ch; 30 P to Kt 3, Kt x P; 31 Kt x Kt, R to K 5 ch; 32 K to Kt 5, B to K 6 mate

Game No. 338.

The following classical brilliancy was played some time ago in Prague:—

(TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE, IRREGULAR.)

WHITE. J. Reinisch.	BLACK. P. K. Traxler.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—Kt to Kt 5	4—B to B 4
5—Kt takes B P	5—B takes P ch.
6—K to K 2	6—Kt to Q 5 ch.
7—K to Q 3	7—P to Q Kt 4
8—B to Kt 3	8—Kt takes K P
9—Kt takes Q	9—Kt to B 4 ch.
10—K to B 3	10—Kt to K 7 ch.
11—Q takes Kt	11—B to Q 5 ch.
12—K to Kt 4	12—P to R 4 ch.
13—K takes P	13—B to R 3 ch.
14—K takes R P	14—B to Q 6 ch.
15—K to Kt 4	15—Kt to R 3 ch.
16—K to R 5	16—Kt to Kt 5 ch.
17—K takes Kt	17—P to B 4 mate.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 10th.*
From Canada, &c.......	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 9th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 8th.‡
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 12th.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 13th.‖
From America	per P. M. Co	Friday, Sept. 20th.¶
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Oct. 2nd.

* *Belgic* left San Francisco on August 24th. † *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on August 27th. ‡ *Ancona* left Hongkong on August 30th. § *Empress of India* left Hongkong on September 4th. ‖ *Melbourne* (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 5th. ¶ *Peru* left San Francisco on September 3rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 9th.
For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.......	per N. P. Co	Friday, Sept. 13th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co	Friday, Sept. 13th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 14th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 17th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 21st.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andreff, 31st August,—Target Practice, 31st August.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, Nish, 31st August,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, Sincock, 1st September,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Chittagong, British steamer, 1,241, O. Davey, 1st September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rainbow (17), cruiser, Captain W. C. C. Forsyth, 2nd September,—Hongkong.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,973, Houston, 2nd September,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Duguay Trouin (9), French cruiser, Captain Courrejolles, 3rd September,—Kobe 2nd September.

Archer (6), cruiser, Captain C. Lang, 4th September,—Nagasaki.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 4th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, 27th August, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 4th September,—Hongkong 30th August, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, G. W. Conner, 4th September,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Ch. J. Norcock, 6th September,—Hakodate 1st September.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 6th September,—Tacoma, Wash., 20th August, viâ Victoria, B.C., 21st, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, Jager, 6th September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Quantock, British steamer, 2,193, Main, 6th September,—Kure 3rd September, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, Hannah, 6th September,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

DEPARTURES.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,304, Claussen, 31st August,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenorchy, British steamer, 1,822, Sommer, 31st August,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Angers, British steamer, 2,076, W. G. Bannister, 31st August,—Australia, Ballast.—Order.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 1,815, Brown, 1st September,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Petrel (4), U.S. gunboat, Captain Emory, 1st September,—Chefoo.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 2nd September,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Chittagong, British steamer, 1,241, O. Davey, 3rd September,—Portland, Or., and Victoria, B.C., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Omba, British steamer, 1,940, Munroe, 3rd September,—Australia, Ballast.—Order.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Duncan, 3rd September,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Breconshire, British steamer, 1,648, Peebles, 3rd September,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Eskdale, British steamer, 1,973, Houston, 4th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,359, Orr, 5th September,—Hongkong, Light.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Ixion, British steamer, 2,299, Nish, 5th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Straits of Sunda, British steamer, 1,531, Dewar, 5th September,—Mororan, Ballast.—Order.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, H. Walter, 6th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 6th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Natal, French steamer, 4,038, Verron, 7th September,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Lieut. F. G. Talbot, R.B., Mr. A. L. Morgan, Captain Stewart, R.B., Lieut. M. Fuller, R.N., Captain G. W. Coffin, U.S.N., Mr. M. G. Gaby, Paymaster C. W. Littlefield, U.S.N., Mr. F. E. Fernald, Mr. T. Ruchen, Mr. G. Grawnood, Mr. J. E. de Becker, Mr. J. T. Duff, Mr. C. Crowthers, and Mr. G. Arone in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. F. R. Graves, Mr. M. A. Braun, and Rev. and Mrs. J. Lewis and child in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Lieut. Meincke, German Attaché, Mr. Braunschweig and servant, Mr. and Mrs. Stolterfoht, Mr. P. Witkowski, Mr. Charles von Bose, Mr. Erich Georg, Mrs. Ohsurajan-Moetal, Dr. K. Mimashi, Mr. Bavier Chauffour, Mr. and Mrs. Luz and children, Miss Barbein, Miss Newcombe, Mr. Arthur Eshigine, Mr. Wright and family, Mr. Thos. Payne and family, Miss Alice Devonshire, Miss Mathilde Hatcher, Miss Helen Clark, Mr. W. Potten, Mr. John Hart, Mr. and Mrs. Gaslin, Mr. H. Nakamura, Mr. Papier and 2 children, and Miss Cohen in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, from Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Cooper, Mr. Wadman, Mr. Jones, Mr. Freer, Mr. Rienz, and Mr. Imai in cabin; 2 Japanese in second class, and 17 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. C. Bretschneider, Mrs. M. C. Crozier, Mrs. A. Rosenthal, Master Percy Rosenthal, Mrs. Goforth and 3 children, Dr. and Mrs. Maclure and child, Miss Smith, Miss Hastings, Miss McKenzie, Miss Davis, Miss Manchester, Miss M. Halliman, Mr. G. R. Edwards, and Rev. A. Mitchell in cabin; 9 Japanese and 27 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Daphne*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Misses E. B. Baulton, D. Barlow, E. M. Bruan, and O. Ito, Rev. and Mrs. Evington and Miss Evington, Miss M. L. Allen, Mr. P. E. Webb, Mr. R. Midzutani, and Mr. M. Kataoka in cabin; 3 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. C. Gatti, Miss Dowd, Miss Patton, Miss Torrance, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Doughty, and Mr. F. Mylius in cabin; Mr. W. M. Macknight, Mr. Chun Fung, Mr. Tache, and one Chinese in second class; one European in third class, and one Indian boy and 3 Chinese on deck.

Per French steamer *Natal*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. Limbe and 3 children, Mr. H. J. Nauhall, Mr. N. A. Hutchison, Mrs. and Miss Hanisch, Mr. J. N. Cann, Rev. and Mrs. W. B. Hamilton, Mr. F. C. Salterson, Mr. N F. Frue, Miss G. M. Hall and amah, Mr. and Mrs. G. de Hees, Mr. Le Rouzie Louis, Mrs. Twentyman, children and governess, Mr. Batomeff and family, Mrs. Grennoff, Mr. V. C. Murdoch, Rev. and Mrs. Curtis and 2 children, Mr. Morgan, child, and servant, Mrs. W. H. Smith and child, Miss Emma Lyon, Rev. J. Drummond, Mrs. Drummond and child, Mr. J. F. Hamilton and Japanese boy, Mr. and Mrs. T. Jorge, Mr. R. N. Eisenstork, Mr. S. Tanaka, Mr. Thyman Jean, Mr. Salion Rine, Mr. Wee Hup Lee, Mr. Nagao, Mr. F. Soughi, and Mr. F. Matsui in cabin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The turn has come, and prospects are bright. Yarn—Good business at advancing prices in sympathy with higher values reported from Manchester. Grey Shirtings, however, have not im-

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proved in proportion. Turkey Reds and Velvets have made progress both in demand and price. Woollens bracing up also.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30	to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75	to 3.15
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 11 inches	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16	to 0.22
	PER PIECE.	
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50	to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75	to 0.90
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.55
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80	to 3.20

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20	to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40	to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60	to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00	to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00	to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00	to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50	to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	40.00	to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.00	to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00	to 49.00
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

Lower prices have induced more trade in Iron, both "Pig" and manufactured. Wire Nails move fairly well, and the stock is not overwhelming. Galvanized Sheets and Tin Plates are the turn dearer, but the large stock of the last-named must work against any decided improvement in price.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.15 to 3.20
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.15 to 3.25
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.50 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.25 to 5.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

More inclination for business, and if holders are firm there need be no further reduction in quotations. Deliveries are good, and with the long nights approaching the prospect for sellers is brighter than for some time past.

American	$2.05 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	1.90

SUGAR.

Brown—Market very dull, with heavy stocks, which have depressed the prices for Java and Manila sorts. White—Better trade at advancing figures. Stock moderate and demand good.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.70 to 3.75
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.40
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.20 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

At last the demand has slackened—after a huge business for the first two months of the season. Prices now are more or less nominal and have a downward tendency.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom $930 to 940
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	720 to 730
Kakedas—Extra	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 1	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 1½	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½	720 to 730

WASTE SILK.

New fibre is now on the market in some quantity, but the pretensions of holders tend to cramp the trade.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

A good steady trade and prices well maintained. Present stock 7,000 piculs. Shipments to date show a million pounds increase as compared with this day last year.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has again fluctuated slightly, but rates on the whole are about the same.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2 @ 1/8
— — Bills on demand	2/2 1/8 @ 1/4
— — 4 months' sight	2/2 3/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2 5/8 @ 3/4
— — 6 months' sight	2/2 3/4 @ 7/8
On Paris—Bank sight	2.74 @ 5
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.80 @ 1
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight	72½
On India—Bank sight	196
— Private 30 days' sight	198¼
On America—Bank Bills on demand	53 @ 1/4
— Private 30 days' sight	54 @ 1/4
— — 4 months' sight	54 3/4 @ 5
On Germany—Bank sight	2.20 @ 1
— Private 4 months' sight	2.27 @ 8
Bar Silver (London)	30 9/16

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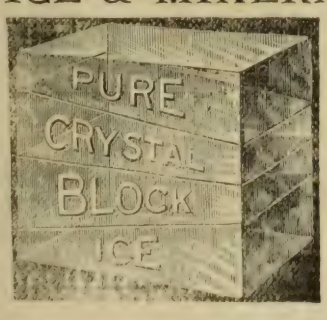

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 14TH, 1895.

BIRTHS.

On the 8th instant at No. 38, Bluff the wife of J. C. HARTLAND of a daughter.

At 141, Bluff, on the 13th inst., the wife of P. E. F. STONE of a Son.

DEATH.

At his residence, 247, Bluff, on the 8th instant, at 10 a.m., CHARLES JUBIN in the 56th year of his age.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE text of the revised Russian Treaty has been published this week.

LIEUTENANT YOSHIMI has been appointed Vice-Governor of Sasebo Harbour.

MR. TSUCHIKO KINSHIRO has been appointed to the London Branch of the Specie Bank.

THE Sakurajima Military Quarantine Station, Osaka, will be closed on the 15th inst.

THE *Kokumin* and the *Nippon* have been suspended for the usual offence this week.

THE disturbed weather of the last few days has induced a decided drop in the temperature.

THE O. & O. steamer *Belgic* ran ashore at Su-no-saki on Sunday evening, while on the way in to Yokohama. She still remains hard and fast in the sand.

THE Imperial Commercial Bank, Tokyo, has decided to establish a branch in Formosa.

THE Viceroy Li Hung-chang has been ordered to take up his permanent residence in Pekin.

A SENTENCE of fifteen years' hard labour has been passed on a Tokyo forger of one-*yen* notes.

JAPANESE Post Offices have been re-opened at Chefoo and Tientsin since the first of the month.

THE Third National Bank has arranged to transact business between Tokyo and Taipeh, Formosa.

MR. SHIMAMURA was appointed on the 6th inst. Japanese Consul-General and Diplomatic Agent at Honolulu.

THE training season for the Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club, commences on the 16th inst.

VISCOUNT N. NABESHIMA has been elected by the Viscounts as a representative of their Order in the House of Peers.

DR. GOTO SHIMPEI has again received the appointment of Chief of the Sanitary Bureau in the Home Department.

THREE thousand repeating rifles, manufactured at the Koishikawa Arsenal, Tokyo, were sent to Formosa the other day.

IT is stated that the contract to lay a submarine cable between Nagasaki and Formosa has been given to the Mitsui Company.

THE repairs of the *Itsukushima Kan* at Kure will be completed this month, and she will proceed to Formosa early in October.

THE typhoon of the 4th and 5th inst., did a lot of damage at Kelung, Formosa. Several lives were lost in the Government transports.

THE Crown Prince is making satisfactory progress towards recovery. He will remove to Hayama as soon as convalescene is assured.

THE Emperor has selected a model of the proposed statue to the late Captain Sakamoto, of the *Akagi Kan*, designed by Mr. Okuma Ujihiro.

THE Tsuchiura-Tomobe section on the Japan Railway Co.'s line has been completed, and will be opened for traffic about the middle of this month.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has given consent to the marriage arranged between H.I.H. Prince Yamashina Kikumaro and the second daughter of Prince Kujo.

THE Osaka Mint struck coins to the following amount during August last:—5 *yen* gold pieces, *yen* 110,000; 1 *yen* silver pieces, *yen* 1,390,000; 5-*sen* nickel coins, *yen* 51,506.

MR. OKAMURA TERUHIKO, who went to England in connection with the *Chishima-Ravenna* appeal, has been fêted by several associations, governmental and private, during the week.

SAIJO EHIZO, an office boy of the Mitsui Bank, Tokyo, has been arrested by the police for having stolen a cheque for *yen* 587. He attempted to cash the cheque at the Commercial Bank.

THE total amount of income tax to be paid by residents in Kanagawa Prefecture this year is estimated at *yen* 45,460, the number of payers being 3,606, an increase of 24 payers and *yen* 1,145.785 tax as compared with the previous year.

THE Yokohama Town Assembly has resolved to give sanction to an application of Mr. Fusejima and others for permission to cut a canal joining Yoshidashinden with the O-oka-gawa.

ARRANGEMENTS have been made for building a fine first class hotel on lot No. 11, Bund, for so many years in the occupation of the Oriental Bank. Mr. Muraour, we understand, will manage the new concern.

Two cholera patients—a man and a woman—attempted to end their lives by hanging and drowning, when approached by the Tokyo sanitary officials. They were eventually taken to Hospital.

AN earthquake shock was felt in Tokyo and Yokohama on the 9th inst. at 9h. 53m. 22s. p.m. The oscillation lasted 37 seconds and moved from south to north, the maximum horizontal motion being 0.4 milimetre in 0.8 second.

MR. YANAGIDA YOSETSU, Secretary of Saga Prefecture, has been placed on the Retired List, his late position being taken by Mr. Yamada Shimizo, Secretary of Nara Prefecture, who has been succeeded by Mr. Tanaka Akita, Chief Tax Collector of Yamanashi Prefecture. Mr. Kobayashi Omoshi, an attaché of the Finance Department, has been appointed Chief Tax Collector of Yamanashi Prefecture.

REUTER telegraphs:—The *Defender* won the first of the races for the America Cup, and *Valkyrie III.*, the second. The owners of the American yacht *Defender* having entered a protest against the *Valkyrie* on the ground of a collision in the course of the second event, the race has been awarded to the *Defender*. The Hon. Geo. N. Curzon, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, stated that the Government itself would construct a railway the whole distance between Mombassa and the Victoria Nyanza, with a view to develop trade and to prevent German competition. The estimated cost was under two millions sterling. The situation is again critical, owing to the unyielding attitude of the Sultan with regard to reforms in Armenia. The resignation of the Vizier in this connection is imminent. Turkish troops have repulsed a large band of Bulgarian insurgents south of Burghas. H.I.M. the German Emperor, in a speech at a dinner given by the Guards on the occasion of the twenty-fifth celebration of the battle of Sedan, said that the Socialists were a treasonable rabble in daring to vilify the founder of the Empire, and he called upon the army to resist them. Mr. Pillsbury, a young American, has won the Chess Tournament at Hastings, defeating the greatest masters of the game. The result of the Doncaster St. Leger was as follows:—Sir Visto 1, Telescope 2, Butterfly 3.

THE condition of the Import trade is unaltered, and a further increase of business is looked forward to as the autum comes on, though there are persons who anticipate a possible drawback—the tightness of the money market. Yarns and Piece goods continue in fair request, and certain lines of Fancy Cottons are also in demand. There is some business in Metals, but nothing special to report. There is nothing new in the Kerosene trade, and both holders and buyers are apparently playing a waiting game. The Sugar trade is not in a satisfactory condition, and buyers will probably wait for a fall before they come on again. There is less doing in Silk, and some holders have reduced prices, though these may be called nominal. The Tea trade has fallen off in volume, though values are about the same. Exchange has been fairly steady.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

During the week under review three of the metropolitan dailies have been placed under the ban of suspension, namely, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the *Nippon*, and the *Choya Shimbun*, on account of publishing matter prejudicial to the public peace and order. The offensive articles are not named in the sentence of suspension, and it is, consequently, mere guess-work to pretend to indicate the utterances that have been the cause of suspension. It may, however, be stated with safety that, so far as the two first named journals are concerned, suspension has been ordered through their incendiary writing, in which they have indulged with a view to excite public opinion against some of His Majesty's Ministers, chiefly on account of the honours that they had recently received from their Imperial master. As to the *Choya's* offence, it entirely passes our power of comprehension, though there can be no doubt that the Minister of Home Affairs knew what he was about in suspending that usually inoffensive and comparatively sober journal.

* * *

As already stated in these columns, the object of the Opposition politicians in the coming session of the Diet is to bring about a collision with the Cabinet on the question of the curtailment of administrative expenditures. That is an old and hacknied theme, but nevertheless it will have considerable weight with the masses, who, however much they may desire the increase of their country's fighting capacity, are not particularly enthusiastic for the increase of their public burdens. They are almost certain to welcome any device by which the desired object may be attained without touching their own pockets. But the educated class, who can see though the tactics of the politicions, will not be so easily deceived. But probably it signifies little what course the Extremists may pursue in the coming session of the Diet, for in the present state of parties they are not likely to secure a majority under any circumstances. The Extremists themselves doubtless understand the situation perfectly well. We hear a suggestive story about one of these politicians. In reply to a challenge that his side can never hope to get a majority in the next session, he is reported to have answered that he was of the same opinion, and that it would have been a great misfortune for the country had it been otherwise. The Opposition organs have not yet made it clear in what manner the reduction of official expenses can be effected; the matter is probably just now engaging the attention of these parties, and it will take some time before their proposals will be made public. Meanwhile, the question is discussed by one of the sympathizers of the Opposition, namely, the *Kokkai*. Our contemporary evidently thinks that there is still ample room for economy in the expenses of administration. But it seems to think it unwise to direct attention to the reduction of the number and salaries of officials. In its opinion, the wisest course would be to effect economy by the simplification of the structure of administration or, in other words, by abolishing some Departments and Bureaux, though it does not say what Departments and Bureaux. This question promises to attract the increased attention of the press as the 9th session of the Diet draws near.

* * *

A rumour has been circulated by some papers to the effect that a serious dissension has occurred between Marquis Ito and Marquis Yamagata in connection with the expenditure on the increase of the Army and the Navy. Marquis Yamagata, according to the story, is said to be in favour of presenting it to the Diet in the form of a Continuing Expenditure Fund, while Marquis Ito is represented to be opposed to that method. This report is evidently without the slightest foundation, for, as the *Nichi Nichi* points out, any person acquainted with the Constitution will see that there is no room for a dispute on the subject. But a section of the press, either in ignorance of the Constitution or in the excess of zeal to discredit the Cabinet, devoured the foolish story and gave publicity to it in a manner plainly signifying a tacit endorsement. The matter has, consequently been taken up by the *Nichi Nichi* at some length. The Continuing Expenditure Fund, according to the Constitution (Art. 68), is to be voted "for a previously fixed number of years," and it is therefore plain that it applies only to extraordinary expenditures and never to ordinary expenditures. Now the expenses required for the increase of the Army and the Navy include both classes of expenditure; and to say in general terms that they should be presented in the form of a Continuing Expenditure Fund, would be to confess one's ignorance of both the Constitution and the nature of the cost of increased armament. Of course it would be incumbent upon the Cabinet to explain to the members of the Diet the general plan of augmentation for which increased supplies are required, but with the exception of extraordinary expenditures, such as the construction of warships, forts, and so forth, all the items should be incorporated in the ordinary Budget. As to the story about Marquis Yamagata's advocating the theory attributed to him, it is evident that he never had any idea of such an unconstitutional method. It was during his Premiership that the measures for the augmentation of the Imperial Guards Division and the Cavalry corps were introduced to the Diet, on which occasion no recourse was had to a Continuing Expenditure Fund.

* * *

The curse of Japan at present is the presence of a class of men who make politics their livelihood. The subject is dealt with by the *Jiji Shimpo* in a very interesting manner. In Japan, says our contemporary, the activity of the political world is inversely proportioned to the prosperity of the business world. When business is at a standstill and industry languishing, and when general activity in the other departments of life is at low ebb, then the professional politicians have the field for themselves, and make themselves heard, says the *Jiji*, "as the barking of dogs is best heard in the dead of night when the world around is asleep." At a time like the present, when trade is reviving and industrial enterprises are rising, professional politicians may bark as hard as they please without attracting much notice. In the *Jiji's* opinion, there is little fear of their irresponsible utterances catching the ears of the best portions of the nation, namely, the mercantile and industrial classes. Our contemporary then goes on to lament such a condition of affairs, and concludes by observing that normal political progress will be impossible until politics shall have been wrested from those who make it a profession.

* * *

The increase of irregularities in the departure and arrival of trains and the frequency of accidents on the principal railways, both private and Government lines, has called forth loud complaints in the press. Irregularities in the arrival and departure of trains are said to be most frequent on the Tokaido line on which through trains are sometimes late by as much as five hours. The insolent conduct of the servants of the railway companies as well as the officials on the Government lines, is another subject of bitter complaint. It is stated that a certain railway company, when asked for compensation for the loss of some goods belonging to a factory, threatened to decline the transportation of the factory's produce in future. These and other cases of real and supposed grievance are printed by the press, and, if the stories be true, it must be held that the railway authorities and companies are much to blame.

* * *

The same journal strongly urges its countrymen to take prompt and energetic steps in order to take full advantage of the commercial concessions secured from China by the Treaty of Shimonoseki. The *Jiji* regrets to observe that the Japanese have been in many respects forestalled by Europeans who have shown remarkable acuteness and enterprise in seizing upon the fruits of Japanese diplomacy. Some Japanese, remarks our contemporary, seem to hesitate about plunging into competition with Europeans, because the latter have a decided advantage over them in their easy command of cheap money. But they are reminded that, small as their country is, its economical development has of late been so remarkable that they need not be afraid of being in want of cheap capital. The question of capital apart, everything is in their favour; their country is so close at hand, and they have much in common with the people of China in point of language and customs. These advantages ought to make, or, as the *Jiji* is convinced, will make them more than a match for the Westerns in the war of commerce and industry in China. While on the one hand urging business men to undertake some enterprise in China at once, our contemporary, on the other, dwells on the importance of educating men for a commercial career in China.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

THE particulars of the accident that took place at the Omiya Station on the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha's line, are as follow:—The down train leaving Uyeno at 10.35 a.m. on the 6th instant arrived at Omiya about an hour later. For the purpose of joining goods cars to the train the engine was uncoupled, and to effect this went on another track. After having accomplished its object, the engine was about to return to its train, when an up-train that had left Mayebashi at 9 that morning came in sight. The engine driver, perceiving the danger, tried hard to stop the train, but was unable to do so, and the result was a collision, killing a coolie, wounding the engine driver and the stoker of the up-train, the former severely and the latter slightly. The engine of the down train only received slight injuries, but that of the up-train was very badly damaged, while two goods cars attached to it were smashed to pieces. No passenger was injured. The coolie who met with instant death had been standing between the tracks and was knocked down by the engine of the up-train, which, besides causing his death, damaged the track.

THE AGE OF THE JAPANESE CABINET.

THE *Jiji Shimpo* has taken the trouble to compute the ages of the present Japanese Ministry. The average age in the month of August was a little over 52. Count Matsukata is included in the list, because the date of computation is previous to his resignation. The individual ages of the Ministers are as follow:—Marquis Ito, Minister President of State, 53; Count Matsukata, Minister of Finance, 59 years 8 months; Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, 51 years 4 months; Marquis Oyama, Minister of War, 51 years 11 months; Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, 58 years 2 months; Count Mutsu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, 52 years 2 months; Viscount Watanabe, Minister of Communications, 48 years 6 months; Mr. Yoshikawa Akimasa, Minister of Justice, 52 years 9 months: Marquis Saionji, Minister of Education, 44 years 11 months; and Viscount Nomura, Minister of Home Affairs, 52 years 1 month. Marquis Saionji is the youngest (44 years 11 months); while Count Matsukata having resigned, the oldest member is Viscount Enomoto 58 years 2 months.

JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

INCREASING attention is being paid in this country to Australia, with a view to opening direct commercial relations with her. The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, in an editorial, urges the business men of Japan to study the question in a serious manner. Their relative geographical positions, the difference in the variety of of their respective produce, and the existence of prosperous business centres between them, —these circumstances, says our contemporary, clearly point to the fact that a vast and profitable trade is destined to grow up between the two countries. If Japanese merchants wish, as they certainly do, to take this trade into their hands instead of leaving it to others, they are advised to set to work in earnest while there

are no formidable foreign competitors in the field. The *Chugai Shogyo*, alluding to the letter recently received by the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce from Mr. Dyer of Melbourne, observes that the subject under consideration is receiving more attention in Australia than in Japan. Reference is also made to the expected visit of Mr. J. S. Parsons, of Adelaide. When so much is being done by the Australians, it is regrettable, writes our contemporary, that the Japanese do nothing to make the most of the present favourable opportunity.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING.

According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, the Town Assembly is desirous of purchasing the concern of the Yokohama Electric Light Company, but the latter decline to sell. It might be beneficial if the Assembly became the possessors of the Electric Light business, for a more wretched illumination than that at present existing on the Bluff roads is not easy to imagine. The company obtained subscriptions from Bluff residents on the understanding that the Bluff and its approaches would be properly lit, but it not only fails to provide a decent light but has disestablished the lights on Hegt's Hill, the central approach to the Bluff. As the Gasworks have been so much extended and improved, and pipes have been laid to the top of the Bluff, the Company may find it worth while to compete with the electric light on the Bluff, for the houses using the latter are comparatively few, and many residents would be glad to see gaslights on the roads in preference to the present rush-light-power electric lamps.

CLAIMING A YEAR'S SALARY.

An interesting claim is being heard in the summary jurisdiction section of the Hongkong Supreme Court. F. Wessel, a German clerk, sues Messrs. Carlowitz & Company, for $1,000, equivalent to a year's salary. It appeared that the plaintiff came out to Hongkong on a three years' contract. He arrived on the 31st of July and reported himself at the offices of Messrs. Carlowitz & Co. He was then told by the Manager, Mr. Sachse, that he might have a look round the place and acquaint himself with the locality. Upon this he drew $50 from the compradore and left. The following day plaintiff presented himself at the office, and as Mr. Sachse had gone to Canton there was no one to give him instructions as to the work he should do, so he went again to look around the town. The next day was Sunday and the day following Bank holiday, and so Wessel thought it unnecessary to put in an appearance at the office. Then he fell ill, and sent a note asking to be excused for a day. Upon this a note was sent from Messrs. Carlowitz's office expressing surprise at his non-appearance at the office since the 31st July, and next day a notice of dismissal reached him, along with a demand from the compradore for repayment of the $50 advanced. Plaintiff was cross-examined at great length, and it was elicited that he had spent a good deal of the six days at the German Club, the Kowloon Hotel, and on board the *Preussen*; while he declined to state the number of bottles of beer he had consumed or the nature of the pivate business which detained him at the Club or Hotel. At this stage the hearing of the case was adjourned.

* * *

The case brought by a German clerk named Wessel against Messrs. Carlowitz & Co. has ended in the firm giving him a first class passage to Bombay on board an Austrian Lloyd steamer and a second class passage from Bombay to Trieste. They also hand him 100 marks and pay his incidental expenses in Hongkong, in addition to $50 for expenses on board the steamer; and, further, they agreed that the sum of $50 which was obtained from the compradore shall not be accounted against the plaintiff, although of course the defendants admitted no liability in this respect.

LUNACY IN ENGLAND.

The report of the British Lunacy Commissioners this year still further enforces the conclusion drawn from the report of 1894, and the effect of both together is practically to destroy the hasty assumption that madness is increased by what is called the "wear and tear of modern life." In the first place, it is an unproved and very doubtful assumption that it is increased at all. More lunatics are discovered, enumerated, and interned in asylums, but that is probably only the result of greater care for the insane. In the second place, it is not the highly civilised, nervous, literary, modern man who is most afflicted, but, curiously enough, the huckster, the costermonger, the woolstapler, and even the labourer, who hold the highest places on the list. Civil servants, also, in spite of the supposed tranquillity and security of their calling, contribute more than their share.

THE TOKYO WATERWORKS.

A meeting of the Tokyo City Assembly was held on the 11th inst. to discuss the matter connected with the Japan Cast Iron Foundry Co. The chair was occupied by Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, and forty-five members were present. The special committee appointed to investigate the matter of releasing the Company from its contract presented two reports. The majority reported in favour of releasing the firm by ordering it to pay *yen* 2,900 as a fine for the delay in delivering the pipes but did not recommend confiscating the security money; while the minority advised the Assembly to confiscate the security, amounting *yen* 21,900, besides ordering the payment of *yen* 2,900. A hot debate took place been the two parties, and a short recess was declared by the Chairman, but the dispute became more violent, and one of the members thereupon proposed to discuss the final resolution on the following day. This motion was rejected. Several supporters of the original report then withdrew from the hall, but the proceedings were continued by thirty members, who finally decided to accept *yen* 2,900 as a fine for the delay in delivery and to confiscate the bargain-guarantee *yen* 21,900.

CHOLERA IN KOREA.

The Japanese Consul at Gensan, Korea, under date August 9th, reports that the number of cholera patients is gradually increasing in the native quarters of that settlement. The death rate is comparatively high. A physician who personally inspected the patients, says that the ep demic is exceedingly fatal this year. Strict measures of disinfection are effected in the settlement. In a sea-side street one or more patients are discovered in almost every house. The Korean police authorities state that 126 deaths occurred between July 31st and August 19th. Two Japanese workmen have been attacked, of whom one died. A Consular report from Fusan, dated the 31st ult., announces that during the ten days ending that day a case was reported in a fishing boat, and one case in a sailing ship, while no new cases were reported in the settlement. Six cases occurred in the native villages near the settlement. The Japanese Commercial Agent at Vladivostock reports that a case of cholera was reported on board a Yusen Kaisha's chartered ship, which arrived there on the August 8th, and she was detained at the quarantine station for eight days, being allowed to put into the port on August 21st. Over twenty persons have been affected by the epidemic on shore. Three Japanese men and one women had been attacked up to August 26th, of whom two men died.

THE NEW CHINESE MINISTER.

The new Chinese Minister to the Court of Japan passed through Yokohama on Friday. His suite occupied four long railway carriages. At Yokohama Station a deputation of the leading Chinese residents met the Minister and extended to him a cordial welcome. His Excellency reached the capital yesterday, and with his family, and chief secretaries, put up at the Imperial Hotel. The rest of the suite took lodgings at a Japanese hotel near the station.

METALS.

Messrs. S. W. Royse & Co. in their Report, dated July 27th, say:—Speculation and business generally in Metals has been very much curtailed during the month owing to the General Election. Affairs are now settling down, and a hopeful feeling prevails. Some are sanguine that a firmer tone will soon result in advances all round. There is every reason for this view, especially in regard to Pig Iron and Iron generally, There is more activity in Scotland than Middlesbrough, without any good reason to be assigned. The stocks of Tin-plates have been very much reduced, and higher prices are being asked. Buyers are, however, acting very cautiously, and very few transactions have taken place at the higher prices. There is a natural feeling that prices will fall on business being resumed at works that are now closed owing to the strike. Considerably more business is being done in Pig Lead, and prices close steady. An advance has been secured in Tin, and a still further rise may take place at any time. Speculation has not done much for this metal lately. More business is passing in Spelter, and the market closes in a better tone.

THE STORM AT KOBE.

The lower part of Division-street, Kobe, was flooded on Sunday morning, but little damage was done. The unfortunate bathing stage of the K. R. & A. C., which has only been recently replaced at a cost of $125, after being destroyed by the last gale, was again smashed, while a few planks were washed out from the pier stage, and one or two sampans in the harbour destroyed. The *Ancona*, which left Kobe for Yokohama on Saturday afternoon, returned to port the following morning, having apparently found the weather outside so bad as to render it necessary to await the passing of the storm. The *Natal*, which should have arrived on Sunday morning from Yokohama, did not reach there until Monday morning.

"HE WHO FIGHTS AND RUNS AWAY."

Apropos of the difficulties which have arisen in connection with the present Sikkim-Tibet Boundary Commission, Captain Bower has an interesting reminiscence of the Sikkim hostilities in his book *Across Tibet*. He says that in the Asi district of Eastern Tibet he met a great many of the warriors who fought against us in Sikkim, and remarks that "their recollections of the fire of breech-loaders are mostly lively." One man, with a scar on his face, gave the following brief and graphic account of his military career:—"I was told I had to go and fight the English, and with a lot of others I started for Sikkim. When we got there we suddenly heard a rattle of musketry: a great many men fell. I got hit in the face, turned round, and went straight for home, and have stayed there since." That Tibetan was wise in his generation.

LEAVING FOR LONDON.

A large number of distinguished persons gave a farewell banquet on the 9th inst. at the Seiyoken, Uyeno, Tokyo, to Mr. Tsuchiko Kinshiro, lately appointed to the London Branch of the Specie Bank. Amongst those present were Messrs. Watanabe Koki, Tajiri Inajiro, Hara Rokuro, Shimada Saburo, Suyematsu Kencho, Taguchi Ukichi, Fujii Saburo, Soma Nagatane, Kanai Nobiru, and Sakaya Yoshiro. Mr. Soyeda Juichi spoke on behalf of the promoters of the banquet, after which addresses were given by Messrs. Tajiri, Taguchi, Kanai, Sakaya, Soma, and Suyematsu. Mr. Tsuchiko afterwards returned thanks for the great kindness extended towards him by his friends.

THE DONCASTER ST. LEGER.

Lord Rosebery's Sir Visto, the winner of the Derby, has pulled off the classic event on the Town Moor, the pair following second and third being unknown to fame. Sir Visto appears to have been first favourite and steady in the betting, and early last month occupied that position at 7 to 2, though Whittier stood at about the same price. Telescope, the second, a chesnut colt by Tyrant—Astrology, is owned by Mr. W. M. G. Singer, and started in eight races as a two-year-old, but only won twice—at the Liverpool July and at Doncaster. The latter race was the Prince of Wales Nursery Stakes (handicap) over the Sandall mile, where, starting

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at 100 to 9 with 7st. 11lb. up, he won by half a length in a field of 20. Butterfly is a bay filly by Hampton—Merry Duchess, and belongs to Mr. L. Brassey. She started five times as a two-year-old, but was not credited with a win.

THE AGE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL.

Of the Privy Councillors, the most aged is Viscount Sano, who is 71 years 11 months. Next to him comes Count Katsu, with 71 years 9 months. The youngest is Mr. Kuki Ryuichi, 42 years and 3 months, the average age of the Council is 59 years 2 months. The ages of the rest of the Councillors are as follow:—Count Kuroda, President, 54 years 1 month; Count Higashikuze, Vice-President, 60 years 11 months; Count Kawamura, 58 years 11 months; Count Soyejima, 66 years 2 months; Viscount Fukuoka, 59 years 9 months; Count Sasaki, 54 years; Mr. Ozaki Tadaharu, 63 years 5 months; Viscount Tanaka, 49 years 5 months; Viscount Nire, 62 years 9 months; Viscount Kaiyeda, 62 years 9 months; Mr. Hosokawa Junichiro, 60 years 9 months; Viscount Kawase, 55 years 9 months; Mr. Otori Keisuke, 61 years 9 months; Viscount Miyoshi Shigeomi, 54 years; Viscount Torio, 46 years 11 months; Baron Takasaki Masakata, 58 years 3 months.

SIR HENRY IRVING.

The knighting of Henry Irving has recalled a number of stories concerning the famous actor. One refers to a meeting of a certain learned society in London some years ago, when the topic discussed was Shakespeare. Mr. Irving was present, but every one did not seem to know it. A man was on his feet deploring the improvement of spelling which had resulted in modifications of pronunciation so that were the Elizabethan poets to return to earth they might not be able to read their own works, and surely not to understand them as others read them. "If Shakespeare were to rise from the dead now," said the speaker, "I make bold to say he would hardly comprehend his own words as they issue from the mouths of the present exponents of them. He would be shocked were he to hear Irving—." From a seat on the left hand of the chairman there rose a slim figure and from a pair of thin lips, whose corners rollicked in mirth, there issued in the clear tones of a bell these three words, "Or see him."

AN ENORMOUS HEAD.

Bismarck's head was measured by Schaper, the sculptor, who made his statue at Cologne, and from the measurements the French scientific journals are trying to calculate the size of his brain. The head is enormous, being 212 millimetres from forehead to occiput, and 170 millimetres between the temples; the average figures for German heads are 195 by 155 millimetres. The volume of the skull is 1965 cubic centimetres, the average being 1478, and the greatest recorded 1860; from this the inference is that the brain weighs 1897 grammes, 35 per cent. above the average weight.

SUSPENSION OF NEWSPAPERS,

The *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Nippon* have been suspended for having published matter prejudicial to the public peace. We do not pretend to know the particular articles that have given offence. But it may be stated that both our contemporaries are paying for the persistent and acrimonious manner in which they have of late been attacking the Government on account of the honours recently bestowed upon some of the highest servants of State.

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF FORMOSA.

Admiral Count Kabayama, Governor-General of Formosa, has been ill for some time. The sudden departure of Lieut.-General Viscount Takashima, Vice-Governor-General of Formosa, is said to be due to this cause. A relative of Count Kabayama lately proceeded to the island on a visit to him.

AN INTERESTING WAGER.

A wager of $100 aside has just been made by Captain Weston, owner of the yacht *Tori*, and Mr. T. M. Laffin, owner of the *Mary*. The conditions are simply that on "the first two-reef-gale day" the two boats shall be started over a course selected by Capt. Walls. Both yachts have a big local reputation, though *Mary's* is the most assured, her performance now embracing two seasons' racing. The *Tori* was launched this year.

HEAVY SENTENCES FOR FORGERY.

Kawamura Nobutoshi and Yojima Hisato, residing at Hongo, Tokyo, were sentenced by the Tokyo Local Court on the 9th inst. to imprisonment with hard labour for fifteen years for having forged a number of one-*yen* notes. Kawamura's wife, Fumi, was sentenced to nine years' imprisonment, and Nishimura Kichinosuke and two other men to six years' imprisonment for having circulated the forged notes.

DEATH OF AN OLD RESIDENT.

We have to record the death of another old resident—Mr. Charles Jubin, who passed away on Sunday morning at his residence on the Bluff in his 56th year. Mr. Jubin, who was born at Vielmanais, Nièvre, France, and arrived in Japan in 1870, was much respected. The funeral, which took place the next day, was numerously attended.

DR. TANNER.

Dr. Tanner has been suspended from the privileges of the House of Commons for giving the lie to a member while the latter was addressing the Speaker. Mr. Chamberlain moved his suspension, and when the Sergeant-at-Arms walked the excited M.P. out of the Chamber, Dr. Tanner shouted all the way "Judas."

DESTRUCTION OF STRAY DOGS.

The police have again announced a two week's raid upon ownerless dogs, and we hope their measures this year will be more drastic, far-reaching, and effectual than they were on the last occasion. The number of stray dogs in and around Yokohama has increased beyond the limits of a mere pest.

SALE OF THE "SATANELLA."

The *Kobe Chronicle* understands that Major Hughes has sold his fine steam yacht the *Satanella*, which has been so familiar a feature of the harbour for the past year or two, for $10,000. The purchasers are Russian gentlemen, but the names have not transpired. The *Satanella* has already left Kobe—for Vladivostock we believe.

CAPTAIN EKSTRAND.

The many friends of Captain Ekstrand, of the *Tosa Maru*, will be glad to learn that he is completely recovered from his recent indisposition, which was at first considered so serious that a doctor was sent for from Kobe. He is now quite restored to health.

THE LATEST BOYCOTT ENDED.

Over one hundred Japanese and Chinese merchants resident in Yokohama foregathered at an entertainment held in the Chitose-ro, Sumiyoshicho, on the 8th inst. to celebrate the peaceful settlement of the boycott of the latter by the former.

NEW MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

An election for a member of the House of Peers, which took place in Tokyo yesterday, resulted in the return of Viscount N. Nabeshima, who obtained 192 votes, against 49 cast for Viscount Nagaoka.

NAVAL FUNERAL.

The mortal remains of a stoker on board H.M.S. *Caroline*, who died of heat apoplexy while on the voyage down from Hakodate, were buried in Yokohama Cemetery on Friday afternoon with full naval honours.

THE KUCHENG COMMISSION.

Latest news in regard to the Kucheng Massacre Commission is to the effect that all the ringleaders have been caught. A telegram from Foochow, dated Sept. 4th, which has been received in Shanghai, states that Miss Hartford's assailant has been captured. There have been 126 arrests; 27 have been tried and 23 convicted. Evidence has been adduced sufficient to convict 31 more.

THE "UMBRIA" CHOLERA CASES.

Eight of the crew of the Italian ship *Umbria* received medical treatment at Nagahama. All have recovered, and five left there the other day, while the remaining three came out of hospital on the 9th inst.

THE "BELGIC" ASHORE AT SUNO-SAKI.

The O. & O. steamer *Belgic*, which left San Francisco with the Japan and China mails on the 24th August, ran on shore about four miles the other side of Suno-saki at 8.30 o'clock on Sunday evening. The *Belgic* struck the sand gently and the passengers were unaware of anything being wrong till the ship began to bump. Suno-saki, near where she struck, is the east point of the entrance to the Bay of Tokyo and is 5 miles S.W.½S. from Daibo-saki. The point is low, with the exception of a small elevation at the north-west corner, on which are the remains of an old fort. There is often a heavy tide-rip off it, but mariners say that there are no dangers to a greater distance than half-a-mile from the shore, and the point may be safely rounded at a mile. Not far from Suno-saki lies the dangerous Mela Ledge. A heavy sea was running at the time of the accident, and the current soon swept the unfortunate vessel nearly broadside on to the beach. Meanwhile, life-belts were served out to every passenger and the boats were lowered in readiness for any eventuality. The shore was so near that the loom of the low-lying land could be seen from the deck. Two boats were then manned to go ashore to give news of the accident. One, in charge of the Chief Officer, carried two of the Cabin passengers, who had volunteered to go, and a Japanese passenger, who offered his assistance as intrepreter. This boat made straight for the shore, and notwithstanding some opposition on the part of the Chinese boatmen, accomplished its object, being carried in on the top of a big roller. After landing, the small party made its way under considerable difficulties to Tateyama, many miles distant from the place of landing, and from there a telegram was dispatched to Yokohama, telling of the accident and appealing for help. This telegram reached Yokohama at 2 a.m. on Monday. Meanwhile, the Third Officer's boat went off on a long pull to Sagami with a similar object in view. This was a very long and arduous undertaking, and it did not return to the ship till the afternoon of Monday, being picked up by the *Empress of Japan*, bound to Kobe, on the afternoon of that day, to the north of Saratoga Spit. As soon as possible help was sent to the stranded steamer from Yokohama, Mr. Tilden, of the O. & O. Agency, leaving port by the Company's tug *Restless* at 6.30 a.m. Later in the day, Mr. B. C. Howard, the Agent, went down the Bay, having succeeded in chartering the *Hokkai Maru* and the *Carmarthenshire*. The passengers, specie, and mails came up to Yokohama towards midnight on Monday, and the luggage followed the next day, when the *Carmarthenshire* returned for a further supply of anchors and wire hawsers.

One sad fatality occurred on Sunday evening shortly after the stranding. The Second Officer, Mr. Bickman, was superintending the lowering of a boat, when a heavy sea broke on board. It carried him up against the side of the ship with such violence as to stun him. In this helpless condition he was swept away and was no more seen.

Up to time of writing no cargo has been removed from the ship, but as soon as all the anchors are laid out, an attempt will be made to lighten her, and then operations will be carried out with the object of pulling her out of the sand. At present she has made no water. The *Belgic* draws about 18 feet on an average, and there is about 12 feet of water around her.

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FORMOSA NEWS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent with the fleet describes the share taken by the *Yoshino* and the *Naniwa* in the operations against the insurgents south of Shinchuh. Leaving Kelung on the evening of the 7th August, these two warships witnessed, early on the following morning, the fighting at Heongsan. About a quarter of a mile from the sea, in vicinity of the port of that name, parties of the enemy were soon observed beating a retreat to the south. A few shells from the cruisers soon scattered these insurgents in all directions, most of them disappearing among the hills. At about 11 a.m., a party of marines under Lieutenant Sora was landed at the port of Heongsan. Straggling parties of the defeated insurgents were still to be seen in the neighbourhood. Presently a Chinese came up to the party of marines, and asked them to come to his village, about half a mile off in a forest, and drive out the insurgents who were robbing the villagers of their rice. But Lieutenant Sora wisely judged it not prudent to comply with the villager's request. The same Chinese also stated that about 1,000 insurgents had come to the place by junks from Oulan at daybreak that morning, and that the total strength of the insurgents in this neighbourhood had been from 3,000 to 4,000. A party of Guards arrived at the place at 1 p.m., and the marine party returned to the fleet soon afterward. Besides effecting a junction with the Army, the marine party succeeded in finding a field-piece that had been planted by the insurgents on the seashore not far from Heongsan harbour. On the receipt of this report 12 centimetres quick-firing guns were carefully trained on the battery which was recognized by several figures moving about in the vicinity. A few shells drove them into the hills.

On the 9th, the fleet sailed southward to Chang-kong, about 5 miles from Heongsan, and assisted the troops by bombarding the insurgents' camps. Bombardment was stopped at noon, when the Guards entered Chang-kong, and the villagers along the sea coast hoisted Japanese flags. The *Naniwa* returned to Kelung that evening.

On the 11th. the *Yoshino* left Chang-kong and sailed southward to Oulan. The Guards had not then reached there, and things were still quiet. Descrying barracks on an eminence 700-800 metres from the seashore, quick-firing guns were brought into action and a few shells drove the insurgents into the mountains. The *Yoshino* then put about and returned to Kelung.

On the 13th, the *Yoshino* again left for the south, and when she arrived off Oulan at 1 p.m. the Guards were in the midst of an engagement with the insurgents, who held their ground so well that it took several hours to dislodge them. The insurgents were posted on the hills, and as the Japanese attacked them from the seaside, the *Yoshino* could render but little assistance.

On the 14th, the *Yoshino* sailed to Tongsian, about 10 miles south of Oulan. By way of a feeler, a blank cartridge was fired, when the villagers began to run about, but there was apparently no insurgents stirring. A party of marines was immediately landed, when the headman of the village came out to the landing-place to welcome them. He was attended by a number of servants, and accompanied by an aged scholar, the village schoolmaster, who carried on a written conversation on behalf of the local official. They had a flag on which were inscribed characters meaning that they were the "loyal subjects of Great Japan." The headman and his attendents were afterwards brought to the *Yoshino*, where they gave some valuable information about the movements of the insurgents further south.

On the afternoon of the same day, the *Yoshino* sailed further south to Tai-an, and a party was told off to land there. When the boat approached the landing place, a big fellow, who had been watching its approach, suddenly disappeared behind a house. Presently a number of Chinese soldiers came out of the house, and taking up positions at the landing-place, began to load their pieces. The Japanese boat was at a distance of only 30 or 40 yards. The officer in command attempted to steer his boat behind a junk lying a little distance off with the intention of there exchanging shots with the insurgents. But this was found impracticable as the water was too shallow. He then steered out to sea, and at a distance of about 300 yards he poured a volley into the Chinese, who had only just finished their loading—so quick was the Japanese boat in its movements. The Chinese took to their heels on receiving the first fire and were soon out of sight. The *Yoshino*, observing what was going on in the harbour, began to bombard the barracks, the occupants of which soon fled in all directions in great disorder. Afterwards two boats were lowered, and a party of marines landing found the place entirely deserted by the insurgents, whose strength seems to have been about 200. They had arrived there about ten days before, and, besides committing the usual depredations, compelled the younger portion of the inhabitants to join them. One lad who refused was shot down. Towards eveuing a shell was sent in the direction of Tai-kia, about five miles inland.

On the 15th, the *Yoshino*, which was still at the anchorage at Tai-an, received a visit from a deputation of the inhabitants of Tai-kia. The principal member of the deputation was a wealthy rice merchant who, taking out a memorandum, respectfully presented it to the Japanese Captain. The document expressed the loyal allegiance of the people of Tai-kia to the Japanese Emperor, and implored protection against the depredation of the insurgents. The spokesman further stated that the preceding evening a large shell had come booming from the sea, and passing over his town struck a place about a mile away, destroying two houses, and injuring two persons, one mortally. Frightened by this, the insurgents, about 1,000 strong, who had been stationed in the place at once fled to Chang-hua.

On the 17th, a scouting party of the Guards came to Tai-an and affected a junction with the warship. Before coming there, the party had visited Tai-kia, where they were welcomed by the inhabitants with professions of goodwill. The *Yoshino* remained a few days longer at Tai-an, but the Guards having not yet arrived to take possession of Tai-kia, she sailed northward, and, after stopping a day at Tamsui, returned to Kelung on the 22nd.

The following telegram from Major-General Hishijima, chief of the commissariat department in Formosa, dated Taipeh, September 6th, 7.20 p.m., has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo :—

"Violent storms have visited here since the afternoon of the 4th instant, and the Tamsui and other rivers have overflowed. The iron bridges between Ta-hu-kow and Shinchu have been carried away, and traffic on the river and land routes is stopped in many places. Railway communication is likewise interrupted on account of damage done to the track. All telegraphic communications having ceased with the country south of Changkong, nothing is known of the state of affairs there. While transportation on land has been almost completely stopped, the means of conveyance by sea is scarcely much better. Forage has been under water in many places in this vicinity, but the Guards Division has a sufficient quantity in store in the vicinity of Chang-hua to last for several days. The storm having subsided, the necessary measures are now being taken."

The letters from Formosa just published in the Tokyo papers, describle the march of the Guards from Miaoli to Tai-kia. There is not much worth reproducing in these letters, except the general fact that the inhabitants in these regions are well affected to the Japanese troops, who are everywhere received by the villagers with awe and respect. At one place, it is said that the villagers volunteered to span a river with a bridge for the passage of the troops, to whom they further showed their esteem and respect by playing music.

An interesting incident took place at Shin-pu on the second day after its occupation by the Japanese. A few soldiers were resting themselves in a deserted house, when their attention was attracted by a large bottle which began slowly to descend from the ceiling. On closer inspection the bottle was found to contain rock-candy (*kori-zato*) and was suspended by means of a slender cord. Rightly judging that defeated insurgents must be in hiding, a search was at once instituted, which resulted in the discovery of three armed men crouching in a corner of the upper room. According to their confession, they had been lying there from the preceding day, and being entremely hungry, they had sent down the bottle with the rock-candy to their victors to get some substantial food in exchange.

According to a rumour current among the inhabitants of Miaoli, the aborigines in the mountains are said to have killed all the defeated insurgents who had taken refuge among them, and as this fact became known, the insurgents are said to have stopped taking refuge in the mountains.

A telegram from Taipehfu, received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters in Tokyo, states that Vice-Governor-General Viscount Takashima and suite safely arrived there at half-past six o'clock on the evening of the 11th instant.

The report that Governor-General Count Kabayama is sick is generally discredited in Tokyo. All the official information thus far received from Formosa makes no mention of the fact, while a private letter just received in Tokyo from the Governor-General himself is stated to say that the writer is in the best of spirits. A few days ago there was a rumour at the Rice Exchange that he had died of cholera, and it is believed that the report about his illness may have emanated from the same quarter.

The following telegram, dated Taipehfu September 11th, 11.30 a.m., has been received at the Head-quarters in Tokyo :—

"The Imperial Guards Division is stationed in the vicinity of Chang-hua, only sending scouting parties in the direction of Tainan. Things are quiet in the neighbourhood of Chang-hua. Reserves are constantly arriving, and are now relieving the garrisons for the protection of the commissariat routes. The 4th Brigade is assembling somewhere to the east of Taipehfu, while those Companies of the Guards, which have hitherto formed the commissariat garrisons south of Oulan, are being brought together in the vicinity of Chang-hua.

"The violent storms that raged during the three days, the 3rd, 4th, and 5th instant, have swelled the rivers, carrying away bridges and otherwise interrupting the means of communication. The telegraphic communication being still broken, we cannot forward a report, as usual as to the position of the various bodies of troops and the actual number of men and horses for yesterday, the 10th. Rain is still falling copiously."

KOREAN NEWS.

Much attention has been attracted in Japan by the news that the American Trading Company has obtained from the Korean King the exclusive right of working mines in Phyöng-an-do for a period of twenty-five years, on condition that a quarter of the profits shall be paid to the Royal Treasury. Complaints are made by some of the Tokyo papers against Japanese capitalists like Messrs. Furukawa, Sumitomo, Mitsui, and Iwasaki, telling them that they ought not to have been forestalled by a foreign company.

Chinese merchants are said to be gradually returning to Söul, but at present they are not in a position to compete with the Japanese. Many of the provincial dealers with whom they had transactions before the war have since failed in consequence of the Tonghak troubles and the unquiet times that have generally prevailed in the peninsular kingdom. The newly returned Chinese merchants consequently find themselves under the necessity of seeking fresh customers and establishing new connections,

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and in doing so they keenly miss the powerful influence and protection of their former Resident, Yuan. Another disadvantage under which they labour is the absence of any direct steam service between their country and Korea. At present their goods are imported by way of Nagasaki, and the consequent increase in the expense of transportation considerably handicaps their business. But even with these serious drawbacks, the Chinese merchants are slowly making headway, especially at Ninsen, and the fact is beginning to attract the attention of the Japanese correspondents, who confess that their countrymen are no match for the astute and persevering Chinaman in the field of commercial competition.

Concerning the superstitiousness of Koreans, the *Kokkai's* correspondent mentions an interesting story about the sale of the new postage stamps. Strictly speaking, these stamps are not new, having been ordered from the United States in 1884. In that year a postal system was to be opened, and a General Post Office was established in Söul. It was at the entertainment in celebration of the opening of this Office, that the abortive revolution was inaugurated by Kim Ok-kyun and others by the assassination of several distinguished politicians. This affair put an end to the postal business, and the stamps ordered from America were stowed away until recently, when the postal system was opened in Söul. When the historical association of the stamps with Kim Ok-kyun and his bloody deeds became talked about, many of the stamp-sellers are said to have been seized with such superstitious fears that they gave up the business.

Viscount Nomura arrived at Ninsen at 10 a.m. on the 1st instant, being greeted on landing by Mr. Sugimura, Secretary of Legation, who had come down specially from Söul, the members of the Japanese Consulate, the local Korean officials, and the principal Japanese residents. After a short rest, he left Ninsen for the Capital in a launch belonging to the Japanese Government. It was about 8 p.m. when he entered Söul, where he was saluted at the South Gate by the Korean Ministers of State, and other high functionaries, the Japanese troops, and a great number of the Japanese residents. A large number of persons are also said to have proceeded as far as Yong-san to welcome the new Minister. Every house front in the settlement was decorated with a Japanese flag in honour of the Viscount.

A recent letter of the *Jiji Shimpo* correspondent alluded to an abortive conspiracy at Chhöl-wön. According to the last batch of letters from Söul, local disturbances have not been confined to that place. Even at In-won, only 16 or 17 miles from the capital, the orderly portion of the population was annoyed by the assembly of a crowd of ruffians during several days in the latter part of last month. A party of police was at once dispatched to the locality, but when it arrived there the mob had already dispersed. Similar disturbances are very common throughout the kingdom. Many of the ringleaders are said to pretend that they are in communication with certain influential figures in Söul. The leaders recently arrested at Chhöl-wön, for example, are stated to have confessed that they had planned for the destruction of the Ming faction under the command of the Tai Wön-kun. But their statement does not seem to be believed by anybody in Söul. The opinion of the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent and others is that these disturbers of the public peace have no political object, but are simply gangs of good-for-nothing fellows bent upon pillage and depredation. These disturbances do not seem to take place where the Japanese troops are stationed, their presence being regarded as the only security for the maintenance of peace and tranquility in the peninsula.

Ken Toju and Ko Shan (Hong Tzong-u), the would-be assassin of Pak and the assassin of Kim Ok-kyun respectively, have fled to Wladivostock. They tried to impose upon the Russian officials by producing what they pretended to be their King's autograph letter, in which the Czar was requested to send 10,000 troops to Korea to rescue her from the oppression of the Japanese. A reference to Söul having exposed their imposture, they were recently sent back to Gen-san, where they are believed to have been arrested by the Korean authorities.

The *Chuo Shimbun's* correspondent states that Ming Yong-chun is expected to return soon to Söul, but that Ming Yong-ik is so distrustful of the state of things in Korea, that, in spite of the repeated and urgent recommendations of the Queen and Count Inouye, he still hesitates to quit his secure place of refuge.

The mansion of the former Chinese Resident, which had been overgrown with weeds and in many places considerably delapidated, is said to be undergoing repairs. It is inferred from this fact that the appointment of a Chinese Representative to Söul may not be far distant.

The Minister of Education is said to have under contemplation the establishment of a system of public education by opening primary schools. Should the project be approved by the Cabinet, the Itsubi Gijuku, a private seminary under the joint management of a Japanese named Ayumi Fusanoshin and a Korean official of the Foreign Office, will be converted into a model primary school, with Japanese as instructors. Besides this seminary, about thirty private Korean schools will also be turned into primary schools, where instruction will be given according to the text books compiled by the Government. A normal school has already been established in Söul. The number of students is about 60, and they will graduate at the end of the present year, the course of instruction covering only six months.

On the 4th instant a ball was to be given at Court in commemoration of the anniversary of the founding of the present dynasty.

STABBING FATALITY ON THE "EMPRESS OF INDIA."

A Japanese named Iida, 25 years of age; is under arrest pending the result of official enquiries into a mysterious affair which happened on the *Empress of India* shortly after noon on Thursday. A Chinese cook, Chun Sheng, it appears, while engaged in work on the under-deck aft, discovered a Japanese in the act of stealing a pair of trousers, and sprang forward to detain him. A dispute ensued, and the noise attracted to the spot another Chinese cook, who soon lent a hand to his comrade. The Japanese turned from Chun Sheng to the other cook and ran after him. He then drew a clasp knife, and having managed to open a blade, with the assistance of his teeth, cut the Chinese on the arm, inflicting a wound over four inches long. Then the Japanese turned the weapon on the other Chinamen, plunging it into his neck, making a terrible wound extending to the lung. Then he bolted forward, mounted the rail, jumped on to a lighter moored alongside, and disappeared from view. As soon as the alarm was raised, the coolies on the lighter were ordered up on to the deck of the mail-packet and examined, but the man "wanted" was not found among them. The Chief Officer then made an inspection of the lighter and found a Japanese crouching in a corner. He was at once identified by the Chinaman, and when the police appeared was handed over to them. The Chinaman who had been cut in the neck died within a quarter of an hour, all attempts to staunch the flow of blood being seemingly ineffectual. The other man had his wound bandaged and is progressing favourably. Chief Public Procurator Ando held an investigation on board the ship in the afternoon, and H.B.M.'s Consul conducted an enquiry on Friday. No weapon of any kind was found on the arrested man—who by the way had an abrasion near the eye from which flood was flowing when he was discovered—and it is presumed that if it was he that used the knife, he threw it away while attempting to escape.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Concerning the tactics to be employed by the extremists in the next session of the Diet, the latest report is that they will assail the Government on the question of the return of the Liaotung peninsula. If they do not succeed in this—they know very well that they will not succeed—then their next plan is to return to the charge on the subject of the curtailment of special expenditure. They will demand curtailment on a large scale, for they say that the increase of the Army and the Navy must be effected chiefly by economy in other Departments of State, and only the amount that cannot be saved by instituting economies should be obtained by increased taxation. Perhaps they think that on the question of official economy the course proposed by them will have to be approved by the Radicals, or that the latter will at least be compelled to desist from opposition, for the Radical manifesto also inculcates the necessity of retrenching the administrative expenditures of the Government. It is, however, a question whether the Radicals will agree to a policy the avowed object of which is to create a dead-lock in legislation thereby impeding the passage of the Army and Navy measures.

Concerning the change of Director in the Higher Commercial School, it is stated that it was the result of a collision between the former Director, Mr. Yufu, and the Professors, especially Mr. Iida Hataro. Professor Iida was so very popular among his fellow Professors, as well as the students, that he was regarded by some persons as the real head of the institution. Under these circumstances, the relations between him and Director Yufu were anything but cordial. The popular Professor's cause was finally taken up by the rest of the faculty, and they demanded the removal of the Director. The grounds of complaint against the latter are not very clear, but the general cause of disaffection seems to have been that he was not fitted for the post he occupied. On investigation, the Minister of Education adopted their representation, and Mr. Yufu was replaced by Mr. Koyama Kenzo, a Secretary of the Department of Education. At the same time Professor Iida was called upon to resign.

It is also reported that Mr. Kano Chigoro, Director of the Higher Normal School, is the subject of complaint in certain educational circles. Some papers already indulge in speculation as to his probable successor, Messrs. Sugiura Shigetaka, Nakagawa Hajimu, Kinoshita Hiroji, and so forth, being mentioned in this connection. We hope that the Minister of Education will think twice before deciding upon the rumoured change, for the present Director of the institution seems to be the right man in the right place.

Count Inouye, according to a telegram said to have been received in Tokyo, will return to Japan about the 20th instant. Various conjectures are made about his movements after his return to the Capital. Will he enter the Cabinet, and, if so, what post will he accept? These questions are variously answered according to fancy or prejudice. Most persons, however, seem disposed to think that, whatever may be his personal wish, circumstances will force him to take a seat in the Cabinet. As to the question what portfolio will be most acceptable to him, it was at first suggested that it would be either that of the Home Minister or the Foreign Minister. But the latest supposition is that the post selected by him, if choice be left to him, will be that of Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, the alleged reason being that he is desirous of carrying out a policy of industrial development on a large scale.

Count Goto is apparently keeping very quiet. But if gossip may be trusted, he is far from inactive. His opinion on the Liaotung question is reported to be still as pronounced and hostile to the Cabinet as ever, though it is not clearly known on what points he disapproves the course pursued by his former colleagues. He is de-

termined, it is said, to organize a combination in the coming session of the Diet to give effect to his views and attack the Cabinet. He is said to be daily holding conferences with Messrs Kitagawa Sadahiko, Yasuoka Yukichi, and others, with a view to the carrying out of the intention referred to.

With the exception of a small portion, the revision of the Codes upon which the Codes Investigation Council is engaged, will be finished before the opening of the next session of the Diet, and it is reported that the revised parts will be submitted to the Diet. Apprehensive that the Diet may rashly attempt modifications without mature deliberation, the Investigation Council hope that a standing committee will be appointed by the Diet to consider the codes carefully before deciding upon any alteration.

The addition of another daily paper is promised in Tokyo. The new journal will be started on the 15th instant, under the name of *Jiron Nippo*. The editor will be Mr. Yamakawa Zentaro, whose name has not been heard for the last few years, but who was quite a prominent figure on the political stage in the capital about fifteen years ago, when he was one of the most eloquent demagogues of the time. What line will be taken by him in his new journal is not known.

An advertisement appears in the papers announcing the publication shortly of the facsimiles of the late Admiral Ting's letters, including those addressed to Vice-Admiral Ito at the time of his surrender, and also to the Chinese officer in command of troops at Weihai-wei. The book will have a preface written by Vice-Admiral Ito, and a portrait and sketch of the life of the Chinese hero. It is to be published at the office of the *Chuo Shimbun* on the 20th instant. The subscription price is 1 *yen*, the published price *yen* 1.50. The number of subscribers is limited to 1,000, and names must be sent in before the 20th instant.

The report that Count Matsukata had gone from Kyoto to his villa at Mikage, is incorrect. He went to Futami in Ise, where he is dividing his time between sea-bathing and literary diversions, refusing to receive any visitors except men of letters. It is understood that ere long he will go to his favourite seat at Mikage.

Mr. Shiba Shiro, M.P., has just left Tokyo for Korea, where it is believed he will assist his friend Viscount Miura. Mr. Shiba is a great friend of Pak, the ex-Minister of Home Affairs, and is said to be well acquainted with matters relating to Korea. A rumour is current in the Japanese papers that he will succeed Viscount Miura as Japanese Minister to Korea, it being asserted that that was the condition on which the present Minister accepted the post. There is no doubt that Mr. Shiba is a clever man and may be fitted for the position, but the story as now told in the columns of some vernacular journals is incredible on the face of it. It is easier to believe that he will accept the post of Adviser to the Korean Government and in that capacity will work in concert with Viscount Miura. In short, he will probably be to the latter what Mr. Saito Shuichiro has been to Count Inouye.

In the course of the next six or seven years, the number of officers in the Army has to be doubled, and the manner in which this object should be accomplished has been engaging the attention of the authorities. As the result of mature deliberation, it has been decided, it is said, to obtain the required number of officers by continuing the operation for a certain number of years those Regulations which were promulgated during the recent war for the appointment of officers from men of certain qualifications but not graduates of the Military College. As to the non-commissioned officers, the increased demand for them is to be met by promotion from the ranks and extending the *Kyodo Dan* and other schools for the education of non-commissioned officers.

The Tokyo Association of Merchants and Manufacturers has just presented a memorial to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, urging him to cause the Chinese Government to open a port either at Ta-tung-kow or at the mouth of the Yalu. At present the produce of the comparatively fertile region in south-eastern Manchuria has to be sent either overland to Newchwang or by junks to Chefoo, and the opening of a port in this district will be a great advantage to China, and in a less degree to Korea, because it will become an outlet for Wiju and the surrounding localities. The principal articles of export will be beans, vegetable oil, wild cocoons, wool, hides, and so forth; while the memorialists are certain that, in exchange for these commodities the Japanese will be able to dispose of cotton goods, cotton yarns, sugar, silk goods, iron ware, matches, and so on.

There is a tendency in certain medical circles in the Capital to attack Dr. Kitazato on the ground that he shows little respect for the lives of his patients by making them the subjects of experiment with his new method of treating cholera. The public in general regard this movement as the result of professional jealousy, but the worthy doctors must be credited with some sense in preferring a charge of the kind. The question depends upon the nature of the method invented by the great bacteriologist. He doubtless thinks that his new method of treatment is sufficiently advanced to be tried on patients, but many of the metropolition physicians seem to doubt it. It is not, however, necessary for us to pronounce any opinion on the matter.

Mr. Iida Hataro, lately a Professor in the Higher Commercial School of Tokyo, in a speech recently delievered, deprecates the present tendency to encourage emigration. In his opinion, the Japanese had better stay at home and develop the resources of the country. Japan, says he, cannot be said to be densely populated, and he illustrates his point by comparison with countries like Holland and Belgium. He is, in our opinion, prone to exaggeration, and his warning is not likely to be heeded by his countrymen, so strong is the prevailing tendency for foreign adventure and emigration.

CURRENT LITERATURE.

The latest number of the *Nippon-jin* is, as usual, full of interesting matter. Among the editorial articles, we may notice one on the question of National Defence. The subject is not treated in an exhaustive manner, but the writer strikes the right note when he asserts that the present revenue is not a correct index of the country's resources. He does not say definitely which way the error lies, whether the income of the State bears too high or too low a proportion to the tax-paying capacity of the people. That point he reserves for elucidation by others. But from the context it may be inferred that he considers the actual resources of the country are very inadequately represented by the income of the Treasury. At all events, he insists that, in discussing the question as to the degree of the military and naval increase, reference should be made to the actual wealth and the general economical condition of the country rather than to the amount of taxes paid by the people. He, therefore, disapproves of the method pursued by those writers who try to discover a proper degree of armament for Japan by comparison of her revenue with that of the European countries. Neither can he approve the determination of the question purely on the basis of an imaginary military policy, without any regard to the economical condition of the country. The writer seems to think that such a tendency is noticeable in military and naval circles. On the whole, the writer appears to be in favour of a deliberate and cautious procedure in the development of the fighting capacity of the country.

The chief interest of the journal, to ourselves at least, lies in the light and interesting literary effusions by the editors, Mr. Shiga and Mr. Miyake. Mr. Shiga concludes his paper on the Australian poets. As yet few of the Australian poets, he observes, are qualified to take their place in a history of English literature. Literature is yet young in the southern continent, but that its prospects are exceedingly bright and inviting is not doubted by the Japanese critic, who believes that the Australian poet W. C. Wentworth, is not too sanguine in the following lines:—

> And grant that yet an Austral Milton's song,
> Pactolus-like, flow deep and rich along;
> An Austral Shakespeare rise whose living page,
> To nature true, may charm in every age,
> And that an Austral Pindar, daring, soar
> Where not the Theban eagle reached before.

Mr. Shiga concludes his review in the following strain:—"The cry of Australia for Australians has already been raised in the Southern Continent, where it is evident on all sides that the people are longing to be separated from the mother country and set up an independent community. This longing for an independent national existence will lead first to the combination of different states of Australia, then to the establishment of an independent Republic, and lastly to the independence of Australian literature. It is now seventy years since the above quoted lines were written by Wentworth, and it may be supposed that in another three score and ten years there will have grown up a great and independent literature in Australia as the result of the latter's independence as a Republic. The nineteenth century has grown old, and the revival of literary life in the twentieth century will doubtless receive much impetus from the birth of Australian literature. The future is for you, the poets of Australia."

The *Taiyo* of this month is not specially interesting, though as usual it is full of matter. Not a single article worthy of attention is met with in the columns devoted to political and other current topics, many of the essays being merely the reproduction of old ones in a new dress. In the department of literature, however, there is abundance of readable matter. Mr. Fukuchi Genichiro concludes his interesting story *Yoru no Tsuru* (the Crane of Night). The story is said to be founded on fact. The central figure is a depraved *samurai*, a former respectable retainer of the Tokugawa House. After a life of crime, he finally lends himself as an instrument in a plot for the seduction of a young lady in whom by accident he is surprised to find his own daughter, of whose existence he had not known, since it had been given out that she had died with her mother while he was in prison. He repents, and to save the honour of his daughter he dies the death of a *samurai*, namely, by committing *harakiri*. The dialogue is couched in the peculiar rhythmical language in use on the stage, and there is, consequently, something artificial about it. Another interesting novellette is from the pen of Mr. Emi, who is an enthusiastic advocate of the approximation of the written to the spoken language. The characters are a newspaper man and a blind girl who are united by marriage and live happily together.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The following table shows the value of postal stamps and cards sold during the seven years ending 1894:—

Year.	Value.
1894	*Yen* 6,795,335
1893	5,527,511
1892	4,772,327
1891	4,354,173
1890	3,912,797
1889	3,486,653
1888	2,798,449

If the increased use of stamps and cards be any indication of increased prosperity, the figures quoted above show that Japan's progress is going on steadily and rapidly.

The Nippon Kombu Kaisha held the shareholders' general meeting in Tokyo on the 30th ultimo. The company's trade was at a standstill during the recent war, and the loss sustained by it amounted to 487,122 *yen* during the latter

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half of last year and 57,165 *yen* during the first half of the present year. The company's finances are consequently in a state of considerable derangement and a committee is considering the means of re-establishing its credit. According to the statement of Mr. Murayama, the president of the company, there is hope of placing the company again on a satisfactory footing. He proposes to buy a small steamer for carrying the *kombu* to Hakodate from the various places of collection in the north of Hokkaido. Freights are at present exceedingly high between these places, and this item can be greatly reduced by purchasing a steamer. Negotiations are also going on to alter the existing contract between the company and the collectors of *kombu*. The present arrangement binds the producers not to sell any *kombu* to the Chinese merchants of Hakodate; while on the other hand, the company is bound to buy all the produce at fixed prices. The object of this contract was more patriotic than business-like, for it aimed solely at keeping the exportation of *kombu* out of Chinese hands. The producers are opposed to any modification of the existing arrangement, and it will probably take some time and considerable management to induce them to relinquish their present advantages.

According to Osaka papers, the investigations that have been going on in the City Government about the construction of a harbour at Osaka are stated to have been finished. The works are to be completed in eight years, the total outlay being estimated at about 10,000,000 *yen*, and the money is to be obtained by means of a Municipal Loan. Apart from all the indirect and general benefits to be enjoyed by the city, the land reclaimed will alone suffice to ultimately cover the entire cost of the works. The total area of land to be reclaimed is 1,500,000 *tsubo*, of which, supposing that 300,000 *tsubo* be taken up by roads, 1,200,000 *tsubo* will represent the area of the land for sale. At the rate of 10 *yen* per *tsubo*, not a high estimate, a sum of 12,000,000 *yen* will be realized. Beside this, the dredgers, machinery, and buildings, when sold on the completion of the works, will realize at least 2,000,000 *yen*.

A certain Japanese merchant just returned from China is quoted by the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* as having expressed an opinion, as the result of personal observation, that there is little room for the industrial enterprise of his countrymen at Shanghai, Newchwang, Chefoo, and some other places, all the profitable kinds of industry having been undertaken by Europeans and Americans. He thinks, however, that there is more or less hope for Japanese enterprise at Tientsin, Hankow, and one or two other places. Even at these places, he states the Japanese will be excluded unless they are prompt and vigilant.

Another railway project in the vicinity of Tokyo is reported. Starting from the neighbourhood of the Koishikawa Arsenal, the line is to extend as far as Ashikaga in Shimozuke, passing through Itabashi, Owada, Kawagoye, and Kumagai. The whole distance is 57 miles, the capital being 2,000,000 *yen*. The principal projectors are Messrs. Morioka, former President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Kunoki Uhei, Hatsumi Keijiro, and others.

According to the official returns of the Hokkaido Administration Board, the quantity of herrings caught this year was 1,062,407 *koku* (equal to 5,451,147 bushels). The actual quantity must have been considerably greater, for reports have not yet been received from several fishing grounds. Compared with the average for the eleven years ending 1893, the above mentioned quantity shows an increase of 167,640 *koku*; though a decrease of 53,908 *koku* is observed when compared with the returns for last year. Of the herring fishery this year, it is remarked that the quantity of fish caught was generally greatest off the northern parts of the island.

The utilization of water power for the production of electricity to be applied to industrial purposes is receiving increased attention in this country. There are projects for the utilization of the fall of Nachi in Kii, the Hakone Lake, the fall of Kegon, and various other waterfalls, rivers, and lakes. Some of the projects may be bubble schemes, but in the case of others it is evident that the orginators are thoroughly practical men of business enjoying credit and respect.

Some anxiety, says the *Jiji*, is felt in business circles about the fate of the project for the establishment of an Industrial Bank, which had been taken up with much zeal by the ex-Minister of Finance. The capital of the Bank is to be 10,000,000 *yen*, but it is to be provided with a power to issue notes several times the amount of its capital. Our contemporary seems to believe that, although Viscount Watanabe may not be quite so powerful as his predecessor, the change of *personnel* in the Ministry of Finance will not affect the position of the scheme in question.

The Autumn Meeting of the delegates of the railway companies throughout the country is to be held either at Nikko or Sendai. The delegates are to assemble at Uyeno, Tokyo, whence they will be taken to the place of meeting by the Nippon Tetsudo line. If Nikko be selected it is the intention of the company to lay an electric line between the station and the Daiya river, so that the delegates shall be carried by train to the front of the shrine. These meetings take place twice a year, in Spring and Autumn, the expense being borne by the different companies in turn.

There have been two projects for electric railways in Tokyo, and a third has just been announced by Messrs. Morioka Masazumi, formerly President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Takei Morimasa, formerly Governor of Tottori, Seki Naohiko, formerly editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and a few others. It is believed that this project will not interfere with the two others, as the route selected is not the same. The capital is said to be 800,000 *yen*.

The Ryomo Tetsudo is one of the most flourishing railway companies in Japan. This company convened an extraordinary meeting of its shareholders in Tokyo on the 3rd inst. Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, the President of the company, was in the chair. It was unanimously decided to extend the line from Ashikaga in Shimozuke to Kanagawa. The new line will cross the Nippon Tetsudo's line at Kumagai and that of the Kobe Tetsudo at Sakai, the whole length being 67½ miles. This line, when completed, will place the rich silk district of Shimozuke in direct and shorter connection with this port. It was also decided to construct a branch line connecting Owada, an intermediate station on the above line, and the city of Tokyo in the neighbourhood of the Koishikawa Arsenal, the length of this branch line being 13½ miles. The total cost of construction is estimated at 3,000,000 *yen*.

The amount of coins of different descriptions turned out at the Osaka Mint during the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1895, was as follows:—

	Yen.
Gold coins	1,680,000 00
Silver coins	29,801,790.90
Nickel coins	350,036.00
Total	31,831,826.90

Compared to the output of a normal year, the amount for the last fiscal year shows an increase of 300 per cent. Since the middle of July, 1894, the operation of coinage went on so continuously that work was not suspended on Sundays, the average working day being 16 hours, while the daily output sometimes amounted to as much as 150,000 *yen*. It is scarcely necessary to add that the increased need for coins was principally due to the demand for silver *yen* and subsidiary pieces for use by the expeditionary forces in China and Korea.

A few months ago the amount of specie reserve at the Bank of Japan had a tendency to decrease, on account of the disturbance of the balance of trade against Japan, and the importation of war material from abroad. But the prosperous condition of the silk trade has since turned the scale in the opposite direction, and the specie reserve has gradually increased, as may be seen from the following figures:—

	Gold Coins and Bullion	Silver Coins and Bullion	Total
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*
July 29th—August 3rd	30,627,000	34,072,065	64,699,065
August 5th—August 10th	30,627,000	34,162,154	64,789,154
August 12th—August 17th	30,627,000	34,954,078	65,581,078
August 19th—August 24th	30,999,000	35,122,363	66,021,363
August 26th—August 31st	30,996,000	36,165,824	67,161,824

A corresponding increase is noticed in the issue of convertible notes. The amounts at the beginning of the present and last months were as follow:—

	yen
Beginning of August	64,699,065
Beginning of September	67,161,824
Increase	2,462,759

It is believed that the rate of increase will be still more striking in the near future in the case of both the specie reserve and convertible notes.

The committee of the Tokyo branch of the *Nippon Boyeki Kyokai* (Japan Trade Association), recently entrusted with the investigation of some topics connected with the development of foreign commerce, met at the Seiyoken, Tsukiji, on the 5th instant. There were present Messrs. Ikeda Kenzo, Abe Kosuke, Asano Soichiro, Matsuo Gisuke, Yezoye Renzo, Kakimura Tanizo, Kasahara Megumu, Horitoshi Zenjuro, and a few others. They adopted the draft report on the extension of foreign markets for Japanese exports, the facilities to the import trade, the regulation of manufactures, and the organization of guilds. As to the encouragement of the improvement of manufactures for exportation, and the degree of official encouragement proper in the matter of foreign trade, the adoption of a report on these topics was deferred to the next meeting. As to the investigation of the history of commerce of various nations immediately after foreign wars, the work was in the hands of the professors of the Higher Commercial School of Tokyo, and the report on the subject is expected to be ready for presentation at the next meeting of the Committee.

Commenting on the project on foot among the business men of Tokyo and Yokohama for the establishment of a company to undertake the direct export of silk, the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* recommends the projectors to be deliberate and careful in maturing their plans. Should they direct their attention to affording judicious assistance to the silk producers by accommodating them with loans on favourable terms, and should they further take care to have the company's foreign transactions placed in charge of properly qualified persons, then our contemporary sees no reason why the concern should not succeed.

Some idea of the commercial importance of Osaka may be formed by a glance at the follow figures showing the amount of merchandize coming in and going out of that city:—

	Exit.		Entrance.	
	By water	By land	By water	By land
	yen.	catty.	yen.	catty.
1892	675,858	163,694,210	38,547,659	19,615,607
1893	66,591,224	311,567,137	47,389,466	51,801,130
1894	30,427,802	449,746,491	43,062,669	59,133,196

These figures are taken from the last Annual Industrial and Commercial Statistical Report of the City Government of Osaka.

The question of national banks is receiving considerable attention in business circles. The charters of these banks are to expire at different dates between the years 1896 and 1899, and with the charters will go various valuable privileges, thereby seriously affecting their financial positions. It is believed that without these privileges many of the national banks will be unable to continue their existence. Consequently the majority of them are taking active steps to get the renewal of their charters for a certain number of years granted by the Government. But about a dozen in Tokyo, namely, those occupying the formost positions, take a different view of the matter. In their opinion, it is not advisable to claim the renewal of the charter, but they think it better to ask for certain facilities for conversion into private banks.

In this sense they have just presented a memorial to the Government, requesting the latter to introduce the matter in the coming session of the Diet, so that the question may be settled once for all. The document is signed by Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi (1st National), Hara Zenzaburo (2nd), Yasuda Zenshiro (3rd), Arimura Kunihiko (5th), Hozumi Shigehide (20th), Watanabe Jiyemon (27th), Takagawa Ryozo (30th), Otani Kahei (74th), Nakazawa Hikokichi (84th), Kobayashi Chikakazu (95th), Takata Kojiro (100th), Tanaka Heihachi (112th), and Toyokawa Ryohei (119th). It is reported that the national banks west of Osaka are mostly in favour of the renewal of charters, while in Tokyo the 15th (the Nobles') is an ardent advocate of the same course. Should renewal not be granted, the last named bank would, it is stated, most probably wind up its affairs.

The Kyushu Tetsudo's current semi-annual term ends on the 30th instant. There has been a considerable increase of receipts during the half-year, as compared with the preceding period. The estimated total income is 525,000 *yen*, from which, after subtracting all expenditures, the total net profit is 327,500 *yen*. Making due allowance for the reserve fund, to rewards, and so forth, it is calculated that the rate of dividend will be at least 8 per cent. per annum.

With the revival of business activity, there is a tendency thoughout the country towards a rise of wages. The spinning factories of Osaka are said to be complaining of the scarcity of hands and the steady rise in the price of labour. A similar report is received from the silk manufacturers in the Kwanto district. In the vicinity of Iwatsuki, for instance, the wage of female hands employed in weaving establishments has risen from 4 to 6 *sen* per *tan*.

Another indication of the dawn of better times is furnished by the increased home demand for the products of the cotton spinning factories. Taking the case of the Kanegafuchi factory, one of the largest in Japan, while the quantity exported has not thus far exceeded 500 bales, not only all the yarns have been sold, but contracts have been made for those to be produced in the next three years. Last year about 1,500 bales were exported to China between the months of May and October, and yet there remained a certain quantity unsold at the end of December.

TYPHOON NEAR FORMOSA.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that several telegrams dispatched from Kelung since the 4th inst. and received by the Government, convey intelligence of a heavy typhoon which commenced about 6 o'clock in the afternoon of the 4th inst. and raged off Kelung. The departure of transports or unloading of freight was consequently interrupted. The ships then at anchor off Kelung were the *Ryojun Maru, Sendai Maru, Hinode Maru, Shiganoura Maru, Ariake Maru, Niigata Maru, Izumi*, and *Yamato*. The *Tenshin Maru* met the storm on her way from the Pescadores. The storm had spent itself by the 6th, when unloading recommenced. The *Kagoshima Maru* and *Tenshin Maru* put into Kelung on the 6th. The *Kagoshima* was to arrive at Kelung on the 4th with a number of troops, but was prevented from entering the harbour, and anchored near Tamsui. She lost a steam-launch, two boats, and forty horses. Fifteen soldiers and three seamen were slightly injured. Five horses and two coolies were washed overboard. The steamer was damaged, and will require some repairs. The *Yamato, Shiganoura*, and *Niigata* left Kelung on the 7th, when the *Himeji Maru* arrived there. The latter transport was caught in the storm, and some persons on board, as well as horses, were either killed or washed overboard, one steam-launch and three boats being damaged; one boat was washed away. A number of boats were wrecked in the port of Kelung.

THE "NICHI NICHI" ON FOREIGN POLICY.

While the rest of the metropolitan journals are urging the Government to adopt a definite and fixed line of foreign policy, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* alone takes a different view of the matter. Our contemporary is of opinion that in the present state of affairs, nothing could be more unwise than for Japan to commit herself to any fixed line of action in reference to foreign relations. It considers the question with reference to Korea, England, and Russia. As to the peninsular kingdom, the policy pursued by Japan must necessarily change with the changing aspect of the situation there. Whether Japan should confine her efforts to maintaining its independence, or whether she should annex it, depends entirely upon the turn of events. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks it the height of folly to attach importance, as is done by many of its countrymen, to the increase of the so-called Japanese party in Korea. "The first object of diplomacy," says our contemporary, "should be to maintain and promote the rights and interests of the country. In so far as the attainment of this object is not interfered with, should the principles of humanity and justice be carried out. The abolition of slavery, the institution of the Red Cross Society, and other humanitarian schemes, make it evident that virtue and chivalry are not inconsistent with international intercourse. At the same time, we cannot approve the sacrificing of national interests for the sake of the principles of humanity. Where the vital interests of the country are concerned, it will not do to be fettered by petty considerations of sentiment; neither would we object to the promotion of our national interests by all conceivable means not at variance with the principles of humanity and justice. So long as the Korean Government and people do not turn their back upon her, Japan should do everything in her power to protect the independence of the country in name as well as in reality. But at the same time, Japan would never pardon the Koreans should they prove false to her. What has been said in reference to Korea applies equally to our policy with regard to all other countries."

With reference to England, our contemporary is not in favour of the suggestion made by the *Jiji* and others for alliance. Now that, as the result of the recent victorious War, Japan stands in direct diplomatic relations with the Powers of Europe, the *Nichi Nichi* is well aware of the the fact that circumstances may at any moment make it necessary for her to form an alliance with one or other of these Powers. But to talk of alliances while such circumstances are not in sight, is to talk nonsense. "England," remarks our contemporary, "from the nature of her political system, is not fitted to be a party to a secret convention, while her national interests are best served by preserving what she already possesses; her position is such that she would be most seriously affected by a foreign war. Moreover, Japan is destined to become her rival in the field of commerce. It is plainly difficult to discover the advantages of an alliance with such a Power. Moreover, in event of an emergency, England would feel comparatively safe in India without Japan's assistance. But will Japan be perfectly secure in a similar case without England's help? Perfect security will be impossible even after the completion of the present measures of Military and Naval augmentation. Would England consent to any arrangement which would require her to come to Japan's assistance at the risk of plunging into a ruinous war? England's favourite policy is to pretend that she would support a friendly State, but, when the latter is involved in war, to keep aloof from the contest, and upon the conclusion of hostilities to come upon the stage again with the two-fold purpose of preventing another from monopolizing the advantages gained and appropriating for herself what profit she can out of the situation. Without going far to seek an illustration, it is sufficient to point at her conduct in Siam in connection with the latter's complications with France, or still nearer home, to her doings during the recent war between Japan and China. What was Britain's object when she attempted diplomatic interference immediately after the battle of Phyöng-yang and the naval engagement off the Yalu? It is scarcely necessary to state that her object was to reap benefits out of the situation in pursuance of her favourite policy. We fail to discover any circumstance that tends to favour an alliance with England. On the contrary, we think that such an alliance would be extremely dangerous. Look at the papers published in England; it seems to be their common practice to stir up Japanese antipathy against Russia. England's interest in the Far East will be best served, not by acting in concert with Japan, but by inducing the latter to fight with Russia so that the energies of both these countries may be exhausted with beneficial results to herself. Such is the ulterior object of English diplomacy, and should, in ignorance of this fact, effort be made to come to an understanding with her, Japan would probably find herself at arm's length with Russia before an agreement had been effected with England.

As to Russia, the *Nichi Nichi* observes that Japan has little interest in common with that Power; on the contrary, their interests are in many instances antagonistic to each other. Russia does not think it necessary to seek Japan's alliance, because she has little fear of England's ever advancing in a northerly direction, and further because she holds China in the hollow of her hand. Either Russia must give up her cherished hope of securing an ice-free port on the Pacific, or Japan must renounce her rights in regions which she has long regarded as within the sphere of her influence. Unless she be prepared to give up Korea and suffer Russia's occupation of Liaotung, it would be impossible to form an alliance with the Northern Power. "Perhaps it might not be," says the *Nichi Nichi*, "an altogether unwise policy to make concessions to Russia as to Korea, and seek compensation in another quarter. But before deciding upon such a policy, it would be absolutely necessary for Japan to increase her military strength to a degree sufficient to insure the safety of her shores against the presence of a first-rate Power in Korea and Manchuria. Is the nation or the Government prepared to undertake such a large increase in its armament? Even if supposing that such gigantic measures are possible, it is a question demanding the most serious consideration whether or not the loss of a bulwark on one side in consideration of compensation in another direction would be beneficial to Japan." For these reasons, our contemporary is opposed to all projects of alliance, and thinks it absurd to expect the Government to decide upon a fixed and permanent line of policy in the field of foreign affairs.

PRINCE BISMARCK ON THE LIAOTUNG QUESTION.

It is well-known that Prince Bismarck follows closely the events transpiring in the political world. There is little that escapes his vigilant eye, and when he deems it necessary in the interest of the German people he does not hesitate to give his opinion to the public either through the numerous deputations that visit him or, more frequently, through the columns of the *Hamburger Nachrichten*. Whether a leader in this journal is inspired by Prince Bismarck or not, is a question not so difficult to decide as it may seem at first sight. His style and method of expressing his thoughts are thoroughly individual and characteristic, he could not hide himself under a pseudonym if he tried, and his contributions to that journal have generally been recognized at once. *Exungue leonem*. It was but natural that people should look for some intimation of Prince Bismarck's views on Germany's recent departure in the East, and the "Old Man of the Saxon Forest" did not disappoint his countrymen. As early as the middle of May, there appeared in the Hamburg journal a leader, every line of which bore the impress of Bismarck's spirit and policy. "We are far

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from blaming Russia," he says, among other things, "if she tries to realize her plans in Asia, nor do we see in such endeavours any danger to important interests of Germany; but we believe that a benevolent neutrality on Germany's part would have been amply sufficient for the realization of Russia's intentions. It is repugnant to the dignity of a great Power to stake its authority for interests not its own. We are the last to under-estimate the importance of good relations with Russia, and would always advise our statesmen to oblige Russia by services that can be rendered without detriment to our dignity as a great Power, and without sacrificing German interests. The rivalry of France in this respect cannot determine German action, for in this way we should finally reach a point where German policy is not controlled in Berlin, but in Paris. It is of course possible that the loss which Germany has risked in Japan may be counterbalanced by other political advantages; but so long as we do not know those advantages it is impossible for us to say whether German participation in the action of Russia and France deserves approbation and consent. In some semi-official papers stress is laid on the necessity of preventing Japan from throttling China commercially and politically, in the interests of German trade in the East. We hope that this point of view, when necessary, will also be maintained against Russia, and that German commerce will be preserved from injury through Russia's Chinese policy." Such an opinion from such a source could not be ignored, and many of the semi-official papers denied that Germany had become the "train-bearer" of Russia, an assertion that had not been made by anybody, least of all by the *Hamburger Nachrichten*. The *Cologne Gazette* went into lengthy and elaborate arguments to show that the possession of the Liaotung peninsula by Japan would be a perpetual threat to China; that it could have led to a state full of uncertainties, utterly incompatible with the maintenance of peace, and that the possession of Port Arthur would have led to a dominion over the Gulf of Pechili injurious, it not fatal, to a further development of Germany's trade with China. Had the Government not foreseen this danger, the very people who now criticize its policy would have assailed it most loudly and most justly. The permanent occupation of Liaotung, continued the *Cologne Gazette*, would never and under no circumstances have been permitted by Russia, and the German Government has earned the gratitude of Japan by pointing out this fact in good time and in a friendly spirit. It was the Russian government that first asked Germany whether she would assist in warding off the dangers threatening Europe through a permanent occupation of Liaotung by Japan. Of course, Russia's interest in this matter was greater than that of Germany; but for united action not equality, only identity of interest, was required. Had Germany refused to co-operate, she would have abandoned her own interests and left the settlement of affairs in Asia to France and Russia alone. The objective point of the diplomatic action was simple, clear, and well defined. England's abstention was without significance, as the three continental Powers were strong enough to carry through their joint demand. Germany enabled Japan to yield in an honourable way, has rejected all other demands of third Powers, and has enabled Japan to enjoy the rich fruits of her victory, fruits far in excess of what Germany herself obtained in 1870-71 at a far greater sacrifice of men and money. The tendency of the English press to ascribe to Great Britain the peaceful solution of the question is sufficient proof of the correctness of Germany's position. In reply to these views of the semi-official *Cologne Gazette*, the Hamburg journal is not yet certain whether a definite settlement has been reached; it holds that the final development will depend on the attitude of the other Powers, Great Britain and the Uninted States included, and not on the will of Germany alone, and adds that it would not be pleasant for Germany in a given case to have to fight side by side with those with whom she had been politically united during the recent diplomatic negotiations. "The question is a proper one to ask," the journal continues, "whether, when Germany decided to take part in the diplomatic action, the *pros* and *cons* had been thoroughly considered, whether every possible consequence had been weighed, and whether our interests really demanded the abandonment of our neutrality and, possibly, an engagement of our squadron in battle with an enemy that cannot be counted among the uncivilized and easily vanquished peoples. Fortunately, this intervention has passed off peaceably and perhaps there is still a possibility of considering Germany's action in this matter as closed so that we may again have 'a free hand.' We should be filled with satisfaction if such were now the case."

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK.

The Yokohama Specie Bank held its half-yearly general meeting on the 10th instant. President Sonoda was in the chair, and there were present about 120 shareholders, besides the official inspector of the Bank, Mr. Soyeda of the Finance Department, and Mr. Iida of the Household Department, who represented the shares owned by the Imperial Family. Mr. Sonoda opened the proceedings with a speech, in which he surveyed the present condition of the economical world in Japan and referred to the general policy pursued by the Bank. On looking back upon the economic condition of Japan during the first half of the present year, the speaker was glad to observe that neither the war nor depression of trade in the West produced any serious economic disturbance in this country, but that, on the contrary, in spite of these untoward circumstances, its foreign trade continued to increase and prosper more than ever. Excepting slight fluctuations caused by the speculative purchase of silver bullion in expectation of the demand for the metal after the termination of the war, the rate of exchange remained comparatively steady and uniform. Under these circumstances, the Specie Bank was able to present a tolerably encouraging report to the shareholders. As to the future policy of the bank, the speaker assured his hearers that attention would be directed to extending its operations so as to keep fully in step with the commercial development of the country. It is the bank's purpose to extend its business in concert with the Bank of Japan, with which it hopes to maintain a relationship of the most intimate kind. As the first step toward the extension of its operations abroad, the bank proposes the establishment of a branch at Hongkong. Other matters of importance to which attention was called by Mr. Sonoda was the appointment of Mr. Takahashi Korekiyo, head of the western branch office of the Bank of Japan, to be Manager, *vice* Mr. Koizumi deceased, and of Mr. Yamamoto Tatsuo, Director of the Business Bureau of the Bank of Japan, to be at the same time a Director of the Specie Bank, in the place of Mr. Mori Motoaki, who has resigned. After the speech was over, a report was made on the financial condition of the bank, and the profit and loss account was laid on the table. These were all adopted without debate. From the financial statement we take the following:—

	Yen.
Total Profit	1,529,179.192
Total Loss	1,019,930.631
Net Profit	509,248.561
Carried over from the preceding period	26,620.512
Total net profit	535,869.073
To the reserve fund	92,000.000
To rewards	50,000.000
To the dividend (15 per cent. per annum)	337,500.000
To construction reserve	20,000.000
To be carried forward to the next period	36,369.073

THE "DOSHI-KAI."

The *Doshi-kai* politicians, who style themselves the centre of the Opposition parties, assembled at the Atago-kan on the 9th instant, and adopted the following resolutions:—

FOREIGN POLICY.

1.—That the weak and irresolute policy hitherto pursued should be replaced by a strong and resolute one.

2.—That care should be exercised in the appointment of diplomatic officials.

3.—That the members of the diplomatic and consular services should be urged to discharge their duties properly.

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS.

1.—That a perfect system of responsible Cabinets should be introduced, and the responsibilities of the Ministers of State should be placed on a definite basis.

2.—That the completion of armaments should be carried out in accordance with a plan definitely elaborated in view of all possible future contingencies, and within the limits not prejudicial to the economic development of the country.

3.—That, before increasing taxes for the purpose of the Military and Naval augmentation, all superfluous expenses of the Government should be rigidly curtailed.

4.—That in all things simplicity should be maintained, and discarding all the evil practices attending a conservative bureaucracy, a spirit of enterprise should be encouraged.

5.—That, by abolishing administrative practices tending to injure personal liberty, efforts should be made for the assertion of individual rights and freedom.

6.—That all machinery necessary for the development of private industry should be completed, and, imposing restraints upon the ascendency of the "favourite merchants" (*cho sho*), all obstacles should be removed from the path of honest manufacturers and business men.

7.—That a check should be placed upon those members of the Houses of the Diet, who, heedless of their high trust as the overseers of the Executive, do not hesitate to combine with officials for the furtherance of personal interests.

8.—That the educational system should be reformed in such a manner as to lay the foundation for the progress of the country.

9.—That attention should be paid to the accomplishment of social reforms.

10.—That no indulgence should be shown to the officials for their neglect of duties in respect of the protection of private life and property.

THE CROWN PRINCE.

Saturday's *Official Gazette* has the following report concerning the condition of H.I.H. the the Crown Prince:—On August 31st: temperature, between 36.3° C. and 37.7° C.; pulse, between 82 and 96; respiration, between 23 and 30; on the 1st inst.: temperature, between 36.2° C. and 37.6° C.; pulse, between 78 and 96; respiration, between 22 and 28; on the 2nd: temperature, between 36.3° C. and 37.7° C.; pulse, between 88 and 92; respiration, between 22 and 28; on the 3rd: temperature, between 36.2° C. and 37.55° C.; pulse, between 84 and 96; respiration, between 24 and 28; on the 4th: temperature, between 36.2° C. and 37.9° C.; pulse, between 76 and 100; respiration, between 22 and 30; on the 5th: temperature, between 36.5° C.; and 37.6° C.; pulse, between 84 and 96; respiration, between 24 and 28.

The *Official Gazette* states that the latest condition of H.I.H. the Crown Prince is as follows:—On the 6th inst.: temperature, between 36.5° C. and 37.65° C.; pulse, between 77 and 96; respiration, between 24 and 30; on the 7th: temperature, between 36.5° C. and 37.6° C.; pulse, between 80 and 92; respiration, between 20 and 30; on the 8th: temperature, between 36.35° C. and 37.8° C.; pulse, between 84 and 100; respiration, between 22 and 30; on the 9th: temperature, between 36.8° C. and 38.2° C.; pulse, between 72 and 104; respiration, between 24 and 32; on the 10th: temperature, between 36.5° C. and 38.2° C.; pulse, between 80 and 102; respiration, between 22 and 29; on the 11th: temperature, between 36.6° C. and 37.7° C.; pulse, between 84 and 96; respiration, between 24 and 28.

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THE INCREASE OF THE ARMY.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that, with the exception of a certain part, the projects for the increase of the Army is complete, and that the computation of expenses required for the carrying out of the projected measures is now being pushed forward with great industry at the Finance Bureau of the Department of War. According to our contemporary's information, the principal points of the proposed increase are as follow: —

1.—Six new Divisions will be added, thus increasing the number of Divisions to twelve. Besides, the Imperial Guards Division, which is not included in the above number, is to be brought up in numerical strength and in all other respects to the standard of an ordinary Division. Consequently by the fourth year after the carrying out of the present scheme, the entire standing establishment of the country will have been increased to thirteen Divisions.

2.—With a view to the increase of the strength of individual Divisions, a regiment of foot artillery and a railway corps will be newly created and added to each and every Division. At the same time, the cavalry establishment will be so far extended as to bring up the present force, which is on the basis of a battalion per Division, to a regiment per Division. Besides, the strength of a regiment of foot will be increased up to a certain point.

3.—Where an increase of strength may be deemed necessary in the existing coast defence artillery, the object is to be attained by altering the organization of a battalion, so that it shall consist of four companies instead of three as at present. At the same time a regiment of coast defence artillery will be stationed at each of the six or seven important places on the coast.

4.—The defences of the smaller islands will be completed, and all important places on them will be defended by coast defence artillery and a cavalry corps.

5.—With the increase of the Army Divisions, the Gendarmes will be augumented, so that a corps may be attached to each Division.

6.—Among the offices to be created are the Field-Marshal's Head-quarters, the Regiment Head-quarters, the Gendarmerie Head-quarters, and so forth. As to the extension of the existing official organization, the two Bureaux in the General Staff Office will be replaced by four sections, while all the Military educational institutions, from the University down to the Kyododan, will be enlarged to meet the increased demand for officers and men. Similar enlargement will also be made in the case of the Arsenals, the Woollen Cloth Factory, the Powder Factories, the Horse Breeding Establishments, the District Head-quarters of Artillery and Engineers, and so forth.

Such are briefly the essential points of the projected increase of the Army. As to the expenditure required by these measures, the subject being still under consideration, it is impossible to get definite figures. But the *Nichi Nichi* is informed that the increase of the ordinary expenditure will approximately not exceed 13,000,000 *yen* annually, while the extraordinary expenditure required for the construction of forts and so forth will amount to about 70,000,000 *yen*. It being the purpose of the present plan to complete the increase of the Army in three years beginning with the next fiscal year, which commences on the 1st of April, 1896, the ordinary expenditure is to be gradually increased until the increase will reach the whole amount, 13,000,000 *yen*, in the fiscal year beginning with the 1st of April, 1899. It is further observed that experience in the past warrants the belief that, after the increase of the Army shall have been completed, it will be possible to effect more or less curtailment of the expenditure.

CHINA NEWS.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says that it is reported in Chinese official circles that the Imperial Government intend to make Wuchang or Hanyang in Hupeh the starting point for the railway to Canton, and that Chinkiang will be the starting point for Pekin. A number of officials have already been sent by the high provincial authorities of Hupeh and Kiangsu to survey and report on the most feasible route. The Emperor has given these Viceroys only a month to report on the matter.

A report comes from Chêngtu that the amount of indemnity to be paid the Roman Catholic Missions for damage done by the rioters in that province is to be something like Tls. 700,000. Furthermore, that the work on the reconstruction of the Roman Catholic Church at Yitungchiao has already commenced. The delay of the British and American Ministers in sending a commission to Chêngtu has raised the rumour amongst natives of Szechuan that no commission is to be sent after all, and that the Chungking Taotai will probably be the person to settle the British and American claims. The Roman Catholic priests in Szechuan are now being treated in a most deferential manner.

Taotai P'an Chih-chün, formerly Second Naval Secretary of the now defunct Peiyang fleet, according to news from Tientsin, has been appointed to take command of the officers and sailors that came up to Tientsin after the surrender of the fleet at Weihaiwei last February, who have ever since been housed at Taku and in the Tientsin Naval College. There are, says a Shanghai journal, about 2,500 sailors still available for the fleet that is to be, and these men have been temporarily formed into five battalions for purposes of convenience in drill and practice. Of officers and non-commissioned officers ready to resume their work there are, roughly calculated, nearly 200, either at Tientsin or Nanking. The Tientsin Naval and Engineering Colleges are also to be enlarged owing to the increased number of cadets who appear to be in no wise deterred by the experience of their seniors in the late war.

Foochow tea export returns to date show 10,612,000 lbs. exported this year against 13,270,000 lbs. last year. The Chinese hold that Congous will alone be about 100,000 half-chests short of last year's export.

The record price has just been given in Shanghai for a Chinese pony, Sans Doute being knocked down for Tls. 2,200 at the auction sale of "Mr. Ute's" racing stud.

Credulous as ever, the Chinese in Shanghai now declare that cholera is no longer to be feared there this summer. And why? The story is very short. A wheel-barrow man plying at the Bubbling Well was hired the other day by two well-dressed strangers, who asked to be taken to Jessfield. As usual, he listened to the conversation of his passengers, and soon discovered that they were the cholera gods, who had made up their minds to leave Shanghai, cross the Soochow Creek at Jessfield, and go off to the westward.

The Chinese vernacular press report that the Viceroy and Generalissimo Liu K'un-yi lately sent up to the Throne a memorial asking to be allowed to retire altogether from public life, giving as a reason the serious character of his present maladies. He is lying seriously ill at Tongshan, near the Kaiping mines. By the retention of Li Hung-chang, Chief of the Anhui or Huai political party, at Pekin, and the retirement of Liu K'un-yi, the chief of the Hunan or Ts'u party, the literary faction of which Chang Chih-tung is the acknowledged head, will, thinks the *N.-C. Daily News*, gain a decided superiority over its two older rivals in the politics of the Celestral Empire. By the way, Liu K'un-yi is reported to have recommended to the Throne Chang Taotai, the manager of the Kaiping mines, for an important post in the new Railway Board of Construction, and has backed his recommendation by an offer of Chang Taotai, who comes from a wealthy Shantung family, to subscribe Tls. 3,000,000 to assist the government in beginning the new railway which is to connect Pekin and Canton.

The Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has consented to providing Nanking with water-works after the foreign method, and several deputies have already received orders from him to come to Shanghai to study the matter on the spot and to engage some foreign firm to undertake the work. The scheme has been hailed with delight by the whole population of Nanking, except, of course, the water carriers. It is to be a commercial undertaking and residents of Nanking have been asked to subscribe to the shares.

On September 3rd, says the Shanghai morning journal, an important legal question was raised in H.B.M.'s Supreme Court, before Mr. George Jamieson, Acting Chief Justice, in connection with the case of Yuen Tsze-chuan *v.* Major Brothers, Limited, which was before the Court on the 15th of July last. It will be recalled that the Chinese plaintiff claimed Tls. 21,000 in connection with the sale of a certain match factory, and that the defendants entered a counter-claim. The counter-claim was not tried, as his Lordship, giving judgment on certain points put to him, referred the matters of account back to the parties with a view to an arrangement. Apparently this agreement could not be come to, as yesterday Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, on behalf of Major Brothers, applied for a further hearing, asking the Court to take cognisance of the counter-claim. Mr. W. A. C. Platt opposed the application on the ground that in consequence of the decision of the Privy Council in the case of the Imperial Japanese Government *v.* the P. & O. Steam Navigation Co. (the *Chishima-Ravenna* case) the Court could not entertain the counter-claim. He contended that under that decision in order that a counter-claim against a Chinese or Japanese subject could be tried in a British Court, it must be shown that the Chinese or Japanese subject, and his government as well, had consented to such a course. In the present case neither the Chinese subject nor his government had waived their rights, and if Major Brothers desired to sue Yuen Tsze-chuan they must do so in a Chinese Court. His Lordship expressed reluctance to decide such an an important point if it could be avoided and offered to go into the matters of account: if he found any sum due from Major Brothers he would make an order, but if, on the other other hand, he found the balance against the Chinese subject, then he would merely give an opinion that so much was due, without any order. Mr. Platt said an expression of opinion from his Lordship would have the weight of a judgment if brought to a Chinese Court, and his instructions did not permit him to accept the suggestion. His Lordship accordingly dismissed the case with the note: "The plaintiff elects not to proceed with his case; the case therefore dismissed, with costs."

The unpaid Chinese soldiery now hanging about Shankaikwan seem to be getting quite out of control. The other day some fifty of them attempted to break into the station yard and get a free ride on the railway, and upon Mr. Moore, the conductor, remonstrating, they set upon and villainously mauled him. He now lies in a dangerous condition with a huge gash on the head. In connection with this outrage, a Tientsin correspondent writes:—A week or two ago, some eighty men packed themselves ticketless into a railway car and refused either to pay or to budge; happily it was the rear carriage, so the train officials quietly slipped the couplings and went off without them to the huge delight of all the rag-tag-and-bob-tail which haunt a Chinese railway station. Next day every man in that four-score had a ticket and was civil. Still in justice to the "red-coats" it must be said they are more often sinned against than sinners in this respect. They are ordered up or down the line: the officers probably get all the fares and disburse a few to the booking clerks, trusting to the men's bluffing powers to get through all right. The railway officials have to fight this as best they can. We are pretty confident that the present attack is a *mêlée* of this sort.

It is reported from Ichang that owing to the large number of missionary refugees from Szechuan in that port and in order to provide against a popular *émeute* against them, Governor T'an of Hupeh has sent a Taotai with a force of soldiers to Ichang both to protect the foreigners there as well as to overawe the hostile factions of Kiangsi and Ichang coolies now disorganising trade in that city by their street brawls and conflicts.

The remains of the late Li Hsien-mou, son of the late ex-General Li Chao-shou, says a China exchange, whose corpse suffered decapitation at Nanking in June, 1893, on suspicion of his having been Mason's accomplice in a projected *Kolao Hui* rebellion, were after two years' burial in the strangers' burial ground at Nanking, exhumed the other day from the ground in com-

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pany with his wife's and concubine's coffins and handed over by the local magistrate to the relatives of the deceased who had come from Anhui specially for the purpose. At the time of Li Hsien-mou's suicide there were found at his house nearly Tls. 20,000 worth of curios, jewellery, etc., which were taken charge of by the Kiangning magistrate. These were also handed over to Li Hsien-mou's relatives.

The *P. & T. Times* of the 31st ult. says:—His Excellency Li Hung-chang, who left this for Pekin on Saturday last accompanied by Mr. Pethick, has been made a member of the Privy Council and is henceforth to reside at the Capital. H. E Wang Wênshao has received the appointment of Viceroy of Chihli and Snperintendent of Northern Trade. We are informed that H. E. received the congratulations of the principal native officials on Thursday evening, at his Yamên. The same paper remarks:—Considerable speculation is going on in the Settlement as to the position of the late Viceroy Li Hung-chang. A few are sure that he has gained in power; but some, who should be in the know, are equally positive that Li Hung-chang's day is over, and that he has been shelved. There is even a whisper that his late suspected antagonism to all things English has not helped him. If this is true, it is almost a pity, as undoubtedly Li stands out amongst his compeers for his ability and energy. But England is, after all, a hard rock to buck-up against.

A Censor has memorialized the Throne urging that the arsenals, dockyards, and powder manufactories, at present run at ruinous cost by the mandarins, be sold to private companies. The Throne is said to have agreed with the suggestion, and has ordered inquiries to be set on foot in regard to it.

HONGKONG NEWS.

A new industry originated by Chinese returned from the Pacific coast of America, has sprung up at Canton, namely, the canning of fish and fruit. The goods are shipped to Shanghai, Singapore, and California. The fish is preserved in oil—groundnut oil being used. The wholesale prices are almost as high as those of foreign canned fish and fruit, but the goods obtain a sale amongst the Chinese. The tins bear labels with very good illustrations of the contents and descriptions in Chinese.

The borrowing public, says the *Daily Press*, is anxiously awaiting the reduction of the Banks' rate on loans which should follow as a corollary of the reduction in the rate of interest allowed on deposits. Formerly the Banks paid five per cent. interest on deposits and charged seven per cent. on loans, making thereby a profit of forty per cent. on the amount they paid as interest to depositors. Now they pay four per cent. and charge seven, making a profit of seventy-five per cent. If the rate charged for loans were reduced to six per cent. the profit to the Banks would still be fifty per cent., or ten per cent. more than it used to be.

The French and Chinese telegraph lines were connected at Moncay on the 22nd August.

The *Bangkok Times* of the 20th August says:—A remarkable matrimonial union was celebrated on Friday, at the city end of New Road. The parties married were both dwarfs, the bridegroom only 48 inches in height, while the bride was 2 inches shorter.

The French column operating against the pirates near Moncay have captured their stronghold, after encountering a stubborn resistance, but the Lyaudet family, abducted from Port Wallut some months ago, were not found there. It is supposed that they have been conveyed across the border into China.

Two distinct shocks of earthquake were felt in Hongkong on Friday, August 30th. The first was experienced at 5'40"30, and lasted 15 seconds: while the second occurred at 5'50"15, and lasted for four seconds. No damage was done. At ten minutes to six o'clock the same evening a severe shock of earthquake was felt in Swatow. It had been excessively hot all day and many of the Europeans had complained of a dull oppressive feeling in the air. Just before the shock rain fell heavily. Some idea of its severity may be gathered from the fact that the ships in the harbour were shaken from truck to keelson and the mud in the river so agitated that the colour of the water was changed completely in a few seconds. During the passage from Amoy of the *Thales* the confused appearance of the sea outside the port was observed and commented upon. From the time this shock was felt until 3 15 a.m. on Saturday, a continuation of minor shocks were felt, although none attained the severity of the first.

Small value notes of fifty and twenty-five cents denomination have been introduced in British North Borneo. The issue, from the Government Treasury, was to commence on the 1st inst. Notes of the value of ten cents are also to be issued as soon as they can be prepared.

A proclamation has been issued by the Governor of British North Borneo to regulate the practice of barristers and others in the courts of the State. Persons duly qualified in England, Scotland, or Ireland, or in India or any British colony as barristers, advocates, solicitors, attorneys, writers to the signet, law agents, or pleaders, will be admitted to practise subject to payment of the prescribed stamp duties on admission and for certificates to practise.

Charles Woodward, the proprietor of Woodward's Circus, was shot at by a man named George Laurence—who it is alleged is financing the show—during the course of a quarrel which the men started in the Waverly Hotel at Singapore. Three shots were fired, but Woodward escaped them all. Laurence is now in custody.

On Tuesday, September 3rd, the dead body of a European was found on the road near the Wongneichong Gap, Hongkong. He had shot himself in the left breast, and although no weapon was found near him several cartridges were found in his pocket, and it is supposed that the revolver was picked up and taken away by Chinese. In the dead man's pocket was found a card bearing the name, Hermann Michael, and another one bore the name of the Praya East Hotel.

A telegram in the Manila *Comercio*, from its Madrid correspondent, states that a Commission has been appointed at Madrid composed of naval officers, in conjunction with the chief officials of the War Department, to consider what steps should be taken for the defence of the port of Manila.

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION IN KANSU.

The following decree of the 4th instant, received by the *Hupao* by wire from Pekin, says the *North China Daily News*, will give an insight into the progress of the Mahommedan rebellion now in full force in the province of Kansu, or the "Great North-West" of the Chinese empire:—

Yang Ch'ang-Chün, Viceroy of Shen-Kan, telegraphs a memorial denouncing the conduct of the Brigadier-General, T'ang Yen-ho. It appears from this Viceroy's reports that the Mahommedan rebellion first began in the city of Haich'eng of Kansu province, daily increasing in size and seriousness until a large portion of the country was occupied. Haich'eng was, however, recaptured by our troops, the siege of the prefectural city of Hsün-hua raised, and quiet partially restored, when the prefectures of Hochou and Sining became suddenly the seat of another rebellion characterised by greater ferocity and defiance of the constituted authorities. At this juncture Brigadier-General T'ang Yen-ho was instructed to go to the assistance of the local authorities. But he delayed his march, tarrying on the road for many days before getting to Hochou. Arrived there, and without taking the precaution of reconnoitring to find out the strength of the rebels, T'ang Yen-ho rashly proceeded to attack the enemy, resulting eventually in the almost complete rout of his army. By this unwarranted conduct the said Brigadier-General disorganised the plans of the projected campaign against the rebels. As a punishment he is therefore forthwith cashiered, but must remain in the army and is given a chance to redeem, by future bravery and good conduct, his past errors.

With reference to Yang Ch'ang-chün, Viceroy, and Lui Chen-kuan, Provincial Commander-in-Chief, of Kansu, also, we must not pass over their conduct as they have been culpably negligent in their duties. The former officer has been a great many years chief of the province and hence should have kept himself accurately informed of the condition of the Mussulman population of Kansu. Instead of this, and moreover without a definite programme to go by, we find him one day sending punitive expeditions against these people and another day assisting and relieving them. There seemed to be in fact not the least system, from first to last, in dealing with the question, hence it is not astonishing to learn that the prefectures and sub-prefectures of Haichou, Tiaochou, Hochou, and Tihchou are one grand encampment of the rebel armies. Yang Ch'ang-chün has, therefore, made glaring mistakes which he seems scarcely able to rectify. As to the Provincial Commander-in-Chief, Lui Chen-kuan, he has proved his mediocrity of talents, blindness to the dangers of the times, and ignorance of the actual crisis which hung over the province, by being inveigled into authorising the gift of arms, ammunition, and warlike stores to the very people who only wanted them to rebel with. Lui Chen-kuan is clearly unfit for this important post. We therefore decree that both Yang Ch'ang-chün and Lui Chen-kuan be forthwith handed over to the Boards for the determination of a penalty, and we would also exhort them to look more about them in the future and endeavour to redeem their past errors. As soon as the armies of General T'ung Fu-hsiang (Kashgar) and the others shall have arrived in Kansu, let each and every one combine to use their best efforts and by united action speedily crush the present rebellion with one sweeping blow. In this way, only, will there be a chance to redeem the culpable negligence and errors of the past. Pay sharp heed and reverential obedience to these our commands!

According to telegrams received from Kansu, it seems that so far only about 5,000 mounted troops have arrived in that province to assist the provincial forces to oppose the Mohammedan rebels. These reinforcements started nearly two months ago from North Tungchow ahead of the main body of 20,000 men, and arrived to relieve Lanchou last June. The unprecedented wet weather greatly retarded the march of General Tung's troops, and it was only a fortnight ago that the first battalion of Kashgar troops entered the southern border line of Kansu. Behind General Tung the Imperial government has also sent the army of General Ma consisting of 12,000 Honan foot soldiers. Both armies are composed of picked men; and well-informed Chinese who have seen these troops when encamped last winter at North Tungchow and the Southern Hunting Parks feel confident that they will make short work of the Mohammedans in Shensi and Kansu. It is high time that these troops faced the rebels, for from a telegram dated the 1st instant received by the local mandarins, the rebels are again menacing Lanchou, the capital of Kansu, and their advanced posts are only about ten miles distant from that city. In fact, the provincial troops have been so often defeated that they are now shut up within the walled cities, leaving the open country to the rebels, who are confidently estimated at 100,000 in all.

The latest dysentery returns are as follow:—108 cases and 18 deaths in Oita during the eleven days ended the 28th ult., 190 and 46 in Fukuoka, and 31 and 10 in Saga during the week ended the 31st ult., 126 and 41 in Hyogo during the eight days ended the 2nd inst., 79 and 18 in Miyazaki during the week ended the 8th inst., 435 and 108 in Okayama during the two weeks ended the 2nd inst., and 107 and 19 in Shizuoka during the week ended the 7th inst.

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TSUNE KIJIMA AND OTHERS V. THE P. & O. COMPANY.

WE publish in this issue the judgment of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case of TSUNE KIJIMA and others *versus* the P. & O. Company. With the facts of the *Chishima-Ravenna* collision our readers are well acquainted. Seventy-four of the officers and crew serving in the *Chishima* lost their lives, and the man-of-war itself was a total loss. If the ***Ravenna*** was to blame, this gave rise to a right of action of several classes of persons. Firstly, of the owners of the man-of-war; secondly, of the survivors for loss of effects on board; and thirdly, of the relatives of the deceased, within certain degrees of relationship, for the damages sustained by them though the loss of their relations. The Government commenced an action in due course against the P. & O. Company for the loss of the man-of-war, and that action, is now pending. The survivors, having six years within which to bring their actions, chose to await the decision in the Government's action before suing. The relations, by Lord CAMPBELL'S Act, were obliged to bring their action or actions within one year, consequently they could not await the result of the Government action without the consent of the Company to extend such time of one year, or without the Company's agreeing that the Government's action should be counted a test as to who was to blame for the collision, leaving only the amount of damages to be subsequently settled should the ***Ravenna*** be held to be in the wrong. The P. & O. Company, through their counsel, were asked to consent to either of these courses, but they refused to do so. This was not a liberal attitude for a great company to assume against a number of people who had suffered seriously by the collision, who only wanted compensation if the ***Ravenna*** was in the wrong, and to whom the costs of litigation would render a lawsuit almost prohibitive. The company in so acting were badly advised. If the ***Ravenna***, in the main action of the Government, should be found to blame, on what grounds could the Company have fairly refused to pay the damages of these claimants, their individual claims having been subsequently established? Failing in these efforts to obtain the Company's consent that the Government's action should be counted a test as regards the rights and wrongs of the collision, they asked the Company to consent that an action brought by one of them should be made a test action for all, so far as concerned the trial of the question of whether the *Ravenna* was to blame or not. This request was also refused by the Company; for what reasons it is impossible to say, since we can not suppose that by forcing these poor people to bring separate actions the Company hoped to take advantage of their financial inability.

Of the 74 persons who died, only 62 had relations that could properly claim damages. These 62 groups of persons, the cause of action being the same, brought their claims in one petition, claiming separate amounts, but with a view of having only one trial instead of 62 different ones. In so doing they followed the interpretation of the Courts in England of certain Rules of Procedure, which were not clearly worded and had become the subject of litigation in England. The defendant Company objected to the claims being brought in one action, and the British Court for Japan at Yokohama upheld the objection. On Appeal to Shanghai the Supreme Court reversed the decision of the Yokohama Court, considering that Court bound by the decision of the Court of Appeal of the High Court of Judicature in England in the case of HANNAY v. SMURTHWAITE, which case had been decided only a few months before the present action was instituted, and which, under circumstances similar to those that gave rise to the action, established the principle that the several plaintiffs could join their claims in one action. It would seem clear, therefore, that the Japanese plaintiffs did all they were bound to do in going to the British Court. A then quite recent decision of the highest Court in England had decided that the proper interpretation of the Rule of Procedure was to permit such plaintiffs to sue in one action instead of bringing separate actions. But now came the unforeseen. Soon after the Shanghai Court's decision was rendered, the House of Lords having before it, on appeal, the decision of the Appeal Court in HANNAY v. SMURTHWAITE, reversed that judgment, holding that the proper interpretation of the Rule of Procedure was that in such a case the claims could not be joined together in one petition. The P. & O. Company having appealed from the Shanghai decision to the Privy Council, the Judicial Committee was virtually bound to follow the quite recent decision of the House of Lords, and consequently reversed the judgment of the Supreme Court, that judgment, as well as the whole course of procedure of the plaintiffs, having been based on the decision of the High Court of Appeal in HANNAY v. SMURTHWAITE, which the House of Lords subsequently reversed. What is the consequence to the plaintiffs, and how do they now stand? Their joint Petition is dismissed and they cannot bring separate actions because the period of one year allowed by Lord CAMPBELL'S Act has much more than elapsed. Is that due to any fault of theirs? It would seem clearly not. When they instituted their action, they followed the procedure indicated by the interpretation placed by the highest Court in England on an ambiguous Rule of Procedure. What more could they do? Are they to suffer because that decision has since been reversed? That a British subject would under like conditions, suffer by the uncertainty of the law, is quite beside the question. He must in such a case remain without a remedy; there is nobody he can claim from; he cannot complain of his Courts; he must congratulate himself on the protection that he himself may one day in his turn obtain from the legal system of his country. But what has that to do with Japanese plaintiffs who are forced by Treaty to sue in a consular Court in Japan? Surely the most, the very utmost, that they are bound to do is to institute their suit according to the interpretation placed upon the Rules of Procedure by courts whose decision is at the time binding on that Consular Court. They cannot be expected to go further than that, to know more than that. They would certainly be wrong in acting contrary to such a decision. If during the course of their action, the decision forming the basis of their procedure and binding the Court in which their action lay, is reversed, can they, having regard to the Treaties, be thereby dispossessed of their rights? If so, it seems a great hardship, and a denial of that justice which they have by the Treaties a right to expect. The defendant Company were in this case of course entitled to avail themselves of the subsequent decision of the House of Lords favourable to their views, but if that decision is to cause the plaintiffs' petition to be dismissed, as it has been, and to deprive them of all remedy against the defendant Company without any fault of theirs, they must surely be entitled to obtain a remedy from some one, and this would seem to be the Government, whose Courts are now no longer able to do them justice. The matter is one of great interest; it has a bearing that extends beyond the present case, and it is to be hoped that the Foreign Office will not allow the affair to rest without obtaining for the plaintiffs some fair enquiry into their claims and proper compensation, if they are entitled to it.

AN ANSWER.

AN article published in these columns on the 22nd ultimo, under the heading "Cæsar and Christ," has been made the subject of strong protest by the two highest dignitaries of the Christian Church in Japan, Archbishop OSOUF and Bishop BICKERSTETH. Each Prelate finds the same ground of objection, namely, that the language of the article gives serious offence to our Christian readers by assailing the truth of their religion in the person of its founder. We do not hesitate to say that if the article has indeed been a source of pain in the manner described by our correspondents, we regret its publication. Our constant editorial principle has been that all respectable feelings deserve to be respected; every disputant, in choosing the terms he applies to another's creed, should be guided by the

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reverence he entertains toward his own. The article in question was "communicated," and would have been thus distinguished but for an accident. That, however, is a point of secondary importance, not affecting the responsibility of the editor. We refer to it here merely for the purpose of disavowing our own agreement with the views of the writer. What we have chiefly to consider is whether in truth the article contained language capable of being construed in a sense insulting to Christianity and wantonly hurtful to the cherished sentiments of Christians. We do not think that it did. Fortunately, in examining this question, the explicitness of Bishop BICKERSTETH'S letter saves us from unsatisfactory recourse to a general disclaimer. The Bishop singles out two expressions as specially objectionable, namely, the term "visionary" as applied to CHRIST, and the phrase describing Christianity as one of "two great things which have now had their day." Yet our readers know well that hundreds of eminent and good men at the present day regard CHRIST and Christianity in the sense denounced by Bishop BICKERSTETH. They count CHRIST a "visionary" because he preached a system of ethics irreconcilable, in some respects, with the exigencies of human existence; and they consider that Christianity has had its day "because the supernatural elements, without which it would become a mere cult, are discredited by nineteenth century science. It would be difficult to find in any religious teaching a more unpractical behest than the Nazarene's beautiful counsel, "consider the lilies of the field: they toil not, neither do they spin." Most assuredly if any preacher were to inculcate such a doctrine in these times, he would be called by common consent a "visionary." Hence there is no just cause of offence if men whose analytical proclivities overmatch their synthetic capacity discover in CHRIST'S teachings isolated precepts indicating that he thought less of the world in which his disciples are compelled to live than of a world existing only in his own immaculate ideas. The expression of such views ought not to be resented. They are warrantable equally withthe contention of an astronomer who rejects the tradition that the sun and moon stood still for military purposes at the bidding of JOSHUA, or the incredulity of a physicist who holds that the properties of matter are superior to the potentialities of any miracle-worker. We can not too strongly record our dissent from the notion that restraints may be duly imposed upon the free expression of honest doubts, or that Christians have any right to be offended because a dissenter from their creed formulates the reasons of his scepticism in plain terms. The former contention has too close affinity with the age when the vista of free thought was bounded by the rack and the stake: the latter contrasts too glaringly with the practice of Christian propagandists themselves, who, in their crusades against "pagan" and "heathen" creeds, seldom display toward the revered traditions of others such refinement of phrase and courtesy of contention as our correspondents claim for their own faith. Christianity has nothing to apprehend. Its survival does not depend upon the silence of critics, nor are its truths so fragile that they must shrink from contact with every wind of alien doctrine. It bears upon its face the stamp of divine origin. The material miracles may go; the accidents and errors of annalists may be exposed. But the divinity of the great creed will live for ever. For what reasoning man can imagine that in an age of scientific darkness and among a people whose ethics were as defective as their customs were depraved, a philosopher was born who, without divine inspiration, conceived and enunciated standards of morality to which the civilized world has ever since been striving to attain; which are still beyond the reach of our best efforts, and to which all the wisdom of all the ages has not been able to add anything? That is the miracle of miracles, unassailable by science, absolutely satisfactory to reason. Would CHRIST himself have sought to impose silence upon those who, less happy than his disciples, were unable to accept his teaching? Would he have dictated phrases for the expression of their doubts, or protested against the insult of their querying his divine origin? We do not think so, and unless our judgment be proved defective, we shall continue to open our columns to discussion dictated by a sincere craving for truth.

This brings us finally to Monseigneur OSOUF'S *dictum* that newspaper columns are unsuited for purposes of religious controversy. We observe that the Archbishop couches his assertion in language not without a shadow of contempt. But his Grace's character is too well known to permit any protest on that score. We can be sure that he had no intention of offending. Why, however, should newspaper columns labour under any such disability? They are acknowledged to be due media for the discussion of political, literary, historical, commercial, scientific, and economical topics. Why not for religious also? Religion, we have been taught to believe, should belong to the domain of real, every-day life, quite as much as secular pursuits. And if men are to be precluded from defending their faith or ennuciating their doubts in journalistic columns, what media are fitting for the purpose? Magazines, which differ from newspapers only as to the interval of their publication? Books, which possess the fatal faculty of propagating in permanent form errors that may remain always uncontradicted for their readers? The pulpit or the platform, where controversy is either forbidden altogether, or exposed to the disfigurements of immature speech? In the newspaper, on the contrary, the refutation of a fallacy follows quick on its enunciation, and appeals being always made to the same audience, there is no fear that a clever expression of infidelity may be left to distil poison beyond the reach of antidote. So radically do we differ from Monseigneur OSOUF in this particular that we deem the daily journal to be eminently fitted for the very function denounced by his Grace. Indirectly connected with the same class of objection is Bishop BICKERSTETH'S proposition that "as the believers in Christianity among our readers do not ask us to defend their faith in our leading articles, they have a right to feel aggrieved as well as pained when we allow them to be used for attacks on their most cherished beliefs." We should be surprised did the Bishop defend that assertion after careful thought. It is our right, and has often been our privilege, to defend the cause of Christianity in these columns. It is our duty to promote for others the right of free speech that we claim for ourselves. In asserting the former title, we certainly shall not wait for a mandate from our Christian readers any more than in discharging the latter duty we shall recognise any veto imposed by them.

"SURI," OR OUTDOOR THEFT.

"SURI"—which term includes all kinds of out-door theft—is carried to a remarkable point of proficiency in Japan. It has in truth reached the level of a fine art, as murder did in DE QUINCEY'S days.

The total number of pickpockets entered on the books of the Metropolitan Police since the year 1884, is about one thousand, of whom only four or five per cent. are women. According to the returns for 1893, the pickpockets arrested in that year totalled 494, of whom two were females. We may therefore assume that there are in Tokyo at least five hundred professional *Suri*. The proverbial "honour among thieves" is well exemplified by these gentry, who not only observe strict faith toward each other, but are also noted for mutual helpfulness. In the whole community of "merry boys," there is no fraternity more perfectly organized than that of the out-door thieves. Tokyo boasts about 70 "masters" in this trade. All of them are ostensibly engaged in honest business, as, for instance, tailoring, grog-shop-keeping, and so forth, and each of them has under him a number of less experienced workers. The relation between such masters and disciples was extremely close in pre-Restoration days, and is kept up to a certain extent even at present. For instance, when a disciple is arrested for theft and thrown into prison the master usually provides him with good food, and endeavours, in every possible way, to

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mitigate the hardships of prison-life. In return for such protection the disciple hands to his master a portion of any booty that he has succeeded in obtaining.

The field of operations is still to a certain extent divided among respective masters; the district of Shiba, for instance, being considered as coming under the jurisdiction of one SEIJI, a resident of Shinami. When a provincial sharper comes to Tokyo and begins to ply his business without at first obtaining the recognition of a master of the district where he chooses to work, he is pretty sure to be "sold up" to the Police Authorities by one or other of the masters controlling the district.

Very remarkable is the attitude of burglars and these out-of-door thieves to one another: it amounts almost to actual hostility. Burglars are despised by pickpockets, because while the crime of house-breaking carries with it a much heavier penalty than that of theft from the person, the rewards of the former are not nearly so great as those of the latter. Besides, Japanese pick-pockets labour under the pleasant delusion that their play is comparatively fair and above-board, since it is carried on in the daylight and can only be successful with folks that fail to exercise proper vigilance in protecting their property. At all events, a pickpocket seldom, if ever, travels beyond what he considers his legitimate field of operations, or turns into a regular house-breaker. Should he fall so far from grace, he is sure to be ex-communicated by his fellow craftsmen.

Suri are in general divided into three classes according to the special lines that they pursue; namely, those that aim at objects generally carried in the bosom of people's garments, as purses; those that aim at things carried in the capacious sleeves of the Japanese garment, and those that ply their trade in trains, tram-cars, and even in steamers, the last kind being technically termed "box-workers," (*kako-kasegite*). Those falling under the third category generally succeed in obtaining richer booty than those that pilfer in the streets. By way of set-off, however, they require more capital and more shrewdness, for it is commonly in the second or first-class cars that they seek their victims. They must also be very prompt in effecting their escape after accomplishing a theft, for if the alarm be once given their exit from the car is hopeless. Perhaps watch-stealers should be placed in a separate class. In their special line the utmost dexterity is needed, a sleight of hand almost equal to that of a juggler. The pickpocket is usually armed with two implements, a pair of scissors and a knife, but as to the precise manner in which he employs these tools it is difficult to speak. It is said, however, that the more skill a thief develops the less recourse has he to the knife. No sooner is a watch detached from its orginal chain, than it is attached to another which the thief has on his person, so that no one has any reason to suspect the *povenance* of the purloined property. To extract a watch or a purse from the pocket of a foreign-cut garment or from under the girdle of the Japanese costume, is a delicate feat. It is alleged that the thief narrowly watches the breathing of an intended victim, and avails himself of the moment of exhalation, when the tension of the clothes becomes somewhat relaxed so that the sensation of a touched garment is tardily conveyed to the body. It follows that in the hot season, when people wear thin clothes, the thief experiences most difficulty in exercising his art, and we find that the Police Report shows a decided diminution in this kind of crime during summer. Thus the numbers of cases in Tokyo in the summer and winter of 1893, were 143 and 315 respectively. It is not, however, solely to a difference in the victim's habiliments that this diminution of crime in the summer must be attributed. There is another patent cause, namely, the difficulty of employing during the hot season contrivances that facilitate the business of theft in winter. Thus in cold weather the *suri* can wear a shawl, cloak, or some other loose garment, which serves to conceal his operations. There appears to be a pride of craft among these men. They seek to consummate their villany in as clever a manner as possible and condemn all rough ways of doing business. One of the commonest methods resorted to by a young pickpocket is to collide against a person whom he wishes to rob, and to take advantage of the confusion thus caused, This is called a "rough device," and is condemned by experienced hands. When the true expert employs his art, not only is his victim entirely unconscious of being robbed, but even others of the same gang —for pickpockets generally work in bands —are equally ignorant that the job has been done. A band commonly consists of from three to five men, who pass the booty in quick succession from one to another, so that even though the actual thief be arrested, he can allow himself to be searched with impunity. The gang is sometimes accompanied by a watch, whose duty is to stand sentry at the place where the gang intend to carry on business, and to make signals when a policeman or detective appears on the scene. The booty is divided in a certain fixed proportion. Generally the man that has actually performed the stealing takes one half, the other half being distributed among his comrades and the watchman. One of the most interesting points is the relations between *suri* and licensed victualling shops established near prison houses to supply food to prisoners. A pickpocket now and then deposits a small sum of money at one or other of these victualling shops, to provide against the chance of his being thrown into prison. In the event of imprisonment, he sends notice to the keeper of the shop where he has this reserve fund, and asks to have victuals supplied to soften the hardship of prison life. Of course every depositor is not arrested, but for however long a period the pickpocket succeeds in eluding the clutches of the law, he generally leaves his deposit in the hands of the victualler. The latter, however, seldom acquires any reversionary interest in the fund, for if another prisoner of the same trade sends for food, he must be supplied, even though not directly concerned in the deposit. It need scarcely be said that the purveyor finds his account by charging higher prices for food supplied to such customers. The habits of the *suri* vary according to localities. Those of Tokyo, for instance, so soon as they accomplish a theft, generally hasten to a house of ill-fame, and are consequently soon reduced to their old condition of poverty. Such is not the case with the light-fingered gentry of Osaka, *chibo*, as they are there called. There the prevailing business spirit of the town infects even the pickpockets! They steal, not to squander the proceeds in vicious amusements, but to save up a permanent provision for themselves. Thus, when a man is robbed by an Osaka pickpocket, not infrequently the money returns safely to its owner, which is very rarely the case in Tokyo. In either place, however, the police are urgent in asking for prompt notice. It is mainly owing to delay in sending notice that thieves are enabled to escape in the face of strong suspicions against them. If pick-pockets are shrewd in eluding the vigilance of the police, the latter are equally shrewd in detection. They know the persons of all professional thieves, and are, in general, acquainted with their respective haunts and fields of operations. Thus the detectives can prosecute such rigid inquiries that, in eight or nine cases out of every ten, a stolen article is recovered, if only notice be promptly sent in. Not rarely pick-pockets find the pursuit of the detectives so hot that they are obliged to send back the purloined goods to the Police Authorities, in which event they are careful to defray the cost of transport.

Rarely are Japanese pickpockets armed with lethal weapons, and still more rarely do they employ them. Even in Tokyo instances of robbery from the person with violence do not average five annually. An event very frequent in pre-Restoration days, namely, the wounding of an informant who interfered with a pickpocket's trade, is no longer heard of. *Per contra*, a new method imported from abroad is now and then reported by the press, namely the use of chloroform to anæsthetize an intended victim. An instance occurred not long ago in a train between Tokyo and Yokohama. A traveller happening to be without a match,

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a fellow-passenger, sitting close by, kindly supplied the want, but as the passenger was in the act of lighting his cigarette, he felt a strange sensation, and, in a moment, lost his senses. When he recovered consciousness, the match-giver had decamped taking with him the traveller's gold watch. Experienced pickpockets disdain such extraordinary devices, and hold in contempt those that resort to them.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

"CÆSAR AND CHRIST."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Thanking you for the space given to my former letter, I ask space for a few words more. The Editor while admitting there is a "forcible contrast" between Christ and Cæsar thinks there is a "striking similarity" between them in some points. Let us for the present admit this, does it therefore follow that they are characters of like nature and are to be treated of upon the same plane? In my previous letter it was clearly shown that Jesus was a subject of prophecy; this point can be made much fuller, pointing out the time of his birth, the place, of whom, his name (or names) the purpose of his coming, his trial, his crucifixion, his burial, and his resurrection. A line of evidence entirely too convincing to be set aside and clearly showing him to be what he claimed, "the Son of God," hence different from any other being that has ever made his advent into the world. Any one in treating of Jesus who ignores this stupendous fact must of necessity make himself illogical, contradictory, and a false historian; and, I might add, unscientific; for true science does not treat in a confused way things that clearly differ. There is a similarity between Christ and a lion, he is called "the lion of the tribe of Judah," but does it follow that both are alike in nature? His coming is also said to be like a thief in the night, but it would be great injustice to the Son of God to deal with him as a thief. He also has points of similarity to that of a sheep; a sheep when killed "opens not its mouth" neither did Jesus; a sheep is not killed because it is a bad animal, but to gratify the fleshly desires of man, so was Jesus; the Editor thinks Jesus apparently failed of his purpose but was afterwards successful, and so it can be said that in killing a sheep it fails of its purpose for which God made it but is afterwards successful in that it propagates a higher and more intelligent order of life than its own. Now I hope, by the aid of this comparison, to show that we should not be led astray to treat as alike in nature things that happen to have some points of similarity. But there is one signal point in the Editor's line of similarities that shows he has not an accurate knowledge of the facts. He says: "Christ was crucified for calling himself a king, and thus setting himself up against Cæsar. From the same source the Editor gets his knowledge concerning the Christ I shall show that he did not set himself up (in the eyes of the people) against Cæsar nor was crucified for calling himself a King. The Jews tried to entangle him with Cæsar that they might thus induce the Romans to put him to death, but in this they entirely failed, and he was finally put to death on the accusation of blasphemy in making himself the "Son of God." Neither Pilate, nor Herod, heads of the Roman Law, found any cause of death in Jesus, but the former sought three times to release him from the false accusation of the Jews, but the cry of the mob, instigated by the Jewish Sanhedrim, prevailed, and Pilate gave him over to them to be crucified; at the same time washing his hands as being "innocent of the blood of this just person." See Matt., 27; 11—25; Luke, 23; 1—26.

That Jesus even "apparently failed" at the hour of death to accomplish his mission was only apparent to those who through national pride and the errors of tradition failed to grasp the purpose of his coming. As was shown in my previous letter, the death of Jesus was as definitely predicted by the prophets and himself as was any other event connected with his history. Speaking of his death he says: "The hour is come that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily I say unto you except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone: but if it die it bringeth forth much fruit. . . Now is my soul troubled, and what shall I say! Father save me from this hour? *but for this cause came I unto this hour.*" "And I if I be lifted up from the death will draw all men unto me. *This he said signifying what death he should die.*" Besides what has already been given, more space than is allotted me in this entire letter could be filled with evidence *from the same source that the Editor gets his idea that there ever was a Christ* even, showing that there was not even an "apparent" failure in the death of Christ, but that it was in the very purpose of his coming that man might be redeemed. "Without the shedding of blood there can be no remission." To say then, in attempting to compare Jesus and Cæsar, that "both apparently failed utterly at the hour of death to accomplish their mission," is to do great injustice to the "Son of God," and ignore the facts of prophecy and history.

Nor can I admit that the result of their lives forms a parallel. Imperialism existed long before Cæsar's day; the first was the Babylonian, next the Medo-Persian, next the Grecian, then the Roman Republic, which again sank back into "Roman Imperialism" and went to ruin; some of the fragments of which we have in some of the governments of to-day. But who would dare to say that all we have of the system Jesus died to establish is a few broken fragments of a decayed code? Man may fail to live up to it, but the Bible to-day is as complete in all its parts as when the last line was written by the beloved Apostle on the Isle of Patmos. The system Jesus came to establish was a development—"First the blade, then the ear, then the full grown corn in the ear:" what remains of Cæsar is the fragments of a political system that had begun to decay even in the time of Daniel. The one is a ruin: the other is a Temple yet in process of building.

But "Christ showed a conspicuous inability to grasp a throne; he was not sufficiently selfish and was wanting in ambition." What a strange turn from the Editor's former statement that "he showed a conspicuous inability to grasp the significance of many of the most elementary relations of practical life." I for one was certainly not prepared to receive a throne as one "of the most elementary relations of practical life." But did Jesus refuse to recieve a throne? Not if the source of evidence from which the Editor takes his authority concerning him is true. "Pilate therefore said unto him art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth." But it seems to me the Editor's trouble in most that he has said lies in not observing the distinction both in the nature of Christ and his kingdom from that of an earthly one, and has arbitrarily rejected the saying of Jesus in the same connection that, "My Kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world then would my servants fight that I should not be delivered to the Jews." And suppose Christ could have been a Cæsar would he thus have shown himself to be greater than he was? And does he, as is indicated, show that he was less than Cæsar in refusing to "become a Cæsar?" Even our friend himself tacitly admits that Cæsar succeeded by selfishness and ambition. Are these the elements of greatness! But Christ could never have been a Cæsar (the granting of which is simply saying that instead of being a good man he could have been a bad one). He came in fulfillment of a certain line of prophecy that had long since gone before upon him, even concerning his name. The name Cæsar was not included among them; they were such as "Wonderful Counselor," the "Mighty God," "Immanuel," "Christ," "Jesus:" all of which had this peculiar significance as to his nature and work. To have become a Cæsar or any thing else than what he was would have been to set aside the purposes of God in him and redemption of the world through him. If this be the peculiar sense in which the Editor uses the word, "inability" (and he rather hints at it as an explanation of his former statement) in saying Jesus showed inability to grasp a throne, I suppose none will object.

In conclusion, I wish to notice as fully as space will allow the strange objection to the resurrection. I say strange, because it is exceedingly strange in one who has admitted as much as the Editor has concerning the birth, life, and death of Jesus to deny his resurrection. Some who claim to not believe in the resurrection deny that Jesus ever died, that he only went off into a swoon, and thus try to evade the truth of it. But to one who admits that Jesus died, there is no escape that he arose again from the dead. Nor is this truth affected even though we should admit that no amount of evidence even though five hundred witnesses could prove a miracle. These witnesses in this case are not called upon to "prove a miracle" but to testify to common events just as they did in regard to the birth, life, trial, and crucifixion; all of which the Editor accepts. The same historian (the Apostle John) who is relied upon for the saying of Jesus, "It is finished," gives another line of events after his death and burial somewhat as follows: That Mary Magdalene and others went to his tomb early on the morning of the third day and found it empty; that shortly afterwards she saw Jesus but did not at first know him; he then called her by name, and she knew him and said: "Robboni, or Master;" that she then "came and told the disciples that she had seen the Lord;" at the same day at even Jesus stood in the midst of the twelve and said, "Peace be unto you." And when he had so said he showed them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad when they saw the God; that one of the disciples Thomas was absent at the time, and when told of this event said, "Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, *and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side*, I will not believe;" but that after eight days, Thomas had this privilege and exclaimed, "My Lord and my God;" that "After these things Jesus showed himself again into the disciples" on the sea shore, and that "None of the disciples durst ask him, Who art thou, knowing that it was the Lord;" and that "This is now the third time that Jesus showed himself to his disciples *after he had risen from the dead.*" Now let it be definitely borne in mind that John in this whole line of events does not give witness to a single miracle, but to a natural course of events such as any man of common ability could testify to. What is claimed from this line of evidence is that the same historian upon the same authority says that he and a number of others saw Jesus alike again after his death, and that he talked and ate with them as before; and as the Editor admits that he actually did, how are we to account for this kind of history of him after his death. There is only one possible answer, namely (call it a miracle or something else if you choose) that he came back bodily to life again or "rose from the dead." To deny the resurrection is to deny some of the plainest facts of history. It is also equal to denying the divinity of Jesus, for he says of himself, "The Son of Man shall be betrayed into the hands of men; and they shall kill him, *and the third day he shall be raised again.*" Now, if we say the last thing mentioned did not take place and that Jesus was either deceived or willfully told a falsehood, in either case he could not be divine. Josephus, it seems, saw the utter impossibility of giving a history of Jesus without admitting his divinity, and hence passed him over in silence. The most remarkable silence, considering that he was a contemporary of Jesus and of the same people and country, that has ever occurred in the annals of history.

The most excellent quotation from Napoleon comes strangely enough from one who denies the resurrection and divinity of Jesus.

Most respectfully, J. W. McCALEB.

12, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Sept. 5th.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I quite concede the correctness of your criticism that there ought to be freedom to express honest doubt by unbelievers. The physician even solicits an expression of his malady from the patient that he may the better apply the remedy. I for one, Sir, believe the truth of the Gospel has suffered more from the suppression of sincere and honourable discussion than by all its outspoken enemies from Celsus till the present day. In the affairs of the world men are ruled either by the dictum of dignitaries, the force of majorities, or by the power of the sword. Not so in the Kingdom of Light, where the will and conscience of each is to be regarded. The power that Jesus exerts is purely a moral power implanted in the hearts of men. Not once in all his history did he appeal to popular sentiment, force of majorities, or civil power to carry a measure, but frequently he went against all, because all were in error. He allowed every objector to make his objection and met him patiently and fairly. And now by way of a practical application of these remarks, I may be allowed to remind the Editor that he has lately expressed some very serious "doubts" on some of the most vital points of the Christian's faith to which I have attempted a reply in the *Mail* of the 9th inst. to which there has as yet been no response. Unless already convinced that the ground taken cannot be sustained I should be pleased to hear a further attempt at a defence of the Editor's doubts.

Most respectfully submitted,

J. M. McCALEB.

12, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Japan, Sept. 12th.

INTERNET ARCHIVE — UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

A PROTEST.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your leader of to-day you take notice of a "shadow of contempt" with which Archbishop Osouf in his letter of the 23rd of August disposes of newspapers as "mediums for the discussion of theological matters," adding at the same time that "his Grace's character is too well known to permit any protestation on that score." However that may be, it strikes me that in the letter alluded to not only a "shadow," but a *most distinct* contempt is expressed for readers of newspapers generally, and more specially for readers of "those published in the East," who are pronounced to be "not qualified to appreciate at their true value the arguments which might be brought forth."

I must confess that I was painfully surprised at such an uncalled for offence to the feelings of the reading public in the East, the more so as this sweeping accusation was not accompanied by so much as an iota of anything like proof. If I understand the letter of Archbishop Osouf right, he opines that only theologians by profession can have the necessary qualification to understand such arguments. He evidently quite forgets that with much more justice it could be maintained that, on the contrary, professional theologians are the least fitted to appreciate arguments on religious matters *at their true value*, especially arguments coming from the opposite side—it following from their very profession that their point of view cannot be but an extremely one-sided one.

Yours very truly, READER.
September 9th, 1895.

ADMIRAL BELKNAP.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Absence from home has prevented my replying earlier to Admiral Belknap's letter in your issue of 26th August, in which he charges me indirectly with cowardice in sheltering behind an incognito while stigmatising his utterances as vulgar virulence. It is one of the penalties of obtruding one's personality in such correspondence that remarks made without passion or prejudice are liable to be construed as personal affronts and thus to obscure the real issues involved. There are plenty of reasons obvious enough to any fair-minded person which justify the anonymity of newspaper warfare, reasons doubtless well appreciated also by your correspondent W.E.G., to whose anonymous attack my letter was mainly directed. The Admiral may have very substantial grounds for keeping his name before the public, but he must be tolerant of those who neither share his motives nor his tastes. He has no right to compel to silence those whose methods may not agree with his own. I thank your correspondent for setting me right as to the Lloyd-Garrison family, but I do not attach much weight to his estimate of the influence of the writer referred to.

Admiral Belknap regrets that distance prevents effectual fire or he would be glad to answer my letter in detail, but although he thus avows his lack of ordnance powerful enough to reach Japan, he is able to throw thus far a little mud, and the spattering of this is evidently his main object in referring to the Jamaican outbreak of 1865. He styles it a ridiculous scare. It was a scare that cost the lives of twenty-three white settlers, including women and children; about double the number of those whose recent massacre in China has excited the execration of the world. A Negro population (freed by the British people twenty-five years before at a cost of over £6,000,000, although their savage instincts were but little tempered by some generations of bondage) rose against the whites, but a tithe of their number. Eyre's judgment in stamping out the rebellion with remorselessness may have been at fault, but the very fact that Englishmen so illustrious as those named by your correspondent supported his action is proof that it was not without justification—a fact also shown by the abandonment of the prosecution instituted against him. Still, the sentiment of the nation as a whole condemned him, a Royal Commission investigated the circumstances, Eyre was recalled, and his career closed. The incident therefore has no analogy with the Southern lynchings either in its nature or its treatment by the public sentiment. The latter have occurred in time of peace, have included the burning alive and flaying alive of some of their victims, and yet they have not aroused any national wrath strong enough to lead to redress, although there have been no redeeming features about them calling forth their defence by any eminent Americans.

The Admiral is unfortunate in speaking of McCarthy as an Englishman. He is a member of that Irish party of treason which now lies in the dust of well-deserved defeat, too long postponed by the forbearance of a great people. The year of Eyre's disgrace is a memorable one for Americans as well as Englishmen. With that "devotion to ideals" (*vide* W.E.G.) which (not *vide* W.E.G.) distinguishes us, we had abolished slavery thirty years before, but it was not till 1865 that America followed our example. That country, whence Admiral Belknap sends forth his somewhat belated exposure of our misdeeds, was the house of bondage of 4,000,000 human beings for more than a generation after the mother country had abandoned the "peculiar institution." Cruelties far surpassing those of Eyre were practised on a population ten times that of Jamaica, not in the heat of conflict with rebels but in time of profound peace. Particulars of some of these cruelties (which no just and merciful Government Commission was ever empowered by national sentiment to enquire into and redress, but which were justified by many eminent American judges, clergymen, etc.), may be found in a work which is not exactly an historical one, but is for all that an excellent authority, fully confirmed from many sources, and likely to be remembered long after Sanderson and McCarthy are forgotten. The work is doubtless not unknown to your correspondent. It is entitled "Uncle Tom's Cabin." That acute observer, Huxley, somewhere remarks that one of the most powerful of all influences on our conduct is the opinion of our fellows. What is true of individuals is equally true of nations, especially those of kindred tongue and traditions, and Admiral Belknap protests in vain the contrary. The power of English opinion in moulding American conduct is undeniable. It would be preposterous to ignore the corresponding American reaction on ourselves. Whenever one of us is guilty, the other is a mentor whose voice summons to expiation and reform. But calumnious criticism does not promote righteous judgment. That criticism of that character exists is amply proved by Admiral Belknap's letters to the American press, letters so violent in their tone that one of your contemporaries has gone so far as to treat them as possibly the effusions of a madman. Putting aside that theory, let me ask him how he can justify a statement he made some time ago, that the policy of the British Government had always been arranged so as to hamper American commerce. Now, can he name any nation which treats American commerce as liberally as Britain does, or has done for a generation past, or which accords as many privileges to Americans dwelling within its dominions? If he cannot, and I am sure he cannot, what name shall we give to his statements?

In conclusion, let me disclaim emphatically all bitter feeling such as might be inferred from my mention of the question of slavery. It has been recalled simply to show that those who live in glass houses cannot afford to throw stones.

As I believe I said in a previous letter, no nation has a monopoly of the virtues, and it would be well for those who criticize so unmercifully and unfairly the faults of England if they would turn a backward glance at their own history before exhuming the buried evils of our past.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
AN ENGLISHMAN.
September 6, 1895.

CHINESE CHARACTERS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the *Japan Mail* of the 17th of August last appeared a most kind and appreciative article upon a book I recently published with the object of helping students in that most arduous of labours—the study of Chinese Characters. Personally I have devoted a considerable time to the ideographs, and it was my desire to give others the benefit of my experience, to enable them to obtain a sufficient knowledge with a minimum expenditure of time and trouble. Such was the aim of my work.

However, a letter was addressed to the *Japan Mail* on August 18th, in which the writer, while acknowledging the "real merits" of the volume referred to, and confessing that it "must prove a boon to every student of the Japanese language," proceeded to point out its "shortcomings."

It stands to reason that a book of this kind, containing as it does only a *selection* of characters, cannot be complete in every respect; and were it not that his remarks savoured of hypercriticism, no exception could have been taken to them. But in view of the undue severity of his strictures and the mistakes he has fallen into, I am reluctantly compelled to reply briefly to his letter.

In the very first attempt to correct what he considers a misprint in one of the characters, he commits an error. He says 復 (which in any case he writes incorrectly, 復 being what I have given and the proper form), page 14, is written "亻instead of 彳, which of course belongs to radical 彳." Now, there is no misprint here: 復, on page 14, is perfectly correct under the radical 亻 (see the Gioku Hen (玉篇). 復, on the other hand, occurs on page 45 under the radical 彳.

He has again been misinformed when he insists that 笊 (*Sō, zaru*, "a basket"), page 90, should be written 笊. If he will refer to page 762 of Hepburn's Dictionary, page 290 of Gring's, and page 34 of Williams', he will learn that in criticizing my work, he has himself committed a mistake. The form I have given being correct, is the only one to be met with in the authorities I have mentioned. The character he names 笊 is not *Sō, zaru*, a basket, but something very different. The *on* of 笊 is *ko, ku*, the *kun, tabaneru*, signifying "to bind." On page 432 of William's dictionary he will find 笳, meaning "an ancient trumpet or a kind of musical instrument blown at the end; a whistle in a whip; a bamboo good for switches." There are few, if any, better reference books on such matters than the well known Dictionary of the Chinese Language by S. Wells Williams, LL.D. "And so on," with his corrections.

His next paragraph, which I shall quote in full reads:—How on earth comes the Buddhistic symbol 卍 (placed under radical 十!) into the company of Chinese characters? In reply I would say that any character to be found in Williams' Dictionary is surely of sufficient importance to find a place in any book on the subject of Chinese Characters. Let him look at page 1,160 in the Index of Characters (Williams) and he will see the radical 十. Then let him turn to the eighth character in the second column to the left, and he will find the character 卍. For the meaning, reference is made to p. 1,040, to which, if he will accompany me, he will read; 卍 (man, ban, me,) a form of 萬, "a mystic emblem of high antiquity, the Indian *swastika*, drawn on the breast of Buddhist idols," etcetera. Several examples of its use in composition follow, *e.g.*, 卍字錦, the Vitruvian scroll.

In several instances where I considered it advisable, I have furnished a second form of the character in small print in the left hand corner. To do so in all cases did not fall within the scope of this work. My critic objects to the form to which, in some cases, I have given the preference and put in the principal position. He says I should have put 澁 above and 澀 at the side, 携 first and 攜 underneath; I again advise a reference to Williams' Dictionary. On p. 728, he will only find the character 澀 which I have placed above—the other not being given at all; on p. 177, 攜 is put first, the other form 携, coming in the order I have indicated: on p. 26, 場 appears before 塲, just exactly as I have it. With reference to 場, my form, and 塲, his form, Williams says: "The first form is correct, but the second is "the most used." Naturally the correct form ought to be given the preference. In the same way 畧, being the more correct form, was placed in the more prominent position. The Kōkijiten (康熙字典) calls 岩 a Zokuji, 俗字.

With regard to the Radical 言, of which he says the "correct" form 言 is not given, see Williams pp. 1,083, Gring pp. 403-421, and Gubbins, pp. 113, 1,173-1,175, in all of which places occurs only the form I have given. He again says 音 is not given at all, but only its variation 音; but as he writes them both exactly in the same way I cannot divine his meaning. Williams, p. 1,100 furnishes only the form I employ. Yet again, he remarks that 垂 should have been inserted instead of 亜. Williams, p. 102, gives two forms, the one I use being placed on the top. The form he desires me to employ does not appear. And so on. He enquires why I did not give 几 under 凡. Simply because, to quote Williams," "the second, (几) is unauthorized," p. 126. I cannot find the form 劒 in the Kōkijiten (康熙字典), which only gives the form I employ. Once more, Williams, p. 1,019, gives 尊 as I write it only, and not the form 尊; and on page 935 of Gubbins' "Dictionary of Chinese-Japanese Words," he will not find the form he blames me for not adding, but the one which is on page 38 of my book.

研, which I have given, is the "more correct" form of the character (Gubbins' Dictionary, p. 393). 研 is not in Williams, but only 研 and 硏, p. 1,085. In the same manner, p. 886, Williams gives 弔 first, the other form 吊 having occasionally a slightly different meaning: "only the second form is now usually applied to a

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string of cash." So too 往 from "*step*" and "*a lord*" is the better form, the other 徃 form "*step*" and "*born*" is unauthorized (Williams, p. 1,044). 幷 is the correct form, 并 being an abbreviation. In the way he writes it, it is liable to be mistaken for 井, *i*.

He ought not to accuse me of having forms I have not got, and suggest the insertion of forms to be found in my pages. He asks why not, "彙, besides 彚." On p. 44 I have 彙; I have not 彚, because it is incorrect; and I can find it in no dictionary (Williams, p. 1,056, Gubbins p. 248). He is guilty of the same error when he enquires: why not "忍 besides 忎." I have the former: see p. 45.

Now for something else. He asks "why not 汗 besides 污." For the very good reason that they are two quite distinct characters. 汗, *Kan, ase* "sweat," he will find on p. 69, just above the character 污. Gring, page 178, says 汗 means "perspiration, long, as an expanse of water, bright, trouble, labour which causes perspiration." The character 污, on the other hand, *O, Kegareru*, means "to be dirty, polluted."

添 is the form given in Williams, p. 898. I cannot find the other there, nor in the Kokijiten. The character is derived from "water" and "disgrace," and on p. 899 the character for disgrace 忝, he will find is from "heart" and "heaven."

畫 is the best form of the character, p. 81 of my book. The two forms he wishes me to insert are both written wrong: see Gubbins p. 555. Williams, p. 241, gives 畫 and 画, and remarks: "the contracted form is common in cheap books."

I entirely disagree with his opinion that it would would have been better to arrange the characters under the 3 initial strokes—丨 丿. That is one of the disadvantages of Gring's Method, and increases greatly the work of the student when he wishes to find a character. It might have been better, he thinks, to employ, "instead of the horizontal arrangement in squares, the vertical order," but I am not of that opinion.

"Some characters occur under Radicals where under ordinary circumstances they are not looked for." No character occurs except under the Radical to which the Gioku-Hen (玉篇) assigns it. On page 84 he will find 眞 under 目, as he says it ought to be. As it occurs in the Gioku-Hen (玉篇), also under 匕, I have also given it on page 21. To take another example, and one where he shows himself unaware of the origin and nature of the character and deceived by its present structure, Williams, p. 444, gives 渠 from 水 "Water," and an old form of 矩, "a rule," "a place for water to run into, a cesspool." The radical 木 (tree), has nothing whatever to do with the character, although the critic wishes to place it under 木 (*tree*). 船渠 (*sen-kio*) means a dock. This character is in its proper place on p. 72; and so on.

He affirms that a number of *kun* or *yomi* which I have given are never employed "when reading or pronouncing a character," and gives examples. He is again at fault; 座 *is* read *idokoro*. In the Genkai (言海), on page 1,603, under *idokoro* (ゐどころ), he will find that character. 濶 is read "*mizu no kuma*;" see the *Irohajiten* under *kuma* (くま) 德, is sometimes read "*megumu*," see Hepburn, p. 670, where in the word 德澤 he gives the *kun*, *megumu*, see the "Gioku-Hen," &c. 衙 is read *matsurigotodono*. and so on.

The *kun* (訓) or *yomi* is, as everyone knows, purely arbitrary, and Japanese differ concerning the *kun* of certain words. If you ask one man, he will tell you one thing, and another something different. Yet each is probably correct. My object on this point, as throughout the book, was to do my best to assist students to a right understanding of the ordinary uses of the character; and it was my endeavour to avoid giving too many *kun* on the one hand, and on the other not to omit any I had found it necessary to learn myself.

But to come to one of his chief criticisms. "Moreover, quite a number of 'on' given in the text are erroneous." This is a misstatement. To point out a few of his errors, to 差 p. 40 I have given the "on" usually employed, "*sa, shi*. This is correct. Other "*on*" are *sai* and *se*, but I do not find *sha* in many dictionaries. The Kōkijiten (康熙字典) gives *sa* and *shi* as I do. Gring, p. 87, *shi* and *sai*. Gubbins, p. 776, gives *sha*, but adds, "more usually read *sa*." It will be observed that the critic does not mention that I have given *sa* first place. 惆 he says should be *chō*. The mistake is his. Gring, p. 114, gives *chu*, but the vowel should be long, also *shū*. The more usual *on* of 拐 is *kai*, *e.g.* the legal term, 拐帶, *kai tai* to steal. 撒 p. 56:—The Japanese ordinarily read this character *san* "(*e.g. Sansuisha*, 撒水者 *Misumaki guruma*, or water cart, although *satsu* is not incorrect. 播 is *ha*, not *han*, as he says. There is no nasal sound in the original Chinese, Williams, p. 1,179: see also the Kokijiten, &c. 旁 is *hō*. *Bō* is used, but some dictionaries only give *hō* To give the *on* of 牀, p. 62, as *shō* is correct. 攘 is read *dō* and *nō*; I do not find *jō* in the Kōkijiten. The usual "on" of 稔, is *jin*, as I have it: see Gioku Hen. 竄 is *san*, also read *zan*, *e.g.* 竄亡 *san-bō*. And the *on* of 狩 is *shū* as well as *shu*. Again, take 簸. In all the dictionaries I have searched the *on* is given as "ha" as I give it, not "hi." The proper *on* of 欠 is *ken* (Gring, p. 168, gives *ken* only) although it is *in colloquial* also read *ketsu* (Gubbins, p. 391). I give the *on* of 日 as *jitsu*, *nichi*, the two more usual forms.

On p. 383 of Williams, also in the Kokijiten, he will find 減 under the Radical 氵, as I have it.

I purposely made no attempt to distinguish between the Kan On and Go On. To do so was beyond the scope of the book. In cases where two *on* are given, the intelligent student can have no difficulty in determining which is which.

Drawing to a close, the critic says: "I have noticed the absence of some for the most part very common characters." He may not have noticed their presence; he cannot have noticed the absence of most of those he names, for they are there. For instance 葬, to bury, comes under Radical 艸 on page 104, Williams page 949. 弊 is (弊!) on page 43, under サ, see Williams, page 676; 賓, on page 116; 歡, on page 50, under 懽, with which it is interchangeable, (Gubbins' Dictionary page 566). On page 27 he will find 歎 under 嘆, with which it is interchangeable. The character 棊 he will find on page 86 as 碁. Williams, page 342, explains that it is from "*wood*" or "*stone*," see also Hepburn page 11. 闘 is on page 25, and so on.

He finds fault unreasonably with my selection of *nanori*. If he can read them all correctly he can read most Japanese names, and therefore, I am fully entitled to call them "fairly representative." For instance, to take his examples:—Kiyokata (清堅) is on p. 140, Tomomori (知盛) p. 142. Being able to read both these names, he can read Kiyomori (清盛), his first example. Yoshimitsu (義滿) is on p. 143, Noritsune (教經) on p. 141: Yoshitsune hence reads 義經. Iyeyasu I do not give, because 家康 presents no difficulty to anyone acquainted with a limited number of characters. I might as well have given Kuniyoshi 國吉, Tomotsugu 友次, Yasushi 安, and so on.

The second character of Kagoshima is *not* wanting. Kagoshima is written either 麑島 or 鹿兒島. I adopted the former on the authority of the Kaisei Kwan In Roku (改正官員錄), Revised Official List, of 11th November, 1894,

I am, Sir, yours truly,

ARTHUR HYDE LAY.

September 6th, 1895.

TRAITÉ DE COMMERCE ET DE NAVIGATION, PROTOCOLE, ET ARTICLES SÉPARÉS, CONCLUS ENTRE LE JAPON ET LA RUSSIE.

Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, et Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, animés d'un égal désir de maintenir les bons rapports déjà heureusement é-tablis entre Eux, en étendant et an augmentant les relations entre leurs Etats respectifs, et persuadés que ce but ne saurait être mieux atteint que par la révision des traités jusqu'ici en vigueur entre les deux Pays, ont résolu de procéder à cette révision sur les bases de l'équité et de l'intérêt mutuels, et ont nommé, à cet effet, pour Leurs Plénipotentiaries, savoir:

Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon:
Monsieur Toczito Nissi, Jusammi, Son Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plénipotentaire près Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies;

et Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies:
Son Secrétaire d'Etat et Conseiller Privé actuel, Prince Alexis Lobanow-Rostowsky, Sénateur, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères, et
Son Conseiller Privé, Serge de Witte, Ministre des Finances.

Lesquels, après s'être communiqué leurs pleins pouvoirs, trouvés en bonne et due forme, ont arrêté et conclu les articles suivants:

ART. I.—Les sujets de chacune des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes auront toute liberté en se conformant aux lois du Pays, d'entrer, de voyager, ou de résider en un lieu quelconque due territoire de l'autre, et y jouiront d'une pleine et entière protection pour leurs personnes et leurs propriétés.

Ils auront un accés libre et facile aux tribunaux pour la poursuite ou la défense de leurs droits; ils auront, sur le même pied que les sujets du Pays, la faculté de choisir et d'employer des avoués, des avocats, et des mandataires afin de poursuivre et de défendre leurs droits devant ces tribunaux, et quant aux autres matières qui se rapportent à l'administration de la justice, ils jouiront de tous les droits et privilèges dont jouissent les sujets du Pays.

Pour tout ce qui concerne le droit de résidence et de voyage, la possession des biens et effets mobiliers de quelque espèce que ce soit, la transmission des biens mobiliers par succession testamentaire ou autre, et le droit de disposer de quelque manière que ce soit des biens de toutes sortes qu'ils peuvent légalement acquérir, les sujets de chacune des deux Parties Contractantes jouiront, dans le territoire de l'autre, des mêmes privilèges, libertés, et droit ne seront soumis, sous ce rapport, à aucuns impôts ou charges plus élevés que les sujets du Pays ou les sujets ou citoyens de la nation la plus favorisée. Les sujets de chacune des Parties Contractantes jouiront, dans le territoire de l'autre, d'une liberté entière de conscience, et pourront, en se conformant aux lois, ordonnances, et réglements, se livrer à l'exercice privé ou public de leur culte; ils jouiront aussi du droit d'inhumer leurs nationaux respectifs, suivant leurs coutomes religieuses, dans des lieux convenables et appropriés qui seront établis et entretenus à cet effet.

Ils ne seront contraints, sous aucun prétexte, à payer des charges ou taxes autres ou plus élevées que celles qui sont ou seront imposées aux sujets du Pays ou aux sujets ou citoyens de la nation la plus favorisée.

Les sujets de chacune des Parties Contractantes qui résident dans le territoire de l'autre, ne seront astreints à aucun service militaire obligatoire, soit dans l'armée ou la marine, soit dans la garde nationale ou la milice; ils seront exempts de toutes contributions imposées en lieu et place du service personnel, et de tous emprunts forcés, de toutes exactions ou de contributions militaires.

ART. II.—Il y aura, entre les territoires des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes, liberté réciproque de commerce et de navigation.

Les sujet de chacune des Parties Contractantes pourront exercer en quelque lieu que ce soit du territoire de l'autre, le commerce en gros ou en détail de tous produits, objets fabriqués et marchandises de commerce licite, soit en personne, soit par leurs représentants, tant seuls qu'en société avec des étrangers ou des sujets de Pays; ils pourront y posséder ou louer de occuper des maisons et des magasins, louer des terrains à l'effet d'y résider ou d'y faire le commerce, le tout en se conformant aux lois, aux règlements de police et de douane du Pays, comme les nationaux eux mêmes.

Ils auront pleine liberté de se rendre avec leurs navires et leurs cargaisons dans tout les lieux, ports, et rivières du terrioire de l'autre, qui sont ou pourront être ouverts au commerce étranger, et ils jouiront respectivement, en matière de commerce et de navigation, du même traitement que les sujets du Pays, sans avoir à payer aucuns impôts, taxes, ou droits de quelque nature ou dénomination que ce soit, perçus au nom ou au profit du Gouvernement, des fonctionnaire publics, des particuliers, des corporations, ou établissements quelconques, autres ou plus élevés que ceux imposés aux sujets du Pays.

Il est toutefois entendu que les stipulations contenues dans cet Article ainsi que dans l'Article précédent ne dérogent en rien aux lois, ordonnances et règlements spéciaux en matière de commerce, de police, et de sécurité publique en vigueur dans chacun des deux Pays et applicables à tous les étrangers en général.

ART. III.—Les habitations, magasins, et boutiques des sujets de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes dans le territoire de l'autre ainsi que les édifices qui en dépendent, servant soit à la demeure, soit au commerce, seront respectés.

Il ne sera pas permis de procéder à des perquisitions ou visites domiciliaires dans ces habitations et édifices, ou bien d'examiner ou d'inspecter les livres, papiers, ou comptes, sauf dans les conditions et formes prescrites par les lois, ordonnances, et règlements applicables aux sujets du Pays.

ART. IV.—Il ne sera imposé à l'importation dans

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le territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies de tous articles produits ou fabriqués dans le territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, de quelque endroit qu'ils viennent et à l'importation dans le territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, de tous articles produits ou fabriqués dans le territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, de quelque endroit qu'ils viennent, aucuns droits autres ou plus élevés que ceux imposés sur les articles similaires produits ou fabriqués dans tout autre pays étranger. De même, aucune prohibition ne sera maintenue imposée ou sur l'importation dans le territoire de l'une des Parties Contractantes d'un article quelconque produit ou fabriqué dans de territoire de l'autre, de quelque endroit qu'il vienne, à moins que cette prohibition ne soit également appliquée à l'importation des articles similaires produits ou fabriqués dans tout autre pays. Cette dernière disposition n'est pas applicable aux prohibitions sanitaires ou autres provenant de la nécessité de protéger la sécurité des personnes, ainsi que la conservation du bétail et des plantes utiles à l'agriculture.

ART. V.—Il ne sera imposé dans le territoire de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes, à l'exportation d'un articles quelconque à destination du territoire de l'autre, aucuns droits ou charges autres ou plus élevés que ceux qui sont ou seront payable à l'exportation des articles similaires à destination d'un autre pays étranger quel qu'il soit ; de même, aucune prohibition ne sera imposée à l'exportation d'aucun article du territoires de l'une des Parties Contractantes á destination du territoire de l'autre, sans que cette prohibition ne soit également étendue à l'exportation des articles similaires à destination de tout autre Pays.

ART. VI.—Les sujets de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes jouiront, dans le territoire de l'autre, relativement a l'exemption des droits de transit et à tout ce qui concerne le magasinage, les primes, les facilités, et les drawbacks, de tous les avantages qui sont ou seront accordés à la nation la plus favorisée.

ART. VII.—Tous les articles qui sont ou pourront être légalement importés dans les ports du territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon sur des navires japonais, pourront, de même, être importés dans ces ports sur des navires russes ; dans ce cas, ces articles n'auront à payer aucuns droits ou charges, de quelque dénomination que se soit, autres ou plus élevés que ceux imposés sur les mêmes articles importés par des navires japonais. Réciproquement, tous les articles qui sont ou pourront être légalement importés dans les ports du territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, sur des navires russes, pourront de même, être importés dans ces ports sur des navires japonais ; dans ce cas, ces articles n'auront à payer aucuns droits ou charges de quelque dénomination que ce soit, autres ou plus élevés que ceux imposés sur les mêmes articles importés par des navires russes. Cette égalité réciproque de traitement sera accordée indistinctement, soit que ces articles viennent directement des pays d'origine, soit qu'ils viennent de tout autre lieu.

De la même manière, il y aura parfaite égalité de traitement relativement à l'exportation ; ainsi, les mêmes droits d'exportation seront payés, et les mêmes primes et drawbacks seront accordés, dans les territoires de chacune de Hautes Parties Contractantes, sur l'exportation de tout article qui est ou pourra être légalement exporté, que cette exportation ait lieu sur des navires japonais ou sur des navires russes et quel que soit le lieu de destination, qu'il soit un des ports de chacune des Parties Contractantes ou un des ports d'une Puissance tierce.

ART. VIII.—Aucun droit de tonnage, de port, de pilotage, de phare, de quarantaine ou autres droits similaires ou analogues de quelque nature ou sous quelque dénomination que ce soit, levés au nom ou au profit du Gouvernement, des fonctionnaires publics, des particuliers, des corporations, ou des établissements de toutes sortes qui ne seraient également et sous les mêmes conditions imposés, en pareil cas, sur les navires nationaux en général, ne seront imposés dans les ports des territoires de chacun des deux Pays, sur les navires de l'autre. Cette égalité de traitement sera appliquée réciproquement aux navires respectifs de quelque endroit qu'ils arrivent et quel que soit le lieu de destination.

ART. IX.—En tout ce qui concerne le placement, le chargement, et le déchargement des navires dans les ports, bassins, docks, rades, havres, ou rivières des territoires des deux Pays, aucun privilège ne sera accordé aux navires nationaux, qui ne serait également accordé aux navires de l'autre Pays, l'intention des Hautes Parties Contractantes étant que, sous ce rapport aussi, les navires respectifs soient traités sur le pied d'une parfaite égalité.

ART. X.—Le cabotage dans les territoires de l'une ou de l'autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes est excepté des disposition du présent Traité, et sera régi par les lois, ordonnances, et règlements du Japon et de la Russie respectivement. Il est toutfois entendu que les sujets Japonais dans le territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, et les sujets Russes dans le territoire de Sa Majeste l'Empereur du Japon, jouiront, sous ce rapport, des droits qui sont ou pourront être accordés par ces lois, ordonnances, et règlements aux sujets ou citoyens de tout autre pays.

Tout navire japonais chargé à l'étranger d'une cargaison destinée à deux ou plusieurs ports du territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, et tout navire russe, chargé à l'étranger d'une cargaison destinée à deux ou plusieurs ports du territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, pourra décharger une partie de sa cargaison dans un port, et continuer son voyage pour l'autre ou les autres ports de destination où le commerce étranger est autorisé, dans le but d'y décharger le reste de sa cargaison d'origine, en se conformant toujours aux lois et aux règlements de douane des deux Pays.

Le Gouvernment Japonais, cependent consent à permettre aux vaisseaux Russes de continuer, comme précédemment, pendant la période durée du présent Traité, à transporter leurs cargaisons entre les ports actuellement ouverts de l'Empire, excepté ceux d'Osaka, Niigata, et Ebisu Minato.

ART. XI.—Tout vaisseau de guerre ou navire de commerce de l'une ou de l'autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes qui serait forcé par un mauvais temps ou par suite de tout autre danger de s'abriter dans un port de l'autre, aura la liberté de s'y faire réparer, de s'y procurer toutes les provisions nécessaires, et de reprendre la mer, sans payer d'autres charges que celles qui seraient payées par les navires nationaux. Dans le cas, cependant, où les capitaine du navire de commerce se trouverait dans la nécessité de vendre une partie de sa cargaison pour payer les frais, il sera obligé de se conformer aux règlements et tarifs du lieu où il aurait relâché.

Si un vaisseau de guerre ou un navire de commerce de l'une des Parties Contractantes a échoué ou naufragé sur les côtes de l'autre, les Autorités Locales en informeront le Consul-Général, le Consul, le Vice-Consul; ou l'Agent Consulaire du lieu de l'accident, et, s'il n'y existe pas de ces officiers consulaires, elles en informeront le Consul-Général, le Consul, le Vice Consul, ou l'Agent Consulaire du district le plus voisin.

Toutes les opérations relatives au sauvetage des navires japonais naufragés ou échoués dans les eaux territoriales de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, auront lieu conformément aux lois, ordonnances, et règlements de la Russie, et, réciproquement, toutes les mesures de sauvetage relatives aux navires russes naufragés ou échoués dans les eaux territoriales de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, auront lieu conformément aux lois, ordonnances, et règlements du Japon.

Tous navires ou vaisseaux ainsi échoués ou naufragés, tous débris et accessoires, toutes fournitures leur appartenant, et tous effets et marchandises sauvés des dits navires ou vaisseaux, y compris ceux qui auraient été jetés a la mer ou les produits des dits objets, s'ils sont vendus, ainsi que tous papiers trouvés à bord de ces navires ou vaisseaux échoués ou naufragés, seront remis aux propriétaires ou à leurs représentants, quand ils les réclameront. Dans le cas où ces propriétaires ou représentants ne se trouveraient par sur les lieux, les dits produits ou objets seront remis aux Consuls-Généraux, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, ou Agents Consulaires respectifs, sur leur réclamation, dans le délai fixé par les lois du Pays, et ces officiers consulaires, propriétaires, ou représentants payeront seulement les dépenses occasionnées pour la conservation des dits objets ainsi que les frais de sauvetage ou autres dépenses auxquels seraient soumis, en cas de naufrage, les navires nationaux.

Les effets et marchandises sauvés du naufrage seront exempts de tous droits de douane, à moins qu'ils n'entrent à la douane pour la consommation interieure, auquel cas ils payeront les droits ordinaires.

Dans le cas ou un navire appartenant aux sujets de l'une des Parties Contractantes ferait naufrage ou échouerait sur le territoire de l'autre, les Consuls-généraux, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, ou Agents-Consulaires respectifs seront autorisés, en l'absence du propriétaire, capitaine, ou autre représentant du propriétaire, à prêter leur appui official pourprocurer toute l'assistance nécessaire aux sujets des Etats respectifs. Il en sera de même dans le cas ou le propriétaire, captaine, ou autre représentant serait présent, et démanderait une telle assistance.

ART. XII.—Tous les navires qui, conformément aux lois Japonaises, sont considérés comme navires Japonais, et tous les navires qui, conformément aux lois Russes sont considérés comme navires Russes seront respectivement considérés comme navires Japonais et Russes pour le but de ce Traité.

ART. XIII.—Si un matin déserte d'un vaisseau de guerre ou d'un navire de commerce appartenant à l'une ou l'autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes sur le territoire de l'autre, les Autorités Locales seront tenues de prêter toute l'assistance en leur pouvoir pour l'arrestation et la remise de ce déserteur, sur la demande qui leur sera adressée par le Consul du Pays auquel appartient le navire ou vaisseau du déserteur ou par le représentant du dit Consul.

Il est entendu que cette stipulation ne s'appliquera pas aux sujets du Pays où la désertion a eu lieu.

ART. XIV.—Les Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent qu'en tout ce qui concerne le commerce et la navigation, aucuns privilèges, faveurs ou immunités que l'une ou l'autre des Parties Contractantes a déjà accordés ou accorderait à l'avenir, au Gouvernement ou aux sujets ou citoyens de tout autre Etat, seront étendus immédiatement et sans condition au Gouvernment ou aux sujets de l'autre Partie Contractante, leur intention étant que le commerce et la navigation de chaque Pays soient placés, à tous égards, par l'autre, sur le pied de la nation la plus favorisée.

ART. XV.—Chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes pourra nommer des Consuls-Généraux, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Pro-Consuls, et Agents consulaires dans tous les ports, villes et places de l'autre, sauf dans les localités où il y aurait inconvénient à admettre de tels Officiers consulaires.

Cette exception ne sera cependant pas faite à l'égard de l'une des Parties Contractantes, sans l'être également à l'égard de toutes les autres Puissances.

Les Consuls-Généraux, Consuls, Vice-Consuls, Pro-Consuls, et Agents consulaires exerceront toutes leurs fonctions et jouiront de tous les privilèges, exemptions, et immunités qui sont ou seront accordés à l'avenir aux Officier consulaires de la nation la plus favorisée.

ART. XVI.—Les sujets de chacune des Hautes Parties Contractantes jouiront, sur le terrtoire de l'autre, de la même protection que les sujets du Pays relativement aux patentes, marques de fabrique, et dessins, en remplissant les formalités prescrites par la loi.

ART. XVII.—Les Hautes Parties Contractantes sont convenues de ce qui suit :

Les divers quartiers étrangers au Japon seront compèlement incorporés aux communes Japonaises respectives à partir de la date, où le Traité de Commerce et de Navigation signé en ce jour entrera en vigueur, et formeront désormais une partie du système général du Japon.

Les Autorités compétentes Japonaises assumeront dès lors toutes leurs obligations municipales au regard de ces quartiers, et les fonds communs, ainsi que les propriétés, s'il en est qui apartiennent à tels quartiers, seront en même temps transférés aux dites Autorités Japonaises.

Lorsqu'une telle incorporation se produit les baux perpétuels existants sous lesquels les biens fonciers sont maintenant tenus dans les dits quartiers seront confirmés et aucunes conditions d'aucune sorte autres que celles ques contenent les dits baux existants, ne seront imposées par rapport à ces biens. Il est, cependant, entendu que les Autorités consulaires mentionnées dans les dits baux seront dans tous les cas remplacées par les Autorités Japonaises.

Toutes les terres qui peuvent avoir éte antérieurement concédées libres de rentes par le Gouvernement Japonais pour l'usage public des dits quartiers, seront, sauf le droit de domaine éminent, maintenues perpétullement libres de toutes taxes et affectées à l'usage public auquel elles avaient été originairement destinées.

ART. XVIII.—Le Présent Traité pendra, du jour où il entrera en vigueur, lieu et place du Traité conclu le 21e jour du 12e mois de la 1ère année d'Ansei correspondent au 26 Janvier, 1855, du Traité d'Amitié et de Commerce conclu le 11e jour du 7e mois de la 5e année d'Ansei, correspondant au 7 Août 1858, de la convention conclu le 28e jour du 11e mois de la 3e année de Keio, correspondant au 11 Décembre 1867, et de tous les Arrangements et Conventions subsidiairement conclus ou existant entre les Hautes Parties Contractantes : et à partir du même jour, les dits Traités, Arrangements, et Conventions cesseront d'être obligatoires, et, en conséquence, la jurisdiction jusqu'alors exercée par les tribunaux russes au Japon et tous les privilèges, exemptions, et immunités exceptionnels dont jouissaient jusqu'alors les sujets russes comme une partie de cette jurisdiction ou comme y appartenant, cesseront et prendront fin absolument et sans notification, et tous ces droits de jurisdiction appartiendront à partir de ce moment aux tribunaux japonais et seront exercés par ces mêmes tribunaux.

ART. XIX.—Le présent Traité n'entrera en

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vigueur que quatre ans au moins après sa signature. Il entrera en vigueur une année après que le Gouvernment de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon aura notifié au Gouvernment de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, Son intention de mettre le dit Traité en vigueur. Cette notification pourra être faite à un moment quelconque après l'expiration de trois ans après la date de la signature. Le présent Traité restera valable pendant une période de douze ans après le jour où il entrera en vigueur.

L'une ou l'autre des Hautes Parties Contractantes aura le droit, à un moment quelconque après que onze ans se seront écoulés depuis l'entrée en vigueur de ce Traité, de notifier a l'autre, Son intention de mettre fin au présent Traite, et, à l'expiration de douze mois après cette notification, ce Traité cessera et finira entièrement.

ART. XX.—Le présent Traité sera ratifié par les Hautes Parties Contractes et les ratifications en seront échangées à Tokio dans six mois ou plus tôt, si faire ce peut, après sa signature.

En foi de qui les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé et scellé de leur sceau le présent Traité en deux exemplaires et en langue francaise.

Fait à St Petersbourg le 8ème jour du 6ème mois de la 28ème année de Meiji, correspondant au vingt-sept Mai mil huit-cent quatre vingt-quinze.

[L.S.] NISSI.
[L.S.] Prince LOBANOW-ROSTOWSKY.
[L.S.] SERGE DE WITTE.

PROTOCOLE.

Le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japan et le Gouvernement de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies jugeant utile, dans l'intérêt des deux Pays, de régler certaines matières spéciales qui les concernent mutuellement, séparément du Traité de Commerce et de Navigation signé en ce jour, sont convenus par Leurs Plénipotentiaires respectifs, des dispositions suivantes :

1.—Il est convenu par les Hautes Parties Contractantes qu'un mois après l'échange des ratifications du Traité de Commerce et de Navigation signé en ce jour, le Tarif d'importation aujourd'hui en vigueur relativement aux articles et marchandises importés au Japan par les sujets russes, cessera d'être obligatoire. A partir de la même date, le tarif général en vigueur établi par la législation intérieure du Japon, sera appliqué à l'importation au Japon des articles produits ou manufactures dans le territoire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, le tout en se conformant aux dispositions de l'Article 16 du Traité de 1858, tant que le dit Traite qui existe actuellement entre les Hautes Parties Contractantes restera en vigueur; et aux dispositions de l'Article 4 du Traité signé en ce jour après que le Traité de 1858 aura pris fin. Mais aucun disposition de ce Protocole n'aura pour effect de limiter le droit du Gouvernement Japonais de restreindre ou de prohiber l'importation des drogues, médecines, aliments et boissons altérés; des gravures, peintures, livres, cartes, gravures lithographées, ou autres et photographies indécentes ou obscènes, des articles en violation des lois sur le patentes, les marques, de fabrique ou la propriété littéraire du Japon; ou de tout autre article qui, pour des raisons sanitaires ou en vue de la sécurité ou de la morale publique, pourrait offrir des dangers.

2.—Il est convenu également que, dans le cas où l'application du principe de la nation la plus favorisée, garanti au regard des droits de douane par le Traitè signé en ce jour, ainsi que par le présent Protocole ne prouverait pas après la satisfaction en pratique, les deux Gouvernements intéressés s'entendront entre eux à substituer le tarif conventionnel relativement à l'exportation des articles d'un intérêt spécial pour chacun d'eux.

3.—Les deux Gouvernements s'engagent d'entamer sans delai la négociation pour conclure une convention ayant la réciprocité comme base relativement a l'importation des poissons, salés, ou séches.

4.—Le Gouvernement Japonais s'engage, avant la cessation de la jurisdiction consulaire Russe au Japon, à conclure avec le Gouvernement Russe une convention concernant la protection respective de la propriété industrielle et commerciale.

5.—Les Plénipotentiaires soussignes ont convenu que ce Protocole sera soumis à l'approbation des deux Hautes Parties Contractantes en même temps que le Traité de Commerce et de Navigation signé en ce jour, et que, quand le dit Traité sera ratifié, les stipulations contenues dans ce Protocole seront également considérées comme approuvées, sans qu'il soit nécessaire d'une ratification formelle ultérieure.

Il est egalement convenu que ce Protocole prendra fin en même temps que le dit Traité cessera d'être obligatoire.

En foi de quoi les Plénipotentiaires respectifs ont signé et scellé de leur sceau le present Protocole en deux exemplaires et en langue française.

Fait à St. Pétersbourg le 8ème jour du 6ème mois de la 28ème année de Meiji correspondent au vingt-sept Mai mil huit-cent quatre-vingt-quinze.

[L.S.] NISSI.
[L.S.] Prince LOBANOW-ROSTOWSKY.
[L.S.] SERGE DE WITTE.

ARTICLES SÉPARÉS.

ART. I.—Les relations commerciales de la Russie avec les Royaumes de Suède et de Norvège et les Etats et Pays limitrophes de l'Asie, étant réglées par des stipulations spéciales concernant le commerce de frontière et indépendantes des règlements applicables au commerce étranger en général, les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes conviennent que les dispositions spéciales contenues dans le Traité passé entre la Russie et la Suède et la Norvège le 26 Avril (8 Mai) 1838, ainsi que celles qui sont relatives au commerce avec les autres Etats et Pays ci-dessus mentionnés, ne pourront, dans aucun cas, être invoquées pour modifier les relations de commerce et de navigation établies entre les deux Hautes Parties Contractantes par le présent Traité.

ART. II.—Il est également entendu que ne seront pas censés déroger au principle de réciprocité, qui est la base du présent Traité, les franchises, immunités, et privilèges mentionnés ci-après, savoir :

de la part du Japon :

Le monopole sur quelque article que ce soit que le Gouvernement Impérial du Japon pourrait se réserver à l'avenir ;

et de la part de la Russie :

1. La franchise dont jouissent les navires construits en Russie et appartenant à des sujets russes, lesquels pendant les trois premières années sont exempts des droits de navigation.

2. La faculté accordée aux habitants de la côte du Gouvernement d'Arkhangel d'importer en franchise ou moyennant des droits modérés dans les ports du dit Gouvernement du poisson sec ou salé, ainsi que certaines espèces de fourures, et d'en exporter de la même manière des blés, cordes et cordages, du goudron, et du ravendouc.

3. Les immunités accordées en Russie à différentes compagnies de plaisance dites Yatcht-clubs.

4. Le monopole sur quelque article que ce soit due le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie pourrait se réserver à l'avenir.

ART. III.—Les présents Articles séparés auront la même force et valeur que s'ils étaient insérés, mot à mot, dans le Traité de ce jour. Ils seront ratifiés et les ratifications en seront échangées en même temps.

En foi de quoi les Plenipotentiaires respectifs les ont signé et y ont apposé leurs cachets.

Fait à St. Pétersbourg le 8ème jour du 6ème mois de la 28ème année de Meiji, correspondant au vingt-sept Mai mil huit-cent quatre-vingt-quinze.

[L.S.] NISSI.
[L.S.] Prince LOBANOW-ROSTOWSKY.
[L.S.] SERGE DE WITTE.

St. Pétersbourg, le 27 Mai, 8 Juin, 1895.

Le Soussigné, Envoyé Extraordinaire et Ministre Plènipotentiaire de Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon, en vertu d'une autorisation spéciale du Gouvernement Impérial Japonais, a l'honneur d'informer Son Excellence Monsieur le Prince Lobanow-Rostowsky, Ministre des Affaires Étrangères de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, que le Gouvernement Impérial Japonais, reconnaissant l'avantage d'avoir les Codes de l'Empire qui ont été déjà promulgués, mis en vigueur quand les stipulations du Traité existant aujourd'hui entre le Gouvernement du Japon et Celui de la Russie cesseront d'être obligatoires, s'engage à ne faire la notification prévue par le premier paragraphe de l'Article XIX. du Traité de Commerce et de Navigation signé en ce jour, que quand ces Codes dont la mise en vigueur est aujourd'hui ajournée entreront en vigueur.

Le soussigné prie Son Excellence Monsieur le Prince Lobanow-Rostowsky de vouloir bien agréer les assurances de sa considération la plus distinguée.

Signé : NISSI.

DÉCLARATION.

Les soussignés déclarent que l'Article XVIII. du Traité de ce jour ne concerne pas le Traité conclu le 25 Avril (7 Mai) 1875 entre Sa Majesté l'Empereur du Japon et Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies, ni l'Article Supplémentaire signé à Tokio le 10/22 Août de la même année, qui tous les deux restent en vigueur.

St-Pétersbourg, le 27 Mai, 8 Juin, 1895.

Signé : NISSI.
" Prince LOBANOW-ROSTOWSKY.

St Pétersbourg, le 27 Mai, 8 Juin, 1895.

Monsieur le Ministre,

En réponse à la note que Vous avez bien voulu m'envoyer en date du 1/13 Mars dernier No. 952, j'ai l'honneur d'informer Votre Excellence que j'accepte au nom du Gouvernement Japonais la proportion formant l'objet de la dite note et consistant à ce que la substitution du tarif conventionnel prévue dans le Protocole signé en ce jour relativement aux articles d'exportation ayant un intérêt spécial pour chacun des deux Pays, pourra être proposée par l'un ou l'autre des deux Gouvernements à un moment quelconque, après que le dit Protocole sera entré en vigueur, et, que, dans le cas où le tarif conventionnel ne pourrait pas être conclu dans l'espace de six mois après la communication de telle proposition, le tarif général pourra être appliqué à l'importation des articles de chacun des deux Pays, en même temps qu'il sera sursis à l'application du principe de la nation la plus favorisée jusqu'à la nouvelle conclusion du tarif conventionnel.

Je prie Votre Excellence de vouloir bien agréer les assurances de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Signé : NISSI.

A Son Excellence,
Monsieur le Prince LOBANOW ROSTOWSKY,
Ministre des Affaires Étrangères,
de Sa Majesté l'Empereur de toutes les Russies.

St. Pétersburg, le 27 Mai, 8 Juin, 1895.

Monsieur l'Envoyé,

En réponse à la note que vous avez bien voulu m'adresser en date du 17/29 Mars a. c., j'ai l'honneur de vous informer que le Gouvernement Impérial de Russie accepte la proposition du Gouvernement Impérial du Japon formant l'objet de la dite note et consistant en ce que la substitution du tarif conventionnel, prévue dans le Protocole signé en ce jour relativement aux articles d'exportation ayant un intérêt spécial pour chacun des deux Pays, pourra être proposée par l'un ou l'autre des deux Gouvernements, à un moment quelconque, après que le dit Protocole sera entré en vigueur, et, que, dans le cas où le tarif conventionnel ne pourrait pas être conclu dans l'espace de six mois après la communication de telle proposition, le tarif général pourra être appliqué à l'importation des articles de chacun des deux Pays, en même temps qu'il sera sursis à l'application du principe de la nation la plus favorisée jusqu'à la nouvelle conclusion du tarif conventionnel.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur l'Envoyé, l'assurance de ma considération la plus distinguée.

Signé : LOBANOW.

A Monsieur NISSI,
Envoyé Extraordinaire et
Ministre Plénipotentiaire
de SA MAJESTÉ L'EMPEREUR du Japon.

MINUTES OF THE FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ARIMA CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE, 1895.

SATURDAY, August 3rd, 7.45 p.m.—A meeeting was held in the Conference Hall to seek a special blessing upon the approaching Conference. The meeting was led by Dr. L. H. Wainwright.

SUNDAY, August 4th, 4.10 a.m.—The sermon was delivered by the Rev. M. B. Hill, of Shanghai, from the text, "But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem and in all Judæa and Samaria and unto the uttermost parts of the earth.—Acts 1.8 7.45 p.m.

In the absence of the Rev. F. C. Neitz the sermon was preached by Rev. J. A. B. Scherer from the text, "When I am weak, then am I strong." —Cor. 12.10.

MONDAY, August 5th, 6.30 a.m.—Prayer Meeting led by the Rev. T. B. Demaree. 9.30 a.m.—A meeting was held for the election of officers, Dr. Hail, President of the Board of Managers, in the chair. The Rev. Mr. Walne nominated for President of the Conference the Rev. A. D. Hail, D.D., other candidates being Dr. C. H. Finch, Rev. J. N. Hayes, Rev. D. N. Lyon, the last three being from China. The balloting resulted in the election of Dr. Hail. Mr. A. T. Hill was nominated for Secretary by the Rev. H. T. Graham, and duly elected.

The following is the Programme carried out by the Conference :—

MONDAY Aug. 5, 10 a.m.—Paper on "Methods for developing and training workers from among the Japanese Christians," by the Rev. G. H. Pole. Remarks by Messrs. Wilson, Turner, Wainwright, Maynard, Price (of Osaka) Moore, and H. B. Price. 7.45 p.m.—Devotional Meeting led by the Rev. Mr. Wadman.

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TUESDAY, August 6, 6.30 a.m.—Prayer meeting led by the Rev. S. Swann. 9. a.m.—The Conference assembled to listen to an address by the Rev. R. S. McArthur, D.D., Pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church of New York. Dr. McArthur was on a tour round the world, and came to Arima especially to address the Conference. His remarks were most earnest and helpful. 10.30 a.m.—Bible Study by Ven. Archdeacon Page on the subject of "God's purpose of love in the gift to man of Himself, an eternal purpose." 11 a.m.—Paper on "the Holy Spirit as Comforter," by the Rev. F. Franson of Scandinavia. Remarks by the Revs. G. H. Pole and J. N. Hayes. 7.45 p.m.—Devotional Meeting on the same subject led by Rev. S. E. Hager.

WEDNESDAY, August 7, 6.30 a.m.—Prayer Meeting led by Rev. J. R. Graham. 10 a.m.—Bible Study by Ven. Arch. Page on, "The sin of man makes necessary the Atonement that the eternal purpose may stand, hence the Love of God has a supreme manifestation as Redeeming Love 10 55.—Paper on "The Holy Spirit as Teacher," by Rev. J. W. Moore. Remarks by Messrs. Blalock, Murphy, and Ven. Arch. Page. At the close of the Meeting the Rev. H. B Price moved, and it was carried, that the Secretary be instructed to write to the Rev. Dr. McArthur expressing the appreciation of the Conference of his earnest address and of thanks to him for having changed his plans in order to speak to the Conference. 7.45 p.m.—Devotional Meeting led by Rev. J. B. Hail.

THURSDAY, August 8, 6.30 a.m.—Prayer Meeting led by Rev. R. Wellword. At the close of this meeting a Committee, consisting of the President and Messrs. Pole and Hayes, were appointed to send a telegram to Shanghai asking for the names of those murdered, and for particulars of the recent riots in Foochow and vicinity. 10 a.m.—Paper and Conference on Medical work as an Evangelistic Agency in China, by Rev. C. H. Finch, M.D. Remarks were made by Dr. Greig, who spoke of his own medical work, by Rev. W. B. Hamilton, on work in Shantung Province, and by Rev. R. Wellword, and Rev. W. M. Baird of Korea.

On the motion of Rev. H. B. Price a Committee of five, consisting of Revs. Price, Pole, Towson, Hamilton, and Hayes were appointed to send resolutions of sympathy to the friends concerned in the recent outrages in China. 7.46 p.m.—Devotional Meeting led by Rev. W. B. Hamilton; an address on educational work being delivered by Rev. J. N. Hayes.

FRIDAY, August 9, 6 30 a.m.—Prayer Meeting led by Rev. J. H. Pole. 10 a.m.—Bible Study by Ven. Arch. Page on this subject:- "God manifesting His Redeeming Love, has made the power and Glory of Christ to be the result and reward for His death for man." 10.55 a.m.—Paper on "The Holy Spirit as Conviction," by the Rev. R. H. Consterdine. Remarks by Messrs. Blalock, Wainwright, Hamilton, and Wilson. At the close of the meeting an opportunity was given to the Rev. M. Wadman to present the claims of the "Japan Evangelist." 7.45 p.m.—Devotional Meeting led by Rev. W. Wynd. At the close of the Meeting the Rev. D. S. Spencer made a statement regarding the families left destitute as a result of the late war between Japan and China, and expressed a willingness to receive contributions. It was voted that a collection be made on the following Sunday morning for this purpose. A question being received as to whether this was in order, the Chair ruled that as the appeal was an undenominational one it was not contrary to the bye-laws.

The Rev. Mr. Archibald, of China, gave an account of some of the riots and of the indifference of China with regard to them.

SATURDAY, August 10th, 6.30 a.m.—Prayer Meeting led by Rev. J. A. B. Scherer. 10 a.m.—Bible Study by Ven. Arch. Page on this subject:—"The only worthy response due to such Love is that we receive Christ for all that God means Him to be for our life and power." 10.55.—Paper on "The Holy Spirit as Sanctifier," by Rev. F. S. Curtis, read in his absence by Rev. G. H. Pole. Remarks by Rev. R H. Consterdine. 7.35 p.m.—Devotional Meeting led by Rev. R. B. Grinnan.

SUNDAY, August 11th, 10 a.m.—The sermon was delivered by the Rev. Mc. C. E. Price from text, "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life." Jude 20.21. 7.45 p.m.—Consecration service held by the President. Several took part in this, the closing meeting of the Conference. The Revs. W. E. Towson and D. N. Lyon led in prayer; and with the hymn, "God be with you till we meet again," and the benediction by the President, the Conference came to an end.

On Monday, August 12th at 9.30 the Annual Business Meeting was held. Forty-six persons were present. The minutes were read and approved. The Rev. D. S. Spencer reported that the sum collected for relief of families left destitute by the recent war amounted to $100. The Rev. G. H. Pole reported for the committee sending a letter of sympathy to the friends in China. The Report was received, adopted, and forwarded to the Press.

Prayer was then offered by Rev. Mr. Spencer on behalf of the China friends.

The Treasurer reported receipts of $24 50 for repayment to the original guarantors of the Building Fund.

On the motion of the Rev. J. W. Doughty the thanks of the Conference were given to all who had taken part.

On the motion of the Rev. J. W. Moore, the following amendment to the Constitution was made and voted:—

"A Board of Six Managers, one of whom shall be a missionary resident in China, the other five of whom shall be from the following bodies: one Baptist, one Episcopalian, one Methodist, one Presbyterian, and one from each of the other denominations represented shall be elected annually at the regular business meeting at the end of the Conference.

The following amendment to the Constitution was proposed by Rev. Mr. Utley and carried:—"No amendment shall be made to the Constitution except by two thirds vote of those present at any regular annual business meeting, three days' notice of such proposed amendment having been posted on the Conference bulletin board."

The following were elected to serve as Board of Managers for the ensuing year:—Rev. G. H. Pole, Dr. Wainwright, Revs. J. W. Moore., J. A. B. Scherer, J. N. Hayes, R. A. Thomson. The following were elected as Services Committee for next year:—Revs. R. H. Consterdine, A. D. Hail, D. S. Spencer, W. Wynd, and J. A. B. Scherer. After a vote of thinks to the President, Secertary, Organist, and all Committees, the meeting adjourned. A. T. HILL, Hon. Sec.

LETTER FROM HOLLAND.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

August, 2nd, 1895.

A summer's outing in the two countries of Europe which have had most to do with modern Japan, recalls many points of contact, interest, and suggestion. I have just finished my fourth journey through the Netherlands, this time spending five weeks and visiting every one of the eleven provinces. To the American, this little country, scarcely more than one-third the size of Ohio is not known or visited as it ought to be. Most tourists from the United States flit between Rotterdam and Amsterdam, with possibly a "stop-off" at Utrecht or Arnhem on their way to Germany. Yet although the provinces outside of North and South Holland have not the wealth, the picture galleries, and the attractions of business, art, and architecture, possessed by the two maritime provinces, yet a journey through the North-West and South richly repays the student, the artist, the bicyclist, and those whose resources of enjoyment are within as well as without themselves. To go into "free Frisia," and hear the market people talking language which is astonishingly like English, or, more exactly, like the Lowland Scottish (which is English unaffected by the Norman influences) makes the gold helmeted peasantry seem wonderfully near akin. The old battlefields, ancient relics, and splendidly successful agriculture of Gronigen are worth knowing about. The heaths and turf-fields of Dranthe, with their great stacks of fuel cut in the form of bricks, their marvellous stone relics of an earlier day, mis-called "giant graves," and the many coloured embroidery of the heath flowers which attract artists from afar, have a charm which is peculiar to themselves. When, moreover, in these various provinces one can always find a friend in the English speaking Dutch teachers, or perhaps preachers, when he discovers that nearly every educated gentleman and lady can converse in the language that is now covering the earth, and when, moreover, one can meet his Dutch hosts inside their own homes, there is much to soften prejudice and help one to arrive at truth. We who speak the English language have inherited a heavy mass of hostile tradition, to take pains to preserve which is not particularly creditable to us. The American sinners have closely followed their English exemplars. The average school history and the dignified monograph which sketches the story of the United States ignores, in a wholesale manner, the part played by the Dutchmen in the making of the American Republic.

As for English folks in their ideas concerning Holland, they illustrate the Japanese proverb, "It is dark at the lantern's base." For thousands who study the French or German either for business or culture, there is scarcely one who makes a serious study of the Dutch country or language. All this is very different from the days when the men of the four nationalities of the United Kingdom lived in the Dutch Republic by the tens of thousands, when twenty-seven English churches were organised on Dutch soil, and when the pikemen and shotmen from across sea stood side by side with the Dutch infantry against the Spaniard. Nevertheless, it must be confessed that among the English-speaking people on either side the Atlantic there is a revival of interest in Holland. The little country in outside of European politics as represented by "Powers," but it is still among leaders in art, in colonies, in trade, and in the solid comforts of life. Amsterdam may be under German influence, the Hague may have a French atmosphere, but Rotterdam is most closely allied with England in mutual intercourse, and one hears his mother-tongue spoken on the quays and in the streets as it is nowhere else used under the red, white, and blue flag. This year the volume of travel between the United States, England, and Holland, is greater, I believe, than for many years past. There being no World's Exposition at home, business showing unmistakeable signs of revival, and no war or pestilence in Europe, the Americans are here in droves. True, the advance guard of the American army was badly worsted at the oar and on the water. The students of Cornell University, that inscribed the names of twenty-five victories upon their flag, have been obliged to lower their colours before the victories of Trinity College. Nevertheless, it is more than probable that a second ten thousand dollars will be raised, and a fresh crew be sent over to compete for honours in 1896.

While in Holland there was a great deal to remind me of Japan. Entering the famous Rijks Museum, Amsterdam, one of the first sights that greets the visitor is that of the four flags from the Dutch ships which took part in the bombardment of Shimonoseki. Each of them is duly inscribed. The old wooden ships which took their part in the attack of the allies have long ago been broken up. Both the Dutch ships and the forts of to-day show the application of modern ideas to coast defence and deep-sea fighting. I made a trip to the Helder, the Dutch Naval station of the north, just opposite to the island of Texel, whence Will Adams and most of the Dutch ships sailed to Japan. I learned from Lieutenant Fabius, of the Dutch ship *Scorpion*, that his father, Captain Fabius, who cruised during several years in the frigate *Medusa* in the waters of Japan, and who visited Mr. Townsend Harris two or three times at Shimoda, died in 1889. Some of the relics of his father's naval experiences in Japan, when a steamship was a curiosity, were very interesting. Admiral Cassembroot who commanded at Shimonoseki died during the past winter at the Hague. In a Rotterdam newspaper in the early days of July I read of the death of another Dutch officer who had taken part in that attack.

Other reminders are not lacking. The old plans and maps of the island of Deshima, the streets in Dutch cities named after the same historic island, the old parchment maps of Formosa, and of the former Dutch settlements on that recently acquired island of the Japanese empire, the Museum at the old "Scotch Staple" town of Veere, a glance at Sluys, where the famous imposter, George Psalmanezer, concocted his so-called Formosan language, and his amazing book of description, called up curious memories and associations. In a hat-store in Arnhem, I saw the last new fad in head gear; it was a "Korea hat," only a little bit peculiar in shape, but having printed on the silk crown inside a brightly coloured map of the country which now hangs between Russia and Japan, not knowing to whom it belongs. It seems to be the impression here among those especially interested in far Oriental affairs, that Japan and Russia will have a war before the status of Chō-sen is fixed.

Most interesting of all to the eyes of your correspondent was the wonderfully rich mass of papers and documents relating to Japan now stored away in the Royal archives of the Hague. Here, arranged in boxes, and recorded in books which fill many feet of shelving, is a rich mass of information to the investigator and writer, who is or who are yet to tell the story of the Dutchman in Japan. Surely such a monograph is needed. We have had fragments of this story thrown out by men hostile in faith, or jealous of trade. Through the efforts of Sir E. Satow and Dr. Geerts, we have had authentic documents translated or printed in English; but surely, the story of a quarter of a millenium of European influence on Japan is

worth the telling. Despite all the influences emanating and the impulses arising from the Japanese themselves, we doubt whether the full story of the Renascence of Japan in our days can be truthfully told if the story of the Deshima Dutchmen be left out. The modern expression of the parable of the mustard seed (as illustrated by Japan) has impressed the world mightily. To the thoughtful, it may be that the story of the parable of the leaven will be even more fascinating. Why does not some Dutchman devote himself to this task? Or, why does not some one not of Holland descent attempt the work. On enquiry of the royal archivist, I found that recently many hundred pages of these records had been copied out for and at the expense of the Japanese Government, and these transcripts have already been sent to Tokyo. The Japanese Minister at the Hague, Mr. Akabane, and his American wife, are very popular in the society of the Dutch capital.

I had also the pleasure of meeting several Dutch gentlemen who had been in Japan, notably the Royal Commissary or Governor of the Province of Overijssel, Lacklyma à Nieholt, who served in the Royal Navy in Japanese waters during several years. Dining with him in his residence at Zwolle, in which he expects to entertain the two Queens on September 10th, he informed me that Graf von Pohlsbroek was still living, though in very infirm health, at the Hague, while Dr. Pompe van Merdervoort, so eminent in the scientific history of Japan, was living at Brussels, his vast schemes of oyster culture in Zeeland having unfortunately failed. That the modern Dutchman still takes interest in the nation within whose bounds his countrymen so long enjoyed a monopoly of trade, is shown by recent books of travel. These, fresh from the press, are found in the Dutch book-stores, and show that the globe-trotter sets out from the Netherlands, as well as from London and New York.

I send you this gossipy letter from London, where I arrived only four days ago. I have not yet visited the rooms of the Japan Society or of the Geographical Congress now in session. However, showing how numerous are Englishmen returned from Nippon, I found at my side at the breakfast table in the hotel a gentleman who introduced the subject of the books and writers concerned with Japan. He gave his opinion pretty freely about those who wrote voluminously concerning a country and people which they had seen within two moons. He was especially sarcastic about a certain letter-writer who had seen three sea-ports, the capital, and Hakone, within a space of forty days, but who continued to pour out his opinions and disquisitions (usually hostile) in the London press. My companion's conversation was so full of pith and force and evinced so clearly a knowledge of Japan and the Japanese *not* based on hasty glimpses, that I enquired his name and gave my own. He belonged to the noble family of the Smiths, and for years was instructor in the engineering department of the Imperial University.

Hoping to return home during the last week in August, I trust, should I inflict upon you my impressions of England after a fourth sojourn in the land of my Fathers, that not even the most severely captious of your readers will suppose that I am vilifying either my own ancestors or that I am trying to destroy in an infinitesimal degree the greatness and glory of the English name and power. No sane American, as it seems to me, ought to wish the glory of that name decreased, so long as the moral power behind it is what it is.

W. E. G.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR YOKOHAMA.

The report of Mr. Troup, Her Majesty's Consul at Yokohama, on the trade and navigation of that port for 1894, states as follows:—

GENERAL REMARKS.

In the valuation of imports, with the exception of sugar and miscellaneous Eastern products, but including imports from British India and Australia, and in the conversion of figures representing gold specie and bullion, the Customs figures are converted into sterling at the rate of 2s. 2¼d. per *yen*, being the average for the year of the quarterly rates used by the Customs in their conversions from gold into silver. In the valuation of imports of sugar and miscellaneous Eastern produce, other than imports from British India and Australia, and of all exports, as well as in other calculations in this report, the *yen* is taken as equal to 2s. 1¾d., being the mean of the bank demand drawing rate for the year.

GROSS TRADE IN GOLD.—According to the returns, the total value of the foreign trade of the port for the year, as stated, on the above methods in gold, amounted to £13,092,359, being £5,410,501, value of imports, and £7,681,858, value of exports.

For the past two years it has been the habit in these reports to add to the Customs valuations of imports, which represent the invoice values of cost of the goods at the place of production or original shipment a percentage to cover freight and other charges, so as to arrive more nearly at the amount which Japan actually pays for her imports. This correction has in previous reports been taken at 15 per cent. Applying the same to the above valuation of the import trade of last year, we arrive at a sum of £6,222,076, as representing the actual value to Japan of that trade, and of £13,903,934 as representing the total foreign trade. In the previous year the corresponding figures were, for imports, £5,579,288, and of the total trade, £12,653,018; the value of exports was £7,073,730. The above shows an increase in imports of £642,788, in exports of £608,128, and in the total trade of the port of £1,250,916, or in percentages of 11½ per cent. in imports, of 8½ per cent. in exports, and of 9¾ per cent. in the total trade of the year, as compared with that of 1893.

The following is the silver valuation of the trade, as given in the Customs statistics, but with the above correction of 15 per cent. on the valuation of imports:—

	1894.	1893.
Imports	$58,014,478	$41,750,829
Exports	73,015,078	55,209,586
Total	131,029,556	96,960,415

SPECIE and bullion have been imported to the value of £176,637, being £5 in gold and £176,632, in silver; and exported to the value of £1,399,855, being £214,383 in gold and £1,185,472 in silver.

DUES and duties levid by the customs amounted to £357,486, being £164,624 duties on imports and £188,017 on exports, and £4,845 miscellaneous dues

EXCHANGE.—WAR.—Two disturbing elements have specially to be noted in reviewing the general features of the year's trade—namely, the further great drop in exchange, with the irregular fluctuations in the course of this fall, and the outbreak of war between this country and China, which occurred in July last. Both of these occurrences, through the uncertainty which they have caused, have had an adverse influence on the general import trade; and the fact that this trade has, notwithstanding, shown the considerable expansion which has just been noticed above must be taken as a proof of the substantial enrichment of the country in recent years, through the development of her industries and her export trade. The fall in exchange has in previous years caused much derangement in values, and has, no doubt, contributed to cause the fall in sterling prices in most imports in the home markets. Resulting losses have been felt in some cases by the Japanese dealer, in some by the foreign importer or home manufacturer.

The war has exercised no very perceptible influence on the general export trade, unless on that with China itself and Hongkong, and the fall in exchange has, without doubt, operated in the direction of fostering and stimulating different branches of the trade, as there will be occasion to note below. The periodical interruption of the railway traffic, occasioned by the transport of troops and military stores, has, however, hampered both branches of trade to some extent, as has also dearth of labour.

The rice crop last year was a large one, notwithstanding a partial failure in this neighbourhood caused by drought, and the quality a fair average.

BRITISH TRADE.—There has been, last year, an increase in the total of the trade between Yokohama and the various portions of the British Empire. Adding to the total of the import trade, as given in that return, the correction of 15 per cent., which has been applied to the total in the general table of imports, we arrive at a sum of £3,730,805 as representing the total value of imports from the British dominions. The value of the exports amounts to £1,122,674, and thus the value of the total of this trade to £4,853,479. This increase is entirely on the side of imports, the export trade by itself showing a decrease. Taking the different parts of the British Empire separately, there is an increase in imports from Great Britain, Canada, and Australia, and a decrease in imports from Hongkong and India; while in exports there is a decrease to Great Britain, Canada, and Hongkong, and an increase to Australia and British India. The total trade with both Canada and Australia is insignificant in amount. The import trade from Great Britain forms 53 per cent. of the total import trade of the port, and that from all the British dominions nearly 69 per cent. The total of the British trade, import and export together, constitutes 61 per cent. of the total trade of the port. The decrease in the trade with Hongkong is sufficiently accounted for by the interruption caused by the prevalence of the plague in that colony, and by exodus of Chinese from Yokohama, which took place on the outbreak of the war between this country and China. Much of the trade between this port and Hongkong is in the hands of Chinese.

IMPORTS.

The estimates of the deliveries of cotton, woollens, and other manufactures, taken from the statistics of the Yokohama General Chamber of Commerce show an increase under the headings of indigo shirtings, cotton Italians, Italian cloth, mousselines, cloth and blankets, and a decrease under the headings of cotton yarns, grey shirtings, T-cloths, prints, Turkey reds, velveteens, victoria lawns, silk-faced sateens, and flannel. Except in the cases of cotton Italians and silk faced sateens, stocks had decreased during the year.

COTTON AND WOOLLENS.—An exact estimate of the deliveries of cotton yarns is not easily arrived at, as the finer yarns are not included in the Chamber's statistics. Where there has been a decline, it has been in the lower counts, in which the competition of the Japanese mills tells. When mill operative labour can be had, as it can in this country, at from c. 10 to c.25, say from 2½d. to 6½d. a day, the competition, in the classes of manufacture in which it exists, must soon be decided in favour of the manufacturer here.

In these and in all classes of cotton piece-goods, the continuous fall in the prices of cotton and the resulting decline in Manchester prices have, in addition to the general causes alluded to previously in this report, operated against demand.

Of the cotton and woollen manufactures and mixtures, with the exception of mousselines de laine, flannel, cotton duck, woollen yarn, and about one-half of the woollen cloths, nearly the whole import comes from the United Kingdom. The same holds of canvas, while the British interests in the four exceptions just enumerated, and in silk-faced sateens, is but fractional.

IN METALS, deliveries of bar-iron, pig, plate, and sheet, have about kept pace with the importation; of galvanised iron the deliveries exceeded the importations. Notwithstanding an increase in deliveries, the stock of wire nails increased. Deliveries of iron of all sorts, but excluding wire nails and other manufactured iron, amounted last year to 36,437 tons, as against 29,771 tons in 1893. There has been no great variation in silver prices of metals here, the fall in laid down cost having about kept pace with the fall in exchange.

PIG IRON.—The construction of the Tokyo Waterworks has contributed to the demand for pig-iron. The pipes for these works are partly being made by a Japanese company in Tokyo, partly they are being imported from aboad. An order, which is being executed in Belgium for 10,000 pipes, it is understood lately went to a European firm here. The works for pipe-making in Tokyo have lately been extended, and it is believed that great efforts are being made to have the remainder of the pipes manufactured there. 10,000 tons of pipes are at present on order there, and it is estimated that some 50,000 to 60,000 tons will be required before the waterworks are completed. The increase in plate and sheet may be accounted for by the demand for boiler-making and chimneys.

TINNED PLATES.—The great increase in the importation and deliveries of tinned plates is the result of the demand for the purpose of the making of tin cases for the transportation, into the interior, of kerosene arriving here in bulk, in tank steamers, and for army stores.

The above classes of iron generally come from the United Kingdom. Iron for blacksmith work comes from Belgium; wire nails from Germany, Basic steel from the Continent is tending to supplant English iron, the Continent having the advantage in the matter of prices.

IRON PRODUCTION IN JAPAN.—The production of iron in Japan, for the year 1892—the latest returns published—is estimated at about 19,500 tons, about one-sixth of which is from Government mines, the rest from private mines. The Kamaishi pig-iron, for castings, is good, but is too hard for purposes where machining is necessary, unless mixed freely with soft imported iron. The charcoal iron made in Yamaguchi is of excellent quality, but dear. No machine-rolled iron is yet made in Japan.

Of the LEAD imported, 40 per cent. comes from Australia; the whole of the TIN from the Straits.

MACHINERY.—The importation of spinning and other machinery, generally from England, last year reaches over £100,000 in value.

RAILWAY PLANT.—The construction of privately-owned railways, it was noted in last year's

report, had given an impulse to the demand for railway material; but some inquiries in this direction were withdrawn after the outbreak of the war. Rails were imported to the amount of 9,000 tons: these are of English make, and other material such as wheels, springs, buffers, sole bars are generally from England. Locomotives have been imported from England, but the American locomotive also finds extensive favour in Japan.

Japanese engine drivers, it is stated, find that the American engine can be made to steam more easily than its English rival, although this is, it would seem, at a considerably greater cost; for it is estimated that the American engine costs 10 per cent. more, and burns 30 per cent. more fuel than the English one, to do the same work.

Bridge work has been largely brought from England; Belgium and Germany, however, share in this import. The lighter bridge work supplied from Germany is more in favour for private lines.

About one-third of the money spent by this country on railway construction is spent abroad, and chiefly in England.

It would be in the interest of British makers who supply the above, as well as of those who supply electric-light material, and other manufactures of metals, that they had expert agents here on the spot with detailed specifications at hand when inquiry is made.

GOVERNMENT WANTS.—Large quantities of steel and iron, and also copper and iron sheets, have been supplied to the dockyards and arsenals from England and Scotland; and some special orders from France. Krupp successfully competes, for Germany, for shafting for those establishments, on account of price. Guns are supplied by both Canet and Armstrong.

ELECTRIC LIGHT material is supplied from Germany and America, telegraphic apparatus from England. Japan now makes dynamos for herself, with material coming from England. The telephones used are all made in this country. The supply of galvanised iron wire is mostly in the hands of German makers.

The import of SUGAR last year again shows a considerable increase in quantity. White sugars exhibit little variation in that respect, but there is a further marked development under the heading of browns. The increase consisted chiefly of direct importations from Manila. The prices ruling for the lower grades of sugar from the Hongkong refineries, which are classed in the returns as browns, induced these importations of Manila browns, which competed with the former on this market. Sugars of all grades ruled high in dollar price in the first six months of the year, but declined again subsequently. During the former period the prices for refined sugars were abnormally high, and this tended to throw the demand upon browns. Towards the end of the year prices closed weak.

Deliveries of sugar of all kinds may be estimated at about 77,279 tons, as against 75,000 tons in 1893, and 70,400 tons in 1892. Of the deliveries last year, 47,689 tons are given as brown, and 29,590 tons as white and refined.

Of the KEROSENE imported last year 14,684,060 gallons were American oil, and 10,498,300 gallons Russian. It was noted in last year's report that Russian oil had, in 1893, for the first time, secured the preponderance in import over American. Last year, however, the relative importations reverted to their former position. The total import has increased, American oil having done so by more than 50 per cent. On the other hand, the importation of Russian has decreased somewhat. Deliveries are given at 12,691,310 gallons of American, and 10,634,020 gallons of Russian, an increase in both sorts, but mainly in American. Average prices were higher last year than in 1893.

As indicative of the tendency of Japan to become a manufacturing country, an increase has a gain to be noted in the importation of Raw Cotton, Wool, Flax, Hemp, and Jute. Of other miscellaneous imports, among the most conspicuous are medicines and Chemicals, Dyes, and Paints. Great Britain and Germany share, in nearly equal proportions, the importation of Medicines and Chemicals. Germany for the most part supplies the Alizarine and Aniline dyes imported; and shares the importation of extract of Logwood with France; while Paint in oil comes from Great Britain; and Indigo mostly from British India. Germany has almost a monopoly of the importation of alcohol.

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.—The export of raw silk in 1894 amounted to 7,295,944lbs., valued at £4,131,267, as against 4,946,202lbs., valued at £3,606,387, in 1893.

A large stock had remained over on the market from the previous year, and last year commenced with a brisk trade, principally for the United States, with prices advancing, No. 1 Filatures being quoted at $800 to $820, exchange on London at four months being at 2s. 3¾d. From then till March the market was comparatively quiet, although exchange was falling, but in that month a fair business was done for Europe, with an advance in prices. A moderate business continued later for both continents, with weakening prices, until the end of the season in June. The total supplies for the season 1893-94 reached 6,753,000 lbs, as against 6,426,700 lbs., in 1892-93.

It was not till the middle of July that much activity was shown in the new season's silk. Prices for No. 1 Filatures ranged from $690 to $730, with exchange at 2s. 1¾d. The highest prices obtained for No. 1 Filatures were from $800 to $810 in August and October, exchange being then 2s. 3¼d. and 2s. 2d. The highest figure for extras was $840. Stocks at the end of the year were given at 1,533,300lbs., making, together with the export, the available supplies for the season 6,386,700lbs., as against 5,584,700lbs. at the end of 1893.

Of the silk exported during the year about 3,152,000lbs. were for the European, and 4,143,000lbs. for the United States market.

The crop of last year was abundant. Supplies for the season 1894-95 exceed those of any previous one. The quality has generally been good, and shows an improvement on that of the previous season. Complaints are, however, still heard of irregularities in size, even in the best qualities, a defect which excites the prejudice of buyers in the consuming markets against Japan raws. Too much stress cannot be laid on the necessity for reelers to exercise a little more time and care in preparation.

WASTE SILK.—The total supplies of silk wastes for the whole season 1893-94 amounted to 5,518,000lbs., and available supplies for the season 1894-95 up to the close of the year were estimated at 5,695,900lbs., as against 4,440,000lbs. for the corresponding period in 1893. In the early part of last year only a moderate business was done in wastes; but between September and the end of the year large transactions took place both in Noshi and Kibiso. The highest prices given for new season's Noshi were from $130 to $135 in in September and October, and for Kibiso from $100 to $112.50 in the same months. The total exports during 1894 were 5,002,109 lbs.; stocks at the end of the year amounted to 2,467,000 lbs.

TEA.—The tea export of last year amounted to 29,946,528 lbs., as against 28,760,693 lbs. in 1893. On the whole, the quantity of tea exported from here does not vary greatly from year to year. The quality of the crop was superior to that of 1893, and silver prices have ruled from 20 per cent. to 25 per cent. higher than in that year. The fall in exchange, however, has admitted of the tea being laid down in the American market at lower gold prices. An impression appears to have prevailed there that the outbreak of the war between the two countries would interfere with the export of tea from both China and Japan. This has certainly not been the case as far as this country is concerned, but this notion, together with the more favourable conditions existing in the United States, contributed to stimulate the export during the autumn months. The result was that considerable profits were realised, and the causes above enumerated have made the year a good one for both exporters and producers. Stocks, here at the end of the year were low, mostly of inferior qualities, and very dear. The distribution of the export was:—To the United States, 22,836,000 lbs.; Canada, 6,313,000 lbs.; Europe and elsewhere, 797,000 lbs.

COPPER.—The export of copper from this port last year amounted to 8,158 tons, as against 7,375 tons in 1893, and an average of 10,060 tons per annum for the three years previous.

This decrease is much on a parallel with the decrease of the export from all Japan. This has fallen from 17,837 tons in 1892 to 15,121 tons in 1894. Very recent figures are not available to show the present production of copper in Japan, but, according to figures from the "Résumé Statistique," the production rose from 17,972 tons in 1890 to 20,463 tons in 1892, and there is reason to think that this increase continues. It will follow, therefore, that the increase in the production is absorbed for domestic purposes, and it is otherwise apparent that there has been an increased home demand for copper for the manufacture of telephone wire and other material. And still, owing to the low rates of exchange, the prices paid for copper for export during the year have been remunerative to producers. Market prices advanced during the early part of the year, but subsequently retrograded, remaining quiet until towards the close of the year. The quotations then were:—For refined ingots, $22 to $22.50 per picul (of 133⅓ lbs.); for unrefined slabs, $21.50; and for tiles, $22.50 to $23.

SILK AND COTTON MANUFACTURES.—Under the heading of "Miscellaneous exports" there appears a class of goods which have come to be of the highest importance. The exportation of piece-goods and other manufactures of silk and cotton from Japan is growing steadily. Last year the value of the export of silk manufactures amounted to the very respectable sum of £1,338,854. These manufactures include handkerchiefs, in which, by themselves, there is a decrease as compared with the export of the previous year; but silk piece goods, including the light material known as Habutae, have increased largely. Silk and cotton mixtures also figure in the returns to the value of over £5,000. Chinese piece goods amount in value to £103,527, not including the goods described in the returns as clothing apparel and raw materials thereof. The export of cotton yarn last year reached £19,875 in value.

FISH OIL was exported to the value of nearly £65,000. An interesting experiment was made last year in the export of this oil in tank steamers.

TOBACCO has risen again in quantity, figuring to the value of nearly £24,000. STRAW PLAITS have become an important article of export, while LACQUER WARE and PORCELAIN lost ground. UMBRELLAS again show an increase, while MATCHES show a falling off.

EXCHANGE.—The highest monthly average bank demand drawing rate of exchange on London was in January, when it stood at 2s. 3¾d. By March it had fallen to 1s. 11⅞d. Recovering somewhat during the next eight months, it fell again, in December, to 1s. 11⅞d. This represents a decline of very nearly 12 per cent. in the course of the year. During the three years 1892-94 the decline has amounted to 36 per cent. The mean of the monthly average for last year was 2s. 1 1/16d.

SHIPPING.

Last year there entered this port 2,031 merchant ships, of an aggregate of 2,002,248 tons. This shows a decrease of 128 vessels and 61,684 tons, as compared with the number and tonnage entered in 1893, equivalent to nearly 3 per cent. on the tonnage. The decrease is in ships under the Japanese flag. On the outbreak of the war with China a large part of the Japanese steamers which were engaged in the carrying trade of this port were requisitioned by the Government to serve as transports to the seat of war, and so were withdrawn from their ordinary occupation. Their place in the coast trade was largely taken by British, German, and Norwegian steamers, under charter to Japanese shipping companies. In this way as many as 25 British and 5 other steamers were under charter last year on the coast.

Under the British flag there is an increase of 120 vessels and 198,466 tons, or of 31 per cent. on the tonnage. The number of British vessels under Japanese charter entering the port amounted to 64 vessels, of an aggregate of 115,696 tons; after deducting this from the total increase in British shipping, there still remains an increase of 13 per cent. on the tonnage. Under the Japanese flag there is a decrease of 287 vessels and 288,125 tons, or of 24 per cent. on the tonnage. Under the German flag there is an increase of 21 ships and 24,615 tons, or of nearly 27 per cent. on the tonnage. There were 14 entries under the Norweign flag. Under the United States flag there shows an increase of 11 ships and 1,153 tons, or of 1 per cent. on the tonnage. This increase is due mainly to arrivals of sealing vessels. Under the French flag the entries remain stationary.

During the year, and after the outbreak of the war, there were seventeen steamships, of an aggregate of 30,750 tons, sold and transferred at this port from the British to the Japanese flag. The total amount paid for those vessels amounted to £516,029. One other British steamer, a vessel of 1,940 tons, which was sold in London, was transferred here to the Japanese flag.

Two German steamers were sold and transferred at this port to the Japanese flag for a total of £27,354.

SILK FREIGHTS to European ports by Peninsular and Oriental, Messageries Maritimes, or North German Lloyd's steamers were $6.80. per cwt. until towards the end of July, when they rose to $8, which rate prevailed for the remaining months of the year. To New York by Pacific Mail and Canadian Pacific routes the rate throughout the year stood at c.4 per lb. gross; by Northern Pacific steamers and rail to New York, *via* Tacoma, from June, at c.3 per lb. gross.

TEA FREIGHTS by Canadian Pacific, Northern Pacific, Pacific Mail, and Occidental and Oriental steamers, and rail to Eastern cities of the United States and Canada varied from c.1½ per lb. gross to c.3 and c.1¾ during the course of the year. The average rate by each of the three routes was the same for the twelve months. To San Francisco, Portland, and Vancouver, by the same steamer

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lines, the rate stood at $8 per ton throughout. By Suez Canal steamers to New York freights rose from £2 in the early part of the year to £2 15s. in April, and continued at that figure till December. By sail to New York the rates were c.1 per lb. in June, and c.¾ from July onwards.

For general merchandise the rate to London by Peninsular and Oriental steamers was £1 15s. during the whole year; by Messageries Maritimes, £2 5s.; by North German Lloyd's steamers the rates were £2 2s. 6d.; by Ocean Steamship Company, £1 15s.; and by other canal steamers from £1 15s. to £2 during the year. Dead weight (copper) freight by Peninsular and Oriental steamers to London has been 7s. 6d. per 20 cwt. throughout.

GENERAL.

HARBOUR WORKS.—In consequence of the refusal of the Diet, in the early part of last summer, to grant the appropriation desired for the prosecution of the works on the breakwater these have, from July to February last, been practically at a standstill. During this suspension of the active work of construction, however, the Government has applied certain sums to the maintenance of the works, and the removal of the defective concrete blocks alluded to in last year's report. Votes of $165,198 and $144,123 have this year been passed, to cover the cost of the maintenance of the works, and for their future prosecution; and active operations have been resumed on them since February last, with some prospect of their being finished within another twelve-month.

CUSTOMS WAREHOUSES.—Further votes of $89,886 and $43,391 have similarly been passed for building expenses in connection with an extension of the customs warehouses, and the construction of the tramway connecting them with the iron pier.

The PIER has opened for use for the berthing of vessels.

Practically no progress has yet been made with construction of the graving docks referred to in a previous report.

The Japanese Population of the town of Yokohama on Dec. 31 amounted to 168,903 persons, and of the town of Kanagawa to 14,527, or 183,430 persons in all, an increase of 14,772 during the year 1894.

The Foreign Population of Yokohama, exclusive of Chinese, amounted, on the same date, to 1,613 persons, of whom 797 were British. This shows an increase during the twelve months of 8 persons in the general foreign population, and a decrease of 11 in the British by itself.

The Chinese population is returned at 1,173, showing a decrease of 2,152 on what it was twelve months before, numbers of Chinese having left for home on the outbreak of hostilities between the two countries.

The increase in British firms is mainly owing to the establishment here of a number of British Indian firms.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.—In pursuance of the project of Government railway extension referred to in the annual trade report of this consulate for the year 1892, and in furtherance of private enterprise in the direction of the construction of other than Government lines, a series of new railway lines and extensions was sanctioned by the Diet in the month of May of last year. These include several lines or branches in the north-eastern portion of Japan which forms the country of which this is the port of foreign trade. According to the latest official railway report published—that, namely, of October of last year—there were then, 1,938⅓ miles of railway open to traffic, and 994½ miles under construction. Since then some of these extensions have been opened to traffic.

THE P. AND O. Co. v. TSUNE KIJIMA AND OTHERS.

Before the Judicial Committe of the Privy Council (Present—Lord Watson, Lord Macnaghten, and Sir Richard Couch), the appeal from an order of Her Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court for China and Japan, of April 23, 1894, reversing a decision of the Court for Japan, was decided on 20th July, when judgment was given for the P. and O. The Attorney General (Sir Richard Webster, Q.C.), Mr. Finday, Q.C., Mr. E. H. Pollard, and Mr. J. W. M'Carthy were counsel for the appellants; the respondents did not enter appearence on the appeal. The case for the appellants was argued in May last.

Lord Macnaghten, in delivering their Lordships' judgment, said, on Nov. 30, 1892, a collision occurred between the *Chishima*, an Imperial Japanese cruiser, and the *Ravenna*, a steamship belonging to the appellants. The *Chishima* sank immediately with great loss of life. On Nov. 29, 1893, a suit was commenced against the appellants by petition in Her Majesty's Court for Japan on behalf of sixty-two different persons, or groups of persons, who were all joined as co plaintiffs. The petition alleged that the disaster was caused solely by the negligence of the servants of the appellants. And each of the persons and groups of persons who together constituted the plaintiffs claimed to represent some one of the seamen who were drowned and to be entitled separately to damages for the injury resulting from his death. On being served with the petition, the appellants applied that the suit should be dismissed with costs, on the ground that distinct causes of action were improperly joined. The application was granted, but the order was discharged with costs by the Supreme Court of China and Japan. As the appeal to Her Majesty in Council from that decision was heard *ex parte* the respondents were not represented at the Bar, but their case was very fully and ably stated in a written argument addressed to the Supreme Court, which left nothing more to be said on their behalf. His lordship here quoted from the rules of Her Majesty's Courts in China and Japan, and came to the conclusion that such a suit as the present was not and never was maintainable in England. The result was that the arguments on which the respondents succeeded before the Supreme Court were now turned against them. They were compelled to fall back on the Rules of the Courts of China and Japan, and they were met with this difficulty, that nothing was to be found in those Rules to warrant the joinder in one suit of different and distinct causes of action not being causes of action by and against the same parties. There was no authority there express or implied for so great a departure from settled practice. The language of Rule 39 was no doubt, in form, permissive. The reason why that form was adopted was not perhaps quite clear. It might have been intended to leave room for the introduction of any change of procedure that might be sanctioned in England, or it might have been used merely to emphasise the point that a suit wrongly constituted by the joinder of distinct causes of action by different persons might be dismissed on the application of any defendant without regard to the nature of his interest in the litigation. Whatever the true explanation might be, it was in the opinion of their Lordships impossible to construe the language of the rule with regard to the dismissal of such suits as impliedly authorising their institution. Their Lordships would, therefore, humbly advise Her Majesty that the appeal ought to be allowed with costs and the suit dismissed with costs, in the Supreme Court and the Court of First Instance.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 9.

The yacht *Defender* has beaten the *Valkyrie* in the first race.

Raconteur has been scratched for the Doncaster St. Leger.

London, September 10.

The Porte has notified the Embassies that various concessions have been made in Armenia.

The yacht *Valkyrie* won the second race from the *Defender*.

Beckhampton has been scratched for the St. Leger.

London, September 11.

The result of the Doncaster St. Leger, run to-day, was as follows:—

Sir Visto	1
Telescope	2
Butterfly	3

The owners of the American yacht *Defender* having entered a protest against the *Valkyrie* on the ground of a collision in the course of the second event, the race has been awarded to the *Defender*.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

Foochow, August 30, 9.15 p.m.

Serious news comes from Hokchiong near Hinghua, of an attack on Chinese Christians. Up to Wednesday rioters had destroyed eight houses, first plundering them of everything they contained. The cattle of the Christians were also carried away, and some of the Christians were wounded, one not being expected to live. The magistrate was appealed to five times, but refused to act.

The riot was the outcome of a proclamation with a double meaning, issued by the magistrate with reference to the Kucheng massacre, inciting to a rising against Christians. Worse is apprehended.

Foochow, 2nd Sept., 8.45 p.m.

The latest news from Hokchiang is that no steps have been taken by the authorities to check the raid on the native Christians.

The latest news from Kucheng is that twenty-five men had been convicted up to Friday night.

H.M.S. *Linnet* is leaving for the South, and will be absent ten days.

Taipeh, September 5.

The greatest storm known for years is raging here. The floods are out, and much damage has been done.

London, September 5.

Sir Arthur Elibank Havelock, K.C.M.G., Governor of Ceylon, succeeds Lord Wenlock as Governor of Madras.

The Congo Free State has forwarded to Lord Salisbury full papers regarding the hanging of an English trader named Stores by the Congo officers on the charge of selling arms to the natives.

General Charles B. Knowles, C.B., has been appointed Commander-in-Chief of the forces in Egypt.

London, September 6.

An anarchist has been caught in Paris in the act of igniting a bomb at Rothschild's Bank.

The Hon. George N. Curzon, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, has announced that papers have been produced which show that the case of the trader Stokes is very serious.

Foochow, Sept. 6, 8.40 p.m.

It is reported that Hsu Hsing-i, Taotai, has been given equal rank with the Viceroy, and that he goes to Kucheng with full powers.

All the known leaders of the massacre are now caught.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

London, August 28.

The *Journal de Débats* contends that the British occupation of Mongsin is in absolute disregard to the rights and interests of France.

The Porte has cabled to its Envoys at Paris and St. Petersburg, complaining bitterly of the discourteous attitude taken by Great Britain *in re* the Armenian Reforms, which, it states, is derogatory to the prestige of the Sultan. It appeals to France and Russia to induce Great Britain to modify her attitude. The replies from France and Russia are unfavourable to Turkey.

London, August 30.

Lord Salisbury stated in the House of Lords that negotiations were proceeding between Great Britain and France regarding both banks of the Meikong, that the tendency of both France and China was to underrate British claims and rights, but that the British and French Cabinets were discussing all questions in an amicable spirit.

Mr. Curzon stated in the House that he believed the Foreign Office would not only maintain British dignity and prestige abroad, but that it would do its best to promote the commercial interests of the country.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, August 18.

The Council, which met yesterday at the Elysée, decided to denounce the treaty of commerce between Italy and Tunis.

Paris, August 23.

The Italian press is bitter in its comments on the subject of the Tunisian treaty.

Paris, August 18.

General Zurlinden announces that the French troops in Madagascar are advancing. The sick do not exceed one-tenth of the effective force.

Paris, August 19.

The Northern Squadron has been reviewed at Havre by President Faure.

The Emperor William has laid the first stone of the monument to his grandfather. He eulogised the founders of German union.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will re-open on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 193.

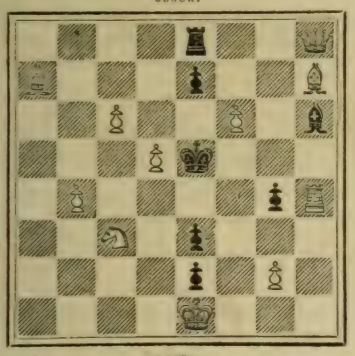
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Kt to R 3	1—P to Kt 4
2—Q takes P ch.	2—K takes Q
3—B to K 2, mate	
	1—Kt (Kt 3) takes B
2—R to K 4 ch.	2—Kt takes R
3—Q takes P, mate	
	1—P takes R
2—Q to K 4 ch.	2—Kt takes Q
2—B takes P, mate	

with other variations.

Correct answers from Shogi, J.D, Digamma, W.D.C., Kr., E.D., E. J. King, and W.H.S.

Problem No. 195.
By P. G. L. Fothergill.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

A splendid-contestedly correspondence game between the village of Brandford and the capital of the Orange State.

Game No. 339.

WHITE. Brandford.	BLACK. Bloemfontein.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—Q to K 2	4—P to Q 3 (a)
5—P to Q B 3	5—K Kt to K 2
6—P to Q R 4	6—P to Q R 4
7—Kt to Q R 3	7—Castles
8—Kt to K Kt 5 (b)	8—P to Q 4
9—P takes P	9—Kt takes P
10—Kt takes R P (c)	10—Kt to K B 5 (d)
11—Q to K 4	11—B takes P ch
12—K to B sq. (e)	12—R to K sq.
13—P to Q 4	13—B to R 5
14—P to K Kt 3	14—P to K Kt 3
15—B takes Kt (f)	15—B to B 4
16—Q to Q 5	16—B to Q 6 ch.
17—K to Kt 2	17—B takes B
18—Q takes B	18—P takes B
19—Q R to K B sq.	19—R to K 5
20—P takes B	20—Kt to K 4
21—P takes Kt (g)	21—R takes Q
22—Kt to B 6 ch.	22—K to Kt 2
23—Kt takes R	23—Q to Q 6
24—P to Q Kt 3	24—Q to B 7 ch.
25—R to B 2	25—Q takes Kt P
26—R takes P	26—Q to B 7 ch.
27—K to B 3	27—Q takes B P ch.
28—Kt to K 3	28—Q takes K P
29—P to K R 5 (h)	29—R to R 3
30—P to R 6 ch.	30—K to R sq.
31—Kt (K 3) to Kt 4	31—Q to Q B 4
32—R to K sq.	32—R to K 3
33—R takes R	33—B P takes R
34—R to K 4	34—Q to K B 4 ch.
35—K to Kt 3	35—P to Q B 4
36—K to R 4	36—P to Q Kt 4
37—P takes P and White wins (i)	

(a) Or Kt to K B 3 now. If then 5, B takes P ch, K takes B; 6, Q to B 4 ch, P to Q 4; 7, Q takes B, Kt takes P with a fine game.
(b) In some way or other this Kt is intended to be sacrificed.
(c) It is not likely White saw all the effect of this move.
(d) Not K takes Kt at once because of the reply Q to Q 3 or K 4 ch.
(e) Again, not K takes B, for then Q to R 5 ch regains the piece.
(f) And now P takes Kt would be bad on account of B to R 6 ch.
(g) A very elegant and apparently sound Q sacrifice, which reflects infinite credit on the winning side. See also the next move.
(h) This move is also pretty. If P takes P, R to Kt sq ch wins Q or R, as can easily be worked out.
(i) Black, it will be found, has no good move left. White must soon get the R through, and one ch will be fatal.

Game No. 340.

Play in the match, City v. Metropolitan:—

WHITE. Dr. S. F. Smith.	BLACK. R. Loman.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—B to B 4	2—P to Q B 4
3—B takes Kt	3—R takes B
4—P takes P	4—P to K 3
5—P to K 4	5—B takes P (a)
6—B to Kt 5 ch.	6—K to B sq.
7—Q to K 2	7—Q to R 4 ch
8—P to B 3	8—P to Q R 3
9—B to Q 3	9—P takes P
10—B takes K P	10—Q to Kt 3
11—Kt to K B 3	11—Kt to K B 3
12—B to Q 3	12—B to Q 2
13—Castles	13—K to K 2
14—P to Q Kt 4	14—B to Q 3
15—Kt to R 3	15—Q to B 2 (b)
16—Q to Kt 2 (c)	16—B to B 3 (d)
17—Kt to Q 4	17—B takes P ch.
18—K to K sq.	18—B to B 5
19—K R to K sq.	19—K R to Q sq.
20—Q R to Q sq.	20—K to B sq. (e)
21—Kt takes B	21—Q takes Kt
22—P to B 4	22—P to Q Kt 4
23—P takes P	23—Q to Q 4
24—B to K 2 (f)	24—Q to K Kt 4
25—Q to Kt 3	25—Q to R 5 ch.
26—Q to R 3	26—Q takes B P (g)
27—Q to K B 3	27—Q to R 5 ch.
28—K to Kt sq.	28—B to Kt 6 & wins.

(a) Supposing 5—, P takes P, then 6, B to Kt 5 ch, B to Q 2; 7, B takes B ch Q takes B; 8, Q takes Q ch, K takes Q; 9, Kt to Q B 3. White can afterwards castle Q R with effect.
(b) Black here makes a move which has a good deal more point than the mere attack on the weak Q B P.
(c) A move of apparent necessity, but somewhat awkward.
(d) This move seems to win something in any case, and it is not easy to find a good reply. It is curious how from this point all the game appears to Black's advantage.
(e) White may now be said to have castled, and his king is in perfect safety.
(f) A poor defence. Q to K 2 was perhaps better. It is pretty clear that the threatened ch must be prevented.
(g) A simple, but effective way of winning. The latter part of this game is finely played by Mr. Loman.

Game No. 341.

The following highly original game has lately been contested by correspondence between Messrs. Nielsen and others of Copenhagen and some London amateurs. It is, in many respects, a splendid study:—

DANISH GAMBIT.

WHITE. Denmark.	BLACK. London.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—P to Q B 3	3—P takes P
4—B to B 4	4—P takes P (a)
5—B takes P	5—Kt to K R 3 (b)
6—Kt to Q B 3	6—P to Q Kt 3
7—Kt to K B 3	7—B to Kt 2
8—Q to B 2	8—Kt to Q R 3 (b)
9—Castles Q R	9—Kt to Q B 4
10—Kt to Q 5	10—Kt to K 3
11—Kt to K 5	11—B to Q 3
12—P to K B 4	12—B takes K Kt (c)
13—Q B takes B	13—Castles
14—B to Q Kt 2 (d)	14—B takes Kt (c)
15—B takes B	15—R to Q B sq.
16—P to B 5	16—P to Q B 3
17—B to B 4	17—Q to Kt 4 ch (e)
18—K to Kt sq.	18—Kt to Q B 4
19—P to K Kt 4	19—Kt takes Kt P (f)
20—K R to K Kt sq.	20—K R to K sq. (g)
21—P to K 5 (h)	21—P to K R 3 (f)
22—P to B 6 (h)	22—P takes P
23—P to K R 3	23—P to K B 4
24—Q R to K B sq.	24—Kt to K 5
25—K takes Kt	25—P takes R
26—B takes P ch.	26—K to B sq.
27—Q takes Kt	27—K to K 2
28—P to K 6	28—Q to Q Kt 4
29—P takes Q P ch.	29—K takes P
30—R to Q sq. ch.	30—K to B 2
31—B takes R and White wins.	

(a) Can the third pawn be safely taken? Some answer to this question is here presented.
(b) An original attempt is made to combat the evils of the attack.
(c) These moves occupied much attention. The captures were bad, as both bishops went; but it is a moot point if there was anything better?
(d) It is not sound to take the B P at any time; and now White's B's are a tremendous force.
(e) Necessary now: otherwise White plays P to B 6 and wins?
(f) Each move from this point at least presents a problem of some difficulty but of rare interest. The capture is bad, but so is any alternative. It was intended to give up the Kt for pawns.
(g) Intending, if P to K R 3 at once, to reply Kt to K 6 presently.
(h) The pawns are splendidly played by the Danish opponents, as indeed is the whole game. It will afford earnest students a rich treat. We cannot note a tithe of the salient points and the countless variations presented.

Game No. 342.

FROM GAMBIT.

WHITE. V. Kosek.	BLACK. J. Sfastny.
1—P to K B 4	1—P to K 4
2—P takes P	2—P to Q 3
3—Kt to K B 3 (a)	3—P takes P
4—P to K 4	4—B to Q B 4
5—B to Q B 4	5—Kt to K B 3
6—P to Q 4 (b)	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—P to K R 3
8—K to R sq.	8—Castles
9—Kt to K 5	9—B to K 3
10—B takes B	10—P takes B
11—Kt to Kt 6 (c)	11—R to K B 2
12—P to K 5	12—Kt to Q 4
13—R takes R	13—K takes R
14—Q to R 5	14—K to Kt sq.
15—B takes R P (c)	15—P takes B
16—Q takes P	16—Kt to Q B 3
17—Kt to Q 2	17—Kt to K B 3 (d)
18—R to K B sq.	18—Kt to K R 2
19—Kt to K 4	19—B to K 2
20—R to B 7 (e)	20—K takes R
21—Q takes Kt ch.	21—K to K sq.
22—Kt takes B	22—Kt takes P (f)
23—Kt to B 6 ch.	23—K to B sq.
24—Kt to R 5 (g)	24—K to K sq.
25—Q to Kt 7 and wins.	

(a) Or P takes P, to which Black replies with B takes P and has a grand attacking game in several ways.
(b) Forced now, as various strong attacks are threatened by Kt to Kt 5, &c.
(c) The attack White obtains is worthy of special attention, and would have succeeded easily in play over the board.
(d) This looks a little like desperation, but is the only saving clause. Indeed, it would relieve Black if White would at once take the Kt.
(e) A charming position and White plays splendid chess.
(f) If, instead, Q takes Kt, 23, Kt to B 6 ch, K to Q sq; 24, Q to Kt 8 ch and wins. Or, if Kt takes Kt, then, 23, Kt to B 6 ch, K to B sq; 24 P to K Kt 4, P to Q 6; 25, P to Kt 5, P to Q 7; 26, Q to R 8 ch, K to B 2; 27, P to Kt 6 ch, K takes P (if Kt takes, mate follows in three by 27, Q to R 7 ch, K to B sq; 28, Q to Kt 8 ch, K to K 2; 29, Q to Kt 7 mate); 28, Q to R 7 ch, K to Kt 4; 29, P to R 4 ch, K to B 5; 30 Q to K 4 ch, K to Kt 6; 31, Q to K 3 ch, K takes P; 32, Q to B 4 ch. K to R 6; 33, Q to Kt 4, mate. Simply magnificent.
(g) Very fine play. If now Q takes Kt, then 25, Q to R 8 ch, K to B 2; 26, Q to Kt 7 ch, K to K sq; 27 Kt to B 6 ch, and wins in a few moves.

Game No. 343.

Played in the match at Montreal:—

WHITE. Gossip.	BLACK. Pollock.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3	2—B to B 4
3—P to K B 4	3—P to Q 3
4—Kt to K B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—B to B 4	5—Kt to B 3
6—P to Q 3	6—P to Q R 3
7—Q to K 2	7—B to K Kt 5
8—B to K 3	8—P takes P
9—B takes B	9—P takes B
10—Q to K B 2	10—Castles
11—Kt to K 2	11—Q to K 2
12—Castles K R	12—B takes Kt
13—P takes B	13—Kt to K R 4
14—P to Q R 3	14—Q R to Q sq.
15—Kt to B 3	15—R to Q 3
16—Kt to Q 5	16—Q to Kt 4 ch.
17—Q to Kt 2	17—Q to R 5
18—K to R sq.	18—R to Kt 3
19—Q takes R	19—R P takes Q, and wins.

Game No. 344.

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE.

WHITE. Allies.	BLACK. J. Sfastny.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 4 (a)	4—P takes P
5—P to K 5	5—P to Q 4 (b)
6—B to Q Kt 5	6—Kt to K 5
7—Castles	7—B to Q B 4
8—Kt takes Q P	8—Q to K 5
9—P to Q B 3 (c)	9—Castles
10—B takes Kt	10—P takes B
11—B to K 3	11—B to R 3
12—R to K sq.	12—P to K B 4 (d)
13—P to K Kt 3	13—Q to R 6
14—Q to B 2	14—B takes Kt
15—P takes B	15—P to B 5
16—B takes P	16—R takes B
17—P takes R	17—B to Q 6
18—Q to Q sq.	18—R to K B sq.
19—Kt to Q 2 (e)	19—Kt takes K B P (f)
20—K takes Kt	20—R takes P ch.
21—Kt to B 3	21—B to B 7 & wins (g)

(a) The alternative here is, of course, Kt to Kt 5, with all the well-known variations resulting therefrom.
(b) By other lines of play Black gets a bad game. The freedom of action obtained by P to Q 4 is obvious.
(c) Kt takes Kt is promising, but is answered by 9—, B takes P ch: 10, R takes B, Q takes R ch; 11, K to R sq, B to K Kt 5!; and now White must lose in any case, his dis ch amounting to little.
(d) This move, coupled with the sacrifice at move 16, does much to carry the day.
(e) Q to R 5, with complications all in Black's favour, would be the reply to the apparently forcible R to K 3.
(f) After R to K B sq, this sacrifice is easily indicated, but the finish of the game, move for move, is fine.
(g) The Q must go to K 2 to protect the Kt; when Black replies B to K 5, and must win.

Correspondence chess has often been voted dull. No such term can be applied here. Messrs. J. Benes and Vaclav Dobias conducted the White forces.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

GAME No. 345.
KING'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. Amateur.	BLACK. Mackenzie.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4
4—P to Q 4 (a)	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5 (b)	5—Q to R 5 ch.
6—K to Q 2	6—Q to B 7 ch.
7—K to B 3	7—Kt to Q B 3
8—P to Q R 3	8—P to Q 3
9—Kt takes Kt	9—P takes Kt
10—B to Q 3	10—R to Kt sq.
11—R to B sq. (c)	11—Q takes Q P ch.(d)
12—K takes Q	12—B to Kt 2 ch.
13—P to K 5	13—B takes P ch.
14—K to K 4	14—Kt to B 3, mate

(a) White's fourth move is the beginning of his troubles P to K R 4 or B to B 4 should have been played.
(b) Having played P to Q 4 last move, the proper game is to abandon the Kt, playing for attack by B to B 4.
(c) Black's clever reply was of course a surprise. Otherwise, now, P to Q Kt 4 was better.
(d) In the celebrated master's well-known style. There is no reply.

THE HASTINGS CONGRESS.

From a telegram published in the *North China Daily News* we see that Pillsbury, the young American player, has won the first prize. Born in Boston about 25 years ago he has been celebrated in the American chess world for the last two or three years. We believe this is his first visit to Europe; and he certainly has achieved fame by his success in such a contest.

We transcribe from the *San Francisco Chronicle* some interesting paragraphs written about the 20th of last month when the tourney was at its height. We also give the score as it stood at the end of the eleventh round. We expect to publish at least two of the games next week. We note *(en passant)* that Lasker won his game with Steinitz thus emphasing his Championship victory of a year ago.

"Young Harry Pillsbury, representing the Brooklyn Chess Club, still continues to add to his score of won games by defeating his opponents in nearly every instance. The present finds him along with the veteran master, Tschigorin, at the top of the score. The Brooklyn man has gained for himself the respect of all the players engaged in the tourney, and has inspired a wholesome dread of encountering him, which of itself should prove an advantage to his score.

"Of all the great masters, Tschigorin (Russia) seems to be in the finest form. Gunsberg and Steinitz have so far found this tournament anything but a bed of roses; and they still remain among the tail-enders. The latter player, who started so well, met a severe setback by losing in succession to Pollock, Pillsbury, and Bird.

"The rating of several of the masters is as follows:—

Steinitz is the most theoretical.
Blackburn is the most brilliant.
Tschigorin, the most nervy.
Gunsberg, the most sly.
Albin, the most original.
Tarrasch, the most solid.
Lasker, the most keen.
The rest, most anything."

SCORE AFTER THE ELEVENTH ROUND.

Players.	Won.	Lost.
Albin	4	6
Bardeleben	7½	3½
Bird	7	4
Blackburne	4	6
Burn	3½	7½
Gunsberg	4	7
Janowski	4½	6½
Lasker	8½	2½
Marco	4	7
Mason	5	6
Mieses	3½	7½
Pillsbury	9½	1½
Pollock	4½	6½
Schiffers	6½	4½
Schlechter	5½	5½
Steinitz	6½	4½
Tarrasch	5½	5½
Teichmann	5½	5½
Tinsley	5	6
Tschigorin	9½	1½
Vergani	1	10
Walbrodt	6	5

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 8th September,—Vancouver, B.C., 27th August, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 10th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, 30th August, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Azamor, British steamer, 1,569, Nicholls, 11th September,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 12th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, 4th September, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Bourdon, 13th September,—Marseilles 4th August, Hongkong 5th September, Shanghai 8th, Nagasaki 10th, and Kobe 12th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

DEPARTURES.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 7th September,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Archer (6), cruiser, Captain C. Lang, 7th September,—Chefoo.

Caroline (14), cruiser, Captain Ch. J. Norcock, 7th September,—Chefoo.

Pathan, British steamer, 1,763, Wright, 7th September,—Australia viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Rainbow (17), cruiser, Captain W. C. C. Forsyth, 8th September,—Hakodate.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 9th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, Sincock, 10th September, — Salvage work. — Samuel Samuel & Co.

Braemar, British steamer, 1,876, E. Porter, 10th September,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tantalus, British steamer, 2,199, Hannah, 11th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Niobe, German steamer, 1,666, Jager, 12th September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 13th September,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mrs. Abbott, Miss Abbott, Mr. W. R. Aldrich, Mrs. C. A. Aldrich, Mr. F. Gomez de Bouilla, Mr. A. P. Bukow, Rev. and Mrs. G. Campbell and daughter, Mr. H. J. Clark, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Clark, Mr. J. L. Chalmer, Mrs. Crowthers and child, Miss S. L. Dodson, Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Dunlop and children, Mr. H. Dutton, Mr. J. H. Ebersole, Rev. J. H. Freeman, Mr. Max Gauhe, Miss M. A. Gleim, Miss Hawley, Mrs. Hunt, Rev. D. T. Huntingdon, Mr. Chas. Kingsley, Mr. W. Klein, Mr. G. A. Kottgen, Mr. W. L. Ludlow, Mr. and Mrs. Peake-Mason, Mr. Chas. J. Marshall, Dr. and Mrs. J. W. McKean and children, Mr. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. Palm, Mr. and Mrs. de la Poer, Mr. S. M. Russell, Rt. Rev. S. F. J. Schereschewsky, D.D., Mrs. Schereschewsky, Miss Schereschewsky, Mr. Short, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Shaw, Mr. Geo. W. Shaw, Mrs. Whinfield Spence, Mr. G. Solovieff, Mr. Minaimi Twakuro, Mr. R. M. Whinfield, Miss Witherbee, Mr. H. A. Young, Miss A. H. Young, Miss E. M. Young, Mr. Julos Ueber, Mr. P. E. Sarasin, and Mr. E. Uchida in cabin; 12 passengers in second class, and 219 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Belgic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. J. F. Larkin, Mrs. Larkin, Mr. Henry P. Umbsen, Mr. Julien Harmony, Mr. A. M. Easton, Mrs. Easton, maid, and 2 children, Miss R. W. Loring, Mr. C. F. Heinlein, Mr. H. T. Safford, and Mr. S. Keith in cabin. For Hongkong:—Dr. R. I. Bowie in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Captain Anderson, Mr. E. A. Stanton, Mr. and Mrs. Noel and child, Captain Bentinck, Captain Hunt, Mr. L. G. Macnair, Lieut. Lewin, Lieut. Power, Mr. H. Smith, Mr. and Miss Biles, Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, Mr. C. E. P. Schown, Miss Hartford, Mr. W. D. Graham, Dr. and Mrs. Mair, Mrs. C. W. Hay, 2 children and nurse, Mr. H. Keswick, Mr. A. P. Stokes, Mr. A. J. How, Mr. and Mrs. Bland, Mr. A. Campbell, Rev. Bentley, Mr. C. Overbeck, Mr. H. Yoshioka, Mr. T. Waroya, Mrs. McMichael and child, Mr. and Mrs. Wadman and 4 children, Miss Gheer, Mr. Mattel, Mr. T. Taylor, Mr. T. Watanabe, Mr. W. Schmidt, Mr. T. W. Hellyer, Mr. W. E. Warmald, Mr. and Mrs. Tomotsune and daughter, and Mrs. Otuska in cabin; 7 passengers in second class; 6 passengers in third class, and 142 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Tuningo, Pères Daumer and Billing, Mr. Nogood Young, Mr. Abdul, Mr. Salter, Mr. Laysere, Mr. Arhes, Mr. Gisland, Mr. and Mrs. Chaffanjon, child and amah, Mr. Brault, Mr. and Mrs. Galles, 4 children and governess, Mr. Pallazzi, Mr. MacDonald, Mr. Dubois, Mr. and Mrs. Sing, child and 2 boys, Mrs. R. Cordo, Miss Dos Santos, Mr. Lan and boy, Mr. Harson, Mr. Kramer, Mrs. Frique, Miss Goubert and amah, Mr. Jaffren, Mr. Kulikieff, Mr. Le Cerre, Mr. Berry, Mr. Marques, Messrs. C. and F. Remedios, Mr. Joursand, and Mr. Luther in cabin; 31 Chinese, Attaché Legation and 40 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. A. Adelsdorfer, Mr. M. R. Braun, Mr. Bavier Chauffour, Mrs. John A. Cockerill, Mr. W. E. Curtis, Mr. E. Curtis, Rev. J. M. Francis, Rt. Rev. F. R. Graves, Mr. H. Isono, Mrs. S. Isaacs, children and servant, Lieut. F. H. Le Favor, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lewis and child, Mr. G. E. Potts, and Mr. S. Schwartz in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. McLaren, Mrs. McLaren, Mr. J. W. Thomson, Master Thomson, Miss Thomson, Mr. Hulse, Mr. Rehders, Mrs. Rehders, 3 children, and European nurse, Mr. and Mrs. Geist, Mr. Dickson, Mrs. Dickson, Dr. and Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Palmer, Mr. Young, Miss E. Gamer, Rev. J. L. Atkinson, Mrs. and Miss Atkinson, Surgeon-Major Stuart, Mrs. Ede, child, and nurse, Miss Lee, Mrs. Higgins and daughter, Miss McClinaghan, Mr. Tuska, Mr. and Mrs. E. Jones Hughes and 3 children, Mr. J. C. Wilkinson, Mr. F. Paget, Mrs. Schlichting, Mr. E. Runge, Miss Takata Tane, Mrs. and Miss Bain, Mr. G. Murray Bain, Mr. C. H. Evans, Dr. and Mrs. Irwin, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Collins, Mr. M. Shewan, Mr. A. Breven, Mr. E. W. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Gye and child, Miss Colgan, Major Lindley, Mr. Holstrem, Misses Winnfield and H. Curtis, Mr. M. Marians, Miss Jones and 2 children, and Mr. M. J. Dayet in cabin; Messrs. T. Saito, Fung Yick, C. Lansing, J. Oishi, and Y. Hamano in second class.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Captain Anderson, Mr. W. Bartlett, Rev. W. P. Bently, Mr. J. H. Biles, Miss Biles, Mr. J. S. Black, Mr. G. W. G. Butler, Captain Cavendish, Mr. W. B. Davenport, Mr. Fujita, Miss Hartford, Mr. L. W. Lienau, Mr. H. Cripps Matheson, Captain Miller, Dr. R. J. Nevin, Mr. C. O. Overbeck, Miss Procter, Mr. H. Shugio, Mr. T. Taylor, Mr. K. Tsuchiko, Mr. G. C. Turner, Mr. A. R. Whitney, and Mr. H. E. Wormald in cabin.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 20th.*
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 14th.†
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 1st.‡
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 22nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 27th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 30th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Oct. 2nd.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 10th.

* *Peru* left San Francisco on September 3rd. † *City of Peking* left Kobe on September 13th. ‡ *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 12th. The English mail is on board the steamer *Frigga*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C., & Tacoma, Wash.....	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 15th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 17th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 21st.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 28th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 30th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 4th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 8th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 11th.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The good feeling continues and transactions will grow in extent and number as the autumn sets in, if a tight money market does not cramp the dealers. With the huge amount of dollars which has been poured into the country in return for Silk the last two months, there should be plenty of coin to spend in Imports. But a fragment of a cloud appears on the horizon when the Government talk about another issue of War-loan-bonds to carry on the Formosa campaign. Let us hope for the best.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.15
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60 to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,.	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2 00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 16 to 0 22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.50 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,.	0.75 to 0.90

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Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.55
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.80 to 3.20

WOOLLENS.

	PRICE PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.45 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	40.00 to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.00 to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00 to 49.00

	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Rather a colourless week. There is of course some business doing, but no special stir in the trade. Unlike the soft goods trade, there is no help from improved values on the home side, and exchange keeps fairly steady.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.15 to 3.20
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.15 to 3.25
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40 to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8.50 to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5.50 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.25 to 5.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

Not much change in the situation at present. Holders have only to sit tight and there need be no anxiety as to the future. Native dealers ascribe the recent fall in values to the keen competition between the two principal importers! A few months ago it was gravely announced that these very same firms had made a close "combine" to *raise* prices!

American	$2.05 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	1.90

SUGAR.

Brown—Market still very unsatisfactory and buyers look for still lower prices. White—Steady trade and prices well maintained.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.70 to 3.75
Brown Manila	4.20 to 4.40
Brown Daitong (New)	3.10 to 3.20
Brown Canton	3.20 to 3.70
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Much less doing: and in some instances holders have given way a little in price rather than lose a buyer. Our quotations are more or less nominal, with the turn against buyers at the close, as a speculative movement has apparently set in.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom $930 to 940
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2 10/15 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	850 to 860
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	760 to 770
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	720 to 730
Kakedas—Extra	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 1	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 1½	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½	720 to 730

WASTE SILK.

Some business doing: but holders will have to adopt an easier tone before large transactions are entertained by the regular shippers.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Rather less doing this week, but prices remain without change. It is rumoured that early shipments of this season are showing losses at home: but this requires confirmation.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been fairly steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/2¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2¾
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅞
On Paris—Bank sight	2.75
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.81
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅛
— Private 10 days' sight	72⅛
On India—Bank sight	194⅜
— Private 30 days' sight	197
On America—Bank Bills on demand	53¼
— Private 30 days' sight	54¼
— — 4 months' sight	55
On Germany—Bank sight	2.21
— Private 4 months' sight	2.28
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/16

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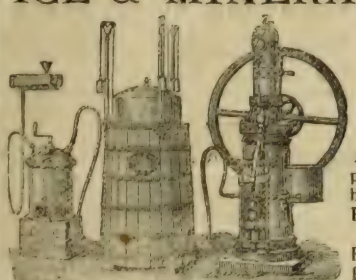

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May 4th, 1895. 1y.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 21ST, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE health of the Crown Prince is steadily improving.

COUNT GOTO has purchased a glass factory at Tamachi Ichome, Shiba, Tokyo.

MR. HASHIGUCHI NAOYEMON has been appointed Japanese Consul at Ninsen, Korea.

H.I.H. PRINCE YAMASHINA KIKUMARU was married to the Lady Nori-ko on the 14th inst.

YOKOHAMA'S cricket week commences on Oct. 14. Shanghai and Kobe will both send teams.

THE new Chinese Minister, H.E. Yu Keng, has been visiting the foreign Ministers during the week.

MR. YAMAGUCHI ICHIJI, Secretary of the Home Department, is appointed Chief of the Kumamoto Police.

THIRTY-TWO houses were destroyed by fire at Ohara-cho, Tsukui gun, Kanagawa Prefecture, on the 7th inst.

LIEUT. DON CARLOS INIGOY GOROZTIZA has been appointed a naval attaché at the Spanish Legation in Japan.

TRAINING for the Autumn Race Meeting commenced on Monday. The fine weather of the last few days has attracted goodly gatherings to the Race-course in the early mornings.

H.I.H. PRINCESS FUMI-NO-MIYA, who has been staying at Miyanoshita for some time, returned to Tokyo on the 15th inst.

INSPECTOR KAWADA of the Yokohama Settlement Police has been promoted Superintendent of Ishikawa Police Station.

THE anniversary of the battle of the Yalu has been universally celebrated at all naval stations and ports in Japan this week.

ABOUT 2,000 *kwamme* (one *kwamme*=about 8¼lbs.) of cocoons were burnt during the fire at Yata, Nagoya, on the 7th instant.

THE *Chishima-Ravenna* case has been compromised, the P. & O. Company agreeing to pay £10,000 and all costs.

ONLY three of Lieut. Gunji's Chishima settlers now remain alive on the northern islands: their condition is said to be very pitiable.

IT is stated that the leading promoters of the two proposed electric railway companies in Yokohama have agreed to amalgamate.

A MILE swimming race in the open sea was won on Wednesday afternoon by R. C. Ross, who covered the distance in 1h. 6m. 13sec.

THE N.Y.K. steamer *Azamor* collided with the German steamer *Donau* in Kobe harbour on Tuesday, and considerable damage was done.

SIR NICHOLAS O'CONOR has been promoted to Ambassador to the Court of St. Petersburg. His successor at Pekin has not been made public.

THE body of the late second officer of the *Belgic* was found floating in the sea last Saturday, and has since been buried in Yokohama cemetery.

MR. SOYESHIMA MICHITADA, a Chamberlain of H.I.H. the Crown Prince, has been appointed a Master of Ceremonies in the Imperial Household.

THE total receipts of the Government railways during August last was *yen* 573,471, an increase of *yen* 68,327 against the corresponding month of the previous year.

THE storms of the 4th, 5th, and 6th inst., did great damage off the coast of Nagasaki Prefecture and in Korea. Many lives were lost along the banks of the Nak-dong-gang.

DURING the week several companies of gendarmes have left for Formosa. The reinforcements of troops leave Ujina for the south the beginning of next week.

THE "boys" engaged in the Club Hotel, Yokohama, struck work shortly before dinner on Monday evening. Dissatisfaction with the new management was the reason for the strike.

TSOY TING-FANG, commander of the Chinese torpedo squadron, who was captured at Weihaiwei, and kept at Osaka, escaped to America before the Chinese prisoners were sent home.

THE *Naigai Tsushin*, *Kokkai*, *Chuo Shimbun*, *Yorozu Choho*, and *Kaika Shimbun*, of Tokyo; *Niigata Shimbun*, of Niigata and the *Shinmikawa*, of Aichi, were suspended by the Authorities on the 13th inst. Several of these papers have since been released from the ban.

PRINCE KUJO entertained the members of the Imperial family on the 16th inst. at his residence at Akasaka to celebrate the marriage of his daughter, the Lady Nori-ko, with H.I.H. Prince Yamashina Kikumaro.

THE Directors of the Japan Cotton Spinners' Union have addressed all the Commercial Chambers in the country asking for their support in the agitation to abolish the import tax on cotton.

FROM the commencement of the year up to August 31st, 21,314 Japanese were attacked by dysentery of whom 4,228 died. Compared with the corresponding period of the previous year the figures show a decrease of 60,198 patients and 12,748 deaths.

REUTER telegraphs:—The Earl of Dunraven, being unable to obtain the necesary guarantees that the *Valkyrie* would have a clear course in the third race, merely crossed the line with the *Defender*, and then stopped leaving the *Defender* to finish the course alone. The *Valkyrie* returns to England forthwith. The Earl of Dunraven declares that he will never race the *Valkyrie* in American waters again. The Right Hon. Sir Joseph Renals, Lord Mayor of London, and the Lady Mayoress, received a most cordial public welcome in Paris, on their way to the Bordeaux Exhibition. Their official visit is exciting interest in France. The U.S. Government has resolved to demand a separate enquiry with regard to the Chêngtu riots. The Porte has notified the Embassies of various concessions regarding Armenia. The Emperor Francis Joseph is attending the German manœuvres which are to be held in the presence of Emperor William II, and this is regarded as a matter of political importance. Sir Joseph West Ridgeway, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., has been appointed Governor of Ceylon. A rescript by the Emperor of Germany appeals to the people against enemies knowing no Fatherland, who in times of national enthusiasm like the Sedan fêtes, revile the memory of their great Emperor, William I.

THE Import trade continues much as last reported, there being now plenty of business in the principal lines. There have been good sales of Yarns at hardening prices, besides dealings for early arrival. Shirtings continue to improve in value, 9lb. being mostly sought after. There has been some life infused into the Fancy Cottons and Woollen trades, and there is a promising outlook for these goods. There is a more general enquiry for Metals of all kinds, and Iron of most sorts is expected to be dearer as the trade revives. There is no change to note in Kerosene, the market being quiet at late rates. Dealers only buy for immediate requirements, but deliveries continue on a good scale. Sugar is not moving to any great extent, there being but a poor business in Browns. White sorts, however, are in better demand, and the trade in these is satisfactory. Last week, after writing, there was a large and sudden development in the Silk trade, and some heavy settlements were effected. At present quotations are more or less nominal, but it is reported that as much as $1,000 has been offered for a parcel of special extra quality, though all round there is much less doing, and holders are fairly current. A fair amount of business has been done in Waste, which might possibly have been extended to a large trade had not holders attempted to force an advance. There has been rather more done in the Tea trade, but prices are unchanged, and the stock is of very moderate dimensions. Settlement figures still keep ahead of those of last season, and would appear to indicate that the total shipments of this year will exceed those of last. There has been very little alteration in the rates of exchange during the week.

HATHITRUST DIGITIZED BY GOOGLE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The present week has included the anniversaries of the two Japanese victories that decided the issue of the war between this country and China, namely, the battle of Phyŏng-yang and the Naval engagement in the Yellow Sea, on the 15th and 17th of September, 1895, respectively. These anniversaries have been the occasion for celebrations throughout the country, though the scale of rejoicings was not so general and enthusiastic as might have been expected. This was doubtless owing partly to a feeling of suspense created by the diplomatic complications that have arisen out of the war, and partly to the fact that attention is diverted to affairs in Formosa. The two memorable battles, especially that of the Yellow Sea, have received due notice in the columns of the vernacular press. We may refer here to a representative article in the *Jiji Shimpo* on the anniversary of the Naval battle. "The declaration of war," says our contemporary, "was hailed by the nation with extraordinary enthusiasm, for it was felt that the time had arrived for raising Japan's prestige in the world. One cause of anxiety only existed, namely, the Navy. As to the Army, every Japanese being fully convinced of its superiority to the Chinese forces, no doubt was entertained of complete victory on land. But in several important respects, the inferiority of the Japanese fleet to the Chinese was appreciated, and the nation relied simply on the valour and skill of officers and men. No person openly expressed fear, but everybody remained in breathless anxiety as to the issue of a naval encounter. . . . . This heavy load of secret but intense anxiety was happily removed by news of the signal victory gained by our fleet in the battle off the Yalu this day last year." Our contemporary then dwells upon the important bearing that this success of the Japanese arms at sea had upon the subsequent course of the war. In conclusion, attention is called to the importance of creating a Navy powerful enough to secure these islands from all hostile attacks.

* * *

The political world has on the whole been comparatively quiet, though some of the Opposition parties have begun to show activity. The much talked of fusion of these parties into one body does not seem to make any progress. Apparently the time has not yet come for such a measure. The *Nippon* has an interesting article on the subject. It shows remarkable insight into the present condition of things in the field of party politics. There are now more than ten parties in the Diet. They are ranged in two general groups, the Extremists and the Moderates. But this state of things is only temporary. Something of the difficulty and inconvenience under which the arrangement is maintained may be gathered from the fact that concert on any given subject can be effected only by repeated and protracted conference between the different groups. Mr. Taguchi Waichi, the leader of the Economical Reform Party,—we quote from the *Nippon*,—is an enthusiastic advocate of amalgamating the different sections of the Opposition. The proposition has received the approval of the Progressionists and others, but has been defeated by the uncompromising opposition of the Constitutional Reform Party. Meanwhile, a similar project has been mooted, only to experience a similar fate, among the Moderates. The Radicals are desirous of uniting themselves with the National Unionists, but the latter are against such a scheme. As to the reason why the Constitutional Reformists are opposed to amalgamation, the *Nippon* remarks that the mystery is to be explained by the peculiar relations they maintain with the Military section of the Government. The Constitutional Reformists are principally from Kyushu; that is to say the locality to which belong most of the Generals and Admirals that played leading parts in the recent war. Thus these politicians shrink from joining any combination having for its object to attack the Government, in which their fellow provincials and clansmen hold such distinguished posts. In this respect their position is somewhat similar to that of the National Unionists, who are avowed supporters of the military section of the Government. But the connection of the National Unionists with the military statesmen is not so close as to make them declared supporters of the Government, or so slight as to allow them to go hand in hand with the Progressionists and others in an unreasonable crusade against the Cabinet. But the most potent influence impeding the success of any scheme of amalgamation is jealousy and suspicion between the leaders of the different political bodies about the position and influence each should enjoy after fusion. The National Unionists, on the one hand, fear that, in the event of union with the Radicals, their own influence would suffer injuriously; while on the other, a similar apprehension troubles the minds of the Constitutional Reformists, who fear that they would be swallowed up by the Progressionists.

* * *

Writing on the subject of an increase of armament, the *Jiji Shimpo* takes care to emphasise the fact that in adopting this step Japan is not actuated by hostile motives against any of the treaty Powers. It is true, says our contemporary, that the Japanese have been deeply offended by the high-handed proceedings of Russia with regard to Liaotung, but it is a mistake to suppose that the relations between the two Empires are therefore strained. Deficient as they are in the experience of diplomacy, the Japanese know very well how far the code of international morality can be relied upon, and how, after all, selfishness is the ruling element in the intercourse of nations. They were, therefore, quite prepared for the conduct of the Northern Power. Increase of the Army and the Navy has ever been an object with the Japanese nation, but the achievement of that purpose has hithereto been impeded by the prior claim of other measures of internal improvement. Japan, howevr, now thinks herself capable of carrying out her long cherished desire, and in doing so she has no hostile intentions toward any country in particular. If any external cause has quickened her decision in this matter, it has been the general condition of uncertainty prevailing since the termination of the war with China.

* * *

The maintenance of commercial supremacy by Japan in the Korean peninsula furnishes a subject for earnest discussion to the Tokyo papers. Considerable uneasiness has been caused among the Japanese by news that the Chinese are returning to Korea in great numbers, and slowly wresting the trade there from Japanese hands, the Japanese merchants being content with the trifling profits obtained by supplying provisions and other necessaries to their country's forces quartered in Korea. Moreover, the good reputation of the Japanese among the Koreans is suffering serious injury owing to the presence of a large number of men of the *soshi* class, who make it their business to annoy Korean officials of high rank. This question is discussed seriously by the *Jiji*, and several other journals, all urging their countrymen to maintain their commercial supremacy in the peninsula against the encroachments of the Chinese.

* * *

The well-known essayist, Mr. Nakanishi Ushiro, writing in the editorial columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, discusses the possibility of reforms in China. Foreign wars have not succeeded in rousing the big Empire from its torpor, but have nevertheless produced an impression upon the country. There seem to be indications that the barrier of conservatism is being slowly sapped by the tide of progress and improvement. The recent war with Japan appears to have led China to introduce some reforms, the principal of which are changes in the *personnel* of officials, reorganization of the Army and Navy, and construction of railways. The first of these reforms is not worth notice, but the two others are of far-reaching consequence. To what extent will it be possible to carry out these reforms under the existing political organization? That question the writer undertakes to answer. His opinion is that under the existing system, in which the Viceroys are semi-independent princes, it is absolutely impossible to effect any reform on a sufficiently large scale and that centralization of political power must precede national regeneration. But that is exactly what the present Manchu dynasty is afraid to easay, its existence depending upon the continuance of decentralization. Any departure from that system would be the death blow of the Pekin Court. Mr. Nakanishi's conclusion is that no effective reform is possible under the present dynasty. Whether or not the progressive instinct of the Chinese people will be powerful enough to bring about the downfall of the Manchu Government, he does not undertake to prophesy.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE REVOLUTIONARY FORCES AND EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN RUSSIA.

The recent reports of revolutionary movements in some parts of Russia has again called the attention of Europe and Asia to the situation in that vast empire. When in the eighties, Nihilism had reached the height of its destructive activity, a noted writer said, "The Czar is now a military prisoner of the revolution at Gatschina and Russia furnishes the outposts of the revolutionary movement in Europe." If this had the appearance of truth at the time, it is certain that Nihilism, as such, had at the same time about spent its force and was breaking up. Some fragments, here and there, might create a passing terror which presently disappeared, and it was found that the revolutionary cyclone of Nihilism was at an end. We have before us, in *Die Neue Zeit* (Socialist, Stuttgart), an elaborate article, written by an ex-Nihilist, in which he most regretfully admits that the "revolutionary movement" has, during the past ten years, entirely disappeared from the surface of Russian life, while all that remains of it is a faint remembrance, which is fading more and more from year to year. The survivors of the "revolution," he says, are in a most pessimistic mood, for it has created a moral "Katzenjammer" among them. When the once boastful Nihilists volunteer such a confession, there is certainly no reason to doubt its correctness. This same writer admits that the social element in Russia never was in a revolutionary temper, and he adds, "The glory and strength of the revolutionary movement in the sixties and seventies had its root in the individual self-sacrifices and energy of a certain class of students, or the 'intelligence of democracy.' And in speaking of its vital weakness, he no doubt is correct in pointing out that it was not a native product and found no root in native soil. It was in fact necessary to keep away as far as possible from native soil in order to appear as a genuine revolutionary force. "The enthusiasm and faith of the revolutionary democracy of Russia stood in direct contrast to the profane interests of daily life and the social environment. Our intelligence represented in this respect the counterpart to the legendary hero of ancient Greece who was invincible as long as he touched mother earth from whence he derived his strength. We, on the other hand, were invincible, morally speaking, just so long as we stood high above the earth, above the social reality which was antagoniatic to our cause." Of course such a "lofty position" in the air, was all but natural, and had to fall sooner or later. Thus, being without a congenial soil or atmosphere in which to thrive, the government was safe in taking the most stringent measures to crush the "revolutionary movement." And the writer says, "The physical defeat brought in its train moral disappointment on the part of the democracy of intelligence, and the loss of faith in the revolution." This ended finally in the loss of the "revolutionary instinct." For centuries the social and educational development of the mass of the Russian people was comparatively slow, and could scarcely be otherwise under a rigid feudal system, such as obtained for ages in the Russian empire. The emancipation of the peasantry

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by Alexander II. produced a great change for the better, but it would indeed be passing strange if every trace of the effect of the feudal period already had altogether disappeared. The writer, whom we have quoted above, admits that "within the bounds of absolutism the people have been Europeanized and the national resources have been greatly developed." The intellectual development in a modern sense is also very noticeable, and even an ex-Nihilist cannot deny that the government has greatly improved the educational system. But just in this educational movement, and the enlightenment of the lower strata of the nation, he finds a ray of hope for the "coming revolution." Not a revolution of the Nihilistic type, far above the people, but rather from the people and of the people. In short, something on the line of the Social Democrats of Germany and France. He thinks the time is ripe for such a movement as the discontent is great in all the chief centres of the empire.

THE FIVE HUNDRED ARHATS.

ATTEMPTED or contemplated sales of celebrated pictures by the priests of some great Japanese temple furnish material for periodical notes in the vernacular press. There is always an incredible element in these stories, namely, the price alleged to have been offered or demanded for the pictures. The latest tale of the kind appears in the *Kokkai*. It relates to pictorial scrolls of the Five Hundred Arhats, from the brush of Kobo Daishi. We are told that a resident of Kyoto offered to purchase these scrolls for a hundred thousand *yen*, and that the priests of Daitoku-ji, seeing in such a sum a means for supporting the temple, and being assured by the purchaser that the pictures were not to leave the country, made formal application to the Authorities, and received permission to dispose of the pictures. The buyer, however, no sooner obtained possession of them than he carried them off to America and tried to re-sell them. Obtaining no offer at such a figure, he returned to Japan, and urged the priests to reduce the price by one half, to which proposal they reluctantly assented. But the parishioners now interfered, insisting that the conditions on which official permission was procured had been violated, and that the priests were deliberately conniving at the very result most undesirable, namely, the transfer of the scrolls to foreign hands. In the end the Abbot of Daitoku-ji was obliged to resign, and the purchaser of the pictures was given 15 days within which either to return the scrolls or pay up the remaining fifty thousand *yen*. We find difficulty in crediting this tale. There is no sane man in existence, we think, that would think of giving fifty thousand *yen*, not to say a hundred thousand, for any set of Arhat scrolls in Japan, nor do we think that the Authorities would sanction the sale of any well known temple treasure, since such a precedent, once established, would lead speedily to the denuding of all the temples.

SCHOOL CADETS.

THE boys of the Osaka Public School have organised a well equipped Cadet Corps during the vacation. Drilling has been energetically gone in for every evening in the Nakanoshima Park. They have lately been armed with rifles, and they have provided a military band, ambulance and commissariat sections, and a Red Cross field-hospital. The eldest boy, says the *Hiogo News*, is 13 or 14 years old only. School Cadet Corps have flourished for some time in Yokohama.

CHOLERA IN SENDAI.

THE spread of cholera in Sendai from the 4th to the 7th instant was so rapid that it was deemed wise to postpone the opening of all the schools in the Prefecture to the 20th instant. One cause of the rapid increase of cases is stated to be the pollution of a stream of water that enters the town by way of Kimachi-dori. Many of the inhabitants residing near this stream have been in the habit of drinking the water, which, as a rule, has been noted for its purity. But some days ago, the fact that cholera patients mostly hailed from the vicinity of the stream led the authorities to analyse the water, with the result that it was pronounced quite unfit for use. With their usual promptness the members of the Board of Health issued notices warning people of the danger of using the water. Subsequently to this action the number of cases of cholera has steadily decreased. On the 11th inst. the temperature underwent a change, which was followed on the 12th by a thunderstorm. It is generally considered that there is nothing further to be feared from the ravages of Japan's most deadly foe, as far as Sendai concerned.

THE RECENT STORM IN KOREA.

A CONSULAR report from Fusan, Korea, concerning the recent storm, states that a strong wind rose on the 4th inst., and increased in violence till the night of the 5th. The rain ceased falling the following noon, but the wind raged more violently. High waves broke on the south-western shore. During flood-tide on the night of the 6th still higher waves swept the beach, and precautions were taken to prevent damage being done to buildings. Some Korean houses were washed away by the waves, and the roads were severely damaged. Two breaches were caused in the stone wall along the shore of the Settlement. The water in the Nak-dong-gang greatly increased, and floods took place in the towns along the banks of the river. The water was three feet above the telegraph wire between Sam-no-jin and Mil-yang. The *débris* of the ruined houses and corpses of men as well as of horses, are still floating down the river. The water did not subside until the 8th. It is said that serious mischief has been done along the banks of the river. Telegraphic communication between Fusan and Söul has been interrupted since the 6th inst.

LUNACY IN ENGLAND.

THE report of the British Lunacy Commissioners this year still further enforces the conclusion drawn from the report of 1894, and the effect of both together is practically to destroy the hasty assumption that madness is increased by what is called the "wear and tear of modern life." In the first place, it is an unproved and very doubtful assumption that it is increased at all. More lunatics are discovered, enumerated, and interned in asylums, but that is probably only the result of greater care for the insane. In the second place, it is not the highly civilised, nervous, literary, modern man who is most afflicted, but, curiously enough, the huckster, the costermonger, the woolstapler, and even the labourer, who hold the highest places on the list. Civil servants, also, in spite of the supposed tranquillity and security of their calling, contribute more than their share.

PROFESSOR MILNE.

PROF. JOHN MILNE and MRS. Milne have reached England, and have taken up their residence in the Isle of Wight. The Professor, says a contemporary, lost no time in getting to his particular work, for the day succeeding his arrival he was busily superintending the digging of a pit and erection of a column on which to place instruments to record the movements of old England and receive messages through the earth from Dai Nippon.

LOSS OF THE "SATSUMA."

THE *Pekin* arrived at Shanghai on Sept. 11th from Ningpo, bringing Captain Swenson and the officers and crew of the British barque *Satsuma*, which was wrecked on Friday last. The *Satsuma* left Nagasaki on the 1st instant, with a cargo of coals and charcoal, and all went well, the weather being fine, till the 5th inst., when the vessel was off the Saddles. She anchored off Gutzlaff owing to the threatening weather, but drove from her anchors and drifted to the north side of Chusan island, where she struck on the rocks on the 6th and became a total wreck. Captain Swenson, with the aid of the fishermen on the island, got ropes ashore by which all hands safely landed, though they could not save any of their effects. The shipwrecked crew remained two days on the island, the guests of the fishermen, who treated them kindly, and then provided them with a junk to go to Chinhai at the mouth of the Ningpo river, where they arrived on Tuesday evening. Captain Swenson telegraphed the news up to Ningpo and the *Pekin* stopped to take them off. The *Satsuma* was built in 1860 at Sunderland, and was a vessel of 364 tons register. She was owned in Shanghai. The *Lucia* and *Mary Stewart* left Nagasaki with the *Satsuma*, and the first named vessel has arrived at Shanghai.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

A CURIOUS ARTICLE OF EXPORT.

CONSUL SCOTT mentions a curious export from Swatow, viz., ducks' eggs, which he has observed on steamers bound south for Bangkok and the Straits. They have, for the most part, been incubated to within a few days of hatching. They are brought on board the steamers in shallow baskets in large numbers. In the baskets they are arranged in layers two or three deep, each layer carefully covered and surrounded with soft Chinese paper. No sort of artificial heat is applied to them. The baskets are placed anywhere about the deck or slung to the awning supports. The soft paper and the heat of the climate as the vessel runs south are sufficient to preserve the newly-hatched ducklings from injury! and not only so, but before the vessels reach their destination most of the eggs are hatched out, and in lieu of the eggs that were shipped hundreds of young ducks are landed at Singapore or Bangkok, "all doing well and thriving."

THE STRIKE AT THE CLUB HOTEL.

THE strike of boys at the Club Hotel on Monday evening was admirably timed to cause the greatest trouble and embarrassment to the management, taking place almost immediately before the dinner hour. The grievance of the strikers seems to have been the dismissal of two of the Japanese staff by the new manager, which along with other actions on his part caused a lot of resentment. All day yesterday police were stationed at the entrances to the hotel, to prevent any acts of violence taking place, if any were contemplated by the strikers, but beyond threatening some Chinese who were on the way to offer there services as boys to the management, no distuibance took place. Meanwhile, the hotel is being run by the European staff with the assistance of the servants of the guests and a few Japanese.

A HUMOUROUS POSITION.

THE writer of "Stray Notes" in the *Kobe Chronicle* remarks that the plurality of offices, mostly honorary, held by Mr. Enslie, was amusingly illustrated last week, when the letters respecting the Japanese police and the Settlement were read at the Kobe Municipal Council. In those letters, Mr. Enslie as Chairman of the Municipal Council addresses Mr. Enslie as Doyen of Consular Body and conveys to Mr. Enslie as Doyen the information Mr. Enslie has received as Chairman of the Council. The procedure is of course perfectly correct, and is adopted, we presume, in order that the matters referred to may go on record; but a position in which the writer of a letter, addressing himself, has to sign "Your obedient servant" nevertheless strikes the unofficial mind as a little comic.

THE "BELGIC."

SOME details of the operations now being conducted by Captain Forbes, Superintendant Captain of the N.Y.K., on behalf of the stranded steamer *Belgic* were gathered on Thursday from persons who had just come up from the scene of the stranding. Captain Forbes went down the Bay on the 11th, and found the *Belgic* lying broadside-on on the beach between Susaki and Mela Head. The vessel was about 500 feet above low water mark. By the afternoon of the 15th six anchors had been laid out and on the following morning heaving commenced, with the result that by four o'clock the vessel's head had been shifted seaward, from N. 25° W. to N. 62° W. A heavy sea soon set in and operations had to cease. As night drew on the rollers became heavier and longer and the

big steamer began to roll. Then she bumped the beach violently and a bollard on the port side snapped off short, while the cat davit on same side of the vessel was unshipped, so great was the strain on the ropes. Under the circumstances the only course available was to slacken the ropes and the ship went back again on the beach. At daylight it was discovered that the ship was leaking, No. 1 hold reporting 5 feet, and No. 2 hold 11 feet. The head of the *Belgic* is now pointing out to sea clear of Sunosaki point. The body of the late second officer of the *Belgic* was discovered last week floating in the sea about seven miles away from the scene of the stranding. The body was brought up to Yokohama on Saturday by Captain Efford. The unfortunate man had recently been married, on his last trip to San Francisco we understand, and much sympathy will be extended to the bride of a month so cruelly made a widow.

THE CROWN PRINCE.

THE latest report concerning the Crown Prince is as follows :—12th inst.: temperature, between 36.3° C. and 37.75° C.; pulse, between 77 and 104; respiration, between 24 and 28; 13th: temperature, between 36.2° C. and 37.7° C.; pulse, between 80 and 100; respiration, between 22 and 28; 14th: temperature, between 36.4° C. and 37.75° C.; pulse, between 75 and 96; respiration, between 22 and 28; 15th: temperature, between 36.4° C. and 37.3° C.; pulse, between 80 and 96; respiration, between 24 and 28; 16th: temperature, between 36.3° C. and 37.4° C.; pulse, between 80 and 94; respiration, between 20 and 28; 17th: temperature, between 36.15° C. and 37.5° C.; pulse, between 76 and 96; respiration, between 22 and 28; 18th: temperature, between 36.3° C. and 38.3° C.; pulse, between 74 and 100; respiration, between 20 and 30.

THE LOSS OF THE "CATTERTHUN."

THE *Northern Territory Times* publishes the the following telegram *in re* the loss of the *Catterthun* :—

Sydney, August 15th.

A curious thing has taken place in connection with the wreck of the *Catterthun*. At the enquiry which is being held into the causes of the disaster, the second mate, Langfear, refuses to answer certain questions. The enquiry was adjourned to enable the coroner to consult the Law Officers as to Langfear's conduct.

The *Catterthun* inquest is still adjourned. Witness Langfear has stated in his evidence that the ship was going 11½ knots an hour at the time of the accident. He blames the current and a heavy swell for the disaster.

The underwriters are hopeful of being able to salve a good deal of the most valuable cargo.

THE NEW O. B. C. LTD., IN LIQUIDATION.

THE following circular has been issued to the creditors of the New Oriental Bank :—

19, Old Broad Street, London, E.C.,
10th August, 1895.

Dear Sir,—I beg to inform you that the proceedings taken against the directors and other officers of this Bank, in accordance with the resolution passed at the meeting of creditors held on 20th June, 1894, have resulted in the matter being compromised, with the sanction of the Court, for the sum of £18,216 17s. 9d., being the amount of the last dividend distributed to the shareholders by the directors.—I am, yours faithfully,

G. M. DRURY,
Member of Committee appointed by the Court to conduct the proceedings.

COLLISION IN KOBE HARBOUR.

AS the N.Y.K. chartered steamer *Asamor* was entering Kobe harbour, at a few minutes after eight on Tuesday morning, she came into collision with the Norwegian steamer *Donau*. The former, says the *Hiogo News*, was apparently manœuvring so as to clear other shipping when she crashed into the latter's stern. The *Donau* was at anchor, and an anchor was immediately let go by the *Asamor* to prevent her running back upon another vessel. The damage sustained by both vessels is said to be serious.

SICAWEI OBSERVATORY.

THE work done at the Sicawei Observatory by the French Fathers is above all praise for efficiency and completeness. We learn from Shanghai papers that Père Chevalier, Director of the Observatory, will be absent for several months, and that during his temporary absence it will remain in the charge of the Rev. Louis Froc, S.J. This gentleman, after having worked for three years (1884-1887) in the Sicawei Observatory under the direction of Père M. Dechevrens, S.J., returned to Europe to complete his scientific studies. He came out to China again in December last, and having been employed since then at the Observatory is thoroughly competent to take charge of that important establishment.

TROUBLE ON THE "SATANELLA."

FROM a telegram in one of our Japanese contemporaries, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, there appears to have been some trouble at Nagasaki on the steam yacht *Satanella*. As we announced recently, the *Satanella* has been sold to a Russian gentleman, and is now *en route* to Vladivostock, having called in at Nagasaki on her way. While there she was re-christened with a Russian name, but on learning that she had been sold to the Russians it is stated that eight of the Japanese sailors struck work and refused to proceed. The steam yacht appears to be still at Nagasaki.

SIR NICHOLAS O'CONOR PROMOTED.

A TELEGRAM from Pekin which appears in this issue announces that the British Minister to the Court of Pekin has been appointed to St. Petersburg. The Rt. Hon. Sir Frank Cavendish Lascelles, G.C.M.G., is the present Ambassador to the Court at St. Petersburg, where the pay is £7,800 as against £5,500 at Pekin.

STEALING RICE.

A COOLIE was arrested on Tuesday afternoon by the Settlement Police on a charge of having stolen a quantity of rice, the property of Mr. Essabhoy, while in transit from the Hatoba to the godowns at Moto-hama-cho. So far 3 boxes and 4 bags have been recovered.

THE KING OF SIAM.

HIS MAJESTY the King of Siam in the coming spring will make a European tour, says the *Singapore Free Press*. The precedent of the Shahzadah of Afghanistan, and the illustrated papers, opines our contemporary, have encouraged His Siamese Majesty to the trip.

THE CHENG-TU COMMISSION.

WE learn that telegraphic instruction from Washington has been received by Captain Barker, Naval Attaché to the United States Legation in Tokyo, ordering him to proceed to Szechuan for the purpose of taking part in the American Commission of Inquiry appointed in connection with the Chengtu riots.

INSPECTOR KAWADA PROMOTED.

FOREIGN residents in Yokohama will learn with much pleasure that Inspector Kawada, of the Kagacho Police Station, has been promoted to the post of Superintendent of Ishikawa Station. A better man for the post than Inspector Kawada would be impossible to find : by his courtesy, ready tact, and energy he has won the esteem of all having bnsiness at the Settlement Police Station.

MORE STEAM ACCOMMODATION.

ANOTHER new Russian Steam Navigation Company is said to be in the course of formation for the purpose of conveying mails, passengers, and goods between European Russian ports and India, China, Eastern Siberia, and Saghalin, the special object being to bring colonial produce direct to Russian ports, thus avoiding transhipment at London or Hamburg.

THE COLLISION IN KOBE HARBOUR.

THE damage done by the collision of the *Donau* and *Asamor* in Kobe harbour is very serious. The overhanging stem of the *Asamor* smashed into the stern of the *Donau* some three or four feet, breaking three plates and doing damage that will cost from two to three thousand dollars to repair, and which will cause a detention of about a week. The stem of the *Asamor* is slightly twisted by the blow, and she will probably have to undorgo repairs in Hongkong.

A DISSATISFIED SAILOR.

WILLIAM CHARLES, a sailor on the *Auretta*, being dissatisfied with the food supplied and the hard work which fell to his share on board the vessel, refused duty on Thursday. Mr. Justice Mowat heard his statement in answer to the charge preferred against him by the Master in H.B.M. Court on Friday, and then ordered the man to go back to the ship and pay the costs of Court.

S. ANDREW'S CHURCH, SHIBA.

THE ordinary services are now resumed after the summer, viz. :—Sundays, 11 a.m., Morning Service and Sermon; 5 p.m., Evensong: Holy Communion, first Sunday in the month at 11 a.m., third Sunday at 7 a.m. Week-days, 5.30 p.m., Evensong: Holy Communion on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 7 a.m.

THE ITALIAN CELEBRATION.

ON Friday, Count Orfini, *Chargé d'Affaires* for Italy, met his nationals at the Consulate in Yokohama and made an address, the occasion being the anniversary of the restoration of Rome as the capital of united Italy.

THE BRITISH FLEET.

H.M.S. *Centurion* (Flagship), *Undaunted*, *Edgar*, and *Alacrity* have arrived from the north. They saluted the port this morning. It is hoped that one or perhaps two cricket matches will be arranged between the Club and the Fleet ere the latter leaves.

COUNT MUTSU.

COUNT MUTSU, Minister of Foreign Affairs, who has been staying at Oiso for some time, returned to Tokyo yesterday.

"LECTURES ON COMMERCIAL GEOGRAPHY."

Professor E. J. Blockhuys, of the Higher Commercial School in Tokyo, has published in book form a summary of lectures on commercial geography delivered by him to the students under his charge. The work possesses great value, for it gives, in a well digested and compendious form, all the information ordinarily accessible with reference to the resources, products, and commerce of the civilized countries of the world. It is regrettable, we think, that the author did not arrange the various countries in alphabetical order, as reference would have been greatly facilitated thereby. For the rest, the book seems to deserve praise only.

THE "CHISHIMA-RAVENNA" CASE.

STAY OF ALL FURTHER PROCEEDINGS.

In H.B.M. Court for Japan (Kanagawa) on Thursday afternoon, before Mr. Justice Mowat, sitting in Chambers, Mr. Walford presented the following motion :—

(IN ADMIRALTY.)

The Imperial Japanese Government, plaintiffs, and the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, defendants.

The plaintiffs by their Counsel, Mr. Ambrose Berry Walford, move this honourable Court upon the consent hereunder written that the defendants having paid to them the sum of £10,000 sterling in full satisfaction of all damages and all costs, except the costs already adjudged to the plaintiffs, all further proceedings in this action may be stayed, except such as may be necessary for enforcing payment of costs already adjudged as aforesaid.

A. B. WALFORD,
Counsel for the Plaintiffs

I consent, 19th Sept., 1895.

J. F. LOWDER,
Counsel for the Defendants.

The Order sought for was made accordingly. Only the two Counsel concerned were present, and upon His Honour entering the Order, proceedings terminated.

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FORMOSA NEWS.

The Tokyo papers have just published letters from their correspondents in Formosa, describing the operations of the Imperial Guard south of Taikia, especially the engagement in the vicinity of Chang-hua, in which about 5,000 insurgents, including a large number of Black Flags and others regulars, too part.

The bulk of the Guards Division left Taikia on the 24th ultimo, but a detachment under Colonel Nakaoka, forming its extreme left wing, left there following day. The distance between Taikia and Taiton, on Taiwan—as the two names denote the same place—is a little over twenty-five miles. It was arranged that by occupying the latter place by the 26th at latest, a general attack upon the insurgents' strongholds in the vicinity of Chang-hua should be carried out on the 27th. But the execution of this plan was deferred until the 28th by an unforeseen resistance met with by the extreme left detachment under Colonel Nakaoka in the neighbourhood of Taketsao. The last mentioned place is not marked on the map before us, neither do the letters from which we are quoting contain the slightest reference to its geopraphical situation. But from the context we infer that it is a distance of four or five miles north of Taiwan. Now the Nakaoka detachment reached the vicinity of this place some time on the afternoon of the 25th, when it was surprised by a party of insurgents who started from a grove a little distance ahead. Almost simultaneously the rear was attacked by insurgents from houses on the roadside. These houses, as usual, were surrounded by densely grown groves of bamboos which afforded excellent protection for the desperate insurgents who had taken their position among them. Several attempts were made by the Japanese to force their way through the bamboo thickets, but the latter were so dense and the fire kept up by the lurking foe was so deadly and hot, that the attempts failed each time. One or two succeeded in penetrating the thickets, but only to be shot down by the well aimed bullets of the insurgents. One of these unfortunate Japanese, named Meguro Chugo, a private, after making his way through the bamboo grove, went straight to the house and was about to set fire to it when a bullet brought him to the ground. Observing that some of his comrades were struggling hard through the grove to come to his rescue, he cried out to them that it was useless to come further under such deadly fire, and to stop their perilous course, then he plunged his bayonet into his body and instantly died. The fighting also continued in front and on the flanks of the detachment, it being apparent that the number of the enemy, already seven or eight hundred strong, was gradually increasing. The day having closed while the engagement was still in this dubious state, the Guards bivouacked in the field that the night, the sentinels being continually surprised by the enemy's fire.

On the morning of the 26th, the Engineering Corps succeeded in blowing up the houses that had given so much trouble the preceding day. The insurgents in front and on the flanks were also put to flight, with heavy loss, and in the course of the afternoon, the Nakaoka detachment entered Taiwan. In this engagement the enemy's loss was over a hundred in killed alone, while the Japanese loss was twenty in killed and wounded, including Lieutenant Nakamura, who fell while leading a charge into the bamboo groves on the 25th.

Major-General Yamane's troops were the first to enter Taiwan on the 25th, the rest of the Division joining them on the 26th. On arriving there, the Japanese found a large army collected on the opposite bank of the Taito-kei, a river of considerable width flowing in a westerly direction south of Taiwan. The insurgents had thrown up earthworks of some importance on the banks, while on the dry stony bed of the river they built formidable breastworks. A little way from the river there stood the lofty fort of Hakkezan which dominated the whole plain. Altogether the position selected by the enemy seemed strong and capable of keeping the Japanese at bay if well defended. The waters of the river were deep and about 300 yards wide.

The attack was fixed for the morning of the 28th. During the preceding day the Japanese camp was busy with preparations. In the evening of the 25th, a small party of officers and men, under great difficulties had succeeded in discovering a practicable ford about 1,500 metres up the river from where the two armies were confronting each other. Lieutenant Yokota, stripping himself of all clothing, plunged into the river, and crossing to the opposite bank, succeeded in reconnoitering the enemy's outposts.

The attack was conducted by dividing the troops into three parts, the right and left wings and the reserves. The right wing under Major-General Ogawa was to keep the forts and the enemy encamped on the river banks engaged, while the left wing, under Major-General Yamane, crossing the river, should take the enemy's right flank.

A little after midnight, a portion of the left wing under Colonel Naito began to cross the river at the above mentioned point. The water was about three feet deep and the current strong. Favoured by darkness, the Guards got on the opposite bank without creating any alarm. They at once marched through the fields in the direction of the fort on Hakkezan to storm it from a direction opposite the river. The distance was only about 4,000 metres, but such was the rough nature of the ground that the day began to dawn as they neared the fort. It was now about half past five. The right wing, under Major-General Kawamura just then opened fire with field guns into the camp on the opposite bank. About the same time the remainder of the left wing under the immediate command of Major-General Yamane had also crossed the ford. Everything being ripe for action, the Naito column began to climb the hill at the back of the fort of Hokkesan. The garrison, perceiving this, opened fire, but nothing stopped the steady march of the Japanese up the hill, and the van of the column, under Lieutenant Koyama, charged into the fort and easily took possession of it, the bulk of the garrison flying in confusion, while a few who remained behind soon met their death. It was a little after seven when the fort fell into Japanese hands.

Meanwhile, after an artillery duel for a shor time, the right wing also commenced to cross the river right in front of the enemy's lines, and the whole Division was in motion against the insurgents. The latter soon lost heart, and fled in two directions, a part going southward toward Chiai-i and a part westward toward Lo-kiang. They were pursued by detachments of horse and foot. The greater part of those going to Lo-kiang took boats there and succeeded in escaping to the south. Some of the insurgents also entered Chang-hua, where, however, they were immediately followed by the Japanese, about two hundred and fifty being cut or shot down in that town. The field was entirely in Japanese hands shortly before eight o'clock in the morning.

Thus the army of the Black Flags and other regulars sent up by Liu Yung-fu, which he had doubtless believed would check the advance of the Japanese, melted away before the latter without offering any resistance worth the name, leaving the prosperous city of Chuang-hua in the hands of the Imperial troops. Chuang-hua contains about 20,000 inhabitants and abounds in solid and fine looking edifices. Lo-kiang, its seaport, admits small steam craft, and is a tolerably flourishing place.

Concerning the strength of the insurgents that held the intrenched position on the left bank of the Taikokei in the vicinity of Chang-hua, late reports tend to put it at a larger number than that originally estimated. We stated that it was 5,000, our authority being the generally trustworthy correspondence published by the *Nichi Nichi*. But some writers are confident that the enemy mustered not less than 8,000. As to the loss sustained by the insurgents, the *Nippon's* correspondent, who doubtless writes on the evidence of an official report, says that as many as 620 dead bodies were left on the field. This number includes those that fell in the actual fight, and those afterwards shot or cut down in the streets of Changhua or while flying to Lo-kiang and Chia-i. The casualities on the Japanese side were 2 killed and 6 wounded. The spoils consisted of two Krupp mountain pieces, three guns of old type, a large quantity of small arms, ammunition, and uniforms, and a number of horses.

On the 31st of August, nine desperadoes were arrested at Tuatutia in Taipeh-fu, while in the act of concerting plans for the assassination of the Governor-General and other high officials. Various stories are told about this affair, but none is so circumstantial and apparently trustworthy as that published in the *Nippon*. According to that journal's correspondence from Taipeh, the conspiracy had been secretly in progress for more than a month. The principal actor in the drama was an ex-officer of the volunteer corps named Wu Teh-fu. At the fall of Kelung, he was made prisoner by the Japanese, but managed to elude the vigilance of the guards, and escape to his native village in the vicinity of Taipeh. Before enlisting as a volunteer, he had been a medical practitioner, but his ferocious nature made him the terror of the whole neighbourhood. Shortly after his return home, Taipeh-fu also fell into Japanese hands, but Wu, being a man of desperate courage, busied himself in collecting an army to regain the capital of the island. In this task he was assisted by five associates of character similar to his own. They succeeded in obtaining the promise of two or three thousand persons to take up arms against the Japanese, but they had to postpone any open measure as they were hopelessly deficient in arms and ammunition. They are said to have looked for a supply of these necessary articles from a powerful supporter in Amoy, who promised them ample rewards of money and official titles on the success of their intended operations. Arms and ammunition were secretly landed in the neighbourhood, and several boats carrying them were discovered by the Japanese. About this time an alarm, inexplicable at the moment, spread among the Chinese in Taipeh and its vicinity. Hundreds of them fled to the continent with the utmost precipitancy. It is now evident that the alarm was caused by news of the big conspiracy then in active preparation. The existence of the plot was not known to the Japanese, but in consideration of the general excitement among the Chinese and some unusual signs in the vicinity, every possible precaution was at once taken by the military authorities at Taipeh. Such increased vigilance on the part of the Japanese, as well as an insufficiency in their supply of arms and ammunition, convinced the leaders of the plot of the utter impossibility of driving the *Wojen* from the capital. A conviction that received confirmation from the drastic measures adopted by the Imperial Guards to clear all insurgents from the districts between Taipeh and Shinchuh. About thirty of the leading conspirators assembled at the house of their chief, Wu Teh-fu, in the beginning of August. They vowed to consecrate their lives to the assassination of the principal Japanese officers; and, incredible as it may seem, the ferocious Wu killed his own child of five years and the inhuman desperadoes pledged their faith by drinking the blood of the boy.

Indistinct tidings of the affair came to the notice of the Japanese gendarmes, but the information being doubtful, they consulted some trustworthy Chinese of Taipeh-fu, who also stated that they had heard a similar story. This set the gendarmes in motion. They obtained the services of a faithful Chinese in the capacity of detective. For some reasons his name is withheld from publication. He feigned to be disaffected with the Japanese, and succeeded in winning the confidence of the would-be assassins so far that he was finally admitted into their secret. Towards the end of August, he invited Wu Teh-fu and the rest of the gang to his house at Tuatutia, but on the appointed day none of them made

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their appearance, and it was feared that his assumed character might have been discovered. News came by and by that, their inability to fulfil their promise had been caused by their chief's indisposition. The meeting took place on the 31st of that month, when, secretly apprised of the fact, thirty gendarmes surrounded the house, and arrested nine would-be assassins then present. They resisted, and force had to be used, leading to slight wounds being inflicted both on captors and captured. The chief conspirator, Wu, is said to have died in prison by dashing his head against a stone pillar. A search of the houses of the delinquents resulted in the discovery of some official papers signed by a certain powerful personage in the neighbourhood of Amoy, urging upon the addressors to raise troops and drive out the Japanese.

The violent storms that swept over Formosa in the beginning of the present month inflicted serious damage. Several houses were blown down at Tuatutia, and quantities of provisions were washed away in Taipeh fu. Six of the crew of a torpedo-boat at Tamsui were drowned, and the captain of the warship *Saiyen* (formerly *Tsai-yuen* of the Peiyang Fleet) was swept overboard but happily saved. The transport *Kagoshima Maru*, which was on her way to Kelung, lost six of the horses she carried, and a number of her crew received injuries.

At the date of the letter from which we quote, namely, the 8th instant, the weather at Taipeh had become quite endurable, the temperature being about 85° or 86° Fah. at midday and 70° at night.

The Authorities contemplate opening a Japanese school at Taipeh to educate twenty intelligent Chinese youths at the Government expense, with a view to their employment after graduation as interpreters.

The transports that are to convey the Second Division to a point in the south of Formosa, somewhere in the vicinity of Anping, will be collected at Kelung by the 25th instant. The remainder of the Division still remaining in Liaotung, is expected to leave Talienwan in time to reach Kelung by the above mentioned date. It is not believed that the fleet of transports will undertake the voyage to the south within the present month, inasmuch as the operations against the Black Flags at Tainan are not to take place until the second week of October. The delay that has occurred in the despatch of this expedition is to be ascribed to two causes, namely the state of the sea, which always remains rough until the beginning of October, and the question of hygiene which dictates postponement till cooler weather sets in.

Information thus far received from Formosa all tends to indicate that the savage aborigines of the mountains are well affected toward the Japanese. The latest report favouring this view is contained in a letter from the *Nippon's* correspondent at Taipeh. On the 29th of last month, Major Watanabe, commanding the garrison at a place called Tai Kuakan, took about 45 officers and men, including military surgeons and others, and set out to hold a conference with an aboriginal tribe, arrangements to that end having been made previously through the medium of some Chinese. On reaching the appointed rendezvous at the foot of a mountain, the Japanese party halted, and in less than half an hour were joined by seven aborigines, including the chief and two women. Instead of the savage-looking persons that the Japanese expected, they found that their visitors had frank and genial countenances. The chief was somewhat advanced in years, but amicable and straightforward in his demeanour. There was a young boy of about 15 or 16, who attracted attention by his intelligent looks and active motions. Except this boy, all the male representatives of the aboriginal population had peculiar marks tattooed on the forehead and cheeks. The women were in Chinese costume, spoke Chinese fluently, and had none of the bashfulness of their Chinese sisters; while the men wore their own primitive clothes. The conversation between the Japanese officers and the aborigines was conducted through the medium of the Chinese guides, who spoke the tongue of the mountaineers. The meeting proved extremely cordial on both sides, and the affability of the aborigines was increased by liberal presents of liquor, tobacco, canned fish, and silver pieces. They evinced much pleasure at these presents, but did not seem to understand the value or use of the silver coins. They asked for another meeting, on which occasion they promised to show their guests over all the habitations of the different tribes. A second party of Japanese officers, is known to have ventured into the district of the aborigines, but nothing has yet reached us as to the result of the expedition.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is reported that the coming winter session of the Diet will be opened earlier than has hitherto been the custom. The date is supposed to be about the 10th of November. According to this report, the Imperial Proclamation convening the Houses will be issued at the end of the present month or the beginning of next.

The Home and Foreign News Agency (*Nai-Gai Tsushin-sha*), which is notorious for fabricating baseless stories, has just distinguished itself conspicuously. For some political purpose, it supplied the metropolitan papers with an item to the effect that Marquis Yamagata had visited Count Okuma at Oiso, and again at Waseda, after the Count's return to that place. The News Agency even went so far as to say that on the occasion of the two statesmen's meeting at Oiso, there was present a third party, namely Mr. Karuki, Public Procurator-General. Some of the Tokyo papers were silly enough, or unscrupulous enough, to give the item a prominent place in their columns. The fact, as stated by the *Nichi Nichi*, is that Marquis Yamagata once called on Count Okuma to condole with him on the loss of his mother. But that was three months ago. Since then the visit has not been repeated, either at Oiso or at Waseda.

Mr. Sato Torajiro, owner of a prosperons store on Thursday Island, spoke on Australian subjects at the meeting of the Oriental Association of Tokyo on the 16th instant. He discussed various topics, such as the relations between Japan and Australia; the suitability of Australia as a field for emigration and trade; the present and future of Japanese emigration; the Japanese on Thursday Island, the bringing of the Chinese in Australia under Japanese control and protection, and so forth.

The bold meteorologist, Mr. Nonaka, who purposes spending the coming winter on the top of Fuji, is the son of Judge Nonaka of Tokyo. A hut, constructed under his own supervision, was finished on the 4th instant; and he is now in Tokyo making preparations for the final ascent to his temporary habitation. His wife courageously insists on accompanying him to the top of the mountain and sharing his dangers. All the remonstrances of her parents-in-law and her husband have not induced her to change her mind.

Count Inouye, who is now on his way home from Korea, is the subject of various speculations as to what he will do on his return? Will he enter the Cabinet, and if so, what portfolio will be accepted by him? These questions have been debated ever since it became evident that his stay in Söul was to be brief. The general belief is that, although not desiring to occupy any Ministerial seat at present, his chivalrous disposition will probably induce him to accede to the entreaties of his friends, especially the Premier. Some persons believe, or rather wish, that his return may be the signal for a reconstruction of the Ministry. We reproduce, these various rumours to show what kind of political gossip is now in the capital.

The various factions constituting the Opposition are beginning to show some signs of reviving activity. They are despatching lecture parties to the different provincial centres, and in Tokyo and elsewhere they are holding conferences and passing resolutions on current political topics. These resolutions are couched in very ambiguous language, and afford little clue to the ideas held by the various parties with reference to the questions under consideration. One point, however, is plain and unmistakable, namely, that all the sections of the Opposition are agreed as to the necessity of the utmost economy being practised by the Government in administrative affairs, before the people are asked to contribute more to the needs of the country. There is no longer any doubt that on this ground the Extremists intend to measure their strength with the Government.

Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, one of the originators of the *Doshi Kai*, is said to have just finished a political novel under the title of "Japan after the War" (*Senso-go no Nippon*). He is the pioneer of political novelists, the principal of his productions being the *Se'chu Bai* (Plum Blossoms in Snow) and *Meiji Shiju Nen no Nippon* (Japan in 1907), the latter of which was noticed in these columns some years ago. The talented author and politician is suffering from abscesses in the mouth, which are so bad that he believes the present work will be the last production of his pen.

The well known politician, Mr. Oi Kentaro, is now staying at Singapore, where he is believed to be engaged in business. In a recent letter to a friend at home, he speaks with admiration of the influence exercised by the Chinese population there, and of the general trustworthiness of Chinese merchants. Another surprise to him has been that the summer is more endurable at Singapore than in Tokyo, and a third cause of astonishment is the cheapness of house rent. He suggests that it might be profitable to organize a society for the emigration of carpenters, plasterers, and other artizans from Japan.

THE CHINESE MINISTER.

In an editorial warmly welcoming the newly arrived Minister from China, the *Yomiuri Shimbun* remarks that peace having now been happily restored between the two countries, not a single Japanese fails to be actuated by sentiments of genuine friendship toward the Chinese, especially as Japan's object in taking up arms was to promote the cause of the Orient's permanent peace. Our contemporary, though unwilling to publish such a criticism, can not choose but observe with regret that had Mr. Yu's predecessor kept his Government correctly informed about the condition of affairs in this country, the recent unfortunate interruption of the two empire's friendly intercourse might have been avoided. The Chinese diplomatists hitherto accredited to this Court may have been men of intelligence and learning, but it cannot be said of them that they discharged the first and most important duty of a Minister, namely, to be in touch with the current of life and thought in the country. Their intercourse was confined to men in official circles, and the few individuals with whom they associated outside the Government were visionary scholars and unpractical men of letters. The *Yomiuri* does not mean to say that association with persons of the latter classes is in itself reprehensible: its contention is that they are eminently unfit and untrustworthy media of information as to the state of affairs in Japan. Hence the *Yomiuri* ventures to advise the Mr. Yu Kên, in addition to officials, should seek friends and acquaintances among men outside the Government. By so doing, he will easily discover how it is that the Japanese can so effectually unite at an important crisis; how genuinely friendly they are toward his country, and how trustworthy Japan would be as a friend and ally. The *Yomiuri* concludes in the following strain:—"It will be well not only for Japan and China, but also for the Far East in general, if Mr. Yu's observation of Japanese affairs proves to be correct and impartial. We respectfully offer our greetings to the new Chinese Representative, and hope that, whatever changes or complications may arise in this part of the world, the friendship between the two empires may remain firm and unaltered."

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The amount of convertible notes issued by the Bank of Japan has reached 153,170,770 *yen*. The following table shows the increase of these notes during the past few months, together with amount of specie and guaranty reserves :—

	Convertible Notes. Yen.	Specie Reserve. Yen.	Guaranty Reserve. Yen.
June 3rd—8th	129,461,502	66,578,473	62,883,029
July 1st—6th	142,262,169	65,085,418	77,176,751
August 5th—7th	142,879,734	64,789,154	78,090,580
September 2nd—7th	153,170,770	67,724,149	85,446,621

The principal cause of the recent increase in the issue of convertible notes is ascribed to the accommodation made to the Government for the expense of the army in Formosa.

The project for the establishment of a company for the direct exportation of silk has borne fruit. The company is to be named Ki-ito Shokuyu Go-shi Kaisha (The Silk Direct Export Company, Limited), the capital being 356,000 *yen*. The head office will be in the premises of the Morimura-gumi, No. 30 Kuchome, Kobikicho, with a branch at Yokohama, in the compound of the Ki-ito Gomei Kaisha. Mr. Yamada Matsusaburo will be the General Manager. The partners number twenty-six, including Messrs. Hirose Saihei, Hara Rokuro, Hara Zenzaburo, Asada Masabumi, Morimura Ichizayemon, Kawasaki Hachiyemon, Ikeda Kenzo, and Mogi Sobei.

It is reported that Mr. Yoshikawa, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, will resign on account of his health, and that he will be succeeded by Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, President of the Yokohama Specie Bank.

The leading inhabitants of Hakodate, as already stated, have under contemplation both the improvement of the harbour and the establishment of a dockyard. The former scheme is estimated to cost 820,000 *yen*, of which 300,000 *yen* is to be obtained from the State, and the balance, 520,000 *yen*, by raising a Municipal Loan. It is reported that the Government is in favour of this plan. As to the dockyard scheme, the projectors intend to start the concern as a joint stock company with a capital of 800,000 *yen*. They are, however, taking steps to get a subsidy of 400,000 *yen* from the State. Should this sum be granted, the works will be on a correspondingly larger scale. The scheme is said to be strongly supported by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Some merchants of Osaka and Kyoto are said to project the formation of an association for the purpose of promoting trade with Russia. This scheme was on the *tapis* last year, shortly before the outbreak of the war, which temporarily postponed its execution.

The practice of carrying on commercial transactions by means of promissory notes is rapidly coming into favour in Japan. The amounts of notes discounted in Tokyo during the eight months ending August were as follow :—

1895.	Yen.
January	16,699,630.023
February	20,983,299 028
March	23,334,093.093
April	22,519 632.649
May	21 659,211.454
June	26,497,584.166
July	24,682,371.228
August	21,184,732 508
Total	177,560,554.149

The following table shows the amounts of money accommodation in the form of overdrafts of current accounts, and of notes discounted, by the banks of Tokyo and Yokohama that belong to the Bankers' League :—

	Aug., 1895. Yen.	Aug., 1894. Yen.	Aug., 1893. Yen.
Money Accommodation	51,687,555...	49,225,061...	46,697,240
Overdrafts on Current Account	7,862,296...	6,597,665...	6,467,429
Notes discounted	13,652,314...	11,500,286...	11,393,188
Total	72,602,165...	67,323,012...	64,557,857

The above increase in the amount of advances and so forth is accounted for by the revival of business. While, on the one hand, an augmented demand is thus made on the banks for accommodation, there is, on the other, an increase in deposits of all kinds, and consequently the banks have ample margin to meet a further application for advances. The following figures relate to deposits of various kinds in the banks of Tokyo and Yokohama belonging to the Banker's League :—

	Aug., 1895. Yen.	Aug., 1894. Yen.	Aug. 1893. Yen.
Deposits of public money	1,160,821 ..	1,207,086 ..	1,404,855
Fixed deposits	11,835,215...	10,218.887...	12,156,901
Current deposits	19,985,187...	15,831,303 ..	15,523,016
Miscellaneous deposits	12,951,183...	11,640,763 ..	9,292,500
Total	45,932,406...	38,898,039...	38,377,272

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* reports that a project is on foot in Kyoto for the establishment of a silk-weaving factory. The original idea was to start the concern with a capital of 300,000 *yen*. But the accession of new capitalists, like Messrs. Abe Ichitaro, Koizumi Shinkichi, Yabuta Kambei and so forth has led to the capital's being raised to 1,000,000 *yen*.

The question of the construction of a harbour for Tokyo is engaging the serious attention of the Tokyo City Improvement Commission. A special committee of investigation has just been nominated by the Chairman of the Commission, Governor Miura. It consists of Professor Furuichi Kunitake, Chief Engineer of the Household Department, Captain Kimotsuki, I.J.N., Mr. Sudo Tokiichiro, Mr. Sato Hideakira, Director of the Navigation Bureau in the Department of Communications, Mr. Sakuma Teiichi, Colonel Furukawa, I.J.A., and Mr. Shibusawa Eiichi, President of the 1st National Bank.

A large number of carpenters and other working men having lately been despatched to Formosa and Weihaiwei for constructing barracks, wages have risen a great deal in Tokyo, and a scarcity of expert labourers is causing much inconvenience to the builders there. Not only wages, but building materials have risen, as these latter are also being sent to Formosa and Weihaiwei.

THE ATTACK ON TAINAN.

There has been some confusion with respect to the movements of the Japanese forces in Formosa, owing to the similarity of the names "Taiwan" and "Tainan." The two places are quite distinct, the former, which lies 95 miles to the north of the latter, being the chief town of the province of the same name, whereas Tainan is the southern capital—as Taipeh is the northern. At Tainan the Black Flags have their head-quarters, and there, if anywhere in the island, a stout resistance is to be expected by the Japanese. They took Taiwan without much difficulty, but they anticipate a different state of affairs at Tainan, and are making their preparations accordingly. The various corps forming the Second Division will doubtless be mustered for the assault, and there does not seem to be much probability that the place will be attacked before the early days of next month, by which time the climatic conditions will be better fitted for campaigning purposes than they are at present. According to the Japanese press, the Black Flags are expected to prove very formidable adversaries. But we do not share that opinion. It is true that these guerilla warriors gave the French considerable trouble in Tonquin, but if the reason for their trivial successes in 1884-5 be scrutinized, it is seen that they owed incomparably less to their own prowess than to the insufficient preparations of the French. The latter, having undertaking a large task with very inadequate forces, were constantly obliged to entrust duties of outpost, reconnaissance, and even attack, to mere handfuls of men, and these, working under topographical circumstances of extreme difficulty, offered to the Black Flags precisely such opportunities as suited the latter's peculiar tactics. In an open fight, Liu's warriors would not have had any chance whatever against the French, and we do not expect that they will make a very serious stand at Taiwan, despite the long time they have had at their disposal to make defensive preparations.

JOTTINGS FROM PERIODICALS.

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* of the 13th instant laments the complete breakdown of social discipline in the present day, and looks back with fondness to the rigid etiquette and wholesome restraints under which men used to live and die in pre-Restoration days. This regrettable state of things is noticeable not only in society in general but in circles where absence of discipline is particularly deplorable, namely in the church and the school. With a very few exceptions, professors and instructors in educational institutions all over the country are pronounced little better than "retail dealers in knowledge," the primary object of these institutions being to curry favour with the students, who in the position of customers, are allowed to do as they please. In the church, too, the *Kokumin* regrets to observe a gradual relaxation of moral discipline. In the early days of Christian propagandism in this country, church-goers went to the extreme of abhorring even such things as drink and tobacco. But nowadays, they drink and smoke, visit theatres, and do sundry other things that they formerly condemned as sinful. In short, the *Kokumin* states that there is at present little to distinguish the conduct of Christians from that of unbelievers. Perhaps our contemporary goes a little too far in depicting the prevalent evil of the time, but there is no doubt that the abuses it complains of have actual existence and that its warning is timely and wholesome.

Among the contributed articles in the same journal, we notice one by Mr. Ozaki Yukio, the well known Progressionist. The subject he chooses is the degree to which taxation may be increased in Japan. He alleges that nobody now objects in principle to an increase of taxation to meet the expenses required for augmenting the Army and Navy, but the question is to what point may the increase be safely carried. To solve this problem he has recourse to figures taken from Mulhall, showing the proportions between revenue and national wealth in the principal European countries. The wealth of Japan is estimated by him at 6,000 million *yen*, though he does not state the process by which he arrives at the figure. His researches lead him to think that 100 million *yen* should be, for the time, the limit of public revenue, and that, consequently, the present national burdens may safely be increased by 10 or 20 million *yen*. As to the strength of the Army and the Navy, he thinks that, in proportion to her revenue, Japan's armament is already above the average of European Powers. But the late war and the diplomatic complications arising out of it, have imposed upon this empire responsibilities demanding an energetic foreign policy and a corresponding increase of fighting capacity. He is, therefore, prepared to support large measures for developing the national armament. But, at the same time, he reminds the Cabinet Ministers that, in asking the people to exert their utmost efforts for the sake of the country, they ought themselves to set the example by introducing rigid economy in all parts of the administration.

The *Tokyo Keisai Zasshi* of the 14th instant is full of interesting articles, of which one or two may be noticed here. On the subject of Open Ports, our contemporary urges the importance of opening a large number of new places for foreign trade. It refers to the open ports of the principal countries in Europe and America, and remarks that seven ports only are far too small a number for a country like Japan. The ports specially mentioned in this context are Shimonoseki, Yokkaichi, Tokyo, Sendai, Aomori, and Otaru. Several places on the coast of the Sea of Japan are also pronounced ready to be opened for foreign trade.

In another article the *Keisai* calls attention to the growing tendency among public men in this country to favour a policy of protecting industries by State subsidies. Both the Radicals and the National Unionists have declared themselves in favour of such a course. Successive Ministers President of State, except Marquis Ito,

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have also evinced the same disposition. The present Premier has not, indeed, made any definite pronouncement on the subject, but the *Keizai* thinks that he, too, does not seem opposed to a protective tariff. Our contemporary, having always been opposed to State protection of industries, strongly denounces the policy now coming into favour, and urges the Opposition parties to declare themselves against the pernicious programme.

THE TOKYO CITY COUNCIL.

The Tokyo City Council held a meeting on the 11th instant to debate upon the report of the Committee entrusted with the investigation of the contract with the Japan Iron Foundry Company. That company failed to supply the City with the specified pipes for Water-works, but appealed for the City Council's indulgent treatment on the pretext of its peculiar financial position. The Committee recommended the dissolution of the contract on terms very favourable to the company, namely, by releasing the latter of its obligations to indemnify the City, as agreed upon in one of the clauses. This proposition called forth vehement opposition from a majority of the Council, the most conspicuous among them being Mr. Kojima Kango, Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, M.P., Mr. Yokoyama Tomijiro, and so forth. After a very animated debate, it was decided that the company be called upon to fulfil the conditions of the original contract, and to pay the full amount of indemnity for its inability to carry out the contract. It was further decided that a part (21,903 *yen* and a fraction) of the security money be forfeited in accordance with the terms of the contract.

"JAPANESE COMMERCIAL LAW."

We have had before us for some time a volume by Dr. L. Loenholm on Japanese Commercial Law. Dr. Loenholm is Professor of German Law at the Imperial University in Tokyo. He has evidently made a most careful study of the Commercial Code of this country, and with a view to the time, now not very far distant, when the foreign residents of Japan will be brought under Japanese jurisdiction, he has prepared a digest of the laws of bankruptcy, partnerships and companies, bills of exchange, and notes and cheques, and issued the fruits of his labours in convenient and well marshalled form. We had hoped to review this excellent work at some length, but we find, on perusal, that to do so would involve nothing less than an exposé of the whole subject so ably epitomized by Dr. Loenholm. It must suffice to say, therefore, that the learned author offers us, in the clearest language and in a manner comprehensible to the least legal mind, a full *résume* of Japanese commercial law, adding the various forms of document recognised by the code, and supplementing the whole by an idex that gives easy access to the contents of the volume. He has taken the wise precaution of appending the Japanese terms in all important cases, a step that will greatly facilitate commercial intercourse between foreigners and Japanese. We do not hesitate to say that this admirable little volume is a necessity to the foreign merchant trading in Japan, and that the public is greatly indebted to Dr. Loenholm for its compilation. Much of the distrust felt by the average foreigner toward Japanese jurisdiction would be dispelled were a knowledge of the country's laws and legal procedure brought within easy reach. It is greatly to be desired, therefore, that some competent jurisconsult—why not Dr. Loenholm himself?—should give us a clear and authoritative digest of the criminal laws. The public would then cease to be misled and perturbed by the baseless assertions now so often advanced, as to the police having power to enter private houses without a warrant, editors being liable to imprisonment without trial, and so forth.

DR. KITAZATO'S TREATMENT OF CHOLERA.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Hochi*, and other vernacular papers comment favourably on Dr. Kitazato's new method of treating cholera. The disparaging criticism that has appeared in certain journals is not founded on minute knowledge of the course pursued by Japan's greatest bacteriologist. Dr. Kitazato's preparations for a successful treatment of cholera-morbus extended over several months. In April last he obtained cholera bacillus from Kobe, with which, during the month of May, he inoculated both sheep and goats. He subsequently conducted a series of experiments on horses belonging to the Home Department. The dose of bacillus was increased from one to fifty grammes. From the animals that had shown themselves cholera-proof lymph was extracted, which was subsequently utilised in the inoculation of human beings. Dr. Kitazato's hospital is now crowded with cholera patients. Owing to the inadequate supply of lymph, it is found impossible to subject all the patients to the new method of treatment. This fact has enabled the medical authorities connected with the hospital to compare the results obtained by the new and the old modes of treatment. The figures given are as follow :—

DR. KITAZATO'S METHOD.—Patients, 34. Cured and discharged from the hospital, 5. Deaths, 1. Removed to the Convalesdent Ward, 15.

TRADITIONAL METHOD.—Patients 21. Cured discharged, 1. Deaths, 5. Removed to the convalescent ward 2.

It will be seen that these statistics are imperfect, as in each instance there are a number of cases unaccounted for. Of the fate of 13 of Dr. Kitazato's special patients and 13 others nothing is told us. According to the vernacular papers, from which we quote, the total number of cholera patients that entered the Hirowo Hospital between August 8th and September 3rd was 88. Of these 34 died; 22 recovered and were discharged, 16 were placed in the convalescent ward, and 16 are still under treatment. Of the above total number of patients, only 57 were subjected to the new method of treatment, 7 of whom died, 20 recovered, 15 reached the convalescent stage, and 15 were still under treatment on the 3rd inst. These results are certainly satisfactory, but Dr. Kitazato is of opinion that the time has not yet come for pronouncing the new treatment an entire success, nor for advocating its universal adoption. He himself is well satisfied with the results given above and regrets that the insufficiency of the supply of lymph prevents his operating on a larger number of patients. The process of injecting cholera virus into animals until they no longer show any signs of being affected by the poison, necessarily extends over a week or ten days at the very least, since the operator has in every case to wait for the subsidence of the fever produced by an injection before administering a second dose. Thus, although Dr. Kitazato has a large number of animals under treatment, the supply of anti-cholera matter is not enough to allow of its extensive use. The lymph obtained from one horse, we are told, only suffices for the inoculation of 4 or 5 patients. Consequently, Dr. Kitazato has not been able to subject all the cholera patients that have entered the hospital to the new treatment. He has adopted the plan of choosing the more malignant types of the disease for special treatment. This course means that the new method is put to the most crucial test possible. It may justly be argued that were the indefatigable scientist not tolerably sure of the efficacy of his remedy, he would choose some less severe manner of testing it. The new remedy is known among the Japanese as the *kessei-jiryo*, or blood-purifying cure, a term which will doubtless be replaced by something less vague when the real nature of the new antidote is better understood.

PEKIN NEWS.

The letters from the Japanese correspondents in Pekin describe the arrival there of Li Hung-chang, his present political position, and a few other matters. Leaving Tientsin on the 24th ultimo, he arrived at Pekin on the 27th, accompanied by Wu Ting-fang and Mr. Pethick. He put up at an old shrine in one of the back streets, it being understood that the shrine is his private property. On the 28th, he had an audience with the Emperor, and the *Official Gazette* of the following morning announced that he had been ordered to remain in the capital and direct affairs of State in the Tsung-li Yamên, being replaced by Wang Wênshao as Viceroy of Chili and the Minister of Commerce in the North.

Concerning the present political position of Li, various conjectures seem to be offered by Pekin gossip. According to one report, he is supposed to desire complete retirement from political life and return to An-hui, his native place, where his adopted son Li Ching-fang is said to be superintending the building of a great mansion for him. But the more probable report is, in the opinion of the Japanese correspondents, that, so far from contemplating retiring into private life, the old statesman has determined upon a plan for regenerating the Government in Pekin. In support of this conjecture, reference is made to the improved relationship between him and his lifelong rival and enemy, Ong Tong-wo. Their reconciliation is believed to have been effected by the latter's secret visit to Tientsin, where he confessed his past errors in opposing the progressive measures of his colleague and promised his hearty cō-operation in future for the regeneration of their country. This secret conference, it is said, has led to Li Hung-chang's journey to Pekin and his permanent residence there as a member of the Tsung-li Yamên. Should this coalition between the two most powerful statesmen in China continue, it is hoped that China's eventual awakening may not be an impossibility.

After his arrival in Pekin, Li is said to have been busy paying visits to the different members of the Government. But up to the time the letters from which we are quoting were written, namely, the 30th ultimo, he had not visited any of the foreign Ministers. Indeed, it is said that on the eve of his departure from Tientsin he had requested the Japanese Consul, Mr. Arakawa, to send word to Mr. Hayashi, that he would be unable to pay his respects during his first ten days in Pekin, as he would be exceedingly busy.

EDUCATION IN CHINA.

With reference to the new educational programme inaugurated in Tientsin, at the instance of the much abused Taotai Sheng, and with the approval of the outgoing Viceroy Li and the incoming Viceroy Wang, we find the following in the *Peking and Tientsin Times* :—

Shêng Taotai, with the approval of His Excellency Wang Wên-shao, has decided to establish a foreign University at Tientsin, with which there will also be connected a Preparatory Department. It is expected that Preparatory Schools, similar to the one established here, will be opened in other localities of North China, and they will be, to a certain extent, under the management of the Tientsin University.

Besides a general scientific course, the University will provide special courses in Civil Engineering, Mining, Mechanical Engineering and Law, for which expert foreign professors will be engaged, to be assisted by native professors and teachers of foreign education.

The University will be under the control of Chinese Directors and a foreign President. It is understood that the directors will be the the Hon. Wu Ting-fang and Ts'ai Chao-chi, Esq. The position of President has been accepted by Charles D. Tenney, Esq.

Three classes of the Preparatory Department and the lowest class in the College will be filled this autumn by examinations, soon to be held by Mr. Tenney, in Tientsin, Shanghai, and Hongkong.

One of the foreign professors has already been sent for, and will arrive in Tientsin before the closing of the river. The University will occupy the "Po Wên Shu Yuan" building, which has been secured by Shêng Taotai for this purpose.

This new departure is alluded to in enthusiastic terms by our Tientsin contemporary, which seems to think that the regeneration of China is at last commencing.

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"CHINESE SNUFF BOTTLES."

To the *Opuscula* of the Odd Volumes Sette, Mr. M. B. Huish has contributed an attractive essay on the subject of Chinese Snuff Bottles. As an exponent of Oriental Art, Mr. Huish has placed the public under great obligations. He approaches his subjects generally from the ethnological point of view, preferring to consider the relation that works of art bear to the customs and traditions of a people, than to treat them as stepping stones in the history of technical development. Of course, that method of criticism is not entirely satisfactory to either the art student or the collector, but Mr. Huish does well in recalling both from their tendency to forget the motive, and remember only the beauties, of the objects they prize. No articles are more esteemed by the Chinese than snuff bottles and ink-pots. In each alike we find the most exquisite workmanship and the finest materials. There is no variety of porcelain, from the commonest to the rarest, that is not illustrated in Chinese snuff bottles, and as for the materials, they range over cameo glass, crystal, jade, amethyst, cornaline, chalcedony, heliotrope, sardonyx, chrysoprase, agate, damascened iron, and cloisonné enamel. Evidently, anyone devoting himself to the task of collecting these little objects, may be able to obtain illustrations of Chinese art workmanship on an almost exhaustive scale. Yet the undertaking has never found many devotees; for the obvious reason that a multitude of such tiny utensils can never serve any decorative purpose. A few may be placed here and there in a salon, but the great bulk must be treated as one treats coins or Japanese sword furniture, namely, put away in cabinets for the careful inspection of patient connoisseurs only. The history of porcelain snuff bottles is, of course, the history of Chinese keramics, and as to the history of snuff bottles carved from precious minerals or cameo glass, they have apparently no history that can be written. Perhaps in the hands of some Chinese virtuoso, there lies an illustrated manuscript describing and depicting the celebrated snuff bottles of some era of art enthusiasm, and perhaps the document may yet come to light, as did the volumes discovered ten years ago by Dr. Bushell in Pekin. But there is not much room for a story when we have to deal simply with little receptacles for powered tobacco, chiselled out of precious stones. It might be a matter of primary interest to the collector to know when jade, or chrysoprase, or agate, or cameo glass was first used for such a purpose, but neither as illustrating the progress of art industry nor as marking the development of civilization in the Middle Kingdom, would the matter justify serious research. Mr. Huish has said about all that there is to say, and said it in a very attractive manner. It is a pity that only 149 copies of his little book have been printed, and that their circulation is limited to Odd Volumes members, for the text and the beautifully executed plates render the work a desideratum to all lovers of Chinese art.

CHINA NEWS.

A Shanghai paper finds that the delays and probable failure of the Kucheng and Chêngtu outrages Commissions—so far as the punishment of the proper culprits is concerned—is due greatly to be astute manner in which Sir Halliday Macartney manages the diplomatic reins at the Chinese Legation in England. The *N.-C. Daily News* bluntly declares that Lord Elgin's policy of fixing responsibility for outrages against foreign life and property on a central authority, has absolutely failed. Lord Salisbury is advised to take another course altogether; to let the British Admiral commanding on the China Station have standing instructions to send ashore landing parties whenever an outrage is committed, for the purpose of arresting the local officials, keeping order, and securing redress. The journal advocating this policy freely admits that such procedure would, in international law, be called invasion, but it pleads the complete failure of the other method. In reference to Sir Halliday Macartney's ways of work, the Shanghai morning paper says:—The idea that a mere shift of geographical position can transform a Chinese official into an astute diplomat capable of dealing on equal terms with the finest of Western political intellects, is a silly figment of the mind which works great evil in our relations with China, because it obscures the true source of much of the British misunderrating of Chinese affairs. The Chinese Minister *quâ* diplomat is a fraud and always has been such by education and environment; he can be nothing else but a puppet, but unhappily a puppet whose strings are pulled with consummate tact and skill by a resolute and able Scotchman. Dr. Macartney led so retired a life during his long residence in China that he was never taken quite at his just value: his unimpeachable honesty and his zeal to his Chinese employers were recognised, but neither his ability nor his personal force of character was adequately estimated. When he chivalrously resigned his appointment at Nanking in responsibility for the actions of a worthless native subordinate, he went North to explain matters: the patent honesty of his conduct brought its own reward; through the influence of the Inspector-General, Li Hung-chang appointed him European Secretary to the new Legation. Never did a man in a dull age so luckily find his special *métier*; he studiously set himself to master the etiquette and forms of his new profession: and in a very short time became an institution at the British and French Foreign Offices. We recapitulate this because the personality of Sir Halliday Macartney is a profound element of the chronic Downing Street *misunderstanding* of the Chinese, precisely as that of Sir Robert Hart is an element of weakness in our Ministers at Peking. Sir Halliday takes his bundle of silk down to the Foreign Minister—curiously enough he has been a personal favourite in succession with Lords Granville, Salisbury, Rosebery and Kimberley, to say nothing of his high standing with the permanent officials—and by his skill as a translator and his personal magnetism gives a totally wrong impression both of his man and his case. His earnestness of manner, his oracular knowledge of this strange antique people, his finished knowledge of the minutæ and the jargon of the diplomatic art all tend one way. Then his rare skill in working *The Times* through the personality of M. de Blowitz (for he never deals directly with Printing House Square) and thus keeping his Embassy and its policy to the fore, still further deludes English official and public opinion. Every now and then it is true there comes a telegram that Chinese mobs have bashed in the brains of a few missionaries and have cut the throats of some Englishmen with the known connivance of officials; then our Ministers for a few days suspect that China is not altogether like the comical pictures of the nursery and the tea chests. But Sir Halliday wheels down his marionette to Whitehall, earnestly deplores the untoward incident, expresses the profound grief of his Imperial master and the regret of the Augustly Fat of the Tsung-li Yamên, assures the Minister that the Chinese authorities will investigate, will punish, and will make every reparation; and in short persuades the Foreign Office back to the belief that they are dealing with a highly cultured and interesting people. Should there still be suspicion and any hint of invoking the services of the Admiral on the China Station, then Sir Halliday plays his trump card—anti-dynastic conspiracies, secret societies, the dissolution of all government in China, and the probable scramble of the Russians and French for pickings. Some other acute phase of foreign politics comes up and straightway the China trouble is relegated to the Pekin Legation with:—"Get what you can out of the Chinese; but on no account threaten force." When we add that the last two British Ministers have been unfortunately told to keep in touch with Sir Robert Hart, we have marked two of the main causes of British addle in China."

H.E. Senhor C'logan, the new Spanish Minister to Pekin, arrived at Shanghai by the last French mail.

The small arms and cartridge manufactories connected with the Hanyang Iron Works commenced work about three weeks ago. It is reported, says the *Daily News*, that the provincial Government intend to make 50,000 stand of arms for Hupeh alone as soon as possible, and that orders have been received from the other provinces to make for them small arms (and the requisite ammunition) varying from 15,000 to 60,000 stands.

An appeal is made in the Shanghai press by Mr. R. M. Campbell for funds to carry on the necessary agitation to obtain redress for the Kucheng massacre.

We gather from Shanghai exchanges that in the suite of H. E. Yü Keng, Chinese Envoy to the Court of Tokyo, there are two military *attachés* Lieutenant Fêng Kuo-chang and Pei Ch'i-hsuen, graduates of high standing in the Tientsin Military Academy. These appointments, as the *N.-C. Daily News* remarks, speak well for the liberal views of the Envoy, who would only appoint qualified officers to this important post and who is reported to have refused several candidates for the military *attachés'* posts whose only recommendations and title to recognition were, as in former times, their family influence.

The payment of the Tls. 700,000 indemnity of the French Roman Catholics who suffered by the Szechuan riots will be spread over a period of three years. In the new agreement entered into between the Viceroy Liu and the French Bishop the latter has apparently been able to procure a number of privileges, which it would be well for the future British and American Commissioners in Szechuan to demand also for the Protestant missions, under the favoured nation clause. The Chinese authorities will have no excuse for refusing to the one what has been granted of the other.

The leading Shanghai journal hears from Foochow that the Commission to investigate the circumstances of the Hwasang massacre is pushing its work with vigour, and the Chinese officials have been obliged to concede several points. Yet the Commission is still hampered in many ways. There is no one on the spot to represent the Viceroy, so that all evidence and many prisoners must be sent to him before a verdict can be secured and sentence carried out, which is absurd and a very useless waste of time, The Consuls are pressing Pekin to insist on a properly authorised Commission being sent to Kucheng to dispose of the cases promptly there. At Kucheng there are now one hundred prisoners in gaol, and eighteen stand convicted beyond all doubt, while further arrests are being made daily. A correspondent of this paper, writing from Foochow on 5th September, says that the last important man captured in the Yengpiang district, Ming Chiong-chok by name, said on his way down to Kucheng, that the Vegetarians cast lots as to which of three plans they should adopt: (1) to attack Kucheng city, set fire to it in two or three places, and, when the mandarins came out to see what was the matter, kill them; (2) to attack the Christian houses at that notoriously bad place T'engtiük; (3) to attack the foreigners at Hwasang. The lot fell on Hwasang. From a telegram, dated Foochow, September 9th, which appears in the *Shanghai Mercury*, we gather that Ming, the leader of the murderers at Hwasang, was tried on Wednesday week last. He made a full confession and said:—Miss Hartford's house was pointed out by some of the Hwasang people. After the murders he made some of his fellow associates in the crime carry him off in a chair belonging to one of the foreigners. When the Vegetarians met before the massacre three plans were proposed, viz.:—(1) To attack a rich merchant's house in a certain village. (2) To kill the foreigners at Hwasang. (3) To tear down the foreign houses at Kucheng. Lots were drawn and the lot fell to No. 2. On Tuesday the Prefect liberated eleven prisoners without telling the Consuls. On Wednesday, Colonel Hixon, the U.S. Consul, and Dr. Gregory demanded the reason why they had been released, and the Prefect was compelled to promise to

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re-arrest them in five days. On examination of witnesses it was found that two of the eleven had been implicated in the massacres. Eleven of the prisoners have been selected for execution, as the first batch, and the authorities are only waiting for the Viceroy's decision.

The Lamas who have made mischief in connection with the Sikkim-Tibet demarcation are connected with the three great monasteries at Lhassa which really control affairs in Tibet. They form what may be called the national party, and are as intolerant of Chinese influence as of any relations with European Powers. Thus they defy the Amban from Pekin, and as he has no armed force at his disposal to make his wishes, much less his commands, respected, he cannot bring any pressure to bear upon them. It was unquestionably by their orders that the boundary pillars were destroyed, and they are now probably studying the inscriptions on the slabs which they ordered to be carried to Lhassa. The Amban's position must be humiliating, but the officials sent from Pekin are accustomed to scurvy treatment and have to submit to it with as good a grace as possible. On the other hand, it appears to the Allahabad *Pioneer* that the British Boundary Commissioner has remained quite long enough on the border, and his withdrawal would now seem desirable. It would be undignified on the part of the British Government to keep its representative any longer waiting on the pleasure of the lamas, and this is virtually the position. After all it is no great matter whether boundary pillars are erected or not, for the country is a mass of tremendous hills, and it is only at the passes that any question can arise as to territorial rights. So long as the Gnatong post is held, the local Tibetans are not likely to give trouble.

The authorities in Pekin seem to have taken another of their spasmodic steps forward in appointing Wang Tê-shêng, an able artillery officer, who stood well in his studies while in the Germany military academy at Spandau in the early portion of the eighties, and, until lately, Commander of the ex-Viceroy Li's picked horse artillery regiment at Tientsin, as Brigadier-General of Hochou in Shensi. This prefecture is just now the head-quarters of the rebel chiefs of the Mahommedan rebellion now in progress in the north-western province of China. As General Wang is only a Brigadier-General by brevet his leap to a full-fledged Brigadier-General is regarded as a part of the new scheme to supersede the ignorant officers of the past by younger men who have had European training. The *China Gazette* says that very alarming reports of the spread of the Mahommedan rebellion have reached Nanking, and Chang Chih-tung hastened on arrangements for the sending of troops, returning from the north, to Szechuen, whence they are under orders to make the best of their way into Kansu. The British steamers *Chang-wo* and *Shasi*, and the China Merchants' steamer *Kweilee* are now carrying troops under charter from Hankow to Ichang. Fully forty thousand so-called soldiers, who were sent up to fight the Japanese last year, are now being brought back and those who do not desert before they reach Hankow are put on board the up-river steamers and sent off to quell the Mahommedan rebellion if they can.

The new American Chêngtu Outrages Commission will consist of Mr. Sheridan Read, Consul of the United States at Tientsin, a naval officer, and a missionary. Colonel Denby appoints the missionary, the Admiral the naval officer, and the U.S. Government selected Mr. Read. It is reported on native authority from Chêngtu that a *yamén* runner who had received bribes to let a certain important criminal, concerned in the recent anti-missionary riots, escape from the city, was, by order of the Viceroy Lu Chuan-lin, bambooed to death. The runner, Liu Mingtsai by name, was dead before 5,000 blows of the bamboo had been given.

An announcement is made in the Shanghai press that a Missionary Bishopric is being formed in Western China. There are some sixty Church of England workers in connection with the China Inland Mission and the Church Missionary Society in the province of Szechuan, and they have hitherto been under the episcopal supervision of Bishop Moule. But they are some 1,500 or 1,800 miles from the base, and he has not had the time to take the journey of six weeks there and a month back which would be necessary to enable him to visit them. Consequently the converts have remained unconfirmed, and there are also candidates ready for ordination. Bishop Moule has accordingly requested the Archbishop of Canterbury to consent to the formation of a new diocese. Arrangements on the subject having been much discussed with the C.I.M., the C.M.S. Committee recently resolved to approve the scheme to guarantee the salary of the new Bishop (for which a new special fund is to be started), and to submit the name of a clergyman for approval as the first occupant of the See. The *N.-C. Daily News* understands, that the nominee is the Rev. W. Wharton Cassells, B.A., a missionary of the C.I.M. and that the Archbishop has accepted his nomination.

The deaths of two well-known men connected with seafaring pursuits have to be recorded today, says the *China Gazette* of the 9th inst. One is Mr. Alex. MacCallum, foreman boilermaker at Messrs. Boyd & Co., one of the most industrious and deserving men in Shanghai, a thoroughly good Scot and a hard-headed man. He was a native of Oban, Argyleshire, and came out to Shanghai for Boyd's in 1870. He leaves a widow and family to mourn his untimely death by cholera after a few hours' illness. The other is Capt. Vincent, a well-known pilot, who died terribly suddenly at sea on Saturday, while steering his pilot-vessel the *Siren*. It is believed he succumbed to an affection of the heart.

The Wenchow correspondent of the *China Gazette*, writing on the 10th inst., relates the following incident:—Our Consul had a lively half-hour the other day, in passing through the *hsien* city of Iue-an. He was returning from a visit to Ping-yang, and like all other foreign travellers going to or coming from that city, had to pass through a portion of Iue-an. He heard that foreigners were generally stoned, etc., when passing through that place, and so had taken the precaution to have a guard of yamên runners. All passed off well during his short passage through the city, and he was congratulating himself on his peaceful progress as the entered his boat. He soon learned the temper of the people, however, for no sooner had he got into his boat than a shower of missiles came from the people on the banks of the canal, and the usual vile yells rang from their throats. The windows of his boat were soon smashed, also a portion of his travelling crockery. This disgraceful state of things lasted about a quarter of an hour, when the tipaos of the district turned up and somehow got the people to desist. If a Consul is thus treated, what wonder that missionaries are sometimes roughly used? The Iue-an Magistrate came up to Wenchow to apologise for the discourtesy manifested to the British Consul, and we are hoping that an improvement in the attitude of the people towards foreigners will take place as a result of the rough experience of our Consul. Chinese literature is being sold here and being scattered over the whole district, implicating the British with the Formosan trouble. It is asserted that England has been helping and is helping Japan. This is stirring up much bad feeling. These small books are printed in Wenchow, and ought certainly to be put a stop to.

THE MOHAMMEDAN REBELLION IN CHINA.

With reference to the Mohammedan insurrection in Kangsu and Shensi, which threatens to assume serious dimensions, the following interesting particulars as to Mohammedanism in China are given in the *North China Daily News*:—

Chinese Mahommedanism has for long been so closely connected with the history of Central Asia and particularly Chinese Turkestan, that one cannot well be separated from the other, and this connection has been of more special moment during the last thirty years. The reconquest of Kashgaria and a portion of Kuldja by the Imperial armies of China was completed in 1878, and for five years following the country was governed by martial law, nominally under the rule of the late Marquis Tso Tsung-tang, who obtained all the credit for the recovery of the country, being dignified by the title of "Conqueror of Kashgaria," though as the military administrator of the recently acquired territory he really never went farther west outside the Great Wall than the Mongol city of Hami —called Kham by Marco Polo—which is fully nine hundred miles east of Kashgar—the actual work of conquest having been effected by Liu Chin-t'ang. Prior to the Mahommedan rising, which took place in the sixties immediately after the suppression of the Taiping Rebellion, the country had been governed by Manchus or Mongol Bannermen exclusively, precisely as was the case with Kokonor, Jêhol, Tarbagatai, etc., in which districts no Chinese were eligible for office of any kind. The extortions and corruption of these officials provoked the intense hatred of the Mahommedans, who rose against them, and in the conflict which ensued nearly the entire Buddhist population was slaughtered or made slaves by the rebels. When this rebellion was suppressed by Liu Chin-t'ang and tranquillity was once more secured, the Manchus made an effort to oust Tso Tsung-tang and his lieutenant from the positions gained by their prowess, and petitioned the Throne to appoint Tartar officials as formerly to administer the district, and to dismiss all Chinese. The Emperor, however, wisely referred the question to Tso Tsung-tang, as the one best able to determine if such a change were desirable, and received in reply a memorial which has been characterised as a very gem of classical sarcasm, in which the Emperor was frankly informed that it was owing to the corrupt rule of the Tartar Bannermen that the rebellion had been provoked, which had resulted in the destruction of upwards of 120,000 Manchus and Chinese Buddhists, and that if his Majesty desired to lose Kashgaria once more the appointment of Manchu officials was the best way to bring it about, and that it would be impossible to reconquer a country so lost, because the Chinese would refuse to shed their blood for the benefit of worthless Manchu officials. Tso Tsung-t'ang went on to say that, after fifteen years' hard work to restore peace at the cost of much Chinese blood, he had no idea of surrendering the territory to those who were unable to hold it, and that the country must be governed by Chinese exactly like those parts of the Empire within the Great Wall.

In the meantime the Board of Reorganisatfon had been busy surveying the country and defining the limits of the varions sub-prefectures, departments, and districts of the new province, so that by 1884 all was ready for the exchange of the military administration for a civil one; the requisite number of civil officials were then appointed, and on Liu Chin-t'ang was conferred the post of first Governor of the New Dominion or Hsinchiang. In this was included the sub-provinces of Kuldja and Tarbagatai, the stronghold of the Kalmucks and of Buddhism in Mongolia, to whose loyalty it was owing that the Mahommedan rebels failed in their attempted invasion of China proper by way of northern Mongolia and the grass plateaux.

The Chinese Mahommedans, or Tunganis, of the New Dominion settled down quietly to agricultural pursuits when the civil government was firmly established. They are of fine physique but are very clannish, and find great enjoyment in recounting the glorious deeds of their ancestors, the legends about which have been carefully handed down from generation to generation; and though the Tunganis are gradually diminishing in number they still form a very large and important section of the community, who would be peaceably inclined if left in full enjoyment of their religion and were not oppressed by their rulers. But, in spite of all, they meet with constant opposition from the Buddhists, whose hardly suppressed desire, apparently, is to exterminate the Mahommedans altogether. In intellect and personal accomplishments the Tungani is quite the equal and frequently the superior of the native Buddhist. Many Tunganis stand high in literary rank and attainments, and they have several Hanlins amongst them, but unfortunately for them the law provides that no civil official above the 4th rank (Taotai and Prefect) can be a Mahommedan, and the follower of Islam is bound to renounce his religion and conform to practices which Mahommedanism forbids on gaining the rank of Taotai or Prefect. A military officer who is a Mussulman can only attain the rank of Captain, and if promoted to that of Major or higher must renounce his religion. In the case of both civilian and military appointments the official would be compelled to burn incense at Buddhist temples on the 1st and 15th day of the moon. The late Viceroy of Nanking, Ma, was a Mahommedan until he reached the rank of Taotai, and the late General Tso Pao-kuei, who was killed at Pingyang during the war with Japan, was at one time a Mahommedan, and despite their recantation both these men were to the last looked upon as Mohammedans by the followers of Islam.

Captain Jabez Loane, R.N., died at Dulwich on 4th inst. in his seventy-fifth year. He entered the navy in 1830, served during the first Chinese war in 1841, and was present at the operations on the coast of Borneo in 1846. In 1847 he was in command of two of Her Majesty's ships in China during the disturbances in the Canton river.

THE LONDON "ECONOMIST" ON THE EASTERN SITUATION.

THE London *Economist* has an interesting article on the situation in the Far East, but the writer obviously approaches his subject without much previous study, or any thorough knowledge of the conditions of the problem. Basing his conclusions on letters from the Tokyo correspondents of *The Times* and the *Daily News*, he accepts unquestioningly the dicta of the latter's contributor, and is misled in more than one important particular. His general conclusion is that, whereas the Japanese originally regarded China as their chief enemy, and counted her the principal barrier in the path of their country's aggrandisement, the story of the Liaotung Peninsula has opened their eyes and shown them that their real foe is Russia. Hence "the people are bitterly enraged against Russia, and their rage is the greater because it is impotent." Such a view seems to us very partial. It manifestly ignores the proximate cause of the recent war, which was to secure the independence of Korea, not certainly for Korea's sake, but with the aim of preventing the peninsula from ultimately falling into Russia's possession. So far as concerned Japan's real object, there need never have been any conflict between herself and the neighbouring empire. China had only to agree that her crippling and unpractical interference in Korean affairs should cease, and that she would thenceforth cöoperate with Japan, or leave Japan a free hand in carrying out reforms calculated to restore Korea's national vitality, and to educate in the little Kingdom some capacity for self-defence. It is thus apparent that to provide against the danger of Russian aggression was the ultimate aim of Japan, and that, so far from ignoring the Great Northern Power, and entertaining hostile feelings against China only, the statesmen of Japan would willingly have cöoperated with the latter to place an effective barrier in the path of the former's southward growth. These are elementary facts of recent history. It is altogether misleading to allege that the events connected with the restoration of the Liaotung Peninsula have shown Japan a new enemy in Russia. We are at a loss to understand how the Tokyo correspondent of the *Daily News* can have taken such a superficial view of the situation. His correlated assertion, that the people of Japan are "bitterly enraged against Russia," seems almost equally misleading. We do not think that the Liaotung affair produced any strong wave of anti-Russian sentiment in Japan, for the simple reason that the Japanese could easily appreciate Russia's motives, and did not fail to recognise that the nature of her interests in Manchuria and Korea warranted her interference to prevent Japan's annexation of either the Liaotung or the Korean peninsula. It is, of course, difficult to measure popular feeling accurately, but, on the whole, we are disposed to believe that Japanese anger was stirred chiefly against Germany, whose action with regard to Liaotung was obviously dictated by considerations of European policy, and could not be justified by any reasoning directly connected with the questions at issue. It must have been a rude shock to Japan to find the cup of hardly won victory dashed from her lips by a Power hitherto uniformly friendly, and now possessing no title to interfere hostilely except that conferred by considerations of remote convenience. Both the *Economist* and the *Daily News* appear to us to misinterpret the lessons of the war. Japan has made no new discovery, except, perhaps, in the case of Germany. But China and Great Britain have added an unfortunate page to their diplomatic records. China's interests in averting Russian aggression were even more strongly involved than those of Japan. Yet, instead of welcoming Japan's cöoperation in the common cause of the two Eastern empires' security, she fought a war that not only exposed her to the ridicule of the world and showed her to be at the mercy of any resolute aggressor, but also divided the Oriental house against itself and ended by involving her in the meshes of a Russian net from which no hope of escape presents itself. As for Great Britain, we shall surely not be speaking with the wisdom that follows the event, if we say that from the outset she ought to have recognised the importance of uniting China and Japan against Russia. There already existed between Downing-street and Pekin a tacit understanding based on similarity of interests in Central Asia. Already, too, China, at Great Britain's instance, had obtained from Russia a promise to respect the integrity of Korea. When, then, Japan came forward with a programme that would have furthered the object of England and China, and would also have brought the two Eastern empires into a concert of far-reaching potentialities, England's most astute course would surely have been to exercise her influence in the direction indicated by Japan. It is true that she devoted herself frankly to the humane duty of preserving the peace, but her method of doing so was unfortunate, since it tended to strengthen China's unpractical and unprogressive position, rather than to promote Japan civilizing and sagacious proposals. No thoughtful student of contemporary history can fail to perceive the exceedingly complex nature of the problem proposed for solution by British statesmen in the early summer of last year. But the general clue was to be found, we think, not in pressing Japan to abandon, but rather in urging China to endorse, projects designed to raise Korea from a wretched state of corruption and national emasculation to a condition of civilized progress and capacity for self-defence. Between, on the one hand, the union of China and Japan for the purpose of checking Russian aggression, as well as educating Korea's competence to assist that result, and, on the other, the effectual division of Japan and China, and the abandonment of Korea to the former's unaided efforts under circumstances eminently calculated to create opportunities for Russian interference—between these two issues there ought not to have been much room for choice.

FRANCE AND THE POWERS IN CHINA.

THERE has been a most remarkable contrast between the action of the French in China and that of the British and Americans in connection with the Szechuan outrages. The French missionaries were incomparably the greatest sufferers, but neither in the press nor on the platform did they take any steps to ventilate their grievances. True to the self-effacing spirit that marks the doings of all Roman Catholic propagandists in the Far East, they quietly submitted their complaints and awaited in silence their Minister's action. Such is not the method generally supposed to be successful in China. Yet it succeeded in the present case. The French Prelate, Bishop DURAND, was invested with plenipotentiary powers, and investigations were at once undertaken by him in conjunction with the local officials, the French Representative in Pekin so vigorously seconding the efforts of the Bishop—who was installed in the *Yamén* of the Provincial Treasurer in Chêngtu and treated with the fullest honour and respect by the Chinese—that all the findings of the investigators were promptly endorsed in Pekin, and the main terms of a settlement have now been practically agreed upon. On the other hand, the Americans and British held indignation meetings in all the principal towns where they reside; strong protests were made by journalists and orators; powerfully worded resolutions were forwarded to the Representatives of the two Powers in Pekin; questions were asked at Westminster, and a wide-spread agitation resulted which, as yet, has produced no definite issue. Thus stated, the case looks well for the French. But it has to be remembered that they have separated themselves from their fellow-sufferers of other nationalities and established a principle of divided interests, than which the Chinese could desire nothing more convenient. It has further to be remembered that all this quietness and apparent indifference are precisely calculated to play the game of Chinese officialdom. Light and pother are the bugbears of the Chinese administrator. His one aim is to find a *via media* out of every trouble; to avoid friction and to eschew publicity. That missionaries should rely on the force of per-

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suasion and exhortation rather than on the aid of the law; that they should oppose their own lives of patience, purity, and charity to the persecutions of ruffian fanatics and the injustice of corrupt officials, is a beautiful spectacle. But China is beyond the influence of such object lessons. They tend only to harden her conservative callousness and to postpone the civilized progress which she must embrace or lose her national integrity. The day may soon come when France will learn the value of the union that she now avoids. It is, of course, possible that her deliberate segregation in this instance may be the result of merely temporary circumstances. Her relations with England are not pleasant. She deliberately played for her own hand and against British interests in her recent negotiations with the Tsung-li Yamên. In fact, at the very time when the question of the Szechuan outrages came upon the *tapis*, M. GERARD is understood to have been engaged in negotiating in Pekin a treaty against which Great Britain has been compelled to protest, since it transfers to French possession territory the neutrality of which had been previously guaranteed for the purposes of a buffer state. It might have been highly inconvenient and embarrassing for the French Representative to act in concert with his British colleague with regard to the Szechuan trouble at the very time that he was acting in covert opposition to him with regard to another important question. On the other hand, the French missionaries themselves may be responsible for the quiet undemonstrative course adopted. But whatever be the true explanation, the fact is worth noting.

THE NEW CHINESE MINISTER.

THE inevitable interviewer has waited upon the new Chinese Minister and published a conversation supposed to have been held with that official. A certain amount of interest always attaches to journalistic work of this kind, but no one can suppose that the utterances of a Minister under such circumstances deserve to be viewed very seriously. The things that must be said and the things that must be left unsaid are well known to every diplomat of ordinary training and intelligence. Mr. YU naturally avers that the sentiments of his country are now thoroughly friendly to Japan, that China views her neighbour with eyes very different from those of yore, and that the removal of His Excellency Marquis LI to Pekin does not by any means indicate a diminution of his political influence or of the Central Government's trust in him. All this the Minister was bound to say, so that, when we come to sum up the significance of the interview, only one point seems really worthy of note, namely, that Mr. YU consented to be interviewed at all. That fact indicates a decidedly un-Chinese-like belief in the utility of the press. As to the sentiments of the Chinese nation, who on earth is competent to express a faithful opinion? There is no such thing as a Chinese nation. What we have been accustomed to call by that name is an immense congeries of separate communities, linked together solely by the slender bond of faith in each other's pacific purposes. The Chinaman of Kwangtung lives free from apprehension that the Chinaman of Kwangsi harbours belligerent designs against him, but is troubled by no shadow of conception that the two Kwangs are under obligation to assist Hunan or Fuhkien against a foreign foe. As for the general impression made upon this heterogenous colossus by the impact of one part of its bulky body with a foreign substance, the recent war has fully demonstrated how circumscribed are the effects of the rudest shock. All evidence tends to prove that China has not felt her beating, does not even know that she was beaten, and is as confident as ever in the invulnerability of her bulk. It is Mr. YU'S duty to say pretty things. That is an essential part of the pacific programme contemplated by those that accredited him to Japan. But the Japanese will be deceiving themselves if they imagine that they have taught China any lesson likely to have progressive consequences, or that their recent display of prowess will be permanently felt in their intercourse with their neighbour. Such results, we fear, can not be hoped for. Not China, but Europe and America have learned a lesson from the war, and that lesson is that China has no ability whatever to resist a resolute foe. By how much the demonstration has shaken the stability of peace in the Orient, Japanese publicists are quite competent to judge for themselves. Japan's ludicrously easy victories have produced a state of the tenderest international equilibrium in the East, and it is her obvious business to be prepared for a huge *débâcle* at any moment. The removal of Marquis LI to Pekin signifies the elimination of one of the factors making most strongly for China's intelligent and liberal association with outer nations. Some writers have been pleased to represent LI'S new post as that of Prime Minister. He is no more Premier of China than the President of the Privy Council in Japan is leader of the Cabinet. The Great Viceroy may no longer be reckoned with as an important political potentiality, and his disappearance from the scene materially attenuates the chances of prolonged tranquillity.

The launching, at Havre, of the sea-going torpedo-boat *Forban*, now in course of construction, will, says the *Petite République*, be quite an event in the maritime world. The journal adds that, by the terms of contract, the vessel, which is being built according to a novel design, will be capable of steaming thirty knots an hour—a speed not hitherto attained in any navy in the world.

COUNT INOUYE CRITICIZED.

AT the time of Count INOUYE'S return from Korea all kinds of rumours were circulated about the cause of a step so perplexing to the general public. The Tokyo correspondent of the London *Daily News* seems to have accepted the most sensational of these stories, and to have forwarded it with full endorsement to the Liberal organ. Having explained that Japan's necessity to bow to Russian, German, and French dictation in the matter of Liaotung, had greatly impaired her prestige in Korea and thus crippled her capacity for usefulness—a result that must, we think, be partially admitted—the correspondent went on to say that the Japanese Agent at the Korean Court was now without power; that his advice was openly derided; that "no one paid attention to his counsel or considered it worth while to consult him;" that "his return to Japan was inevitable," and that "he left for home a beaten man." It is often disastrous to be obliged to gather up intelligence by a fixed date, in order to send it off by the mail, as is the fate of European or American journalistic correspondents in Japan. But a little prudence and some trifling accessibility to sources of trustworthy information, ought to have saved the *Daily News'* correspondent from such an error as the above. He must have been very quickly undeceived as to Count INOUYE'S supposed failure in Söul. Our readers long ago learned that the purpose of the Count's return to Japan was to lay before the Cabinet an exact statement of the conditions existing in Korea, and to submit a programme of policy that appeared to him best adapted to the circumstances. The nature of the influence wielded by him in Söul is indicated plainly enough by the reports regularly transmitted from that place, while the fact that a fresh political crisis occurred during his brief absence from his post, and was promptly and successfully dealt with on his resumption of duty, shows how signally at variance with the truth is the discredited and ineffective position assigned to him by the correspondent of the London journal. For the rest, we cannot but marvel at the extremely unreasonable tone too often adopted by foreign critics in discussing Japan's action in Korea. When she undertook the task of introducing administrative and legislative reforms in the little Kingdom, the general cry was that she had committed the egregious blunder of attempting to grow exotics in a soil totally unsuited to them. Misled by the facility with which she herself had assimilated certain elements of Western civilization, she was about—said her critics—to submit the digestion of a chronically sick man to an even more violent process. Her schemes were altogether too drastic, her projects fatuously sanguine. What she should have done was to set about the

task of reform in a leisurely, tentative, and partial fashion, taking the utmost care to carry the nation with her as she went. That was what several wise observers wrote, and doubtless their sagacity would have been commendable had there been any certain indication that Japan contemplated the precipitate course assigned to her by them, and that she lacked perception of the every-day truism that no people can be permanently led beyond their capacity to follow. There were, however, no indications of any such silliness on Japan's part. Had she courted certain failure by attempting obvious impossibilities, she would never have chosen for her Representative in Korea a statesman like Count INOUYE who, for all his courage of conduct and fertility of resource, is eminently practical, and whose whole career testifies firm faith in, and steady adherence to, the principle that measures of reform, unless they are to be mere fiascos, must be adapted to the conditions under which they are enforced. Most curious is it to find these same critics now declaring that Japan has altogether failed in her self-imposed mission because, in the space of a few months, she has not succeeded in civilizing Korea, or at least in effecting reforms of such magnitude as to be noticeable by the world at large. Yesterday they blamed her because she was attempting, as they alleged, the very task for not accomplishing which they condemn her to-day. Providence has not endowed all critics with a faithful memory. Three a four years hence it will be time enough, we think, to measure Japan's work in Korea by visible results. There is a great deal of impatience in a certain quarter about England's remaining in Egypt, but although she has been there during fourteen years, and although, beyond introducing order into the finances, and re-organizing the troops, she has effected little that can be placed to the account of the country's general civilization, we do not hear any critic venturing to question the soundness or sufficiency of her reforming work. Japan has not been occupied for even one full year in the regeneration of Korea. It is surely premature to expect that she can have achieved anything signal. She has been very successful in the matter of her own reforms, but as yet we know nothing of her capacity for reforming others. A considerable time must elapse before her doings in Korea may be justly judged by their results.

American experiments with the Cunningham, a rocket-driven torpedo, do not appear to have been very successful. The weapon was supposed to travel several thousand yards, but after having run less than fifty yards it stuck in the mud at the bottom. Experiments with a Whitehead containing Mr. Leavitt's improvements were, on the contrary, very satisfactory. It came out incidentally during the trials that the mass of an armourclad exercises an appreciable attractive effect on a torpedo running in its neighbourhood.

SIR NICHOLAS O'CONOR.

THE promotion of Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR from the post of Minister in Pekin to that of Ambassador in St. Petersburg is a step sufficiently striking to supply material to lovers of sensation. We can not suppose, however, that it has any special significance. The vacancy existed, and Lord SALISBURY chose the official best suited, in his opinion, to fill it. That is probably the gist of the incident. From the point of view of Sir NICHOLAS himself, there is a good deal to be said, but as a public measure the most reasonable interpretation seems to be that owing to the large material interest now acquired by Russia in China, as well as to the very active *début* recently made by the Great Northern Power on the stage of the Far East, HER MAJESTY'S Government deems it advisable to have at St. Petersburg a man not merely of proved diplomatic ability, but also thoroughly acquainted with Oriental affairs. No servant of the Foreign Office seems to possess these qualifications in a higher degree than Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR, and to that fact, rather than to the adoption of any special line of policy by HER MAJESTY'S Government, he doubtless owes his promotion. His career has been exceptional. Nine years ago, Secretary of Legation in Pekin, he is to-day Ambassador in St. Petersburg. Few men have ever been able to show such a record. Sir NICHOLAS has of late begun to be the object of local journalistic attack. Were one to credit the things written of him by some of the Shanghai and Hongkong journals, he ought to be placed *en disponibilité* rather than deputed to the charge of British interests in one of the most important posts in Europe. But never yet did an English official in the East escape some measure of journalistic vilification. Great Britain has not at her command any servants quite up to the standard of local Oriental criticism. All are found wanting when weighed in the balance by the illustrious publicists that occupy editorial chairs in the Far East, and it must be a satisfaction to Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR to reflect that the signal promotion conferred on him by his Government not only benefits his reputation and his pocket, but also removes him to a sphere where his actions will be analysed by the comparatively feeble and perfunctory light of journals like *The Times*, the *Standard*, and the *Daily News*. He is conversant with Bulgarian affairs; he is conversant with Chinese affairs, and it may almost be said, in view of existing circumstances, that his diplomatic career during the past ten years has been a special training for the Embassy in St. Petersburg. The Chinese, if rumour be credible, have been developing a desire to see Sir NICHOLAS transferred to a new post, while, on the other hand, his nationals have been chafing at the moderation and prudence displayed by him in the face of terrible outrages and shocking violations of the Treaty. Both sides appear to forget how infinitesimal is the remnant of discretionary power that the telegraph has left in the hands of a Minister abroad. If Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR'S sense of discipline has led him to keep within the lines of his instructions, there can be little doubt that his sentiment as an Englishmen has often tended to push him beyond them. We imagine that, in common with the great majority of his fellow countrymen in the East, he must have been tormented by a sense of want of proportion between the Kucheng massacre and the composition of the British commission deputed to investigate it. Yet, even in writing this, we remember that ever since the close of 1893, Sir NICHOLAS lived in apprehension of some such catastrophe as that of Kucheng, for he saw plainly that the almost reckless use of the female element in Chinese mission fields constituted a special source of danger. It must have been a point of duty with him to communicate this apprehension to the Pekin authorities so as to enlist their aid in averting the peril, and if cöoperation of that kind preceded the Kucheng troubles, its moderating effect would necessarily have been felt in dealing with them. The hard fact to which one always returns in considering China's modern history is that the very first result of sound Government, security of life and property, is conspicuously wanting throughout her vast empire. Somewhere within her borders an insurrection is constantly in progress. At the present moment, two rebellions, one in the south, another in the north, threaten almost to overtax her resources. If the Central Government is thus powerless to check disaffection against its own domestic administration, how can it possibly be expected to force from its subjects a hospitable reception for the abhorred alien. In truth, foreign intercourse with China is constantly exposed to accidents against which Officialdom in Pekin can not safeguard it, though pledged by treaty to do so, and unless the power of the Throne can be largely augmented by intelligent reforms, the time must come when Western States will themselves assume the protective duties that the Central Government has proved incapable of discharging. Pending either one event or the other, Great Britain's diplomatic relations with Pekin are necessarily of a most delicate nature, since her interests as a nation counsel her to avert a catastrophe which the discharge of her duty to her subjects tends to precipitate. Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR is to be congratulated on his transfer from Pekin at such a time. From St. Petersburg he will be able, when the time is ripe, to substitute a positive rôle for the negative and unsatisfactory part that he has been compelled to play in the Chinese capital.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Hitherto there has existed no institution in England for the specific study of economic and political science, or for the promotion of original research in these branches of knowledge. Out side of England institutions of this kind have long been established, as for instance, the *École Libre des Sciences Politiques* in Paris, and the school of Political Sciences of Columbia College, New York.

This deficiency has lately been remedied in England by the establishment of the London School of Economics and Political Science, organized under the direction of Mr. W. A. S. Hewins, M.A. of Oxford. I am requested by the Director to state that the School will open in October of this year. Lectures will be given on economic, political, and allied topics by specialists from all parts of England. On commercial subjects the School will be assisted by the London Chamber of Commerce. One of the aims of the institution is the promotion of *international* study of economic and political problems.

The work of the School has been organized as follows:—

1.—Public lectures on Economic Theory and History, Statistics, Commerce, Commercial Geography, Commercial History, Commercial Law, Banking, Currency, Finance, and Taxation.

2.—Special classes, arranged as a three years' course of study, concluding with a research course.

3.—Promotion by means of scholarships or otherwise of original research.

4.—Publication of works containing the results of researches.

5.—Collection of a library for the use of students of the school.

6.—Organization of an "information department" to assist students for the purpose of investigations.

For prospectus or information applicants may address, The Director, London School of Economics and Political Science, 9, John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

I am, yours faithfully,

GARRETT DROPPERS.

September 14th, 1895.

THE PLACE OF CHRIST IN HUMAN HISTORY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Since humanity reached that stage of perception when a record—whether written or traditional it does not matter—of its daily actions and doings was treasured up to the present day, a large number of leaders in every province of human activity have appeared. Men who have stamped indelibly their personality upon the daily life of mankind; men who have created epochs in almost every department of thought, they are easily recognizable. As soon as they appear we carry them upon our shoulders and enthrone them in a pre-arranged niche in the temple of fame, whence no hand of the iconoclast can ever dare to remove them. We all know them, and daily fall down and worship them, therefore to mention their names would be worse them superfluous.

Of one person, however, this cannot be said. Human criticism and love of definition hitherto have been unable to find a place for the Carpenter of Nazareth. Even to-day opinions in regard to his person and nature are just as conflicting as they were 19 centuries ago, when some said he was the Christ and others that he was in league with devils. The majority of those writers who have opposed his doctrines and scorned at the dogmas legally evolved from the religious consciousness of the church which he has established, have scrupulously avoided the question of his person. Carlyle—that Timon of London—who could see nothing good in the great society bearing his name, did not dare even to mention his name in that comic-tragic drama when he was first setting his hero upon a gigantic pedestal of honour and summoning all nations and languages to fall down and worship him, then suddenly throwing him down from his high position and trampling him under his feet. The whole trend of argumentation of those famous lectures was leading towards Christ and Christianity as the finality of all religious consciousness of Europe. The sage was by duty bound to have expressed his opinions of the person of Christ whose spiritual doctrines and tenets have created the modern civilization in contradistinction from the ethnic ideas of the Greco-Roman culture. He ought not to have leaped from England to Arabia in search of his theme. Undoubtedly that great genius foresaw the vast number of insolvable antinomies surrounding the subject, therefore left it untouched.

Fools rush in where angels fear to tread.

Another great personage of our Age—Daniel Strauss—attempted to solve the insurmountable difficulty of the subject by flatly denying the historical existence of such a person: merging the Christ of the Evangelists into the myth of universal humanity. In his latter days Strauss retracted the myth theory: mature judgment and experience had taught him the truism that historical events, even if for a little time the yare successfully perverted by a persuasive sophistry, possess sufficient dynamic force to rectify themselves spontaneously and mercilessly torture the author who committed the felony. However, Strauss' "myth theory" has done a great service to the cause of Christianity. It has shown conclusively that the ideas and their ultimate potentialities, as we find them attributed to Christ by the authors of the Gospels, cannot be brought into ripe maturity and satisfactory actuality by any single individual mortal in the history of the world; the infinity of the scope attenuate them to the infinite ocean of humanity itself.

Strauss' contemporary and friend—Renan—took quite a different position. With his characteristic frivolity and audacious disregard for all dialectical uniformity, he made his hero of *Vie de Jesu* either a god or a lunatic, as his fantastic imagination guided him.

I shall not add any more instances of these futile endeavours. The question however, impels us to pause here and ask: Why should it be so difficult to assign a final place for Christ as has been alloted to all other leaders, past and present, of our race? We have moral teachers whose ethical codes enunciated more than three thousand years ago are in the present day the sole mainspring of action of the moral conduct of millions of our fellow-men. We have philosophers who have soared so high that no corner of the universe is left unexplored. We have seen naturalists who have brought to daylight every secret and mystery of nature's operations. Goethes' assertion,

> What she (nature) reveals not to their mental sight
> Thou wilt not wrest from her with levers and with screws,

made at the beginning of this century, has no further application at its approaching end. We have had conquerors and organizers whose sociological and governmental theories and plans have reached the acme of perfection. Nay, furthermore, we have seen gods and demi-gods walking amongst us in human form and overawing us into slavish obedience. Why then, one is tempted to ask, that definition-loving human faculty which has defined the rank and assigned the place to each and every one of its heros, but has not succeeded in finding that of Christ, in order that the bitter controversy which has been waging around his person since his advent should be finally closed?

The answer is not easy; because none of the places would befit him. He may be likened to many illustions personages in the history of our world who have achieved great deeds and procured abiding results to our race. Human life both individually and collectively, is such a complicated world of thought and activity, of aspirations and desires, that if the canon of analogy and parallelism be a little attenuated, we may find many points of real resemblance between the actions of a conquering monarch and the ambition of a ragged beggar. Notwithstanding some striking coincidences between the actions of Christ and those of other great men, still the person of Christ remains alone in its unique solitariness. He was not a moral teacher like a Confucious or a Socrates. He inculcated some sublime moral precepts, but he never intended to make them the foundation of his spiritual religion. The development and perfection of all ethical ideas he left to the moral consciousness of followers; nay, rather, to the moral consciousness of humanity at large. He was not a teacher, or a prophet, or a founder of a religion, or sect, in the strict terminology of those words. We have to fall back again to our first question: What makes Jesus Christ uniquely incomprehensible amongst the children of men? Is it the sphere of ideas with their infinite variety and unapproachable sublimity which he unfolds before those who are willing to attach themselves to him:—"As thou, father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us." Here he opens infinity to every human eye, and makes every individual a sympathetic part of the universe. Here lies the secret of Christ's greatness. A greatness which baffles the human mind in its endeavour to grasp. It is this conception of human possibilities for expansion and elevation never dreamed of by any one before, that makes Christ unapproachably above all others. These ideas Christ did not discover like Plato "some patterns fixed in nature:" he created them. They do not affect only relatively the phenomena which daily change in the infinite space, but they enter into the innermost recesses of the human soul and remould the spirit and intellect so that a child of perdition finally becomes a son of God. Not a single instance in history can be cited when in a proper method their application was made and their operation was found ineffective. In that alone lies the eternal hope of that much desired polen-genesis of a diseased humanity. In creating this new world of ideas Christ removes himself from the sphere of common mortals.

O.

September 17th, 1895.

LETTER FROM FORMOSA.

(From our Special Correspondent with the Japanese Army.)

Taipehfu, Formosa, Sept. 2nd, 1895.

That the reader may be able to follow the Japanese in their occupation of the island, I will take up the trend of events since my last letter, which found the Japanese in possession of Takoham, and an occasional skirmish with the Chinese taking place at Teckcham (Hsin Chu).

The troops have slowly, but steadily, been advancing south during the last month. We find them leaving Teckcham, and on August 8th Lutow (Otowshua), and on the 9th proceeding further south and attacking and capturing the commanding position and fort at Senpitsu hill; the Chinese fleeing before them as they advanced. As the Chinese learned of the approach of the Japanese, in many of the towns consternation prevailed. On the 10th, at Mahle, a town but a few miles away from the conquering Japanese, the Chinese soldiers were gathered to the number of several thousand. They seemed to be mostly Hakkas, although the leaders spoke the mandarin dialect, and were from Honan, Canton, and other districts on the mainland, and all were former officials under the old régime. One detachment of "Black Flags" had arrived from the south, evidently to cheer the soldiers up and to publish the mighty words of the mighty "Liu," the Chief of the Southern Republic. There seemed to be great dissatisfaction among the soldiers, who were anything but anxious for the fray, and the village Elders stated that they did not want to fight but were forced to by the Chinese soldiers, who would kill them if they refused. Several Hakkas had been beheaded because they showed signs of weakness and did not want to join the movement against the Japanese.

At Olan on the night of the 10th, eighty Chinese soldiers entered the town with great bravado to inspect the houses to see that no Japanese soldiers were concealed. A vigorous search was instituted in the closets, under the beds, and in the attics, in fact every place where they were not likely to be found. It might be mentioned that no search was made outside of the city. The next forenoon three Japanese arrived and entered the city, the villagers informing them that they did not want to fight and begged them to bring a body of soldiers as soon as possible, as they were afraid the Chinese troops would return. The Chinese soldiers, a few miles away, were burning the farms of the peaceful natives and were much feared by all the neighbourhood. The next morning the Japanese army advanced, passed through Olan (Coro), and were fired upon by the Chinese from the surrounding hills. Two men-of-war answered by bombarding from the sea. The Japanese artillery was brought into position, and after a few shells the Chinese were scampering over the hills with a great deal of haste, and no little confusion, but not until twenty or thirty had been killed, with one Japanese killed and seven wounded. The Japanese then going a bit inland took possession of Mahli (Biotsu) the next morning, the fifteenth. The division was then divided into two columns, one advancing to Changwha (Shoka), and the other to Taiton or, as it is sometimes marked on the maps, "Taiwanfoo," but there is no village there, only a few yamêns near by mark the spot where once it was intended to erect and establish a city to be the capital of Formosa.

On the 28th ultimo a combined attack was made on the forts outside the big inland city of Changwha (Shoka), the third city of importance

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on the Island. One detachment took the roadway direct to the city, and built a pontoon bridge across the river which flowed between them and the city as well as the forts. The main army went to the eastward to attack the fort erected on a large hill to the east of the city. At five in the morning the artillery was brought into position and the attack commenced. For nearly two hours the Chinese held their ground, and then retreated in the greatest haste, so that the fort and city were both in possession of the Japanese by seven o'clock, and the big city with its fort armed with modern guns—which has been always considered the strongest of any on the island, and old residents had prophesied that the Japanese would have a difficult time when they tackled Changwha,—fell as easy a capture as any army could wish. The Chinese made such a hurried retreat that boxes, bundles, clothes, all were left behind. They evidently had not anticipated that defeat was possible, for the houses were found all in order. Fires were blazing and the food still cooking in preparation for the morning meal. Costly robes and valuables of many kinds were there undisturbed. The whole scene betrayed a retreat unexpected and one carried into execution at once. In the fort were four 12 centimetre Krupp modern breach-loading guns; and 410 other guns of different kinds were captured in and about the city, besides a great many small arms, flags, uniforms, ammunition, etc. The Chinese loss was about six hundred and the Japanese nine. A detachment of Japanese followed south for twelve miles to To-lo-kumun (Tolokum), and another party took possession of Lo-kang (Kokuko) the port for Changwha.

The Imperial Prince Yoshihisa is in command of the division. Troops and coolies in great numbers have been arriving almost daily at Kelung, the Japanese journals stating that there are forty-six thousand in all, which, I think, is considerably exaggerated; at all events the country is filled with them. One cannot look in any direction without seeing soldiers in great numbers. Since the Government of Formosa has been changed from civil to military control there has been a little ill-feeling created, caused by the forced obedience required by military rule, which in some cases seems to be exerted with rather a domineering spirit, and the ignorant Chinese, who are incapable of comprehending the workings of a military organization, takes the enforced strictness as a personal offence created only to allow of an opportunity for the Japanese to tyranize and take advantage of their position.

In some cases there has been just cause for offence, and considerable ill-feeling has been created even among the foreigners, for many of the soldiers and the majority of the coolies seem to swell with conscious superiority and oftimes in little ways make it disagreeable for the Chinese. It has to me been surprising that there has not been many cases of crime and disorder considering the great number of soldiers and coolies, but to the credit of the men and their officers has nothing occurred worthy of serious complaint; but it is the little irritating incidents that are of everyday occurrence that are driving the Chinese to the mainland by hundreds. The Japanese should exert a greater police supervision, with a stricter punishment for disobedience.

Guards are distributed all over the city both inside the wall and out, and Chinese passing these sentries were for some time forced to take off their hats as they passed. I think orders were only given for this rule to be observed at the city gates, and as the Japanese, whether he be of high or low rank must salute the guard in the same way, their is no criticism to be made if they wished to enforce this acknowledgement, but if such was the case, official proclamations should have been published about the city, that the Chinese might not have been subjected to the humiliating insolence of a common soldier, who in many instances knocked their hats off with his bayonet. This performance had not only taken place at the city gateways but on the public highway. It even reached to such an extent that Chinese passing the gates in jinrickshas were forced to step out and walk past the guard with uncovered head, then again get into the jinricksha and proceed. In one case a foreigner was ordered to step out of his jinrikisha while passing the guard. Of course the foreigner did not comply, and as a result of the insult a written complaint was entered and the Japanese officials to their credit at once took steps to see that the offence was not repeated, as well as to rescind the order that the Chinese should uncover as soon as they found it was becoming very obnoxious. The insolence of the majority of coolies is greatly in need of control. The roadway seems to be their undisputed possession and foreigners are always forced to step to one side when passing them. They enter the houses at their pleasure and are a terror to all Chinese who possess, as one of their most prominent characteristics, the desire for exclusion and privacy.

As to the reports of the great number of Japanese suffering with sickness the following table will show to what extent the climate of Formosa is effecting the troops:—

Hospital.	Wounded.	Cholera.	Typhus.	Dysentery.	Beriberi.	Malaria.	Enteritis.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Average, for one day during the last week, of deaths.
Kelung.....	22	3	9	25	443	106	189	182	979	3
Taipehfu.....	7	10	0	54	203	16	188	237	715	9
Teckcham (Hsinchu)..	4	28	0	24	23	6	160	46	291	6
Total ...	33	41	9	103	669	128	537	465	1985	18

New applications for admittance are coming into the hospitals at the rate of about one hundred a day, and about that number are being sent from Kelung to Japan on the transports. The great majority of cases are among the coolies.

The cause of so much sickness is only too evident to the foreigner, who watches the Japanese coolies pass by with hair cropped close and no hat or even cloth to protect them from the fearful Formosa sun. Even the Chinese, who are as little effected by the elements as anyone, are rarely seen out in the sun without a big hat or a cloth wrapped about their heads, and the few exceptions have their cues coiled about their heads which affords considerable protection. Water of any kind and from any place is readily drunk, and even when under the supervision of some petty officers I have seen the water heated, before it reached boiling point it was taken off to be poured down the throats of the thirsty men with the germs still alive and feeling healthier then ever. The men are all provided with hats, and strict orders have been given regarding the eating of fruit and drinking of unboiled water, but the ignorant coolies, who seem unable to comprehend that it is done for their own benefit, obey only while under the watchful eye of the officers. No one need be frightened over the unhealthiness of Formosa. That very little sickness is found among the foreigners is evidence that with the precautions necessary in any country with the same temperature, one can be as well and live quite as long in Formasa as anywhere else.

The savages in the vicinity of Tan-si-kak have been a little active, eighteen Chinese having been killed in six days. The villagers have been subjected to raids and riots, and some time were forced to make an agreement with a band of robbers by paying a sum of money every month, the robbers guaranteeing the people safety from their own raids as well as attacks from outside gangs. Several officials are scattered through the country recuiting Chinese to go north to oppose the Japanese, but the newly organized forces spend most of the time plundering the more peacefully inclined Chinese, under the pretext that they are in league with the Japanese. On the 6th, a man was burned alive for robbery at Toasia. Previous to that two men were decapitated by the Hakkas and apparently for no other cause then that they were Cantonese.

A Chinese official who was formerly a Protector of Savages, was arrested at Sangsikak and forced to pay two hundred dollars ransom money. He then went to Changwha, reported the case to the Magistrate, who in consideration of the robbery, appointed him tax collector for several villages including the one in which he had been forced to "shell out." He returned to this place accompanied by a lot of soldiers, who were informed on their arrival that the Mandarins had had their day, and that no one paid any taxes. The soldiers then returned and the tax-collector departed for other climes.

Three anti-Japanese societies have been organized by wealthy Chinese of this district, and have been very busy distributing most bloodthirsty literature. General Liu, the Black Flag Chief, is also sending proclamations to all Hakka villages, agitating and imploring them to stand together, and stamp out the very memory of the Japanese from the island.

The village elders have notified the inhabitants that owing to the great number of dangerous robbers about, they may shoot any person found prowling about the premises. Six robbers had their heads cut off in one village inside of a few hours.

After submitting to the extortion of a considerable sum, the natives of Tongsikak decided to dispense with the services of the robber band, whom they had engaged at the rate of ten dollars a month each man, to protect them against robbers, and a plan was laid to get rid of them. When the robbers came to collect their pay, the inhabitants were to spread the alarm and one armed man from every house was to help to surround the men, and they were to be burned alive. Any house in which the occupants refuse to send a representative was to be pulled down and destroyed by the villagers.

The Chinese interested in the gold-washing have petitioned the Japanese Government to appoint a tax collector for the gold district, that they may be allowed to go on with the work without being interfered with by the host of robbers who do no work but live off of the gold washed by the labourers. Over a million dollars worth of gold was obtained by the "washings" near Kelung last year, and under a system of taxing very disadvantageous to the labourer. With a fair system of taxation, it is possible that the same locality could be made to yield double that amount.

Sept. 3rd.

Several of the Japanese men-of-war are cruising along the west coast and in the vicinity of Anping.

THE MURDER IN THE HARBOUR.

BOARD OF TRADE INQUIRY.

Mr. J. Carey Hall, H.B.M.'s Consul held a *pro forma* Board of Trade inquiry on Friday morning on board the C. P. steamer *Empress of India*, into the circumstances attending the stabbing of a Chinese cook named Lee Sing, the previous afternoon. Mr. G. H. Scidmore was present on behalf of the Chinese Government.

Chung Yuen Sueh, No. 1 Passenger Cook of the *Empress of India* and interpreter for the Chinese crew, said he knew the late Lee Sing, a ship's cook on board that vessel. The man died yesterday, about 2 o'clock. Witness deposed to seeing all the Japanese coolies going forward: this was about a quarter to two. The struggling had finished before he got to the spot. He saw Lee Sing last alive about 2 o'clock. He was cut in the neck and blood was flowing from the wound on to the floor of the quarter-deck.

Chen Sung, steerage cook, said—I did not see Lee Sing and the Japanese fight. I saw a man named Wong Fook chased by a Japanese. Wong Fook came into my room, so I tried to stop the Japanese from entering. Then he, the Japanese, stabbed me on the right upper arm with a knife. The knife was about three or four inches long. It was like a clasp pen-knife. The Japanese escaped after cutting me. The Japanese wore a dark, long dress.

Captain Marshall said that the witness had identified his assailant.

Witness, continuing—I do not know what the man's occupation is. He was a little shorter than I am. I should be able to identify the man if I saw him. He had a new wound on the eye-brow. One of the ship's officers afterwards got hold of the man. I did not see Lee Sing at all. Only one Japanese tried to get into my room. My room is near the Chinese steerage smoking-room. Wong Fook was running away from the Japanese when I saw him. Wong Fook is one of the boys employed in the intermediate class. He was not on duty at the time. I did not see Lee Sing stabbed. I last saw him alive at noonday. We were both aft. I saw him lying on the deck afterwards, but whether he was alive or dead I could not say. I do not know the man who cut Lee Sing. I did not see the Japanese man's hat: he had no hat.

Wong Yow Fook, one of the intermediate staff, said—I knew the dead man. A Chinese resident of Yokohama came aboard yesterday to sell some old pants and clothing. A pair of pants were stolen by a Japanese and the old clothesman tried to trace them. He asked the ship's Chinese to give him information in regard to the affair. I told the Chinaman myself that the pants had been thrown overboard, and that a Japanese boatmen had got hold of them. The Japanese who stole the pants then came up to me, and said something in Japanese which I did not understand. Then the Japanese, taking a knife from his pocket, opened a blade, and chased me to the Chinese smoking room, where Chun Sheng and Lee Sing were. Both these men called out to me not to fight. I got into the smoking-room, and the two Chinamen told me to stay there and not go out until the Japanese had gone. Chun Sheng and Lee Sing asked the Japanese to leave their room, and Chun Sheng in attempting to put the man out soon received a wound on his arm. And then, soon afterwards, I saw the Japanese cut Lee Sing in the neck. The wound started just above the shoulder. Lee Sing was outside the smoking-room, near the gangway, when he received the cut in his neck. Neither of the two Chinese had a knife at the time. The men were not grappling with the Japanese when they were stabbed: they were merely pushing him out of their room. Lee Sing was pushing with both hands. I only saw one Japanese present and could recognise him again. The

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Japanese was about the same height as myself; he was clothed in a dark long coat and Japanese pants. Below the nose his face was pock-marked. After being stabbed, Lee Sing could do nothing, neither could he talk. Two of the Chinese shipmen ran and held him up. The Japanese tried to escape, going forward. He threw his knife away and jumped on to the lighter. The ship's officers now began to whistle to the crew, and soon afterwards an officer found the Japanese. I was attending the dying man all this time. When the Japanese police brought a man on board, I was asked if I could identify him. I looked at the man and saw that he was the man who had stabbed Lee Sing. At this time the Japanese man was wearing no pants. I am quite sure that the Japanese man shown me by the police was Lee Sing's assailant. He was still wearing a long, dark Japanese *kimono*. I did not see a girdle, as the skirt of the *kimono* was folded up. The man was at first wearing foreign trousers of bluish colour. This Japanese I clearly recognised, for he tried to cut me before he cut Lee Sing. A number of Yokohama Chinese and a lot of our crew were around and might have seen the stabbing. There were also some Japanese near-by.

Captain Marshal said the stabbing took place in the narrow passage leading from the smoking-room to the gangway.

Witness, continuing, said that he was the only man who really saw the stabbing, and he chased the man. He did not call out, as he did not think, nor know, that the wound was sufficient to kill.

Adolf Bergerowski, foreman of the stevedores, said:—About ten minutes past one o'clock yesterday I saw a Japanese quarrelling with a Chinamen on the deck aft. I saw the Japanese take a knife from his pocket and open it with his teeth. Then I saw the Chinaman run away. Just then another Japanese came up and snatched at the knife but failed to get it. The first Japanese then ran into the Chinese rooms and the Chinamen took up sticks and planks to oppose him or knock him down. Soon after this I saw a Chinaman come out of the passage with a wound on his arm. The Japanese was clothed in ordinary Japanese dark blue clothes. The whole affair took about a minute and a half. I don't know why the second Japanese snatched at the knife. There was a row going on just before the knife was drawn. There were only two Japanese in the crowd. The knife was a small pocket-knife. The Japanese had been disputing with the Chinese before this. I do not know if the knife was drawn for self defence. I was about 7 or 8 yards away from the Japanese when the knife was drawn. I should not be able to recognise the Japanese, as I did not see his face properly. I saw this same Japanese and another run forward. They went over the side and jumped on to a lighter.

Yong Fook said—I saw the Japanese cut Lee Sing. It took place in front of No. 1 Boy's room, in the passage leading from the smoking-room. I saw three Japanese coming out of the room, and one of them stabbed Lee Sing as he stood at my side. Lee Sing had tried to prevent the Japanese from fighting, so he cut Lee Sing. The Japanese had been chasing Wong Fook, along with two others. I could identify the man, and did do so when the police showed him to me.

Oliver B. Harbell, quartermaster, said—I saw nothing of the affray, except seeing the Japanese running forward. They tried to go down the gangway, but I prevented them—there were two of them. They then mounted the rail and jumped on to the lighter. I saw no knife. Upon reaching the lighter they ran down the hatchway. Before jumping down one of them threw a long Japanese coat on to the deck of the lighter. One of the men came up again and walked about unconcernedly. There were no others visible. I am certain that the man who came up and walked about was one of the Japanese who jumped over the rail. The lighter was afterwards searched by the Chief Officer, and a man was found in hiding. I saw that no boats came to or left the lighter all this time, that being my orders.

To Capt. Marshall—I noticed that the second man held his wrist after he came up from below the lighter's hatches. He seemed to have hurt his wrist. I pointed him out to the Japanese police, but they took no notice. Both men went past me so quickly that I could not confidently recognise them now.

Henry Parish, First Officer of the *Empress of India*, said that upon hearing of the affray he went forward and saw the man Lee Sing lying on the deck, bleeding profusely. He tried to staunch the blood by lint bandages, etc., but from the first the case was hopeless. Then he bound up the other man's wound. Continuing, the witness said—As a result of inquiries I boarded the lighter which was lying alongside. Mr. Pope mustered the lighter's crew, consisting of about twelve men. One man was missing. The Chinese cook who had been wounded in the arm could not identify any of the men drawn up, and then I had the lighter searched by our own crew. Then another man was found concealed under some mats. The wounded Chinese immediately recognised him as his assailant. I then handed the man over to the water-police. The man had a cut over the left eye. A gown which had been thrown overboard when the two Japanese jumped over the side, was claimed by the arrested man. Some blood was upon it. Lee Sing died within a quarter of an hour of being stabbed.

John Bernard, Fifth Officer, said—I was on duty yesterday between twelve and one. A disturbance was started by the Japanese and Chinese near the gang way, and failing to separate the men, I reported the matter to the Chief Officer. I should say there were about half a dozen Japanese on board at the time, but as to the number engaged in the quarrel I cannot say. I saw no blows struck, nor any weapon raised. It was merely a wordy altercation at the time when I went to report to the Chief Officer. The affair seemed to start up very suddenly.

Dr. Meadows said the cause of death was a punctured wound at the root of the neck on the left side. It was 2½ inches deep, and one and three quarter inches long, penetrating the top of the lung and separating the large vessels of the neck. The loss of blood was sufficient to cause death—the place was swamped with it. The man died with in half an hour of receiving the wound. He, the doctor, returned to the ship at two o'clock, and the man was then dead.

In answer to Captain Marshall, the Consul said that he thought it highly desirable in the interests of justice that the three Chinese witnesses remain behind in Yokohama. He would write them off the articles.

The proceedings then terminated.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR NAGASAKI.

Mr. Consul Quin's report on the trade and navigation of Nagasaki for 1894 states as follow:—

General Trade.—The aggregate of the foreign trade of Nagasaki for the year 1894 totalled to £953,470, which shows an increase over the preceding year of £81,830. This increase is entirely in imports, which have improved by £120,763, while exports have decreased £38,933. The figures in dollars, however, for the two years given below, show a large increase in both imports and exports:—

Imports .....1894...$5,413,747...1893...$3,522,488
Exports .....1894... 3,558,711...1893... 3,226,061

Being $1,891,259 in imports, and $332,650 in exports. The result in sterling is due to the difference in exchange, which for 1893 was about 2s. 7d. to the dollar for imports and 2s. 6d. for exports, whereas for 1894 the rates average 2s. 1½d. for imports and 2s. 1¼d. for exports. The increase in imports is mainly due to larger importations of metals, coals, rice, beans, &c.

IMPORTS.

Cotton Manufactures for local consumption are, as in previous years, very unimportant, but the import has slightly decreased. Imports, however, during the last four months of the year were very large, owing to a revival in the Korean market, brought about by the war, which seems to have given the Koreans a market for their produce, and pay for their labour, and caused a sudden rise in the value or purchasing power of their currency—*i.e.*, copper cash, which rose from 4,200 cash to the dollar, about the rate ruling up to August last, to 1,500 cash to the dollar, and this enabled them to buy white and grey shirtings, drills, victoria lawns, &c., freely. At the same time the Japanese ascendancy in Korea threw the trade entirely into the Japanese hands again, and they have not been backward in taking full advantage of it. Moreover, it is very likely that when peace is concluded that a good deal of the Korean trade previously done by the Chinese in Shanghai will remain in the hands of the Japanese merchants at Nagasaki.

The trade is entirely done by transhipment in bond, the goods simply passing through without paying duty; but they actually change hands here, the Japanese merchants purchasing from the foreigners, and then taking all responsibility from this port.

Woollen Manufactures, like cottons, remain about the same, but are not worth mentioning.

Metals.—A small and regular business seems to be springing up, and considerable quantities are now coming from Europe and China. Tin plates, sheet iron, nails, yellow metal, steel and iron wire rope, bar iron, and bamboo steel being the principal items on the list. There has also been some demand for secondhand metals, mostly from China. The Japanese merchants in Nagasaki are apparently recognising the fact that they can import for themselves cheaper than buying from hand to mouth in Osaka, as has hitherto been the custom. Why should Nagasaki be dependent on Osaka? There is no reason why it should not become an independent centre, with every prospect of an increasing trade with Korea, and being the natural port of entry for the whole of Kiushiu. The import in 1894 amounted to £30,882, and in 1893 to £13,481, showing £17,401 in favour of 1894.

Sugar.—There was a steady trade in refined grades of White Sugar, and prices were well maintained all through the year, until the rates touched $9.60 to $9.90 per picul (133⅓lbs), for good quality, in October. After this the price fell steadily up to the end of the year, closing at about $8.60 to $8.90 per picul, for the same quality. The total amount imported, however, shows a decrease compared with 1893, the figures being 11,379,701lbs., valued at £68,998 in 1894, against 12,892,001lbs., valued at £85,717 in 1893.

A considerable business, though less than in 1893, has been done in Brown Sugar from Hongkong and Manila, at prices ranging from $4.25 to $5.35 per picul: previously this quality of sugar had found its way here through Chinese in Hongkong in retail quantities, but latterly shipments have been made direct to Japan, and given more satisfaction. This is a trade that will probably increase on account of the difference in prices between this quality and the Hongkong refiners' sugars.

The import of Kerosene Oil again shows an increase, the total amounting to 3,722,806 gallons, valued at £40,295 against 2,647,215 gallons, valued at £34,116 in 1893, being an increase of 1,075,591 gallons, and £6,179. Stock at the beginning of the year was very small, being about 10,000 cases, mostly Russian case oil. Arrivals during the year were about 346,000 cases (of 10 gallons each) of American oil in three steamers and five vessels, and 26,000 cases of Russian oil in one steamer and about 630,880 gallons of Russian oil in two tank steamers. Deliveries to consumption were larger than the previous year, the largest deliveries being during November and December. Re-exports of oil to Korea were larger than ever before, being nearly 51,000 cases, about half of which was during the last two months. The American oil is still greatly preferred, but owing to the cheaper price of the Russian bulk oil a large quantity, say 620,000 gallons, has gone into consumption.

The tanks for the reception of the Russian bulk oil, and capable of holding 1,475 tons each, were completed early in the year, and the first cargo was pumped in the month of May.

The increased deliveries are largely due to the Japanese Government demand for steamers, having taken many of the small coasters entirely off the regular line from Osaka, and made freights so high that this market is now supplying almost the entire island of Kiushu by junks, whereas formerly a large quantity of oil was brought from Kobe and Osaka by the steamers at nominal rates of freight to this immediate vicinity. For the same reason prices here have ruled somewhat higher of late than the Osaka market rates. Japanese also report an actual increased consumption, the result of the longer hours which the people have found it to be to their advantage to work in making army supplies, and the fewer hands there have been to do the work.

Coal.—During the latter part of the year, a large quantity of Cardiff coal was imported, in addition to the annual supply for the British men-of-war, for the Japanese navy, on account of the war with China. This year also French, German, and Russian men-of-war have taken Cardiff coal. 27,765 tons were imported, valued at £39,851, an increase of over £25,000 in comparison with the previous year.

Raw Cotton.—The import of raw cotton was 9,820,811 lbs, valued at £128,454, being an increase of more than 1,500,000lbs. over that of 1893. The value in sterling for the import of 1893, came, however, to £130,129, or £1,675 more than the total for 1894. This result, however, is due to the exchange as the dollar cost of raw cotton shows an increase of $193,726 over the dollar cost of the previous year's imports. The trade was a steady one, and, as in other years, the bulk of the cotton imported came from China, though increased supplies were received both from India and America. The proportions were as follows:—China supplied 7,464,027 lbs.; India, 1,954,872 lbs.; and America, 401,912 lbs. The figures for 1893 were:—China, 7,009,445 lbs.; India, 1,212,325 lbs.; and America, 77,882 lbs. This business is almost entirely in the hands of the Chinese and the Mitsui Bussan Kai-

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sha. In addition to direct imports, a considerable quantity of American and Indian cotton has come from Kobe.

RICE.—The import of rice has risen from 8,891 tons, valued at £50,929, in 1893, to 20,957 tons, valued at £103,304, in 1894. The greatest quantity came from Annam, then followed China, Korea, Siam, and Rangoon. It is difficult to get freights from Burmah and Saigon to Nagasaki unless for large quantities at a time, otherwise we might see a fair trade done direct with the rice ports.

Imports of OIL-CAKE show an increase in quantity and value over 1893, the difference being over 8,000,000 lbs. and £6,638.

A very considerable increase also took place in the importation of BEANS, PULSE, &c., which were imported to the value of £16,472, against £6,647 in the previous year.

SPINNING MACHINERY for the Kurume and Miike cotton mills was imported to the value of £29,518, 10,000 spindles being for Kurume, and 5,000 spindles for Miike.

One STEAMER was sold during 1894.

EXPORTS.

The export of TEA during 1894 was pretty nearly the same as for 1893, showing, however, a small decrease of £839.

During 1894 3,993 tons of RICE were exported, valued at £28,544, as against 4,383 tons and £31,258 in 1893, of which over 3,000 tons were shipped to Vladiwostock, and the remainder to Korea.

COAL continues to show a falling off in the export. Including coals of all descriptions the export was 324,761 tons, valued at £132,788, against 381,631 tons and £156,459, being a decrease of 56,870 tons and £23,671.

The breaking out of the war between Japan and China in August last caused the price of coal to rise very considerably. The Japanese Government requisitioned the total output of the large coal from the Takashima mines, as well as that of several other coal mines of repute, for the use of their navy and transports. For some time, also, difficulties were placed in the way of export, so as to prevent the Chinese being supplied, but stocks accumulated very rapidly, and the restrictions were soon withdrawn, and large shipments followed at fair rates, Moji and Shimonoseki, which are practically the same place, doing the bulk of the business. Karatsu shipments show an increase, the quality of Koigama coal being very good. A drawback to Karatsu, however, is its exposed harbour, where steamers often lie several days without being able to take in cargo.

The figures from the special ports are as follows:—

	Tons.
Shimonoseki	332,536
Moji	388,017
Karatsu	73,126
Kuchinotsu	384,831
Misami	8,230
Total	1,186,740

With a value of £468,192, being an increase of 196,628 tons over the export for 1893.

GRAIN, PROVISIONS, &c.—There was a considerable increase in the export under this heading, amounting to £36,386, the export for the preceding year only amounting to £9,027. Flour also shows a considerable improvement, having risen from £4,020 in 1893 to £14,777. The flour is the produce of the Nagasaki Roller Flour Mill Company, and was exported principally to Vladivostock, with some to Korea.

The remainder of exports are of the usual miscellaneous nature for the Chinese market, and need no special comment.

SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels entered in the port of Nagasaki during 1894 was 713, exactly the same number as the preceding year, but the tonnage shows a slight increase, being for 1894, 1,027,837 tons, against 950,540 tons for 1893.

In addition to the various lines of mail steamers hitherto calling at Nagasaki, the steamers of the Messageries Maritimes commenced running here on August 14 last, and between that date and the end of the year 20 steamers of 42,505 tons entered and cleared. British shipping shows an increase of 45 vessels, with an increased tonnage of 92,375 tons. The German, Russian, and United States shipping all show an increase, both in number of vessels and tonnage. In Norwegian shipping there is a decrease of 5 vessels and 5,032 tons. In Japanese shipping there is a decrease of 87 vessels and 111,723 tons, but this is explained by the fact that on the breaking out of the war in August the Government requisitioned nearly every available steamer, large or small, to serve as armed cruisers, transports, or despatch vessels, &c., and they were consequently taken off the various lines.

KUCHINOTSU.—The total shipping return for the special port of Kuchinotsu shows a decrease both in number of vessels and tonnage. 152 vessels of 205,259 tons having entered in 1894, as against 224 vessels of 237,647 tons in 1893. Of these 74 vessels of 120,568 tons were British.

MOJI AND SHIMONOSEKI.—The total shipping for Moji and Shimonoseki amounted to 636 vessels of 764,505 tons. This shows an increase of 131 vessels and 158,434 tons. British shipping stand at 302 vessels and 513,740 tons, against 228 vessels of 384,004 tons in 1893, an increase of 74 vessels and 129,736 tons. German shipping also shows an increase of 33 vessels and 35,367 tons.

The TOTAL SHIPPING for the three ports amounts to 1,501 vessels of 1,997,601 tons. To make these figures, England contributes 626 vessels of 1,128,208 tons; Japanese shipping, 400 vessels of 337,573 tons; Germany, 261 vessels of 220,149 tons; Norway, 74 vessels of 66,372 tons; and Russia 62 vessels of 3,015 tons.

KARATSU.—Though not included in the above tables it should be mentioned that the shipping from the special port of Karatsu shows a return of 29 vessels of 36,778 tons for 1894, while in 1893 there were 19 vessels of 24,116 tons. Of these there were 15 British vessels of 24,469 tons, 10 German of 7,177 tons, the remainder being 1 Japanese, 1 Korean, and 2 Norwegian vessels.

LOCAL INDUSTRIES.

DOCK AND ENGINE WORKS.—The dock at Tategomi on the other side of the harbour was lengthened during the year to admit vessels of 500 feet in length on a draught of 26 feet. It has been constantly employed during the year. At the commencement of the war the dock was requisitioned by the Government, and since then vessels other than those belonging to the Japanese navy or transports have to obtain special permission to dock from the naval authorities at Sasebo.

A new dock, 300 feet long, is to be added to the docking facilities of the port, and the patent slip, which can take on vessels of 1,000 tons, had a siding added lately, and can now accommodate two vessels.

The additions to the machinery in the engine works are very extensive, and new shear legs have been erected capable of lifting 80 tons. The ship yard is being enlarged, and will be laid out for vessels up too 500 feet in length. One of 300 feet will shortly be laid down; the last one built and just finished was 1,500 tons register, and took about ten months to complete. The shipbuilding machinery is also being largely added to, heavy rolls for plate bending being amongst other important machines; a steam hammer of large size is also being added, and a railway round the works. When the machines get to work, the new dock finished, and all the projected improvements carried out, there will be perhaps as complete an establishment as can be found to the eastward of the Cape, in the port of Nagasaki.

During the past year, 51 Japanese vessels, with a tonnage of 60,544 tons, and 30 foreign vessels, with a tonnage of 54,756 tons, were docked or taken on the slip.

COTTON SPINNING MILLS.—The cotton spinning mill just outside Nagasaki has time after time been closed, and it changed hands last year and was again re-opened. Owing, however to want of skilled labour it was found impossible to run it night and day, and the machinery moreover got out of order. It ran 300 days; 65 men and 70 women were employed; there are 3,550 spindles at this mill, and it turned out 255,530 lbs. of yarn first quality and 9,444 lbs. second quality yarn; the wages of the men averaged 14.03 *sen*, and for the women 8.05 *sen* per diem. The markets for the goods are Osaka, Kumamoto, Oita, and Kagoshima. The export duty having been decreased, there was an outlet in the China market during the middle of the year, but the war put a stop to this business. Prices ranged between 86 *yen* (£9 1s.), and 77 *yen* (£8 2s) per bale of 400 lbs.

The ELECTIC LIGHT COMPANY mentioned in last year's report is still working, and there is also one at Kumamoto, with a capital of 75,000 *yen*, in 3,000 shares, but the profits in these two enterprises do not so far tend to make them a financial success, as the dividends for year in either case do not reach 1 per cent.

KIUSHIU RAILWAY.—The extension of the railway system in this island is very slow. During 1894 there were only 3 miles 5 chains between Kumamoto and Kawajiri, opened on August 21. During 1895 the mileage opened was between Kawajiri and Matsubashi, 6 miles 19 chains; Kokura to Gyoji, 14 miles 64 chains. It is hoped than an extension from Saga to Tsukazaki, 17 miles 60 chains, will be opened next month.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1894 was a good one for business generally, both native and foreign, the latter half-year and especially so. On the breaking out of the war between China and Japan most of the Japanese steamers were taken up by the Government, and foreign ones were chartered to take their places. Junks also were called into requisition to take the place and carry the cargo of the small steamers in the coasting trade, and freights advanced very much.

In September a sudden improvement took place in the trade with Korea; demand for all kinds of both foreign and native manufactures sprung up, and continued for the rest of the year.

The presence of an unusual number of men-of-war in the harbour was of considerable benefit to the trade of the place, and especially so to small traders, storekeepers, &c.

Generally the port may be considered to show good signs of recovery from the depressed condition of the past few years, and real permanent improvement it hopefully looked forward to.

Customs accommodation is now very inadequate to the improved condition of trade, and notwithstanding some additional shed room provided during the years, cargo often has to be kept in boats for days, or landed in the open for want of covered space. Even cargo boats have been scarce at times on account of delay in landing the cargo from the steamers.

The Customs authorities have done all they could to assist by allowing the cargo to be landed at once and put in the merchants' godowns, but of course, this entails extra coolie hire, which neither importer nor purchaser is willing to pay.

The population of Nagasaki on December 31, 1894, amounted to 66,851, of whom, however, only 39,304 are registered as inhabitants, *i.e.*, 18,892 males and 20,412 females, the remainder (27,547) being traders, visitors, and workpeople from neighbouring districts.

BRITISH CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HAKODATE.

Mr. Consul Hall's Report on the Trade and Navigation of Hakodate and the Island of Yezo for 1894 contains the following remarks:—

Judged by the tables, the foreign trade of Hakodate in 1894 would appear to have been considerably less in value than in the preceding year, the comparison in sterling being:—

Exports	1894	£70,288	1893	£81,952
Imports	1894	6,830	1893	3,281
Total		£77,118		£85,233

Decrease (apparent) in 1894, £8,115. But the fact was quite otherwise, as is manifest when, instead of the gold values, the actual figures of the steady silver values for the two years are given:—

Exports	1894	$668,472	1893	$639,627
Imports	1894	55,420	1893	24,322
Total		$723,892		$663,939

Increase (real) in 1894, $59,944.

The comparison in sterling is thus simply misleading as regards the actual movement of trade. Instead of a decline, there was a marked improvement both in exports and imports. The cause of the fallacious indication of the table is, of course, the disturbance in exchange. In the course of the twelvemonth the silver money of this country lost its power of purchasing the strictly gold-priced manufactures of England and the West to the extent of 20 per cent., its value as against commodities here and throughout Eastern Asia remaining virtually stable. To that extent has the chasm between the two masses of the world's coinage been widened and deepened in the year following the Indian currency legislation of 1893.

EXPORTS.—The prospect of a stoppage of trade on the outbreak of the war against China in the middle of the year gave a temporary stimulus to the staple export. Nearly double the quantity of edible seaweed was hurried off to Shanghai, notwithstanding the glut of that commodity noted in last year's report, though, of course, at greatly reduced prices. The export of sulphur to America rose to 11,000 tons, as against 9,000 tons in the previous year.

IMPORTS.—The marked rise in imports is due to the nascent trade with Eastern Siberia. The fact that these imports, mainly of salted fish and other marine produce, from Russian Manchuria rose from $6,000 in 1892 to $20,000 in 1893, and to $50,000 last year, and that they constituted in the two last years 85 per cent. and 90 per cent respectively of the total foreign import value of trade of the port, seem of sufficient importance to invite attention.

TRADE WITH RUSSIA.—As Russia is Japan's nascent and only neighbour to the north, it was to be

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expected that a trade of some sort would in the course of time spring up between Yezo and the adjacent Russian territories, though, in view of the sparseness of population, that trade was not likely at first to be large. A change in the situation, however, is now in progress, and a more momentous change in prospect. On the one hand, this island has doubled its population within the last ten years, having now well over 500,000 inhabitants. On the other, the immense resources of Russian Manchuria, terrene and marine, are being rapidly developed, and, with the opening of the Trans-Siberian Railway, some four or five years hence, a great influx of settlers, into the fertile basin of the Ussui may be confidently anticipated. Meanwhile, the fisheries have made a good start. Each season from 10,000 to 12,000 Chinese from the Shangtung province find lucrative employment in gathering in the harvest of edible seaweed; whilst the Japanese, with their superior aptitude as fishermen, have betaken themselves to the not less promising work of catching and curing salmon, salmon-trout, herring, and cod. The seaweed is taken direct to the North China markets; but the fish produce nearly all comes to this island.

But there is an older and larger branch of this industry on the Japan side of the Gulf of Tartary. The germs of it were already in existance when Saghalin passed completely into Russian possession in 1875, and it has been steadily growing since, though not much noticed. Owing to the fact that no import duty is charged by the Japanese customs on marine produce from Saghalin, commerce with that island is not included in the statistics of foreign trade. The rate at which the business is growing can be seen from the following figures:—1891, $45,418; 1892, $102,743; 1893, $191,746; 1894, $241,745. Some details as to the present state of the industry may be worth noting.

SAGHALIN FISHERIES.—The Japanese fishing stations in Saghalin, seventy-one in number, rented by twenty capitalists from the Russian administration, extend from Cape Notozo, the south-western corner of the island, round Aniwa Bay, to Cape Shiretoko, the south-eastern corner, and thence up along the east coast as far as Patience Bay. They give employment to over 1,400 fishermen during the season—that is, from the middle of April till the middle of September.

As an illustration of what may be done by foreign enterprise in a seemingly unpromising field, I may here mention that on the opposite, or western, coast of Southern Saghalin an Englishman, in partnership with a Russia merchant, rented a fishing station about seventeen years ago, and applied capital and energy to developing the business. For several years he had a very uphill struggle with difficulties of various kinds, not the least trying of which was the employment, under official compulsion, of convict labour. But perseverance was rewarded with success, and the partners now exploit the whole of the south-western coast, employing in a season as many as 1,500 men. For fishing, only Japanese from this island and Ainus, natives of Saghalin, are employed; but for gathering and drying the edible seaweed crop their workmen include Chinese from Shantung, Koreans, and Russian convicts. The revenue derived by the administration from the various imposts on the fishing industry of Southern Saghalin amounts to more than R. 40,000 a year.

From Saghalin the business has, within the last few years, been extended to the Siberian coast, where, as above indicated, it seems to be rapidly striking root. Last year a set of regulations for the control of it were issued by the Governor-General of the Amour. Under these regulations the industry is thrown open to Russians and to foreigners of all nationalities, under conditions which may be thus summarised:—

The fishing stations are only to be established in places sanctioned by the administration; but the taxable area, wherein the licences are to be granted by the local authority of each district, extends from the mouth of the Tumen River to Plastun Bay. Northwards of that limit, where no police or other authorities are yet established, licences can be obtained only from the Governor-General of the Primorsk at Vladivostock. Foreigners applying for licences must be furnished with a passport and consular certificate of their respectability.

The taxes are to be as follows:—(*a.*) Per pood (36lb.) of cured fish (salmon, trout, herring, cod, fish-guano, cured fish-roe, sharks' flesh and fins), and dried seaweed: c.5 for Russians and c.7 for foreigners, Russian paper currency. (*b.*) Per pood of cod and herring oil: c 10 for Russians and c.16 for foreigners.

Wood for boiling the caldrons will be supplied by the Russian Forest Bureau at the rate of c.10 per bedro.

In the course of last year nearly 460 Japanese schooners, whether British or American, went from this port with passports to Russian Asia, most of them for the fisheries.

While on the subject of trade with Siberia, I may remark that Hakodate, the shipping centre for the trade of Northern Japan, is also the nearest port to Vladivostock; the distance between them being only 424 miles, in a straight line. It seems probable, therefore, that when the Siberian Railway is completed, direct steam communication will be opened between the two ports. No other port on the west side of Japan presents so many advantages as this, whether in point of excellence as a harbour or in extent of trade and shipping.

SHIPPING AND FREIGHTS.—Last year was marked by an unprecedented increase in the foreign, and especially in the British, shipping of this port: 84 vessels, of 25,351 tons, having entered direct from foreign ports, as against 57 vessels, 11,010 tons, the preceding year. Of this total, 42 vessels, 14,227 tons, were British, being exactly half the ships and more than half the tonnage. Only 11, however, out of the 84 were steamers, 7 British and 4 German, the remaining 73 being sailing ships, of which no less than 58 were sealing schooners.

But the shipping from foreign ports formed but a small portion of the tonnage under the British flag last year. There were entered besides, at this consulate, 41 steamers, 72,100 tons, from Japanese ports: nearly all in the last 4 months of the year. This was due to the war with China, and the steamers were all under Japanese charter, or newly bought by the Japan Mail Steamship Company. What happened was this. Although the war did not begin till towards the end of July, the company's steamers which ply between here and the southern and western ports were withdrawn by Government requisition in the middle of June, for transports; and from that time till the beginning of September there was a sore dearth of shipping, a whole month's interval once elapsing between two sailings. By September, however, the company had bought or chartered enough foreign steamers to meet the most pressing requirements. By a wise moderation in raising the rates of freight it also continued largely to preclude competition in its time of difficulty. It gave out that the increase in the rates of freight should not exceed one-fifth during the continuance of the war. General cargo to Yokohama was raised from $5 to $6 per ton; but the abatement of three-tenths formerly allowed on agricultural produce was withdrawn, and the old full rate of $5 per ton charged thereon.

THE SEALING FLEET.—The entries of sealing schooners cruising off the Japan coast last year numbered 61, as against 37 in 1893. Besides the 61 schooners entered, 5 others, British, called at the port without entering, having skins on board to the number of 4,484; making the total catch for this side of the Pacific in the first stage of the hunting season, 64,434 skins, so far as could be ascertained at this port. There were, besides, however, other schooners hunting which neither entered nor called here, probably over 30 in number; whose catch would probably increase the above total to about 90,000 skins.

Some points of interest in connection with last season's operations may here be noted. One is the superiority in skill of the Canadian over the American hunters; the average, taking the two years together, being 1,120 skins a season per schooner to the Canadians, as against 784 skins per schooner to the Americans. Another point is the appearance of the Japanese flag amongst the pelagic sealing craft. Three Japanese schooners, two of them belonging to the Imperial Marine Products Company, engaged in the industry. That the number was not larger is partly due to the prevalence of an impression that the above-named company's monopoly of hunting rights extends to the open sea, and partly to the difficulty of procuring sufficiently skilful hunters.

Last year, too, the rules framed by the Behring Sea Arbitrators came into force. Of the 32 Canadian schooners calling here, the masters of 20 obtained at this consulate licences for hunting in Behring Sea. A few of these had Siwash Indians, experts with the spear, as part of their crews; others, convinced that with due practice white hunters can equal or even excel the Indians, had spears made at this port for their first season's experience. Hence very few of the schooners chose the western side of Behring Sea for the later stage of the season's hunting. Not a single arrest was made within the Russian zones, and but very few schooners were sighted by the patrol cruisers in that vicinity. I here take occasion to state, in emphatic contradiction of an allegation that was publicly made elsewhere, that in not a single known instance has any trespass been committed in Japanese territorial waters by any one of the sealing

THE TRADE OF THE ISLAND.

Turning now from the foreign trade and shipping of the port to the home trade and general progress of the island, the subjoined tables, condensing two years's later statistics, show that the increasing prosperity noted in last year's report continued unchecked through 1893. The statistics for last year are not yet compiled.

Imports...	1893	$17,268,832	...	1892	$21,644,979
Exports...	1893	19,475,688	...	1892	14,420,018
Total ...	1893	$36,744,520	...	1892	$27,064,997

Increase in 1893, $9.679 523, or over 35 per cent.

In this increase Hakodate participated in good measure, its trade as given below, being nearly one-third of that of the whole island.

Exports...	1893	$6,118,535	...	1892	$4.785.157
Imports...	1893	6,849,992	...	1892	4,795.218
Total...	1893	$12,968,527	...	1892	$9,580,375

Increase in 1893, $3,388,152, or about 26 per cent.

Although the statistics of last year's trade for the whole island are not yet collected, those for this port have been, and are given in the condensed tables in the Appendix. From these it will be seen that last year the progressive movement sustained a severe check, the total value of the trade showing an increase over 1893 of less than $200,000, about 1½ per cent. whilst the shipping entries fell off from 1,190,490 tons in 1893 to 881,211 tons in 1894, being a decrease of 309,278 tons, or about 26 per cent. This serious decline was due, of course, to the war.

DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES.—The subjoined table shows the development of the three great sources of produce, the sea, the soil, and the subsoil:—

	1893.		1892.	
	Tons.	Dollars.	Tons.	Dollars.
Marine	225,653	8,756,492	184,387	7,172,992
Agricultural	116,867	2,484,622	109,699	2,230,878
Mineral ...	260,127	2,135,561	280,141	2,182,666
Total.....	—	13,376,675	—	11,586,466

AGRICULTURAL.—In 1893 there were 6,486 acres under rice crops, of which 870 acres were new tilth; and 137,020 under other crops, of which 27,400 acres were new tilth. There were 76 stock-farms in the island, having a total area of 117,886 acres, and 1,262 head of cattle, and 5,658 horses. The total number of cattle in the island was 4,893; of horses, 55,969.

MINERAL COAL.—The total output of coal in 1893 was 248,967 tons, which was all sold, and over 20,000 tons of previous year's stock as well, price $1,204,774. Of this output, 236,161 tons were from the four mines in the Ishikari coalfield belonging to the coal mines and railway company, namely, Ikushumbetsu, Poronai, Utashinai, and Yubari; whilst the remainder, 12,806 tons, were from four small mines owned elsewhere by other persons.

SULPHUR was obtained from eleven places to the amount of 41,160 tons; of which 8,223 tons were sold for $205,174.

MANGANESE.—Last year, for the first time in the history of the island, manganese appears amongst the mineral exports. The mine was recently discovered at Kunnui, on the south shore of Volcano Bay. The output last year was over 1,700 tons. It is a rich ore, containing 58 per cent. of metal, and brings about $14 per ton on the Yokohama market.

THE POPULATION of this port at the end of last year was 66,333 persons, living in 15,019 houses. In the whole of Hokkaido at the end of 1893 there were 529,892 inhabitants, 111,184 families; of whom 12,760 families or 49,047 souls were immigrants of that year. These number are, of course, exclusive of the annual influx of labourers and fishermen who return to their homes in Northern Japan at the close of the fishing season. Out of 154,484 men who were employed in the various fisheries and seaweed gathering in 1893, less than 52,000 were inhabitants, the other two-thirds coming for the season from the main island.

For some years ago, no troops of the regular army have been stationed in the island; but the number of the military settlers (Tonden) has been steadily growing. Five years ago these troops were under 1,500, now they are over 4,000, of whom 300 are cavalry, artillery, and engineers, the rest infantry. They are distributed over seven camp villages, numbering 4,405 houses; and their families, males and females of all ages, amounted in 1893 to over 21,000 or, including the troops, 25,000 all told.

RAILWAYS.—The coal mine railway last year, on its three lines, carried less than 500,000 passengers and under 110,000 tons of general merchandise. This was, of course, exclusive of the Company's own coal, of which over 500,000 tons were carried, at the very modest charge of c.50 per ton. The year's earnings of the lines are set down at $333,000.

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PUBLIC EVENTS.—Two events of some interest as bearing upon the future of trade were :—

1. The opening of a short line of railway in the main island opposite, thirty miles in length between Awomori and Hirosaki. This is but the first section of a line which is to connect Awomori with Akita and the west coast generally. Hirosaki, the castle-town of the former Lordship of Tsugaru, has over 30,000 inhabitants, and overlooks the most northern of the rice plains of Japan, whence this island draws itsmain supply of that cereal, and also of the great quantity of straw mats and manufacture of various kinds used in the fisheries.

2. The opening of Muroran as one of the special ports of export. This small but well sheltered harbour at the north side of the entrance of Volcano Bay is also the terminus of the railway from the coal mines and Sapporo to the south-east of the island. Since it was opened in June last, only three steamers have cleared from it taking coal cargoes valued at $28,000.

THE WAR.—In conclusion, the influence of the war on the trade of the port may be briefly noticed. The first effect, which was also the main cause of the other effects, was a rise in freights; a rise which in spite of the action taken by the great subsidised steamship company, amounted in some cases to 50 per cent., and even 70 per cent., on the rates of the preceding year. In the next place, as this island has to import the larger portion of its food supply, the rise in freights at once sent up the price of all provisions. To the same cause was due, in the third place, a great fall in the prices of all articles of export, and a consequent tightness in the money market; banks refusing to make advances against the commodities with which the storehouses of the port were glutted. Hence a general dulness of trade, which still continues, and affects all classes and all commodities, down even to the value of land and houses.

THE LOSS OF THE "CATTERTHUN."

In the *China Mail* of the 5th inst, we find the following notes taken from Australian exchanges, relating to the loss of the *Catterthun* :—

At the time the vessel struck, a heavy southwest gale was prevailing. When the vessel hit, there was a severe shock that could be felt in every portion of her. The passengers were greatly alarmed and there was much confusion. The Captain reassured them, stating that there was no danger. He thought the steamer had only been struck by a heavy sea. The ship continued on her way, but before many moments had elapsed it was found that she had a hole in her bottom and was making water rapidly. She began to settle down and took a list to starboard.

Other dispatches say that the Seal Rocks are 110 miles north of Sydney. The *Catterthun*, in addition to having a general cargo, had on board 11,000 sovereigns. Mrs. Mathias, wife of the captain of the steamer *Cam*, trading between Bombay and Japanese ports, had been at Sydney visiting friends. When the *Catterthun* cast off her lines at the wharf Mrs. Mathias' niece was on the wharf crying bitterly. She said to her aunt, "Oh, auntie, you'll be drowned. I will never see you again."

The fires under the *Catterthun's* boilers were soon extinguished and the vessel was then helpless. She "broached to" and the sea swept over her fore and aft. Every effort was made to lower the boats, but the crew were baffled by the seas which swept them on board after they had been swung out on the davits. The port lifeboat was lost entirely, it being washed from the davits. Notwithstanding the dangerous position of the steamer, which it was seen was doomed, excellent discipline was maintained. During an attempt to lower the starboard cutter an immense sea broke aboard the steamer and carried away the cutter. It also swept from the bridge the Captain and chief and second officers and Captain Fawkes. The last-named, having been unable to reach his cabin to obtain a lifebelt had borrowed the captain's knife and was in the act of cutting the lashings of a small table on the bridge when he was swept off into the sea.

A few minutes later, after a very great effort, the starboard lifeboat was lowered and it picked up Captain Fawkes, who was clinging to some of the floating wreckage. Only three other Europeans were rescued. These were second officer Langfar, Dr. Copeman, and a passenger named Crane, belonging to Melbourne.

A dispatch from Melbourne says that divers have left for the scene of the wreck for the purpose of attempting to recover the 11,000 sovereigns in specie on board the steamer. The dispatch further says it is now known that the total number of lives lost in the disaster is forty-four, many of the Chinese passengers and crew being saved. Of the Europeans on board only the four previously mentioned survived.

COUNT OKUMA INTERVIEWED.

Count Okuma may be called the John Sherman of Japan. He was the finance minister of the empire for twelve years during the formation of the present system of government, and shaped the financial policy that has since been followed. He has held portfolios in several cabinets, and was minister of foreign affairs four years ago and made a series of treaties with the United States and European powers, similar to those which have recently been concluded with Great Britain, Russia, and our own government. No man in Japan, except Marquis Ito, the present prime minister, or Count Inouye, who has recently returned from the Korean mission, has been so active as a leader, and although he is not a member of the present government, Count Okuma is still regarded as one of the ablest statesmen in the empire and one of the most ardent apostles of progress. The political party, or rather the faction, of which he is the leader are called the Progressionists, and their criticism of the present administration is chiefly that it does not go so far and so fast in the adoption of modern ideas and methods as the welfare of the country demands.

Four years ago Count Okuma narrowly escaped assassination. As he was leaving the Foreign Office one day a bomb was hurled at him by a crazy young fellow of the *soshi* class, whose grievance was that new treaties which the Count was about to conclude were too favourable to the foreigners and not sufficiently conservative for the interests of Japan. This incident cost the minister an amputation, and he now hobbles around on a cork leg, leaning heavily on his cane, but it did not impair his energy or his intellect and he is living a contented life in a beautiful villa just outside the city of Tokyo, surrounded by groves and fish ponds and flowers. He takes no active part in politics, but is constantly consulted by younger men, who appreciate the value of his wisdom and learning and experience. Count Okuma understands English, but does not speak it, which I find to be true of several other prominent men in Japan. They can read English books and newspapers readily, just as many of our people can read French and German, but they have never had sufficient leisure to practice pronunciation.

With Mr. Masujima, one of the most prominent lawyers of Japan, as interpreter, I called upon Count Okuma and asked what suggestion he could make to the merchants and manufacturers of the United States in regard to the extension of their trade in Japan. He replied that the market for foreign merchandise in Japan was growing more and more limited every day, but there was a grand opportunity for the introduction of American machinery and for the sale of our raw products, such as iron, cotton, and wool.

"Japan is undergoing an industrial revolution," said Count Okuma, "similar to the political revolution which has occupied our attention for the last quarter of a century. Old ideas and methods which have been practiced by our artisans for centuries are being gradually discarded and new ideas and methods are being introduced. Manual labour is being supplanted by machinery, and our manufacturers are seeking the most economical and perfect methods of producing their goods. As you know already, this revolution has affected the textile industry thus far more than any other, but it will very soon invade other branches of manufacturing, and Japan will soon become one of the greatest workshops in the world, for we have all of the conditions necessary, with the exception of raw cotton, iron, and some other materials which your people should furnish us. I should be very glad to see a large increase in our trade with the United States.

"What methods can you suggest to bring about that increase?"

"I am not a practical man," replied Count Okuma, "and I am not sufficiently familar with the details of manufacturing to be a wise adviser. I have a general knowledge only. Our country is still young. Our manufacturing industries, judged by modern standards, are still in their infancy, and such conditions always offer opportunities for profitable investments and for the sale of all forms of machinery that are required by modern methods of manufacturing. It will be years before the demand is supplied or our people are capable of making their own machinery. We have very skilful artisans, perhaps the most skilful in the world, but they have never been trained in mechanics, and for some time yet must depend upon foreign inventors and foreign experience to supply them with the machinery they need and teach them how to use it. Our people learn very rapidly, but they still require instruction in the applied sciences.

"To meet the new order of things," continued Count Okuma, "our first great requisite is capital, and the second is experience, and the people of the United States can furnish us both. The new treaty will soon go into effect which gives them equal advantages and opportunities with our own citizens, and we shall hope to see many of your enterprising business men bringing their money and their machinery over here to add to our wealth as well as their own."

"Would you advise them to establish independent factories or organize companies in connection with your citizens!"

"I should think it would be better to combine. Our people know the local market and the conditions of labour better than yours, while your people have a better understanding of the use of machinery and the foreign demand. I should think better results could be accomplished by mixed companies, the shares being distributed among such of our citizens as might aid in the success of the enterprise, but it would be well for the investors of the United States to bring with them a few men of experience to act as superintendents and foremen, at least until competent Japanese are educated to perform such duties. Our people are ambitious and quick to seize upon new ideas, but at first they would be less capable of managing matters economically so as to produce the best results."

The experience of the iron foundry to which I have alluded in a previous letter was referred to as an illustration of the ambition of the Japanese, as well as the unfortunate results that often follow inexperience.

I then asked His Excellency how soon Japan would be ready to compete with the United States and other manufacturing nations in the markets of the world. "I do not think there will ever be any close competition between the United States and Japan," he replied, "but within twenty-five years I expect to see our manufacturers in control of the Asiatic market. By that time we shall be able to furnish nearly everything that is required on that continent and it will be a serious competition for England, Germany, France, and other European countries. It will be some years longer before we will be able to compete with them in machinery. We haven't that so well in hand, but in fabrics and almost everything else we shall be able to begin exporting very soon. Japan has a great future as a manufacturing nation, but its natural rivals are in Europe, not in the United States, particularly if your country retains its protective policy we may not come in competition with you at all."

"I understand that your government intends to adopt a protective policy as soon as the new treaties go into effect and you are able to make your own tariff."

"I hope not. I am not a protectionist, and I should regret to see the introduction of such a policy into Japan. I have no doubt that it will be expedient for us, after the new treaties go into effect, to impose higher duties upon tobacco, wines, spirits, and articles of luxury for revenue, but not for protection. I am opposed to taxing the necessities of life and to the doctrine of a protective tariff."

"Is not the present government contemplating such a policy?"

"There is no settled policy in the present government, but its tendency is in favour of protection, and an attempt will be made to adopt it, but it will not succeed. The Ministers of Finance and Agriculture and Commerce are protectionists, but their ideas are not popular. There are also a number of political leaders advocating a protective tariff, but the people are against it, especially those who are engaged in foreign trade. We have prospered under the present policy of free trade, and there is no occasion or excuse for abandoning it. If we charge higher duties upon luxuries imported from foreign countries we shall obtain sufficient revenue without additional taxation, and there is no reason for the protection of our labour against foreign competition. That has been demonstrated by experience. Our labouring classes are skilful and economical; they require but little to live comfortably, and are able to take care of themselves. Their industry and the superiority of their products make artificial encouragement unnecessary. In our spinning factories there are girls working for 10 sen (5 cents) a day who are as skillful and produce as fine yarns as labour of longer experience that is paid ten or twenty times as much in foreign countries, and the same conditions exist in other industries. That is a sufficient answer to the advocates of protection."

"Japan has only a silver currency. Are you in favour of bimetallism?"

"That is a difficult problem. It has engaged my attention for twenty-eight years. Twenty five years ago, when I was first minister of finance, I adopted the theories advanced at the Paris monetary conference because I thought they were sound and introduced the gold system of monometallism in Japan, but it was a mistake. It proved to be a

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failure. Our country was not ready for it. Our business methods were not sufficiently modernized, and I would not try it again even now. We have a nominal bimetallic currency now, although we are on a silver basis, and I would not advocate a change under any circumstances. We are doing well enough with silver, and our prosperity has been affected less by the silver agitation than that of any country."

"I believe," continued Count Okuma, "that 100 years from now a monometallic system, or a single gold standard, will be generally adopted throughout the world, because that the ory is sound, but the time has not come for a gold standard of money. The United States, Japan, India, and other new countries are not ready for it. They need a great deal of currency to transact their business, but as the world progresses and nations interminglе more and more uniform trade systems will be developed which will enable them to do with less, and each development will dispense with large amounts of the circulating mediums until they gradually become able to accept gold. When that time comes, and I think it will be not less than 100 years from now, there will be sufficient gold in circulation to meet the demands of commerce. For example, England does the largest commercial business of any nation in the world, and has the best financial system, but her circulation is not half as large as that of the United States. France has also a very large amount of money in circulation. The fact that England can do so much business with so little money shows the high development of her credit system and her banking facilities. With the French money is more a plaything than a medium of commerce. The Frenchmen do not understand the true use of money. Supposing Englishmen were put in charge of the commerce and finance of France. They would reduce the circulation one-half by withdrawing the money and investing it elsewhere, which is due to their superior experience and prudence. As our system develops commerce will be carried on by credit and not by cash."

"This theory is my own, and I sincerely believe in it, but it cannot be applied at present, particularly in new countries like Japan and the United States, and whatever we may believe we should consider present conditions and conform our policy to them. Our politicians are not usually broad-minded or far-sighted. They do not or cannot see far enough ahead. The action of the British Government in suspending silver coinage in India under the Gladstone ministry was a terrible mistake, and the whole world is suffering from it. The passage of the Bland Act and the Sherman Act by your own Congress were also mistaken and makeshift. These examples show that no attempt should be made to correct financial trouble by arbitrary legislation in a single nation. There should be mutual agreements and organization like the Latin union among all civilized nations to regulate and maintain the value of money. However powerful and rich a country may be, it cannot afford to have a selfish or an individual policy. All nations should unite to maintain the value of money so that business may not be affected by fluctuations. But the ratio of 15 to 1, as adopted by the Latin unions is too small. It cannot be maintained now owing to the reduced value of silver."

"What ratio would you suggest?"

"It is very difficult to suggest any, but with the present value of silver it ought to be as great as 25 to 1. I think that would be about right now. The old value of silver will never be restored. Bimetallism will sooner or later be adopted throughout the world as a temporary expedient, but monometallism is the only sound policy, and we will come to it within the next century. As silver increases in quantity it will cease to be considered a money, and drop down among the industrial materials."

Count Okuma asked about the financial condition of the United States and the progress of the struggle now going on there for the remonetization of silver. When I told him of the great agitation in favour of a 16 to 1 ratio he replied:

"If your Government adopts a 16 to 1 ratio your rich money-lenders, your creditor class, will be ruined. The trouble in the United States is universal suffrage. It is not just or reasonable that the man who earns $1 a day with a pick and shovel, who spends it all for food and clothing, who owns no property and pays no taxes, should have as much influence in shaping the financial policy of a Government as one who pays taxes upon $1,000,000. I am not in favour of universal suffrage. The experience of the world has demonstrated that it is a failure. There should be educational or property qualifications required as a condition of suffrage. A Government should be directed and controlled only by its intelligent citizens and taxpayers. I think our plan here the wisest. No man can vote in Japan unless he pays $15 or more in taxes annually."

I asked Count Okuma if he had any suggestions to make for the benefit of those who desired to come here from the United States to engage in manufacturing or other business. He replied that he was very much interested in the subject, but was not sufficiently informed to offer wise advice, but he would confer with some of his friends who are better posted and would be glad to have another talk with me.—WILLIAM E. CURTIS, in the *Chicago Record*.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 14.

The Earl of Dunraven, being unable to obtain the necessary guarantees that the *Valkyrie* would have a clear course in the third race, merely crossed the line with the *Defender*, and then stopped, leaving the *Defender* to finish the course alone.

The *Valkyrie* returns to England forthwith.

The Earl of Dunraven declares that he will never race the *Valkyrie* in American waters again.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, September 13.

Her Majesty's ships *Centurion*, *Edgar*, *Undaunted*, *Spartan*, *Rainbow*, and *Alacrity* left this port yesterday for Erimo Bay.

Muroran, September 16.

Her Majesty's ships *Rainbow* and *Spartan* left here yesterday, and the remainder of the squadron leave to-morrow. Destination unknown.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

Pekin, Sept. 9, 11 a.m.

The anti-Li party has scored another triumph. To prevent the Prime Minister from using his influence with the Emperor and Dowager-Empress, the enemies of Li Hung-chang have succeeded in getting the Emperor to decree that in future he is not to memoralise the Throne *alone*, but must do so conjointly with some other person of corresponding rank. In this way the anti-Li party will be able to learn all the Prime Minister's projects and intentions.

London, September 12.

The German Chancellor has arrived at St. Petersburg.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Söul, September 16.

The company of soldiers at Phyong-yang, who were ordered to proceed to Sang-won to deal with the riot there having no ammunition, troops will be dispatched from Söul.

Söul, September 17.

Li Tai-jun, Grand Chamberlain, has been appointed the King's Ambassador to Japan to convey the Royal thanks for the assistance given by the Emperor of Japan in establishing the independence of Korea.

Count Inouye, ex-Japanese Minister, left here for home to-day.

Pekin, Sept. 17.

Sir Nicholas O'Conor, British Minister to China, has been appointed to St. Petersburg.

Kure, Sept. 17.

A ceremony was held here to-day in commemoration of the Yellow Sea engagement.

Iwakuni, Sept. 16.

Messrs. Yamada, Superintendent of the Yamaguchi Police; Shiga, Councillor of the *Kencho*; Yoshitomi and Nishimura, M.P.s, and other have arrived here, and after consulting with the Headman and Chief of Police of this District, have taken more active means to bring about the defeat of the anti-Cabinet candidate in the parliamentary election of this Distinct.

Shimonoseki, September 17.

The *Riojun Maru* arrived here yesterday with 180 coolies suffering from *kakke* from Formosa, and the *Kagoshima Maru* with 137 sick coolies.

Nagasaki, September 16.

At 2 p.m. yesterday a number of French sailors came ashore on leave, and having taken too much drink became very disorderly in and around Izumocho, Oura. Order was maintained for a time through the efforts of the police, but when one of the drunkards smashed a *jinrikisha* the drawer attempted to take off the sailor's cap, the *jinrikisha* man intending to use the headgear when appealing to the police about the damage done to his vehicle. This action caused a severe disturbance at Matsugayecho in which about sixty sailors took part. They threw stones, and picked up staves which they handled as clubs. A police inspector promptly proceeded to the flag ship *Bayard*, and asked for help to subdue the disturbance. Four Japanese constables were badly wounded. Three constables and a resident were slightly injured. The sailors belong to the *Alger*.

Kyoto, Sept. 18.

Count Matsukata arrived here last night.

Otsu, Sept. 18.

Two hundred and eighty Otsu soldiers proceed to Formosa to-morrow.

Kobe, Sept. 18.

No. 23 torpedo boat arrived here yesterday, and left for Yokosuka at once.

Nagasaki, Sept. 18.

The British cruiser *Spartan* has arrived here from Hakodate.

Kumamoto, September 18.

The promoters of the Kumamoto-Otsu railway (13 miles) met here last night, and agreed to spend *yen* 390,000 in constructing the line.

Shanghai, September 18.

It is said that Japan and China will be left free to settle matters connected with the return of the Liaotung peninsula, and Russia, France, and Germany will not interfere at all.

Toyama, September 18.

The members of the Prefectural Assembly memorialized the Home Minister yesterday stating that they had no confidence in the Governor of this Prefecture.

Pekin, September 16.

Rumour has it that Li Hung-chang will be dispatched to Kansu and Kwangsi Provinces as an Ambassador, the Mahommedan rebellion there having developed alarmingly.

Honolulu, September 14.

Cholera has broken out here.

Aomori, Sept. 19.

Mr. Ishiguro, an expert in the Home Department; Captain Ijuin, and Fleet Engineer Soda have arrived here to inspect Ominato, which is to be made a naval port. They left for the spot yesterday.

Nagano, Sept. 19.

The election of President and Vice-President of the Prefectural Assembly has resulted in the success of Messrs. Tatsuno Shinichiro and Hatagoshi Hakkuro respectively.

The following Formosa telegram was received by the Government on the 18th instant.

Lieut.-General Viscount Takashima, Vice-Governor-General, left Taipeh on the 17th inst. for the south.

Nagasaki, Sept. 19.

The *Saikio Maru* arrived here from Formosa to-day. The British ship *Spartan* has gone to Chefoo.

Söul, Sept. 19.

Count Inouye will leave Ninsen for home on the 21st instant.

Bin O-shoku and 278 other prisoners were pardoned to-day.

A company of Korean soldiers was dispatched from this capital to-day to subdue the riot at Sang-won, Phyong-an Province.

The report that the Korean Government had specially permitted the American Trading Co. to work the mines in Phyong-an Province is erroneous.

Ninsen, September 19.

The King's Special Ambassador has decided to leave for Japan with Count Inouye.

Miyazaki, September 18.

The damage done by the storm of the 7th inst. throughout the Prefecture (Nishi-usuki-kun excepted) was as follows:—4 persons killed, 7 persons wounded, 581 houses partly overthrown, 2,905 houses damaged, 62 houses submerged, and 17 bridges destroyed. Much damage was done to embankments and roads.

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club is closed for the season: and re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club is now closed for the holiday season and will re-open on Friday, 4th October, 1895.

Solution of Problem No. 194.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to K B 6	1—Anything
2—Mates accordingly.	

Correct answers received from W.D.C., Sigma, E.D., Shogi, Kr., Digamma, W.H.S., J.D., W.B., and E. J. King.

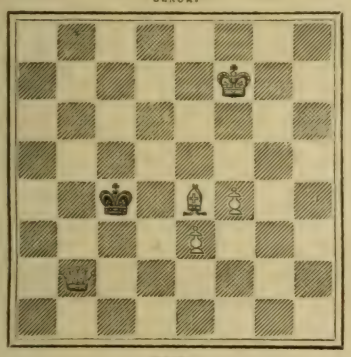
All the solvers with one exception speak well of this problem, and declare that it took them much over the 15 minutes and that they had no chance of scoring against the ex-champion in this matter. The one exception writes as follows:—"No. 194—Q to K B 6 solved in something under 5 minutes. See nothing extraordinary in the position. Pulitzer's problems don't deserve their reputation." Our friend should be merciful, even if he be strong, and remember that all solvers are not of his calibre.

Problem No. 196.

By E. Hoffmann.

"The following clever position is being posted at the various chess resorts, and is creating no little interest, as the average player is apt to pronounce it unsolvable."—*New York Herald.*

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

The Hastings Congress.

No further news to hand beyond that reported last week. The next steamer from San Francisco will probably bring a full budget; meanwhile we reprint two games. The failure of the veterans in this tournament seems to prove the truth of Blackburne's dictum:—"When we pass the age of 50 we must begin to think of making way for younger men."

Game No. 346.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Pillsbury.	BLACK. Tarrasch.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—Kt to B 3	5—Q Kt to Q 2
6—B to R 4	6—Castles
7—P to K 3	7—P to Q Kt 3
8—P takes P	8—P takes P
9—B to Q 3	9—B to Kt 2
10—Castles	10—P to B 4
11—R to K sq.	11—P to B 5
12—B to Kt sq.	12—P to Q R 3
13—Kt to K 5	13—P to Q Kt 4
14—P to B 4	14—R to K sq.
15—Q to B 3	15—Kt to B sq.
16—Kt to K 2	16—Kt to K 5
17—B takes B	17—R takes B
18—B takes Kt	18—P takes B
19—Q to Kt 3	19—P to B 3
20—Kt to Kt 4	20—K to R sq.
21—P to B 5	21—Q to Q 2
22—R to K B sq.	22—R to Q sq.
23—R to B 4	23—Q to Q 3
24—Q to R 4	24—Q R to K sq.
25—Kt to B 3	25—B to Q 4
26—Kt to B 2	26—Q to B 3
27—R to K B sq.	27—P to Kt 5
28—Kt to K 2	28—Q to R 5
29—Kt to Kt 4	29—Kt to Q 2
30—R (B 4) to B 2	30—K to Kt sq.
31—Q Kt to Q B sq.	31—P to B 6
32—P to Q R 3	32—Q to B 3
33—P to K R 3	33—P to Q R 4
34—Kt to R 2	34—P to R 5
35—P to Kt 4	35—P takes P
36—P takes P	36—R to R sq.
37—P to Kt 5	37—R to R 6
38—Kt to Kt 4	38—B takes P
39—R to Kt 2	39—K to R sq.
40—P takes P	40—P takes P
41—Kt takes B	41—R takes Kt
42—Kt to R 6	42—R to Kt 2
43—R takes R	43—K takes R
44—Q to Kt 3 ch.	44—K takes Kt
45—K to R sq.	45—Q to Q 4
46—R to K Kt sq.	46—Q takes B P
47—Q to R 4 ch.	47—Q to R 4
48—Q to B 4 ch.	48—Q to Kt 4
49—R takes Q	49—P takes R
50—Q to Q 6 ch.	50—K to R 4
51—Q takes Kt	51—P to B 7
52—Q takes P mate.	

Game No. 347.

P TO Q 4 OPENING.

WHITE. Lasker.	BLACK. Tschigorin.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—B to Kt 5
3—P to B 4	3—B takes Kt
4—Kt P takes B	4—Kt to Q B 3
5—Kt to B 3	5—P to K 3
6—P to K 3	6—B to Kt 5
7—P takes P	7—Q takes P
8—B to Q 2	8—B takes Kt
9—P takes B	9—K Kt to K 2
10—R to K Kt sq.	10—Q to K R 4
11—Q to Kt 3	11—Kt to Q sq.
12—Q to Kt 5 ch.	12—Q takes Q
13—B takes Q ch.	13—P to B 3
14—B to Q 3	14—Kt to Kt 3
15—P to K B 4	15—Castles
16—K to K 2	16—R to B sq
17—R to Kt 3	17—P to Q B 4
18—Q R to K Kt sq.	18—P to B 5
19—B to B 2	19—P to B 4
20—B to B sq.	20—R to K B 2
21—B to R 3	21—R to Q B 3
22—B to B 5	22—R to R 3
23—P to Q R 4	23—Kt to B 3
24—R to Q Kt sq.	24—R to Q 2
25—R (Kt 3) to Kt sq.	25—Kt (Kt 3) to K 2
26—R to Q Kt 2	26—Kt to Q 4
27—K to Q 2	27—R to R 4
28—K R to Q Kt sq.	28—P to Q Kt 3
29—B to R 3	29—P to Kt 3
30—R to Kt 5	30—R to R 3
31—B to B sq.	31—Kt to Q sq.
32—R to R sq.	32—Kt to K B 2
33—Q R to Kt sq.	33—Kt to Q 3
34—P to B 3	34—Kt to K B 2
35—R to R 3	35—P to K Kt 4
36—K to K 2	36—P takes P
37—P to K 4	37—Kt to B 3
38—B takes P	38—Kt to R 4
39—B to K 3	39—P to B 5
40—B to B 2	40—R to R 4
41—R to Kt sq. ch.	41—K to B sq.
42—K R to Q R sq.	42—P to K 4
43—K R to Q Kt sq.	43—Kt to Kt 2
44—R to Q Kt 4	44—R to B 2
45—B to Kt sq.	45—Kt to K 3
46—R to Q sq.	46—Kt (K 3) to Q sq.
47—R to Q 2	47—Kt to B 3
48—R to Kt 5	48—R takes P
49—P takes P	49—Kt (B 2) takes P
50—B to R 4	50—R to K Kt 2
51—K to B 2	51—R to Kt 3
52—Q R to Q 5	52—R to R 8
53—B to Q 8	53—Kt to Q 6 ch.
54—B takes Kt	54—P takes B
55—R takes P	55—Q R to K Kt 8
56—R to B 5 ch.	56—K to K sq.
57—Resigns.	

Game No. 348.

The following is the first specimen we have given of the play of one who, eminent in the world of letters, has always been justly honoured and remembered as one of the first of English chess players. This game is, moreover, worthy of preservation as an example of strictly accurate calculation throughout. True there are no great sensations or surprises, except at move 21; but this by no means implies that there is no good chess:—

GIUOCO PIANO.

WHITE. Buckle.	BLACK. Harrwitz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—Castles	4—Kt to B 3
5—Kt to Q B 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to K R 3	6—Castles
7—P to Q 3	7—B to K 3
8—B to Kt 3	8—Q Kt to K 2
9—Q Kt to K 2	9—Kt to Kt 3
10—Kt to Kt 3	10—P to Q B 3
11—P to Q B 3	11—P to Q 4
12—P to Q 4	12—Q P takes K P
13—P takes B	13—P takes Kt
14—Q takes P	14—B takes B
15—P takes B	15—Kt to Q 4
16—Kt to B 5	16—P to Q Kt 3
17—P takes P	17—Q takes P
18—P to B 4	18—Kt (Q 4) to B 5
19—B takes Kt	19—Kt takes B
20—K R to Q sq.	20—Q to B 2
21—Q takes P	21—K R to Q B sq.
22—Q takes Q	22—R takes Q
23—Kt to Q 6	23—Kt to K 7 ch.
24—K to B sq.	24—Kt to Q 5
25—P to Q Kt 4	25—P to K B 4
26—P to B 5	26—R to Q Kt sq.
27—R to R 4	27—P to Kt 3
28—K R to Q R sq.	28—Kt to B 7
29—R takes P	29—R takes R
30—R takes R	30—Kt takes P
31—R to Kt 7	31—R takes R
32—Kt takes R	32—K to B 2
33—K to K 2	33—K to K 2
34—K to Q 2	34—K to Q 2
35—Kt to R 5	35—Kt to R 3
36—Kt to Kt 3	36—K to Q B 3
37—K to B 3	37—Kt takes P
38—Kt takes Kt	38—K takes Kt
39—P to K R 4	39—P to K R 3
40—P to B 3	40—P to Kt 4
41—P to R 5	41—P to K 5
42—P takes P	42—P takes P
43—P to K Kt 4	43—K to Q 4
44—P to Q Kt 4	44—K to K 4
45—P to Kt 5	45—K to B 5
46—P to Kt 4	46—P to K 6
47—P to Kt 7	47—K to B 6
48—P to Kt 8, Q, and White wins.	

Game No. 349.

Played at Maritzburg, Natal.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. S. H. Savory.	BLACK. Mr. X.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Kt to K B 3	4—P to B 4
5—P takes B P (a)	5—B takes P
6—P takes P	6—Kt takes P (b)
7—Kt takes Kt (c)	7—Q takes Kt
8—Q takes Q	8—P takes Q
9—P to K 3	9—Kt to B 3
10—P to Q R 3	10—B to Q 3
11—P to Q Kt 4	11—P to Q R 3
12—B to Kt 2	12—Castles
13—B to Q 3	13—P to B 3
14—R to Q sq.	14—B to K 4
15—Kt takes B	15—Kt takes Kt
16—B takes Kt	16—P takes B
17—B to Kt sq.	17—B to K 3
18—B to R 2	18—K R to Q sq.
19—P to K 4	19—B to B 2
20—P takes P (d)	20—R to Q 2
21—Castles	21—Q R to Q sq.
22—P to B 4 (e)	22—P takes P
23—R takes P	23—R to Q 3
24—P to K Kt 4	24—P to K Kt 4
25—K R to Q 4	25—K to Kt 2
26—R to K B sq.	26—R to K sq.
27—B to Kt sq.	27—R to K 7 (f)
28—R to K 4	28—R takes R (g)
29—B takes R	29—B to Kt 3
30—B to R sq.	30—B to Q 6
31—R to Q B sq.	31—R to Q 2
32—K to B 2	32—K to B 3
33—K to K 3	33—B to Kt 4
34—K to Q 4	34—P to K R 3
35—R to B 2	35—K to Kt 2
36—B to K 6	36—B to R 5
37—B to B 5	37—B takes R
38—B takes R	38—Resigns (h)

(a) It is generally better to allow the opponent to take the initiative in close games such as these. Hence P to K 3 is rather preferable here.

(b) We prefer P takes P, leaving the Kt strong for defence at B 3.

(c) And here the too-long delayed P to K 3. If then 7....., Kt takes Kt; 8—Q takes Q ch., K takes Q; 9—P takes Kt, &c.

(d) The pawn is cleverly won, and with much advantage.

(e) Or K R to K sq. If then 22....., B takes P; 23—R takes B, R takes R; 24—R takes P, and wins.

(f) A good move. Not R takes P, because of R takes B ch., &c. B takes P is also inferior on account of the pin by R to B 4 or R to Q sq.

(g) R to Q Kt 7 would have troubled White more.

(h) The ending is easily won for White, who threatens K to K 5 or B 5, B to B 8, &c. These games are pleasant because well played and not too profound.

Game No. 350.

SALVIO-COCHRANE GAMBIT.

WHITE. Amateur.	BLACK. Labourdonnais.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K Kt 4

Digitized by the INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

4—B to B 4	4—P to Kt 5
5—Kt to K 5	5—Q to R 5 ch.
6—K to B sq.	6—P to B 6
7—Kt takes P (B 7)	7—Kt to Q B 3
8—P to Q 4	8—B to Kt 2
9—P to Q B 3	9—Kt to B 3
10—Kt takes R	10—P to Q 4
11—P takes P	11—Kt to K 5
12—Q to K sq.	12—P to Kt 6
13—B to Q 3	13—P takes P ch.
14—K takes P	14—B to K R 6 ch.
15—K to Kt sq.	15—Kt takes Q P
16—Q takes Kt ch.	16—Q takes Q
17—B takes Q	17—Kt to K 7, mate.

The Time Limit.

It is not generally known that until quite recent years chess was played without any time limit whatever, and naturally this gave rise to no end of observations and abuses. At Hastings the rather slow but reasonable limit of 15 moves an hour is to be the rule. The *Adelaide Observer* asks who invented the time limit and introduced the use of clocks? The story is told by Staunton in the *Chess Praxis*. A chess player had for some pressing necessity (which we at present forget, but it can be found stated in the *Praxis*) bargained and sold what appears to have been his only remaining asset to a personage whose popular designation is unfit for polite ears. The vendor was afforded a chance of redeeming by playing a game of chess on the double or quits principle. The accuser—for so we may call him—who, notwithstanding his great power, appears sadly deficient in prevision and common sense, played his part of the game with such skill that the unfortunate soul vendor saw that he would shortly be mated. The happy thought occurred to him that as he was entitled to whatever time he pleased for considering a move, he need be in no hurry. He might as well take a million or two of years as a few minutes. He is said still to be considering his move. Conduct such as his cannot, however, be regarded with favour. In fact, it was distinctly fraudulent. There can be little doubt that it was this incident which led to the introduction of the time limit and the use of clocks, to the everlasting regret of all honourable votaries of the royal game. The accuser decided not to be had again in this way, and therefore got provision made for the future. As usual, the good have to suffer for the evil doings of the wicked.—*Weekly Times.*

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 1st.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Sept. 27th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Sept. 24th.§
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 30th ‖
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Sept. 22nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Oct. 2nd.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 8th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 10th.

† *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 13th. ‡ *Oceanien* left Hongkong on September 17th. § *China* (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 18th. ‖ *Empress of China* left Vancouver on September 16th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Sept. 26th
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 28th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Sept. 28th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 30th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 4th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 5th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 5th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 6th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 11th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, Sincock, 13th September,—Suno-saki 13th September, Light.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,836, Cunningham, 14th September,—Kobe 13th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 14th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, 9th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 14th September,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Strathnevis, British steamer, 1,863, Pattie, 14th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Federation, British steamer, 1,863, Jno. Thennye, 16th September,—Cardiff, Coals.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Port Phillip, British steamer, 1,732, Grey, 17th September,—Shanghai viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Rainbow (17), cruiser, Captain Wm. C. C. Forsyth, 17th September,—Hakodate.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hansen, 17th September,—North Pacific, 7 Seals.—C. F. Fisher.

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 18th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Ravenna, British steamer, 1,915, E. Street, 18th September,—Shanghai 14th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, 19th September,—Ujina, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, Voss, 19th September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, 19th September,—Sasebo, Light.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 19th September,—San Francisco 3rd September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Centurion (14), flagship, Captain S. H. M. Login, 19th September,—Hakodate.

Edgar (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Henderson, 19th September,—Hakodate.

Undaunted (12), cruiser, Captain Halifax, 19th September,—Hakodate.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Commander de Lisle, 19th September,—Hakodate.

Glenearn, British steamer, 1,409, 20th September, —London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Luebeck, German steamer, Harrassowitz, 20th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Anaconda, American schooner, 40, A. Lawson, 21st September,—Hakodate 13th September, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

DEPARTURES.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 14th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Azamor, British steamer, 1,560, Nicholls, 15th September,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 1,775, Sincock, 15th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 15th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathmore, British steamer, 1,836, Cunningham, 16th September,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathnevis, British steamer, 1,863, Pattie, 16th September,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, Wm. Ward, 17th September,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 18th September,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Rainbow (17), cruiser, Captain Wm. C. C. Forsyth, 17th September,—Chefoo.

Iolanthe, American schooner, 98, S. A. Mansfield, 18th September,—Caroline Islands, General.—Wilson & Co.

Albert Rickmers, German ship, 2,398, Geo. Warnecke, 19th September,—Portland, Oregon, Ballast.—Order.

Carl, German ship, 1,932, J. Hashagen, 20th September,—New York viâ Kobe, General.—Smith, Baker & Co.

Quantock, British steamer, 2,193, Main, 20th September,—Australia, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 21st September,—Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Melbourne, French steamer, 3,400, Bourdon, 21st September,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Miss E. M. Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Acheson and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Gruleff, Mr. M. Schelaschnikoff, Mr. Jas. Jesselsen, Mr. Ingo Jesselsen, Mr. E. Krause, Mr. R. Fuhrman, Mr. and Mrs. F. Parrott, Mrs. J. L. Thompson and 3 children, Master Chas. Esdale, Master Connelly, Miss Clarke, Miss Sybil Clarke, and Miss Rita Clarke in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, from Shanghai:—Mr. J. L. Geo. Laub in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—Mr. M. B. Madden, Mrs. Madden, Colonel Von Kretchmar, Mr. E. M. Roinard, Mr. H. A. Hanschild, and Prince Min Kering Sik in cabin. For Shanghai:—Miss Ellen S. Smyley and Mr. E. C. Dalton in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. Fitzgerald and child, Mr. Sargent and children, Mr. A. E. Morgan, Mrs. Beveridge, Rev. D. Fraser, Mr. J. M. Mears, Mr. R. S. Dutton, Mr. G. Gracewood, Mrs. H. Stone, Captain Lunarraga, Mr. J. Madarieta, Mr. J. Ugarte, Mr. C. Pombo, Mr. V. Lopez, Mrs. A. Johnson, Mr. Talbot, Captain and Mrs. Harrison, 2 children, 2 infants, and amah, Miss S. Evans, Miss K. Bonde, Mr. C. H. Scott, Mr. V. Elmanoff, Mr. Chan Poo Sui, Mr. Mak Quai Poo, Mr. Lo Sa Nen, Mr. Tong Hon, and Mrs. Yajawashi, child and infant in cabin; 112 Chinese and 24 Manila men in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—Mr. Frank Esterbrook, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Bentz, Mr. A. T. Pattison, Mr. H. B. Kendrick, Mr. A. E. du Bois, and Mr. Thos. Eastland in cabin.

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. A. Price, Mr. Strong, Mr. Witkowski, Mr. C. R. Julk, Mr. Nunnemacher, Mr. G. T. Wilder, Mr. L. Muraoui, Mr. Daguy, Mr. Abily, Mr. R Ackland, Mr. L. Bear, Mr. Hattori, Mrs. Noir, Mrs. Trique, Mrs. H. Tecke and child, Mrs. de Uriarte and amah, Mrs. Percebois and 3 children, Mrs. Sylva, Mrs. Groundwater, Mrs. H. Collins and 2 children, Mr. C. S. Crane, Mr. W. Schmidt, Mr. de Uriarte, Mrs. and Miss Dithlefsen, Mrs. Twentyman and 4 children, Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Dudley, Mr. and Mrs. C. Benman, Mrs. and Miss B. A. Limby and child, Mrs. and Miss Buchheister, Mrs. and Miss D. Melbourne, Captain W. E. White, Mr. Chaumont, Mr. A. San, Mr. Schaffenhauer, Mr. A. Brobecker, Mr. H. von Kutschemar, Mr. H. Heath, Mr. J. C. Chambers, Mr. J. Palazzi, Mr. T. Oguru, Mrs. Saltimore and child, Mr. Itozo, Mr. Tsutsuki, Mr. Goubert, Mr. Nagasaka, and Mr. D. Melbourne in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 337 bales; Waste Silk, 112 bales.

Per British steamer *Strathnevis*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	5,848	7,136	374	13,358
Hyogo	—	1,786	419	—	2,205
Yokohama ...	4,374	2,831	2,194	2,695	12,094
Hongkong ...	—	77	10	80	167
Foochow	8,598	2,847	—	41	11,486
Amoy	—	—	4,109	—	4,109
Total	12,972	13,389	13,868	3,190	43,419

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	500	—	500
Hongkong	200	—	200
Yokohama	691	—	691
Total	1,391	—	1,391

RATES.

Tea ..... 1½ cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk ..... 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	TORONTO.	HAMILTON.	DEMON.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	902	—	—	—	—	—	902
Yokohama.	6,705	—	581	303	—	361	7,950
Hongkong.	701	—	—	—	—	—	701
Total ...	8,308	—	581	303	—	361	9,553

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	300	—	300
Yokohama	7	761	—	768
Total	7	1,061	—	1,068

Per French steamer *Melbourne*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 463 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 339 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Outlook bright and plenty of business. Yarn—Good sales and prices hardening, especially for "spot" or "early arrival." Shirtings—9lb. improving, but 8½lb. neglected. Fancy Cottons and Woollens are lively and present a promising outlook all round. Next quotations are bound to show an advance all along the line.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb., 30½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.15

T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.60	to 1.90
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,	2 00	to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Sattoons Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16	to 0 22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PIECE. 7.50	to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,	0.75	to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60	to 1 70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1 80	to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30	to 2.55
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 80	to 3.20

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.	
Flannel	$0.30	to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30	to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25	to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20	to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15	to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35	to 0 50
Cloths—Presidente, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60	to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40	to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb.	0 60	to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.	
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34 00	to 34 50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00	to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—	
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—	
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36 00	to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37 50	to 38,50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	40.00	to 43.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	41.00	to 42.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	47.00	to 49.00
	PER BALE.	
No. 20s, Bombay	—	
No. 16s, Bombay	—	

METALS.

More enquiry generally, and dealers are beginning to realise the fact that Iron is likely to be dearer rather than cheaper in future. As the cooler weather comes on we shall see more trade here.

	PER PICUL.	
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.15	to 3.20
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	3 20	to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.15	to 3.25
Iron Plates, assorted	3.40	to 3.50
Sheet Iron	4 30	to 4 50
Galvanized Iron sheets	8 50	to 9.00
Wire Nails, assorted	5 50	to 5 90
Tin Plates, per box	5 25	to 5.50
Pig Iron, No. 3	1 60	to 1 65

KEROSENE.

No change. Market quiet at last prices. Deliveries good, but dealers will only buy from hand to mouth at present. Surely there must be larger business ere long with the winter season approaching.

American	$2 05 to 2.10
Russian	2.00 to 2.05
Langkat	1.90

SUGAR.

Brown—Quiet market and poor business with lower quotations all round. White—Improved demand, and the trade generally satisfactory.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.60 to 3.65
Brown Manila	4.15 to 4.35
Brown Daitong (New)	3.05 to 3.15
Brown Canton	3.15 to 3.65
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6.25 to 9 50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

After our last was written the demand developed large proportions and heavy settlements were made, driving prices up rapidly. Our present quotations are more or less nominal—although $1,000 was reported paid for 6 boxes of some special extra quality—as there is less doing at the close and no doubt sellers would be current in case of need.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom $970 to 980
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	970 to 980
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 950 to 960
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	950 to 960
Filatures—No. 1A, 10/14 deniers	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 1A, 13/16, 14/17 den.	910 to 920
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	880 to 890
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	880 to 890
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 deniers	890 to 910
Re-reels—No. 1A, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2A, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	760 to 770
Kakedas—Extra	860 to 870
Kakedas—No. 1	840 to 850
Kakedas—No. 1A	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 2	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2A	760 to 770

WASTE SILK.

A fair amount of trade, but it has been cramped by the firm attitude of holders who are now trying to get an advance of about 10 per cent. on our published quotations.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Rather more business at unchanged prices. Stock reasonable. Settlement figures and export statistics keep well ahead of last year.

	PER PICUL.	
Choicest	$30	to $32
Choice	28	to 29
Finest	26	to 27
Fine	24	to 25
Good Medium	22	to 23
Medium	20	to 21
Good Common	18	to 19
Common	16	to 17

EXCHANGE.

There has been very little change in rates during the past week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2½
— — Bills on demand	2/2¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅝
— — 6 months' sight	2/2¾
On Paris—Bank sight	2.75
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.80
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅛
— Private 10 days' sight.	72⅛
On India—Bank sight	194
— Private 30 days' sight	196⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	53½
— Private 30 days' sight..	54
— — 4 months' sight	54¾
On Germany—Bank sight	2.21
— Private 4 months' sight	2.27
Bar Silver (London)	30½

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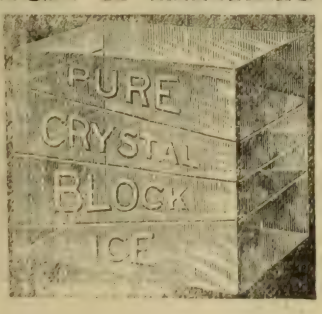

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 28TH, 1895.

BIRTHS.

At No. 11, Kaga Yashiki, Tokyo, on the 17th inst., the wife of Professor MICHEL REVON, of the Imperial University, of a daughter.

At Yokohama on the 26th September, Mrs. JAMES KESWICK, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 2nd of September, in Hongkong, A. P. A. HEIN to L. S. VON HEMERT.

DEATHS.

On the 24th September, at Kobe, GEORG NATERMANN of Bremen.

At the Grand Hotel, on the 28th instant, at 5.35 a.m., ELIZABETH LEONARD CHAPIN, of Chicago.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

HONOLULU has declared quarantine against Japan.

THE bad weather which set in last Saturday has continued all the week.

THE *Kaika Shimbun* was suspended by the Authorities on the 21st inst.

THE British Fleet, after a very brief stay at Yokohama, left for Chinese waters.

A DELAY in the despatch of the Australian wolers is said to have occasioned the fixing of the Autumn Races of the N.R.C. for the middle of November.

THE new Chinese Minister was received in audience by the Emperor on the 26th.

MR. OI KENTARO returned from the Straits Settlements this week on the French mail steamer.

MR. NARABARA NOBUMASA, has been appointed first interpreter in the Japanese Legation in China.

THE Salvation Army commenced active work in Tokyo this week, with a meeting in the V.M.C.A. Hall.

NOTWITHSTANDING the strenuous exertions of the salvage party, the *Belgic* still remains on the sand at Suno-saki.

THE Autumn Festival was duly observed by the Court and nation on Monday, the day being a general holiday.

IT is stated that Mr. Seki Naohiko will be chosen as chief secretary of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce.

MR. LAFFIN'S yacht *Mary* won the race for the 39-raters last Saturday, and thus becomes possessor of the "Maid Marion" Cup.

A BIG emigration company is proposed to be floated, with the object of facilitating the settlement of Kyushu people in Formosa.

THE total length of existing railway lines between Kelung and Shinchuh is about 63 miles, the number of stations being eleven.

THE *Shirazuki Maru* collided with the *Tokiwa Maru* near the east entrance to the Shimonoseki Straits on Sept. 22, and sank immediately.

AN electric railway between Yokosuka and Uraga is under contemplation. The proposed Company would have a capital of *yen* 200,000.

THE sale in Japan of No. 377 of the *Shin Sekai*, a Japanese magazine published in America, has been prohibited by the Minister of Home Affairs.

THE Ryomo Railway expects to pay an 8½ per cent. dividend this half-year: the Osaka Railway Company declare 12 per cent. for the same period.

MESSES. KATO HONSHIRO, Mutsu Hirokichi, Ochiai Kentaro, Oigiwara Shuichi, and Hirai Fukazo, have passed the examination for diplomatic cadets.

THE eleven of the Y.C. & A.C. beat a team from the Fleet last Saturday, easily, the scores being, Fleet, 89; Yokohama, 195 for three wickets.

MR. TAKASU, proprietor of the *Jiyu*, who was lately warned by the Authorities in accordance with the Admonition Law, was expelled from the *Jiyu-to* on the 20th inst.

THE Nobles' School for Girls held its annual graduation exercises on the 20th inst. H.I.M. the Empress was unable to be present, the first time for many years.

THE Japan Iron Foundry Company now proposes to carry out its contract for the supply of pipes to the Tokyo Water-works, but asks for an extension of ten months.

THE annual festival in honour of those who have fallen in war, took place at the Noge Shrine, Yokohama, this week, and was very largely attended. Governor Nakano was present.

YOKOHAMA Cricket Week commences on Monday, Oct. 14. There will be six days of cricket, the first two being Yokohama *v.* Shanghai, the two following Shanghai *v.* Kobe, and the last Kobe *v.* Yokohama. Among the amusements to be provided for Yokohama's cricket visitors are a big smoking concert and a theatrical performance, in addition to the inevitable dinners.

THE Yokohama Chess, Philharmonic, Choral and Literary Societies start their autumn work next week though their first meetings will necessarily be to pass accounts and elect officers.

EIGHT cows died at the Wakana Dairy, Ota, Yokohama, on the 22nd inst. The veterinary surgeon stated that they were attacked by fever. A general meeting of Diary keepers was promptly held to discuss measures to prevent its spread but no other animals have since been affected.

COLONEL FUKUSHIMA, the trans-Asian rider, intends to set out upon another ride, this time *via* Central Asia to India, whence he will proceed to Turkey, investigating geography and the general condition of affairs on the way. He will leave home before the close of this year.

REUTER telegraphs:—The British, French and Russian Embassies at Stamboul have sent a vigorous note to the Porte demanding an indemnity for the recent attack upon the Consular Officials at Jeddah and the punishment of the offenders. Germany has decided to support the Russo-French measures taken to hasten the evacuation by the Japanese of the Liaotung Peninsula. A letter from Uganda states that Captain Lothair shot a hundred followers of the trader Stokes, because they refused to join him. The Powers, especially Great Britain, are dissatisfied with the Porte's concessions with regard to Armenia, and further pressure is probable. It has transpired through official sources that the Pamir settlement is now complete, and only awaits ratification by the Cabinets concerned. It is understood that Lord Salisbury intends to insist on the Viceroy and other high officials, who are answerable for the Kucheng massacre, being brought to account, and that he will bring pressure to bear upon China for this purpose. The Spanish cruiser *Sanchez Baracaistegui* has been sunk by collision off Havana. The admiral, four officers, and thirty-six of the crew were drowned.

THE Import trade is as good, if not better, than last reported. For Yarns there is a strong demand, especially for fine counts, both singles and doubles, "plain" and "gassed," and higher prices are paid for all descriptions. There is a good trade in Shirtings, particularly 9lb., and the market is strong, and Fancy Cottons of all descriptions have had a turn at satisfactory prices. Woollens are being enquired for, and Italian Cloth is in good demand at better figures. There is a good trade in Metals of various kinds, Iron more especially, and both sales and prices are more satisfactory than for some time past. Owing to competition between holders of American and Russian Oil, values have been let down. Buyers take advantage of the situation and deal sparingly, hoping to still further reduce values. There is a revival in the Sugar trade, and with large sales and limited arrivals the market is healthy and strong—all prices having advanced, the tendency being still upward. The principal Export has been quiet, and the high figures put upon desirable parcels of Silk tend to keep buyers away. More than a thousand *yen* per picul is reported to have been paid for a very choice parcel of Filatures, and holders of all grades are firm. For Waste there has been a better demand, and but for the attitude of holders a heavy business might have been done. A steady trade is still done in Tea, and the market is firm. Exchange has been steady, rates having fluctuated but slightly.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The attack upon the Radicals has occupied a considerable space in the columns of the Progressionist organs. The stories assiduously circulated by these papers have already been noticed by us, and we have also referred to their emphatic denial by the *Mesamashi*, a petty journal, at present the only daily representative of Radical interests. These stories are entirely disregarded by respectable journals like the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Nichi Nichi*. Outside the Progressionists organs, the *Nippon* and the *Kokumin Shimbun* show great zeal in disseminating the calumnies. The *Mainichi Shimbun*, writing on the subject, strongly censures the conduct of the Radicals since the first session of the Diet, when, under the disguise of being opponents of clan Government, they secretly worked hand in hand with the supporters of those in power. Since then, says the Progressionist organ, they have always played the same dastardly game, thereby thwarting the object of the people's true friends. Our contemporary would not blame the Radicals so strongly were they straightforward enough to openly avow their connection with the Government. What it finds most reprehensible is that they lack any such courage, and try to pose before the country as enemies of the Cabinet. The Government also comes in for a share of the *Mainichi's* criticism. It declares that the connection between the Cabinet and the Radical Party being now an open secret, the duty devolves upon those in power of making an open acknowledgment of this state of things, and thus paving the way for the introduction of Government by party. Any continuance of the present clandestine relations with the Radicals is pronounced discreditable to the known intelligence and sagacity of the Ito Cabinet.

* * *

The *Jiron Nippo*, the latest addition to the dailies of Tokyo, is supposed by most persons to be under the influence of Count Goto. Its attitude in connection with the present persecution of the Radicals is characteristic. It does not refuse to open its columns to the most extravagant stories, but on the other hand, it displays no blind hostility to the Radical Party. Its attitude is that of a person prepared to have a hand in every mischief, not out of malice but merely for the sake of sensation. At bottom it is partial to neither of the contending parties. "The spectacle," it says, "of Ministers of State combining with political parties excites curiosity in this country, but belongs to the regular order of things in constitutional States of the West. Even in Japan, Marquis Saigo is connected with the National Unionists, and the Progressionists are now trying hard to establish relations with Count Kuroda, the President of the Privy Council. Hence the only difference between the Progressionists and the Radicals is that the former have been forestalled by the latter in the attempt to combine with those in power."

* * *

When the war had just been concluded, there was a tendency in certain circles to apprehend lest the increased personal prestige of the higher Military and Naval officers of Sat-Cho extraction might tend to strengthen the clan system of Government. The fear is still entertained, but the *Jiji Shimpo* is of a different opinion. Such a result, it says, might have been produced ten years ago, when no Legislature existed, and when the clan system had more vitality. But the times are now essentially changed. The halo surrounding the clan statesmen as conquerors in the war of the Restoration has nearly faded away, and the power of public opinion has in proportion increased. So far from clan influence being strengthened by the part played by Sat-Cho men during the recent war, these persons will be the first to acknowledge that the brilliant success achieved by the country was due to the powerful and united support rendered by the people to the Government. Speaking individually of the officers that distinguished themselves in the war, as for instance Marshals Yamagata, Oyama, and Nozu, Lieut.-General Kawakami, and Vice-Admirals Kabayama and Ito, our contemporary is informed that these persons have no intention whatever of meddling with politics, their sole ambition being to dedicate their lives to the service of the country in their special fields. As to the statesmen that had nothing to do with the conduct of the fighting, the *Jiji* finds it absurd to suppose that the war has in any way helped to increase their personal influence. Upon the whole, our contemporary believes that the war has had the effect of accelerating the final disappearance of the clan system.

* * *

Internal politics being in a state of temporary calm, journalistic attention is largely bestowed upon foreign affairs. Writing upon the question of foreign policy, the *Nichi Nichi* strongly criticises the propensity of some of its contemporaries to discuss the subject in a frivolous and thoughtless manner. It is especially discontented with the conspicuous lack of discretion shown with reference to the problem of an alliance. The newspapers loudly proclaim their advocacy of an alliance with either England or Russia, but do not devote any mature consideration to the *pros* and *cons* of the matter. Even those that refrain from making a definite choice between the two alliances, urge the Government to pursue a fixed and permanent policy by selecting a friend among the Powers of the west. The *Nichi Nichi* is opposed to such a hard and fast line of action. Should an alliance be necessary, there will be time enough to take active steps for its formation when the occasion arises. Meanwhile, an independent and neutral line of policy should be pursued. At all events, to disturb the present balance of power by an alliance would serve no useful purpose, especially when peace is of paramount importance to Japan while she is engaged in the development of her army and navy. Such in brief seems to be the idea entertained by our contemporary. As to the proposed English alliance, the *Nichi Nichi* observes that, although Russia's designs upon Korea and Liaotung admit of little doubt, it is not easy to say whether Japan's interests require that she should resist Russia's advance even by assuming the grave responsibility of an alliance with England. Neither is it at all certain how far England is prepared to go in preventing Russia from obtaining an ice-free outlet on the Pacific. On the other hand, it is difficult to see what advantage could accrue to Japan from an alliance with Russia. Were there a prospect of getting India, there might be sense in such an alliance, but that contingency is not to be thought of in the present state of things. Neither could a Russian alliance help Japan in the least in her commercial competition with England. Considered from every point of view, the suggestion that Japan should form a foreign alliance is ill-advised and premature. What is now important for Japan, says the *Nichi Nichi*, is not that she should look about for friends, but that she strain all her nerves for the completion of her warlike equipment. Pending the consummation of that paramount object, no good purpose can be served by ventilating hasty and crude opinions on the question of an alliance. When Japan has completed her qualifications to play a prominent part on the stage of the world, it will be her business to think of the question of alliance but not a moment sooner. At present Russian influence preponderates in the East, but there is no necessity for any immediate readjustment of the balance of power. It will speedily readjust itself should a disturbance takes place in this part of the world. Very probably an attempt on Japan's part to correct the balance would lead to a disturbance of equilibrium in the opposite direction. The safest course for Japan is to remain quiet and bide her time.

* * *

The *Nippon* thinks otherwise. Indeed, its outspoken advocacy of friendship with Russia and hostility to England may be regarded as one of the causes that evoked the *Nichi Nichi's* strong criticism. It clearly states that Japan interests are antagonistic to those of England, while with Russia, she has a natural community of interest, Japan's proper sphere of expansion being toward the south and not toward the north. The development of Formosa, and the extension of trade in the southern part of China are the immediate concerns of Japan, and in these directions it is self-evident that England is Japan's natural and inevitable opponent. As to Russia, the *Nippon* thinks that an understanding between her and this country is the only safeguard for the integrity of Korea. Instead of wasting energy in the fruitless task of resisting Russian development in the north, Japan's interest, as well as that of Korea, would be better served by remaining at peace with Russia and making the utmost out of the commercial advantages of the Siberian railway. Our contemporary thinks it bad policy to be carried away by a temporary sentiment of resentment, and to join hands with a Power with which this country has nothing in common. But, indeed, it is premature to talk of an actual alliance, says the *Nippon*, the nation must simply make up its mind once for all as to which Power it will regard as a natural ally and which as a natural enemy. The Tokyo paper severely criticises what it characterizes as the "smiles on all sides" policy of the Government. To hunt two hares at the same time is to get neither, says the proverb. To attempt to be on good terms simultaneously with Russia and England, can be productive only of evil to Japan.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE WEST END ON WHEELS.

THE *Badminton Magazine* gives the following description of the Rotten Row for bicycles recently established in Battersea Park:—"Never did a fish look more thoroughly out of water than does a powdered six-foot-high footman as he stands solemnly holding up his mistress's bicycle while she pins down her skirts preparatory to the start. Of members of Parliament and peers there are no lack; some of them have been long enough in her Majesty's service to attain to the rank of privy councillor, judges of the High Court, or officers commanding crack cavalry regiments; while in many cases I am bound to say that the wives of these distinguished gentlemen are the apter riders of the two. There is a charming spot adjoining the County Council refreshment kiosk, known as the Lake House, where, screened by a wealth of may and blossoming chestnut from the gaze of the passing cyclists, the breakfast-table may be spread on the shores of the ornamental water, with no other outlook than that afforded by numerous leafy islands, having the lake dotted with swans and wild fowl in the foreground—a spot which but for the occasional glimpse of passing carriages through the boughs at the back might be in any gentleman's park a hundred miles from London. There a former caterer at the Royal Aquarium can at short notice provide a breakfast amply satisfying to the keen appetite engendered by the ride. In the main avenue Mr. Cameron has canvassed off a small slice of his kiosk, and on the lawn adjacent the members of White's Club provide breakfast and strawberries and cream for themselves and their friends. Upon occasion this little plot of grass is as crowded as the Royal Enclosure at Ascot, and with faces not less pretty nor dresses less smart." Not the least curious fact about this new playground for the aristocracy is, as Lord Onslow remarks, that its existence is largely due to the administrative care of John Burns, the hero of the Dockers' Strike of 1889.

THE CHINESE MINISTER RECEIVED IN AUDIENCE.

H.E. YU, the newly appointed Chinese Minister, had audience with the Emperor on Thursday at 10.30 a.m. Prior to the time fixed for the interview a Master of Ceremonies was dispatched to the Chinese Legation with a carriage to receive the Chinese Minister. On arriving at the Palace, the Foreign Representative was at once conducted to the reception room, where he was received by Marquis Saionji, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs; Viscount Kagawa, Grand Master of Services to Her Majesty the Empress;

Mr. Sannomiya, Grand-Master of Ceremonies, and others. The Chinese Minister was then conducted by Mr. Sannomiya to the Hoo-no-ma, where the Chinese Minister presented his credentials to H.I.M. the Emperor. The Minister and his wife were afterward introduced to the Kiri-no-ma, where they were received in audience by H.I.M. the Empress. Other members of the Chinese Legation were also received by Their Majesties.

OPIUM IN HONAN.

It is impossible not to admire the fine old faith exhibited by the writer of the following letter, the Rev. J. J. Coulthard :—It has been our custom in Honan, for several years, to pray definitely, at our Wednesday evening meetings for prayer with the native Christians, that God would in some way or other put a stop to the traffic in Opium. For two years running we have had remarkable answers in the almost total failure of the Opium crops in this province. Three years ago the supply was of such a good quality and of such a quantity as to make it worth the while of the Chinese Government to establish a new Opium Customs barrier to levy taves upon the export of the drug from the province. In 1893 the Opium crop was destroyed by frost, and in 1894 by drought. When we passed through some of the Opium-growing districts last June, there was a universal demand for medicine to break off the Opium habit, because, "Heaven forbade the cultivation of it," and the high price made its consumption far too expensive for the many. The people themselves declared that it was obnoxious to "Heaven," and if they could break off the habit they would be done with the cultivation of the poppy once and for all. I am sorry to add, however, that the production in the adjoining province of Shen-si was colossal, and large quantities were imported by the Honanese. I have not yet been able to ascertain how much is under cultivation this year, nor if the people are morally courageous enough to resist the temptation to cultivate a drug which yields in favourable years a profit twenty times that of wheat or cereals. In answer to united earnest and definite prayer why should we not expect God, by means of His great army (Joel ii. 25), or by frost, flood, and drought, effectually to destroy the poppy not only in one part of the world, but wherever it is sown for profit at the expense of debauching its consumers. It would be an object lesson for the world, reminding them of the existence of God and of His irresistible might." Prayer, according to this account, is efficacious only within the province where it is offered up. The Honan crop was destroyed in answer to prayer in Honan, but no supplication having been made on account of the adjoining province of Shensi, the devil was able to contrive a fine harvest there.

MISSIONS TO FORMOSA.

The island of Formosa, says the *Living Church*, having been ceded to Japan as one of the results of the war with China, the convocation of the North Tokyo district of the Church in Japan has unanimously resolved to ask the Board of Missions at home to send missionaries to that country. The accessible portions of Formosa are at the northern end of the island and along the western coast. The interior and the mountains of the eastern coast are inhabited by an unsubdued race of wild men, of whom little is known except that they are cannibals and very fierce and intractable. We observe, also, that it is proposed to send missionaries to Korea, and that Korean students have been placed at St. Paul's College, of whom hopes are expressed that they may turn out to be fit persons to bear the message of the Gospel to their countrymen.

THE WEAR AND TEAR OF COINAGE.

It was calculated, after a careful examination conducted by the Bank of England thirty years ago, that in a period of ten years the loss by abrasion was about 19s. on 100 sovereigns taken from the vaults of a banker. The loss was 23s. on £100 when taken from the hands of a tradesman. The difference was caused by the extra handling and rubbing through which the tradesman's gold had gone. The loss in silver is about four times as great, simply because the smaller coin is in more extended circulation than the larger denominaton. It was estimated that in the smaller silver coins the loss would be about 50 per cent. in 100 years. The United States Government loses about 4 per cent. on its handling of its silver coinage.

NARROW ESCAPE.

Home papers say that the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York appear to have had a rather narrow escape in connection with their trip to the Needles in the new torpedo-boat destroyer *Charger*. It transpired that about two minutes after the Prince and the Duke landed at Portsmouth, the attention of the engineer's staff was directed to the peculiar manner in which smoke was issuing from the *Charger*. It was then found that the crown of the fire-box was cracked right across. The fire was immediately drawn to prevent the boiler bursting, and there the incident ended.

MR. J. W. LOWTHER.

The *Spectator*, referring to the appointment of Mr. J. W. Lowther to the Chairmanship of Committees of the House of Commons, says :—"We are glad to see that it is the intention of the Government to appoint Mr. J. W. Lowther to the Chairmanship of Committees. That is an excellent choice, for Mr. Lowther is greatly liked and respected in the House and enjoys its confidence. Though a young-man, as politicians go, he was, we believe, placed on the panel of Deputy-Speakers in the last Parliament. The only pity is that Mr. Lowther's sound sense and clearness of vision should not be utilised in the work of administration. He made an excellent Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, and his speeches were models of firmness and moderation. The principle of inverted nepotism was, however, held to exclude him from the Ministry. His wife is a niece of Lord Salisbury." Some of our readers may not be aware that Mr. J. W. Lowther is a brother of Mr. G. Lowther, Secretary of the British Legation in Tokyo.

A JUNK ON FIRE IN KOBE HARBOUR.

Between seven and eight o'clock on Friday, a junk bringing oil from one of the ships in Kobe harbour to a godown on the beach at Ono caught alight. The fire instantly spread over the whole of the cargo, and the junk became a floating mass of flames. The great volumes of smoke, together with the flames, attracted a very large crowd to the spot. The junk was anchored well in to the water's edge, and under the superintendence of a police officer a number of men threw baskets of sand upon the burning mass, while another regiment were throwing water over the men at work nearest the fire. In half an hour the junk had been burnt to the water's edge, and the sand was being thrown on so ineffectively that the whole of the timber seemed likely to be consumed. The *Kobe Chronicle* understands that there were something like 600 cases of kerosene in the junk, belonging to the Standard Oil Company.

ROYAL CHESS PLAYERS.

It was at the special request of the Queen that the Duke of York became a patron of the Hastings Chess Tournament. Few of her subjects derive a keener pleasure from the game, it is said, then does the Queen. The London correspondent of the *Manchester Courier* says her Majesty rarely plays chess herself now, but delights in watching a game played by the members of her family, and often after "checkmate" is called will give advice as to how the game "should have been played." Every member of the Royal Family is a skilful player, but her Majesty, when she moves the pieces, is able to show her superiority over all other Royal players, except the Empress Frederick, who is rarely defeated. The Queen received her lessons in chess from the Prince Consort, who was also an enthusiastic player.

LADY'S CYCLING.

Lady Henry Somerset, in a remarkably able presidential address delivered recently to the British Women's Temperance Association, spoke of cycling for women in these terms :—"The basis of all our work is a sound body as the necessary setting of a sound mind. Nothing is foreign to us that relates to this, and I can but congratulate our World's W.C.T.U. on the patience and perseverance of its founder in gaining the mastery of the "mettlesome steed" as she aptly terms it, that opens a new realm of exercise to womankind. Sir Benjamin Ward Richardson, than whom no name stands higher on our roll of honour, while he advocates all the progressive movements to which we are committed, declares in his preface to Miss Willard's book on "How I learned to ride the bicycle," that no single advance in this century means so much to the home-makers as the invention of this mode of locomotion and the breaking down of public prejudice against its use by women. It is needless to say that along with this great blessing has come a new perception of what is rational in costume, and while we who represent the old *régime* shall not be likely to develop into the larger liberty of what is called the reform dress, we can speak our good word for it while our younger sisters advance with steadier steps than ours along the highways of that new liberty which means so much to their physical development and the better endowment of generations yet to be."

THE VICEROY LI AND MARQUIS ITO.

The Shanghai Special Correspondent of the *New York Herald* draws very definite conclusions from the minutes of the Shimonoseki conference, as published in Tientsin :—Count Ito's handling of the great Li, the "Bismarck of China," in the recent Shimonoseki negotiations, is disclosed in the papers that Li has been foolish enough to publish in Tientsin. If ever a man was damned out of his own mouth, Li Hung-chang is damned as a statesman by these papers. From start to finish he never rose beyond the level of a wretched shroff (Chinese bill collector) trying to get a pressing creditor to cut a little off his bill. His ideas of statecraft were shown to be about equal to his knowledge of military and naval affairs, which has been proven to be absolutely *nil*, yet for years he traded on his reputation as a great captain, and his flatterers never undeceived him, because it would not pay to do so. In the hands of an able and determined man like Count Ito, the Chinese "man of blood and iron" proved of softest wax, and he only got slight concessions where the Japanese Envoy was already prepared to concede.

THE "BELGIC."

Latest news regarding the *Belgic* is to the effect that heaving commenced on Monday afternoon and the vessel's head was brought 16 degrees to the westward, and that her head is now pointing 60 degrees further out. All Tuesday operations continued, with the result that at six o'clock in the evening she had slipped some ten feet further off the beach and now lies easy, with her head to the W.S.W. No. 2 hold is reported to be nearly free of water. On Saturday the *Belgic's* head was about 20 feet off the shore, and if wind and weather continue favourable the big mail boat may be floated in about five days.

THE CLUB HOTEL STRIKE.

On Saturday morning a deputation representing the striking boys waited on the Manager of the Club Hotel and tendered an apology. Mr. Sioen said that he would take back the boys, with the exception of the six whom he had dismissed, and the leader of the strike. The terms were accepted by the boys, and arrangements were made for them to go back again. On Sunday morning another interview took place between some representives of the strikers and Mr. Sioen, and as a result we believe arrangements were come to which will now terminate the affair.

THE CRICKET WEEK.

The Kobe team for the Interport cricket match will probably be composed of Messrs. C. M. Dun, Captain, F. J. Abbott, W. Braess, G. Braess, W. D. S. Edwards, C. H. Lightfoot,

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

H. C. K. Lucas, W. W. G. Ross, J. Scrymgeour, E. W. Tate, and F. E. Wilkinson. The Shanghai team may, we gather, include the following gentlemen, viz., Messrs. A. P. Wood, E. P. Wickham, W. Platt, R. D. Hill, Farbridge, H. Adams, W. F. Inglis, W. B. Cheetham, R. Macgregor, Keith, Stabb, Buchanan, and Mann or Lanning.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for August, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month :—

	1894: SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	11,131,786.090	16,249,954.390
Imports	10,782,848.260	18,820,847.080
Total exports and imports		28,070,801.470
Excess of exports		4,429,107.310

CUSTOMS DUTIES.

Exports	357,937.975
Imports	398,855.210
Miscellaneous	15,175.161
Total	771,968.346

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
China	1,055,492.540	1,379,483.850	2,434,976.390
Hongkong	1,387,682.070	451,227.220	1,838,889.290
British India	330,050.290	1,228,792.150	1,558,842.440
Annam & other French India	1,431.770	529,102.130	530,534.900
Korea	202,978.060	120,476.610	422,254.670
Russian Asia	174,853.890	52,375.610	227,229.500
Philippine Islands	14,783.580	118,374.010	133,157 590
Siam	860.000	34,922.690	35,782.690
France	4,952,349.800	620,351.920	5,572,710.720
Great Britain	435,534.400	5,065,015.610	5,500,550.010
Germany	223,844.030	1,199,276.260	1,423,121.180
Italy	908,795.560	5,610.080	914,405.640
Belgium	15,500.380	228,766.830	244,267.210
Switzerland	32,310.000	115,053.360	147,363.360
Austria	21,116.730	4,478.810	25,595.550
Spain	4,700.000	4,103.320	8,803.320
Turkey	5,596.730	214.300	5,811.030
Holland	2,653.680	578.000	3,231.680
Russia	1,075.200	1,811.970	2,887.170
Denmark	—	1,389.570	1,389.570
Portugal	—	982.920	982.920
Sweden & Norway	—	355.120	355.120
United States of America	5,696,264.240	576,592.750	6,271,856 990
Canada & other British America	324,408.510	1,501.670	325,910.180
Peru	—	152.260	152.260
Australia	89,856.160	18,957.040	108,813.200
Hawaii	26,241.470	—	26,241.470
Other Countries	18,914.890	52,100.020	71,014.910
Total	16,017,274.880	11,820,847.080	27,838,121.960

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	11,856,570.330	5,887,089.730	17,743,660.060
Kobe	3,240,852.230	5,068,022.600	8,314,874.830
Osaka	80,645.460	158,335.360	238,980.820
Nagasaki	442,537.700	589,406.510	1,031,944.210
Hakodate	62,159.780	62,226.750	124,386.530
Niigata	—	1,668,700	1,668.700
Shimonoseki	199,933.520	43,447.210	243,380.730
Moji	110,593.500	—	110,593.500
Hakata	—	277.500	277.500
Karatsu	38,640.000	—	38,640.000
Kuchinotsu	165,305.500	—	165,305.500
Idzugahara	2,422.660	5,701.320	8,123.980
Shishimi	2,166.860	4,671.400	6,838.260
Fushiki	6,676.850	—	6,676.850
Otaru	35,450.000	—	35.450.000
Specie and Bullion { Exports			258,797.350
Specie and Bullion { Imports			45,481.770
Total			304,279.120
Excess of exports			213,315.580

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants { Exports	2,898,860.620
By Japanese Merchants { Imports	4,072,036.330
Imported by Government	197,022.390

VALUE OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM JAPAN EACH MONTH THIS YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	12,704,459.990	9,862,419.680	22,566,879.670
February	8,633,963.380	8,239,136.430	16,873,099.810
March	9,638,333.280	9,939,827.600	19,578,160.880
April	8,498,406 640	9,974,473.310	18,472,879.950
May	9,840,349.470	11,021,372.740	20,861,722.210
June	10,119,046.920	10,989,848.710	21,118,895.620
July	10,564,333.980	9,396,601.750	19,960,935.730
August	16,249,954 390	11,820,847.080	28,070,801.470
Total	86,258,848.040	81,244,527.300	167,503,375.340

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

WE are informed that advice by telegram from London has been received to the effect that at the approaching meeting of shareholders, the Directors of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China will recommenced an interim dividend for the past half-year at the rate of 7 per cent. per annum free of income tax.

THE LATEST NAVAL DISASTER.

THE *Sanchez Barcaistegui*, which has been sunk by collision at Havana, was a wooden sloop of 935 tons displacement and 1,100 indicated horse-power, carrying 5 guns, and was built in 1876.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The profits realised by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha on account of ships chartered by the Government as transports, are said to have aggregated 1,378,373 *yen* up to the end of March last. From this sum has to be subtracted a certain amount for repairing the ships and rewarding the company's servants, but even after due allowance has been made on these accounts, a handsome balance will remain as net gain. The profit arising from the same source during the current half-year, namely from the 1st of April to the 30th of September, will be probably still larger. We find the first mentioned sum extraordinarily small.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha proposes to extend its steamship service to Formosa and the principal Chinese ports, as Shanghai, Foo-chow, Canton, Amoy, and so forth. With that object in view, the company has decided to send its Director, Mr. Sugiyama Kohei, and Mr. Ishihara, head of the transport department, to the above mentioned places. They are to leave Kobe on the 25th instant for Shanghai by the *Nagato Maru*.

Letters from provincial districts improve in tone as harvest time approaches. The crop will be more or less below the average of the past few years, but is expected to prove far better than was at first apprehended. The rice-dealers of Fukagawa in Tokyo have made extensive enquires about the prospect, and the answers received by them indicate that the yield for the whole country will be but slightly below a normal crop, while in some places, notably in Higo and Owari, it is expected to be better than usual.

The cotton factories are busy, there being a constantly increasing demand for yarns. Most of the factories are increasing the number of their spindles, and several new companies are projected. The spindles ordered from England, through the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, by the existing factories, during the six months from March to August, aggregate 87,788.

The Cotton Spinners League has addressed a circular to the Chambers of Commerce throughout the country, requesting their cöoperation for abolishing the import duties on cotton. A petition on the subject has been presented to the Diet more than once, but the measure has not yet received the approval of the country's legislators. Its importance has been increased ten-fold by the treaty of Shimonoseki, since Western capitalists are now able to compete with the Japanese mills on easier terms than before, and the result may be highly injurious to Japanese spinners. The cöoperation of the Chambers of Commerce is earnestly solicited by the framers of the circular, and it is believed that they will readily comply, for the majority of their members are known to be in favour of the proposed reform.

The Osaka Chamber of Commerce recently organized a Committee to investigate subjects connected with the extension of trade with China, Korea, and the newly acquired Formosa. The Committee held its first meeting on the 18th inst., when, among other things, it was decided that a commission be sent to the above mentioned countries to conduct researches *in loco*.

CONSCRIPTION IN HOKKAIDO.

Imperial Ordinance No. 126, promulgated on the 20th instant, announces that the Conscription Regulations are to be applied in parts of Hokkaido from the 1st of January, 1896. The provinces covered by the Ordinance are Oshima, Shiribeshi, Iburi, and Ishikawa, that is to say, the south-western half of the island. Settlers in these localities, if engaged in definite occupation, are, however, to be exempted from enlistment during the five years from the date of emigration. Hitherto conscription has been enforced in the three towns of Hakodate, Fukuyama, and Ezashi alone.

CHINESE DOCKS AND ARSENALS.

Heavily as China had to pay for the construction of the dock at Port Arthur, the loss of it is doubtless a temporary relief to her exchequer. For it appears that her dockyards and arsenals have been a steady and serious annual drain upon her purse, and that she has obtained little or no return for the outlay. An Imperial Decree, issued on August 11th, is quite pathetic on the subject. Referring to a censor's memorial in favour of selling the State's dockyards and arsenals to private individuals, the Decree says that these establishments aggregate "eight or nine," that they are "numerous and adequate," but that the workmen being lazy and inexpert, arms and ammunition had to be purchased abroad during the recent war. The Fukhien docks, we read, cost at least 600,000 Tls. yearly, "but not a single iron-clad or vessel has been made there," and the expense of the Hupeh arsenal is nearly as great, "though it has done no special work." Hence the Viceroys and Governors in whose districts the docks and arsenals lie, are directed to ventilate the idea of private purchase, promising official protection to buyers, and even suggesting that if the latter lack money, funds should be officially lent to them.

THE NEW CHEFOO.

To get at Chefoo, the only sea-side summer resort hitherto supposed to be within reach of Tientsin or Pekin, it is necessary to travel by steamer from Taku. But a writer in the *Peking and Tientsin Times* has discovered a new Chefoo. It is within about 4 miles of the Pei-tai-ho station on the line from Tientsin to Shan-hai-kuan, and as one can make the railway journey from the former to the latter place in some 6 hours, the new Chefoo has the great advantage of easy accessibility. The writer in the Tientsin paper has this to say about the place and its surroundings :—

The distance (from Pei-tai-ho to the place in question) is beguiled by the fact that it lies through the mountains, amid the most charming scenery, where picturesque heights and rocks divide the attention with streams and brooks and most lovely wild-flowers. Your step is elastic and the eye beams at the sight of so many beauties, and the fresh pure air of the mountains is as delightful to the nostrils as the blue expanse of ocean, which you are in sight of for at least half the way, is to the eye. Once there you could not imagine a more delightful spot. We do not think there is any place to compare with it in North China. Chefoo or the Western Hills are not to be mentioned in the same day. At this time of the year, when the grain is in the fields and the wild-flowers abundant on the hills, one is conscious of no exaggeration in calling it an earthly paradise. There is magnificent bathing. The sea is blue and clear, and the beach gently shelving so that bathing is safe and warm and the bed kind to the feet. The sand of the beach is slightly coarse and ground out of the rocky hills about the coast, and has a peculiarly pearly look when taken in the hand. The beach extends for as many miles as you like, so that you can weary yourself with walking on the sands to your heart's content. The facilities for pleasure, afforded by the mountains, are hardly less than those offered by the sea; in fact if it were not for the glorious delight of bathing we should say they far surpassed them. It is ecstatic to climb a breezy height in the fresh morning and look southward upon miles and miles of blue ocean, and northward, eastward, and westward upon distant mountains. When you are tired of one hill you can try another, for there are five or six within easy walking distance. Or you can follow the course of the shallow river looking at the bull-rushes and tracing its meandering turns. It is a keen delight to get in the lovely glens, thickly wooded and threaded by babbling brooks, and gather ferns and flowers amid the rocks. In the shortest walk in any direction you can gather a finer bouquet of flowers than you would easily procure from the gardens of Tientsin. During a fortnight's daily excursions we have never failed to find a new specimen at each walk. Wade amongst delicious and soft fine rushes that sweep round the feet, gather flowers and ferns, stretch at your length on soft grass where you are sure no Chinaman is in sight, bask in the coolness and freshness of these mountain streams, lift your eyes from time to time to the lotty rocks about you, and the purple hills in the distance alternate the roar of the sea with the lazy dulcet fall of fresh streams running over stony beds, watch the shadows moving gay and playful on the sea and silent, sombre, ghostly o'er the land, and thought of Tientsin rolls over the mind like a wave of sorrow. You wonder and pity that there should be such a place.

A case of cholera was reported in a fishing boat at Fusan, Korea, on the 1st inst. During the three days commencing the 7th, five cases were reported there, of which two occurred in fishing-boats and three in the Settlement.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CURRENT TOPICS.

The Radical party is just now the object of an acrimonious attack in the columns of a section of the press. The material is supplied by that notorious news agency the *Nai-gai Tsushin*, which during the past few months has more than once gained unenviable notoriety. The well known character of the source from which the stories emanate has hitherto made us hesitate to give publicity to them in these columns. But as the persecution is kept up with unusual pertinacity, it may be as well to briefly notice the subject, if only to show what kind of writing occupies a prominent place in the columns of the Opposition journals. The most important of the items is an alleged confession by a certain Radical, whose name is of course suppressed. This unknown person—who is said to be a member of the Diet—commences by stating that, much as he dislike revealing the secrets of his own Party, a sense of duty toward the public in general, and the pure-minded section of his own Party in particular, impels him to publish the real facts relating to certain transactions at the head-quarters of the Party. The story he has to tell opens with the compilation of the manifesto issued a few months ago. "It was drawn up by Mr. Kurihara Ryoichi, who handed it to Mr. Hayashi Yuzo with a view to have it shown by him to a certain statesman, then a Count. Mr. Hayashi took it to Baron (then Mr.) Ito Miyoji, who · · · (*sic*) one or two parts of it. The document being deemed satisfactory, was then made public. At the same time, a sum of 5,000 *yen* was delivered to Mr. Hayashi from a certain personage. In consultation with a few of his friends, Mr. Hayashi decided to devote the money to defraying the expenses of lecture parties sent throughout the country. The Radical Party, however, did not submit any definite conditions to the nameless person in question, until the resignation of Count Matsukata, when the principal members of the Party, including Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Hayashi Yuzo, and others, held a conference to consider what demands should be preferred to the Cabinet. Mr. Kono proposed that the Government should be required to give Count Itagaki the post of President of the Privy Council, or a seat in the Ministry, his idea being that a mere Privy Councillorship would be unsatisfactory. Mr. Hayashi, however, thought it unlikely that such a demand would obtain the approval of the Government. He, consequently, suggested as a more practicable plan that the Government be required, upon the prorogation of the 9th session of the Diet, to appoint five Radicals to Local Governorships. The latter proposition being approved by those present at the conference, it was arranged that, while Mr. Hayashi should undertake to effect an understanding with the Government, the submission of the demand should be formally made to Mr. Yoshikawa and Viscount Nomura by Messrs. Shigeno Kenjiro, Doi Kokwa, and Tamura Junnosuke. As to the five candidates for the post of Local Governor, four were definitely decided upon, namely Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Matsuda Masahisa, Ishida Kannosuke, and Ebara Soroku; it being left unsettled whether Mr. Nishiyama Shicho or Mr. Hayashi Yuzo should be the fifth. Thus terminated the secret conference. Nothing, as the proverb says, is more likely to get known than a secret. The facts soon became known, and produced serious disorder in the ranks of the Party." The confession then goes on to say that, in view of the rebellious mood of a large section of the Party, the leaders at head-quarters wrote to the principal Radicals in the provinces to come up to the capital with all speed. Mr. Ishida Kannosuke was the first to arrive in response to the summons, but notwithstanding the fact that his name stands as a candidate for a Governorship, he is understood to be heartily dissatisfied with what has been done at head-quarters. The confessing Radical concludes by stating that, should things prove irremediable, the only course for Mr. Ishida will be to renounce his connection with the party. The same news agency further reports that Mr. Hayashi Yuzo will ere long receive an appointment as Vice-Minister of State, probably in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce; and that Messrs. Tamura, Doi, Shigeno, Ishizuka, Ito, and Saito of the Radical Party are indignant because they have not been included among the candidates for Governorships. Thus far these stories stand unrefuted and will continue without denial for some time, for the Radical Party having at present no daily organ, can have recourse only to its monthly or bi-monthly publication, the *To-ho*.

Next to the Radicals, the National Unionists are the objects of abusive attacks. In their case, there is no accusation of a sordid nature, but their refusal to join in a blind career of indiscriminate opposition to the Cabinet, is an unpardonable offence in the eyes of the Progressionists and others. The National Unionists, however, are not likely to be intimidated into acquiescence with the unreasonable programme of the Opposition. The latest report concerning their policy in the coming session of the Diet is that they will approve, without the slightest reservation, the Government's measures for an increase of armament, in deference to the desire of their leader Viscount Shinagawa, who is reported to have declared it extremely fatuous that outsiders should presume to judge the merits of schemes elaborated in the sequel of careful consideration by men thoroughly acquainted with the needs of the country. As to the so-called question of Ministerial Responsibility, they will of course refuse to pursue the policy proposed by the Extremists, if the latter intend to employ the question as an instrument for obstructing the passage of the Military and Naval measures. But should the Extremists be content with a more moderate course—such, for instance, as the passing of a resolution recording the Diet's condemnation of the Ministry's policy with regard to Liaotung—then the National Unionists may support the motion. Even in that event, however, it is said to be undecided whether they would do so as a party, or in accordance with individual choice.

The Progressionists and other Extremist seem now hopeless of being able to bring up the Liaotung question at the opening of the approaching session. Their idea, if our information be trustworthy, is to pass the Army and Navy Bills and then to invite the House of Representatives to adopt either a resolution or a representation to the Government, expressing dissatisfaction with the latter's policy in the matter of Liaotung. Such a motion, even if passed by the House, would have no practical results: it would simply be ignored by the Cabinet. The only source of apprehension is the attitude of the Opposition on the question of administrative expenditures. There are signs that the Opposition parties intend to demand sweeping reductions in official expenses, and it is feared that controversy on this point may lead to a serious collision between the Government and the Diet. But there is reason to doubt whether any scheme of extensive retrenchment will be endorsed by a majority of the House. Upon the whole, therefore, the 9th session of the Diet does not at present seem likely to be stormy.

Concerning the attacks on the Radical Party, we have already stated that they must remain authoritatively unanswered until the publication of the next number of the Party's official organ, the *To-ho*. The *Mezamashi Shimbun*, however, has taken upon itself the task of refuting the charges. Though not an official organ of the Party nor exercising much political influence, the *Mezamashi* is reputed to be connected with a certain section of the Radicals, and its utterances may, on that account, be noticed. Its first step in the matter was to challenge the news agency, the *Naigai Tsushin*, to reveal the name of the Radical alleged to be the author of the pretended confession. The challenge of course receiving no notice, the *Mezamashi*, in a series of two articles, has emphatically contradicted the accusations one and all, at the same time severely condemning the conduct of the news agency that was unscrupulous enough to fabricate such a canard, and the newspapers that lent their columns for the ventilation of the vile calumny. The burden of proof resting with the accusers, the Radical organ is not called upon to produce any counter-evidence; but in order to give an example of the untrustworthiness of the so-called confession, it points out that Messrs. Shigeno Kenjiro, Doi Kokwa, and Tamura Junnoske were not in Tokyo at the time when they are salleged to have visited Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice, and Viscount Nomura, Minister of Home Affairs, for the purpose of submitting the Radical Party's views as to the conditions on which they were willing to support the Government. It is not our purpose to pronounce any definite opinion on the matter; but we may observe that, in spite of its circumstantial character, the story circulated by the *Naigai Tsushin* seems wholly extravagant and unworthy of credit.

Count Inouye continues to be the subject of much contradictory gossip in the capital. The latest story about him is that he will succeed Marquis Ito as Minister President of State, it being the latter's intention to resign on the conclusion of the Liaotung business. The position assigned to Marquis Ito in that event is the Presidency of the Privy Council, the present occupant of that post, Count Kuroda, receiving the Lord Keepership of the Privy Seal. But this story, emanating from the *Teikoku Tsushin* (Imperial News Agency), seems to be regarded with a good deal of suspicion even by the most credulous of the metropolitan papers.

THE VICEROY LI.

The general impression with regard to Marquis Li's removal to Pekin is evidently that the great man's day is over, and that his progressive influence is lost to China. The Grand Secretariat, of which Li now assumes the Senior Grand Secretaryship, was once the Supreme Council of the empire, but has for some time occupied a position secondary to the Grand Council. It has four members, two Chinese and two Manchu. Marquis Li's Chinese associate is Chang Chih-wang, brother of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, who is the reverse of friendly to Li. It can scarcely be supposed that Li and Chang will work very cordially together. As for the two Manchu members, whatever influence they may wield, their names are little known in modern Chinese history, and it may be taken for granted that they will be completely overshadowed by Li and Chang, should the Grand Secretariat be restored to the paramount functions originally discharged by it. In point of fact, Marquis Li has been Senior Grand Secretary for ten years, having received the appointment in 1885. His transfer to Pekin, therefore, does not signify promotion, but means simply that, surrendering the numerous active offices hitherto occupied by him in Tientsin, he enters upon a post that he has long held as a sinecure. The question now is, will the Grand Secretariat continue to be an inferior body, or will it, under the control and direction of Li, resume the leading place that once belonged to it. Foreign opinion inclines to the former view, but the Japanese, whose knowledge of Chinese affairs is very intimate, believe that Li is really to be the leading official in the capital, and that his transfer thither marks the central Government's conviction of its own inability to get on without him. There is apparently little hope of discovering the truth immediately. Reports vary within wide limits? Yesterday, a rumour came from Pekin to the effect that no less than sixty memorials hostile to Li had been presented to the Throne since his arrival in the capital; that they had all been accepted by the Emperor, and submitted for the consideration of the Princes. To-day, we are told that Li is to be sent to deal with the Mahommedan rebellion, now a trouble of very serious dimensions. We ourselves incline to think that the Japanese view of his position is correct, but there are no grounds, so far as we know, to speak positively.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

KOREAN NEWS.

The 4th instant being the anniversary of the founding of the present Korean dynasty, is said to have been observed in Söul as a grand national holiday, the principal event being a ball at the Court, a thing never before heard of in Korea. One of the chief buildings of the palace, named the "Kei-kwairo" (Hall of Auspicious Assembly), was fitted up for the purposes of the entertainment. The spacious hall of the edifice was temporarily separated into two compartments by means of bamboo blinds. On one side the King presided, the guests being the Ministers of State, the members of the Diplomatic Corps, and officials of *Chokunin* rank; while the other side was set apart for the ladies with the Queen as hostess. This was the first instance of Korean ladies taking part in a public function of the kind. The guests aggregated about a hundred and fifty. For the entertainment of the fair sex, female dancers were provided, and boys performed a similar function on the gentlemen's side. A fine display of fireworks also took place in the palace gardens.

The fortnight preceding Count Inouye's departure from Söul is stated to have been very busily employed by him in giving advice to the Korean Minister and the Japanese merchants. On the 8th instant, the Ministers of State assembled at the Home Department, where they were lectured by the ex-Japanese Representative for several consecutive hours on various topics connected with administration. On the same day, he collected at the Consulate the principal Japanese merchants and addressed to them a long speech, in which he called their attention to various subjects bearing upon their business position. In the first place, they were reminded of the importance of treating Koreans with proper consideration and respect. The Count regretted very much to observe that some of his nationals were prone to be over-bearing in their conduct towards the Koreans. They were also advised to be industrious, persevering, frugal, and united, so that they might be able to maintain their ground against the competition of the Chinese. The Japanese merchants expressed their thanks for the valuable advice bestowed upon them by their late Minister. They asked Count Inouye to use his influence at home to have a parcels post service opened between Japan and Söul, and also to see what could be done to supply them with cheaper capital, the present rate of interest charged by the bank agencies in Söul being as high as 18 per cent. per annum. Count Inouye promised to exert himself to have their reasonable wishes satisfied. On the 10th he was invited to dinner by the Japanese Advisers of the Korean Government. The Korean Ministers and other high dignitaries of State are said to have been constant visitors at the Japanese Legation. Leaving Söul on the 17th instant, the Count spent a few days at Ninsen, and sailed from that place on the 21st by the *Shirakawa Maru*.

As to the position of the Coalition Cabinet organized under Count Inouye's advice, it appears that the different factions represented in it are working with tolerable harmony. Thus far, therefore, Count Inouye's conciliatory policy has been attended with success. But whether the combination effected under his personal influence will hold together after his withdrawal from the scene; whether the Court will continue satisfied with the moderate share of initiative authority reserved to it under the present system; whether Kim Koshu and a few other Ministers, not in favour with the Queen, will be able to maintain their positions—these points are generally considered doubtful. But the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent states that the suspicion with which the Queen and her faction were hitherto regarded Japan has been completely removed. Moreover, the new Minister of Finance, Chin Shokun, who represents the Min interest in the Cabinet, is said to be a man of considerable practical sense and breadth of view, and it is consequently hoped that he will not be guilty of any precipitate steps prejudicial to the permanence of Ministerial unity. However, the task devolving upon the new Japanese Minister, Viscount Miura, is one of great difficulty and responsibility, for upon his tact and energy depends the stability of the structure founded by his distinguished predecessor.

The work of reforming the local administrative system seems to be making slow but steady progress. To the communes is left autonomic power, somewhat after the fashion followed in Japan. It would be an interesting study to investigate the customs and practices prevailing in the peninsular kingdom in connection with communal administration. Recent observers say that the Korean village organization has more in common with the Japanese than with the Chinese.

In a former issue we reproduced some correspondence relating to the incompleteness of the machinery for collecting taxes in Korea. We are now informed that the Söul authorities have under contemplation the establishment of revenue offices throughout the country, independent of the local administration.

The compilation of codes of law for Korea is making rapid progress in the hands of the Japanese Advisers. They hope to finish their work before the close of the present year. The codes will be simple, the idea being to adapt them to the present condition of the Korean people. It is alleged that the Criminal Code will consist of less than one hundred articles. The Korean Government having expressed a desire to set limits to mixed residence in Söul, the matter was recently discussed by the Foreign Ministers at the Japanese Legation. It is believed that the streets south of the principal avenue running between the East and West Gates will be designated as the locality where foreigners may reside.

A Royal Ordinance relating to primary schools was promulgated on the 10th instant. According to its provisions, the schools are to be of two classes, higher and ordinary. It will take years to give effect to these provisions throughout the country, but that the Koreans are in earnest is evident from the fact that there has already been established a normal school in Söul where future teachers are receiving instruction under Japanese professors.

By Royal Ordinance promulgated in the *Official Gazette* of the 6th instant, the Korean Government disbanded all the provincial troops. Some of the Japanese correspondents fear that this step may bad to trouble. The dismissed local officials and the disbanded soldiers, meeting together, may cause serious embarrassment to the newly appointed provincial administrators. But the Korean Government is credited with knowing what it is about. We read that it would not have decided upon such an important measure unless it were sure of its own capacity to quell any resulting disturbance. The new army drilled under Japanese officers, assisted by the Japanese troops stationed in different parts of the country, is apparently amply sufficient to maintain peace in the peninsula.

The recently reported disturbance in the Sang-wŏn district of Phyŏng-an-do seems to have occasioned considerable anxiety to the authorities in Söul. Nor is it yet known definitely that the trouble has been completely settled. From Söul letters just received we gather the following facts. On the evening of the 10th instant, a numerous gang of malcontents suddenly attacked the official residence of the chief official of the Sang-wŏn district, and subsequently committed depredations at various places in the locality. The ringleader was Kim Kokyo, an ex-official of high standing, who, conceiving himself wronged by the Government, assembled and put himself at the head of the local malcontents, a class of persons numerous enough in consequence of the wide-spread misery caused by the late war and the state of anarchy at present prevailing in the provincial districts generally. Avoiding the neighbourhood of places where Japanese troops were stationed, the crafty leader of the malcontents fixed the rendezvous in Sang-wŏn, about forty miles north-east of Phyŏng-yang. There a body of about six hundred collected by the 9th instant. It is reported that they were armed for the most part with firearms of foreign make, probably weapons thrown away by the Chinese soldiers in their hasty flight from Phyŏng-yang. In reply to the request of the district authorities of Sang-wŏn, a detachment of about a hundred soldiers drilled in the new style, were speedily despatched from Phyŏng-yang. The local Korean officials are said to have applied for help to the Japanese troops also, but it is not known whether the request was granted. The first reports about this disturbance may be more or less exaggerated, but it is evident that the affair has assumed more serious dimensions than did the recent troubles in Chol-wŏ and Sui-wŏn. Even in the capital itself the contagion of agitation appears to be felt. On the 13th instant, late in the afternoon, the citizens were surprised by intelligence that the disbanded soldiers had risen in revolt. The affair did not take the character of an insurrection. It was merely a pecuniary trouble. About a thousand of the disbanded soldiers besieged the Home Office, where the Minister of War had taken refuge, demanding payment of arrears of salary. Mr. An, the War Minister, came out on the balcony and urged the soldiers to disperse, but they refused to do so unless their grievance was properly attended to. Their aspect became so threatening that the War Minister asked the Japanese officer in command of a company stationed in the neighbourhood of the palace to come to the rescue with his troops, but the request was not complied with. Mr. An then had recourse to constables, a large body of whom charged with drawn swords and arrested about thirty of the most clamorous soldiers. Thereupon the rest dispersed in all directions without committing any violence. Before disbanding these troops, it is understood to have been the Government's intention to disburse all arrears of pay, but the condition of the Treasury interfered with the execution of this purpose. The soldiers arrested by the police were soon released by special command of the King, who, on inquiring into the origin of the affair, is said to have declared that the disbanded troops were not to blame.

The question of railway construction in Korea was once much discussed, and surveys were actually made along the projected routes. But the matter subsequently dropped out of sight, and little was heard of it until the time of the departure of Count Inouye from Söul, when people began to talk about the enterprise once more. It is said that the ex-Japanese Minister strongly represented to the Korean Government the importance of laying a railway line between Ninsen and Söul, and between the latter place and Phyŏng-yang, and that the Korean Ministers are all in favour of the undertaking. In what manner the enterprise is to be carried out, and how the necessary capital is to be obtained, Japanese correspondents writing from Söul give no information.

The Tokyo papers state that on the 22nd inst. a long telegraphic message from the Japanese Minister in Korea was received both at the Foreign Office and at the Imperial Military Head-quarters. The nature of the message is not definitely known, but it is supposed to have had reference to the Korean Government's request for assistance in putting down the disturbance in Phyŏng-an-do.

MILITARY HONOURS.

The third distribution of honours for distinguished service in the war took place at Court on the 20th instant. The fortunate officers on this occasion were those of and above the rank of Major, belonging to the Second Expeditionary Army. Their names and the honours bestowed are given in the *Official Gazette*, but it seems scarcely necessary to translate the list into these columns. The officers number 74 in all, and the Orders conferred on them range from the Fourth Class of the Golden Kite to the Sixth Class of the Rising Sun. Major-General Miyoshi is the officer of highest rank on the list, but the name of Colonel Oki—who often figured in important operations—stands first.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

FORMOSA NEWS.

We have already alluded to the desperate resistance encountered by the left wing of the Imperial Guards during its march upon Taiwan, at a village called Taketsao, on the 25th ultimo. From later letters, it appears that the men giving so much trouble to the Japanese were the Hakkas, the same tribe that similarly distinguished themselves between Taipeh and Shinchu. At Taketsao, these tribesmen were under the direction of a local grandee, Liu Tachun, scion of the great Liu. His residence, a spacious and fine building, was levelled to the ground. After the fighting had ceased, the houses in the village were thoroughly searched. In one of them the Japanese soldiers found a woman about thirty years of age lying in bed with two little children. As soon as she saw the soldiers, she ran out of the house with her children under her arms, and plunged into a pond close by. She and her little ones were rescued by the Japanese soldiers, who took her to the head-quarters of the regiment. There she again threw herself into a well, and was again saved. But she was so bent upon death, that finally, eluding the vigilance of the troops, she killed her children by dashing their brains out against a stone, and then put an end to herself in the same desperate manner.

The citizens of Chang-hua are said to be extremely obedient to the Japanese. At first they declined to receive any payment for articles supplied to the Guards. Accustomed to the disorderly conduct of the Chinese troops, they were surprised to find the Japanese willing to purchase everything they wanted.

The Japanese interpreters with the army only speak the official language of China. Hence they were found to be of little use in Taipeh and Kelung, where that language is not used. In these places, however, a few Chinese were found who understood the official tongue, and thus communications with the people were maintained through the double medium of these Chinese and the Japanese interpreters. But as the army advanced southward, this complicated method of interpreting proved unavailing, for a dialect unintelligible to the Chinese of the northern part of the island is spoken there. Still there seem to be everywhere a few men that can read ideographs, and conversation in writing was resorted to whenever no means of oral communication existed.

We recently noticed a visit paid by a party of Japanese officers to the aborigines. On the visit being repeated by the Japanese according to promise, they were very courteously received by the mountaineers. The friendliness of these savages toward the Japanese seems to be general and genuine. A chief and his relations recently came to the Governor-General at Taipeh, where they stayed a few days, receiving the kindest attention from Japanese of all classes. On their return they were given presents of various kinds. The earlier visit of another chief to the Japanese troops at Miaoli, about which we expressed doubt at the time, proves to have been a fact. On that occasion the chief and his attendants obtained permission to accompany the Imperial Guards on their southerly march and actually followed the troops for some distance, when the Chief's son having injured his foot, the party were obliged to return. All the aborigines that have come in contact with the Japanese thus far have shown themselves addicted to drinking and smoking. They evince hearty contempt for the Chinese.

NEWS FROM PEKIN.

The latest batch of letters from the Japanese correspondents in Pekin contain nothing particularly interesting or important, but one or two items may be noticed. As to the Mohammedan rising in Kansu, the Japanese correspondents do not attach great importance to it. From what they gather in Pekin, it is a purely local affair, with little or no political significance. The apparent success of the rebels is ascribed to the fact that the local military forces having been mostly withdrawn to the vicinity of the capital in consequence of the war with Japan, there was not a sufficient force on the spot to deal with an insurrection. It is consequently believed that the revolt will be speedily suppressed as soon as the reinforcements recently despatched arrive in Kansu. General Wang, who was lately sent to the province to assist the Viceroy there, is said to be an officer of great ability, having studied tactics in Germany. He is a favourite of Earl Li's.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent pays a profound tribute to the indefatigable zeal of H.E. Earl Li for the benefit of his country. His rival, Wang Tung-wha, being now at the zenith of his power, the Earl's position is said to be anything but enviable. But despite his general unpopularity and his advanced age, he is believed to entertain no idea of retiring from the public service.

Since his arrival in Pekin the Earl, we read, has not visited any of the foreign Legations. Mr. Wu Ting-fang, who is staying with him, has, however, visited Mr. Hayashi twice, and on the 7th instant the Japanese Minister called upon Earl Li at the Temple of the Wise and Good in the street of Golden Fish. The great Chinese statesman's chamber is said to be entirely without ornaments or comforts such as might naturally be looked for in the residence of a man of his wealth and rank. Instead of fine carpets, the floor is covered with straw mats, and the only articles of furniture in the room are a bed of European pattern, a round table, and a number of ordinary chairs. Everything in the apartment, it is said, indicates the poor scholar rather than the rich and powerful Mandarin. The conversation between Mr. Hayashi and the Earl lasted two hours, but nothing is known as to the topics discussed. The *Kokkai's* correspondent, however, states that Earl Li, alluding to the conclusion of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, hoped that the negotiations might be concluded in the course of a fortnight; to which the Japanese Minister is said to have replied that if the Chinese Plenipotentaries were reasonable enough to agree to the Japanese proposals without raising objections, the work might be finished in two days. The Chinese statesman is reported to have maintained his part in the conversation with great energy and good humour.

The Pekin Government is said to be very much perplexed about the appointment of a Plenipotentiary to assist Earl Li in negotiating with the Japanese Representative. The Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên do not care to risk their popularity and influence by taking part in a transaction whose issue is sure to prove distasteful to conservative officialdom in Pekin. Hence they endeavour to evade being appointed, advancing a plea of ignorance of diplomatic business, a singular pretext in the mouth of officials charged with the conduct of the Empire's foreign affairs.

DR. KITAZATO AND THE CHOLERA.

The *Hochi Shimbun* seems to think that Dr. Kitazato's cholera cure is now an established fact. It describes visits paid to the distinguished bacteriologist by foreign physicians, and speaks of the latters' admiration in very strong terms. We trust that this confidence is justified, but are inclined to think that Dr. Kitazato himself would regard it as premature. The *Hochi*, for example, appears quite content with the rough record that out of 83 patients treated by Dr. Kitazato only 12 died, but as that indicates a rate of mortality of 15 per cent. we can not say more than that it shows a signal step in the right direction. Thus far, the rate of mortality during the present epidemic has been over 51 per cent. If Dr. Kitazato's method can reduce it to 15, he has certainly accomplished an immense improvement. It means, in fact, that had his treatment been in general application from the time of the epidemic's appearance this year, 16,013 lives would have been saved, supposing the number of cases to have reached its present aggregate.

THE NEW AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN MINISTER.

The Government of Austro Hungary has appointed Count C. Wydenbruck to represent the Dual Monarchy at the Court of Japan. Count Wydenbruck is a comparatively young man—only thirty-nine—but he has already established a high reputation in the diplomatic service of his country. He acted as Private Secretary to Count Kalnoky during three years, and subsequently served as Councillor in the Austro-Hungarian Embassy in London. We believe that Count Wydenbruck's promotion has been quicker than that of any member of his service now living, his exceptional capacities having been recognised from the very outset of his career. The Count's father was Austro-Hungarian Minister in Washington, and his sister is married to Count Victor Crennevile, Austro-Hungarian *Chargé d'Affaires* in Lisbon. Countess Wydenbruck's maiden name is Countess Fugger. It is expected that the new Minister will reach Tokyo at the end of December.

THE ANTI-FOREIGN FEELING IN CHINA.

Ugly rumours are circulating in China as to the probability of fresh anti-foreign outrages. From Hankow it is reported that a day had more than once been fixed for attacking the foreigners, but as that kind of thing had been going on for the past three years, no particular attention was paid to it until news came that a despatch had come from Pekin ordering a reduction of 20 per cent. in the pay of the Wuchang garrison and the discharge of a considerable number of soldiers for the sake of economy. The probable effect of these measures was to induce the removal (Sept. 12th) of all foreign ladies and children, as well as of the girls in the American Mission Boarding House, from Wuchang to the concession. Whether owing to these precautions or to some other cause, the threatened trouble did not break out. But it is easy to conceive that the adoption of such measures may attract the very peril they are intended to avert; since they serve to indicate the most vulnerable point on the foreign side. In Kiukiang, also, a feeling of uneasiness prevails. There is talk of the inauguration of extensive reforms, under instructions from the Central Government, involving the dismissal of numerous useless officials and the disbanding of seven-tenths of the soldiers that proved themselves such a worthless rabble during the recent war. If these steps be taken, the situation, already critical for foreigners, will be complicated by the presence of a multitude of needy malcontents ready for any form of outrage or pillage. In Wenchow things are not dissimilar. At a place called Siuan, between Wenchow and Pingyang, the missionaries have for years past been stoned and insulted, and the same fate was recently experienced by the British Consul on his way back from investigating the Pingyang riots. The elements for an anti-foreign tumult are always ready to become violently active if only an incentive be provided. In truth there is no avoiding the conviction that foreign life and property are everywhere unsafe in China to-day, and that the conciliatory policy pursued by Western Powers in their dealings with the Middle Kingdom has been entirely misconstrued by the Chinese. Many men of letters seem to employ their pens for the deliberate purpose of misleading and exciting the people. Cartoons, brochures, and vernacular newspapers, such as they are, combine to work mischief, recounting, even now, wonderful tales of the defeats inflicted on Japan during the late war, and of the misdeeds of aliens in general. Whether this under-current of fierce conservatism is being worked up as a factor to assist in the overthrow of the Manchu dynasty by embroiling it with foreign nations, or whether genuine antipathy for Occidentals permeates the masses in China, it is becoming plain that the situation may at any time demand measures of a most drastic character.

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SIR TREVOR LAWRENCE'S JAPANESE COLLECTION.

We have received a copy of the recently compiled Catalogue of Sir Trevor Lawrence's collection of Japanese Works of Art. It is a magnificent volume of 160 pages, printed in large clear type upon paper of rich quality, and beautifully illustrated. The specimens catalogued number 2,289, and comprise *netsukes* and other cognate examples of glyptic art; pipes, pouches, portable inkstands, &c.; lacquer; objects in metal; shrines; hanging pictures; embroideries; combs, keramic wares, and so forth. The cataloguing has been done by Mr. Huish, whose descriptions indicate extensive research. The collector that can afford to publish such a sumptuous record of his beloved objects. is in a happy position, especially when he can find a coadjutor so able as Mr. Huish. Sir Trevor Lawrence, in a brief preface, says that although the "ever increasing flood of commercial productions" now sent abroad by Japan, show great defness of hand, "like all imitations and reproductions, they rarely catch the true spirit of the old work." We do not share that view. It is true that in reponse to the wholesale and undiscriminating demand of exporters in the foreign settlements, numbers of wretched specimens, falsely named "art objects," are poured upon Western markets, to the discredit of the country and to the ultimate discouragement of purchasers, however devoid of true taste. But apart from these inferior examples, there are produced in Japan multitudes of beautiful and worthy representatives of her genuine art. The collector of old objects is too apt, we think, to forget that the specimens descending from past eras represent the cream of the work turned out in their time, and that among their contemporary products which have not survived, there were doubtless great numbers as defective in technique and as false to true canons, as are the worst of later-day parodies. It would not be fairer to judge modern Japan's capacity by the "commercial productions" of the *Meiji* era than it is to accept rare specimens of old work as generally representative of their time. Still, the testimony of connoisseurs like Sir Trevor Lawrence, Mr. Huish, Mr. Bowes, and others of scarcely less note should be remembered by the Japanese, for it shows that the popularity hitherto enjoyed by their art is greatly imperilled by the wares exported so indiscriminately from the open ports.

FINE ART EXHIBITION.

An exhibition of the pictures classified as *Ukyo-ye*, is to take place in the Mitsui Assembly Hall, Yuraku-cho, Tokyo, on the 28th and 29th instant. The artists by whom these pictures were painted are known to Europeans as the Popular School. Formerly they were not held in high esteem by their countrymen, being counted inferior to masters that clung faithfully to the traditions and conventions of the classical schools. But within the past twenty years they have come to be appraised at their true worth, namely, as the real exponents of Japanese pictorial genius; men that inaugurated a new era of decorative æsthetics, disclosed an immense variety of new motives and applications, and composed an illustrated history of Japanese customs, fashions, and fancies. In a word, the *Ukyo-ye* is the only thoroughly unadulterated school of Japanese pictorial art, and if a good collection of representative specimens can be brought together, the promised exhibition ought to be a great treat.

PRIVATE SECRETARIES.

Imperial Ordinance No. 124, promulgated on the 20th instant, enacts that the Civil Service Examination Regulations will henceforth be inoperative in so far as concerns the appointment of Private Secretaries to Ministers of State. This exemption has long been regarded as a desideratum.

THE KUCHENG MASSACRE.

The details of the investigation conducted at Kucheng in the presence of a commission consisting of two Consuls—British and American—and other foreigners, have been published. It will be remembered that the Prefect objected originally to the foreign commissioners' taking any part in the inquiry, and that, as this obstacle necessitated an appeal to the Viceroy, considerable delay was anticipated. But in point of fact the delay extended to only three days. The commissioners reached Kucheng on the 17th of August, and by the 20th the Prefect had received telegraphic instructions from the Viceroy telling him to do exactly as the Consuls wished. Accordingly, the examination of the prisoners commenced on Wednesday the 21st; or rather their re-examination, for before being brought up to give their evidence in the presence of the foreign commissioners, they had already been questioned by the Chinese Magistrate. What this preliminary questioning involved must be left to the imagination. Something of the pains that the prisoners had to undergo may be gathered from the remarkable readiness of their admissions before the foreign commissioners, but only in two cases are we told that the men bore plain marks of the devices employed to extort confession. It is unfortunate that American and British officials should be implicated, however, indirectly, in a legal process involving such barbarities. But happily after the examination of about a score of prisoners, evidence had been collected sufficient to clearly indicate the persons chiefly concerned in the outrage. Then, at the instance of the Consuls, the Prefect telegraphed for the Viceroy's permission, and obtained it, to dispense with the confession indicated by Chinese law as a preliminary essential to capital punishment. It was conclusively proved that not more than a hundred Vegetarians were present at the murdering and burning. Some two hundred set out from the Association's fastness in the hills, but a moiety of the number dwindled away *en route*. Very few of them seem to have known exactly what was in contemplation. They went along in blind obedience to their leaders, but were ready enough to stab and plunder when the occasion presented itself. Indeed, the general programme of the Vegetarians in the Kucheng district is violence. The principle of their procedure is to take the place of the duly constituted authorities, and to substitute a reign of force for the control of legal tribunals. It does not appear, however, that other branches of the same association in various parts of China adopt similar methods, though probably all are prepared to raise the standard of rebellion if a favourable opportunity offer. Even the Kucheng Vegetarians profess to be nothing more than an anti-opium society. Several of the prisoners recently examined, said that they had entered its ranks for the sake of getting cured of the opium vice. In practice, however, the regular custom of the leaders is to settle by force disputes that would otherwise go before the law courts, and an instance is on record of their openly entering the *Yamên* of a magistrate and compelling him to release some of their associates whom he had arrested. There can be no doubt that the culpable perfunctoriness of the local authorities in dealing with these Vegetarians was ultimately responsible for the Kucheng tragedy. Magistrate after magistrate had paltered with the law-breakers, and when at last two hundred soldiers were sent, they lay inactive in Kucheng while their presence was ascribed by the leaders of the Vegetarians to foreign interference. The murderers of the missionaries appear to have facilitated their own apprehension by openly boasting of what they had done. Nevertheless, the energy displayed by the authorities, and the success achieved in hunting down and arresting suspects, indicate that the frequent failures of officialdom in China to bring retribution upon the heads of anti-foreign rioters in the past were due to want of will rather than of ability. At Kucheng the proverbial cupidity of the penurious Chinese was excited by promises of large rewards—as much as nine hundred dollars were paid for the apprehension of one of the leaders—and it is said that two cart-loads of silver were distributed from the Magistrate's *yamên* in connection with the arrests. Some of the prisoners showed much reluctance to speak, but were ultimately induced to do so by the application of torture or by the incriminating evidence of their associates. Others were quite ready to acknowledge the part taken by them. One, both before and after his arrest, spoke frankly of having killed "a small foreigner;" another described readily how he had helped to butcher Mr. Stewart and stabbed a lady in the back; a third recounted how the children were "stabbed just outside the house where they were gathering flowers." and how he inflicted the first wound on Mrs. Stewart by stabbing her in the lower jaw; and a fourth said:—"I was with the body of men, about twenty, that surrounded the lower house where the ladies were. They offered us money and said they would go to the city church with us if we would let them, and give them their umbrellas. This they said to Tai Nu-long. We killed them after the flag came with the command, carried by Chio Hi. One little man from Sungang and a tall man began and then we all stabbed them. I stabbed a tall lady." In this way the particulars of the terrible tragedy were elicited. The chief instigator of the outrage seems to have been a man known as "Long Finger Nails," a professional fortune-teller. His motives are a mystery, but the evidence shows that he went among the Vegetarians telling their fortunes, and that he made a point of warning them that they must choose between killing the foreigners or being done to death by them. Yet it would appear that the attack upon the mission was nominally the result of chance. The Vegetarians, having made up their minds that some step must be taken to assert themselves against the Authorities, cast lots whether they should destroy the house of a certain rich Chinaman, or set fire to the town in three places and kill the magistrates, or slaughter the foreigners at Whasang. Three times in succession the lot fell upon the last course. Similarly, by a mere chance, the victims failed to receive warning. One of the Vegetarian leaders, Tiong, quarrelled with "Long Finger Nails," and gave information to a Christian, named Pang, of what was in progress. Pang sent word by letter to Mr. Stewart, but before the messenger reached his destination the catastrophe had been consummated. A difference of a couple of hours would have saved the lives of eleven foreigners. After the first access of zeal, the Chinese Magistrates were overtaken by an apathetic mood. They averred that no executions could take place until the arrival of the Taotai; they released prisoners without consulting the foreign commissioners; they showed a disposition to think that as eleven persons had been murdered, eleven decapitations would suffice, and they ceased to evince much desire for collecting evidence. But they were ultimately roused from this temporary perfunctoriness, and on September 20th, seventy-six of the Vegetarians were executed in the presence of the foreign commissioners. At first the foreign Consuls had demanded that all the culprits and leaders should be taken down to Foochow for re-trial and execution, but they ultimately modified this in the sense that the actual murderers should be executed at Kucheng and the leaders alone sent to Foochow. Never before has the taking of foreign life in China been so signally and fully avenged. The warning ought to prove deterrent.

The first news referring to the recent deadlock at Kucheng was received in Shanghai through the agency of three telegrams dispatched to the *N.-C. Daily News* from Foochow on the 16th September at 4.25 p.m., 8.45 p.m., and 8.55 p.m. They run as follows:—

Late-t news from Kucheng leads to the belief that the foreign Consuls are being played with. Between: first the release of prisoners without the Consuls being consulted: second, the issuing of a certain proclamation without the Consuls being consulted; third, the sudden difficulty of obtain-

ing evidence from the prisoners; and fourth, the sudden indifference shown by the Chinese; it is apparent the Consuls are being treated with contempt. All this arises without doubt from no proper support and backing being given to Mr. Mansfield from the first in this important investigation, in the way of at least two or three men-of-war lying in the river. The Chinese are evidently taking advantage of what they thus consider the indifference that is being shown by the British government. It is not improbable that the investigation will collapse.

Hsu Taotai, who arrived at Kucheng on the 10th, says he is instructed to close the investigation. He will satisfy the Consuls in the matter of the heads they may require, but the examinations must cease. The Consuls protest and are firm, and the result is a deadlock. Fears are evidently entertained of officials being incriminated.

News has come from Hinghua of two churches being attacked by a mob at a place called Siongin. The buildings were partially destroyed, and the houses of the native pastors and teachers plundered. The pastor was attacked with knives and swords, but he escaped with his life. The magistrate allowed the rioters to have their own way.

The hospital at Kienningfu is threatened, and anti-foreign placards are posted about. It is reported that the Vegetarians at Kucheng are catching and torturing native Christians as a set-off against the imprisonment of their comrades.

H.M. ships *Caroline* and *Linnet* are in. The latter is to come up to the Settlement on Thursday.

The Rev. E. Smyth, of Foochow, also telegraphed Shanghai to the following effect:—

On Friday Hsu Taotai, who was sent as Imperial Commissioner to Kucheng, called on the Consuls and said he had full power to deal with the Whasang massacre case. He said he could execute any number of criminals that would suit the foreign Governments, but that he could not and would not execute one till all other claims were settled. All trials therefore stopped. Consuls wired for instructions and are now waiting for them. The Vegetarians seeing the action of the officials are springing up again and seizing and torturing the native Christians. Please publish at once.

On the 17th September a telegram was dispatched from Foochow at 8.25 p.m., which said that seven executions took place at Kucheng that morning, in the presence of the British and U.S. Consuls, and that H.M.S. *Caroline* had left for the North.

Telegrams received in Shanghai on the 18th from Chinese and private sources said that the Prefect voluntarily suggested the names of thirteen of the condemned murderers to be sent to the Viceroy for his approval of death sentences being passed upon them. The Consuls agreed to this, but the Viceroy authorised the execution of only seven of the murderers. The other six he arbitrarily reversed and remanded without trial. It is feared that the action of the Viceroy will result in future executions being longer contested and delayed. That morning at 7.05, these seven men were decapitated in the presence of the Consuls at Kucheng. Elven prisoners, two of whom were beyond all question guilty of actual murder, were secretly released by the Prefect, and up to the present the demand of the Consuls that they be re-arrested has not been complied with. The matter has been referred to the Viceroy, but little is expected from him. He has obstructed, in every possible way, the work of the Commission.

The method of procedure at the investigations at Kucheng, says a Shanghai contemporary, is as follows:—The first trial of the prisoners is before the Commission, the second before Hsu, and the final decision rests with the Viceroy. The Viceroy and the Tartar-General are instructing Hsu directly contrary to the Imperial Edict. He and all the other Chinese officials concerned in the Kuchang investigation are determined to make it a farce, and unless very strong and positive instructions are wired from Pekin there is reason to fear that they will succeed. The Viceroy's dictating to the Commission ought to be stopped at once and our foreign representatives at Pekin should see that it is stopped. Justice to the memory of murdered innocents as well as to a common humanity and to Christian civilisation alike demand that a fair investigation should be made; and Great Britain and America should see that such an investigation is not obstructed, yea defeated, by the chicanery of implicated officials.

CHINA NEWS.

At the invitation of the Viceroy Wang Wen-shao, the Viceroy Liu K'un-yi, who is a very sick man, will take up his quarters at Tientsin in order to be near the best medical advice obtainable. For this purpose the Admiralty buildings on the French Concession have been refitted to serve as a temporary residence where Liu K'un-yi can convalesce.

According to a decree of the 11th instant, Governor Tê Hsing, of Kiangsi, a Manchu, is cashiered and will probably have to give up his post at once. It appears, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that a Censor denounced Tê Hsing for receiving bribes and using avaricious and unscrupulous subordinates. Chang Chih-tung was ordered to investigate, and although he exonerates Tê Hsing of the most serious charge—that of accepting bribes—he still accuses him of the second charge and also of frivolity unbecoming a man of his high position. This was for engaging a theatrical troupe to play before his family ten days at a time, while the country was plunged in war with Japan. It was sufficient to deprive the Governor of rank and post. In consequence of this, Tê Shou, Governor-elect of Hunan, is transferred to Kiangsi, and to the governorship in Hunan thus made vacant, Ch'en Pao-chên, the provincial Treasurer of Chihli is promoted. The new Governor of Shensi is Hu P'ing-chih, who was made Treasurer of Chékiang a couple of months ago.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* writes:—The Tientsin University was announced as a concrete fact this week. The word University is probably a misnomer for the present, and only means High School or Polytechnic; for though there will be a catholic desire to embrace all studies there will not be power to confer degrees. This scheme has been in the air for years, and at one time it was hoped that Li Hung-chang's many protégés would liberally endow a great collegiate establishment in perpetual memory of their patron. I think some such idea was held when the Po Wen Shu Yuan was built nine years ago. It was hoped that this would become a sort of nursing mother to foreign education and the new learning throughout the empire, and ultimately that the Emperor might by formal decree give it a charter and the power of conferring degrees. The scheme fell through, although it had powerful backing, both native and foreign. Mr. C. D. Tenney is appointed President of the new institution and will probably develop it on American lines. His Chinese colleagues in the directorate are Wu Ting-fang and Ts'ai Chao-chi, a former American student. These gentlemen, although fairly conversant with foreign affairs, have no pretensions to be educationists: it is devoutly to be hoped that they will have sufficient sense to give Mr. Tenney a free hand. Mr. Tenney has met with great success in a private school for the sons of Chinese gentlemen, and has had a large and varied experience with officials. He was for some years tutor to the Viceroy's sons and is a *persona grata* to Li. Public opinion up here is very favourable to the new departure and it is held auspicious that so great and unexpected a change should mark Wang Wên-shao's acceptance of office. Shêng Taotai's co-operation in the affair was also a surprise. At the same time the older and more cautious critics think the whole thing will end in addle from the simple fact that no career will be opened in due course to the men of foreign education. Their non-participation in the honours of native scholarship and office will work disastrously.

The Viceroy Chang is said to be about to start a military academy in Nanking upon the Tientsin model. There will be a European officer, and his assistants will be ten graduates of the Tientsin Academy and three or four foreign officers. The land for the new academy has been bought and the foundations will be laid in a fortnight. As it is intended to commence the school as soon as possible, a number of old government buildings will be utilised at once for the purpose, more than a hundred candidates having already had their names enrolled on the Academy books. The *N.-C. Daily News* contains a paragraph concerning another project of this enlightened Viceroy. It says that a native paper publishes a rumour which, upon enquiry, it is inclined to believe in the main correct although the figures are probably excessive. The rumour avers that the Viceroy Chang is now in correspondence with with Governor Chao of Soochow for the establishment of a Bureau for the encouragement of manufactures after modern methods. It is proposed that the provincial government guarantee a foreign loan of ten million taels as a sinking fund, and that a further sum of Tls. 2,500,000 for working capital be lent from the provincial government treasury. This large sum is to be the capital for the establishment of five cotton spinning mills and five silk filatures. The official Directors are to be the Provincial Treasurer and Customs Taotais this side of the Yangtze, and the commercial Directors are to consist of several of the most influential among the mercantile classes in Shanghai and Soochow. Tls. 3,000,000 are to be employed for the establishment of silk filatures, and Tls 7,000,000 for cotton spinning mills, the interest on the loan to be at most six and at least five per cent. per annum. These ten establishments are to be farmed out to as many syndicates, the members of which are to pass a satisfactrory examination as to resources in private capital, etc., by the commercial Director of the said Bureau.

A lecture recently delivered in Shanghai by Dr. Arthur Smith, a gentleman whose knowledge of Chinese characteristics is unique, furnishes the text for the following interesting article by the *N.-C. Daily News*:—In the able lecture given by Dr. Arthur Smith on Monday evening last at the Astor Hall, he referred to many of the differences between China and India. One difference described by him is that China has history and India has none. The Confucianist belongs to a race which is agricultural and commercial, and he never forgets the practical view of things, while the Brahmin is a dreamer on the infinite and the eternal, whose chief aim is to keep himself free from the population of the surrounding world. He will not write the history of passing events because he feels a great contempt for them, but the Confucianist, the Chinese scholar, has other sympathies. He desires success in life, family, prosperity, the knowledge of social facts, the securing of social position, the most profitable expenditure of wealth, and he spends money in printing historical works when he become rich. If he is a scholar he enjoys the compilation of a book containing a detailed account of his native city, and in this book he will insert all the names by which the city has been known for two thousand years. Biographies of all the celebrated persons who have been born there, or have lived there, or have been magistrates there, are contained in the same book. The revenue collected, the productions of the soil, the old customs maintained among the people, are described. Just as we have country histories, so have the Chinese. There is among them a love of home and of archæology which leads them to compile and print such works, showing that they have in this respect the European spirit. The Chinese are interested in political matters, and have made for themselves a code of laws which has been a model for the legislation of Korea and Japan. The making of these laws has been with the Chinese the steady work of time. In India there is the Hindoo law, Mahommedan law, and the British law. In China the law is entirely of native origin and originates in daily edicts. A crowd of transcribers are always at work in the palace; every branch of the administration has writers, and everything that passes is on record. The Emperor's words at audience and the answers to his enquiries given to Ministers and all persons admitted to audience upon their knees, are taken down at the time. These daily records of things done are the foundation of Chinese history. After a suitable interval a Minister is appointed to made up a collection of documents in some department; he is assisted by a commission and a ponderous book is the result. The commission appointed to compile the complete description of Anhui province numbered one hundred and eighty persons,

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whose names appear at the beginning of the work. At the head of this list are eight persons who had been Viceroys or acting Viceroys of the Two Kiang provinces. Shen Pao-cheng stands first and Tsêng Kwo-fan second. Then comes the name of Ma Sin-i, the Mahommedan who was assassinated at Nanking while Viceroy there. The eighth on the list is Liu Kun-yi, the same who has lately been placed over the army to organise and improve it on Western lines, so that China may not again prove unequal to her island neighbour and adversary in a great war. Three names follow, of those who have been governors of Anhui, and then succeed a chief manager of the grain tribute and four persons who have acted as provincial chief examiners from whom all the Bachelors of Arts of the province receive the degrees. We have here sixteen persons on whom has devolved the chief responsibility in the preparation of the book, which consists of 360 chapters. But in the commission are embraced many *chih-hsiens* who have collected information on the city which they govern. There are also prefects, who do the same for their prefectures. But the real workers are the *literati* who have private property and official titles, and they make up the concluding and most efficient portion of the long list. They belong to the province and have libraries, while their contributions of material are forwarded to the editors, who are men possessed of literary skill, archæological zeal, and leisure for the work. The official class in China are all *literati*. When in office they all have under them an army of clerks constantly recording the day's incidents. Thus, every prefect and city magistrate is in fact a historian acting with the unremitting assistance of his scribes. The Hindoo dream of an ideal world, pantheistic or nihilistic or atheistic, has no place in the Chinese official mind. What the Chinese administrative officer thinks of and by aid of his secretaries records, are such things as we find in this book published eighteen years ago, such as the decrees of the emperors having reference to Anhui province. Then comes its astrology, its boundaries, its physical features, the changes of time in its names and jurisdiction, its mountains and rivers and the customs of the people. Its custom houses and antiquities have to be described as well as its ancient temples and tombs. Statistics follow embracing the river navigation, the census of the population, the land tax and taxes on all agricultural productions, and these are mentioned with much detail. The eminent men of the province all have their biographies in the book as well as the women who have become famous for filial piety and chastity. At the end the books written by authors in the province are mentioned, and to close all, supernatural occurrences are recorded and there are notices of famous Buddhists and Taoists. History is the inevitable result of the Chinese political and social system. By carrying out their ideas age after age on one complete but self-consistent system, they have succeeded in spreading their laws and method of political administration among more people than have ever before, since man appeared on earth, been subject to one emperor and to one organised legal control, and this is the reason that while India has submitted to be governed by outside races, China has always been under the government of her own laws. China makes industry the basis of the social fabric, while in India a religious caste has usurped the position of superiority to the rest of the nation. Our moral sympathy and our intellectual consent must be given to the people who have consistently from the first devoted themselves to the development of practicable political ideas, through which countless millions may live together in comparative peace welded into one great unity. It is the greatest of pities that China cannot be faithful to her own ideal, noble as it, and that by her unfaithfulness she falls daily into disagreement with her neighbours far and near.

The latest news in reference to the Kansu rebellion is that the Boards of Civil Appointments and of War having recommended that the Viceroy of Shen-Kan, Yang Chang-chün, and the Commander-in-Chief of Kansu, Liu Chen-kuan, should be instantly dismissed from office and stripped of their rank and titles, for their negligence in relation to the Mahommedan Rebellion: the Emperor confirms the latter part of these sentences, but allows the culprits to retain their posts. The Viceroy is now making frantic efforts to materialise his paper army. Meanwhile, news has reached Pekin that the important city of Sining, in West Kansu, is entirely invested by the rebels, and is likely to soon fall into their hands. The Shantung authorities recently captured a large quantity of gunpowder, Mauser and Winchester cartridges, and nearly a million leaden bullets supposed to be on their way to supply the rebels in Kansu. These warlike stores were conveyed by about 80 men all of whom have escaped arrest. It is reported from Pekin that a brigade of 10,000 men under General Ch'eng Ch'ung-tsou of Hupeh, quartered near Pekin during the war, who were on the point of disbandment the other day, have suddenly received orders from the supreme War Council to be ready, instead, to go off on active service —probably to Kansu.

The *China Gazette* of the 16th inst., contains the following paragraph:—We learn that the British Government has offered the post of Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary at Pekin to Sir Robert Hart, the present Inspector-General of the I. M. Customs.

The *North China Daily News* of the 19th inst., published a telegram which it received from Pekin, under date Sept. 18th, 9 a.m. It had reference to the Shanghai-Nanking railway, and ran as follows:—"The Emperor gave consent a short time ago to a joint proposition of the Viceroy Chang of Nanking and Governor Chao of Soochow to connect the latter city with Shanghai by a railway. When this is completed the line is to be extended northwards through Wusieh on to Chinkiang, and from thence westwards a branch line will be laid to Nanking. All these cities are in Kiang-su province. A secret decree has been sent to the two high officials to commence work as soon as practicable. This is apparently to forestall an anticipated demand of the Japanese to be allowed to build a railway between Shanghai and Soochow and Hangchow as soon as these two ports shall have been formally opened as Treaty ports. It is also averred that the Emperor has given his consent to a scheme strongly recommended by the Viceroy Chang with the cognisance of Governor Chao, for the establishment by a Chinese syndicate of a river steamboat service between Shanghai, Soochow, and way towns. This new Steamboat Company will also undertake to carry the mails. The Kiangsu Government will be given the power to inaugurate the postal administration on European lines, and to simplify matters as well as to avoid friction, the numerous private postal agencies will be given the opportunity of acting as government agencies at the various towns. There is every reason to believe that the first two schemes named above will be inaugurated very shortly, the various head officers of the movement having been already fixed upon by the provincial government in question."

His Excellency F. M. Knobel, the new Minister for the Netherlands to Pekin, arrived at Shanghai by the last English mail. H.E. was formerly Minister to Teheran.

Work has already commenced on the Shanghai Ewo Cotton Mill. The land secured for the site of the mill is next to the old Ningpo Wharf and measures about sixty *mow*. The locality is said to be very favourable, being situated in the centre of the shipping and affording facility for labour. The order for the machinery from Messrs. Platt Bros., of Oldham, is completed.

The Shanghai morning journal says that the boom there in land and houses continues. The "Judge's Bungalow" has been sold for Tls. 18,000; the Agra Bank's property on the Carter Road, including the houses built by the late Mr. Benjamin, for Tls. 50,000; and the Agra Bank's property on the Kiukiang and Szechuen Roads for Tls. 65,000.

The acting agent of the China Mutual S.N. Co., Limited, in Shanghai, has received the following telegram from the Managing Director at London:—"Pay Interim Dividend of 3 per cent. on the Company's Preference Shares, this being at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. Dividend payable 1st October (being for the) six months ending 30th June 1895."

The new Viceroy of the Liang-kiang is said to be Yu Chih-kai, a Hunan man, who has been Provincial Judge of Szechuen, and Treasurer and Acting Governor of Kuangtung. He retired in May, 1890.

A Chinese Native paper states that Tang Ma Hing, ex-governor of Formosa or President of the Taiwan Republic, has up to the present resided in Bubbling Well-road after making his escape from Formosa. He left for Nanking recently, his object being to interview H.E. Chang Chih-tung on some important affairs. It is rumoured that he will make his return voyage to Hangchow to be present at his son's wedding.

The succession to Sir Nicholas O'Conor, says the *N.C.-Daily News*, seems to lie between Sir Arthur Nicolson and Mr. Henry Howard. The former has had considerable experience of the East, having been Second Secretary at Pekin in 1876 and Secretary of Legation and *Chargé d'Affaires* at Teheran. Mr. Howard was Secretary of Legation at Pekin in 1887, and made a tour of inspection of the Consulates at the Treaty Ports of China in the last four months of 1889 before returning home. It is not expected, however, that Sir Nicholas will leave Pekin for some time, and possibly the definite appointment of his successor may be deferred for the present.

On Thursday evening, Sept. 19th, there was quite a riot in North Szechuen Road, says our Shanghai morning contemporary, four French sailors having been attacked by upwards of a hundred jinrickisha coolies, who had armed themselves with the wooden seats of their vehicles. A foreigner living in the vicinity went to the assistance of the men-of-war's men and by a judicious application of a stick succeeded in rescuing them till the police arrived on the scene. The row was caused through the sailors not paying their fares, upon which the coolies raised the cry "*Ta, ta,*" and had it not been for the timely intervention of the resident, the sailors would have fared worse than they did.

While the *Lyeemoon* was discharging cartridges into lighters in the powder limits at Shanghai on Wednesday, the 18th inst., a case dropped and there was an explosion, a number of the cartridges going off, but fortunately nobody was hurt.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* says: "We learn that it is stated that the Japanese will evacuate the Liaotung Peninsula within two months."

A high officer, a bannerman named Yan Mao, has been appointed to investigate some special matter in the Amur province. The Viceroy Wang is dismissing a number of the Grand Secretary Li's *protégés*. The Lazarists have established a school at Tientsin for teaching Chinese boys the French tongue.

Dr. Marshall, while passing through Tientsin on his way to his station at Laoling, was accidentally shot in the thigh with a revolver by a friend who "did not know it was loaded."

The Tientsin journal learns that "the Chinese policeman who rescued Mr. J. F. Moore, at the risk of his own life, during the assault at Shanhaikuan, has been presented with a very fine silver watch by the employés of the Railway. There is also, we believe, to be a present of a more substantial nature later on. Such pluck and daring in a Chinaman, where a foreigner is being assaulted, do not come under our notice every day."

Trustworthy news from the north reaches the *China Gazette*, that as a further step toward the settlement of the French claims in Szechuen the mandarin of the town of Mienlin, in the Kienchuen district, has been degraded and cashiered.

Eight cows died at the Wakana Dairy, Ota, Yokohama, on the 22nd inst. The veterinary surgeon stated that they were attacked by fever. A general meeting of dairy keepers was promptly held to discuss measures to prevent its spread, but no other animals have since been affected.

THE ITO CABINET.

THE calm that has succeeded the storm recently raised by Opposition agitators, is commented on by one or two vernacular journals. The *Kokkai*, for example, writing in a strain distinctly unfriendly to the Premier, is nevertheless compelled to note that he has achieved the prime object of a statesman, silenced his enemies and satisfied his friends. A journal frankly disposed to cast up its country's accounts would itself become the appraiser of what Japan has done and what she has left undone within the past two years. But the *Kokkai* adopts the ungracious device of making Marquis ITO chaunt his own pæans through the medium of the always available anonymous interviewer. Yet, in whatever form the subject be introduced, it must set the public thinking. There have been in the story of Japan's career during the past quarter of a century many pages that her friends would be pleased to blot from the record. But it is undeniable that through evil report and good report she has struggled steadily forward, until the goal of her ambition is fairly in sight. For many years the strength of Occidental conservatism threatened to prove too much for her. The idea of admitting an Eastern State to the comity of Western nations had never been seriously entertained in Europe until Japan became its exponent, and even in her case the possibility that such a step might be taken, seemed always so remote that those most directly concerned felt no grave uneasiness. They saw nothing conclusive in the complaisant action of the United States, nor yet in the friendly consent of Germany, for they understood well that so long as England remained obdurate, the end could never come. To placate England, then, was part of the great task that lay before the ITO Cabinet when it came into office. There was also the scarcely smaller difficulty of placating Japan. For such a storm of political discusion raged around the question that little hope remained of a solution satistory to all parties. Japan's historians, therefore, will have much to say about the double victory achieved in 1893, when for the first time an Oriental State was admitted to equal intercourse with the West, and when the terms of admission were such as to silence the clamour of hostile factions at home. Under different circumstances such a victory would have evoked a burst of national applause. But it had been preceded by so many disappointments that when success finally came, the nation had grown weary waiting for it, and public satisfaction was marred by a sense that justice had been too tardy to deserve enthusiastic welcome. The Cabinet might not expect full recognition from men in such a mood, but what had been accomplished could not fail to be appreciated one day or another. After that, fate certainly treated Japan kindly in preparing for her an opportunity to prove her title to the confidence that Europe had placed in her. The war with China went far to justify England's practical acknowledgment of Japan's claims; for though a display of martial prowess does not necessarily imply judicial and legislative competence to assume charge of foreign life and property, no doubt can be entertained that the qualities shown by Japan in her struggle with China—qualities of organization, of prevision, of strategy, of patience, of general obedience to the best canons of civilized belligerency—indicated a nation against which Europe could no longer justly discriminate. To the ITO Cabinet the country owes the honour of having played so distinguished a part upon a world-watched stage. Elsewhere the honour would have been fully recognised. But it has not here received more than a fraction of due recognition. Japan's misfortune at present is a strong predominance of the personal element in her politics. Her parties represent not principles but men. We may hope that, by and by, this fault, inevitable, perhaps, in a transition stage from government by prominent clansmen to government by great parties, will disappear. But for the moment it throws a disfiguring shadow over national affairs. There seems to be no such thing as public gratitude. Political leaders that ought to start the chorus of approval when the nation's interests are really served and its prestige is conspicuously raised, appear to remember only that their rivals have been successful, not that their country has benefited. Journalists, that should know something of the important share taken by civil officials in the successful conduct of war, and above all, in the negotiation of an honorable and profitable peace, disingenuously endeavour to distinguish between the fighting forces and the Cabinet, and ungratefully forget the many advantages secured by the Shimonoseki Treaty in order to recall the complications connected with Liaotung. Possibly the prevalence of this spirit of detraction hides from Japan the real significance of her warlike and diplomatic successes, and probably she is fortunate in her want of perception, for certainly the danger involved in over-estimating what she has done is above all things to be dreaded. Yet, if she is without a due sense of gratitude for what her statesmen have already accomplished, she may also have a very imperfect idea of the greatly increased responsibilities that she has herself incurred, and in that direction, too, there lies considerable peril. Altogether the so-called "sweets of power" in Japan have at present a very bitter element. The approval of a grateful country, than which no higher incentive exists for public servants, is wanting, and instead of the warm applause of their contemporaries her statesmen must be content to await the cold verdict of future historians.

THE "CHISHIMA"-"RAVENNA" CASE.

MANY comments have been elicited by the unexpected ending of the *Chiskima-Ravenna* case, the general sentiment apparently being one of surprise that the Peninsular and Oriental Company, by agreeing to pay a sum of £10,000, should have virtually admitted that the *Ravenna* may have been to blame. Such an admission is certainly calculated to astonish critics originally confident in the correctness of the verdict pronounced by the naval court of inquiry. The public has not forgotten how curiously intemperate these critics showed themselves in the face of the slightest contradiction. One would have supposed from their angry diatribes that the *Japan Mail* had committed a cardinal sin because it denied, not that the blame rested with the *Chishima*, for that point was never discussed in these columns, but that the Japanese Government was bound to abide by the finding of the British Naval Court. In point of fact the findings of such courts have often been reversed by legal tribunals—instances of the kind are on record with regard to collisions even in Japanese waters—and at any rate to carry into a court of law a case already decided by a naval court of inquiry, is as natural a proceeding as to appeal from a lower to a higher tribunal. If, as the critics asserted, Japan should have bowed submissively to the finding of the naval court, it follows that she should have agreed, without further query, to compensate the Peninsular and Oriental Company for the damage sustained by the *Ravenna*. On the other hand, had the finding of the naval court been adverse to the *Ravenna*, the Peninsular and Oriental Company, by parity of reasoning, would have been bound, then and there, to satisfy the pecuniary claim of the Japanese Government for the total loss of the *Chishima*. We imagine that the critics will pause before they commit themselves to either of these propositions. The fact is that whatever value may attach for some purposes to the findings of a naval court of inquiry, they have no competence whatever as regards the pecuniary liability of the parties concerned, nor are they even admitted in evidence by a court of law. These things were pointed out by us at the time, and simple and self-evident as they are, they drew upon our head a storm of abuse so hot and so blind that violent race prejudice had evidently over-ridden the commonest principles of justice. Had the *Ravenna* been in charge of an Englishman at the time of the catastrophe, it would have been possible to attribute some part of our assailants' anger to natural confidence in the navigating capacity of a fellow-national as compared with that of a Japanese naval officer. But since she was in charge of a

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Japanese pilot, the question between her and the *Chishima* was not one of British maritime skill *versus* Japanese, but of Japanese against Japanese. That the *Ravenna* was owned by a British company enlisted British sympathy on her side, as a matter of course; but if she was in the right, why should there be any fear of invoking a British Law Court's decision? However, we need not dwell further upon the disgraceful exhibition of prejudice that marked the criticism of that excited time. Writers that seek to establish their patriotism by violating the attributes held dearest by Englishmen the world over—justice and fair play—do but drag the name of England in the mire.

Concerning the finale of the case, we can not suppose, as some writers do, that the Peninsular and Oriental Company preferred to pay a sum of £10,000 rather than incur the costs of a suit at law. The Company knew well that if they obtained a verdict, their costs would be borne by the other side. Neither can we believe that the embarrassment of collecting evidence had much to do with the result. In that respect both sides laboured under the same difficulty. On the other hand, there is surely no ground for the hypothesis advanced by a Kobe journal that the suit having been instituted by the Government at a time when anti-foreign feeling ran high, has been compromised in deference to the calmer tone prevailing to-day, and because of diplomatic regard for England's friendship. The Government, we imagine, simply pursued what it believed to be its rights, and assuredly we do not rate Japan's estimate of Englishmen so low as to suppose that she fears to excite their anger by appealing to their law courts for justice. The question of money, we have the best authority for saying, had no primary importance in the eyes of the Japanese Government. They sought principally to vindicate the reputation of their naval officers against the slur cast upon it by the finding of the court of inquiry, and that being their prime purpose, the amount paid by the Peninsular and Oriental Company in acknowledgment of the *Ravenna's* possible fault mattered little as compared with the acknowlegment itself. For we are compelled to regard the action of the Peninsular and Oriental Company in the light of such an acknowledgment. With all the facts of the case before them, the Company's legal advisers doubtless concluded that they could not reckon with certainty upon a favourable verdict. We have no intention, at this late period, of entering into a detailed discussion of the case. But to show our readers how much even British master-mariners found to say on behalf of the *Chishima*, we now print two of the letters addressed by them to this journal immediately after the finding of the naval court of inquiry.

THE LATE COLLISION AT SEA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Perhaps too much has already been written in connection with the late deplorable collision between the *Chishima* and *Ravenna*, but as much unfairness and even race prejudice have been exhibited in all the matter that has appeared thus far, I beg space for a few unbiassed opinions formed after careful perusal of the full report of the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry held at the British Consulate at Yokohama. In order to make myself thoroughly understood, I shall be obliged to quote some of the Articles from the "Rules and Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea."

> Article 15.—"If two ships under steam are meeting end on, or nearly end on, so as to involve risk of collision, each shall alter her course to starboard, so that each may pass on the port side of the other. The only cases to which this article applies are: When each of the two ships is end on, or nearly end on, to the other, in other words, to cases in which, by day, each ship sees the masts of the other in a line, or nearly in a line, with her own; and *by night*, to cases in which *each ship* is in such a position as to see *both the sidelights of the other*."

It seems to me from the statements made in the British Naval Court that the *Chishima* and *Ravenna* were not in a position to see *each other's both sidelights*, and, therefore, by the above rule, neither of them was compelled to port her helm. Consequently, the *Chishima* was within her rights when she starboarded her helm in order to clear a shoal on her starboard bow, she having at the same time ample room to clear the *Ravenna*, if the latter vessel had not interfered with her by porting to her green light, against all rules. The statements made to the Court that the *Ravenna* ported her helm several times to clear the *Chishima* are misleading, and not borne out by other statements; for instance: The *Ravenna's* proper course from the position ½ mile off Nabotsuna-shima was S.61°W. true, but instead of steering this course she first steered S.50°W. true, and thereafter S.55°W. true; and here it must be borne in mind that the *Chishima's* white and red lights were in sight all that time. Why was the *Ravenna* not kept on her proper S.61°W. true course at once under those circumstances? Does it support the statement that the *Ravenna* ported to clear the *Chishima*, or to give her more room? In my humble opinion it does not; but, on the contrary, it plainly shows that the *Ravenna* was courting the danger of a collision, and it shows nothing else.

The Chief Officer's statement that he feared the pilot was edging the *Ravenna* too close to shore, is also misleading, and was apt to lead the Court to the belief that the *Ravenna* had ported much, even to a dangerous degree, in order to give the *Chishima* room, and to avoid the collision. Let us, therefore, consider what the Chief Officer stated afterwards. He said:—"I then went to the *starboard* side of the bridge and looked through my glasses to the Island of Oishi. I knew by *former* experience this should be *a few degrees* on the *starboard* bow if we were steering a safe course. It was a minute or two [during which he could not have watched the *Chishima's* lights very closely] before I could make out the Island *satisfactorily*, the night being so dark." Does this statement not clearly show that the *Ravenna* had at that time not ported to the westward of her proper and usual course?

The position where the *Chishima* now lies was scarcely taken into consideration by the Court, although it is known to be in 33°56′20″ N. and 132°40′ E. The *Ravenna's* position at 4.45 a.m. was ½ mile off Nabotsuna-shima Point. Now, placing the ruler over these two positions, it will be found that in order for the *Ravenna* to reach the point of collision she would have had to be steered S.53° W. true 2¼′. Comparing this with the statements that she steered S. 50° W. and S. 55° W. true, and that she was heading West at the time of the collision, it can be readily seen that she did not port after having been placed on the course S. 55° W. true. This being established, it is readily understood that the orders "port" and "hard-a-port" were given within a very short interval; also, that from the time of the order "hard-a-port," to the time of collision the *Ravenna* must have changed her course about 35° to starboard. I therefore am of opinion that the *Chishima* had ample time to pass ahead of the *Ravenna*, if the latter had done the right thing, namely, kept on her course. The distance run from ½ mile off Nobotsuna-shima point to place of collision, namely, 2¼ miles, has not been satisfactorily accounted for in time, and I am of opinion that some two or three minutes elapsed between putting the *Ravenna's* helm hard-to port and the time of the collision. The place where the *Chishima* is said to now lie is southward of the *Ravenna's* proper and usual course.

> Art. 16.—If two ships under steam are crossing so as to involve risk of collision, the ship which has the other on her own starboard side, shall keep out of the way of the other.
>
> Art. 22.—When by the above rules one of two ships is to keep out of the way, the other shall keep her course.

When, according to statements, the *Chishima's* green light appeared, it was only one point on the *Ravenna's* port bow—(it seems a pity that its distance was not more fully investigated)—and then the *Ravenna's* helm was put hard to port; after this the Chief Officer stated: "I watched the *Chishima* for a *second* or *two*, expecting to see her open her red light again, instead of which she *forged across our bows with great rapidity*. I did not think that it was possible to clear her with the helm, so I jumped to the telegraph and rung 'stop' and 'full speed astern.'"

Why did the *Ravenna* do the only thing which she ought not to have done? Why did she port when, according to Articles 16 and 22, she ought to have kept her course? The *Chishima's* green light appearing showed plainly that the *Chishima* intended to cross the *Ravenna's* bows. Why was this not understood by the pilot of the *Ravenna*? Had the pilot acted in accordance with Rules 16 and 22, there would not have been a collision. Even after the pilot found that he had made a mistake and endeavoured to rectify the same by ordering the *Ravenna's* helm to "hard-a-starboard," the collision might probably have been prevented, judging from the angle at which the *Chishima* is said to have been struck, if the Chief Officer had not interfered with the pilot's intention by putting the engine to "full speed astern," for every nautical man knows that putting the engines (right-angled propeller) to full speed astern is equal to giving the vessel port helm. The Chief Officer, in this case, perhaps unintentionally, foiled the pilot's aim.

> Art. 18.—Every steamship when approaching another ship so as to involve risk of collision shall slacken her speed, or stop and reverse, if necessary.

It was not the *Chishima's* place to slow because the faster she went the sooner she would cross the *Ravenna's* course; but the *Ravenna* should certainly have slowed a long time before she eventually did. She should at the very least have slowed and stopped as soon as the *Chishima's* green light appeared. In my opinion she should have slowed her engines at the time she was steering S. 50 W. true, instead of steering her proper course, namely, S. 61°W. true, having at that time the meeting steamer's white and red light in sight.

> Art. 24.—Nothing in these rules shall exonerate any ship, or the owner, or master, or crew thereof from the consequences of any neglect to carry lights or signals, or of any neglect to keep a proper look-out, or of the *neglect of any precautions which may be required by the ordinary practice of Seamen*, or by the special circumstances of the case.

Did the *Ravenna* neglect any precautions which are requried by the ordinary practice of seamen? It seems to me that she did. Apart from what has already been stated regarding the neglect to steer her proper course when meeting the *Chishima*, she neglected to go at a moderate speed in comparatively narrow waters. She neglected to steer by the wheel on the bridge where the helmsman would have been under the immediate observation of the pilot. She neglected to give two blasts of her steam-whistle when her helm was put "hard-a-starboard," and three blasts when her engines were put to "full speed astern."

Many statements were made at the inquiry not fully borne out by others, but as my letter is already longer than I anticipated I shall conclude by merely drawing attention to the Chief Officer's statement, namely:—"When I thought we were sinking I jumped forward to the fore hatch turning out the able seamen who were berthed close to the hatchway. I told them to jump down as soon as possible to see if there was any water in the hold. On lifting off the hatch I found no water, and concluded we were not in immediate danger ourselves. I *then* called out, "Away accident boat," and *then* heard the captain give the order, "Lower away all boats."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—The *Ravenna-Chishima* collision is the local "Topic," more especially as the verdict of the Japanese Naval Court of Inquiry has acquitted Captain Kabaraki of blame in the matter of the collision. Let us look into this matter a little more closely than the Courts of Inquiry have done. According to the testimony of the *Ravenna's*

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officers, she had run about 147 miles in a little over 10 hours; and according to the time of the moon she should have had a head tide nearly all the way. This should have given her a speed over the bottom of rising 14 knots, whereas it was testified that her speed was 12·5.

The French Engineer of the *Chishima* testified that up to the time of the collision the *Chishima's* engines were making 125 revolutions per minute, while the Captain in his evidence says his ship was steaming between 9½ and 10 knots. There is something wrong about the stated speed of both ships.

The fact of the matter seems to be this:—The two ships were approaching each other at a speed of about 29 knots, and before they were aware of the situation they met. That they were approaching each other nearly head on until a collision was inevitable, appears a positive fact. That from the time the *Ravenna's* engine telegraph was rung "full speed astern" until the shock of the collision, was not 60 seconds, seems plain.

The law says—"Each shall do *his utmost* to avoid a collision." Did the *Ravenna* take a proper and safe position 15 minutes before the collision? No. Ten minutes before? No. Five minutes before? No. At no time previous to the collision was the *Chishima* three points on the port bow of the *Ravenna*—a proper and safe position. Did the *Ravenna* keep a good safe distance on her proper side, so that, should the other approaching ship draw too near, through bad steering or by having to diverge from her course to avoid fishing boats or junks (contingencies that should be provided for as far as possible in narrow waters) a collision could have been avoided? She did not.

Had the *Ravenna* given the approaching *Chishima* early and unmistakable information of what she intended to do, there is no question but that this disastrous accident would have been avoided. From the evidence there was ample time for each ship to have secured a safe position. The writer of this has some little knowledge of the locality of the collision, and there is ample room for twenty ships to pass, but it was, "What is the other fellow going to do?" until too late. That experienced local ship-masters would have rendered a different verdict from that given by the Naval Court, held at the British Consulate, I am positive. "Both to blame, lump and divide the damage," at the very least. There is too much of "Oh, the Japanese are entirely to blame of course." I beg to differ totally from such an opinion. I believe the *Ravenna* to be equally to blame. Certainly no unbiased *sailor* can acquit the *Ravenna* of *all* blame.

All things considered, the Peninsular and Oriental Company seem to have acted prudently and conscientiously in this embarrassing affair, and it is permitted to hope that by an amicable compromise both sides have contributed to allay the painful feelings arising out of the catastrophe.

JAPAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARD FOREIGNERS.

SILENCE has fallen upon the voices that formerly devoted themselves to clamouring against the foreigner. They were never very influential voices, nor yet very numerous, but they made noise enough to be disagreeable. Why have they ceased? The explanation is not difficult, we think. It is furnished by two facts—Treaty Revision is practically accomplished, and Japan feels that her success in war has rescued her from the ill concealed contempt against which she used to chafe impatiently. Some critics insist that a rooted antipathy to foreigners exists among the Japanese, and that the ebullitions frequently witnessed three years ago were evidences of that sentiment. We could never endorse such a view. It is impossible to conceive a national conspiracy for the purpose of concealing popular feeling. At no time could it be truly said that the Japanese, as a nation, were unfriendly to foreigners. The same courtesy, the same hospitality, the same helpfulness invariably greeted the stranger wherever he travelled in the interior. Such a state of affairs, continued year after year without change, could not be the outcome of a simulated mood. It indicated the prevalence of genuine good will. If there came a time when in the streets of Tokyo, in the columns of second-rate vernacular newspapers, and in the environs of the foreign settlements, the European or American found himself exposed to insult, we must not forget that every month of that evil era had been preceded by a year of freedom from such exhibitions of hostility, and that special incentives operated to provoke them. No nation composed of the human beings that people this planet could have passed through the struggle from which Japan has just emerged, without some access of soreness and umbrage. After all, whatever inferiority Western critics may have thought that they perceived in Japan she could not be expected to perceive it herself. In her own eyes she was always an independent State, entitled to full recognition of her sovereign status, and fighting against an injustice that she considered flagrant. The foreigner was the living representative of that injustice; above all, the resident foreigner, who never spared any effort to prove her unfitness for the functions that she strove to have restored to her. We often marvelled at the patience displayed by the Japanese under these circumstances; at the absence of vindictive writing in their journals and of recriminatory conduct on the part of the people. Then came the time when Treaty Revision was dragged into the arena of party politics; when the agitators of the Opposition advanced a theory that the only elements needed to secure success were greater self-assertion on Japan's part and the abolition of all non-conventional or illicit privileges, the enjoyment of which rendered the situation tolerable to foreigners. The enunciation of this doctrine, its plausibility, and the vigorous crusade undertaken by its supporters, certainly produced a temper which, in some of its more unreasoning displays, might easily be mistaken for anti-foreign prejudice. But there was also produced at the same time an openly opposing sentiment, having for its representatives not only the whole official class, but also the most powerful political party in the State, the *Jiyu-to*. Nobody observing these conditions ought to have imagined that a reaction against foreign intercourse could ever assume national dimensions in Japan, or that the old *Joi* spirit survived in any form stronger than an impulse of self-assertion. The Japanese did sorely want to assert themselves; they did long to prove that they were not the contemptible mannikins described by Western critics, and that they deserved something better than they supercilious tolerance of Europe and America. An ambition of that kind is variously translated into action according to the mood or intelligence of the translator. It inspires the student to shout challenges, the street gamin to throw stones, and the petty journalist to pen scurrilities. During the recent war, something worse threatened, for a moment. The Japanese were shocked and bitterly chagined to find that in a tremendous crisis of their national destiny the resident foreigner stood, as a rule, against them, and made no secret of his desire to see them defeated. There was an intelligible reason for that unfriendly display: everything tending to raise Japan's prestige tended also to weaken the objections urged against her full exercise of sovereign rights. Men with a rooted aversion to being placed under her jurisdiction were naturally unwilling that she should win such renown as might hasten that contingency. Otherwise the general sentiment of the foreign residents would certainly have been with Japan. But the Japanese themselves could scarcely be expected to understand all these things. They saw only that there were living within their gates strangers inimical to their national success and ready to welcome their defeat by a foreign enemy. For a time it seemed likely that the discovery would create a permanent breach, nor can we be so sanguine as to suppose that its effects will be entirely dissipated for many years to come. But the comfortable assurance that they have given abundant proofs of national virility, and that their right to be respected by the Occident is no longer open to dispute, has probably removed the feeling of soreness from the minds of the Japanese. They are no longer consumed by a morbid anxiety to assert themselves *vis-à-vis* foreigners, and they seem to have lost much of their former sensitiveness to slights or discourtesies. No journalistic campaign was undertaken against the refined female that danced the skirt dance a few weeks ago before the Shrine of Gongen in Nikko, and folks only laughed at the reporter that constructed a column of sensation out of a foreigner's ignorant ride into the precints of a temple. It appears that a better era has dawned. Let us hope that it will be permanent.

"*NOTES ON SHIPPO.*"

MR. JAMES L. BOWES, an indefatigable student and exponent of Japanese Art, has given to the public another beautiful volume entitled "Notes on Shippo," which term, as many of our readers doubtless know, is applied in Japan to enamel, whether of the cloisonné or champlevé style. For our own part, we should not have supposed that Japanese work of this species in pre-Restoration days justified the elaborate attention bestowed upon it

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by Mr. BOWES. Such, certainly, is the opinion of Japanese connoisseurs themselves. They relegate the enameller's art of former days to an altogether auxiliary place, and although in many of their collections vases, bowls, censers, and other objects of Chinese enamel are preserved and regarded with esteem, we are not acquainted with so much as one instance of a pre-*Meiji* Japanese enamel similarly honoured. Mr. BOWES, however, commencing in the early sixties, got together a considerable collection of Japanese enamels—vases, bowls, plates, and so forth—and subjecting them to the very keen analysis characteristic of all his æsthetic researches, arrived at the conclusion that they might be chronologically divided into Early, Middle, and Modern Period wares, the first of these eras, so far as we can gather, being synchronous with the Ming dynasty of China, the Second, ending with the re-commencement of Japan's foreign intercourse; and the third covering the time when a Japanese estimate of Western taste governed the art artizan's designs. More than once already we have expressed emphatic disagreement with this classification, and ready as we are to be convinced by Mr. BOWES' arguments, marshalled in his last publication, we find in them no reason to abandon our original view. Nor, indeed, should we be justified in doing so. For between the date of our first dissent—recorded both in these columns and in "Real Japan"—and the issue of "Notes on Shippo," Mr. BOWES was kind enough to send for our inspection "a number of specimens"—we quote his own words—"comprising the Early, the Middle-period, and the unmistakably Modern Wares." These specimens were submitted by us to numerous connoisseurs and working artists in Japan, whose unanimous and unhesitating verdict was that every one of the examples had been manufactured within the past thirty-five or forty years. In that sense we wrote to Mr. BOWES. Our words are reproduced in "Notes on Shippo":—"The specimens were made in Nagoya; the manufacturers there know them, and are as confident about them as any workman can be about the results of his own handicraft. They represent the work of 1865-75, when the art of cloisonné enamelling was revived in Japan. Not one of these pieces goes further back than 1865." Nay more. We procured from one of these very manufacturers a specimen declared by him, and after close examination considered by ourselves, to be chronologically identical—within reasonable limits—with those of Mr. BOWES. Yet Mr. BOWES was not persuaded. He declares the Japanese craftsman's verdict mistaken; concludes that we accepted his view without due scrutiny, and while admitting that the example sent by us is undoubtedly modern, says that its crude and impure colours and imperfect workmanship differentiate it emphatically from the wares among which Japanese experts class it. Evidently the discussion must remain undecided. If Mr. BOWES will not acknowledge that Japanese manufacturers of *cloisonné* enamel know more about their own handiwork than Western collectors know, we can only admire the courage of his opinions. He may possibly have thought that our declared adherence to a view different from his own had some unwitting effect in inspiring the verdicts we obtained from Japanese artizans and connoisseurs. But it is not toward our witnesses alone that he assumes an incredulous mien. Among his specimens of so-called "Early Enamels" there is a cup bearing, by way of mark, the ideograph *Shô* (荘), or *Shiou*, as Mr. BOWES transliterates it. This mark, on being submitted to an Owari maker, a representative of the KAJI family, was by him pronounced to be part of the name "HAYASHI SHÔGORO," one of the successors and pupils of KAJI. Mr. BOWES rejects the testimony. On what grounds? Because "the piece on which the mark appears is undoubtedly old, and forms part of a group some pieces in which bear unmistakable evidences of great age, the metal foundations having been worn through by use"! He then goes on to contend that "*Shô*" might be a part of "SHÔSUKE," "SHÔBEI," or any other name containing the same ideograph, and that it can no more be taken to mean "SHOGORO" than "son" could be interpreted to indicate "THOMPSON" and not "ROBINSON." Mr. BOWES evidently fails to perceive that when a certain Japanese artizan is known by his brother artizans to have employed a certain ideograph—the significant character in his own name—for the purpose of marking his wares, and when that ideograph is found on a specimen, conjectures founded on the incomplete nature of the mark cease to have any value. The mark is "SHOGORO'S" mark. That is all there is about it. SHOGORO may have copied it from somebody else's mark, or a specimen bearing it may have been copied by some one else from SHOGORO, but it certainly is not the mark of SHÔSUKE or SHÔBEI, since neither of these persons is known to have employed it, or even to have worked in enamels, whereas its use by SHOGORO is an established fact. The same scepticism is shown by Mr. BOWES with reference to another mark, "*Bishu Yasumatsu Chôzo*," which figures on one of his "Middle-period" specimens. This mark the Japanese identify as that of CHOZABURO, a pupil of KAJI TSUNEKICHI, and therefore a *Meiji* workman. But Mr. BOWES thinks that "CHOZO" may be a complete name—which it could not possibly be according to the orthography—and, at any rate, not finding "CHOZABURO" on his own list of Owari *Shippo*-makers, declines to acknowledge the correctness of the Japanese rendering. Scepticism can go no farther. For our own part, our respect for the zealous and painstaking character of Mr. BOWES' researches, as well as for his obvious desire to extract the truth, forbids us to pursue this controversy. Besides, there is little at stake. The specimens in question are very limited in number, and whatever be their origin or date, they occupy a plainly trivial place in Japanese art products. We do not for a moment venture to assert that the ability to manufacture them did not exist at the eras to which they are assigned by Mr. BOWES. But we do believe, in common with Japanese connoisseurs and artizans, that they were manufactured for the foreign market within the past forty years. There are, however, in Mr. BOWES' work, two points that call for comment. In *The Times* of Jan. 1893, appeared a notice of the late Dr. WAAGENER. The biographer of that true artist and noble-hearted man said:—"His main services to Japanese industrial art were two. The first was the improvement which he wrought in *cloisonné* enamels. Up to this time, Japanese *cloisonné* was dull and uninteresting, and received no attention from collectors, but his investigations taught the Japanese craftsmen to prepare and apply colours in such a way that *cloisonné* has now reached a high degree of artistic excellence." Commenting on this, Mr. BOWES writes:—"We may assume that Dr. WAAGENER was one of the numerous class of Europeans who have interpreted to the Japanese craftsmen what is supposed to be foreign taste, according, at least, to the views of the dealers of St. Mary Axe and the Minories, who have brought Japanese pottery and some other branches of art to their present level of degradation." Never was crueller injustice done to the memory of a great man. WAAGENER an interpreter of the canons of bric-à-brac dealers in St. Mary Axe and the Minories! WAAGENER a degrader of Japanese art! No, one, we are persuaded, will more sincerely regret the use of such words than Mr. BOWES when he knows the true character of a man whose talents were as much respected as his gentle, self-effacing instincts were beloved. The second point demanding a passing protest is Mr. BOWES' manner of quoting a comment of our own on the subject of NAMIKAWA SHOSUKE'S "cloisonless" enamels. Here is the quotation:—"We find innumerable specimens of almost shockingly inartistic character. * * * It is incredible that workmen should be deliberately set down to reproduce in enamels, at great outlay of labour and money, designs palpably faultly in drawing and grossly defective in composition." This criticism had no reference whatever to the general nature of NAMIKAWA'S work. It referred explicitly to the fact that despite the laborious and costly nature of his technical processes, the man himself is so far want-

ing in true art instinct as to employ decorative designs quite unworthy of permanent reproduction. Whether NAMIKAWA'S method be theoretically consistent or inconsistent with the logic of art is a question wholly apart from his occasional blunders as to choice of designs, and when Mr. BOWES misconstrues a special comment on the latter subject into a comprehensive verdict on the former, he betrays a want of accuracy that we should not have looked for in his writings. Finally, we do not at all agree with Mr. BOWES as to the present degradation of Japanese "pottery and some other branches of art." Apart from pictorial art—and even in that sphere there are to be found some worthy representatives of the old schools—we are entirely persuaded that, in respect alike of technical skill and decorative excellence, Japanese art products never stood on a higher plane than they do to-day, and that, in several directions, the modern art artizans have far outstripped their predecessors. What is more, we believe that Mr. BOWES himself has contributed materially to this happy result by the prominence into which his many admirable books have brought Japanese art. If we do not agree with all his conclusions, none the less we appreciate his zeal, his discriminating instinct, and his unsparing industry, all of which qualities are well displayed in the volume before us—a beautiful volume, for the rest, as to illustrations, typography, and paper.

PARLIAMENT & THE WHA-SANG ASSASSINATIONS.

IN the course of the debate connected with the Address to the Speech from the Throne, some noteworthy remarks were made in both Houses on the subject of the Wha-sang tragedy. Lord ROSEBERY especially is credited with a statement which, if rightly reported, requires much explanation. He said that "the massacre of missionaries in China formed one of the melancholy consequences of the terrible war which had lately been waged in that country." Such an assertion, coming from an ordinary member of either House, might be attributed to mere ignorance, but how are we to account for it in the mouth of the head of the last Cabinet? There has never been the remotest idea in the East of connecting the Kucheng atrocities with the war between China and Japan. What connection, indeed, can there possibly be? The war never made itself felt at all at Foochow; still less at Kucheng, which is three days' journey farther inland, and no one has ever dreamed of suggesting that the Vegetarians gave any thought to Japan's victory when they drew lots to determine what form their deed of violence should take. It is most improbable that Lord SALISBURY labours under any such delusion. We observe that, referring to the matters mentioned in the Speech from the Throne, he said:—

> Without dwelling on the fact that those who have suffered by those terrible crimes are ministers of religion, looking upon them merely as travellers, British subjects enjoying certain rights under treaty engagements with the Chinese Government, we have a right to feel the deepest indignation at the horrible treatment to which they have been subjected. I am bound to say that feeling, so far as we know, is fully shared by the Chinese Government itself. The Emperor of China caused his Minister at this Court to convey to me the extreme horror and indignation with which he had heard the news, and his resolution to bring to speedy and condign justice those who are guilty of these atrocious crimes. I quite agree with the view the noble lord advanced—or was it by my noble friend behind me?—that it is not only those who were the actual perpetrators of the crime, but also those whose connivance or carelessness may have created the opportunity for the perpetration of the crimes ought equally to be brought under punishment. At present we have every reason to believe that the Chinese Government is earnest in its desire to measure out to them the justice they deserve. Of course, if any different indication shall arise our duty may alter. At present our duty is to urge the Chinese Government to put the machinery of justice in motion and visit the due penalty upon the crimes that have been committed, to support it in that action, and if any neglect or lukewarmness shall be afterwards discoverable it will be our duty to try and supply its defects in that respect.

We are disposed to suspect that Lord SALISBURY has not found the Chinese Government's action quite so satisfactory as their original expressions of regret led him to anticipate. His Lordship committed himself to a serious proposition when he declared that "not only those who were the actual perpetrators of the crime, but also those whose connivance or carelessness may have created the opportunity for the perpetration of the crime, ought equally to be brought under punishment." Very possibly it is to the British Cabinet's resolve to carry that view into effect that the present movements of the Fleet are to be attributed. At first sight it may seem harsh to hold a Government responsible for the protection of a place like the missionary station at Wha-sang. Such a remote and isolated situation could scarcely be guaranteed against mob violence in any country. Sir CHARLES DILKE acted as the exponent of that view when he said:—

> His honorable friend (Mr. Balfour) spoke strongly, indeed, against mob violence, which, he said, any civilised Government ought to be able to put down. But did he know that the Chinese had been hunted for their lives, their houses burned, and their property violently taken from them by mobs in portions of the British Empire, and this country had not been able to perform its treaty obligations towards China? He mentioned this because at moments when public opinion was naturally and violently aroused it was just as well to put in a word of caution and to show there was something to be said for tenderness and care in dealings with the matter.

But the Vegetarians were not a "mob" in the ordinary sense of the term. They were an organized association, of whose existence the authorities had full cognisance and whose continued defiance of the law would long previously have caused the arrest of their leaders and the dispersal of the society in any properly administered country. Such, at any rate, is the impression conveyed by the evidence hitherto published, and such seems to be the view taken by HER MAJESTY'S Government, since, so far as concerns the apprehension and punishment of the assassins themselves, there does not appear to have been, on the part of the local authorities at Kucheng, any display of perfunctoriness or any attempt at evasion sufficient to call for a naval demonstration. It looks as if Lord SALISBURY were determined to give to the Chinese nation a sharp object lesson by bringing to justice not only the miserable rustics that perpetrated the crime "but also those whose connivance or carelessness created the opportunity" for its commission. If that be indeed the decision of the London Cabinet, and if the Fleet is to be employed to give effect to it, complications of a troublesome nature may ensue. Sir CHARLES DILKE'S plea for "tenderness and care" deserves all respect, and we can not but applaud the spirit of frankness and fair play that prompted his remarks. But how long are these outrages to continue? How long are foreign life and property in China to be at the mercy of an ignorant rabble, perpetually misled by their superiors and unrestrained by those whose duty it is to control them? The problem is one of immense difficulty. Apparently, however, the time has come to insist that the responsibility for horrors like that at to Wha-sang shall not be limited to their actual perpetrators, but that every Viceroy, Taotai, Governor, and Magistrate in China shall be personally liable for treaty violations such as a reasonable exercise of zeal and vigilance would prevent. We greatly doubt, indeed, whether the Chinese can be coerced into obeying a creed of that kind without recourse to very far-reaching measures, but if the attempt is to be seriously made, England is unquestionably the Power to make it.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

REV. MR. McCALEB.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with much interest, and certainly have received much instruction from, the recent letters published by you from the pen of the Rev. Mr. McCaleb. I welcome such a learned writer to Japan, and I avail myself of the opportunity to be taught by him. For years I have closely studied the Bible, in search of Truth, but often having been left alone, and unaided, I have not been able successfully to solve some of the great problems of life. The learned writer says, for instance, that for seven hundred years before, the coming of Jesus had been foretold. Will the Rev. Gentlemen tell me where in the Bible are such predictions made? Where is the "Son of God" once mentioned by that name in the Old Testament? An answer will be thankfully received by an

ANXIOUS INQUIRER.

Kobe, September 18th, 1895.

CHINESE CHARACTERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Allow me a few remarks in reply to the letter published in the *Mail* on the 13th.

I think it scarcely just to take no notice whatever of points in which an opponent cannot be confuted. In such cases the author of "Chinese Characters" has the habit of saying "and so on," perhaps meant as a happy persiflage of my own "and so on's" in my first letter. There is, however, a difference between the two. When I say "and so on" I do it

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because in each case I could have increased the number of my examples very considerably, if space had permitted, which, if desired, I am quite ready to prove, whilst his "and so on's" mean nothing but that he is at an end with what he could possibly bring forth.

I most willingly admit that the author is right as to 篤 — this form being better than 篤 — and as to *Kagoshima*, which indeed can be written 麑島 besides 鹿兒島. In the rest of his arguments, however, he has been decidedly unfortunate.

To take first the characters pointed out as erroneous in the beginning of my first letter, I have, as the author says, committed an error, because I considered 復 misprint for 復. Well, if it is no misprint, I wonder the more how the character could find a place in the selection. In Japan it is never used, the best proof of which is its absence from Gring's 8,000 selected Chinese characters, nor indeed, as it seems, in China either, for it is also absent in the Dictionary of Williams, although this work contains about 12,500 characters. I consequently could not but take the occurrence of 復 in a selection of the 4,000 most common characters in Japan for a misprint

I find that he speaks only of 復 and 篤—the two instances already mentioned—but says nothing at all of the eight others except "'and so on' with his corrections." In German we have the saying "to be silent is also an answer." I take silence in this instance as negative testimony to the correctness of my statements, for I can scarcely be expected to accept of the author's summary remark "'And so on' with his corrections" as anything like confutation.

卍 is *not* a Chinese character, but, as is confirmed by the very authority quoted by the author, "a mystic emblem of high antiquity, the *Indian swastika*." The same authority, Williams, also adds "it is the hammer of Thor and is common in Norse mythology." A curious circumstance has still to be mentioned: the questionable "character" in "Chinese Characters" is *not* the 卍 of Williams, but another Buddhistic symbol, the *sauwastika* 卐 (see Chin. characters, p. 22), so that the author's right to appeal to Williams appears a little doubtful.

Many other references are made to Williams' "Dictionary of the Chinese Language." But the question is not, if a character is used in China, but if it is used in Japan. I think I can save me the trouble to point out the great differences in the use of characters here and in China. In a work bearing the title, "Chinese Characters for the use of Students of the Japanese Language," I could not but expect to find Chinese characters treated from the Japanese standpoint, and from that standpoint therefore I thought myself entitled to view it. As the work has the purely practical object to give students of Japanese the characters of most frequent occurrence in this country, the criterion of the characters it contains can only be, if they really are in frequent use here, irrespectively how the case may lie in China. As to the question of "correctness" I have expressly taken care to say "I always give the 'principal,' that is the correct, *or* at least the more usual form first." If this should not be sufficiently clear, I will explain myself still more explicitly: I think the correct form should always be given the preference, unless it has become obsolete in this country, in which case the more usual form ought to have the precedence. If this standpoint is justified, as I think it is when dealing with a work of such an outspoken practical tendency as the work in question, then there can be no doubt that 滋, 携, 場, 岩, and all the rest of the forms to which the author objects, as well as the others recommended by me which he passes with silence, must have the precedence, whether they stand in Williams or not.

As to the forms 凡, 劍, 尊, 研, 弔, 往, 并, 忍, 汚, 添, and 晝, which he takes so much trouble to prove to be the better forms, he must entirely have misunderstood me. I have, in the most distinct manner possible, designated *all* these forms as the better ones, and have suggested the other forms (凢, 劔, 尊, 硏, etc.) as *secondary* ones only,* for which I recommend him to give the passage in my letter his attention once more.

I have still to mention that in my letter 汗 is a misprint for 汙. This latter character, which of course has nothing to do with the former—the rich information on which was unnecessary—is used as a secondary form of 汚, and will be found for instance—in case a misprint should happen again—in the Dictionary of Gring, p. 175, just below 汚.

* I however, notice, that in the case of 忍 and 忽 their respective places appear in my first letter inverted by accident.

Again I have not said that 眞 is not under the Rad. 目. What I have said, namely that "some characters occur under Radicals where under ordinary circumstances they are not looked for," is quite right, for 眞 occurs, *besides* under 目, also under 匕, 局 besides under 尸, also under 口, 染 besides under 木, also under 氵, and 穀 besides under 禾, also under 米. As to 渠, it is true that most in dictionaries it is placed under 氵, although in its present form it more naturally belongs to 木, like 染 and 梁.

I see no occasion to repeat my opinion regarding many of the *kun* or *yomi* in the book. If the author still upholds that *idokoro* is a good *yomi* for 座, or *misu no kuma* for 灣, or *megumu* for 德, or *matsurigotodono* for 衙, our ideas of what are valuable and what are worthless *yomi* differ widely. His statement that the *yomi* is "as every one knows, purely arbitrary," holds good indeed for those "yomi" which are nothing but "mere expletive Japanese translations," as I called them in my first letter.

As I know of no example where 差 is read *shi*, I suggested *sha*, because in 差別, *shabetsu* (difference), it is read so. The other, much more used *on*: *sa* was not mentioned, because that *on* is correct and consequently could not find a place in a list of erroneous *on*'s. 惆 is read *chō*, and not *chū*; it is scarcely ever used except in the two combinations 惆然, *chōzen*, and 惆愁 *chōshū*. According to the dictionary of Gubbins, which is the best authority on such subjects, 捌 is *gai*, not *kai*, and the legal term 捌滯 is *gaitai*, not *kaitai*. 撒 is *not* ordinarily read *san*, but *satsu*—see the eight examples in Gubbins, p. 718. As to 播, I am referred to the "original Chinese" in Williams, p. 1,179, the Kōkijiten and a mysterious "& on." I prefer the authority of Gubbins, who (p. 167) gives eight examples for *han*, but not a single one for *ha*. "旁 is *hō*, *bō* is used, but some dictionaries only give *hō*." Then some dictionaries are wrong, 旁 being actually read *bō*, and never *hō*. There are indeed a great many *on*, which lead a mystic existence in dictionaries only, but they ought not to be given the preference to the *on* in actual use.—牀 is *jō*, not *shō*—see Gubbins, p. 312.—I should like to know, when and where 攘 is read *dō* and *nō*; in the four examples of the most careful and elaborate Dictionary of Gubbins (p. 318), it is read *jō* only. I take also the same authority's *shin* (not *jin!*) for 稔 (p. 824) to be correct. See also Gubbins for 竄, where (p. 1,107), six examples are given for *zan*, but none for *san*. If the *on* of 狩 is *shū* as well as *shu*, then this latter *on* at least ought not to have been omitted; but it is a well known fact, that 狩 is never read *shū*, but always *shu*. "Again, take 簸. In all the dictionaries I have searched the *on* is given as *ha* as I give it, not *hi*." The work of Gubbins then seems not to have been among those dictionaries, as I find in all three examples given there (p. 205) *hi*, and not *ha*.—As 欠 is also read *ketsu* "in colloquial," this *on* ought to have been given, as well as *nitsu* for 日, which is by no means so unusual an *on* as the author seems to imply, Gubbins giving no less than 16 examples of it.

On p. 383 Williams gives not only 減, but also 减 and adds, that the latter form is the more common. But however that may be in China, every student of Chinese characters in Japan knows, that the form 減 is used here almost exclusively, whereas the fo'm 减 is here all but unknown.

How the "intelligent student" is to determine which of two *on* is *Kanon* and which is *Goon* without any information furnished him, I am at a loss to understand.

I am at a still greater loss to understand how it can be asserted that I have "not noticed the presence" of 葬奬boolean 匪 and 叫. First 葬. I have not even so much as *mentioned* this form at all, but I *have* mentioned 葬 as being not in the book. Thereupon I am given the answer: 葬—quite another form—*is* in the book. I really cannot make anything of such refutation. "斃 is (弊!) on page 43, under 廾, see Williams, page 949." But 斃 is *not* on page 43, nor in fact anywhere in the whole book, whatever Williams may have to say on that topic. Besides, how could 斃 stand under the Rad. 廾? It is strange that the author should accuse himself of such a—fortunately wholly imaginary—error. "The character 棐 he will find on page 86 as 棊." I should prefer to find the character 棐 as 棐, and as nothing else. "叫 is on page 25, and so on." 叫 *is* on page 25, and there are also 31 other characters on the same page, but *not* 叫, the character *I* have stated as missing.

There remain three more characters, concerning which I am set at right: 賓, 歡, and 歎. But let us see, how. "賓 is on page 116." Yes, it is, but under the Rad. 貝 instead of 宀. In my letter I have expressly said:—"*It is possible that some of these may be in the book, but certainly I did not find them under their usual Radicals.*" Now 貝 is not the Radical of 賓, but 宀, as every one knows.—"歡 is on page 50, under 懽 with which it is interchangeable (Gubbins Dict. p. 566)." I knew that before, but 歡 ought to stand not "under 懽," but under its Radical 欠. "On page 27 he will find 歎 under 嘆, with which it is interchangeable." This was not unknown to me either, but it does not alter the fact that the place of 歎 ought to be under its Radical 欠, and not "under 嘆," for I suppose that the characters in the book were not arranged after their meaning, but after their Radicals. As to the author's "and so on," by which he implies that also the absence resp. misplacement of the other 15 examples—at least of "most" of them—is a mere fancy of mine, I think I may dismiss it without a further remark.

Finally as to the *nanori*, he says: "If he can read them all correctly he can read most Japanese names." Well, I am quite ready to admit that I think so too. But for all that I am still of the opinion, and perhaps others with me, that such eminently familiar *nanori* as *Yoritomo*, *Iyeyasu* etc. might well have been included. It can be taken for granted that such names will be among those looked for first, and that for instance *Kiyomori* serves the purpose of imparting the acquaintance with 清, *kiyo*, resp. 盛, *mori*, as well as some less conspicuous *nanori*. But setting apart this suggestion which scarcely can be called an "unreasonable" one, I do not find fault with the list in question.

I remain, Sir, yours very sincerely,

P. EHMANN.

Tokyo, Sept. 16th, 1895.

THE CHRIST ACCORDING TO PROPHECY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Of course, the lavish encomiums of "Earnest Inquirer" are not to be taken in a serious way. Nor am I at all sure there is much earnestness in the inquiry; but as there is nothing to lose in so doing I shall give my friend the benefit of the doubt, and proceed with an earnest attempt at a reply nevertheless. I may also be permitted to say that I prefer to decline the honour (?) heaped upon me by the title "Rev." as I am only a common sort of Christian such as you read about in the New Testament.

In my latter of September 9th, will be found the following:—"He came in fulfillment of a certain line of prophecy that had long since gone before upon him, even concerning his name. The name Cæsar was not included among them; they were such as, 'Wonderful,' 'Counsellor,' the 'Mighty God,' Immanuel,' 'Christ' 'Jesus:' all of which had their peculiar significance as to his nature and work." In Isaiah, ninth chapter, we have the following (B.C. about 741): Nevertheless, the dimness shall not be such as was in her vexation, when at the first he lightly afflicted the land of Zebulun, and the land of Naphtali, and afterward did more grievously afflict her by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, in Galilee of the nations. The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. . . . For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called, Wonderful Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Farther, the Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this." Matthew applies the words of Isaiah in the following language (Matt., 4: 12-16). Now when Jesus had heard that John was cast into prison, he departed into Galilee; and leaving Nazareth he came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is upon the seacoast in the borders of Zebulon and Nephthalim. That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias, the prophet, saying, The land of Zebulon,

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and the land of Nephtalim, by the way of the sea, beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; the people which sat in darkness saw a great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up." There can therefore be no doubt that the names, "Wonderful," "Counsellor," "The Mighty God," "the everlasting Father," "The Prince of Peace," were in reference to Jesus. In Isaiah, 7.14., we have the following: "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." Matthew applies the prophet's words, thus: "Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be with child of the Holy Ghost. . . . . Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying, Behold a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us." (see Matt., 1. 28-23). There can be no doubt then that the name Immanuel was also in reference to Jesus. The woman at the well said (John, 4.25), "I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ, when he is come he will tell us all things." How did she know this? From prophecy. Messias (or Messiah) means Christ, or Anointed and whether the one name or the other, be used depends on whether one be a Hebrew, a Greek, or one speaking the English tongue. Daniel says: (B.C. about 538), "Seventy weeks are determined upon the people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness and to seal up the vision and the prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and three score and two weeks: the street shall be built again and the wall, even in troublous times. And after three-score and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined." (Daniel, 9. 24-26). It need hardy be added here that in prophecy a day is taken for a year. In Ezekiel we have: "And when thou hast accomplished them, lie again on thy right side, and thou shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days; I have appointed thee each day for a year" (Ezk., 4 6). See also Numbers, 14.34. The seventy weeks of Daniel then till the time, "to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy" are seventy weeks of years, or 490 years. Shaff and Herzog's Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge has the following note on this point: "Artaxerxes (great warrior). The honorary title of Persian kings. Two are so called in the Old Testsment. 1 Pseudo—Smerdis the Magian, the pretended son of Cyrus, and brother of Cambyses, who seized the throne, B.C. 522, and was murdered after eight months, (Ez. 4. 7-24). 2. Ez. 7: 7 and Neh. 2. 1, both speak of a second Artaxerxes, who is generally regarded as identical with Artaxerxes Longimanus, son of Xerxes, who reigned B.C. 464-425. Therefore Ezra's journey can be set down in B.C. 457, and Nehemiah's B.C. 444." The decree referred to in the prophecy of Daniel was that given to Ezra to rebuild Jerusalem which, according to the authority just quoted and also as high an authority as Sir Isaac Newton, occurred before the birth of Christ 457 years. Jesus being crucified at the age of 33 would make just 490 years till the "anointing of the Most Holy" or till the beginning of the Messiah's reign. That the Christ is referred to therefore, in this prediction of the prophet is very evident, not only from the time of its fulfillment in him but also from a number of other incidents referred to in the same prophecy that were accurately fulfilled in the Christ. Again, in the Psalms of David (B.C. 1047) we have the following, "I will declare the decree; the Lord hath said unto me, "Thou art my son; this day have I begotten thee." (Ps., 2.7). Paul in Hebrews, 1.5, applies the "decree" to Jesus by raising the question as to the superiority of the Son: "For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee." This passage makes it quite clear that Jesus was spoken of in the Old Testament even a thousand years before his birth as the "Son of God" also. Yea, more, Isaiah speaks of him as "The Mighty God." And Paul in Hebrews says (Heb. 1.8) "But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God is for ever and ever, a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom." John says (John, 1.1,2) "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God." To review briefly then the ground thus far gone over as to the prophetic names of Jesus we have, "Son," "The Prince of Peace, "Immanuel," "Christ," "My Son," "The mighty God," all of which were given him from a thousand to five hundred years, before his birth, and which he received and wears from the time of his nativity till now. This line of evidence could be still lengthened if necessary, but I deem this much only entirely sufficient within itself to establish the sonship of Jesus and the purpose of his coming into the world.

But I would by no means be understood as believing that this line of prophetic evidence relates to nothing but the names of Jesus. He was to be given the "throne of David," and Matthew's genealogy shows him to be a descendant of David; he was to establish and order his Kingdom "in justice," and not only the New Testament writers establish this fact in the account of his life but even his enemies are constrained to do the same; his Kingdom was to last "from henceforth even forever;" and he said to his disciples "I am with you alway even to the end of the world;" he was to be born of a "virgin," and "the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found to be with Child of the Holy Spirit;" he was to be "a son" not a daughter, and Mary "brought forth her first born son;" he was "to make reconciliation for iniquity," and, according to Paul, "all things are of God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and gave unto us the ministry of reconciliation; to wit, God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself, not recording unto them their trespasses, and having committed unto us the word of reconciliation;" the "Messiah" was to be "cut off" "but not for himself," and at his execution even Pilate, a Roman governor that believed not in his divinity, after seeking his release thrice, washed his hands saying, "I am innocent of the blood of this just person;" a "great light" was to spring up among those "that walked in darkness," and according to Matthew and John, "the people which sat in darkness saw a great light; and to them that sat in the region of the shadow of death light is sprung up;" and "In him was life and the life was the light of men;" the darkness was to be in the land of Zebulon and in "the land of Naphtali by the way of the sea beyond Jordan in Galilee of the Gentiles," amid which the light was to spring up; and according to Matthew, the land of Zebulon and the land of Nephthalim; by "the way of the sea beyond Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles; the people which sat in darkness saw great light; to them which sat in the region of the shadow of death light is sprung up;" he was to be begotten of God, and according to Luke, "the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee [Mary]; also that holy thing that shall be born of thee shall be called the son of God."

Most sincerely,
J. M. McCALEB.
12, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

KOBE CONVENTION.

A few months ago, at the suggestion of some missionaries, the Rev. B. F. Buxton, of Matsue, of the C.M. Society, announced a gathering, of the character of the famous "Keswick Convention," to be held in Kobe, at the Methodist Church.

This Convention met last week and continued for four and a half days, with two daily sessions. The attendance, from the first, was very good, frequently being as much as a hundred. Some came from a distance to be present. Among the places represented were Nagasaki, Osaka, Yokohama, Tokyo, and Sendai, besides those from the nearer vicinity and several missionaries from China. A number of English speaking Japanese were also in daily attendance, together with several prominent pastors from Osaka, Kobe, and Hiogo.

The Convention was in charge of Rev. B. F. Buxton, who conducted the services to the eminent satisfaction of all and in a way that made them very helpful spiritually. Mr. Buxton's Bible Readings were both instructive and impressive, and his application of the truths presented cut their way home to the hearts of many of his hearers. Few of those who heard them will soon forget the lessons drawn from the story of the Transfiguration of Christ, Peter's Walking on the Water, Jacob's Wrestling with the Angel, or Isaiah's Vision.

Several helpful talks were given by Dr. L. W. Gulick, of Miyoshi, Bingo, the Supt. of the Christian Alliance Mission. Two or three English speaking Japanese Christians gave brief talks, which showed that they had obtained a grasp on the spiritual truths of Christianity, far beyond the average Christian.

Rev. J. Hudson Taylor, M.D., Founder and Chief Director of China Inland Mission—the largest Mission in the world—was present at most of the sessions of the Convention, speaking five or six times to the great delight and edification of all who heard him. Dr. Taylor is a man of decided ability and, in many respects, a remarkable personage. Perhaps his most striking characteristics are his implicit faith in God, and his unswerving belief in the Bible as the revealed will of God. Added to this, there is a naturalness, a simplicity, and a childlikeness about the man that make him both interesting and attractive to a remarkable degree. His expositions of scripture showed a spiritual insight into the meaning of the Sacred Text that made luminous passages, the meaning of which had been dark and obscure to many of his auditors. In several instances, a few words of explanation of a verse, or of some aspect of Christian truth, removed difficulties in a minute that had troubled sober, serious students of the Bible for years. Nothing more helpful than Dr. Taylor's Bible Readings has been heard in Kobe in many years, at least in the judgment of many. The commands, "Have faith in God," "Abide in me," "Be filled with the Spirit," and the statements—"I am the Vine, ye are the branches," "I am the bread of Life," &c., have new meanings now to many and are vital with life and power, as never before.

The Convention this year was of the nature of an experiment; but so successful was it that it was decided, without any hesitation, to announce another for September, 1896. It is proposed to hold it at the same place, the Kobe Methodist Church, as the one just held. Due announcement thereof will be made.—*Communicated.*

TO STELLA.

With eyes like silv'ry summer stars, you smiled at me:
And white pearls shoue between your sweet young lips.
Your hair gleamed forth, like glitt'ring gold, and seemed to be
A lake, lit by the sun, before it dips
And sleeps behind the hills. Your colour came and went,
Like radiant rosy dawn that bids adieu to night:
As from those turquoise eyes, a slumb'ring look you sent,
Veiled in the mystery of vague twilight.
'Twas thus my heart did wake!

And through an ether space of dreams, we wandered, dear:
Together tuned the harp to Passion's song:
A song that filled with splendid strains the perfumed air,
And bore our souls in ecstacy along!
For one short summer time, upon my breast you lay,
And by the sunlit sea the sweet winds sighed),
As dew-drops kiss the rose,—I kissed your lips that day:
Then,—with a far-off shadowed smile,—you died!
'Twas thus my heart did break!

E.M.D'A.

REVIEW.

A Japanese Conversation Course. By H. Mutsu. London: Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., Limited. 2s.

THE few remarks on matters Japanese made in our editorial notes last month and the promise to reproduce in the columns of *Languages* a lecture dealing with the difficulties encountered in the Japanese language, have brought us some correspondence which tends to prove that a greater interest is taken in that tongue than we at first anticipated. There is little doubt that the difficulties said to be presented by Japanese are generally conceived to be very great indeed, much greater than Mr. Mutsu's little manual seems to warrant. The forty lessons contained in this conversation course are beautifully simple, and, as a stepping-stone to a more serious study of the tongue, they are bound to do very good service; moreover, we think that a traveller equipped with such knowledge as Mutsu can impart to him, should be able to make a short stay in the country itself most profitable and pleasant. Grammar in the abstract does not enter into the scope of the booket; it deals with just the material necessary for ordinary conversations, and with the written language to the extent of producing the Kata-kana, and the more complicated Hira-gana (alphabets), out of the seven different styles of writing employed. The Japanese text of the exercises, including conversations and vacabularies, however, is, for the most part, rendered in Roman character. The author certainly has done his share to render the initial study of his beautiful tougue easy and full of advantage to the learner.—*Languages.*

Original from
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

LETTER FROM FORMOSA.

(From our Special Correspondent with the Japanese Army.)

Taipeh-fu, September 10th.

Sunday morning, August 31st, heavy rains were falling and continued with more or less severity on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. On the evening of that day strong winds converted the storm into a howling gale, and the river rapidly rose until it overflowed its banks.

The Japanese in charge of the supplies stored along the river had not heeded the warning given by the foreigners who, with long experience in Formosa, knew what to expect, so that the river was well up along the street front before any attempt was made to move the stuff to higher ground. Then all was bustle and confusion: crowds of shouting coolies worked with all possible haste, and gangs of Chinese were driven through the streets carrying their loads to safer quarters, and then running back with all the speed that could be urged into them for more. But the delay was too long, the river soon came roaring along the roadway, and the remaining supplies were necessarily left to take care of themselves. At 11 p.m., a two-storey stone building came to grief. It formerly belonged to the Chinese Customs but at the time was occupied by Japanese, who seeing that it would be unable to withstand the strain, left it in a body; and none too soon, for a short time after the whole front and roof fell in with a crash, leaving only the back walls standing. Thursday morning, the streets of Tua-tia-tia were surging rivers with from 6 to 10 feet of water in the lower and 3 and 4 in the higher streets. Along the street fronting the river was a rushing roaring sea, dashing waves against the buildings and throwing the spray 25 feet into the air. The large new hong occupied by Tait and Company was the only foreign property seriously damaged, the big stone and cement verandah that surrounded the house giving way from the front.

The greatest damage was to the Tamsui river railroad bridge, which had withstood many storms without injury, and while now still standing, is twisted from 3 to 5 feet out of line and is altogether in an extremely shaky condition. This is unfortunate for the Japanese, as it will take at least a month to repair it, and it is badly needed at present. However, as soon as other damages along the line are repaired, trains can run from the other side of the river and their loads be transported to them by boat. This bridge is by far the largest in Formosa, being 1,498 feet long, of which 1,465 feet are built of timber in forty-six spans; and at the end is a passage for junks 33 feet clear of everything, with an iron swinging draw centred on a stone pier. The railroad bridges both along the Kelung and the Hsinchu lines were nearly all destroyed, and in many places the ballast itself was washed out. At present writing, however, the road to Kelung has been repaired and trains are now running, but on the other line, it will take several weeks before it is all repaired.

The Japanese lost a considerable amount of stores by the flood and two or three horses. Many straw and mud houses of the inhabitants were swept away. The most serious loss of all was aboard the *Kagoshima Maru* transport, which arrived at Kelung on the day of the storm but owing to the crowded condition of the harbour could not enter. She then steamed around towards Tamsui but did not dare enter there, then going out to sea, she was dashed about by the storm for twenty-four hours, when it abated and the ship was able to enter Kelung. Several horses were washed overboard, and as a result of the fearful buffeting and the necessarily closed hatches, twenty out of the six or seven hundred coolies and soldiers below, died.

Notwithstanding the statement of certain journals that the Japanese had been fighting with the savages ever since their arrival, they first came into contact with them a few weeks ago near Oian, where four of the Ian gow tribe deliberately came down to the Japanese Camp, expressed their friendliness, and asked permission to accompany the soldiers for a few days; permission was given and they were provided with food and quarters with the army. After a few days of marching, one of the savages having injured his foot, the little party returned to the mountains, seeming to be thoroughly impressed with the idea that the Japanese were a great improvement on the Chinese.

Near Gelan, on the east coast, while several soldiers were strolling outside the camp, two savages armed with spears came suddenly from the forest. According to the soldier's story, they took them for Chinese soldiers and fired, killing one of them. It is a decidedly lame excuse, for their appearance is anything but similar to a Chinese soldier, and at all events two men armed with spears, whether they be Chinese soldiers or not, are scarcely in position to murder a squad of Japanese soldiers armed with repeating rifles. It is unfortunate that the energetic and praiseworthy efforts of the officials, who have the welfare of the Formosans very much at heart, should be baffled by the blunders of the soldiers and the insolence of the coolies. The first regular meeting with the savages was held near Tokoham, when seven came down and held a "pow-wow" with the Major of the Japanese garrison stationed there. Arrangements were then made for the savages to send a deputation to meet some of the Japanese Civil Officials at a later date. So Mr. Hashiguchi, the clever Chief of the Agriculture and Industry Bureau, and Mr. Tanaka, the Prefect of Taipeh-ken, made the trip to Tokoham, and word was sent to the savages by an interpreter that the Officials had arrived and would be pleased to see them. Before the interpreter returned with an answer, the party consisting of the above mentioned gentleman, escorted by about seventy-five Japanese soldiers made their way to the savage border, and reaching the base of the hills waited there the arrival of the savages. The officials were beginning to fear that the savages did not intend to make a visit that day, when a band of oddly dressed personages appeared at the top of the hill and upon spying their callers, hesitated and seemed to be holding a conference. It was then that a young savage, one of several boys given a Chinese education by Governor Liu, who had accompanied the Japanese, ran to the savages greatly elated, and with him they at once returned and were soon greeting the two officials with all the smiles at their command.

Many of the men wore small blankets about their backs, and a sort of a vest hanging from their shoulders provided with a pouch on each side. Large holes in their ears held pieces of bamboo, and their faces were tattooed on the forehead and the chin. Brass rings were about their wrists and strings of beads or buttons seemed the favourite decorations. On their heads they wore in some instances, a covering of deer skin. The women were dressed with a cloth under garment and a robe, hanging down from one shoulder wrapped about the body and fastened at the side. They had the same ear ornaments as the men, although highly decorated, and wore brass rings about their wrists. A broad line, perhaps two and a half inches wide, was tattooed over the lips, and continued back to their ears. The band consisted of 13 men and boys, and 9 women, some with babies on their back. The chief was asked if he knew that Formosa was now occupied by the Japanese? He answered in the affirmative. After considerable conversation and interest shown on both sides, the officials said to the savages, "Now that the Japanese have come we should become good friends, and if you will visit our cities we shall be glad to see you and we desire to visit your villages." After distributing presents of knives, showy red handkerchiefs, red woollen cloth, etc., food was given them which disappeared with great gusto. Before leaving, the savages were asked if some of them would not like to return with the officials to Takoham and twelve consented, the rest returning to the forest. After reaching Takoham a big dinner was prepared at which the savages were to be the honoured guests. With a scent like blood-hounds, however, these sons of the forest forstalled their waiting hosts, by tracking the food to its sources and then following the servants carrying the victuals to the dining hall, they helped themselves most liberally *en route*, after which, with their appetites scarcely tickled, they sat down to the feast. They got through the courses with amazing rapidity and continued to repeat the dose until there was danger of swamping the commissary department, and famine stared the garrison in the eyes.

The savages were delighted to see Tokoham burnt down, and one of them, first pointing to a Chinese, let forth a shout and then pointing to the burned out walls expressed his extreme satisfaction that the town had been destroyed. And well they might, for more dastardly treacherous tricks to kill the savages had been originated and executed in that city than in any other place in the north.

After the savages had consumed several days' rations and were for the time satisfied, they were asked if they would not like to accompany the Japanese to Taipeh-fu. This sent them all into the most solemn conference, in which the "pros" and "cons" were discussed for some time, the Chairman finally conveying the decision that they were very sorry but as they had not left their homes with any intention to stay so long, they could not take such a long trip without some preparation. The officers said they were also sorry; they thought that the guests would have a good time, they would show them lots of soldiers, let them hear Japanese music, and would give them plenty to eat. The last condition seemed to strike a pleasant chord in the assembly, and the decision of the last conference seemed to be in danger of being overruled, as a man named "Motoneban" and his wife, two boys, and one girl decided that the reward was worth the venture, and signified their willingness to go. Before the reception broke up, they were invited to come to Tokoham again, to which they answered that three or four hundred would gladly come down, but that the Japanese would need to cut up three or four cows for the dinner. To which their hosts answered that they would be sure to have the cows, but how would the savages receive them if they should return the visit.

This was too important a question to be answered at random, so another conference was held which threatened to continue most of the night. Finally, upon the Japanese pressing them for an answer, they very reluctantly replied, that while it would please them very much to have the Japanese visit their village, they did not know how they would be able to feed three or four hundred. The next morning the officials, after presenting the chief with a cow, returned to Taipehfu accompanied by their newly acquired friends, arriving here on the eighth.

Upon reaching Government House they were taken to meet the Governor-General. They danced and sung their native songs, after which the Japanese military band of fifty members was called together and played for their special benefit. The music frightened them at first, but later seemed to please them, especially the bass drum which they probably compared with their own war drums.

At the last meeting with the Governor-General his excellency asked them to inform their people that the Japanese wished to be friendly with them, and that some of the boys of the tribe should come to Taipehfu and be educated by him. That he hoped they would have perfect confidence in the Japanese, for without it there would be constant trouble. And continuing he said: "We will not deceive you. When we make a promise we will keep it." To which the savages answered, "Yes we will be good friends. We like you to do what you promise us. The Chinese always broke their promises; we do what we say we will, if I say, 'I will kill you, I will not break my word, I *will* kill you.'"

With this last chilly certificate of character the interview ended, and the savages returned to the quarters provided for them, where they good-naturedly received many visitors, and spent their time in trying to pursuade the uniformed attendant that it was approaching their usual time for eating.

I leave to morrow morning for Changwha, and from there I will join the Japanese Army for a few days fighting to the south, but will return in time to join the main expedition for the southern forts, which will probably leave here the last of the month. The Vice-Governor, Lieut.-General Takashima arrived this afternoon, and will take charge of his duties at once. Six ringleaders of a band of robbers who have not stopped at murder to secure their booty, were decapitated in the city the day before yesterday.

AUSTRALIAN NEWS.

Sydney, August 21st.

The intelligence of the loss of the *Catterthun* within a few hours of the vessel leaving Sydney created a painful sensation throughout Australia, and was at first received with expressions of disbelief; but, so far, little beyond a bare record of ascertained facts has appeared in the papers, pending the conclusion of the inquest and subsequent enquiry by the Maritime Board. It is, however, impossible to resist the conviction that the disaster arose from hugging the land too closely, half a point constituting the difference between danger and safety. At present it is uncertain what can be done in the way of salvage, everything depending upon the depth of water in which the ill fated vessel lies. If it should not exceed twenty fathoms, an attempt will be made to obtain the gold, which, to the value of £11,000, lies locked up in the ship's strong room, dynamite being employed for that purpose. As for saving the mails, the idea is not even entertained, as they must have become destroyed by the sea water, unless preserved in some unforeseen manner. The E. and A. Company are in nowise discouraged by the severe loss sustained. Their Sydney Agents, Messrs. Gibbs, Bright, and Co., have been advised that the steamer *Pathan* 2,700 tons, has been chartered to take up the down trip of the wrecked steamer *Catterthun*. The *Pathan* will load in Japan and Hongkong, sailing for the colonies about the middle of next month. The agents have also received advices from the directors of the E. and A. Company that they have contracted with Messrs. Napier and Sons, Limited, the well known shipbuilders, of Govan, to build a fine screw vessel for the trade between the East and Australia. The vessel will be of about

3,500 tons dead-weight capacity, built of steel to the highest class, and fitted with modern improvements. Her engines will be of the triple expansion type, and capable of about 17 knots. Accommodation will be provided for first, second, and third class passengers. The saloon accommodation will be made a feature of the ship, surpassing that of any of the boats now engaged in the trade.

One immediate result of the Kucheng massacres will be the temporary cessation of the somewhat questionable system of sending female misionaries to places where they are liable to insult and persecution. There has been a great rush of young ladies eager to take up the work of their murdered sisters, but the papers have been singularly unanimous in discouraging anything of the kind, insisting that the task should be left in the hands of able and experienced men. Despite the intense feeling of indignation which has become aroused throughout the colonies, where the principal victims were widely known, there has been no display of revengeful spirit, the actual facts of the case being well understood, and every confidence being placed in the determination of the British Government to secure the punishment of the murderers. The Chinese residents in Sydney have held a meeting to protest against the acts of the Vegetarians, and this will be followed by others in the provinces. In the meantime, an impression is gaining ground that in the event of the Chinese Government being unable to enforce its authority in Ku cheng and elsewhere, a combined British, French, and American occupation will follow.

The prospects of establishing a regular trade between Australia and Japan continue to be discussed in Sydney commercial circles, and recently one of the metropolitan papers published an account of an interview with Mr. F. Kanematsu, a Japanese merchant in Sydney, who, replying to his interviewer, said—"There is a very good prospect for wool and sugar in Japan, also for hides and tallow. I was the first to export wool from Sydney to Japan. In 1890 I sent 194 bales away. It was a trial shipment merely, and, of course, I did not make any profit by it. Last year, however, I exported 500 bales, and made a very fair profit by the transaction. The coming season I hope to send 1,000 bales away. Yes, there is a capital prospect for Australian wool in Japan. Up to the present there are not many woollen factories in Japan, and most of the woollen articles made in the country are coarse things like blankets. The wool for them comes chiefly from Tientsin and India. The demand upon Australia will be for fine wool to turn into goods of better quality. I may say that we are now getting about a third of the total wool imported from these colonies and for the past twelve months you sent us altogether about 2,000 bales. So that on the whole, you see it amounts to this: At the present time there is not a particularly good market for Australian wool in Japan. When I say the prospects are good I had the immediate future in my mind. The poor people, as, of course, you know, dress exclusively in cotton fabrics. The better class wear woollen clothes, and up to now those clothes have been made almost entirely from materials manufactured in Europe. That was the way with the cotton goods, however, before we got our mills to work. The cotton fabrics were imported from Manchester and Bombay, and the costume only made in the country. Then the mills went up, and we had no more need of Manchester "piece goods," for we had begun to make our own cotton fabrics. What we wanted then was raw cotton. And, in the same way, when we get our woollen mills going, instead of buying English cloth, we shall require their equation, in Australian wool. The value of the woollen fabrics imported yearly into Japan is about a million and a quarter sterling. "And the probability that your people would be able to work up the raw wool into cloth at a much lower cost than it is at present manufactured in England would of course increase the Japanese demand for woollen goods, and thus increase the amount of Australian wool required by the Japanese factories?" remarked the interviewer. "Precisely. And what is more, you may depend upon it that the day is not far distant when Japan will be returning a portion of the wool you send her in the form of cloth to Australia. We have only one million head of cows in Japan, and seeing that we kill about 10 per cent. of them per annum, we naturally have to depend largely upon other countries for hides to turn into leather. Personally I have exported large numbers of hides from Sydney to Japan, but the fact that Australian hides are useless for making first-class leather owing to the careless method of branding the cattle in this country has militated seriously against the success of my experiments in that direction. In point of fact, until some better method of branding is introduced amongst the cattle-breeders here, there is no prospect whatever for your hides in Japan. You brand the beasts in the most valuable portions of the hide, and the marks remain in the form of serious defects after the skins have been stripped off the carcases. The consequence is that we are forced at present to look to America for hides. But if once you can get over the difficulty in regard to the brands, I am satisfied that Australian hides will stand a good chance in competition with those of any other country."

The information thus afforded by Mr. Kanematsu has been republished in several papers, and naturally occasioned much comment. On the other hand, another Sydney paper furnishes an opposite view of the question, in the form of an interview with Mr. E. D. Fraser, who has just returned from a prolonged visit to Japan and China, and professes to see no prospect of immediate development of commercial intercourse between Australia and Japan. Speaking to his interviewer, he said—"Well, I haven't any too confident opinion of the possibility of extensive business being opened up with Japan—I mean on a big national scale. It is not as easy as it looks on paper. In the first place, you have a great competitor in Canada, which has very speedy communication with Japan; and then there are such circumstances as the difference in the tastes of the people which militates against the development of the trade. For instance, the Californian wine suits the Japanese better than the Australian wines and it is cheaper; while the *saké* they drink is largely in use. Then I was told by a man in a very high position that a considerable quantity of Australian tinned meat which was obtained for the army was thrown away without having been used—it was too fresh and tender, and was not to their taste. Then again, Japan promises to become, by and bye, a competitor of the Eastern nations in some things. They are very ambitious, and they have wonderful powers of imitation. Of course they import Australian wool, and it might be possible to send it there direct, though at present they largely buy in the London market. But so great is their power of imitation, although there is a remarkable lack of originality in the Japanese character, that they are learning very rapidly, and are almost able at present to convert the wool into any pattern. Large cotton manufactures are going up. But what constitutes the real difficulty in establishing any extensive national commerce with Japan is that the majority of the people are not in a position to buy such of our products as they want. They are too poor. And this is a fact, that nearly the whole of the commerce which in the past we have been carrying on with Japan has been done with the European population there—not with the mass of the Japanese people at all."

There was a good deal more to the same effect, which it is unnecessary to reproduce. Mr. E. Jerome Dyer, who takes a more hopeful view of the matter, has been contributing to the Sydney press an interesting article on the Japanese system of commercial education, which has attracted much attention, and forms a peg on which to hang many uncomplementary remarks concerning Australian deficiencies in this direction. Mr. Dyer also lately delivered a lecture at the Melbourne Reform Club, on "Australian and the Asian Pacific," the subjects touched by him being:—(1) The geographical position of Australia and Western Pacific countries, (2) extent and demand of these countries' markets so far as they concern Australia, (3) the last half-century's development of the Pacific Coast countries, (4) their present state (5) Eastern Siberia and the trans-Siberian Railway, (6) China and the Chinese, (7) Christianising China, (8) Japan and the Japanese, (9) Japan's development, (10) England's policy in the East, (11) Australia's position in the Eastern question, Mr. Dyer, in concluding his lecture, ventured the opinion that, as the world had seen the Mediterranean era of power and commerce superseded by the Atlantic, so now the latter was about to see the Pacific age, in which he hoped Australia would prove no puny factor.

The action of the Japanese residents in protesting against any further immigration of their fellow countrymen into that part of Australia, has naturally awakened much curiosity and comment. The *Newcastle Morning Herald*, alluding to the matter says:—"The Japanese of Thursday Island are improving upon the modes and methods pursued in the Australian colonies for the exclusion of aliens. They are going one better, and are actually agitating for the exclusion of their own countrymen, and on the same ground that Australian colonists have agitated for the exclusion of aliens. Their action, moreover, is the more audacious because they are themselves aliens, and have no other standing in Thursday Island than that which is afforded them by the consent of the presence of Japanese in large numbers in any nations. If the European residents of Yokohama, or any other portion of Japan, were to prefer a demand that no more Europeans should be allowed to settle there, the Japanese authorities would probably denounce it as an arrogant and audacious presumption on their part, but it would not be one whit more so than the claim put forward by the present Japanese residents of Thursday Island to prevent any more of their countrymen from coming there, and for the reason forsooth, that it is likely to interfere with the profits being made by those who are already there. It is, however, but another phase of the policy of trade restriction, with which some people in this colony are so much infatuated, and which has for its object the conferring of monopolies upon a few manufacturers or dealers in certain articles to the prejudice of those who use or consume those articles. The underlying principle is the same in either case, viz., selfishness, which consists in seeking one's own gain irrespective altogether of the rights and interests of others, and often in defiance—not merely of the law of charity which bids us love our neighbour as ourselves—but not infrequently of the elementary principles of natural justice and equity.

The Melbourne *Age* has been attacking the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, especially in its relation to the race problem. It says:—"According to the terms of the treaty the citizens of each country were to enjoy all rights and privileges of natives in the other. England could very well afford to make a compact of that kind, her geographical position rendering a large influx of Japanese into the British Isles a highly improbable contingency. It is quite different with Australia, situated within easy reach of Japan, and with a territory enormously in proportionate excess to the present population. The Japanese have already commenced to invade Northern Queensland, and it may easily be understood that encouragement will not be wanting to the immigration of painstaking and intelligent Asiatics who are accustomed to an extremely meagre diet and very low wages. If the conditions of a Japanese industrial invasion of Australia were made easy, it would not be difficult for Japan, with her 40,000,000 of population, to swamp the Anglo-Saxons, and turn Australia into a Japanese province. It is true that the Japanese come into the northern parts of the continent now; but it is always in the power of the several Legislatures to restrict the inroad so soon as it threatens to assume alarming proportions. With the acceptance of a treaty which confers upon Japanese immigrants the rights and privileges of Europeans that safeguard would vanish. It would not be competent for the colonies to withdraw from an arrangement which had for its principals the Governments of Great Britain and Japan. Nor is it likely that the mother country would be willing to risk her great export trade with Japan out of consideration for the colonial scruples. The mere traders amongst us may be expected to take a purely commercial view of the question; but the colonies at large have to consider the matter from a higher standpoint, and say whether the design of making Australasia a permanent home for the Anglo-Saxon race is to be maintained or abandoned. It need hardly be said that the acceptance of the treaty with Japan would be inconsistent with the policy of Chinese exclusion, which all the colonies have adopted. It is true that the Chinese are a more numerous people than the Japanese, and that they are a little lower in the social scale; but yet the Japanese are numerous enough for their unchecked immigration to be a source of danger, and it would be obviously unfair to pit their low-priced labour against that of the working classes of our own race. It will be prudent on the part of Queensland to keep a watchful eye upon the Japanese colonies in the north. The race problem does not present its most difficult aspect in respect to coolies or Kanakas. These are imported for a term of service, and returned on its expiration, and the whole immigration is well within the grasp of the authorities. But there is no restraint upon the entrance or the residence of Japanese, even as matters now stand, and were Queensland to become a party to the treaty she might find herself involved in difficulties of a novel character."

The writer, who does not appear to have more than a superficial knowledge of Japanese national character, concludes as follows.—"One of the inevitable results of the Japanese victories will be the development of a more arrogant attitude towards foreign nations generally, and this feeling is likely to be displayed more readily when Japan has made large additions to her navy out of the proceeds of the Chinese indemnity. None of the Australian colonies would care to have difficulties with Japan or any other foreign Power, but the pre-

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URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

part of this continent would afford an excuse for the fussy intervention of their Government, with possibly demands for the redress of grievances on the part of its subjects. Even if it could be more clearly shown than is possible at present that a certain accession to Australian trade would result from the adoption of the Japanese treaty, so far as Victoria is concerned, there is not any reason to be in a hurry about it."

J. P.

CRICKET.

THE FLEET VERSUS YOKOHAMA.

An all-day match was played on Saturday between a team representing H.M.S. Fleet and an eleven of the Y. C. & A. C., but the game was very one-sided, the Club winning a hollow victory. The day was cloudy and rain fell in slight showers both before and after tiffin. The Fleet winning the toss sent in Thring and Harries to face the bowling of Walford and Denne. Thring went under to Walford's first ball before a run had been scored, then Blount joined Harries and 25 was telegraphed ere a separation was effected. Five wickets fell before tiffin for the paltry total of 68. After the interval, the visitors did not make much of a stand and the innings closed for 89. Blount make the top score for the Fleet, 32, which included one 4 and several threes; Harries' 20 included 4 fours. Lias took three wickets for 10 runs; Edwardss' taking four for 27. Crawford and Dickinson opened for Yokohama, and the latter was sent back to the Pavilion after six had been scored. Upon White joining Crawford a stand was made, and 190 was reached before Powlett held Crawford off Pearson. White scored the most rapidly, knocking up 109 while Crawford was making 77. Crawford made 4 fours and the same number of threes; while White's total comprised 8 fours and 9 threes. The light was now very bad, and White after scoring another boundary was caught by Donkin off Pearson and the innings closed. Scores:—

THE FLEET.

Lieut. W. H. C. S. Thring, b. Walford	0
Dr. Harries, b. Walford	20
Mr. G. R. Blount, b. Lias	32
Lieut. F. R. Powlett, c. Denne, b. White	4
Mr. H. B. Pearson, b. Edwards	1
Capt. Hadley, b. Edwards	11
Lieut. H. W. James, b. Lias	1
Mr. C. F. Donkin, b. Edwards	0
Mr. R. Horne, b. Lias	2
Lieut. W. G. A. Kennedy, b. Edwards	7
Mr. R. W Skelton, not out	7
byes 3, leg-byes 1, ...	4
	89

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Walford	55	10	5	2
Mr. Denne	25	15	1	—
Mr. Edwards	97	27	8	4
Mr. White	20	9	—	1
Mr. Philip	10	12	—	—
Mr. Bugbird	20	1	3	—
Mr. Lias	25	10	2	3

THE CLUB.

Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Powlett, b. Pearson	77
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, b. Pearson	2
Mr. F. E. White, c. Donkin, b. Pearson	113
Mr. R. G. Denne, not out	0
Mr. H. E. Harreis, not out	1
Mr. A. B. Walford, Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, Mr. H. G. Bugbird, Mr. F. J. Lias, Mr. D. Tyng, Mr. G. Philip } did not out	
byes 1, leg-byes 1	2
	195

BOWLING ANALYSES.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Lieut. Powlett	90	66	3	0
Mr. Pearson	100	54	4	3
Mr. Blount	35	60	1	—
Dr. Harries...	59	30	—	—
Lieut. Thring	15	13	—	—

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, September 22.

The British, French, and Russian Embassies at Stamboul have sent a vigorous note to the Porte demanding an indemnity for the recent attack upon the Consular Officials at Jeddah and the punishment of the offenders.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, Sept. 2.

There has been rioting at Bayonne in consequence of the suppression of bull-fights, which are contrary to the law of France.

(FROM THE "SIAM OBSERVER."

London, September 1.

The Dundee jute workers' strike has collapsed, the men returning to work on the old terms.

London, September 4.

The House of Commons went into Committee on the Indian Estimates, when a long discussion took place on the question of the retention of Chitral. Among those who took part in the debate were the Right Honourable H. H. Fowler (Separatist), who was Secretary for India in the last Government; Mr. J. M. Maclean (Conservative), one time Editor of the *Bombay Gazette*; Mr. M. M. Bhownaggree (Conservative); the Right Hon. Sir W. Harcourt; and the Right Hon. Lord George F. Hamilton, Secretary for India. The Government defended its policy in retaining Chitral, and finally the motion against it was lost.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday the Hon. P. J. Stanhope, Separatist member for Burnley, raised the question of the cotton duties in India, and Lord George Hamilton replied that it would be impossible, in fairness to all parties, to repeal the duties in question.

London, 2nd September.

The Turkish troops have been repulsed by a large body of Bulgarian insurgents to the south of Burghas, an important town on the Black Sea.

Simla, 3rd September.

The Pamir Commission is still near Aktash, where the surveyors are busily engaged in examining the local Chinese boundary.

London, September 5.

Both Houses of Parliament have passed a Bill re-enacting clause 13 of the Irish Land Act passed by the Conservative Government in 1891 to enable Irish tenants to purchase their holdings by the help of funds advanced by the State.

In the House of Commons last night Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, made his statement on the Indian Budget. The final results for the year would, he said, probably reveal a surplus of Rx. 1,230,000. The credit of India was never higher, he continued, than at the present time.

It is announced that Sir Arthur Havelock, Governor of Ceylon, will succeed Lord Wenlock in the Governorship of Madras.

Lord Salisbury has appointed a Committee to supervise the construction of the railway to Uganda. Sir Alexander Meadows Rendel, K.C.I.E., the engineer of several large docks in England, and Consulting Engineer to the Secretary of State for India, and a number of the Indian railways, has been appointed to the same office in connection with the new Committee.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

Foochow, Sept. 19., 10.40 a.m.

The bearer of the red flag at the massacre, who gave the order to kill outright, was caught yesterday.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, September 20th.

Prince Lobanoff, who is at present staying in France, is to attend officially the great review which is to be held at Wierecourt in the presence of President Faure. The French Press regards this as a conclusive mark of the alliance between France and Russia.

The French have ordered the people of Kiangtung either to accept French authority or to cross to the right bank of the Meikong River.

The Spanish cruiser *Sanchez Barcaistegui* has been sunk by collision off Havana. The admiral, four officers, and thirty-six of the crew were drowned.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Kyoto, September 25.

H.I.H. Prince Yamashina Kikumaro leaves here to-morrow for Tokyo.

Kumamoto, September 25.

Viscount Higashizono, an Imperial Chamberlain, reached here last night, and will leave for Tokyo to-morrow.

Toyama, September 25.

A daily paper called the *Juyu Shimpo* was started to-day as an organ of the Radical Party.

Akita, Sept. 25.

Messrs. Hatakeyama and Sudo have been elected President and Vice-President of the Prefectural Assembly respectively.

Nagasaki, Sept. 25.

The *Koreetz* and another Russian warship have left for Chefoo.

The British gun-boat *Pigmy* has arrived here from Kamtschatka, and the French vessel *Alger* has proceeded to Ninsen.

The *Soko-go*, formerly *Tsao-kiang*, has put into Sasebo.

Söul, September 25.

Ming Ei-chun has gone to Chhun-chhon.

Shimonoseki, September 25.

It is said that the transports *Tairen Maru*, *Kaijo Maru*, *Kokura Maru*, and *Riojun Maru* have already left Talien with soldiers of the Third Brigade for Formosa.

Osaka, Sept. 26.

A report has reached here to the effect that the staff of the Second Army division left Talien on the 8th inst., and reached Taipeh on the 12th. Major-General Yamaguchi, Commander-in-Chief of the Third Brigade, has left Talien.

Shimonoseki, Sept. 26.

A party of 300 troops and 40 coolies left here to-day for Kelung by the *Ninsen Maru*.

Nagasaki, Sept. 26.

The French ships *Bayard* and *Lion* have left for Chefoo, and the British ships *Centurion* and *Edgar* have arrived here from Yokohama.

Shimonoseki, Sept. 26.

Count Inouye arrived here by the *Shirakawa Maru* this evening.

Söul, Sept. 26.

Li Sei-retsu, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, has resigned.

Söul, Sept. 26.

Reports have been received to the effect that riots are prevalent in various parts of the country.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

The Yokohama Chess Club re-opens on Thursday, 3rd October.

The Tokyo Chess Club re-opens on Friday, 4th October.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 195.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to Kt 7	1—B takes Q
2—R to R 5 (ch.)	2—K takes P (B 3)
3—R to B 5, mate	
	if 2—K to B 5
3—Kt takes P, mate	
	if 2—K to Q 3
3—Kt to Kt 5, mate	
	1—K to Q 3
2—B to Kt 8 ch.	2—R takes B
3—Q takes K P, mate	
	1—K to B 5
2—Q takes P ch.	2—K to K 4
3—Q to K 6, mate	
	1—B to B 5
2—P to B 7 ch.	2—K to Q 3
3—P takes R=Kt, mate.	

With other interesting variations.

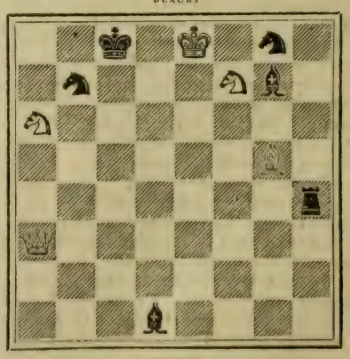
Correct answers from Digamma, J.D., Shogi, E.D., Sigma, W.D.C., E. J. King, W.H.S., and Kr.

PROBLEM NO. 197.

Here is a curiosity which may be interesting to our solvers. It is easy enough, but the "four-in-one" position is decidedly ingenious.

By GEORGE J. SLATER.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.
Black to play and mate in two moves.
White forces Black to mate in two moves.
Black forces White to mate in two moves.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Corrections.

We regret to find some errors in our last column (September 21st):—

Game No. 346.—White 32nd move should be P to Q Kt 3.

Game No. 349.—White 36th move should be B to K 4.

The Hastings Congress.

We reprint a few of the games and hope to have full details of the finish by next week.

Game No. 351.

IRREGULAR.

WHITE. Mason.	BLACK. Burn.
1—P to Q B 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to K 3	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to K B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—B to K 2
5—P to Q 4	5—Castles
6—B to Q 3	6—P to Q B 4
7—P takes Q P	7—P takes Q P
8—P takes P	8—Kt takes P
9—Castles	9—Kt to Q B 3
10—R to K sq.	10—Q Kt to Kt 5
11—B to Kt sq.	11—K Kt to B 3
12—P to Q R 3	12—Q Kt to Q 4
13—Q to Q 3	13—P to K Kt 3
14—B to R 2	14—P to Kt 3
15—Kt to K 5	15—B to Kt 2
16—B to R 6	16—R to K sq.
17—Q to R 3	17—B to K B sq.
18—B to Kt 5	18—B to K 2
19—Q R to Q sq.	19—P to Q R 3
20—R to Q 3	20—R to Q B sq.
21—R to B 3	21—Kt takes Kt
22—R takes Q Kt	22—Q takes P
23—Kt takes B P	23—Kt to K 5
24—B to K 3	24—R takes R
25—Kt to R 6 ch.	25—K to B sq.
26—Q takes P	26—Q to Kt 2
27—P takes R	27—B to Q 3
28—Q to R 3	28—Kt takes Q B P
29—B to Kt 3	29—B to B 5
30—K to B sq.	30—P to R 4
31—B to Q B 4	31—P to Q Kt 4
32—B to B 5 ch.	32—Resigns.

Game No. 352.

TWO KNIGHTS' DEFENCE.

WHITE. Schiffers.	BLACK. Tschigorin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 4	4—P takes P
5—Castles	5—Kt takes P
6—R to K sq.	6—P to Q 4
7—B takes P	7—Q takes B
8—Kt to B 3	8—Q to Q sq.
9—R takes Kt ch.	9—B to K 3
10—Kt takes P	10—Kt takes Kt
11—R takes Kt	11—Q to B sq.
12—B to Kt 5	12—P to B 3
13—Q to K 2	13—B to B 4
14—Q to Kt 5 ch.	14—P to B 3
15—Q takes B	15—P takes B
16—R to K sq.	16—P to Q Kt 3
17—Q to K 5	17—K to B 2
18—Kt to K 4	18—Q to K Kt sq.
19—Kt takes P ch.	19—K to Kt 3
20—Kt takes B	20—Resigns.

Game No. 353.

KING'S BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. Blackburne.	BLACK. Steinitz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 4	5—B to Kt 5
6—Q to Q 3	6—Castles
7—Kt to K 2	7—P to Q 4
8—P takes P	8—K Kt takes P
9—Castles	9—B takes Kt
10—P takes Kt	10—Q Kt to K 2
11—Kt takes P	11—B to B 4
12—Q to B 3	12—P to Q B 3
13—B to R 3	13—Kt takes Kt
14—Q takes Kt	14—B to K 3
15—B to Kt 3	15—Q to Q 2
16—Q to B 3	16—P to Q R 4
17—Q to K 2	17—K R to K sq.
18—B takes B	18—P takes B
19—R to B 3	19—R to K B sq.
20—R takes R ch.	20—R takes R
21—R to K sq.	21—R to B 3
22—Q to K 5	22—Kt to Q 4
23—Q to Kt 3	23—P to R 3
24—B to Q 6	24—P to Q Kt 4
25—B to K 5	25—R to B 4
26—P to K R 4	26—P to R 5
27—R to K 4	27—P to R 4
28—Q to K sq.	28—Q to K B 2
29—B to Q 6	29—R to B 3
30—B to K 5	30—R to Kt 3
31—R to K 2	31—Q to B 6
32—R to B 2	32—Q takes B P
33—Q takes Q	33—Kt takes Q
34—P to R 3	34—R to Kt 5
35—P to Kt 3	35—R to K 5
36—K to B sq.	36—Kt to Kt 8
37—B to Q 6	37—R takes Q P

And Black won.

Game No. 354.

SICILIAN DEFENCE.

WHITE Schlechter.	BLACK. Lasker.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q B 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—P to K Kt 3
5—Kt takes Kt	5—Kt P takes Kt
6—Q to Q 4	6—P to K B 3
7—B to Q B 4	7—P to K 3
8—Castles	8—Kt to R 3
9—Kt to B 3	9—Kt to B 2
10—B to K 3	10—B to K Kt 2
11—Q R to Q sq.	11—Castles
12—Q to Q 2	12—P to K B 4
13—P takes P	13—Kt P takes P
14—B to Q 4	14—P to Q 4
15—B takes B	15—K takes B
16—B to K 2	16—P to K 4
17—Kt to R 4	17—Q to B 3
18—Kt to B 5	18—P to B 5
19—P to K B 3	19—B to K B 4
20—B to Q 3	20—Q R to K sq.
21—Q R to K sq.	21—Q R to K 2
22—R to B 2	22—Kt to Q 3
23—Q to B 3	23—B to Kt 3
24—K R to K 2	24—K R to K sq.
25—B takes B	25—P takes B
26—Kt to Q 3	26—Kt to B 5
27—Kt to B 2	27—Kt to K 6
28—Kt to Q sq.	28—P to Q 5
29—Q to Q 3	29—P to K 5
30—P takes P	30—R takes P
31—Kt takes Kt	31—B P takes Kt
32—R to K B sq.	32—R to B 5
33—R takes R	33—Q takes R
34—Q to Q sq.	34—P to Q B 4
35—P to Q Kt 3	35—P to Q R 4
36—Q to K sq.	36—R to R 5
37—Q to Q R 5	37—R to K B sq.
38—Q to K sq.	38—R to K B 4
39—Q to Q sq.	39—K to B 3
40—Q to K sq.	40—K to K 3
41—Q to Q sq.	41—K to Q 4
42—P to Q R 3	42—Q to K 5
43—Q to K sq.	43—Q to B 5
44—Q to Q sq.	44—K to K 4
45—Q to K sq.	45—K to B 3
46—Q to Q sq.	46—Kt to K Kt 2
47—Q to K sq.	47—R to B 3
48—Q to Q sq.	48—Q to Kt 4
49—Q to Q 3	49—K to B 7
50—Q to K 4	50—Q to K B 5
51—Q to K 7 ch	51—K to R 3
52—Resigns.	

Game No. 355.

PHILIDOR'S DEFENCE.

WHITE. Steinitz.	BLACK. Mason.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—P to Q 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to K 2
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—Castles.
6—Q Kt to Q 2	6—Kt to B 3
7—B to Kt 3	7—B to K 3
8—B to B 2	8—P to Q 4
9—Q to K 2	9—B to Q 3
10—Kt to B sq.	10—P to Q R 3
11—Kt to Kt 5	11—Q to Q 2
12—Kt to K 3	12—P takes P
13—P takes P	13—Kt to K 2
14—P to B 3	14—B to Q B 4
15—Kt takes B	15—Q takes Kt
16—B to Kt 3	16—Q to B 3
17—P to Kt 4	17—B takes Kt
18—B takes B	18—Kt to Kt 3
19—Castles Q R	19—Q R to Q sq.
20—P to K R 4	20—R takes R ch.
21—R takes R	21—R to K sq.
22—P to R 5	22—Kt to B sq.
23—P to R 6	23—P to K Kt 3
24—P to Kt 5	24—Kt (B 3) to Q 2
25—B to Q 5	25—Q to R 5
26—B takes Kt P	26—Q takes R P
27—Q takes P	27—Q to Kt 6
28—B to Q 5	28—Q to Kt sq.
29—Q to R 2	29—R to K 2
30—Q to R 8	30—Q takes Q
31—B takes Q	31—Kt to K 3
32—B to Q 5	32—Kt to B 5
33—B to B 6	33—Kt to B sq.
34—B to B 5	Resigns.

Sydney Chess Championship.

Mr. Jacobsen has played all his games, and he still retains the club championship. His final score is 24 wins, one loss, and one draw—a splendid record, indeed.

Mr. Jacobsen is a native of Hull, England, where he was known as the "Boy Phenomenon." His colonial performances appear below:—Queensland: Won chess championship, gold trophy presented by the late Justice Mein, March 1st, 1887. Started chess column in *Queenslander*. New South Wales: Arrived November, 1889. Defeated Ridley, T. E. Ash, and De Vine, in private matches; 1891, won second prize in championship tournament; 1893, first prize in championship; 1895, first prize in championship; 1889 to 1895, first prize in three handicap tournaments.

We give a good specimen of Mr. Jacobsen's play:—

Game No. 356.

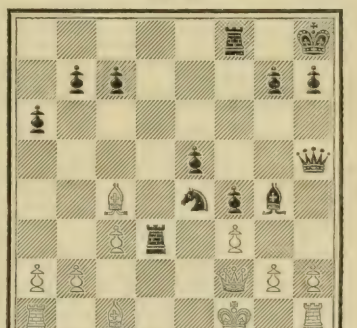
The following game was played recently between Messrs. Jacobsen and Crane. The winner's play from the 12th move is exceptionally fine.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. W. Crane, jun	BLACK. J. Jacobsen.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q B 3	6—B to K 2
7—Q Kt to Q 2	7—Castles
8—Kt to B sq. (a)	8—Kt to K sq.
9—B to Kt 3	9—Kt to R 4
10—B to B 2	10—P to K B 4
11—Kt to K 3 (b)	11—P to B 5
12—Kt to Q 5	12—B to Q Kt 5!
13—Kt takes B ch.	13—Q takes Kt.
14—P to Q 4	14—P takes P
15—Q takes P	15—Kt to Q B 3
16—Q to Q 3 (c)	16—Kt to K 4
17—Kt takes Kt	17—P takes Kt
18—B to Kt 3 ch.	18—K to R sq.
19—P to B 3 (d)	19—Q to R 5 ch.
20—K to B sq.	20—R to Q sq.
21—Q to K 2	21—Kt to B 3 (e)
22—Q to K sq. (f)	22—Q to R 4
23—Q to B 2 (g)	23—R to Q 6!
24—B to B 4 (h)	24—Kt takes K P (i)

Position after Black's 24th move.

BLACK.



WHITE.

25—P takes B	25—Q takes Kt P
26—B takes R	26—Q to Q 8 ch.
27—Q to K sq.	27—Kt to Kt 6 ch. (j)
28—K to B 2	28—Kt takes R ch.
29—K to B sq.	29—Q takes B ch.
30—K to Kt sq.	30—P to B 6!
31—P takes P	31—Q takes K B P
32—B to Kt 5	32—Kt to B 7

And White resigned.

(a) Or 8—P to K R 3 with 9—P to K Kt 4, if necessary.
(b) White never recovers from the cramping effects of his opponent's next move. 11—P takes P was compulsory.
(c) Inferior to 16—Q to Q 5 ch. and 12—Q to K Kt 5.
(d) If 19—Castles, then comes Black's P to B 6,
(e) Black starts sacrificing, but giving up the Kt seems scarcely sound.
(f) Suppose 22—P takes B—Kt takes P, 23—Kt to Kt sq. and White should with patience repel the attack.
(g) White "fiddles" about too much with the Q: 23—B to Q 2 was all right.
(h) Very weak, clearly superior was B to B 2.
(i) Beautifully conceived. Black has R, B and Kt *en prise*, and White is doomed whether he captures, or moves the Q.
(j) The ball at his foot, and he finishes merrily.

Mrs. Heywood.

We learn from the *Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News* that the widow of the lamented G. C. Heywood has succeeded him as chess editor of the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle Supplement*. Previous to her marriage Mrs. Heywood was a member of the Ladies' Chess Club, which met for

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some years in Little Queen-street, London; and which owed its success to Mrs. Down and her daughters—all excellent and enthusiastic chess players.

Mason on Attack.

In successful attack the obvious principle, says Mr. Mason, is concentration of superior force upon a decisive point. "What a decisive point may be depends upon the balance of force and the skill of the players. It may be the King himself; it may be only a Pawn. Or the point may be to secure a piece or a Pawn in the occupation of some square from which it may damage the enemy. For example, the power of a passed Pawn is almost proverbial, and a passed Pawn results from attack based upon the principle mentioned. But a player may succeed in one or more attacks and yet lose in suffering a greater one upon himself. A winning attack upon the King makes nothing of all other reverses. This, however, is not to be looked for against a fine player. He is aware that the security of his King is all in all, short of actual mate of his adversary. Therefore if you can attack the King be sure there is no attack against your own by which mate may be given *first*, or which will necessitate a general retention on your part for his defence. This kind of retreat commonly spells disaster. You attack when you should be fortifying your defence."

Hastings Congress.

SCORE AFTER THE 18TH ROUND.

Albin	7	Pillsbury	14
Bardeleben	8½	Pollock	6
Bird	7½	Schiffers	8½
Blackburne	8½	Schlecter	10
Burn	9	Steinitz	11
Gunsberg	8	Tarrasch	10½
Janowski	7½	Teichmann	9½
Lasker	14½	Tinsley	6½
Marco	6½	Tschigorin	14
Mason	8½	Vergani	3
Mieses	6	Walbrodt	9½

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 1st.*
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 30th.†
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 8th.‡
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Oct. 4th.§
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 6th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Oct. 2nd ¶
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 10th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 13th.

* *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on September 14th. † *Empress of China* left Vancouver on September 10th. ‡ *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on September 24th. § *Evandale* left Hongkong on September 26th. ‖ *Ancona* left Hongkong on September 27th. ¶ *Hohenzollern* left Hongkong on September 27th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Sept. 30th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 3rd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Oct. 4th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 5th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 5th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 6th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 11th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 12th
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 18th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Thomson, 21st September,—Hongkong, General.—Cornes & Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 21st September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, 22nd September,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 22nd September,—Yokkaichi 21st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mathilde, German steamer, 1,018, Moos, 22nd September,—Kobe 21st September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Thomas, 21nd September,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 130, Hansen, 23rd September,—North Pacific, 396 Seals and Sealing Gear.—J. Kernan.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, M. Hamada, 23rd September,—Yokkaichi 22nd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Conch, British steamer, 3,500, Baker, 19th September,—Kobe 22nd September, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 24th September,—Yokkaichi 23rd September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orono, British steamer, 1,320, Hancock, 24th September,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,597, Watson, 25th September,—Portland, Or., and Victoria, B.C., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 25th September,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, 18th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Chow Chow Foo, German steamer, 790, F. Meyer, 26th September,—Jinsen viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Océanien, French steamer, 2,127, R. Schmitz, 27th September,—Marseilles 18th August, Hongkong 17th September, Shanghai 22nd, Nagasaki 24th, and Kobe 26th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, E. Le Bontiller, 27th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Wood, 27th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 27th September,—Yokkaichi 26th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 21st September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Frigga, German steamer, 1,400, Voss, 22nd September,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tritos, German steamer, 1,085, Desler, 22nd September,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Centurion (14), flagship, Captain S. H. M. Login, 23rd September,—Nagasaki.

Edgar (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Henderson, 23rd September,—Nagasaki.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 23rd September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alacrity (4), despatch-boat, Commander de Lisle, 24th September,—Nagasaki.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 24th September,—Chefoo, Ballast.—Order.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 24th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Luebeck, German steamer, 1,763, Harrassowitz, 24th September,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Mathilde, German steamer, 1,008, Moos, 24th September,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenearn, British steamer, 1,409, Murray, 24th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 24th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Undaunted (12), cruiser, Captain Halifax, 24th September,—Nagasaki.

Ormiston, British steamer, 1,846, Outram, 25th September,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Light.—Order.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 25th September,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenshiel, British steamer, 2,240, R. D. Jones, 25th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Strathallen, British steamer, 1,489, McKenzie, 25th September,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Altmore, British steamer, 1,579, Watson, 27th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 27th September,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 27th September,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Thomas, 27th September,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chow Chow Foo, German steamer, 790, F. Meyer, 27th September,—Jinsen viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ravenna, British steamer, 1,919, E. Street, 28th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Altmore*, from Portland, Or., and Victoria, B.C.:—Mr. W. Houseman and Mr. J. Black in cabin; one Chinese and 9 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. J. B. Crook, Mr. H. N. Brown, Mr. E. F. MacKay, Mr. H. O. S. Thompson, Mrs. T. R. Adams, and Captain Radclyffe, R.B., in cabin. For San Francisco:—Rev. E. Unangsh, D.D., Miss M. E. Magee, and Mr. C. S. Barff in cabin. For Honolulu:—Mr. Chang Fong and Mr. Chang Yick Leong in cabin.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mrs. de Carier, child and amah, Péres Monge and Marion, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Gilbrin, Mr. Audarin, Mr. Chimatake, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. B. Heemskock, Mrs. Holtermann, Miss Cadet, Mr. Holtermann, Mr. Gony, Mr. Lévy, Mr. Ungerer, Mr. and Mrs. Takimoto, Mr. A. P. MacEwen, Mr. R. Steiner, Mr. W. D. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. Wrightson, Mr. Bonnet, Mr. Mori, Mr. Shin Yah, Captain Harrison, Mrs. Harrison, 2 children and amah, Mr. Turner, Frère Vidal, Mr. de Gunzburg and servant, Mr. Wooy, Mr. Schwol, Mr. Potter, Mr. Cheng Kan, Mr. Okamoto, Mr. Ah Se, Mr. Cheng She Shin, Mr. Cheng Hung, Mr. Wong Gaeh, Mr. San Tuch Hing, Mrs. Ah Sam, Mr. A. Ching, Mrs. Sargent and 2 children, and Mr. Meadows in cabin; 4 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu.—Mr. G. Arone, Mr. J. L. Birley, Mr. C. S. Barff, Mr. J. D. Chappell, Dr. Geo. Chismore, Mr. Chang Fung, Mr. Chang Yick Leong, Mr. J. Colomb, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Easton, 2 children and maid, Mr. and Mrs. Culeff, Mrs. F. G. Holmes and 2 children, Mr. W. J. Kenny, Prof. A. N. Krasnow, Mr. Ralph Lane, Mr. C. de Mouchy, Miss M. E. Magee, Mr. S. Nishimura, Mr. H. G. Simon, Mr. I. M. Scott, Mr. C. P. E. Schouw, Mr. M. Scheleachnikoff, Rev. E. Unangst, Mrs. W. A. Wilson, General G. B. Williams, and Mrs. Wright in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	ST. LOUIS.	HAMILTON.	DENMON.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,845	489	—	408	—	—	2,742
Hyogo	674	—	—	—	—	—	674
Yokohama	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
Hongkong	119	—	—	—	—	—	119
Total	2,650	489	—	408	—	—	3,547

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	9	—	9
Hongkong	—	304	—	304
Yokohama	—	1,182	—	1,182
Total	—	1,495	—	1,495

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Altmore*, Captain Watson, reports:—Arrived at Yokohama the 25th September at 2.30 p.m. after a twenty-two days passage from Astoria. During most of this time had nothing but gales of wind and very high seas; had only about two clear days all the way, mostly fogs or very heavy rain. The barometer on passage averaged about 30.5, and the gales mostly from S.W. During the last two days had gale from S.E., veering round with heavy rain to the W.S.W. The ship's decks more or less flooded all the way over. On the whole the passage was far from pleasant.

The British steamer *China*, Captain Seabury, reports:—Left Hongkong the 18th September at noon; on the 19th off Lammocks hove to 10 hours in a typhoon, had strong N.N.E. winds and rough sea to Nagasaki. Left Nagasaki the 23rd; experienced thick and rainy weather through the Inland Sea, and all the way to port. September 20th, picked up 5 Chinese men from a wrecked junk off Ocksue Island, bound from Wenchow for Foochow.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Good business continues. Yarn—Strong demand for fine counts, Plain and Gassed, singles and doubles, with a higher range of prices. Shirtings—Good trade in 9lb., market strong. Fancies have all had a turn at satisfactory prices. Italian Cloth is about ½ cent. per yard dearer all round with some business done in other Woollens also.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.	
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 30	to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75	to 3.15
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65	to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.70	to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2 00	to 3.75

	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 16 to 0 22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3 lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2 55
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5 lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 80 to 3 20
WOOLLENS.	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb	0.60 to 0 75
COTTON YARNS.	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34 00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	35.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36 00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	41.00 to 43.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 43.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	48.00 to 50.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Good trade, especially in Iron, and prices moving up. Sales of all kinds have been more satisfactory than for some time past.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 4 inch	$3.20 to 3.25
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.25 to 3.30
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.25
Wire Nails, assorted	5.50 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.50 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

Prices lower owing to the sharp competition between the two large American and Russian holders. Buyers go slow, taking advantage of every fresh reduction in price, and expect yet lower quotations ere long. Stock is down to 6,500,000 gallons, but fresh arrivals will be here before long.

American	$2.00 to 2.05
Russian	1.95 to 2.00
Langkat	1.90

SUGAR.

Brown—A revival in the trade. Small arrivals and large sales with strong market. All prices advanced and outlook satisfactory. White—Good sales at quotations both "spot" and "to arrive." Market healthy and prices tending upwards.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.70 to 3.80
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.60
Brown Daitong (New)	3.30 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.25 to 3.80
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Quiet market, with small doings for Europe. The high range of prices has stopped the trade and most quotations are nominal, although $1,010 is reported paid for a small lot of something *extra-super* in Filatures. Holders firm, believing that buyers will come on again shortly.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)	
Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den,	Nom $970 to 980
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	970 to 980
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	Hom. 900 to 910
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	750 to 770
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	720 to 730
Kakedas—Extra	850
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Good demand for the better grades of Noshi, but holders prevent large transactions by their stubborn attitude. If they would be a little bit current a heavy business could be done. Pierced Cocoons still in the doldrums for the same reason.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)	
Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

A steady trade continues. Market firm. Principal demand is for grades running from "Medium" to "On Fine" at quotations. Settlements to date 220,000 piculs against 214,000 piculs at same date last year.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Only slight fluctuations in the rates of exchange have occurred during the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2½
— — Bills on demand	2/2¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅝
— — 6 months' sight	2/2¾
On Paris—Bank sight	2.75
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.80
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On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	193½
— Private 30 days' sight	196
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	53¾
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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 5TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At Kogawa-cho, Osaka, on the 2nd inst, the wife of WM. WYND of a daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

CHOLERA is steadily decreasing all over the Empire.

THREE hundred railway workmen left Tokyo on the 30th ult. for Formosa.

COUNT A. DE BYLANDT, the Netherlands Minister, leaves Japan in November next.

A MAN was run over and killed by a train at Uyeno, Tokyo, on the 29th ult.

THE Autumn regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club took place to-day.

THE Yokohama Philharmonic Society start the new season with a balance in hand of $50.

A LARGE conflagration occurred at Nemuro on the 3rd inst., 943 houses being destroyed.

THE bad weather of the past week on the China coast has greatly hindered steamships on the voyage to Japan and the departure of all the trans-Pacific mail steamers was postponed from two to three days beyond schedule date in consequence.

SATURDAY'S Sailing race, for the Grand Hotel Cup, resulted in another win for Mr. Laffin's *Mary*.

OVER 300 artisans, who have been working in the dock-yard at Port Arthur, lately returned to Japan.

FOUR persons were burnt to death during the recent fire at Imo-o, Tsu-u District, Okayama Prefecture.

AN outbreak of rinderpest among cattle recently imported from Korea is reported from Okayama Prefecture.

THEIR Imperial Highnesses Princesses Tsune and Kane returned to Tokyo on the 1st inst. from Nikko.

MR. SHIMAMURA, the newly appointed Japanese Consul-General at Honolulu, will shortly leave Tokyo for his post.

LI HUNG-CHANG is China's sole representative in the negotiations regarding the new commercial treaty with Japan.

SALVAGE work is still steadily proceeding at the *Belgic*, and hopes are now entertained of floating her within a few days.

ANOTHER batch of ponies, half and three-quarter bred mares, arrived this week and were drawn for at the Race Club.

THE announcement that Count Mutsu has resigned the portfolio of Foreign Affairs for a third time, is authoritatively denied.

MR. GRIFFIN was re-elected President, and Mr. J. Davieson, Secretary of the Yokohama Chess Club at the annual general meeting.

MR. HASHIGUCHI, the new Japanese Consul at Ninsen, Korea, left Yokohama for Korea on the 27th ult. by the *Chow Chow Foo*.

THE Government has issued his exequatur to Señor Don Fernando Gomez de Bonilla as Spanish Consul at Yokohama.

THE repairs to the Russian Legation having been completed, H.E. the Russian Minister removed from Yokohama to Tokyo on the 28th ult.

COUNT AND COUNTESS INOUYE have returned to the capital. They received a hearty welcome at Shinagawa station from representatives of all classes.

THE old members easily defeated the new members in the Cricket match last Saturday. White and Crawford both passed the half century in runs.

AT the annual meeting of the Yokohama Choral Society the old officers were all re-elected. The Society intends giving three concerts during the coming winter.

A PLOT to assassinate the Ministers of State, —those more particularly connected with the Liaotung negotiations—has been discovered in Tokyo, and two men are under arrest.

MESSRS. Minoda Chojiro, Ozeki Teijiro, Kusakabe Kimbei, and other Yokohama merchants have applied to the Authorities for permission to organize a Guild of Curio Merchants.

THE removal of the Yokohama Railway Station to Hiranuma is contemplated by the Railway Bureau, the change being regarded as necessary owing to the inadequacy of accommodation on the present site.

THE factory for gassed yarns now being built by the Japan Cotton Spinning Co., Osaka, will be thoroughly completed in January or February next; a portion of the machinery will be in working order this month.

MRS. KATO, the wife of the Japanese Minister to England, will leave Tokyo about October 10th for Kyoto, whence she will proceed to Kobe; she will leave the latter port for England by a steamer sailing on the 19th inst.

THE other day when the German ship *Irene* was engaged in target practice off Hakodate, she ran down a Japanese fishing boat containing ten fishermen. The matter has been settled by the payment of *yen* 200 by the Germans.

THE Hantan Railway Co. proposes to extend its line, now 35 miles in length, between Himeji and Inuno. The line will be increased to over 50 miles, and *yen* 1,500,000 is to be added to the capital to meet the expenses of construction.

WORK on the large naval dock was commenced at Kure the other day. The dimensions of the dock are, length 141 mètres, breadth 28.38 mètres, in the upper part, and 24.725 mètres below, with a depth of 13.4 mètres. Vessels under 15,000 tons will be able to enter the dock.

REUTER telegraphs—Louis Pasteur, the world-renowned French *savant*, is dead. There is great excitement at Stamboul owing to the arrival off Lemnos (a large island in the Ægean Archipelago) of seventeen British men-of-war. There is excitement in Germany owing to the reported looting of the German mission near Swatow. The German press urges that cruisers should be sent. The London papers recognise the presence of Prince Lobanoff at the review as a proof of the tightening of an alliance which strengthens France from a military, and Russia from a financial point of view. Further letters from Madagascar state that the sufferings of the troops are terrible, and that the army is dwindling daily. The hospitals are crowded, there being over three thousand sick under treatment. The Peary Relief Expedition, with the Exploror Lieut. Peary and his companions, has returned to St. John's, Newfoundland. When relieved the expedition was almost starved. At a meeting of New York and London Athletic Clubs, which was held at New York, the Americans won all the eleven events, creating in the course of the competition several World's records.

THE outlook is very bright for a good autumn season for Importers. Trade is fair all round and as the cold weather approaches, quotations for Blankets and Woollens will still further improve. A good demand prevails for Metals, though holders would like to record better prices. Still this may be accomplished as stocks up-country are very low, and supply does not meet demand outside the chief trade centre. There is little to note in Kerosene, the market not having yet been galvanized into the usual autumn activity: buyers control the market. Deliveries of Brown Sugar continue satisfactorily, though naturally there is less doing after the late heavy transactions. Quotations are firm for White in the face of the good trade now being done. The market is very steady for Raw Silk, without very much doing, but a reduction in prices would undoubtedly bring about more business in the future. A fair trade has been done in Waste, and the large stocks both here and in the country districts must send holders' ideas down to even more reasonable limits pretty shortly. A small business continues in Tea, holders being occupied in filling small orders to complete stocks. Exchange has remained fairly steady throughout the week.

HATHITRUST DIGITIZED BY GOOGLE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

Rumours of probable Cabinet changes have occupied a considerable space in the columns of the vernacular press during the week. These rumours have been reproduced by us from time to time. They are of a conflicting nature, and are evidently based not so much on partially ascertained facts as on a vague yet very general feeling that sooner or later changes of some sort are inevitable in the *personnel* of the Government. The impression in well-informed circles is that no change will take place for the present at any rate, except perhaps in a single instance, namely, the appointment of a new Minister of Communications. The duties of that post are now temporarily discharged by Viscount Watanabe, Minister of Finance, pending the choice of a suitable candidate. Opinion is general that the choice will fall upon Baron Ito Miyoji, the well known Secretary-General of the Cabinet. For the past few months, in every rumour of Ministerial changes, his name has been mentioned as a candidate for the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, of Agriculture and Commerce, or of Communications. Even his bitterest enemies do not deny that he is well qualified for a Ministerial appointment.

* * *

The attacks on the Radical Party have ceased to excite any interest. Alluding to rumours of an understanding between the Cabinet and that Party, the *Jiji Shimpo* places no confidence in such stories, but even assuming them to be true, sees nothing surprising or improper in such a relationship, especially at the present juncture when the Government and the Radicals are well agreed on all important political questions. The vehement traducers of the Radicals are reminded that the very position they now seek with such a clamour of reproach to assign to their political opponents was occupied by their own Party in 1888-89, when their leader held a portfolio. If it was honourable to cōoperate with the Government at that time, it is incomparably more honourable to do so at a juncture like the present, when harmony between the Government and the Diet is of vital importance to the interests of the country. In another article our contemporary advises the Opposition politicians to be more cautious in selecting questions to measure strength with their antagonists. They are prone to seize upon whatever weapon offers for attacking the Government, and that want of discrimination is one reason of their repeated defeats by the Cabinet. Possibly they are at present embarrassed by the absence of good questions for tactical purposes. If so, they had better remain quiet and bide their time. Nothing could be more unprofitable for themselves or more undesirable for the country than that they should pursue a wild and indiscriminate policy of antagonism to those in power.

* * *

The *Nippon* returns once more to the discussion of what it calls the national attitude in foreign affairs; or, in other words, the attitude that the nation as a whole ought to maintain toward particular foreign countries irrespective of the diplomatic policy of the Government. The latter, says our contemporary, is very often controlled by considerations of a temporary nature. The Russian and English Governments may, under particular circumstances, unite for a commou end, but the two nations must be permanently antagonistic, for their geographical positions condemn them to be natural enemies. The French and the Germans hate each other, but that circumstance does not prevent the Governments of the two countries from sometimes treading a common path with regard to a certain question and for special reasons. Similarly the Japanese Government may at times be forced to pursue a hostile policy toward Russia, but the *Nippon* reminds its countrymen that temporary incidents cannot alter the truth that Russia is Japan's natural friend. Consequently, the Japanese people are advised to bear that truth always in mind, and cultivate Russian goodwill irrespective of the policy pursued by the Government. As to England, our contemporary plainly remarks that she is Japan's natural opponent, for she lies in the path of the latter's southward development. Hence the Japanese should be prepared to encounter the opposition and even the hostility of the English. Whatever changes the diplomatic policy of the country undergo, the truth that Russia is Japan's natural friend and England her natural enemy can never change, according to the *Nippon*. A clear understanding of this truth is of paramount importance to Japan at the outset of her new career as a commercial and maritime power.

* * *

The *Kokkai* strongly urges the importance of understanding Russia and the Russians. The little knowledge possessed by the Japanese about that interesting country and people is only second-hand information obtained through the prejudiced medium of English or French books. Those that understand Russian are exceedingly few, nor does their acquaintance with the language go beyond every-day conversation: they have not made a study of Russian literature. Russia remains a sealed book to the Japanese and the result is that they entertain an altogether erroneous notion as to her aggressiveness and treacherousness. Such a state of affairs is especially unfortunate, seeing that the two countries are destined to be brought into very close contact, politically as well as commercially. The *Kokkai* is not so pronounced in its advocacy of a Russian alliance as the *Nippon*, but that it is very amicably disposed toward the great Northern Power can not to be gainsaid. It concludes by recommending its countrymen to study Russian and travel in Russia, so that an intimate and unprejudiced knowledge of the country and people may be acquired.

* * *

The vernacular press is united in urging manufacturers and merchants to demonstrate their competence to fight successfully against other nations, especially in China. To forestall others is to control them, says the proverb. Immediate steps should be taken to utilize the commercial advantages secured by the Treaty of Shimonoseki. The *Nichi Nichi* is glad to hear that the commissioners sent to China by the Kanegafuchi Spinning Factory have come back convinced of the possibility of successfully competing with Europeans in the spinning industry in Shanghai. If such be the case even in an old settlement like Shanghai, where Occidentals have had the start of the Japanese in every respect, it may be taken for granted that success will certainly attend Japanese enterprise in the newly opened ports, where nothing prevents them from getting the start of Europeans.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes in a similar strain. It calls upon the principal capitalists of Japan to devote their money to industrial and commercial purposes in China. There are not fields enough for them in Japan, the host of smaller capitalists being sufficient for all home purposes. China offers a vast field for the greater capitalists, and their plain course is to devote themselves to industrial and commercial undertakings in that country. The real battle between the Japanese and the Europeans has yet to be fought out in peaceful pursuits. Whether Japan will be able to maintain in peace the honours she has won in war, depends entirely upon the conduct of her leading capitalists at the present juncture.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* regrets to observe that its countrymen have ceased to pay attention to the opening of trade with Liaotung. Japan's expansion does not necessarily mean the enlargement of her territories, it also signifies the development of her commerce and the emigration of her people. Three Powers have objected to the Japanese occupation of Liaotung, but they are not unreasonable enough to remonstrate against the settlement of Japanese trade in the peninsula, a place well adapted for both purposes. The climate is severe in winter, but the late campaign proved that the Japanese can stand Manchurian cold perfectly well. The soil gives many valuable products. As to commerce, more than 3,000,000 *yen* worth of commodities are yearly exported thence to Japan through the hands of Europeans and Chinese. Here is a splendid opportunity for Japanese merchants to open out a field for themselves. Japan has lost Liaotung politically, but commercially the district still invites her enterprise. The *Kokumin* advises its countrymen to emigrate there and develop the place's rich natural resources.

* * *

Count Inouye's return from Korea has been quite an event in the capital, where a belief existed that his arrival would settle the pending question of Ministerial changes. As to work done by him in Sōul, all persons seem compelled to acknowledge that his mission has been a complete success, so far as success was possible under the circumstances. Nobody can dispute the zeal, energy, and ability shown by him in the discharge of his difficult task. The *Chuo Shimbun*, in an article evincing much sympathy with the distinguished statesman, says that, should the edifice built by him with so much pain and perseverance prove unable to stand permanently erect, it will be no fault of his, but must be ascribed entirely to the materials with which he was obliged to work.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

YOKOHAMA CHORAL SOCIETY.

THE annual general meeting of the members of the Yokohama Choral Society was held in Van Schaick Hall on Monday afternoon, Mr. J. T. Griffin, in the chair. The accounts for the year were submitted and passed. They showed an income of $397.27, including a balance from last year of $18.12; the expenditure, principally on account of new music, was $404.92. From the net profits of the three concerts given last winter, the Society handed over to the Philharmonic Society $125,—a little more than half—as its share in the proceeds. The election of officers and committee resulted in the return of the old officials, Mrs. Low taking the place of Mrs. McNeill on the Committee. The roll is now, President: Mr. John T. Griffin; Vice-President: Mrs. Poole; Treasurer: Mr. F. Townley; Secretary: Rev. E. S. Booth; Committee: Mrs. W. W. Campbell, Mrs. Low, Miss Webb, and Mrs. Wheeler. The list of members is on the increase, eight new ones being elected at the meeting. The winter's work will include, we understand, Smart's "Bride of Dunkerron," which will be given at the first concert in December; Mendelssohn's "Lauda Sion," for the second concert in February; and Cummings' "Fairy Ring," for the third and last concert of the season—truly music-lovers in the community have something very agreeable to look forward too.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR. G. NATERMANN.

A VERY large number of Kobe residents assembled on Friday morning at the house of the late Mr. G. Natermann, to pay the last sad tribute of respect to their deceased friend. The number of wreaths sent was especially large, representing all sections and all nationalities in the community, some being from Yokohama friends also. The Japanese friends of the deceased sent many stands of flowers, which preceded the hearse on the walk to the cemetery. The pall-bearers were Messrs. Stoffregen, Hasche, Visscher, Haynemann, Kellmann, Ziegfeld, Schlüter, and Ailion, who on arrival at the cemetery carried the coffin to the graveside. Here Mr. O. Keil, of Yokohama, who had come down for the special purpose of attending the funeral, delivered by special request a brief address in German, in which in a few-chosen words he directed attention to the many virtues and excellent qualities of the deceased. We grieve, he said, when those taken away are full of years; how much more sad then was it in the present case, when a friend was stricken down in the prime of manhood. Many could testify from their own experience that he who lay dead was a friend not only in word but in deed, and there was scarcely any public in-

stitution in Kobe to which he did not contribute his share of support. We have buried a good man; to many he was more. His loss which they felt as a friend would be felt even more keenly by the relatives in the distant home-land. To them we extend our sympathy, while we shall keep his memory green. Rest in peace! The speaker concluded by reciting the words of the Lord's prayer, after which the assembled mourners slowly dispersed.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

THE LATE MR. BECKMAN.

MR. BECKMAN, the Second Officer of the *Belgic*, who lost his life on the evening of the stranding, had been with the company ten years, going to the Pacific coast on the *Belgic* with Captain W. H. Walker and other officers of the boat when the vessel was sent out in 1885 by the White Star Line. Since that time he has served as second officer. He was born in Leipsic fifty-two years ago. At an early age he went to Hamburg and took a course in a nautical school. Then he went to sea and became an expert navigator. He was employed by several English companies and served as second officer on two of the White Star Line steamers. Five years ago in San Francisco he married a young German woman of Bremen. They lived at 1017, Pierce-street, when the *Belgic* was in port. Afterward they moved to 124, Fulton-street. They had one child, a girl, who died in infancy. Mrs. Beckman is prostrated with grief over the sad news from Yokohama. She is much younger than her husband, being but 32 years of age.

THE VISITING SHANGHAI TEAM.

WRITING of the Cricket team that Shanghai is sending to Yokohama for the Cricket week, the *N.-C. Daily News* says:—"The Committee of the Shanghai Cricket Club had a good deal of trouble in getting a team together at all. A few weeks ago things looked quite rosy, and when a wire was sent to Yokohama accepting their challenge a very respectable team was on paper. However, "man proposes and fate disposes," and the team now looks very different from what it did then, men who were confident of being able to get away, being now prevented from going. With the true sporting spirit which, we believe, still does exist in Shanghai, other men have come forward and taken their places, fully determined that, sooner than disappoint Yokohama, the team should be somehow made up, and we heartily wish every success may attend their efforts. The eleven is much better all round than the one which was defeated so disastrously by Kobe, in fact it possesses a fair amount of batting strength, but, like many an S.C.C. team before it, it lacks bowling. It will be seen that the Committee have invited A. E. Lanning to join the team and we think they have done wisely. He plays with a very straight bat and will be sure to keep up his wicket even if he does not make runs fast. As to the rest the public knows them all, and if zeal and determination can win the match against Yokohama the Club may be well contented to leave its honour in their hands. They are sure to receive a hearty welcome, and that will compensate them a little if they are defeated; but who can say, with that glorious uncertainty of cricket, that they will not return crowned with the well-earned laurels of victory. In any case they have the best wishes of every true Shanghailander." The team was constituted as follows when the last mail left:—Messrs. H. Adams, J. U. Buchanan, W. B. Cheetham, R. Sale Hill, W. F. Inglis, A. E. Lanning, R. Macgregor, W. A. C. Platt, E. W. Sharples, A. P. Wood, E. P. Wickham, and R. C. Farbridge (Capt).

YOKOHAMA PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

THE annual general meeting of this Society was held in Keil's Building on Wednesday afternoon, when the Report and Accounts were duly passed. Mr. Griffin intimated that the Society had obtained a lot of new music from home; he regretted that some old members had departed, but had hopes that the ranks would be filled with new blood; and suggested that when necessary for the proper rendering of some pieces, more wind instruments were required, the services of members of the Yokohama band might be requisitioned. Regarding the post held last year by Mr. Fraser, he did not feel justified in filling it up, as he understood that gentleman would be absent for two months: he would undertake his duties until his return. Votes of thanks having been tendered the Chair and Mr. Keil for the use of the room, the meeting separated. Below are the Report and Accounts:—

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: FIRST SEASON (1894-1895).

We may congratulate ourselves on a very successful opening Session,—the result being satisfactory both musically and financially.

At the meeting held 24th September, 1894, Mr. Griffin was appointed Conductor, and Mr. C. I. Fraser was elected Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

Practice commenced on 1st October, and on the 19th December we made our first appearance before the Public, in conjunction with the Yokohama Choral Society. Other concerts were given in February and May, 1895, with marked success.

The best thanks of the Society are hereby presented to Mr. C. I. Fraser, Mr. O. Keil, Dr. Munro, and Mr. N. A. Walter for valuable gifts of music. We have further imported from England a good stock of works, which will be amply sufficient for some time to come.

The Treasurer's account is appended, showing a balance in hand of $50.

The temporary removal to Kobe of Mr. Fraser is a cause of deep regret, his hearty co-operation in the work of the Society having been of inestimable value.

JOHN GRIFFIN, President.

Yokohama, 30th September, 1895.

RECEIPTS.

	$
Balance in hand 1st October 1894	2.82
Members' fees	159.00
Proceeds of Concerts	125.00
	$286.82

EXPENDITURE.

	$
Rent paid Y. P. H.	125.00
New Music	78.30
Music copying	20.05
Stationery, Postages, &c.	13.47
Balance in hand	50.00
	$286.82

E. & O. E.

C. I. FRASER,
Hon. Treasurer.

Yokohama, 30th, September 1895.

SILK HANDKERCHIEFS, HABUTAYE, ETC.

THE export of silk handkerchiefs, habutae, *chirimen*, and so forth, continues to develop with remarkable rapidity. The figures for the first eight months of this year, as compared with the corresponding figures for last year, were:—

	1895. Yen.	1894. Yen.
Silk Handkerchiefs	3,204,637	2,246,669
Habutae	5,944,336	3,684,544
Chirimen and other	1,325,013	333,479
	10,473,985	6,264,692

These figures become the more remarkable when we remember that, as recently as 1891, the exports of habutae, *chirimen*, and so forth, were not deemed worthy of special mention in the customs returns, and the export of silk handkerchiefs for the whole of that year aggregated only 2½ million *yen*.

THE WARSHIPS ON THE YANGTSZE.

THE natives at Wuhu and Nanking are somewhat excited over the visit of the *Æolus*, *Spartan*, and *Rainbow*, says the Shanghai morning journal, as they do not know what the visit portends. The *Æolus* has left Nanking for up river, her place being taken by the *Rainbow*, which is anchored in a position to command the city. No communication has been made with the shore. The *Spartan* was at Wuhu on Wednesday, Sept. 25th, and the *Plover* left Kinkiang for Nanking, having been telegraphed for. The U.S.S. *Machias* has arrived at Chinkiang. When the *Æolus* passed the *Yuenwo*, she went by her as if the river boat was at anchor. Four more British men-of-war are due at Woosung and will also proceed up the river.

PROFESSOR ANDERSON ON ART IN ITS RELATION TO ANATOMY.

PROFESSOR ANDERSON, who is known personally to so many of our readers, is now delivering a course of lectures at the Royal Academy. In a recent address, as abstracted in the *Lancet*, he said that anatomy owed a heavy debt to art, although he might also say that art owed an almost equal one to anatomy. "But before anatomy was studied as a science the great masters of Greek sculpture, without any aid from dissection, produced works which were masterpieces of artistic beauty and anatomical correctness, although while sculpture had advanced to such a pitch medicine and surgery were still in a purely empirical stage. . . . The lecturer passed on to consider the decline of classical learning and art, and after mentioning the mediæval treatises on anatomy, which were illustrated in a way from dissections of the lower animals, came to times when anatomists employed the great artists to illustrate their works. Leonardi da Vinci executed a series of anatomical drawings for his own improvement. The work of Berengarius was touched upon, and then came the immortal work of Vesalius, illustrated by a pupil of Titian. Professor Anderson then mentioned the anatomical works of the seventeenth century in the illustrations to which anatomical correctness was subordinated to the debased art of the day. The figures were represented in various affected attitudes standing on pedestals in pseudo-Italian landscapes, holding aside their skin or muscles to show the internal organs."

SUBSCRIPTION GRIFFINS.

A SECOND batch of ten Half-bred Subscription Mares came down from Hokkaido on Monday and were drawn for on Tuesday morning at the Race Course. They are all rising three, and compare favourably with the last lot, Nos. 1, 2, 8 and 9 being the most taking. Below are the names of drawers:—

1. Grey ¾ Bred by Bradley 4...Mr. Bennett.
2. Bay ¾ Bred by Shah .....Mr. State.
3. Grey ¾ Bred by Bradley 4...Mr. Worthington.
4. Bay ¾ Bred by Spooney ....Mr. Nemo.
5. Grey ½ Bred by Bradley 4...Mr. Cavalette.
6. Bay ¾ Bred by Spooney .....Mr. Durand.
7. Grey ¾ Bred by Bradley 4...The Club.
8. Grey ¾ Bred by Bradley.....Mr. Cavalette.
9. Grey ¾ Bred by Bradley 4...Mr. de Flesch.
10. Grey ¾ Bred by Bradley 4...Mr. Avis.

METALS.

MESSRS. S. W. ROYSE & Co. in their report dated August 24th, say:—The improvement noticeable in the Pig Iron markets at the end of July has been well maintained during the month, and prices have steadily advanced, being now about 1s. 6d. per ton higher than they were some four weeks ago. A further advance seems quite probable; shipments are good and there is a good enquiry for early delivery and also for delivery sometime ahead, but makers are not anxious to commit themselves far forward. There is also a better tone in the Manufactured Iron trade, and prices are improving. Copper has advanced steadily, being about £2 10s. dearer in the last month, and £4 10s. dearer in the last two months, and is now quiet. Tin has been losing ground somewhat, but is now improving again. Spelter is easing again. Lead is slightly lower than at the beginning of this month, and is steady.

SHANGHAI FILATURES.

HERE is an interesting paragraph from Mr. Acting Consul-General Jamieson's Shanghai trade report for 1894:—"A conspicuous item in this year's return is an export of 4,344 cwts. of silk reeled in the Shanghai steam filatures. The cocoons are purchased in the interior, brought to Shanghai and reeled under skilled foreign supervision. The result is the finest and most valuable silk the world produces. Silk treated in these filatures is worth from 25 to 50 per cent. more than the product of the same cocoons would be if reeled by native methods. There are now nine separate steam filatures at work in Shanghai, running together 3,500 basins, and two more are in course of construction. The anticipated out-turn for the season 1895 96 is expected to be over 5,500 bales."

PROTECTION TO FOREIGN TRADE MARKS IN CHINA.

MR. VICE-CONSUL SCOTT, in his report on the Shanghai Mixed Court for 1894, says:—"Under 'Forgery' are included several cases of fradulent imitation of the trade marks of European firms. As is well known, China has no statutory enactments bearing on trade marks, but custom, which in China has acquired the force of law, acknowledges the right of each merchant and trader to his own 'chop' or brand under which he conducts his business and marks his goods. In dealing with natives

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imitating the trade marks of European firms, it is due to the Mixed Court magistrate to recognise his ready co-operation and assistance in suppressing all attempts at fraud. The forged articles have been confiscated, and the rights of the European merchant maintained against Chinese imitators of his trade marks." It is certainly convenient in some cases to have Courts that regard "olo custom" as good law, and enforce their view by fines and confiscations. But such a liberal estimate of a legal tribunal's competence might prove occasionally very embarrassing.

THE RESULT OF SHORT WORKING HOURS.

An English manufacturer has communicated to a daily paper an interesting report of the result of a five years' experience of the eight-hour rule in his works. He says that at first the wage-cost per ton went up, then dropped, and is now as low as it was in 1889, when the twelve-hour law was in force. In other words, the men get as much work done in eight hours as they used to get done in twelve. This is not attributed to a coincidental improvement in machinery or the methods of manufacture. The managers of the works, who have considered the point, are convinced that, although the men work less hours, the aggregate efficiency of their work is not diminished. This view is supported by the showing of the factory books, which record greater regularity of attendance, increased application, and improved health of the workmen. Many of them used to be irregular and drunken, but such cases are now rare. In the long double shift at the end of each week the men often used to be found asleep. Under the new conditions this does not happen. They look fresher and healthier, and the change in them is markedly shown in the comparatively nimble and lively gait with which they leave the works at the end of the shift.

SUNKEN ROCK DISCOVERED BETWEEN INUBOYE-SAKI AND NOSHIMA-SAKI.

Captain Mahlmann writes to the Kobe papers:—The following report from Captain J. Samuelsen of the German steamer *Hainan* at Nagasaki has been received at my office:—"On the 1st of September while on my voyage from Hakodate and when in Lat. 35° 03′ N. Long. 140° 15′ E., my vessel struck an unmarked Rock or Reef, Katsura point being then distant about 2 miles and Kominato point about 4 miles. The soundings marked on my chart near this spot being 79 and 150 fathoms, and near the beach 9 and 10 fathoms. The draft of my vessel being 14 feet 5 inches at the time, I have concluded that the Rock is covered about 14 feet. In my opinion the Rock is unknown as I have been unable to find it marked on any chart, nor mentioned in the China Sea Directory. The damage done to my vessel being: four plates and three frames bent about Engine-room ballast-tank, on the port side."

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF EMPIRE.

The *Spectator* gives a formidable catalogue of the responsibilities devolving upon Her Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs at the present juncture:—

> Take the existing situation of the Empire, and see what endless questions it presents—questions where to give the right answer means safety and honour for our race; the wrong one, if not actually ruin and disgrace, confusion and annoyance. We will not touch on home problems, though they are serious enough, but merely on the more pressing Foreign and Colonel difficulties which beset the path of the Cabinet. To begin with, there is the Armenian question. The Government is impelled by the sense of justice and right to force the Turks to stop massacring and outraging their Christian subjects in Asia Minor. But they can only reach the Turk effectively in co-operation with the Powers. But this co-operation may at any moment beget antagonism, and may raise the whole Eastern question in its most aggravated form. Could there be a stronger example of the responsibilities with which a British Cabinet is faced? They have to save the Christian subjects of the Sultan, yet a false step in doing so might plunge Europe into the most terrible war that the world has ever known—the war in which, to use Prince Bismarck's grim phrase, the vanquished Power will be "bled as white as veal." So much for Eastern Europe. Look at the problems of Asia. The Pamirs question is still unsettled, and it is still possible to ask how far are we wise in spending the resources of India to resist an invasion which may never come, or which at any rate might be averted by giving Russia access to the sea. Go further east, and the responsibilities involved in the answers which must sooner or later be given to certain impending questions increase a hundredfold. Tacitly, but none the less significantly, Japan asks us to ally ourselves with her in resisting the claim of Russia to dominate the Northern Pacific and North-Eastern Asia. Are we to move owards or away from that offer of alliance? If we say 'No" to Japan, we may lose a make-weight which in years o come might be most useful. If we say "Yes," we may destroy the otherwise good prospect of coming to an understanding with Russia. China b7 itself offers dilemma after dilemma. Are we to acquiesce in her relapse into anarchy, or are we to interfere to save her, or again, are we to see her come under the tutelage of Russia without securing any compensation? From the Chinese problems we must pass to those of the Upper Meikong and the evacuation of Chantaboon. Will the Cabinet be justified in risking a war with France, in order to maintain our rights in the Shan State, which includes a piece of both banks of the Meikong,—a place so unknown and remote that, till a year ago, it had hardly been traversed by white men? It would be a great responsibility to make war on such a subject. Yet it might be a greater to allow our undoubted rights to be infringed by the French. To a hostile Power, one dare not yield rights, however insignificant. Again, have we, or have we not, a right to insist upon the evacuation of Chantaboon; and if we have, is it worth while to insist on that right? So much for the Far East. Let us turn to Africa. Here the responsibilities thicken fast. First, how are we to treat the Germans at the places where we and they are rivals, and what are the concessions worth making to secure them as active friends? That seems a small question when looked at from a distance. Observed closer, it will be seen to be fraught with the most momentous possibilities. Between us and France the African questions are always momentous. They may be put in a series of questions. "What is to be our answer as regards Egypt, supposing that France, or France and Russia, demand evacuation? "What are the proper steps for enforcing our explicit claim to the valley of the Upper Nile, supposing that France allows those claims to be violated by a military expedition?" "Shall we, in combination with Italy and the Congo State, make an advance against the Mahdi?" When the Government has answered these questions they are confronted with the hardly less difficult problems of West Africa. How far are they to stand absolutely firm as regards French aggression on the Niger, and how far should they conciliate the French? Take, again, such a problem as that of Morocco. At any moment that may become a "live" question, and the Government be obliged to decide what are the interests of England in the Shereefian Empire, and on what terms they would consent to a French occupation. The Colonial problems which are before the Government at this moment are only less serious and difficult than those of Foreign policy. Take the South African problem alluded to by us elsewhere. The British Government are confronted with that *remanet* of ill-judged magnanimity, the Transvaal. How are they to force the Boers to recognise our suzerainty in fact as well as in name, and to give their rights to the Uitlanders, without doing anything to alarm the Dutch of the Cape or to injure the cause of South African unity, —a cause on which the well-being of the Empire as a whole may be said to depend. Another Colonial problem of no ordinary difficulty, though it has been little mentioned in the Press, is that involved in the demands of the Canadian Parliament *à propos* of the Copyright Law. Canada wants something which would bring the whole system of international copyright to ruin. The Government will have to oppose that demand, and yet not infringe the Parliamentary independence of Canada. Take another set of American difficulties,—those connected with Newfoundland. The people of Newfoundland have a grievance against the French which may any day become acute and involve the question of how to be just to France without offending the people of Newfoundland. Again, the whole problem of Newfoundland and of its relations with the Empire is perplexed aud difficult, and a false step may prove most dangerous.

HONGKONG AND THE YACHT RACES.

On the news arriving in Hongkong of the withdrawing of the *Valkyrie III* some enthusiastic yachtsmen telegraphed:—"Lord Dunraven, New York—Hongkong respects you. Bravo. Lowson;" and received the following reply "Lowson, Hongkong—Thanks, Dunraven."

A JAPANESE MATHEMATICIAN.

Mr. S. Kimura, at present staying at the Japanese Legation at the Hague, appears to devote some of his spare time to the study of mathematics, a science in which he is evidently a proficient. We find in the last issue of *Nature* a letter from him, containing a very pretty bit of demonstration in Quaternions.

ACCIDENT TO CAPT. FAWKES, R.N.

We (*Singapore Free Press*) regret to hear that Captain Fawkes, R.N., of the *Mercury*, is laid up, to some extent, with an injury to his knee, the result of a slip and heavy fall on the steps of the Singapore Club.

THE MURDER IN THE HARBOUR.

The preliminary examination of the coolie Iida Tsunekichi, who is under arrest on suspicion of having murdered a Chinese cook on board the *Empress of India*, concluded on the 30th ult., and the case was transferred to the Criminal Court.

THE ANTI-FOREIGN RIOTS IN KWANTUNG.

News was received in Shanghai on September 21st by telegraph stating that a fresh outbreak against foreigners had occurred in the province of Kwangtung. The outrage was the work of a band of 600 organized armed ruffians, acting under a recognized chief, who systematically attacked the Basle Mission at a place called Minlien, a few miles from Swatow. No further details are given. The Mission has its headquarters in Hongkong.

THE "KINSHU-MARU" ASHORE.

A correspondent at Ujina informs the *Kobe Chronicle* that a telegram has been received there to the effect that the *Kinshu Maru* (formerly the *Kintuck*) has gone ashore in Kelung harbour through her cables parting. She struck on a sandy beach, so it is supposed that no damage is done. The accident presumably occurred during the great storm experienced a few days since in the China Sea.

SEAMEN'S HOME FOR NAGASAKI.

A sum of $1,766.01 has been already collected for the purpose of establishing a Seamen's Home for Nagasaki. The men and officers of the U.S. Fleet on this station contribute most liberally, over $1,000 coming from them alone

ROWING AT KOBE.

Through the energy of the Rev. S. Swann, sufficient entries have been obtained to warrant the holding of a number of rowing races at Kobe on Oct. 19th.

EX-QUEEN LILIUOKALANI.

A telegram which appears in the Canadian papers says that the Council of State of Hawaii pardoned Queen Liliuokalani on the 3rd Sept., and she is to be liberated.

THE WAR AND CLAN GOVERNMENT.

There are those that maintain that the general effect of the war will be an increase of the prestige of great clan leaders, since some of these contributed so materially to the success achieved. Such, however, is not the opinion of the *Jiji Shimpo*. In an article on this subject published some days ago, the *Jiji* discusses the subject of Clan influence in the Government, and comes to the conclusion that it has been on the decline for many years past, and that the late war has not in any way averted the fate awaiting it—total extinction. Here is the gist of our contemporary's article. Though there is no denying that the present Government originated in clanship, ever since the Restoration there has always been an anti-clan feeling entertained by certain members of the Cabinet, and this feeling has been considerably strengthened and increased by the support it has received from public opinion as represented by the Diet and the press. In ancient times such a victory as that lately won by Japan over China would undoubtedly have enabled the leaders of the conquering armies to dictate the future domestic and foreign policy of the empire, but to-day nothing of the kind can possibly happen. The whole spirit of the age is against it. Though the valiant men that marched at the head of our armies are regarded with gratitude and admiration, were they to attempt to use their prestige for the purpose of influencing the government of the country, the public would at once interfere and use the power entrusted to it to avert such a calamity. The men that have attained wide popularity in the late war, such as Nozu, Kabayama, Ito, Yamagata, Oyama, Kawakami, are men whose chief object has been to serve the Departments to which they belong and not to increase military and naval prestige in the Cabinet. To suppose that the success achieved by these leaders could be utilised for purely political purposes is equivalent to imagining that Japan has relapsed into the despotism of ancient times. If there is one fact more than another that has been impressed upon the members of the present Cabinet by recent events, it is the necessity of the closest union between the Government and the people, and the importance of utilising every advantage we have gained to the furtherance of the interests of the nation as a whole, as distinct from those of any one political party. The consideration of the general effects of the war has led us to the conclusion that instead of increasing, the war has materially decreased, Clan influence in the counsels of the nation.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

The *Mezamashi*, as already noticed, ought not perhaps, to be regarded as an authorized spokesman of the Radical Party, but its writings cannot be entirely passed over where that Party's affairs are concerned, for, petty and unimportant a publication as it is, no other daily journal has connection with any section of the Party. Our readers may therefore be interested in what the *Mezamashi* has to say about the situation of the *Jiyu-to*. It does not acknowledge any understanding between the Party and the Government, but even supposing, for argument's sake, that some relations do exist, the *Mezamashi* fails to understand why such a fact should be counted a proof of the Party's degeneration or corruption, seeing that the combination would be a step in precisely the right direction, from the point of view of those that advocate a system of party Government. Moreover, according to the argument employed by the Progressionist journals, the Progressionists themselves must be said to have been degenerate and corrupt when their leader entered the Kuroda Cabinet. "We can not," says the *Mezamashi*, "view the relationship between a political party and the Cabinet in the same light as the Progressionists view it, for they appear to believe that there is necessarily something reprehensible in such a connection. If it turns out that the policy pursued by the Ito Cabinet coincides with the views of the Radical Party, the latter will not hesitate to declare itself the friend of the Government. The present dastardly attempt to discredit the Radicals by charging them with being corrupt supporters of the Ministry ill becomes politicians that pose as champions of party government. Perhaps the Progressionists have been betrayed into this inconsistent attitude by a sentiment of jealousy, perceiving themselves anticipated in the introduction of a system of government by party." The present attacks on the Radical party are due to the envy excited by its prosperous condition, and simply show that the prospects for the introduction of government by party have improved.

Niigata was the only provincial district where the Liaotung agitation seemed for a time to evoke general sympathy. But if very detailed correspondence published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* be credible, the reports hitherto received from that Prefecture were greatly exaggerated. The excitement apparently caused in connection with the question was the result of a deeply laid scheme devised by a few local politicians who hoped to make capital out of the agitation. Their plan succeeded so far as to effect a combination of the local newspapers representing the Radicals, Progressionists, and National Unionists. But there the success ended. The real character of the agitation soon became known to the people in general, who had not been over zealous from the first. Moreover, the greater portion of the Radicals strongly condemned the conduct of the proprietor of the *Jiyu Shimpo*, who made his columns a medium for fomenting the agitation simply out of a selfish desire to maintain his position as President of the Local Assembly. The much-talked-of secession of the local Radicals from their Party was merely a tale. Even Mr. Takaoka, the proprietor of the above mentioned journal, is said to have come up to the capital for the purpose of explaining away his reprehensible conduct.

The Army Bill has been returned to the General Staff Office for modification, the War Office being of opinion that the proposed scheme involved too much expense. In what respect curtailment will be effected, we do not know, but there does not seem to be any reason for anticipating that the programme of military development lately translated into these columns from the *Nihi Nciehi Shimbun* will be materially altered.

It was at first reported that the ninth session of the Diet would be convened at an earlier date than usual. But present probabilities indicate that the opposite will be the case. The Bills to be presented are so numerous it is said, and are being elaborated with so much care, that some time must elapse before they can be completed.

The *Jiji Shimpo* is certainly to be admired for the indefatigable zeal with which it returns over and over again to its favourite idea of reconciliation between the elder statesmen within and without the Government. It declares that on all points of national policy perfect unanimity of views exists between the Government and the Opposition. The Government was formerly blamed for a weak and vacillating foreign policy, but it has proved itself capable of even undertaking a foreign war; while, on the other hand, the Opposition parties which have hitherto been open to the criticism that, on various pretexts, they obstructed measures for the increase of the Army and the Navy, are now clamouring for even more sweeping military and naval developments than the authorities themselves are prepared to approve. There being thus no difference of opinion between the Cabinet and the Opposition, the *Jiji* thinks that the time has arrived for effecting a reconciliation between statesmen whose dissensions have cost the country so dear. In our contemporary's opinion the first step toward reconciliation should be taken by those in power, for it thinks that upon their attitude entirely depends the success of such a movement. Though perfectly aware that not differences of opinion but personal considerations primarily prevent these statesmen from joining hands, the *Jiji* is persuaded that at a juncture like the present all such considerations should be laid aside. Excellent as this advice seems, we fear that it has little chance of being adopted, for party antipathies now run higher than ever.

We reproduce the following note from the *Kokkai*:—"Whether it be the result of a definite understanding between the two clans, we do not know, but the position of Minister President of State has hitherto been occupied in turn by statesmen of Satsuma and Choshu origin. Supposing, then, that Marquis Ito resigned, who would be his successor? According to a Satsuma politician, Count Kuroda is averse to shouldering the responsibility of the position. Neither are the Satsuma men of the younger generation in favour of his accepting the office. As to Marquises Saigo and Oyama, they, too, do not wish to assume the duties of such a post at the present juncture. The influence formerly exercised by these three statesmen is said to be now in the hands of Count Kabayama and Viscounts Takashima and Kawakami. Another influential member of the Satsuma clique is Mr. Sonoda, Metropolitan Inspector-General of Police. As to Count Nozu, though influential in military circles, he is said to be indifferent about politics. It was by the support of these younger leaders of the Satsuma section that Count Matsukata entered the Cabinet, their object being to set him up as Marquis Ito's successor. But a difference of views was subsequently discovered between him and his supporters, and this, together with other complicated circumstances, led to his retirement from office. The younger Satsuma leaders then decided to choose a candidate for the post of Premier from among themselves, their selection falling on Visconnt Takashima. With this purpose in view, they advised him to accept the post of Vice-Governor-General of Formosa, for a successful campaign against the insurgents would surely bring about his promotion to the rank of Count with the additional honour of being made a Field Marshal. He will thus be a candidate for the Premiership should circumstances favour the formation of a Satsuma Cabinet. However, the passage from the present Cabinet to one with Viscount Takashima at its head will probably be delayed by the organization of an intermediate Ministry. Men say that the chief of such a Ministry will be either Count Inouye or Marquis Saigo, but this hypothesis is very improbable, for Count Inouye's succeeding Marquis Ito in the office of Premier, thus running two Choshu Cabinets continuously, would be against tradition. Neither is it likely that Marquis Saigo will be so unwise as to accept the post under present circumstances. He has always been remarkable for sagacity in shaping his line of conduct. Consequently there is great difficulty in predicting the nature of the intermediate Ministry. The younger Satsuma leaders are so conscious of an enormous access of power since the recent war, that they have no idea of relying upon the support of a political party.

Concerning a report emanating from the *Imperial News Agency*, that Count Mutsu has again tendered his resignation, the *Mezamashi*, a Radical journal, states that it is a baseless story, the fact being that the Foreign Minster is, on the contrary, resolved to retain his office until death deprives him of ability to serve his Emperor and his country.

Very contradictory reports are circulated about probable changes in the *personnel* of the Ministry. We reproduce them for what they may be worth. The *Nippon*, for instance, writes:—"Rumours about Ministerial changes multiply thick and fast since Count Inouye's return. According to the latest report, for the trustworthiness of which we can not vouch, though it seems to be more worthy of notice than the stories hitherto circulated, Count Inouye may not immediately enter the Cabinet, but in the course of a month or two, it is not unlikely that the chair of Communications will be occupied by him. Of course the balance of power between the Satsuma and Choshu clans will not be affected by his acceptance or non-acceptance of a Ministerial portfolio, for he is powerful whether in the Government or out of it. But he desires to occupy the position of Minister of Communications, being enthusiastic on the subject of completing the railway system of the country. As to Count Mutsu, it will be necessary for him to give up all business for some time. Moreover, the present acting Minister of Foreign Affairs is evidently not well fitted for the post at an important juncture like the present, when weighty diplomatic problems demand solution. The post requires special qualifications, and the only men fit for it in the official circle are Marquis Ito and Count Inouye. Certain circumstances prevent Count Inouye's occupying it; neither is Marquis Ito likely to desire it. So after all, the choice will fall on Baron Ito Miyoji. It is even believed that his appointment will take place in a few days."

The *Jiji Shimpo's* information is different. It says:—"The papers are now vying with each other in publishing rumours about probable changes in the Cabinet. It is stated, for instance that Marquis Ito is about to retire from office, recommending Count Inouye as his successor. If is also rumoured that Count Mutsu has tendered his resignation on account of sickness, and that his successor will be either Marquis Saionji or Count Inouye. Another rumour has it that Count Inouye desires to receive the portfolio of either Finance or Communications. Yet another says that Viscount Enomoto will leave the Cabinet, and that his office will be given to Baron Ito Miyoji. Various as are the theories now circulating, they chiefly turn upon Count Inouye's supposed entrance into the Cabinet and the alleged resignation of Count Mutsu. But our information goes to show that neither is Count Mutsu likely to tender his resignation, not will Count Inouye take any hasty step. In short, we are informed that for the present there will be no change in the Cabinet. So the rumours mentioned above may be regarded as baseless. The story of Baron Ito's entrance into the Cabinet is, perhaps, not serious."

COLONEL SAKAI.

It is stated that the much regretted Major-General Baron Yamane's place will be taken by his subordinate Colonel Sakai, at present commander of a Regiment in the same Brigade of the Guards. Colonel Sakai comes from Tosa. He entered the Army as a Lieutenant in July 1871. His record since then has been brilliant, for he took part in all the wars that have occurred since he received his commission.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

There is a project to connect Uraga with Yokosuka by an electric railway. At Uraga, works have been commenced for the construction of two docks, and the importance of the place will be still further increased by contemplated measures of national defence. Consequently, connection with the railway system of the country is expected to prove profitable. The estimated capital of the projected company is 200,000 *yen*. Among the projectors, we notice Messrs. Morioka Masazumi, Seki Naohiko, Masuda Takashi, Oye Taku, Yokoyama Magoichiro, Tanaka Heihachi, Inouye Kakugoro, and so forth.

Representatives of the Chambers of Commerce from all parts of the country are assembling at Nagoya to hold the fourth annual conference, from the 25th instant. Among the subjects to be submitted for deliberation, mention may be made of the establishment of a floating exposition, the opening of communications with foreign Chambers of Commerce, the abolition of import duties on Cotton, the investigation of the bearings that treaty revision will have upon trade and industry, the grant of subsidies to the Bank of Japan and the Specie Bank in order to cause them to extend the scope of foreign exchange, and so forth.

Notwithstanding the change of Minister of Finance, the elaboration of a project for establishing an Industrial Bank is receiving undiminished attention at the Treasury. According to the present plan, the Industrial Bank will be located in Tokyo and will serve as the focus of a number of agricultural or manufactural banks that are to be established in the provincial centres of economy throughout the country.

Private projects for building dockyards already aggregate no less that seven, namely, two at Uraga, and one each at Yokohama, Moji, Awajishima, Hakodate, and Sakai. Fearing disastrous competition between these various establishments, some persons are said to be sounding the views of the projectors as to the possibility of amalgamation. The idea is not likely to succeed, we fear. It may be added that to Osaka at present belongs the credit of constructing by far the greater portion of the small steam vessels plying in Japanese waters. There are altogether thirty docks at Osaka, all of them on a very small scale. The total number of vessels, principally launches, constructed at these docks during last year was thirty-four, with an aggregate tonnage of 3,432 tons, the largest having a tonnage of only 270 tons.

There is a project on foot in the capital for the establishment of a cotton mill in Shanghai. The scheme is said to be based on a report from Mr. Wada Toyoji, of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Factory, and Mr. Hata Zenjiro, of the Mitsui Busan Kaisha, who recently returned from a trip taken to Shanghai with the object of studying the subject *in loco*. The capital is to be a million *yen*, and the number of spindles will be 20,000. The principal projectors are said to be the shareholders of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Factory.

The following table shows the amount of deposits in the Government postal savings bank, at the end of the month of August, during the last three years :—

	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Deposists.
		yen.
August 31st, 1893	989,093	24,586,456.343
August 31st, 1894	1,070,000	26,082,789.067
August 31st, 1895	1,139,331	26,646,102.069

Two years ago, the merchants of Tokyo and Osaka conceived the project of establishing a large sugar refinery. The scheme has now been revived with great zeal, and there is a prospect of its being speedily carried out. Correspondence is said to be passing between Mr. Shibusawa, of Tokyo, and Mr. Ogawa Zenkichi, of Kobe, as to the date of a conference between the principal promoters of the affair.

KOREAN NEWS.

The Söul correspondents of the Japanese papers seem to be convinced that everything possible under the circumstances has been accomplished by Count Inouye, whose return to Japan furnishes them with an opportunity to review his services in a comparatively fair and impartial manner. They acknowledge that what has been done by him could not have been done by anybody else. Something of the confidence reposed by them in the ex-Japanese Minister, may be seen from the fact that they express great doubt as to the permanent stability of things now that the pressure of his great personal influence has been withdrawn. For the present, however, they believe that little fear exists of faction intrigues such as will disturbe the political arrangements left as a legacy by the Count. A conversation that he had with the Korean Ministers of State for eight hours at the Home Office shortly previous to his departure, is said to have produced a deep impression upon his listeners, though the nature of the discourse is not known to outsiders. That the conversation related to important matters, is evident from the fact that even the Vice-Ministers of State were excluded from the conference. One of the correspondents professes to have learned that among the matters discussed, the most important was the financial position of the Government, and that in connection with this Count Inouye promised to use his influence for a fresh loan of 3 million *yen* from Japan.

The few days during which the Count stayed at Ninsen waiting for a steamer to carry him home, were very busily employed in social duties and lecturing the residents of the place on the proper manner of conducting themselves towards Koreans. In a long speech delivered at the Consulate, he is reported to have dwelt upon the political relations between Japan and Korea, alluding even to matters so delicate that the correspondents hesitate to give publicity to them. He discussed, among other things, the historical relations between Korea and Japan, on the one hand, and Korea and China on the other. He also compared the relative positions of the Japanese and Chinese merchants in Korea. Lastly, he expounded the policy that should be followed by Japanese trading in the peninsular Kingdom, and advised them to be forbearing to the people, and honest and industrious in their business.

Concerning the new Japanese Representative, Viscount Miura, it is stated that shortly after his arrival in Söul, he was attacked by a severe cold but had nearly recovered by the time of Count Inouye's departure. The Viscount is now a centre of attention in the Korean capital, but the correspondents refrain from offering any opinions about him.

On the 19th ultimo, the foreign Ministers were invited to an entertainment at the Palace, in commemoration of the Queen's return to the capital in 1880, after a few months banishment to the country during the *émeute* of that year.

Notwithstanding the great noise made in Söul about the insurrection at Sang-wön, an official report received from the Japanese commanding officer at Phyöng-yang makes it plain that the affair is trifling. Instead of several hundred insurgents, as was at first reported, not more them 180 are involved in the so-called insurrection. They protest that they are actuated by the purest of motives, their only object being to rid the district of wicked officials by whom it is harassed. In fact, they apparently abstain from acts of plunder and licence toward the people. It is reported that a party of them, when moving to a locality farther removed from the quarters of the Japanese soldiers, paid regularly for the hire of baggage animals. It is believed that they are now staying at Haiju in Hwang-hai-do, where they feel more secure than at Sang-wön, their great dread being a movement of Japanese troops from Phyöng-yang. The Korean soldiers at Haiju are said to have been so ill-supplied with ammunition that they could not make any immediate stand against the disturbers of the peace. A train of coolies recently left Söul for Phyöng-yang, laden with the much needed ammunition, so that by this time the Korean soldiers must be marching against the insurgents.

Here is a story illustrating the difficulties of reforming the local administration in Korea. A young official recently appointed Secretary of a Prefecture in Chhang-chhöng-do, left the capital for his post, and arriving at the place, presented himself to the Governor, who received him without any of the cordiality and respect due to his second in authority. On saying that he had received his appointment from the acting Minister of Home Affairs, the newly arrived secretery was told that the Governor would receive as his lieutenant none but an official deriving his commission direct from the King. He was then shown to an apartment usually occupied by menials of the lowest class, and was ordered to remain there until correspondence could be had with the central Government, when the Governor entertained no doubt that he should receive instructions to send back the young man to the capital. Evidently the Governor held the Cabinet in Söul in utter contempt or he would not have dared to adopt such measures toward an official accredited by the ministry.

The reform in the national costume, introduced by Prince Pak while in the position of Minister of Home Affairs, removed all the outward marks of class distinctions, so dear to Korean aristocrats. But the opposition of the latter, and the disgrace of the statesman principally responsible for the change, have induced the Court to revive most of the discarded insignia of rank.

Ming Yon-chun, who was recently included in a general amnesty, arrived at Ninsen from Shanghai on the 23rd ultimo. He was accompanied by Gen Seitaku, who had been despatched by the Queen to recall him, and by several other persons. The party landed, under an escort of policemen, who boarded the ship as soon as she entered the port. Ming, as though apprehensive of an attempt against his life,. made straight for the hill at the back of the Japanese settlement, whence he directed his steps to the country seat of Mr. An Keiju, Minister of War, at a village named Kwa-son. There he passed the night. The *Chuo Shimbun's* correspondent, who saw him passing through Ninsen with his retinue in the manner above described, states that the celebrated Korean nobleman wore a suit of dark garments, held a bamboo cane in his hand, and was as plump and fair complexioned as ever. Later intelligence mentions that Ming will probably be appointed Minister of Finance.

On the 20th ultimo, an impressive ceremony was performed in the suburbs of Söul, at a spot dear to every Japanese heart as the site of a stronghold held by the renowned warrior Kato Kiyomasa in the days of Hideyoshi's invasion. The ceremony consisted in offering a requiem for the souls of those that had fallen in the recent war with China. The officiating priest was the Rev. Mr. Matsumi, of the Hongan-ji sect. The ceremony commenced about three in the afternoon. There were present a large number of Japanese, including the members of the Legation and Consulate, the officers of the battalion stationed in Söul, and the principal representatives of the mercantile community. After the usual recitation from the sacred volumes, those assembled burnt incense and prayed for the repose of the gallant dead. The most touching part of the service is said to have been the singing of the well known martial air, "The Duties of an Imperial Soldier," by boys and girls from the school in the settlement. The spectators were greatly effected by the sight of the little ones lustily chaunting the duties that they, in their time, would be called upon to perform as defenders of theirs homes and country.

The Korean Government is said to have determined to extend the postal system to Kaisöng and Sui-wön. Mr. Yamada, Japanese Adviser to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, has been despatched to the latter place to make the necessary investigations for opening a post office there.

FORMOSA NEWS.

The Third Brigade (Second Division), hitherto stationed in the Liaotung peninsula, is now on its way to Formosa. The Fourth Brigade (same Division) which is already in Formosa, being stationed at various places north of Shinchu, will be collected in Kelung for embarkation southward, together with the newly arrived Brigade, in the beginning of next month.

Hearing of the arrival of Vice-Governor-General Viscount Takashima, about forty leading Chinese merchants of Taipeh waited on him on the 14th instant. His Excellency gave the visitors a hearty welcome, and addressed to them a short speech, urging them to exert their personal influence for the promotion of public peace and good order. Major Hanasaka also spoke in Chinese. On taking leave, the merchants presented to the Vice-Governor-General their cards, on which were inscriptions wishing him long life and prosperity.

Instances of friendly intercourse between the Japanese and the aborigines in Formosa have already been mentioned. We may now notice that Governor-General Count Kabayama recently issued a proclamation to the troops in the island, pointing out the paramount importance of gaining the confidence of the aborigines, who, though ignorant and uncivilized, are not incapable of faithful friendship if treated with loyalty and consideration. Officers and men were strongly urged by the Governor-General not only to abstain from all acts of hostility toward the natives, but also to cultivate their amity by benevolence and magnanimity.

The rate of sickness among the Imperial Guards is said to have considerably increased since the occupation of Taiwan and Chang-hua. The prevaling disease is malarial fever, but the mortality is comparatively small, and it is reported that the fighting capacity of the troops has not suffered much.

Perceiving that the Japanese troops do not move southward of Chang-hua, the insurgents that fled from that place, are said to be collecting at various points and menacing the outposts of the Imperial Guards. With the exception of petty skirmishes, however, no fighting worth mention seems to have taken place since the fall of Chang-hua.

According to the reports of Chinese spies, Liu's army is badly in want of provisions and money. An office has been opened at Tainan for the issue of paper currency, which is being forced upon the people in payment for provisions and other things supplied to the army. At Anping, a new fort has been nearly finished at the back of the town, and the forts on the sea side have been repaired. It is also alleged that communications are constantly going on between Liu and some sympathizers in Amoy. Recently 2,000 rifles arrived at Anping from Amoy, said to have been originally supplied by General Liu Kun-yi and Viceroy Chang Chih-tang. Liu Yung-fu's nephew is also said to be at Amoy for the purpose of recruiting. These and other statements embodied in the reports of Chinese spies can not, of course, be taken as trustworthy in every particular. But that correspondence is kept up between Liu Yung-fu and some friends at Amoy, has long been suspected, and now seems to be generally believed in Japan.

Harrassed by the unrestrained licence of the insurgents, the people of the southern part of the island are said to have despatched deputations to the Imperial troops imploring their speedy advance and promising to cooperate heartily with them. It is further stated that forced contributions of money are levied from the people, and that those unable to pay are obliged to join the ranks of the insurgents.

The sea-going torpedo-boat *Forban* in its preliminary trials off Havre proved itself to be the fastest afloat. The contract speed was 29 knots, but despite a heavy sea and high wind the *Forban* easily accomplished 30.2 knots, a greater speed than has ever been attained before.

NEWS FROM PEKIN.

The Grand Secretary Li returned Mr. Hayashi's visit at the Japanese Legation on the 11th ultimo at 9.30 a.m. He came in a palanquin, his well known lieutenant, Mr. Wu Ting-fang, accompanying him in a carriage. The escort consisted of only two or three mounted men. Mr. Hayashi, followed by Secretary Tei, went to the doorway to receive the distinguished visitors. A conversation ensued, lasting about two hours, but having, it is said, no reference to business. Earl Li, in a tone betraying much feeling, is said to have referred, among other things, to the striking contrast between the position of Marquis Ito and his own. While Marquis Ito enjoyed the ever increasing favour of his Imperial master, Li had fallen more and more under the displeasure of his Emperor, so that there was an apprehension even of his being degraded to the rank of a Baron. He was aware of the influence exercised by the press in Japan, but journalistic criticisms, however strong, could not seriously effect the position of a Minister of State; whereas, in his own case, he had no recourse but to bow before the impeachment of the Censors, whose recommendations even the Emperor could not choose but respect. In this strain, the Earl is said to have expressed his feelings with the utmost frankness, but it must be confessed that the story is a little difficult of credence. At all events, although Earl Li's star is apparently declining, Japanese in Pekin, well acquainted with Chinese affairs, are strongly disposed to think that he is secretly labouring to lay a foundation on which he may once more raise an edifice of political greatness, and that, in this endeavour, there are good chances of his succeeding. Already there is talk of a triangular alliance between him, Viceroy Chang Chih-tung, and Wang Tung-ho, the three greatest men in China at the present moment. Mention has previously been made of a secret meeting between Li and Wang at Tientsin, shortly before the former's recent journey to Pekin. Since Li's arrival in the capital, the intercourse between the two statesmen is said to be frequent and increasing in cordiality on both sides. If Li succeeds in emerging safely from this serious crisis in his career, and there seems to be a probability of his doing so, well-informed Japanese have no doubt that he will again recover political ascendency.

Mr. Uchida Kosai, the newly appointed Secretary of Legation, reached Pekin on the 9th ultimo. It is an open secret that he carried with time important instructions to the Japanese Minister. A week after his arrival, namely, on the 16th ultimo, Secretary Kawasaki, who had accompanied Mr. Hayashi, left Pekin for Japan.

According to official intelligence from Pekin, negotiations for the conclusion of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation have already been opened between the Plenipotentiaries of the two countries, Earl Li being the sole delegate on the side of China.

MR. J. R. HEROD.

Mr. J. R. Herod, Secretary of the United States Legation in Tokyo, is about to proceed home on six months' leave of absence. Mr. Herod has proved himself an official of such exceptional abilities during his service in Japan, and his personal qualities have made him so popular in society, that his speedy return to Tokyo will be generally desired.

THE JAPANESE SECRETARY OF THE U.S. LEGATION.

We understand that the position of Japanese Secretary of the United States Legation in Tokyo has been resigned by Dr. N. Whitney, and that his successor is Mr. R. S. Miller, who has been discharging the post during Dr. Whitney's leave of absence. Dr. Whitney's resignation is due, we believe, to his desire to devote himself entirely to missionary labours in Japan.

THE POLITICAL ASSASSINATION CASE.

On the 25th and 26th ultimo, several arrests were made in Tokyo and Mito of persons suspected of a plot to assassinate the leading statesmen now in power. The principal of those apprehended seem to be two *Soshi*, named Watanabe Takeo and Shinozaki Yuichiro. The former is a *heimin* of Fukushima Prefecture, aged 27 years. Before coming to the Capital last December, he had borne the character of somewhat dull but bigoted *soshi*, a strong sympathiser with the now defunct anti-Mixed-Residence movement. At one time he is reported to have worked at the general election in the interest of Mr. Abe Iwane, the well-known introducer of the Representation for the Strict Enforcement of the Treaties—we refer to the general election that followed the dissolution of the Diet resulting from the attitude of the Lower House toward the anti-Mixed Residence agitation. After coming to Tokyo, Watanabe bore various aliases; for example as Nakai and Kobayashi. Under the latter name he was living in a lodging house kept by Mrs. Tokoro, in Sakumacho, Shiba, where the police arrested him on the 26th instant. During his stay in the lodging house, he behaved so quietly and soberly that no suspicion attached to him. A few days before the date of his apprehension, however, he visited the graves at Uyeno of the well known assassins Shimada Ichiro (murderer of Okubo), Kurushima Tsunekichi (who attempted Count Okuma's life), and Nishi Buntaro (who killed Viscount Mori). On the evening of the 25th, he asked a fellow-lodger, named Okaga—with whom he was on very intimate terms, though the intimacy did not extend to divulging his scheme—to accompany him to a certain restaurant and pledge him in a cup of *saké*, saying that circumstances might make it necessary for him to take leave of Okaga at any moment. The two youths were just leaving their lodging when the police arrested them, Okaga, however, being released soon afterwards. Watanabe was found to have on his person a pistol, a photograph of a certain Minister of State, a written declaration as to the motives of his conduct, and letters addressed to his relations. These documents, it is said, prove their writer to be an illiterate person, and show also that he had been an admiring reader of journals advocating a programme of indiscriminate antagonism toward the statesmen in power.

The other principal suspect, now under arrest, namely Shinozaki Yuichiro, is a few years past thirty. Hailing from the Prefecture of Gumma, he has long been the leader of a band of *soshi* in Tokyo, and used to be under the influence of such men as Oi Kentaro and Kokubo Kishichi. Unlike ordinary *soshi*, however, he was noted for regularity of life and integrity of purpose, his reputation in these respects being quite exceptional. A man of strong physique, he is said to be fairly well skilled in the arts of fencing and *Jujutsu*. The bare fact of his presence often sufficed to prevent *soshi* of opposite parties from disturbing a lecture meeting. He was arrested at Mito, whither he had gone a few days previously to visit his patron, Mr. Kokubo, Vice-President of the Local Assembly. Several other accomplices have also been arrested, but of them little is known, except that some of them are believed to have engaged in the manufacture of dynamite bombs. It is rumoured that the ramifications of the plot extend to unlooked for quarters, but our information points to the improbability of the affair's having any connection whatever with either political parties or public men of standing. Watanabe comes from the same place as did the assailant of the Viceroy Li, and there is an idea that the execution of the plot on account of which he has been arrested was deferred owing to the Shimonoseki affair, but all this is so vague that we do not pretend to have any faith in it.

With the exception of Watanabe and Shimozaki, all persons arrested on suspicion of being accomplices in the assassination plot have been released after examination. Having been closely questioned by Police Inspector Ogura

on Sunday last, the two men were, on the same day, transferred to the charge of the Court of Cassation, under whose jurisdiction falls the crime of which they are accused, namely, plotting against the Government with murderous intent. But the Court of Cassation, in virtue of a provision of the Law for the Constitution of Tribunals, has entrusted the Tokyo Local Court with the preliminary hearing of the case. One journal states that it was the purpose of the prisoners to assassinate Marquis Ito on the occasion of Count Inouye's arrival in the capital from Korea, when they thought that the Premier would be sure to go to the station to welcome home his friend. Watanabe, the principal plotter, is said to be so ready to confess everything, that the law officers examining him entertain some doubt of his seriousness. The affair is regarded as a mystery by critics that ought apparently to be well informed. They say that the plot has been discovered, not by constables or men in the service of the Metropolitan Police Board, but by persons of a very different description. Who those persons are, we are not told. Another circumstance, noticed as being at least very singular, is that witnesses summoned for examination are chosen, not from among men that were on terms of close intimacy with the prisoner, but from quarters least expected. Those that thus regard the affair in the light of a mystery, are inclined to believe that there is at the bottom an arch schemer, of whom the present prisoners are but blind instruments. But so far as we have been able to gather, no foundation exists for such theories.

It is reported that two youths suspected of complicity with this plot were arrested in the Shiba district of Tokyo on the evening of the 30th ultimo. Their names are not published, neither are we told whether they are still held in custody. As to the principal actor in the abortive drama, Watanabe Takeo, the *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a very minute narrative of his past career. The eldest son of a well-to-do farmer in the village of Kohama, Prefecture of Fukushima, he early devoted himself to local politics, and was particularly fond of making arrangements for lecture meetings and otherwise busying himself when his locality was visited by politicians of the type of Messrs. Oi Kentaro and Kokubo Kishichi. He longed to go up to the Capital and learn the trade of politics, but his father, being a plain and sober-minded countryman, did not encourage this propensity. At the time of the general election in 1893, Watanabe had an opportunity of associating with a large number of *soshi* and men of that description who had come from Tokyo to earn money by assisting whatever candidates were prepared to offer them good terms. The ignorant and simple-minded youth listened with admiration to the bragging nonsense of these professional agitators, and his longing desire became more intense than ever to visit the Capital where men of such eloquence and knowledge could be met with daily. Accordingly, in February or March last, he secretly left home without consulting even his father, and came up to Tokyo under the assumed name of Kumoi Kazuharu. He had hoped to receive assistance from a man named Yamakawa Matazo, his only friend in the big city. But on inquiry, he learned to his chagrin that this individual had accompanied the expeditionary forces as a coolie. Fortunately, however, he made the acquaintance of a friend of Yamakawa, a man named Okaga, who had a position in a printing office in Ginza, and through his introduction, Watanabe found some work there. He continued in this way for two or three months, when, his friend Okaga having left the office on account of sickness, he also took his departure, and entered Marquis Nabeshima's tea factory at Nakashibuya as a day labourer. A month afterwards, he took service with Viscount Honjo, but here, too, he did not stay more than thirty days, preferring to have recourse to this friend Okaga, who was then living in Udagawa-cho, Shiba, and who housed him for some weeks. During this time, a tall and powerful looking man called and inquired for Watanabe, but the youth being known to the family only by his assumed name of Kumoi, they told the visitor that there was no such person in the house. Watanabe, however, who had been reading in an adjacent room, came out, and welcoming the visitor conducted him to his room, where the two held an earnest conference for some time. This incident did not suggest any suspicion to the family of Okaga, for to change one's name is a common thing in Japan. Sometime in July, Watanabe left Okaga's house pretending that he had business in Koishikawa, after which nothing was heard of him by Okaga until the 21st ultimo, when he received a postal card from Watanabe, dated Koyoma, in the Prefecture of Tochigi, saying that the writer would come to the capital in a few days. But Watanabe arrived in Tokyo that very night, and at once called at Okaga's. Finding the latter absent, he put up in a lodging house at Nishikonya-cho. The next morning, he again called on Okaga, and told him that he had been requested by a friend to assist at an election for a local legislature. Watanabe's dress and general appearance indicated that he was now in improved circumstances. He promised Okaga an entertainment at a restaurant in a few days. Subsequently, he moved to a lodging house kept by Mrs. Tokoro in Sakumacho, and on the 25th instant, he was leaving the latter place in company with Okaga, whom he had invited, when they were arrested by the police. It is further stated that the prisoner has always been noted as a man of few words but thorough fidelity. He stood high in the favour of certain politicians as he was never known to betray a secret.

JAPAN'S FUTURE POLICY.

An extremely well written and thoughtful article on the situation created by the late war appears in the *Taiyō* (*The Sun*) of the 5th instant. The writer is Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro. A short account of his career may tend to give weight to his writings. Mr. Shigeoka went to Paris for the purpose of studying French Law and Political Economy in 1878. He entered the Paris University shortly afterwards, and graduated in Law in 1891. He now practises as a barrister and fulfils his duties as a member of the House of Representatives. The political party with which he has most sympathy is the *Jiyu-to*. Mr. Shigeoka's article is of sufficient interest and importance to bear the following full reproduction.

The late war was the means of showing to the world at large to what extent Japan had progressed during the twenty years that preceded it. Up to that time she was regarded as a much-to-be-pitied small Eastern State. Suddenly she found herself respected on all sides and admitted to the ranks of the more powerful nations of the world. All this cannot but afford intense gratification to every subject of Japan. But it must not be forgotten that the new situation brings with it enormous responsibilities and demands the adoption of an entirely new policy. In endeavouring to forecast what that policy should be difficulties and complications of no ordinary magnitude present themselves, creating serious anxiety to every thoughtful mind. In expressing my own opinion on this subject my chief desire is that it should lead to a full discussion of the topics dwelt upon in this article.

Since the conclusion of the war, the one subject of controversy among all parties has been how best to spend the indemnity received from China. It has been contended that the best way of making use of the large sums of money coming into the country is to devote them to the increase and better equipment of the army and navy, to the augmentation of the war fund, to the paying off of the late war loan, and on. The majority of writers that have undertaken to express opinions on this subject have made it appear as though the one great difficulty of the situation is how to get rid of the enormous amount of money to be received from China, and they have been attacking imaginary foes—men who are supposed to object to the money being spent in the manner indicated above. How to spend the indemnity money is after all a very minor question. The problem that awaits solution embraces a much wider area and is of far greater intricacy. How to shape our future policy so as to avoid the rocks and quicksands that lie in our path—this is the one great difficulty of the present situation, as I shall now proceed to show.

Of late years the nations of Europe, to the great regret of political economists, have done nothing but increase public expenditure and swell their debts. The chief cause of this state of things is the warlike spirit prevailing in Europe, necessitating the maintenance of vast armaments. But added to this, each of the great Powers has been gradually adding to its dominions territory the development and government of which have imposed a new burden on the State. With European jealousies and rivalries Japan is happily not concerned. It is unnecessary that she should take her standard from the great Powers of Europe as regards public expenditure. Though during the past twenty years the whole machinery of government has been greatly enlarged, the increase in public expenditure has not proceeded in anything like a corresponding ratio. Twenty years ago Japan's yearly expenditure amounted to 60 or 70 million *yen*. To-day, including contingent expenses, the sum required does not exceed 89 million *yen*. Thus in 20 years the increase has not amounted to more than about $\frac{3}{10}$. It is not desirable that Japan should ever vie with Europe in the matter of public expenditure and elaborate government. Nevertheless, there is no denying that the late war has rendered it impossible for us to pursue our traditional policy. A large outlay and great development of governing agencies have been forced upon us. I shall now proceed to discuss in order the various reforms and changes of policy that the new situation has rendered imperative.

I.—Increase of Armaments.

It is patent to everyone that the competition with Westerns on which we have entered may at any time give rise to circumstances involving an appeal to arms. In such a case, were Japan unprepared, her very independence would be jeopardised. It is evident then that both the army and the navy should be increased. But the question is, to what extent is development to take place? It is quite impossible that we should make the great Powers of Europe our standard in this matter. From year to year these Powers vie with each other in the invention of new weapons of destruction at an enormous expenditure. For Japan to attempt to keep pace with them would mean hopeless bankruptcy. That being so, it is important that we should define the limits of the proposed military and naval development—that we should fix a standard and keep to it. In fixing this standard the chief point to decide is, what can the nation afford? The whole subject reduces itself to a question of finance. On every hand politicians are loud in their demands for increased armament, but the financial policy, the adoption of which can alone make Japan permanently strong, is a subject to which no attention is paid. To advocate an increase in our fighting power without defining the limit to which this increase should go is a course fraught with no little danger to the very existence of the state.

II.—The Increase of the National Debt.

In Europe the maintenance of its armies has forced upon each of the great Powers a policy of extensive borrowing. The national debts of these countries are increasing at a rate that causes no little astonishment to people, like ourselves, unaccustomed to such loans. In Japan when the State borrows money, it does so with the fixed intention of returning the same within a given period. Not so in Europe. Although Governments there reserve to themselves the right of redeeming public bonds, they feel no special obligation to adopt this course. They regard the money as borrowed for ever and are content with paying interest thereon. Japan has always been averse to adopting this view of the obligations of State. But an entirely new situation has been created by the war. Before

peace was proclaimed, in addition to large sums borrowed from the Bank of Japan, the Government had raised a loan of 80,000,000 *yen*. There are those who say that the indemnity received from China will more than suffice for the discharge of these debts, but they forget that the contemplated enlargement of the Army and Navy will prevent this money from being applied to any such purpose. Moreover, with the growing responsibilities of the empire, it is by no means likely that in the future our revenue will equal our expenditure: hence an ever increasing national debt will be the unavoidable outcome of the present situation.

III.—Extension of Foreign Intercourse.

Recent events have greatly increased our intercourse with Western nations and have impressed upon us the necessity of choosing thoroughly competent men to represent us in European countries. Hitherto Japan's representatives in Europe have ranked below those of Turkey, Greece, and Roumania. Our ministers have contented themselves with the discharge of the small civilities of diplomatic life and have never attempted to acquaint themselves with the mysteries and the secrets underlying the relations borne by one State to another. In last year's budget the estimate of the Foreign Office did not exceed 800,000 *yen*, and of this only a paltry 30,000 *yen* was voted to the Secret Service Fund. In France the expenditure of the Foreign Office amounts to 6,500,000 *yen*; in Germany to 5,000,000 *yen*. In England the Diplomatic and Consular services alone receive an appropriation of some 4,300,000 *yen*. I am not prepared to advocate such a large expenditure by Japan, but there is no gainsaying the fact that the present rate is ridiculously low and that until it is raised Japan cannot except to be properly represented in the Councils of the West.

IV.—Enlargement of Ideas in the Diet.

The Diet undoubtedly exists principally for the object of controlling public expenditure. But the history of parliamentary institutions in Europe tends to show that the members of deliberative bodies are given to great partiality, and that, instead of keeping down public expenditure, they not infrequently lend themselves to unwarranted increase. A writer on this subject observes:—"Parliament is no longer an instrument for the reduction of expenditure but rather a means of increasing it." It is further explained by this writer that one of the chief objects of a government is to command a majority; that to do this they have to satisfy the desires of members, and that they find that the best way of effecting this is by supporting such calls for public expenditure as proceed from the constituencies. Hence the electors, the members of parliament, and the Government frequently all combine in increasing expenditure. It is only when a large majority of the members are opposed to a government that a reduction of public expense is insured. This is well illustrated in the history of our Diet. During the first few years of its existence, its one great aim was to cut down the Budget and thereby show its opposition to the Government. But no sooner did the war unite the Government and the Diet than the members of the latter vied with each other in the furtherance of heavy expenditure. Never was a more asfonishing *volte-face* witnessed in any assembly. A single event proved sufficient to lead members from one extreme to the other. While it is admitted on all hands by reasonable men that extremes are to be avoided, the fact remains that by the force of counter-action the Japanese legislators who have hitherto figured as an instrument of retrenchment have now publicly declared themselves prepared to vote for hitherto unheard of expenditure. The new departure is attended with danger. Never was there greater need of caution in voting public money.

V.—The Rise in Prices.

Owing to the low price of silver, the purchasing power of the Japanese has been greatly curtailed of late years. But the influx of 300,000,000 *yen* into the country cannot but work a great change. With the increase of money, prices are bound to rise and living will consequently not be so cheap as heretofore. This change will be felt alike by the State and by the individual.

VI.—An Impulse to Trade and Industry.

One of the effects of the war is to make it compulsory for Japan to compete with Western nations in trade and industry. It will be the duty of the government to devise measures for the extension of our commerce, by establishing and subsidising lines of steamers, by constructing railways, roads, harbours, and docks, and by establishing banks. In addition to these measures the development of new industries will be rendered a necessity by the altered circumstances.

VII.—The Extension of the Empire.

As a result of the war, Japan finds herself the owner of territory whose development will involve great outlay. Both Formosa and the Pescadores will eventually prove a great source of wealth to us, but for the present they will swallow up large sums of money.

In the above account of the increased expenditure involved by the new situation in which we are placed, I have confined myself to enumerating all the lines on which we shall find our expenses increasing. But taking the elements of the new situation and having enumerated them, who is there that can calculate precisely what sum of money they involve? That in the future our revenue will no longer meet our expenditure is too plain to need discussing. Thus the necessity of borrowing is forced on us. To what extent is this to take place? And how long is the nation to be called on to bear the heavy burden of a large public debt? If our Government once acquire the habit of tiding over a financial difficulty by having recourse to a loan, depend upon it, trouble will overtake us sooner or later. The question, then, is in what respects is curtailment of expense possible? Over certain elements of the situation as sketched above we can have no control. Such, for instance, as the general rise in prices. There are certain others where the honour and independence of the country cannot be maintained without a considerable increase in expenditure. But where we need wise and sober men to guide us is in determining what limit shall be imposed on our outlay. To the task of finding the happy medium our Department of Finance and the Diet must apply themselves in right earnest. That venerable statesman Gladstone, once said: "The Minister of Finance may be compared to a man carrying money through a robber-infested, mountainous district: though he may not be able to escape violent handling from his foes, yet if neither from lack of courage nor lack of care, he allows himself to be robbed, he may be said to have fulfilled the duties of his office." On all sides men are eager for large increase to our land and sea forces, but their ideas as to the cost of the desired increase and as to Japan's ability to permanently provide the funds necessary are of the vaguest kind. Hitherto the late war has brought us nothing but renown; but should our recent victories lead us to make a great financial blunder and decoy us into paths that tend to ruin, the apparent glory of our triumph will be obliterated by the reality of one subsequent downfall. There is no subject at once more vital and more puzzling than Japan's future financial policy.

THE SZECHUAN COMMISSION.

The Commission that is to inquire into the circumstances of the Szechuan outrages is certainly one of the most leisurely affairs on record. In May the outrages were committed, and judging from their extensive character as well as from the excitement caused by them among the foreign communities in the East, the natural expectation was that speedy steps would be taken to investigate the affair and to obtain redress. But it would now seem that the United States commission can not commence it labours before the early days of November, at soonest. Captain Barber, Naval Attaché of the United States Legation, who has been appointed a member of the Commission, is still in Tokyo and does not set out until the beginning of next month. His instructions are to proceed *vid* Tientsin, which means an overland journey of fully 800 miles. Assuming the utmost celerity of progress, a Chinese cart can not be expected to make more than 30 miles a day, so that the journey from Tientsin will take about a month, and the Commission can not reach the scene of operations before about the 10th of November. It may be imagined that a springless cart drawn by mules is a tardy vehicle for the purposes of a long journey, but there is no help for such matters in China. The traveller's rate of progress is necessarily regulated by that of his baggage, since he can not hope to procure endurable food or bedding at a Chinese inn. To make the journey to Chengtu by river, *vid* Hankow and Ichang, would be a still slower business, so that, in the matter of choice of route, nothing can be said against the methods of the authorities. Still, the plain fact is that by the time the Commission commences its inquiries, six months will separate it from the date of the occurrences to be inquired into, and inasmuch as, during that interval, the ex-Viceroy of Szechuan, who is so confidently accused of having inspired the riots, will have had ample leisure to cover up his tracks, and the new Viceroy will have concluded an investigation and probably inflicted punishments on his own account, it is not easy to see what useful rôle the foreign Commission can hope to play. From the missionaries or the native Christians and their sympathisers only can there be any reasonable hope of obtaining evidence calculated to incriminate the Viceroy or other local officials, and if such evidence be openly collected and officially employed, the popularity of Christian propagandism in China will certainly not be increased.

GERMANY, RUSSIA, AND FRANCE.

Reuter has repeated the telegram published some days ago by a Japanese journal, to the effect that Germany had decided to join France and Russia in demanding the speedy evacuation of the Liaotung Peninsular by Japan. There is not, we believe, the smallest foundation for such a statement. Indeed, it bears on its face the impress of untruth, for it indicates that some divergence of opinion had occurred between the three Powers, or, at any rate, that some new departure had been made by two of them, and endorsed by the third, after hesitation, whereas the three have worked harmoniously throughout. We may go further, and say that, according to our information no friction has been developed in connection with the Liaotung question, the course contemplated by Japan being endorsed as reasonable by the three Powers.

THE GUARDS IN FORMOSA.

It is suggested, not without reason, that the Imperial Guards, having borne the brunt of the Formosa campaign from the outset up to the present, may feel somewhat aggrieved if the principal share in the final scene of the drama is assigned to the Second Division. But the question appears to be one of possibility. The Guards have suffered very severely, partly from casualities in the field, but above all from sickness. Their exact losses are not publicly known, but some journals, the *Jiji Shimpo* for example, allege that they can not muster for fighting purposes more than one half of the force borne on the rolls when they landed in Formosa. If that estimate takes account of the very considerable number of men that must now be detached for garrison work and to guard the long line of communications between Changhua and Taipeh, it may be correct. At all events, the march against Tainan appears to demand a larger force than the Guards can now parade, and they must bow to the inevitable. The Japanese military authorities, in every belligerent operation since the commencement of the war, have been careful to leave a very ample margin of safety; more ample, indeed, than circumstances always seemed to demand. They are evidently pursuing the same policy in Formosa.

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THE LATE M. PASTEUR.

Science loses a distinguished worker by the death of M. Louis Pasteur. The deceased was born at Dôle, in the Jura, on December 27th, 1822, and was received as a pupil of the Ecole Normale in 1843, and took the degree of Doctor in 1847. In the following year he was appointed Professor of Physics at the Faculty of Sciences. Strasburg. Towards the close of the year 1854 the young Professor was intrusted, as Dean, with the organization of the newly created Faculty of Sciences at Lille. In 1857 he returned to Paris and undertook the scientific direction of the Ecole Normale. He was then in his thirty-fifth year. In December of 1863, he was appointed Professor of Geology, Physics, and Chemistry at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, and was elected a member of the Institute. Long before this he had become well-known in scientific circles outside France, for in 1856 the Royal Society of London had awarded him the Rumford medal for his researches relative to the polarization of light and kindred subjects. Three years earlier, he received from the Emperor of the French the decoration of the Legion of Honour, and in 1863 he was promoted to be an officer of that order, the rank of Commander being given him in 1868. In the following year, 1869, M. Pasteur was elected one of the fifty foreign members of the Royal Society of London. On the 24th October, 1878, the distinguished *savant* was raised to the rank of Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour, and four years later he entered the French Academy, being elected to the chair of the late M. Littré, whose panegyric he delivered.

M. Pasteur was a voluminous writer, more especially during middle life, his contributions appearing in the "Recueil des Savants Etrangers," and the "Annales de Chimie et de Physique." He wrote many works on Chemistry and as a result of their favourable reception obtained the Jecker prize. In 1863 he published a work entitled "Nouvel Exemple de Fermentation déterminé par des Animalcules Infusoires pouvant vivre sans Oxygène Libre." This subject he deligently pursued for many years, and in 1874 the National Assembly, as a reward for his services to the state in this direction, awarded him a life annuity of 12,000 francs. In the year of M. Pasteur's election to the Academy, the Council of the Society of Arts, London, awarded to him their Albert Medal for his researches in connection with fermentation, the preservation of wines, and the propagation of zymotic diseases in silkworms and domestic animals. From that time on M. Pasteur devoted himself to the study of inoculation for diseases other than smallpox, and achieved some very remarkable results, especially in the prevention of hydrophobia. Honours were showered upon him by learned societies and faculties throughout the world, while Imperial and Royal favours were not wanting. Pasteur Institutes have sprung up in many parts of the world, the one nearest to Japan being established at Saigon. These institutions alone will keep green the memory of the great man who has just passed away.

COUNT MUTSU.

The *Nichi Nichi* confirms the report that Count Mutsu has not tendered his resignation since he withdrew it at the end of August. The circumstances under which he then desired to lay down his office were noted by us at the time. Our contemporary opines that the present rumour probably originated from imperfect information as to the Count's intended resignation on the above mentioned occasion. With regard to the Count's illness, the bulletins for the past few days have been much more favourable, but his Excellency is still confined to his room, and is unable to transact business. His absence from his office at the present juncture is a serious blow to the Government, for there are many important questions demanding the incisive ability and courageous insight for which he is remarkable.

FOREIGN MILITARY INSTRUCTORS.

The War Department in Tokyo, according to the *Choya Shimbun*, is perplexed about the question of foreign military instructors. It was proposed at one time to dispense with foreign aid in this branch of education, but the idea has been abandoned, the services of foreign instructors in the upper military schools being considered indispensable at present. What nationality to choose, however, is the problem. Our contemporary says that no country being ahead of Germany in the science of tactics and strategy, German teachers would naturally be selected but for the fact that more than a hundred and sixty Germans are already engaged for a similar purpose in China. Hence the military authorities are disposed to have recourse to some other country. There is certainly a measure of force in that argument, so far as concerns the question of secrecy. It is undeniable that military science has reached in Germany at least as high a stage of development as in any western State, and that Japan could not do better than rely on German assistance to keep herself in touch with the latest steps of tactical and strategical progress in the Occident. She already owes a great deal to Germany in this field, and her experience of German military experts is understood to have been such as should lead her to welcome the continuance of their aid. But there is no difficulty in appreciating the possible inconvenience of engaging men of the same nationality for such purposes in both empires. Granting the utmost loyalty —and that may fairly be assumed where German officers are in question—it would be impossible, under such circumstances, to maintain the mutual privacy that States situated as are China and Japan may be supposed to desire. The objection will not appeal with equal force to everybody, but to us it seems an inevitable corollary of the recent struggle.

MAJOR-GENERAL YAMANE.

Major-General Yamane, commander of the Second Brigade of the Imperial Guards, who had been suffering from malarial fever for a week, succumbed to the malady on the 29th ultimo. The critical state of the patient was reported to Tokyo by a telegram dated the morning of the 29th; and in consideration of the distinguished services rendered by him in subjugating the Formosan insurgents, the Emperor was pleased on the 1st instant to raise him to the peerage with the title of Baron, at the same time giving him the official rank of First Grade of the Fourth class. By the death of this officer the country loses one of the most deservedly popular and able commanders in the Army. Born in a *Samurai* family in the castle town of Hagi (Choshu clan) on the 7th of January, 1851, he entered the military seminary at Osaka in 1870. In the following year he joined the army with the rank of corporal, but such a favourable impression did his good conduct and ability produce upon his superiors that in the course of the same year he was promoted to be a Captain—a rise altogether without precedent even in those days of easy preferment. In 1874, he was appointed Aide-de-Camp to the commander of the Second Regiment of the Guards. At the outbreak of the Satsuma Rebellion in 1877, he received the command of a battalion of infantry of the line with the rank of a brevet Major, and in April of the same year, he was promoted to the rank of Major. After the termination of the Civil War, he remained a short while at Kagoshima serving with the garrison stationed there. Thenceforth he rose rapidly through the successive grades, becoming Major-General in command of a Brigade of the Osaka Garrison in 1890, whence he was transferred to the command of the Second Brigade of the Guards at the commencement of the recent war.

TREATY REVISION.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has the following note:—"Negotiations for the revision of the treaties are now going on with France, Germany, Holland, and Denmark. The new treaty with Holland will be signed before long, little difference of view having been developed between the two countries as to the stipulations contained in the draft forming the basis of discussion. Negotiations with France are making an unexpectedly good progress, and we are warranted in believing that the new treaty with that country will be signed at an earlier date than that with Germany, but in all probability the conference with both Powers will be brought to a conclusion in a month or two. Communication has not yet been opened with Spain, Portugal, and Austria; but steps will be taken in their cases also at no distant date. On their own side they manifest a desire to discuss the matter without loss of time."

THE WAR AND COMMERCIAL LOSSES.

The above is the title of a short article recently published in the *Jiji Shimpo*. After observing that the war involved fewer losses than the experience of other countries could have warranted Japan in expecting, our contemporary proceeds to give the history of the misfortunes of a certain Japanese trader named Shitamura Hirokata. Shitamura, several years before the outbreak of hostilities, had undertaken to supply the Chinese with sleepers for the Tientsin railway. From one cause and another the fulfilment of the contract was delayed till the year before the commencement of the war, when, after making arrangements with shipping companies for the transport of a large amount of material to Tientsin, Shitamura prepared and despatched to their destination 70,000 sleepers. Shortly after this, an order for 100,000 more was received, and by the employment of extra hands Shitamura succeeded in getting this number ready for conveyance to Hakodate, the port of shipment, when news of the rupture between China and Japan reached him. Work was immediately stopped and the sleepers remain where they were cut. In the meantime Shitamura had contracted a loan which he found himself unable to pay. The *Jiji Shimpo* is of opinion that the unfortunate trader is entitled to some recompense for his losses. With the object of soliciting Government aid, Mr. Shitamura has applied both to the Foreign Office and the Home Department, with what result is not yet known.

BILL FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF MARINE BUSINESS.

According to the *Nichi Nichi's* information, the outlines of a Government Bill for encouraging marine industry are said to be as follow:—The subject may be considered under three headings, navigation, ship-building, and the education of seamen. First, as to navigation: subsidies are to be given to ships of upwards of 1,000 tons burden and a speed of 10 miles, the rate for ships of this, the lowest grade, being 25 *sen* per mile. The rate of subsidy will be increased by 10 per cent. for every increase of 500 tons burden, and by 20 per cent. for every increase of a mile in speed. Generally speaking, these subsidies will be of two kinds; those given to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Osaka Shosen Kaisha for fixed mail routes, and those given to any ship proprietor running his vessels on a foreign route. The rate of subsidy will be the same, whether the ship employed on such voyages be of Japanese nationality or a chartered foreign vessel. Secondly, the subsidies to be given to shipbuilders will be at the rate of about 23 or 24 *sen* per ton, the lowest limit of tonnage entitled to such State help being 1,000 tons. Special measures will also be taken for enabling ship-builders to obtain imported materials at moderate prices, such measures, being, for instance, the diminution or

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abolition of import duties. Thirdly and lastly, the resulting increased demand for trained officers and seamen will be met by extending the scope of the Government Navigation College and by endowing the private establishment, *Kai in Yeki soi-kai*, with funds for training sailors. The aggregate amount of money required under these three heads is estimated at about a million *yen*.

CONFERENCE OF THE ASSOCIATED CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

The conference of the Associated Chambers of Commerce sitting at Nagoya came to an end on the 29th ultimo. On the last day of the session, Mr. Kaneko, Vice Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, addressed the meeting with reference to economic conditions after the war. The next conference was fixed for April, 1896, at Hakata in Kyushu. Among the measures adopted at the conference, the principal were as follow:—First, that a memorial be presented to the Ministers of Finance, and of Agriculture and Commerce, for the abolition of the import duty on cotton, and that the Diet be petitioned on the same subject. Secondly, that the Chambers of Commerce represented at the conference should separately memoralize Government for a reduction of freight rates on the Naoyetsu railway, the charges at present being excessively high. Thirdly, that the tax now levied on Exchanges and Bourses being injuriously heavy, the Government be petitioned to reduce it. Fourthly, that a Control Chamber of Commerce be established. Fifthly, that the Chambers of Commerce carry on separate investigations as to the effects of the war upon the economic condition of the country, and as to the measures that may be rendered necessary to meet the changing circumstances of the present era; that their views on these subjects be represented to the Government and made public at the same time; and that these steps may be taken conjointly by several Chambers of Commerce. Sixthly, that Article 175 of the Commercial Code should be modified in the sense that the lowest limit of the face-value of a company's shares with a capital of and above 100,000 *yen*, be 20 *yen*, instead of 50 as at present. Seventhly and lastly, that the Government be memorialized by each Chamber of Commerce separately with a view to improving the management of the state railways, so that better commercial facilities may be provided than those existing at present. The number of measures introduced at the conference was as many as twenty-six or twenty-seven. A proposal for the establishment of a floating bazaar was approved in principle, but the final resolution was deferred until the details of the project should be elaborated by the Osaka Chamber of Commerce. The subject of tradal guild regulations occasioned a heated debate, but a definite decision was reserved for the conference of next spring at Hakata.

MURDER IN THE HOUSE OF MISS SUTHON.

Intelligence has reached Sendai to the effect that on the night of the 24th ult. a Japanese catechumen of the American Episcopal Mission, residing in the house of Miss Suthon, a lady missionary living in Awomori, was murdered in cold blood by a robber. Mr. Jefferys, of Sendai, was telegraphed for by Miss Suthon the day after the tragedy and reports that until the official inquiry now going on is concluded, it would be premature to say what were the motives of the criminal in committing the dastardly act. According to the accounts that have reached us, he does not seem to have carried off any money, though a considerable sum was in the house at the time. Miss Suthon's experiences in Awomori have been of a most unfortunate character, for in addition to having been burnt out, with the loss of everything, she possessed, it was not long ago that her cook, one morning, was found dead in his bed.

CHINA NEWS.

The remains of the mother of H.E. K'uei Chün, the newly appointed Governor of Shensi, a Manchu, who died on the 26th of August last of cholera, were removed from the residence in Nanking Road, Shanghai, on the 21st September. The funeral procession was of the usual Chinese style, though, in this instance, says the *N.-C. Daily News* those who took part in it presented a cleaner appearance than is usual on such occasions. The numerous silk umbrellas were much smaller than those ordinarily used, but the soldiers carried the old rusty muskets, tridents, and halberds, which apparently do duty whenever there is an official procession.

Mr. Ayrton has taken over charge of the British Consulate at Tamsui, and Mr. L. C. Hopkins has gone to Foochow.

Mr. F. B. Aubert, of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, who came out to China at the end of 1870, went home in 1893 and returned to Shanghai last year, has died in the General Hospital there of cholera.

The Tsung-li Yamên, the Shanghai morning journal learns from Pekin, has advised the Throne to punish Chou Taotai, the Chief Commissioner of the Chêngtu Police, (*Tsung-pao-chia-chü*) who, it will be remembered, was guilty of issuing an anti-foreign proclamation immediately after the recent riots in Szechuan.

News has been received from Pekin that H.E. Hu Yü-fen, ex-Taotai of Tientsin, Provincial Judge of Kuangsi and Chief Commissioner of the Grain Supply Department during the late war, will be appointed Director-General of Railroads throughout the Empire in charge of the Constructive Staff, but under the control of a Supreme Council at Pekin.

The levies raised by China during the late war are causing a good deal of trouble. At Wuchang a pretty state of affairs exists. The Governor, Tan, has received imperative orders from Pekin to disband the Hupeh troops, and does not dare to carry out the orders. The men threatened to attack and destroy the yamêns in the city, and to attack the foreign buildings, both houses and chapels. No foreigners were to be killed, the object of the proposed attack on their property being to involve the high officials in difficulties with foreign governments. The Governor yielded and postponed the disbandment; but he called 500 Hunan soldiers into the city to keep order, and is calling in more. Fortunately the mutinous soldiers are all Hupeh men and have family connections in the province, which makes it difficult for them to rise.

There are at present, says the *Daily Press*, some six or seven of the Canton gunboat squadron laid up in the back reach of the river. They are tied together in pairs, perhaps with a view to economy, so that one caretaker can look after two vessels, or perhaps for mutual protection to prevent the river thieves borrowing one for a cruise or an exploring expedition, or with which to start a new republic. Strange to say, the best vessel of the fleet, the Armstrong alphabetical boat with the forty-ton gun, is one of the lot, an imitation of her, of Chinese build, being seemingly considered more worthy of retention for service, although built of wood and leaking like a basket, with timber more or less rotten.

The *North China Daily News* publishes a fac-simile of a ten cent postage stamp issued by Liu Yung-fu at Tainan-fu, in the name of the Formosan Republic. The stamp is of a light blue colour, and of the face value of 100 *cash*. On the top are characters in Ancient Chinese for "Republic of Formosa;" on the right, in Modern Chinese, "One hundred cash," and on the left "Stamp," or *sitan*, a phonetic rendering for *stamp*—"paper." In the centre and occupying about three-fourths of the surface of the stamp is the emblem of the republic—a tiger. According to the *Hupao*, the first issue of these stamps was all bought up by foreigners from Hongkong, Amoy, and Foochow and the present one is a representation of the second issue.

The Birthday celebrations of the Empress Dowager of China were abandoned last year, in consequence of the war, after most extraordinary preparations had been made for conducting them on a scale commensurate with the influence and dignity of the august lady. It is now proposed that the celebrations be held in November next, but on a quieter scale, the high provincial officials being excused from appearing at Pekin to take part in the festivities in person.

There must be some reason, says the Shanghai morning journal, for the avidity with which the Chinese are buying up property on the Carter and Markham Roads, and on the opposite side of the Soochow Creek. Eleanslea, the house and grounds formerly belonging to Mr. Robert Mackenzie, sold not long since for Tls. 8,000, has just been resold for Tls. 24,000. Is the terminus of the Soochow railway to be somewhere near there, or are the Chinese anxious, in view of what may be coming, to have property which they think will be safe under foreign protection?

A terrible explosion has occurred in the extensive coal-mine opened by Chang Chih-tung at Man Gan-san, in Hupeh Province, a little above Hankow. The mine was in charge of two Belgian experts, M. Koehne, the engineer in charge of the mine, and M. Baumogoger, the foreman coke burner. The explosion was caused by the ignition of "fire-damp" and the first report that reached Hankow was that 100 men had been killed. Dr. Cuypers immediately left Hanyang for the scene of the disaster in company with the chief mining engineer, M. Marx. A later report received by telegram states that the number of deaths is 60, but that a very large number of men are seriously injured.

According to reports sent from Wenchow to Shanghai the action of the local authorities toward the native Christians at the former place is incredibly inhuman and unjust. In spite of warning given to the Taotai by the British Consul, no official steps were taken to protect the Christians, and the result was that, a week later, an attack was made on them, several of their houses being rifled and destroyed and the inmates driven out. At first the Taotai refused to send a magistrate to investigate the outrage: he said that Fênglin, where it had occurred, was too remote for such consideration. By and by some other business called for the magistrate's presence at a day's journey beyond Fênglin. This was a month after the pillaging and burning. On his return journey the magistrate called at Fênglin and reported that no damage whatever had been done. Finally the matter came up for trial. The four Christian complainants were treated like the commonest criminals; were kept kneeling for 5 hours on a hard stone floor without being allowed even to rest their hands on the ground; were required to sign a document acknowledging that they had laid a false accusation and that they had received back all their goods, and promising that they would hold no more Christian services at Fênglin; and were finally sent to prison and tortured on the pretence of not having paid their taxes. Three of them have been released at the urgent instance of the British Consul, but the fourth is still held on a charge of preferring false accusations. Apart from his most oppressive conduct on this occasion, the Wenchow Taotai had already given proof of strong anti-foreign bias. It is feared that further and grosser outrages must be expected in his district.

A "Special correspondent" of the *North China Daily News* sends some remarkable information to that journal from Japan. He professes to know what passes between the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and the Representatives of France, Russia, and Germany at their conferences, and also what happens at Cabinet meetings. His news is that the Governments in Berlin, Paris, and St. Petersburg are insisting upon the immediate evacuation of Liaotung by Japan, and are requiring her to reduce by two-thirds her claim for a supplementary indemnity of 50 million taels. We recommend this "special correspondent" to go easy, and the public to salt his statements copiously.

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"THE LUCHU ISLANDS & THEIR INHABITANTS."

MR. BASIL HALL CHAMBERLAIN'S brochure on the Luchu Islands offers a striking example of the art of conveying solid information in the lightest and most delightful form. It is not given to every man to take thegeo graphy, history, industries, agriculture, manners, customs, and language of a petty insular people, and from these naturally dry materials to construct a monograph that carries the reader along from cover to cover as easily and pleasantly as a novel of THACKERAY'S or an essay of MACAULAY'S. Indeed, we have never been able to determine to our own satisfaction the *métier* for which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S abilities specially designate him. As a philologist, as a historian, as an ethnologist, as a traveller, he manages equally to charm his readers by originality of thought, thoroughness of research, and graces of style. At the present moment, as we close "The Luchu Islands and their Inhabitants," our conviction is that he ought to devote himself henceforth to travelling. He has made a name in connection with Oriental subjects, but that he would place the educated world under still larger obligations by extending his field and publishing volumes of travel, we have no manner of doubt. From the accounts hitherto accessible it has been difficult to form a clear impression as to the character of the Luchuans. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S grandfather, Captain BASIL HALL, was the first to place on record an account derived from personal experience. That was in 1818. H.M.S. *Providence* had been wrecked, in 1797, on a reef of Miyakojima, and the commander and his men had received the kindest treatment at the hands of the people. Their story induced the British Government to send out the *Lyra* and the *Alceste*, the latter commanded by Captain BASIL HALL, in 1816, to explore and survey this *terra incognita*, and Captain BASIL HALL'S book, published two years later, became a classic. His eulogies of the people's gentle disposition and kindly ways were not confined to the pages of his charming work, for on the tombstone of a British seaman that died at Nafa he caused to be chiselled his sense of the favours received from "the King and inhabitants of this most hospitable island." Dr. MCLEOD, Dr. GUILLENARD, "even the missionaries," and all the Japanese concurred in this favourable view. The only one to differ from it was Commodore PERRY. We may here confess that we have always entertained a hesitating conviction about Commodore PERRY. His apotheosis as the Messiah of Occidental civilization in the East, and the worshipful reverence now attached to his name, have seemed to us a singularly unbecoming tribute to the truculent, masterful, blustering, and narrow-minded character disclosed by the man's own writings. It interests us, therefore, to find Mr. CHAMBERLAIN in practical agreement with us. "The solitary exception," he writes, "to this chorus of praise is Commodore PERRY; but then the account he himself gives of his haughty and masterful conduct, of his violent threats, and contemptuous disregard of all international law and courtesy, renders it scant matter for surprise that even Luchuan patience should have been exhausted, and that the islanders should have resorted to deceit, which is the only weapon the weak have at their disposal against the strong. The blustering Commodore's virtuous indignation at the employment of this weapon against no less august a personage than himself, makes most amusing reading by reason of its unconscious satire." It may be accepted, then, as an established fact that the Luchuans are among the most docile, gentle, ingenuous, and kindly of peoples. Of one of the islands, Yaku-no-shima, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN writes :—"The inhabitants who number some 8,800, enjoy the reputation of an almost idyllic simplicity. Doors need neither locks nor bolts in this happy island, where theft is unknown; and a man hanging up his coat on a bush will be sure to find it untouched when next he passes by that way." Perhaps a word of explanation should be added with regard to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S phrase "even the missionaries," lest it be read as showing that he, too, is a victim of the bitter and unreasoning prejudice prevalent among foreign laymen in the East against missionaries. The fact is that the Luchu Islands are very little subject to the comings and goings of missionaries. When Mr. CHAMBERLAIN visited the archipelago, there was only one missionary there, the Abbé FERRIÉ. It is true that the Abbé was also the sole and only foreigner in the islands, but none the less strange is to find that a field containing nearly half a million "souls to be saved" should remain almost completely outside the sphere of Christian propagandism. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN explains the phenomenon thus:—"The Luchuans, following their model, China, always wished to avoid permanent relations with foreigners, through willing to treat with humanity and courtesy those whom accident brought as occasional visitors to their shores. They disapproved altogether of certain persons who came to stay. These unwelcome guests were some French Catholic missionaries, of whom the earliest landed at Nafa in 1844, and a converted Anglo-German Jew named BETTELHEIM, who arrived as Protestant missionary in 1846. The Luchuans housed the foreign intruders, who persisted in remaining, despite frequent entreaties to depart, but heeded their preaching so little that at last, after several years, both Catholics and Protestant, having convinced themselves of the uselessness of further persistence, left the island of their own accord." Does this statement, we wonder, cover the whole ground. Is it possible that Luchu cannot boast so much as a single Christian convert, and that these people, of prëeminently sinless and gentle lives, are the only nation in the world that have turned a completely deaf ear to the tenets of the Nazarene?

Who are they, these Luchuans, differing so radically from the Japanese, with whom they have been incorporated, that while the latter used to distinguish the gentleman from the commoner by the wearing of swords, the former achieved the same discrimination by the aid of hair-pins? Here is Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S opinion on this interesting point:—

> My own conjectural restoration of the illegible pages of the early history of this remote region would be somewhat to the following effect:—That the common ancestors of the present Japanese and Luchuan nations entered Japan from the south-west, crossing the Korean Channel with the island of Tsushima as a stepping-stone, and landing in Kyushu, the southernmost great island of Japan. This is rendered probable alike by geography, by the trend of legend, and by the grammatical affinities connecting Japanese and Luchuan with Korean and Mongol. We know from history and from the testimony of place-names that this race gradually spread eastward and northward, apparently amalgamating with some comparatively civilized native tribes as to whose affinities nothing can now be ascertained, but driving before it and killing off an earlier savage race, of whom the modern Ainos are the last remnant. A glance at a map will show why, as Kyushu filled up, the bulk of the invaders pressed east and north—there was most land in that direction. There was also, however, some little land to the south, namely, the Luchu Islands, dotted like stepping-stones, visible one from the other, the whole way from the Gulf of Kagoshima to Great Luchu. The extremely close relationship subsisting between the Japanese and Luchuans, both as regards language and as regards racial type, forces one to the conclusion that a fraction of the intruding race took the southern route, perhaps from choice, more probably as a refuge from defeat in internecine strife. I should imagine further that there was not originally any thought of the subjection of the Luchuan archipelago as a whole to the Japanese empire, the very idea of such extended units being impossible before the days of centralization, and there being no trace of such a claim in the official Japanese annals when interpreted in their obvious sense; that wave succeeded wave at varying intervals, each successive wave of south-ward-bound emigrants subduing and partly incorporating those that had preceded it, because the men from the larger and more turbulent land to the north, where resources and all the elements of civilization were more abundant, would naturally overcome the weak, isolated islanders; that the legendary conquest by Tamemoto preserves for us under a single name the vague native recollections of many such occurrences in the distant past; and that the historical conquest of part of the group by the Prince of Satsuma in the seventeenth century, and the recent formal annexation of the whole archipelago by the Imperial Japanese Government, show us the *modus operandi* of this southward movement under modern conditions, when improved communication and greater political power facilitate action on a larger scale. We thus see, too, why it is difficult to define Luchu exactly: the reason is that the degree of "Japonization" of the archipelago has varied from time to time, and that if we are to take language and customs as our guides, it is by no means easy to say in each case whether similarity between Luchu and Japan arises from original identity or from borrowing, or whether, on the other hand, differences should be ascribed to original unlikeness, or to the fact of one or other country having preserved intact features of the common past which the other has let drop.

Whatever may be the story of the past, however, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN believes, and we share his faith, that "a few generations will suffice to obliterate all salient distinctions between annexers and annexed." He welcomes the probability, but is

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careful to explain that his view is founded purely on considerations of expediency, and that he sets no store by "*doctrinaire* grounds of racial and linguistic kinship;" Here, however, we confess that we fail to apprehend his reasoning. "Does not all history teach us—to say nothing of experience,"—he says, "that the bitterest quarrels are those between people of the same kith and kin, and is not the chief advantage of a common language the facility which it affords for wounding and exasperating each other's feelings?" But surely if that were so, the best remedy would be to bring into one nationality all peoples of common kinship and common language, so as to eliminate causes of quarrel and mutual recrimination? However, such discussions lead us rather far a field from the Luchuans whose story Mr. CHAMBERLAIN tells so skilfully. He is not always kind to them, especially when he deals with their "twenty-five immensely long-lived monarchs" that occupied the throne during a space of seventeen thousand eight hundred years, commencing with TINSUNSHI, a sovereign whose name indicates him as the appropriate progenitor of such a child's box of historical toys. But have not we too our JACOBS, our ISAACS and our METHUSALEHS, who counted their centuries as lightly as the heirs of all the ages count their decades? There is an "Old Testament" in the annals of all nations, and though it seems meet that Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, the pioneer iconoclast of Japanese myths, should be first to lay the hand of sacrilege upon Luchuan traditions, we are glad to see that he sets about the task tenderly. A more practically interesting delusion that he demolishes relates to a coal supply in Luchu. Some years ago there was talk of Luchu's proving a highly valuable group of islands, the presence of coal having been discovered there, and this talk was naturally accompanied by the reflection that such a useful naval station might require careful watching. Coal there certainly is, on an island called Iri-omote, one of the largest of the group. But the climate of this island is so terrible that even one night spent in the mountain recesses entails malarial fever. "The working of coal," Mr. CHAMBERLAIN tells us, "which, though of poor quality, promised to become a profitable industry, and was for a short time exported to Hongkong, has had to be practically abandoned in consequence of the alarming mortality among the miners."

We would fain follow Mr. CHAMBERLAIN farther through his delightful pages, but space forbids. We limit ourselves to one more extract :—

It is a curious fact, which I do not remember to have seen and anywhere noted, that in the Japanese archipelago the vegatation diminishes, instead of increasing, in rankness as one travels south. Ride about Yezo during the summer months, and the grasses and tall coarse weeds are higher than your head as you sit on horseback. Central Japan does not carry things to such an extreme, the grass on the hills in summer being rarely much taller than a man on foot. In Great Luchu everything is much lower still. There are no tall grasses, comparatively few bamboos, few thickets of any sort. The country is park-like, and the hills, too, being lower than those of Japan and comprising no volcanic cones, but being rather gentle slopes carpeted with turf, the general effect is something closely approaching to typical English scenery. The early naval visitors to Luchu all remarked this, and went into raptures over it. For my own part, while granting the tranquil and, so to say, civilized charm of the scenery of Luchu, I do not think that it will bear comparison for a moment with the grander, more soul-stirring beauty of Japan—Japan volcano guarded, snow-crowned, and flower-strewn, where cones, as graceful as they are treacherous, alternate with rich smiling plains and rugged granite peaks never trodden but by the foot of the hardy hunter in pursuit of the antelope or the wild boar. Luchu has none of these strong contrasts. It is all dimpled and pretty and on a small scale; there is no excitement in it. When I had left Nafa and was steaming up the Gulf of Kagoshima, at whose entrance the magnificent cone called the Fuji of Satsuma keeps guard, while another volcano smokes lazily ahead, I felt as if I had said good-bye to some pretty dairymaid, and were now re-entering the presence of an empress.

COTTON MANUFACTURES IN CHINA AND JAPAN.

ACTING CONSUL-GENERAL JAMIESON, in his report on the trade of Shanghai for 1894, says :—

JAPANESE COTTON GOODS.—I had occasion last year to notice the appearance for the first time of Japanese cotton yarn in the Shanghai market. This year there appears for the first time cotton cloth of the standard grades, being the produce of the Osaka mills, in competition with that of Manchester and Lowell. But for the war the importation would probably have been greater, and I fully expect that in the near future Japanese cottons and yarn will figure as large items in the return.

The import of Japanese made yarn has made a great stride. The quantity of Bombay yarn imported shows an advance on last year, but is far below the average of 1891 and 1892. With the development of local manufacture it is to be feared that this branch of the trade will show a steady decline. It will be some years, no doubt, before the local mills can supply the whole demand, and in the meantime India and Japan can compete on fairly even terms. The removal of the export duty in Japan, which was effected last year, will give a great impetus to the exports from that country, and the appreciation of the rupee in India over the yen in Japan, which still retains its intrinsic or bullion value, will handicap the Bombay manufacturer. On the other hand, Japan has to import most of her cotton, and the duty and expenses attendent on that must enhance the cost of production very considerably. The manufacturer in China is subject to none of these disadvantages, and I therefore conclude that so soon as the right to manufacture is fairly recognised as open to all nationalities without tax or license fees, which I anticipate will soon be the case, the Chinese mill-owner will be able to undersell both his Japanese and Indian rival.

Very much of course depends upon the extent to which the Bombay manufacturer can afford to reduce. The returns which he is now receiving from sales in China already shows a lowering of about 16 per cent., and if this can be kept up or increased he would possibly contrive to offer a vigorous competition to Japanese manufacturers. The following table shows the selling price in Shanghai of a bale of £ 1 Bombay yarn (Connaught Mills), and the return in rupees to the manufactures :—

Date.	Shanghai Price of 20 s. Bombay Yarn per Bale.	Exchange in India per Tls. 100.	Return to Manufacturer less duty and charges.
1893—Feb. 10...	Tls. 60.50...	300 Rs.	... 187 Rs.
Dec. 6...	67.50...	253½	... 171
1894—June ...	66.50...	260	... 173
Dec. ...	62.00...	252	... 156

The *local production* received a temporary check through the destruction by fire in Oct., 1893, of the largest mill. It has since been rebuilt and commenced working again in Nov. last. Several new mills have been, or are in process of being, built. The production both of yarn and cloth will show a large increase in 1895, and still larger in succeeding years, unless something happens to disturb the present condition of things.

Since Mr. JAMIESON wrote the above the situation has been materially changed owing to the establishment of some five or six cotton mills in Shanghai, a direct result of the concessions obtained by Japan from China in the Shimonoseki Treaty. The Japanese negotiators of the Treaty were fully aware, of course, that the insertion of a provision securing freedom of manufacture for foreigners in China would inure chiefly to the benefit of nations other than Japan, but their programme was framed on liberal lines. It is evident that, under existing conditions, they must soon find themselves excluded from the Chinese market, for not only is labour procurable in Shanghai at rates as cheap as those ruling in Japan, but the manufacturer there will also be able to obtain a supply of raw cotton virtually on the spot, thus having at once the freight and the import and export duties that his Japanese competitor has to pay. Doubtless in her new commercial treaty with China, Japan will stipulate for the removal of the export duty on cotton, and it may be assumed that in view of the competition now threatening, the Diet will consent to abolish, the duty paid by importers into Japan. Still the Japanese manufacturer, even supposing that he uses Chinese raw cottons will be handicapped to the extent of the freight either way. Where there is question of Indian or American raw material the competitors will stand, of course, on an equal footing. With reference to this it is interesting to note the course of Japan's purchases of raw cotton during the past three years :—

Places of Purchase.	1892. Yen.	1893 Yen.	1894. Yen.
British India	4,691,770	6,052,047	7,846,589
China.....	6,063,917	8,622,334	8,561,935
United States ...	1,435,862	1,273,421	2,680,671
Totals 12,191,549		15,947,802	19,089,195

From French India, Korea, and other countries Japan procures a further supply to the value of about half a million *yen*, but her great sources are British India, China, and the United States. During the present year (up to the end of August) the total quantity imported (14½ million *yen* worth) shows only a very small increase as compared with last year. Turning to the import of cotton yarns in 1892, 1893, and 1894, we find that Japan's purchases from abroad showed scarcely any variation : what British India lost, Manchester gained :—

IMPORTS OF COTTON YARN.

	1892. Yen.	1893. Yen.	1894. Yen.
British India	1,814,393	1,243,162	687,556
Great Britain ...	5,316,682	6,033,004	7,288,689
Totals	7,131,075	7,276,166	7,976,235

It may be apprehended, however, that the returns for the present year will show a considerable falling off, since the imports from January until the end of August were only 8,205,282 catties, valued at 3,837,372 *yen*, against 11,829,147 catties, valued at 5,931,718 *yen*, for the corresponding period of last year—a decrease of 3,593,865 catties and 2,094,340 *yen*. Mr. JAMIESON, in his Shanghai report, adds the following interesting note :—

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SILVER PRICES OF COTTON.—The following tables, based on actual prices at auction for ten standard grades, show the variations in silver prices of the more ordinary cotton fabrics for the past fourteen years. It is a remarkable fact that, notwithstanding the steady decline in the gold price of silver over the long series of years since 1873, the silver prices in China of Manchester goods kept remarkably steady. The fall in the Manchester price about kept pace with silver, the difference being made up by economies in freight and charges, so that merchants were able to continue to offer goods to the Chinese without being obliged to raise prices. This continued up to the middle of 1893, when, in consequence of the closing of the Indian mints, and the cession of silver purchases in America, silver suddenly took the great drop from 3s. 2d. to 2s. 4d. per oz., dragging down with it, of course, all the Eastern exchanges. For the first time the Manchester market did not respond, and the consequence was that silver prices on this side had to rise. Trade could only be continued on this condition, and by the end of 1893 a rise of something like 39 per cent. had been established. During the year 1894, however, the Manchester market continued to fall, partly in sympathy with the general lowering of prices in England, partly through the special cause of an abundant cotton crop in America. Prices here began to retrograde, and by the end of the year had come back to a point only some 20 per cent. above the old level. This will be seen from the following :—

Year.	Prices.	Year.	Prices.
1882 average year	1,000	1891 prices in June	1,006
1883 prices in June	987	1891 „	952
1884 „	995	1892 „	979
1885 „	990	1893 „	1,154
1886 „	994	1894 January	1,394
1887 „	1,036	1894 June	1,390
1888 „	1,080	1894 December	1,215
1889 „	1,084		

Mr. JAMIESON'S prices are taken from actual sales at auction in Shanghai, and consequently include all charges up to the time of delivery to the Chinese purchaser. Corresponding figures, obtained, not from auction sales, but from our own market reports, show the following fluctuations in the selling prices of Manchester yarns in Japan, since 1885 :—

	Yen per 100 Catties.
1885	31.0
1886	30.4
1887	32.7
1888	34.7
1889	34.6
1890	33.6
1891	31.3
1892	30.2
1823	35.3
1894	40.8
1895	39.0

It is, perhaps worth noting that these figures, though they represent the averages of the actual market quotations in Japan, are lower, in the case of the past six years, than the values of Manchester Yarns as declared at the Customs. The following table illustrates this point :—

Year.	Average Market Quotations.	Figures shown in Customs Returns.
1890	33.6	35.5
1891	31.3	34.8
1892	30.2	33.1
1893	35.3	41.5
1894	40.8	53.6
1895	39.0	46.7

This apparent discrepancy is doubtless to be accounted for by the fact that, whereas the figures for market quotations show the average price of the ten staple kinds of yarns, the Customs Returns make no distinction, but bulk together the cheap and dear varieties without reference to the quantities of each imported. It will be seen that Mr. JAMIESON'S remark applies with almost equal force to the Japanese import trade. It is only since 1893 that Manchester manufacturers have been unable to make any adjustments commensurate with the increase in the silver price of gold.

MISSIONARIES AND PUBLIC OPINION.

THERE is unquestionably a strong feeling among the public that the missionaries themselves, in some undefined manner, are partially responsible for the disasters that befall them in China. It is true that Lord SALISBURY, in his recent speech in the House of Lords, implied pretty clearly that the heinousness of the Wha-sang massacre was aggravated by the character of its victims. "Without dwelling," he said, "on the fact that those who have suffered by these terrible crimes are ministers of religion, looking upon them merely as travellers, British subjects enjoying certain rights under treaty engagements with the Chinese Government, we have a right to feel the deepest indignation at the horrible treatment to which they have been subjected." Sir CHARLES DILKE, however, said that "missionaries in going to China ought by every possible means in their power to conform to the general customs of the country and not raise a violent feeling against them;" and added that "there was some evidence, he was afraid, on the missionary side which threw some doubt upon that point."

In thus speaking, Sir CHARLES certainly echoed the views entertained by many foreigners in the East, but neither he, nor any one else, so far as we know, has ever attempted to make a detailed statement of errors of judgment or conduct fairly chargeable against the missionaries. In what repect do they deserve any measure of the misfortunes that overtake them? It was Mr. MICHIE, we think, that first attempted to translate the indictment against the missionaries into intelligible language, and even he did not get beyond contending that the privileges secured to Christian progandists by treaty should be properly controlled by regulation, as were tradal privileges similarly conferred. That contention, if it means anything, means that the missionaries stand in need of control, and that their procedure is so ill-regulated as to provoke Chinese animosity and even violence. Of what, then, are the missionaries guilty? Do they steal? Do they cheat? Do they lead immoral lives? Do they ill-treat the natives? Do they insult the religious convictions, or endeavour to bring contempt upon the revered traditions of the people among whom they dwell? Do they not, on the contrary, lead the most exemplary lives; devote themselves to deeds of charity; place their educational and medical skill at the free disposal of the people, and exhibit, in the midst of sharp suffering and adversity, a spirit of patience and benevolence such as ought to enlist universal sympathy and respect? It seems to us that the record is all in their favour. Watching the question closely for many years, we have failed to discover any want of discretion on the part of the missionaries, unless it be an occasional display of unwise confidence in sending unprotected women into the interior, and some imprudent recourse to newspaper correspondence by men that do not represent the true missionary spirit. It has been plausibly contended that the missionary's duty is to refrain from visiting districts where his presence is likely to be resented by the people, or is considered dangerous by the Authorities. How practical effect could be given to such a proposition it is difficult to conceive. Upon whom would devolve the duty of discriminating between safe and unsafe districts? Imagine the Chinese Government officially declaring such and such a place to be suitable for Christian propagandism, and such and such a place to be unsuitable? Perhaps the idea does not extend beyond the enforced withdrawal of missionaries, as a temporary measure of precaution, from a region reported to be in a disturbed condition. But there again the Chinese Authorities would have to be the judges, and we should be much surprised to learn that either foreign Governments or foreign communities in the East would willingly recognise the right of Chinese officials to arbitrarily close any district or province in the empire at any moment to Christian missionaries. Besides, experience does not show that such a humiliating restriction of treaty privileges would be likely to prevent catastrophes. For example, no reason whatever could have been alleged for removing the missionaries from Szechuan before the recent outrages. They had been living there peacefully for years, and everything indicated their permanently undisturbed residence. At Kucheng, again, where an association of two or three hundred persons had been for some months directing their lawlessness against the local authorities without betraying any animosity to the Christians as such, could a demand for the withdrawal of the missionaries have been reasonably preferred or seriously entertained? To the principle that religious propagandism ought never to receive any kind of official protection, nor ought ever to be provided for in the stipulations of an international treaty, all men of sound judgment must subscribe. But, on the other hand, to say that the missionary is entitled to as much freedom of travel and residence as the merchant, the tourist, or the scientific explorer, is surely to claim the very smallest measure of just privilege for him. If he chooses to teach morality instead of selling cottons, or to preach ethics instead of seeking markets for trade, that is surely not a reason for discriminating against him.

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"THE JAPANESE IMBROGLIO."

IN *Blackwoods' Edinburgh Magazine* for September appears an essay entitled "The Japanese Imbroglio." It is very cleverly written. Indeed, judging by the style and aided by the fact that the author is "a Correspondent in the East," we should have no difficulty in identifying the writer were not the essay disfigured by inaccuracies and contradictions difficult to attribute to a publicist of note. It must suffice, therefore, to recognise in this "Eastern Correspondent" and strong friend of China, an intimate of Mr. DETRING, and a firm believer in the ability and influence of HERR VON BRANDT. Putting aside, for the moment, the general purpose and scope of the essay, we shall devote a few moments to pointing out its departures from fact and consistency.

A month before the outbreak of the war the Russian Minister in Tokyo was instructed to make representations to Japan of such a nature that no doubt could have been left in the minds of the Mikado's Ministers as to the part which Russia must eventually play in any readjustment of the balance of power in the Far East. There was at that time only the question of Korea. The invasion of Chinese territory had not yet been thought of by any one not in the Japanese secret.

The subsequent progress of the war and the military enthusiasm of the Japanese rendered the prospect exceedingly embarrassing for Russia, who, *seeing her diplomatic warning put aside*, was obliged to consider the contingency of having eventually to defend her position by force of arms.

The italics are used by ourselves to emphasise the curious contradiction contained in the above two consecutive paragraphs. In the first, the writer explicitly admits that, at the time of Russia's alleged warning, Korea only was in question, no one then having the slightest idea of an invasion of China by Japan. In the second, he says that Russia saw her diplomatic warnings put aside during the progress of the war. In other words, Russia having given an intimation about Korea only, considered that her intimation was slighted by the invasion of Manchuria! This endeavour to establish for Russia a title to be aggrieved is disingenuous almost to clumsiness. And if continuity of ideas can not be preserved through two paragraphs, the failing naturally becomes more conspicuous in the course of two pages. Thus the writer, having declared, on page 310, that Russia "saw her diplomatic warnings put aside," and that "there was question only of Korea," informs his readers, in page 312, that "in deference to Russia's warnings, Japan refrained from the formal annexation of Korea." That is perplexing enough, yet it does not exhaust the correspondent's fertile faculties, for a few lines further on, we find him asserting that "Russia had been no less clear in her attitude respecting Liaotung than she was with regard to Korea." Her warning had been given when Korea only was in question and when "the invasion of Chinese territory had not yet been thought of by any one," but it was none the less a clear warning about Liaotung! No careful reader could possibly extract a definite conception from this jumble of statements, but a superficial reader will doubtless gather the impression that Russia, being somehow or other flouted by Japan, acquired the right to assume an attitude of indignant protest. A very false impression that would be. From first to last Russia confined herself to the problem of Korea. Her diplomats were never so awkwardly unreasonable as to interfere with Japan's method of conducting the war, or to protest because Field Marshal YAMAGATA, having driven the Chinese armies across the Yalu, followed them to Chiulieng and Fenghwan, and because Field Marshal OYAMA struck at the enemy's final sources of strength in Port Arthur and Weihaiwei. Russia would have been within her right in endeavouring to prevent or arrest the war by mediation, or in openly assisting China against disintegration, but as a neutral she never had, nor ever attempted to assert, any title to control Japan's belligerent operations. It is mere persiflage to talk of her "warnings being disregarded during the progress of the war." Whether her warnings would be disregarded or respected could not be shown until the Japanese terms of peace were formulated, and since the recognition of Korean independence—for which alone Russia had stipulated—stood in the very forefront of those terms, no scintilla of reason for complaint on that score can be found for Russia. We do not for a moment pretend that Japan's acquisition of the Liaotung Peninsula and of the Yellow Sea's northern littoral had no concern for Russia, or that the Cabinet in St. Petersburg might not properly occupy itself with Japan's methods of respecting Korean independence. We are merely showing the palpable disingenuousness of pretending that Russia gave any warning such as could be expected to influence the course of the war, or that she acquired a grievance through Japanese neglect of her warning.

When the Japanese invasion threatened to disturb the existing status, the two Western Powers (Great Britain and Russia) might perfectly well have joined in neutralizing Korea, or they might have agreed that the one should do it with the assent of the other, or they might have joined Japan in establishing some new *modus vivendi* for the peninsula. *By such timely intervention in June 1894, whatever special form it might have taken, the war would either have been prevented, or Japan would have been forced to seek another pretext.* The Chinese, on their part, would have been pleased to rid themselves of their Korean responsibilities on such safe terms, for they were sick of their profitless and dangerous relations with the peninsular Kingdom. *There is some reason to think, moreover, that Japan herself, as well as China, would have welcomed a mild form of coercion before the war began. Japanese statesmen have said, both at the beginning of the war and since the peace, that if this Minister had been here or that other there the war could have been prevented.*

* * * * * * * *

We hear much in our day of the progress of the principle of arbitration among civilized nations, about the obligation which the Peace party would impose on all nations to submit their quarrels to the judgment of neutrals before appealing to the abitrament of war. But if any such international police ever had a chance of justifying its existence, if ever a peace-breaker could be justly brought to account by the civilized world, this surely was such a case. *The difficulty lay in the fact that there was nothing for an arbitration to work on; there was no quarrel nor difference to be adjusted except what has grown out of the war itself.*

If our readers will compare the italicized portions of these two paragraphs, they will find another example of flagrant inconsistency surprising in the work of so able a writer; inconsistency relating to the most fundamental elements of the whole question. In one breath we are shown three courses, any of which, if taken by England and Russia, would have preserved the peace; we are told that the neutralization of Korea was the sole question to be settled; we are assured that by the "timely intervention of England and Russia, the war might have been prevented, or Japan would have been forced to seek another pretext," and we are informed that China and Japan would probably have welcomed intervention on the lines suggested. In the next breath we are asked to believe that intervention or arbitration was impossible, since "there was nothing for an arbitrator to work on; no quarrel nor difference to be adjusted." The fact is that this writer in *Blackwood* wants to prove too much. For the sake of arraigning English diplomacy he wants to prove that British statesmen should have comprehended and adjusted the cause of quarrel between Japan and China before swords were drawn; for the sake of arraigning Japan's treatment of her neighbour, he wants to prove that there was no cause of quarrel at all until after swords had been drawn. Nothing, in truth, could exceed the strength of his asseverations on the later point. "There was no dispute between the two countries," he writes, "nor the most distant allegation of a grievance. The causes of the war have indeed been copiously explained, but in progressively confused language, until at last driven from one untenable theory to another, the warmest special pleader for Japan now declares that the real reason of the war has never yet been divulged, and perhaps never will be." "No dispute between the two countries!" "Not the most distant allegation of a grievance?" Such is the assertion of a writer asking to be read seriously; a writer well aware that on three several occasions during the previous twenty years China's unpractical and impossible attitude with regard to her so-called "tributaries" or "dependencies" had almost plunged her into war with Japan, and that two of those occasions were furnished by this very Korean problem, which finally came to the arbitrament of the sword; a writer thoroughly conversant with the fact that a full statement of the cause of the quarrel appeared in *The Times* in November, 1894, and elicited from the leading English journal an editorial admission that Japan had a perfectly intelligible case. We can not regard this essay in *Blackwood's* as an ingenuous attempt to compile contemporary history, neither can we identify the unfortunate special pleader for Japan

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that was driven to take refuge in mystery. He ought to be recognisable, since *Blackwood's* essay elsewhere describes him as "one that had been expounding the causes of the late war for twelve months," and we ought not to be left in any uncertainty about him, since, if he be sufficiently responsible to warrant conspicuous quotation, concealment of his identity is inconsistent with honesty of reference. But does *Blackwood's* essayist court honest criticism? We almost doubt it when he ventures to tell us that Japan's "warmest special pleader," after "expounding the causes of the war for twelve months," admitted that "the real reason had never yet been divulged and perhaps never would be."

From the beginning of the war, indeed in anticipation of it, the Japanese had laid themselves out to capture the European press, in which they succeeded, as they did in their military campaign, by admirable foresight and organization. They first disarmed criticism by representing that they were engaged in a crusade against darkness and barbarism, and were spreading the light with which they had themselves been illuminated by Christendom. Before this first impression was effaced a fresh one was made by their military successes. These were naturally represented in the brightest colours by ubiquitous Japanese agents ready to supply interesting news as well as enlightened views to newspapers in need of copy. In Japan the Government annexed an important news agency, which transmitted official bulletins on an extensive scale which were received as news coming from independent sources. With some unimportant exceptions, indeed, the reports of the campaign were derived exclusively from the Japanese Government—the war correspondent, notwithstanding the praiseworthy efforts of the leading journal, having neither part nor lot in the matter. . . . . The Government sent a special telegram through its subsidized news agency."

This is certainly a most courageous romance. Is it conceivable that the writer has already forgotten the main facts of a story so recent as the China-Japan war? Has he forgotten that with two exceptions the whole of the press in Great Britain were opposed to Japan in the early stages of the war? The exceptions were the *Daily Telegraph*, and the *Daily Chronicle*, journals owing their pro-Japanese inspiration to Sir EDWIN ARNOLD and Mr. HENRY NORMAN respectively. For the rest, the editors of England unanimously espoused China's cause. Where then were the evidences of the wonderful propaganda, exhibiting such "admirable foresight and organization?" If the Japanese really did set about "capturing the European press," they made a most signal failure in the case of Great Britain. But there remains the "important news agency" that was "annexed," "subsidized," and employed to transmit official telegrams as though they came from independent sources. Here, too, the writer is guilty of gross misrepresentation. The facts are perfectly familiar. One of the principal news agencies asked an Englishman in Tokyo to undertake the duty of forwarding telegraphic news from that city. The Englishman, being an employé of the Japanese Government, had to seek permission before accepting the appointment. Having obtained leave, he thenceforth telegraphed to London such intelligence as he could collect. The whole affair was plain and above-board. Doubtless the telegrams officially sent from the Japanese commanding officers constituted the chief source of information. There could be no better source. In not so much as a single instance has it been proved that a Japanese General or Admiral wilfully misrepresented the situation at the seat of war. There was no question whatever of "annexing" or "subsidizing" the news agency. It paid its representative in Tokyo and defrayed the cost of telegraphing just as though no such thing as a Japanese Government existed. Meanwhile London was receiving from Tientsin telegram after telegram of the most egregiously false character, telling of fictitious Chinese victories and imaginary Japanese reverses. If the Central News Agency's Tokyo representative drew his information from the same source as the Japanese press and the foreign local press, he did precisely what any man in his place would have done and must have done, and in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred his reports were absolutely accurate, whereas the reports telegraphed from China and derived often from Chinese official sources, were glaringly untrue. How is all this to be reconciled with the accusation that the Japanese Government deliberately took steps to mislead the foreign public and subsidized the Central News Agency as part of the deceitful scheme? And what is meant by alleging that "the war correspondents had neither part nor lot in the matter." There were at the seat of war correspondents of *The Times*, the *Standard*, the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and several American journals. Surely we are not asked to suppose that these gentlemen telegraphed false news at the instance of the Japanese authorities. They telegraphed what they saw themselves and what they believed to be true, accepting neither official dictation nor official suggestion of any kind. Not one of them has complained that the military censors seriously curtailed his messages, and more than one have declared that they were freely permitted to telegraph the truth. But, after all, what object does *Blackwoods'* essayist seek to compass by formulating these accusations against the Japanese Government? The English press was not "captured," for until Japan's successes had become signal, its voice was raised almost unanimously on behalf of China. The English public was not deceived, for Japan did win the victories telegraphed from Tokyo to London and described by correspondents that witnessed them. English criticism was not disarmed for it was directed entirely against Japan until victory declared unmistakably for her. Where then is the sin and against whom was it committed?

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club took place at the Club Hotel on Thursday afternoon, the President, Mr. J. T. Griffin, being in the Chair. There were also present, Messrs. W. B. Mason, G. Hodges, W. Barrie, E. Mendelson, S. Komor, H. Klingen, E. Batavus, H. Tennant, F. P. Soloman, and J. Davieson, Secretary.

The meeting having been duly opened; the Secretary presented the following report:—

SECRETARY'S REPORT 1894-5.

The number of members on the roll is 47 as compared with 54 at the end of last season.

The Treasurer's account, annexed hereto, shows a balance in hand of $139.05 against $118.69 at 30th September, 1894. We are pleased to welcome the return of Mr. R. A Mowat from his European trip.

The fire at the Oriental Hotel compelled us to remove to the Club Hotel. Comfortable rooms were obtained, and your Committee has arranged to continue there during the present season. No damage was done to the Club property, but an insurance has been effected which will cover any loss likely to occur hereafter, through a similar cause.

It is much to be regretted that the members did not complete the Championship games for the handsome cup so kindly presented by Mr. Keil. Your Committee earnestly hope that the matter will be seriously taken in hand during the year, and venture to suggest the advisability of members attending more regularly, and endeavouring to bring themselves into good fighting form.

It is unfortunate that it was found impossible to arrange a friendly return match between the Tokyo and Yokohama Clubs. Every effort was made by your Committee to effect a meeting, but, for some unknown cause, our Tokyo friends could not make arrangements, and we were much disappointed when our endeavours proved unsuccessful.

Your Committee now resign, and offer their best wishes for the future prosperity of the Club.

J. DAVIESON, Hon. Treas. & Secy.

Yokohama, September 30th, 1895.

RECEIPTS

To Balance in hand	$118.69
3 Entrance fees	9.00
47 Subscriptions	142.00
Photographs	9.00
	$277.69

EXPENDITURE.

Rent (Oriental Hotel)	$ 24.50
Rent (Club Hotel)	52.65
Printing and stationery	45.00
Subscription to "Chess Magazine"	6.00
"Chess Instructor"	3.50
Insurance	3.54
Collector	3.00
Sundries	.45
Balance in hand	139.05
	$277.69

J. DAVIESON, Hon. Treas. and Secretary.

Audited and found correct.

O. KEIL.

Yokohama, 2nd Oct., 1895.

The CHAIRMAN said the gist of the report was an expression of regret that the match with Tokyo had fallen through. The members had undoubtedly lost interest in the work of the Club mainly through this cause. He hoped that during the coming season, a meeting would be arranged between the two Clubs, and that the members of the Yokohama Chess Club would buckle-to and get into proper fighting form.

Mr. W. B. MASON took notice of the expression in the report, "Every effort was made by your Committee to effect a meeting but for some unknown cause, our Tokyo friends could not make arrangements." He explained that owing to the scanty membership of the Tokyo Chess Club, it had been found impossible to get a representative team together, so many of their best players finding it out of the question to arrange to play.

Mr. DAVIESON said he felt justified in using the expression as he had not received any official intimation from Tokyo of the reason for the falling through of the meeting. The challenge of the Yokohama Chess Club had not been accepted and in using the expression, "For some unknown cause," he thought he was putting the thing lightly.

The CHAIRMAN said Mr. Mason merely wished to explain the reason of the Tokyo Chess Club not meeting the Yokohama players, nothing more.

On the motion of MR. KLINGEN seconded by Mr. BARRIE the report and accounts were passed. The election of Officers and Committee then took place. Mr. J. T. Griffin was re-elected President, Mr. Davieson, Secretary, and Messrs. Mendelson, Tennant and Batavus, Committee.

An informal discussion afterwards took place, in the course of which it was announced that during the Cricket Week, the Club would be pleased to see any chess-playing members of the Shanghai or Kobe teams in their rooms and arrange games with them over the chequered board. It was also suggested that the Club would be pleased to meet members of the Tokyo Club at any time, and if

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teams of 10 or 12 could not be arranged, then matches from four aside and upward should, if possible, take place. Mr. Komor, in order to stimulate interest in Chess in general and the Club in particular offered to present a monthly record prize. Opinion was unanimous that games in the Kiel Championship Cup should start as soon as possible, and the competition be carried through to the end.

CRICKET.

OLD MEMBERS VERSUS NEW MEMBERS.

After the heavy rains of the preceding six days, the wicket on Saturday, as was only natural, proved very dead, but both Crawford and White, playing for the Old Members, managed to score half centuries. The Old members went in first, Crawford and Walford opening for the side. The Captain only scored two singles ere being caught by Libeaud. Then E. R. Morriss went out and compiled 9,—2 threes, a couple, and a single; then Edwards found his wickets. Upon White joining Crawford, a pretty exposition of the art and craft of cricket took place, both men playing in splendid style, although one or two chances were given by the field ere they voluntarily retired. The Rev. T. S. Tyng was the only other man on the side to get within double figures, and the innings closed for 155. The New Members did not made anything like so good a show, their innings being most uneventful. Their score was 55 for eight wickets. Scores :—

OLD MEMBERS.

Mr. K. F. Crawford, retired	53
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. Libeaud b. Edwards	2
Mr. E. R. Morriss, b. Edwards	9
Mr. F. E. White, retired	54
Mr. L. Pulford, b. Kingdon	1
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, run out	2
Mr. J. Dodds, c Kingdon, b. Libeaud	1
Mr. H. R. Mair, b. Kingdon	1
Mr. H. E. Campbell, c. Harries, b. Kingdon	0
Rev. T. S. Tyng, not out	13
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Edwards	5
Mr. G. Philip, b. Murray	7
Byes 6, Leg-byes 1,	7
	155

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Murray	114	68	1	1
Mr. Edwards	70	18	7	3
Mr. Johnson	10	7	—	—
Mr. Denne	25	18	—	—
Mr. Libeaud	40	16	1	1
Mr. Kingdon	35	21	—	3

NEW MEMBERS.

Mr. P. Denne, b. Lias	14
Mr. C. K. Johnson, b. Walford	15
Mr. G. Murray, c. Morriss, b. Walford	1
Mr. E. J. Libeaud, b. Lias	6
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Philip, b. Walford	0
Mr. H. Harries, c. Mair, b. Lias	13
Dr. Todd, c. Philip, b. Walford	0
Mr. M. Kingdon, c. Campbell, b. Walford	3
Mr. Summers, not out	0
Byes, 3,	3
	55

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Lias	69	37	3	3
Mr. Walford	65	15	4	5

THE MAHOMMEDAN REBELLION IN CHINA.

The *N.-C. Daily News* published on the 24th September, the following interesting letter from its native correspondent in Pekin :—

There was a rumour recently in Pekin, to the effect that in consequence of the serious aspect of the Mahommedan rebellion in the North-Western provinces, the Emperor had issued a secret decree commanding the Tarter Generals E-k'ô-tang-à and Ch'ang Shun to take two Manchurian army corps, of 15,000 men each, into Shansi and the Mongol territory to the north of that province in order to prevent any eruption of the rebels into the metropolitan province of Chihli, where there are about a million and half Mussulmans who are dreaded by their Buddhist neighbours for their turbulence and extreme clannishness. While the rebellion is confined to a distance from the metropolitan province there is no occasion to fear a Mussulman outbreak, but at the first intimation of a rebel force penetrating into Chihli, there is little doubt that the Mahommedan population of the province, who can muster over 60,000 strong, hardy, and brave fighting men, will join the insurgents. Most of the Mussulmans in Chihli are either carters, muleteers, or horseherds: the latter a most unruly class constantly travelling about, armed to protect their herds of cattle from the raids of the numerous mounted bandits of Mongolia and Manchuria—who delight in robbing the property of those professing an alien religion. The Tartar troops are to co-operate, wherever practicable, with the various brigades and army corps under Generals Tung, Ma, Ch'eng, and Lui, now opposing the rebels in Kansu and Shensi.

An explanation of the apparently unaccountable tardiness of the first-named General in reaching the scene of the rebellion in Kansu has recently been received in Pekin. It will be remembered that General Tung is Commander-in-Chief of Kashgaria and had an army of 25,000 men covering Pekin in anticipation of a Japanese invasion last winter. He was the first to be sent to aid in suppressing the rebellion, upon conclusion of peace last May. But it seems that when his army arrived near the Kansu borders last July, the corps, or rather the Buddhist portion of it, came very near being exterminated by a conspiracy amongst the Mahommedan battalions who number a good third of General Tung's forces. It was intended to massacre the Buddhists on the night of the 16th of July last, the only one to be spared being General Tung himself, who is a Buddhist and is much respected by his troops, Mahommedan and Buddhist alike. As General Tung's influence is very great in Kansu—his native province, he being a native of Ninghsia—it was intended to carry him along by compulsion, thus preventing him from using his influence for the Imperial cause. After massacring their Buddhist fellow soldiers, the Mahommedans were to capture the immense supplies of arms and ammunition carried by General Tung for the arming of the Buddhist population of Kansu, who were expected to join his ranks in large numbers, and then, after declaring for Mahmoud Khan, of Haich'eng, the Mohommedan rebel king, the mutineers were to attack the rear of the Imperial army under General Liu who is opposing the rebels in Lanchou prefecture, and so effect a junction with their co-religionists. All these facts came out through the confession of an ex-Buddhist officer in one of the Mahommedan cavalry battalions of General Tung's army, who during the first Mahommedan rebellion in the sixties had turned Mussulman in order to save his life. It seems that this officer secretly, and three hours before the massacre was begun, went to General Tung's tent and revealed everything. The latter took instant steps to arrest the ringleaders without causing alarm amongst the Mahommedan troops, and then quietly sent these regiments on various errands, some to distances forty miles off to guard the line of communications between head-quarters and Pekin, while others—the cavalry—had orders to go to Chihli to escort the grain carts back for the supply of the army. So quietly was all this done by General Tung that the various Mahommedan regiments had no time allowed them to communicate with each other before starting on their new duties, so by the time settled for the massacre, 2 o'clock in the morning, only two Mussulman regiments of 650 men each were left in an army of nearly 15,000 Buddhists. At daybreak the dozen or so ringleaders were executed before the army. But by the separation of such a large force—6,500 men—from the main army at a critical moment, General Tung's plans were momentarily disarranged, which necessitated his waiting for a reinforcement of 5,000 men raised by his nephew from the prefecture of Ninghsia, before the forward movement of the army could be made. Nearing Lanchou on the 23rd of August, General Tung's army had a serious battle with a superior force of the rebels, but he succeeded in driving the enemy towards Sining, which was at once besieged by the latter.

News has also arrived at the Board of War reporting that the civil and military authorities of Kuyuan, an important city of Kansu, had been murdered by the Mahommedan population of the city, which is now held by them. The telegraph lines were cut by the rebels and for a whole fortnight no news could be got from Kansu west of Kuyuan, but by his recent victory General Tung has been able to restore communication. The Szechuan Viceroy Lu has recently received orders to despatch a large force to the Shensi borders to prevent the rebellion from moving southwards *viâ* Szechuan to the great southern head-quarters of the sect, Yunnan.

THE OUTRAGES NEAR SWATOW.

The information which has come to hand regarding the looting of the Basel Mission at Moilim, about seventy miles from Swatow, depicts a course of events such as we are becoming uncomfortably familiar with in the southern provinces of China. According to the *China Mail* risings occurred in the surrounding districts in April last, and owed their inception to the Triad Society, one of whose members was proclaimed Emperor of China. The declared object was to overthrow the Manchus and to bring about a "China for the Chinese." During the rainy season the movement subsided, and the valiant Imperial troops recognising their opportunity, commenced to plunder the wretched natives in the most approved style. The German Consul brought the state of affairs to the knowledge of the provincial authorities, as some of the German missionaries had been obliged to take to flight, but though troops were sent they did nothing but prey upon the people. The bandits are known as "Red Flags" and the government troops as "White Flags," but beyond their flags there is little to distinguish them in the opinion of the unfortunate natives.

After the Kucheng massacre, the Rev. G. Reusch, head of the Basel Mission in Hongkong, sent a circular to the doubtful out stations calling the foreigners to Hongkong, until the trouble should pass over. Messrs. Kammerer, Schwable, Loanhardt, and Ziegler (from Hinnen) went to Hongkong with their families, and Mr. Flad to Macao. Mr. Nagel, being unmarried, remained in Nyenhanli for a while. He was last heard from on the 4th of September, and is probably now with the Rev. H. Mootz at Hokshuha. Mr. Kammerer left on the 26th Aug., when there were already signs of trouble; and on the 27th there were disturbances at several points between Nyenhanli and Moilim. The houses of some rich Chinese were attacked at the villages of Hotung and Pethantong, and the rioters were declaring their intention of coming down from there to Moilim to plunder the station and some very rich dwellings at Tuikyanwo near by.

The station at Moilim was a fine new building, erected under Mr. Kammerer's superintendence, to accommodate the two families of himself and his co-worker. On leaving he removed everything possible (having to make the journey by boat down the river) and fastened the place up securely, but of course in case of a deliberate attack the locks and bars were useless.

When Mr. Kammerer left, the people were saying openly that the time had come to finish the work begun in April, to put an end to the dynasty which proved itself unable to govern or protect the country, to keep order internally, or to resist invaders such as the Japanese. They do not believe apparently in the official declarations that China beat Japan. That fairly represents the unanimous opinion of the populace.

Hinen is expected to be attacked next by the rebels, who are gathering strength rapidly. Kayintsu, three days' journey down the river from Moilim, is also in danger; and the difficulty of the few foreigners who remain is that boats cannot be obtained. Ordinarily a boat can be got for $7 for the whole journey, but now they cannot be had even for $200. The Basel missionaries still in the district are the Rev. and Mrs. Lechler and the Rev. N. Meier, Hinnen; Rev. and Mrs. J. Löcher, the Rev. and Mrs. O. Schultze, and Dr. Wittenberg, Kayntsu; the Revs. H. Mootz and A. Nagel, Lyunchon.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

HONGKONG NEWS.

In an editorial based upon the news of Lieut. Taylor's visit to Tientsin, where he has taken an Australian mare in the hope of improving the China pony by cross-breeding, the Hongkong *Daily Press* says :—"The uncouth little brute known as the China pony at present embodies nearly all the demerits to which horeflesh is heir: a rascally and vicious temper, a big head, a short neck, a thick though strong shoulder, a concave and hard ridged back, skimpy loins, and huge bony hams. His unkempt shaggy coat intensifies all these to a degree. Yet with all his faults we love him; he is so staunch and plucky, so indefinitely improvable when treated patiently and firmly. The world all over may give an easy lead in most respects to the pampered (!) jades of Asia, but all the same we doubt if they have their peers on the globe for spirit and for endurance on starvation commons. These are qualities which redeem him, and give him a steady place in the affection of all Eastern sportsmen." Later in the same aricle, this journal remarks :—The existing neglect of the horse on the part of the Chinese is only one phase of that universal degeneration which has undermined the national vitality. In the millennium before Christ, under the Ch'aos, the Chinese bred horses with all the success which even these days marks their procreation of the humble ass and his morganatic kinsman the mule. The Ch'ao Emperors legislated for the horse with a zeal and a success equal to those which Alexander the Great bestowed on the horses of Cappadocia. Horses were classified roughly as bloods, chargers, shire-horses, post-horses hacks, and common beasts of burden; and mongrelism was strictly forbidden. The Imperial cavalry reached the respectable number of forty thousand; the arts of riding and racing were assiduously cultivated, the military craft was honourable, and horse soldiery, as among contemporary Westerns, marked its climax. During the Han

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dynasty (200 B.C.—200 A.D.) the horse deteriorated with everything else; in the South the growing pressure of population and the increase of waterways probably crushed him out of existence as a coadjutor of man in the labour market. Equine matters improved under the T'ang (600—900 A. D.): hippo again waxed great in the North and at one time the pony population reached 800,000. Then once more, under the Sungs, just before Marco Polo's time, he waned, and the country went down under the hoof of the Mongol chargers—Nemesis in the shape of the animal they had neglected. Old Marco Millione deals with his usual numerical liberality when he introduces the horse. He ascribes 100,000 troopers to an ordinary Tartar Prince going forth to war. The pony in his day not only carried his master eight or nine hundred miles in ten consecutive days, but nourished his rider by allowing his veins to be tapped for refreshing draughts of blood. Kublai keeps a stud of 10,000 "all pure white without a speck," and at New Year receives 100,000 ditto as presents.

> Thirty steeds both fleet and wight
> Stood saddled in stable day and night,
> A hundred more stood free in stall,
> Such was the custom of Branksome Hall,

but this was sheer poverty to the great Khan's paddocks: his meanest post stable had 200 saddled and bridled and 200 feeding free in stall, and his postal establishment reached the enormous aggregate of 300,000. The latter day Chinaman has truly some reason to hate the big soliped, seeing his country has been three times invaded and his Government destroyed by its prowess; but for the obverse reason the gross negligence now displayed towards the horse by the Manchus is inexplicable, except on the grounds of universal dry rot. Cavalry played no part in the late war, although its potentiality on the Chinese side was infinite. If the Imperial Government could spare a few commissioners and a modest sum of money to follow the example now being set to them by a gallant young British officer they might do more to revive the antique prowess of their ancestors than by a century of diplomatic hocus pocus.

The China Traders Insurance Company, Limited in their twenty-ninth report say that for the year ended 30th April last, the net premia amount to $1,095,865.41 and the working account shows a balance at credit of $530,727.79, which sum the directors recommend to be appropriated in the following manner:—A dividend of 20 per cent. to shareholders, $120,000.00; a dividend of 15 per cent. on contributions, payable to all contributors of business whether shareholders or not, $120,000.00; to be carried to new account, $290,727.79—$530,727.79. It is proposed to increase the reserve fund to $900,000 by the transfer of $100,000 from exchange fluctation account, this sum being the profit realized during the year by the sale of a portion of the Company's sterling holdings.

The British steamer *Iser*, from St. Petersburg for Vladivostock, which arrived at Singapore on the 13th ult., reported the death from suicide of a European fireman, five days after leaving Suez. It appears the man first attempted to drown himself, and subsequently applied a nail and hammer to his eye, from the effects of which injury he died. This steamer has on board, we learn from the *Free Press*, a large quantity of railway and bridge material and locomotives for the Trans-Siberian railway, this being the third steamer this year (other than the Volunteer Fleet) which has brought out similar material to Vladivostock. Two other vessels, the Mercantile S. S. S. Co.'s steamer *Obi* and the Norwegian vessel *Tiger*, are expected to follow with similar shipments from St. Petersburg for the same destination, making altogether about 20,000 tons of railway material by outside boats this year.

The Committee of the Hongkong Cricket Club in their report for the year 1894-1895 remark that the batting average list was headed by Mr. E. W. Maitland with 42.22, whilst Mr. J. G. Watson was most successful with the ball, taking 27 wickets at a cost of 11.07 per wicket. Only one score of over 100 was made, viz., J. A. Lowson, 134. Yokohama can beat these records.

A horse came by its death at Hongkong recently in a curious manner. It was harnessed to a trap and was being driven by a Chinaman when the animal suddenly made up its mind to rush off the Praya into the sea. Neither the driver nor the cart was injured, but the horse was drowned.

A writer in the *Sarawak Gazette* gives a detailed description of the saucepan signs used by Chinese house-boys in European employ, the symbols having of course more particular reference to the kitchen department. He remarks:—It is not an uncommon thing to hear people in the East say that they are still in want of a Chinese cook, whilst others will have numbers of applications directly it is known that their cook has left. The reason for this is easily discovered if the master of the house walks down to the kitchen after his cook has been discharged, and takes notice how a saucepan, which will be found standing on the ground, is placed. Chinese servants, particularly those from Singapore, when discharged, leave signs which the new comer looks for immediately he enters the kitchen. If the place is considered a good one, a saucepan will be left on the ground with the lid put on properly. If the lid is placed in the saucepan upside down, that is to say, with the handle of the lid inside the saucepan, it means that the servant has gone away for a short time only, and that as soon as he can he intends to return, as the situation is considered a good one. If the lid of the saucepan is left on the ground near the saucepan which is standing the right way up, it means that the house is in want of servants. If the lid is put half way in and half out of the saucepan it means that the place is a good one, but the master of the house is stingy. Should the saucepan have still some rice in it, and the lid closed properly, it means that the servant is quite satisfied with everything concerning the people of the house, but that he is forced to leave on account of debts or other reasons which inconvenience him. If the master is in the habit of cutting a servant's pay for broken or lost articles, or for other faults, a mark is made on the bottom of the saucepan in chalk which will not rub out easily. The Chinese boy makes his marks behind the pantry or bedroom door, and the waterman on the bottom of his tubs. The Hylam Chinese are said to have adopted these signs from the Makao Chinese, who in the first case got the idea from the Tamils.

The Plague medals, subscribed for by the Colony of Hongkong to mark its appreciation of the labours of those who voluntarily came forward to stamp out the pest, have recently come out from home. It will doubtless be remembered, says the *Daily Press*, that the design for the medal was opened for competition, and a prize of £15 was offered for the successful artist. The award of the Selection Committee, one of whom was Sir William Marsh, was given to Mr. F. Boucher, of London, and he has succeeded in producing a very artistic design—a design which is in the highest degree praiseworthy, and which gives a very vivid and pathetic reminder of the dreaded scourge. The figures are bold, the centre one representing a plague sufferer—a Chinaman—lying on a raised ambulance. Attending him is a hospital sister on one side, and a soldier, with a whitewash brush at his feet, at the other. He is forcing back Death, who is hovering overhead—a gruesome figure. One of his long bony arms is stretched out to clutch with his broadened bony hand the patient, and in the other hand he bears a spear. On the other side of the medal are the words, "Presented by the Hongkong community for services rendered during the plague of 1894," and on the rim is engraved the recipient's name. The medallist is Mr. Wyon, of London, and too much praise cannot be bestowed upon him for this very fine specimen of his work.

A counterfeit coin manufactory has been discovered and broken up at Macao. Ten and twenty cent pieces were being struck from dies which appeared to have come from the Canton Mint. In the earlier days of that establishment the worn out dies were not destroyed and it is believed that a good many of them are in use by counterfeiters.

On Tuesday, Sept. 24th, Mr. D. Macrae, foreman at the China Sugar Refinery, East Point, made a desperate attempt to destroy his own life. He went to his bedroom in Blue Buildings and shortly afterwards his wife, who was in another room, heard the report of a revolver being fired. She ran into the bedroom, where she found that her husband had shot himself through the head. The bullet had entered near his right ear. She at once sent for the police and Dr. Stedman. The medical gentleman attended as soon as possible and ordered Macrae's removal to the Government Civil Hospital, where he was attended by Dr. Lowson, who succeeded in extracting the bullet. It is likely, says the *Daily Press*, that Macrae will recover.

The following is from the *Times of Ceylon* of the 12th ult.:—Captain L. Von Nauendorff, late of the 3rd King of Saxony's Jaeger Battalion (No. 15 in the German Army), who arrived at Colombo in the *Prinz Pegent Luitpold* from Australia recently, is one of a number of German officers who have been seconded for service under the Chinese Government, the latter having resolved that their army shall be taught in the European method, and having sought help from Germany for this purpose. Already several German officers have passed through Colombo for this duty, while, when he departs this week, Captain Nauendorff will have as companions some twenty or thirty other officers of the German army who are coming out by the N.D. L. steamer *Karlsruhe*, in which vessel they will go on to China, their future station being Nanking.

Dr. Robertson, who for years was in the P. and O. Company, serving on the *Valetta*, *Zambesi*, *Hydaspes*, and *Ancona*, jumped from the deck of the *Duke of Buckingham*, outward bound from London to Brisbane, into the sea and was drowned. The sad event took place on the 17th August. He was a widower. The captain and some lady passengers, it is said, saw him go overboard, and the captain actually caught hold of him as he went over, but failed to arrest his fall.

The British gunboat *Peacock*, which has just arrived in Hongkong, encountered an exceptionally severe typhoon, resulting in the vessel's meeting with much damage. She left Amoy for Anping on the 16th September and arrived there two days later, the voyage being rather rough. In the afternoon the barometer fell very low and there was every indication of a coming typhoon, so the *Peacock*, says the *Daily Press*, left the port to escape it. At six o'clock the wind blew with considerable force, and as the centre was approaching Captain Laxton decided to hurry away to the south-west. At night the wind increased in force, the sea became rougher, the hatches were battened down, and every preparation made to contend with a heavy storm. The boat was tossed about like a log of wood, but she behaved admirably, and wave after wave dashed with terrific force over the whole vessel. Most of the water ran out again through the wash ports, but time after time it broke into the engine room, and great fears were entertained that the fires would be extinguished; indeed if the water had risen another foot this calamity would have happened. The store room was deluged; the ward room was three feet deep in water; the sailing sheets were torn into shreds; the main gaff was blown down on the deck; the gun flap on the port side was smashed; the whaler and then the officers' private skiff were carried away; at one time the quarter deck was almost flush with water; the steam launch was swept from her hangings and fell on the funnel guy, sustaining damage to her bottom; the binnacle compass was washed down, and then to complete this list of events all the lights were extinguished. For twenty minutes it was impossible to see the compass on the bridge for want of light, and the only place where the lamps could be re-lighted was the armour room. It may be imagined what an anxious time every man passed through but the crew maintained the cool attitude, characteristic of the British seaman. The boat was in the storm for twelve hours altogether, and there were moments when there was every likelihood of the vessel succumbing to the fierce elements. When she arrived in harbour she was in a state of topsey-turvydom. It is impossible to estimate the extent of the damage, and the men themselves had many of their personal effects completely spoiled. Rust was everywhere; hinges and locks had been wrenched away; the table in the ward room broke from its fastening and was turned upside down; in fact, there was scarcely anything on the ship that had escaped the fury of the storm. The experience was one which the officers and men will never forget, and they have good cause to be thankful that they reached Hongkong in safety.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* of September 5th, says there has been practically no rain in Tonkin, Cochin-China or Cambodia during the summer, and now that the dry season is approaching, the second crop of rice is threatened with total failure, for there seems now to be no prospect of any but very scanty showers.

In January next, says the *Straits Times*, the *Mercury* and *Caroline* in the China Station will return to England on the expiry of their present commission. At present, the rumour in naval circles is that the *Immortalité*, sister ship of the *Undaunted* and the *Melpomene*, will be commissioned to relieve the above-named ships. It may be mentioned that the *Immortalité* has recently had all her ten 6-in. breech-loaders replaced by 6-in. quick-firers.

THE JAPAN SOCIETY.

Some Difficulties of the Japanese Spoken Language.

The twenty-second ordinary meeting of the Japan Society, being the seventh and concluding meeting of the fourth session, was held at 20, Hanover Square, on June 12th. The President, His Excellency the Japanese Minister, Mr. T. Kato, was in the chair, and a crowded audience assembled to hear the long promised paper by Mr. A. Diósy, Vice Chairman of Council, the founder of the Society, on "Some Difficulties encountered by

Beginners in the Study of the Japanese Spoken Language." The Chairman having briefly opened the proceedings, Mr. Diósy proceeded to read his paper, in the course of which he stated :—

"The difficulties treated of in my paper are of two kinds—those which may be called "Grammatical," arising from matters of grammar, of syntax, and of pronunciation and accent, and those of a more general nature, which beset the would-be learner at the very outset, and which I distinguish by the term "Preliminary." The "Grammatical Difficulties" are more or less clearly indicated in the numerous Grammars of the Japanese spoken Language for the use of foreign students, so that I shall treat of them but briefly ; the "Preliminary Difficulties," on the other hand, have not, as far as I know, received the attention they deserve, and I have, therefore, devoted myself particularly to this more general aspect of the subject, and have treated it more fully.

"The initial difficulty encountered by would-be students of the Japanese tongue is a sort of vague awe inspired by its remoteness from the languages of Europe, is a feeling of diffidence in the presence of dimly discerned obstacles, expected to prove insuperable to the average learner. This difficulty is based on a misconception of the nature of the Japanese *Spoken* Language, which, although undoubtedly difficult to acquire with a high degree of proficiency, presents no very formidable obstacles to an intelligent student, gifted with ordinary perseverance, who aims at learning as much of the language as will enable him to converse freely with Japanese of all classes. The cause of the prevailing misconception with regard to the difficulty of learning to speak Japanese is, without doubt, attributable to the very general confusion of the *written* with the *spoken* language.

It will, I think, be readily admitted that, at first sight, its aspect is appalling. The heart of the stoutest learner must quail when he gazes on a passage printed or written in the characters used in Japan to this day—vertical columns, from right to left, of Chinese ideograms interspersed with Japanese phonetic characters, the signs of the *Hira-gana* syllabary, which represent sounds, whereas the Chinese characters convey ideas, more or less pictorially, without any reference to sound. When the student is told that he must learn to identify at least four thousand of the Chinese ideograms, not to mention the forty-seven syllabic signs of the *Hira-gana* and their numerous variations, numbering over two hundred, besides the forty-seven signs of the simpler *Katakana* ("side-characters") syllabary, before he can read a Japanese newspaper with ease, it is not to be wondered at if his ardour cools somewhat. The student will, probably, become a warm advocate of the educational policy identified with that enlightened statesman, whose friendship I was privileged to enjoy, the late Viscount Mori Arinori. Viscount Mori once boldly proposed that his countrymen should abandon their native idiom and adopt the English language in its stead.

It is not within the scope of this paper to consider the much-debated question of the characters with which the Japanese continue to write their language, spending on their acquirement many years which might, apparently, be better employed, or the reasons which have, hitherto, rendered abortive the efforts of the *Roma-ji-Kwai* ("Roman Character Society") of Japan to replace the present cumbrous system by the transliteration of Japanese into Roman characters, but I may be permitted to call attention to one of the causes, the chief one, in my opinion, of the obstinate conservatism in this respect of the most progressive nation in the world. That reason is, undoubtedly, the enormous extent to which the use of the Chinese ideograms will facilitate Japan's accomplishment of her great predestined task—the regeneration of her huge neighbour China.

"The would-be student must, first of all, lay aside the feeling of discouragement produced by the consideration of printed and written Japanese, and must rest assured that the great difficulties of the language as it is *written* have absolutely nothing to do with the acquirement of a useful knowledge of Japanese as it is *spoken*.

"A widely prevailing misconception is that Japanese is an uncouth, unmusical language, presenting great difficulties to the Western organs of speech. This erroneous belief arises from a confusion, in the popular mind, of the polysyllabic Japanese, rich in clear vowels, with monosyllabic Chinese, with its nasal consonants, its five accents, all grating, more or less unpleasantly, on the Occidental ear, and so perilously similar that they render it impossible for a Chinaman with a cold in his head to make the wife of his bosom understand whether he is calling her his "treasure" (*Pao*) or "a bundle" (*Pao*).

"The confusion of Japanese with Chinese in the minds of most Europeans is pardonable, if it be considered that the majority of the Japanese terms, or words, to be met with in our modern books of travel, or in articles in our periodicals, borrowed from China, or of Buddhist origin or created since the birth of New Japan and, consequently, spoken of by the Sinico-Japanese sounds corresponding to the *Chinese* ideograms representing the designations given to the new importations, or creations, for which there was no equivalent in pure Japanese.

The true Japanese language is eminently polysyllabic. No better example of this can be required than the word which stands for one of the three English words of only one letter—the personal pronoun "I"—in Japanese a word of four syllables : *Watakushi*—of five when the distinctive particle *wa* is added. The very length of the first personal pronoun, singular, which in the plural becomes *Wata-kushi-domo* (a word of six syllables as against our monosyllable "we") must tend towards modesty in Japanese style, literary or epistolarly, and conversation. It would hardly prove convenient to some of our authors, journalists, and orators in this egotistical age. As a matter of fact, the personal pronouns are commonly omitted in Japanese, except in cases where such omission might cause ambiguity.

The true Japanese language is, as has been stated, polysyllabic. It is also musical and graceful, especially when spoken by the ladies of Japan. It is poetical in its imagery, capable of infinite humour, lending itself to innumerable quips and jests and to endless punning (chiefly on account of its multitude of homonyms). It is largely onomatopectic, many words almost faithfully reproducing the sounds caused by the actions they indicate ; for instance :—*Chira-chira*, or *Pira-pira*, "fluttering," "flickering," also used for "twinkling," "dazzling"; *Doku-Doku*, "gurgling" (the sound of water flowing from a bottle) ; *Patchi-patchi*, "cracking," "popping," "snapping" ; *Piyoi to*, "hopping" (like a bird or a frog), "skipping."

"True Japanese is dignified and sonorous when spoken by an eminent orator like Fukuzawa Yukichi, the great educational reformer. It is considerate and courtly to a degree in the mouths of equals, even of the lowest classes, addressing one another. It contains no foul oath, no curse of any kind (a deprivation, perhaps, in the case of a Japanese subject to attacks of gout). The *Kuruma-ya*, the combined cabman and cab-horse who draws a *jinrikisha*, uses, in coversation with his mates on the ranks, expressions of courtesy which would have graced the speech of a courtier of the *Grand Monarque*. It is true that he uses them unconsciously, automatically so ingrained are they in the language, but the fact remains that he employs terms indicating a far greater consideration for the feelings of others than is shown in the speech of even the most cultured classes in England or in America. Of course, there are some boors in Japan, as in all countries, but they are, fortunately, extremely few, and the very spirit of their language renders it exceedingly difficult for them to give vent to their ill-natured or brutal feelings. The language of *Nippon* is polite beyond all European tongues, indeed almost servile in the speech of inferiors towards superiors in rank.

That the Japanese language can give adequate expression to the martial spirit of which the nation has so recently given fresh and striking proof, is well known to all who have heard Japanese troops singing on the march, or Japanese blue-jackets chanting war-songs on the forecastle. The best known of all Japanese war-songs is, probably, the one to which the forces of the Imperialist party marched to victory in 1868, when the Restoration of the Imperial Power was achieved and the era of the Great Change commenced. It runs thus :—

"Miya Sama, Miya Sama !
O uma-no maye-ni
Pira-pira (or Chira-chira) suru-no wa
Nanja-i-na ?
(Chorus)—To Ko-tonya, re-tonya, re-na !
Are wa chō-teki sei-batsu
Sei-to-no
Nishiki-no Mi-hata-wo
Shiranai ka ?
(Chorus)—To Ko-tonya, re-tonya, re-na !"

—*Languages*.

MISSIONARY'S LOT NOT A HAPPY ONE.

COLONEL COCKERILL TELLS OF THE WORK THEY DO AND THE ACCUSATIONS MADE AGAINST THEM.

Tokyo, Japan, July 27, 1895.

I have a letter from a gentleman in Hartford, Conn., requesting me to give some inquiry to missionary work in Japan and write my opinion thereon. I can only say that the missionary has my sympathy. From the time he hands his half rate steamship ticket to the contumelious purser in San Francisco to the day he returns to the people who send him abroad to tell of his hardships, his lot is not a happy one. The people on the steamer regard him as a nuisance, the people whom he seeks to rescue frequently despise him and deride him, and the men of the United States war-ships sent to protect him actually hate him.

When he is assaulted and mobbed, after the manner of the prophets of old, the heathen of the strange lands, as well as his own, seem delighted. This is largely due to the fact that too often poorly equipped, tactless, and bigoted men, who attend too severely to the business of other people, are sent upon these missions. The men, and women too, have frequently an exaggerated sense of their importance, and are prone to attach too much significance to petty signs of hostility on the part of the natives to whom they are accredited.

Last winter, for instance, while the cruiser *Charleston* was at Chefoo, China, a loud outcry was sent down from some missionaries located some miles in the interior. It was bitter weather, but the *Charleston* was ordered to go up the river to their relief. The river was filled with ice. The ship's navigator had no chart or soundings, and no pilot was allowed. The *Charleston* slowly fought her way up that frozen, tortuous steam until the sanctuary of the missionaries was reached. A half dozen or so of them were floated down to Chefoo, and after remaining there for a couple of days they quietly returned to their homes. No causes for apprehension existed in the first place. The memory of the misery and the hardships of that winter trip still abides with the officers and men of the *Charleston*, and woe betide the man who proposes on that craft to take up a collection to further gospel spread in China.

Last year when the United States cruiser *Baltimore* was stationed at Chemulpo, Korea, for the protection of the Christians located there, a letter was written and sent to the United States and published, declaring that on a certain occasion, when an attack from the Tong Haks was expected, the officers and men of the ship were so drunk as to be incapacitated for service. Out from our Navy Department came an order to investigate. The investigation was held and the authorship of the letter traced to a missionary woman, who finally admitted that she knew nothing of the matter, save that a servant in her employ had told her that on the evening of the day in question another servant had told her that she had seen in a shop, where she was buying something, two ship's men very drunk. She didn't know whether they were officers, marines, or sailors, or whether they were French, Russian, English, or Americans. So much for this. To speak of missionaries on board the *Baltimore* now is to produce silence of the densest marine character.

At Newchwang last winter, when the United States gunboat *Petrel* was there, the missionaries, who were forced to take refuge there on account of the war, made themselves very obnoxious by their querulouness and constant complaining. After the fighting in that vicinity they all went to work diligently, so an officer informs me, to hunt up "atrocities," and many of the unfounded stories sent out about the cruelty of the Japanese were traced to these people, who were inflamed against the Japanese because they had pushed the war to their abiding places, thereby discomforting them. Our *Monocacy* has been kept crawling up and down the rivers of China at the beck and call of nervous missionaries, sometimes on sand bars, sometimes on land, and it would be difficult to make any of her crew believe that the good achieved in China by mission work is at all commensurate with the cost and trouble.

However, these people are likely to be prejudiced. Of course all the stories which can be raked up and told to the discredit of the missionaries are carefully garnered and peddled about. Said one of our sailors to me recently :—"Whenever you find a small town in China or Korea you can bet that the best house in the place is inhabited by a missionary. They always look after own comfort."

The irreligious point to a small church structure which stands in Yokohama, and they tell the history of the fine residential building beside it, once occupied by the missionaries. The church resembles one of the little toy churches which the children of pious people are treated to about Christmas time, and it is alleged that when the builders made their report for home consumption they remarked that "with the bricks and straw left over from the church edifice" they had constructed a little lodge for themselves. The two structures are in evidence, and they speak for themselves. The ungodly find great cause for sneering in the fact that every missionary is known to receive an additional one hundred yen per year for each child added to his family, and the large and diversified nature of the families of the missionaries is much dwelt upon.

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Again, the missionary is made the butt of every coarse, infidelic joke imaginable. These earnest, zealous, hopeful people, however, go right along with their work, giving no heed to the obstacles which beset their pathway, so long as the supplies are kept up.

The fact that the missionaries are perforce exemplars in the communities in which they dwell causes them to keep very close watch upon each other, and this leads to a vast amount of gossip, surveillance, espionage, and tittle-tattle, which is disturbing, and ofttimes distressing. The hopefulness of the noble band of workers is to me most interesting. I met recently a Presbyterian missionary, who looked to me, I must say, much better qualified for the part of *Captain Macheath* in "The Beggars' Opera," than for evangelical work in this vineyard, who admitted that, while the introduction of Christianity into Japan had been slow and painful, he believed that the change would come one of these days at a rush and that Buddhism and other pagan faiths would be swallowed up. He predicted that in twenty-five years the Empire of Japan would be completely Christianized. The seed had been sown, and the natural advancement of Japan must carry her to Christianity, he thought.

Whether it be profitable to keep up foreign missions rather than benevolent and religious educational institutions at home is a question for good people alone to answer. The missionaries certainly do great good here. Thir schools are excellent, their orphans' homes, benevolent institutions and missions are well maintained, and they greatly aid the spread of foreign influence. Wherever they are established they introduce languages, order, temperance, cleanliness, and an aspiration for better things. That they are much imposed up on by hypocrites and pretenders is but natural, but upon the whole they are grandly useful to the cause of that civilization which we all maintain is destined to encircle the globe. Whether the Christianized Japanese are better people than those who cling to their ancient faiths I am not prepared to say. The opinion of many observant foreigners who have come in contact with them is that they are not so good and trustworthy as the original article of citizen—that is for Japan. The field of labour open to the missionaries of every sect is that of temperance and morality, and in this they all strive with nonsectarian spirit. The results are necessarily good, and are, I think I may safely say, almost sufficient to justify the large outlay made annually upon the missions.

What I have written here is not written in a censorious or unkind spirit. Without thorough investigation I have given a few facts which have come to me and which may convey a slight idea of the unpleasant things that our missionaries have to contend with. If I had any suggestion to make to the good people at home it would be that they use greater care in the selection of missionaries, and that they make the question of temperament, education, broad, mindedness zeal, and general character paramount to a mere familiarity with the Scriptures.

As for actual work done by the missionaries in Japan during the year, it may be recorded that, by permission of the government, they gave to every soldier who went to the late war a copy of the Bible in Japanese; they sent a number of Christian evangelists with the troops to the seat of war; they have organized in Tokyo a society composed entirely of Japanese Christians to carry on educational work in Korea on Christians lines; they have built ten churches in Yezo, and have 584 converts; they have opened an industrial school in Hakodate for the training of Ainu children, and one boy has been graduated already and sent to Kushiro as a teacher. A district four thousand square miles in extent on the east side of the island of Yezo has been placed in charge of the Rev Dr. Marshall Long, who now has 407 baptized Ainu under his ministration. So much for the practicalities.

It may added that missionary work was begun in Yezo twenty years ago. As only 584 believers can be mustered to day it will be seen that the work of evangelization has been slow and somewhat discouraging. The spirt of the missionary in this quarter may be gathered from a recent article from the pen of Bishop Corfe, of Korea, in which Bishop declares that Japan can do nothing in the way of civilizing Korea because Japan is a heathen country. She has not civilized herself, the Bishop thinks, and he adds, by way of elucidation: "When the European speaks of civilzation, the kind of civilization of which he is speaking is the civilization which he owes to Christ." The Bishop holds that Japanese are "barbarians" because they are heathen, and that they are destitute of national conscience. Heaven they may help Korea, but they cannot give her civilization. —*New York Herald.*

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, Sept 30th.

Louis Pasteur, the world-renowned French *savant*, is dead.

There is great excitement at Stamboul owing to the arrival off Lemnos (a large island in the Ægean Archipelago) of seventeen British men-of-war.

"SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."

Hakodate, October 3, 9.15 p.m.

A destructive fire has broken out at Nemuro and about 943 houses in the principal business quarter have been completely destroyed. The fire originated at the rear of the telegraph office buildings.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

Peking, Sept. 24th, 1 p.m.

News has just been received here from Kansu by the Office of Transmission to the effect that during a hotly contested battle on the 18th inst. forty-eight miles to the south-east of the capital city of Lanchou, between the Kashgar General, Tung Fu-hsiang's, army and a very large force of Mahommedan rebels, three battalions of cavalry and seven of infantry, numbering some 4,250 men, suddenly went over to the enemy, causing great confusion amongst the Imperial troops and threatening a disastrous defeat. Fortunately, by the desperate bravery of General Tung assisted by his two Brigade generals, Chou and Chang, with a picked body of reserve troops, the day was restored, the rebels being eventually compelled to evacuate a series of walled villages which they had held successfully against the Imperial army for three days and nights. The Imperial losses were 2,360 men in killed and wounded. The losses of the rebels are unknown, but the soldiers brought in 1,901 heads from the battle-field and from the villages. During a part of the fighting one of the Colonels of the revolting battalions was captured, and by orders of General Tung the traitor was beheaded on the field in front of the enemy. Matters, however, are extremely critical in Kansu and reinforcements are urgently needed. Applications for aid have been coming in from both Shensi and Kansu several times a week. The Imperial troops in Kansu number only some 60,000 men at the most, while the Mahommedan rebels are estimated at fully 800,000 fighting men, nearly all well-armed and in the field opposing the constituted authorities. News has also been received from West Kansu that the prefectural city of Sining cannot hold out another week against the rebels unless aid be sent. The Emperor is said to be greatly enraged at Viceroy Yang of Shen-Kan for not being prepared for this great rebellion.

London, September 26.

The French troops have routed the entire Hovas force, and have captured thirty guns. Their advance guard is now only forty miles from Tananarivo.

The impending issue of a Russo-Chinese Loan is denied at St. Petersburg, but French and Russian Banks have combined to start a bank in Shanghai with a capital of twenty million francs, beginning in 1896.

A letter from the Foreign Office has been read in the Leeds Chamber of Commerce stating that the survey and estimates for the Burma-China Railway are being prepared.

Colonel Smith, formerly member of Parliament for Wycombe, has been appointed Governor of Western Australia.

The nomination of Messrs. Bogaardt and Burkinshaw as members of the Council for the Straits Settlements has been gazetted.

London, Sept. 27.

The Times is publishing a series of articles emphasising the change in the whole situation in the Far East since the Chino Japanese war, and the decline of British influence owing to the intervention of Russia, France, and Germany. *The Times* urges the Foreign Office to steadily back mercantile enterprise, as it is impossible henceforth to leave everything to individual exertion.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the CHESS EDITOR.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 196.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K to K 8	1—K to Q B 3
2—Q to Kt 3	2—K to Q 3
3—Q to Kt 6, mate.	

Correct answers from Digamma, W.H.S., Don, W.B., Shogi, J.D., E. J. King, Kt., and Sigma.

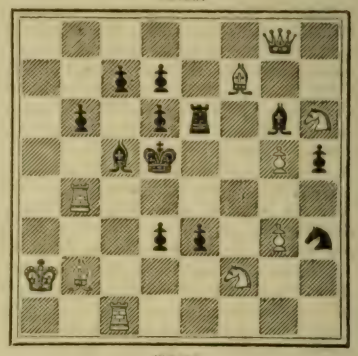
W.D.C.—Sorry you "tripped;" better luck next time.

E. J. King.—Go slow! Go slow! "Second thoughts" are often best.

PROBLEM NO. 198.

By W. B. MASON, Tokyo.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

HASTINGS TOURNAMENT.

We reprint from the *New York Tribune* their account of the final round and some games which are interesting:—

Hastings, Sept. 2nd.

The twenty-first and last round of the International Chess Congress was played at the Brassey Institute to-day, and the result, so far as the chief honours are concerned, is the greatest triumph for American chess since Morphy crossed the ocean in the fifties and wrested laurels from the Continental players. By defeating Gunsberg in the final game the first prize was won by the phenomenal Brooklyn player, Harry N. Pillsbury. Though the youngest contestant in the tournament and the least experienced in contests of this kind, he performed the remarkable feat of beating the most renowned experts of the world, including Champion Lasker, ex-Champion Steinitz, Tarrasch, and Tschigorin. Upon winning his game which gave him a score that none of his rivals could touch, namely 16½ wins, he was greeted with resounding cheers and was heartily congratulated on all sides. The Brooklyn lad, by his modest demeanour, courageous bearing, and, above all, his beautiful play throughout the entire tourney, has won the respect and admiration of spectators and players alike, his final victory being a most popular one.

Pillsbury, soon after he was free, sent this cable message to the Brooklyn Chess Club, as whose representative he came:—

"Have beaten Gunsberg in final round, winning first honours for America, Brooklyn and myself."

Lasker defeated Burn easily, and he now leads Tschigorin for second place by half a point. Tschigorin, however, has an adjourned game with Schlechter, which he should win, and may thereby pass Lasker and take second place. The first three prizes are valued respectively at $750, $575 and $425.

Tarrasch takes the fourth prize, $300, through a victory over Vergani and also over Steinitz in their adjourned game. Fifth prize, $200, falls to the veteran Steinitz.

CLOSE OF THE TOURNAMENT.

Hastings, September 3rd.

The two games left unfinished in the International Chess Masters' Tournament were concluded to-day.

Tschigorin beat Schlechter in a Ruy Lopez, after eighty moves, and Teichmann beat Mason in a Queen's Gambit declined, after seventy moves. Final results:

First prize—H. N. Pillsbury (16½ wins).
Second prize—M. Tschigorin (16 wins).
Third prize—E. Lasker (15½ wins).
Fourth prize—Dr. S. Tarrasch (14 wins).
Fifth prize—William Steinitz (13 wins).
Sixth prize—R. Schiffers (12 wins).
Seventh prize—C. von Bardeleben and R. Teichmann (11½ wins each).

Game No. 357.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. Tschigorin.	BLACK. Steinitz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—K Kt to B 3	2—Q Kt to B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—Castles	6—P to Q 3
7—P to Q 4	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—Kt to B 3
9—P to K 5	9—P takes P
10—B to R 3	10—B to K 3
11—B to Kt 5	11—Q to Q 4
12—Q to R 4	12—Castles (Q R)
13—B takes Kt	13—P takes B
14—B to B 5	14—B to Kt 3
15—Q to R 6 ch.	15—K to Kt sq.
16—Kt takes P	16—Kt to Q 2
17—Kt to Q B 3	17—Kt takes B
18—Q to K 2	18—Q to Q 3
19—P takes Kt	19—Q takes P
20—Kt to R 4	20—Q to Kt 4
21—Q takes Q	21—P takes Q
22—Kt takes B	22—R P takes Kt
23—Kt to B 6 ch.	23—K to Kt 2
24—Kt takes R ch.	24—R takes Kt
25—P to Q R 3	25—P to Q B 4
26—P to B 3	26—K to B 3
27—K R to Q sq.	27—R to Q R sq.
28—K to B 2	28—R to R 5
29—K to K 3	29—P to K R 4
30—K to Q 2	30—P to Kt 5
31—P takes P	31—R takes P
32—K R to Q Kt sq.	32—R takes R
33—R takes R	33—P to Q Kt 4
34—R to Q R sq.	34—P to Kt 5
35—K to B 2	35—K to Q 4
36—R to Q sq. ch.	36—K to B 5
37—R to Q 8	37—B to Q 4
38—P to K R 4	38—K to Q 5
39—R to Q Kt 8	39—B to K 3
40—R to Kt 7	40—P to Kt 3
41—R to Kt 5	41—P to Kt 6 ch.
42—K to Kt 2	42—P to B 5
43—R to Kt 4	43—K to Q 6
44—R to Kt 6	44—P to B 6 ch.
45—K to Kt sq.	45—K to K 6
46—Resigns.	

Game No. 358.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Pollock.	BLACK. Tarrasch.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to K 5	2—P to K B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P to Q B 4
4—B to Q 3	4—P to B 4
5—P to K Kt 4	5—P takes Q P
6—P takes P	6—Q to R 4 ch.
7—P to B 3	7—Q takes K P ch.
8—Kt to K 2	8—Kt to Q B 3
9—Castles	9—B to B 4
10—R to K sq.	10—Q to B 3
11—Kt to Q 2	11—K P takes P
12—P takes P	12—B to K 2
13—Kt to K B 3	13—K to Q sq.
14—B to K Kt 5	14—Q to B 2
15—B takes B ch.	15—K Kt takes B
16—Q to Q 2	16—P to K R 3
17—Kt to K 5	17—Kt takes Kt
18—P takes Kt	18—P to Q Kt 3
19—Kt to B 4	19—B to Kt 2
20—B to Kt 5	20—Kt to B 3
21—P to K 6	21—Q to K 2
22—Kt to Kt 6	22—Q to Kt 4 ch.
23—Q takes Q ch.	23—P takes Q
24—Kt takes R	24—Kt to Q 5
25—P to K 7 ch.	25—Resigns.

Game No. 359.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. Bird.	BLACK. Pillsbury.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes Kt P
5—P to B 3	5—B to Q 3
6—P to Q 4	6—Kt to B 3
7—Kt to Kt 5	7—Castles
8—Kt takes K B P	8—R takes Kt
9—B takes R	9—K takes B
10—P to K B 4	10—P takes Q P
11—P to K 5	11—B to K 2
12—P takes Kt	12—B takes P
13—Castles	13—P to Q 4
14—Kt to Q 2	14—P takes P
15—Kt to B 3	15—K to Kt sq.
16—R to Kt sq.	16—P to Q Kt 3
17—B to K 3	17—B to Kt 5
18—Q to R 4	18—B takes Kt
19—R takes B	19—Q to Q 3
20—R to Q sq.	20—R to Q sq.
21—R to R 3	21—P to Q 5
22—B to B sq.	22—P to K R 3
23—Q to B 2	23—P to Q 6
24—R (R 3) takes Q P	24—Kt to Q 5
25—P to B 5	25—Q to Kt 5
26—B to R 3	26—Q to Q B 5
27—Q to K B 2	27—Kt to K 7 ch.
28—K to B sq.	28—R takes R
29—R takes R	29—Q takes R
30—Q takes Kt	30—Q takes P ch.
31—K to K sq.	31—Q to Kt 8 ch.
32—K to B 2	32—B to Q 5 ch.
33—K to Kt 3	33—Q to Kt 3 ch.
34—K to R 3	34—P to K R 4
35—P to Kt 3	35—Q to Kt 5 ch.
36—Q takes Q	36—P takes Q ch.
37—K takes P	37—B to K 6
38—K to B 3	38—B to R 3
39—Resigns.	

Game No. 360.

P TO Q 4 OPENING.

WHITE. Bardeleben.	BLACK. Tschigorin.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—B to Kt 5
3—P to K 3	3—P to K 3
4—B to K 2	4—Kt to Q 2
5—P to Q Kt 3	5—K Kt to B 3
6—B to Kt 2	6—B to Q 3
7—Q Kt to Q 2	7—P to B 3
8—Kt to K 5	8—B takes B
9—Q takes B	9—Castles
10—P to K B 4	10—R to B sq.
11—Castles	11—P to B 4
12—Q R to B sq.	12—P takes P
13—P takes P	13—Q to R 4
14—Kt to Q 3	14—B to R 6
15—B takes B	15—Q takes B
16—P to B 4	16—P to Q Kt 3
17—P to K Kt 4	17—Q to Q 3
18—Kt to K 5	18—P takes P
19—R takes P	19—P to Q Kt 4
20—R takes R	20—Q takes P ch.
21—K to R sq.	21—R takes R
22—Kt (Q 2) to B 3	22—Q takes P
23—Kt takes Kt	23—Kt takes Kt
24—Q takes P	24—Kt to B 3
25—Kt to Kt 5	25—Q to B 2
26—Kt takes B P	26—Q takes Kt
27—Q to K 5	27—Q to Q 2
28—R to K sq.	28—Q to Q 4 ch
29—Q takes Q	29—P takes Q
30—R to K 7	30—R to B 8 ch.
31—Resigns.	

Game No. 361.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Pillsbury.	BLACK. Steinitz.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—P to B 4
5—P takes Q P	5—K P takes P
6—B takes Kt	6—P takes B
7—P to K 3	7—B to K 3
8—K Kt to K 2	8—Kt to B 3
9—P to Kt 3	9—P takes P
10—P takes P	10—B to Q Kt 5
11—B to Kt 2	11—Q to Kt 3
12—Castles	12—Castles, Q R
13—Kt to Q R 4	13—Q to R 3
14—P to Q R 3	14—B to Q 3
15—P to Q Kt 4	15—B to Kt 5
16—Q Kt to B 3	16—Kt to K 2
17—P to Kt 5	17—Q to R 4
18—Q to Kt 3	18—K to Kt sq.
19—P to R 3	19—B to K 3
20—B to B 4	20—P to B 4
21—K R to Q sq.	21—R to Q 2
22—Kt to R 4	22—R to Q B sq.
23—P to Kt 6	23—P to Q R 3
24—K Kt to B 3	24—R to B 3
25—B to B sq.	25—R to Q sq.
26—Kt to R 2	26—B to Q 2
27—Kt to Kt 4	27—R (B 3) to B sq.
28—Kt to B 3	28—R to Kt sq.
29—K to B 2	29—P to R 4
30—P to R 4	30—B takes Kt
31—P takes B	31—Q takes P (Kt 6)
32—B to K 2	32—R to Kt 3
33—Kt takes P	33—Q to K 3
34—B to B 3	34—B to B 3
35—R to K sq.	35—B takes Kt
36—R takes Q	36—B takes Q
37—R takes Kt	37—R to B 7 ch.
38—R to K 2	38—R to B 6
39—Q R to K sq.	39—R to Q Kt 3
40—R to Q 2	40—R takes P
41—P to Q 5	41—R to B 7
42—R takes R	42—B takes R
43—B takes P	43—R to K 5
44—B takes P	44—R to Q 5
45—B to K 6	45—R to Q 7 ch.
46—R to K 2	46—R to Q 6
47—R to K 3	47—R to Q 7 ch.
48—K to K sq.	48—R to Q 5
49—P to R 5	49—B takes P
50—B takes P	50—B to B 2
51—P to R 6	51—R to Q sq.
52—P to Kt 4	52—P to R 4
53—P to Kt 5	53—Resigns.

Game No. 362.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Lasker.	BLACK. Pillsbury.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to K Kt 3
4—P to Q 4	4—P takes P
5—Kt takes P	5—B to Kt 2
6—Kt takes Kt	6—Kt P takes Kt
7—B to Q B 4	7—Kt to K 2
8—Kt to B 3	8—P to Q 3
9—Castles	9—B to K 3
10—B to Kt 3	10—Castles
11—B to K 3	11—P to Q B 4
12—B takes B	12—P takes B
13—Q to Q 2	13—R to Kt sq.
14—Q R to Kt sq.	14—Kt to B 3
15—P to Q Kt 3	15—Q to R 5
16—P to B 3	16—Kt to Q 5
17—Kt to K 2	17—B to K 4
18—P to K B 4	18—Kt takes Kt ch.
19—Q takes Kt	19—B takes P
20—B takes B	20—R takes B
21—R takes R	21—Q takes R
22—R to K B sq.	22—Q to K 4
23—Q to R 6	23—Q to Q 5 ch.
24—K to R sq.	24—Q takes P
25—Q takes R P	25—Q to Kt 2
26—Q to R 4	26—P to B 3
27—Q to K 4	27—Q to Q 2
28—P to Q R 4	28—P to K 4
29—P to R 3	29—R to Kt 5
30—Q to K sq.	30—P to K 5
31—P to R 5	31—P to Q 4
32—P to R 6	32—Q to K 2
33—Q to Kt 3	33—P to K 6
34—R to R sq.	34—Q to B 3
35—R to K sq.	35—P to Q 5
36—P to R 7	36—Q to Q sq.
37—R to R sq.	37—Q to K sq.
38—Q to Q 6	38—R to Kt 2
39—Q takes P	39—P to K 7
40—Q takes R	40—Resigns.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The Annual Meeting was held on the 3rd instant at the Club rooms; and the Secretary's report with the Treasurer's account were passed. The funds show an increase, and the membership a slight decrease, on the year.

Mr. Griffin was re-elected President, Mr. Davieson Sec.; Messrs. Batavus, Mendelson, and Tennant being the members of Committee for the present session. The Club starts its new campaign with 47 members and two names up for election.

The past year has been one of something like hybernation in the Club. Much earnest talk on the subject resulted in a resolution of all the Member's present to do better in the future. Suggestions were made as to various plans for effecting an improvement in the fighting trim of the Club; and there is no doubt that the Yokohama players will form a well-drilled phalanx, capable of giving a good account of themselves in all Matches or Tournaments which may arise during the coming winter.

TOKIO CHESS CLUB.

The Annual meeting was held yesterday evening (4th inst.) eleven members being present. The report was adopted; its shows a high state of efficiency and activity among the members who had attended regularly and contested bravely in the Club Tournament, Mr. Walz securing the first prize.

For the new season, Mr. C. A. W. Pownall was elected President, Mr. W. B. Mason, Secretary and Treasurer; Messrs. Cox, Dun, and Gardiner, Committee. The outlook for a good year is bright; for although the membership is not more than 20, they are mostly enthusiastic lovers and

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students of the game, attending well, and practicing with assiduity. They at least do not allow the foils to rust idly on the wall.

Of course the important question of a match with Yokohama was discussed. Mr. Griffin suggested that if they found it impossible to arrange a general match, there might be a contest between the Champions of the two Clubs. This found favour and was amplified, on the suggestion of Mr. Dun, into a proposal that such a match should include the three winners of the Club tournaments on both sides. So we hope that there is now a good chance of some kind of a contest between the two Clubs during the winter or spring.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 8th.*
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 8th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 6th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 11th.§
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Oct. 18th.‖
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 10th ¶
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday. Oct. 28th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Oct. 30th.

* *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on September 24th. † *Evandale* left Nagasaki on October 4th. ‡ *Ancona* left Nagasaki on October 2nd. § *Ernest Simons* (with French mail) left Hongkong on September 30th. ‖ *Gaelic* left San Francisco on October 1st. ¶ *Empress of Japan* left Hongkong on October 2nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 10th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Oct. 11th
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 12th
For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 12th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 18th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 19th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co	Saturday, Oct. 19th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 28th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 1st.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, 28th September, —Kobe 27th September, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,507, Gregory, 20th September,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. St. G. Lindsay, 30th September,—San Francisco 12th September, viâ Honolulu 19th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 30th September,—Vancouver, B.C., 16th September, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Ariel, Norwegian steamer, 1,356, Rafin, 30th September,—New York viâ ports, General.—Frazar & Co.

Guildhall, British steamer, 2,057, 30th September, —Middlesboro' viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Albert, Norwegian steamer, 560, Johansen, 1st October,—Kobe, General.—Japanese.

Strathclyde, British steamer, 2,151, Dulling, 1st October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 2nd October,—Vladivostock viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Germania, British steamer, 1,896, Miller, 2nd October,—Antwerp, Iron.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,988, Davis, 2nd October,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Yamanouchi, 2nd October,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, T. Wettin, 3rd October,—Hongkong 27th September, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 3rd October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Mathilde, German steamer, 1,008, Moos, 3rd October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,461, Wood, 28th September,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Thomson, 29th September,—Kobe, Sugar.—Cornes & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, 29th September, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 30th September,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,233, Cliff, 30 October,—Australia, Ballast.—Order.

Conch, British tank-steamer, 3,500, Baker, 1st October,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Duguay Trouin (9), French cruiser, Captain Courrejolles, 1st October,—Kobe.

Mandjur (9), Russian gunboat, Captain Andreeff, 1st October,—Vladivostock viâ Hakodate.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. W. G. Lindsay, 1st October,—Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,168, J. M. Curnow, 1st October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 1st October,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Albert, Norwegian steamer, 560, Johansen, 3rd October,—Shanghai viâ Kobe, Ballast.—Order.

Dardanus, British steamer, 2,507, Gregory, 3rd October,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Port Phillip, British steamer, 1,732, Grey, 3rd October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 4th October,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 4th October,—Vladivostock viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, 4th October, —Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mathilde, German steamer, 1,018, Moos, 4th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,988, Davis, 4th October,—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, T. Wettin, 4th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Océanien, French steamer, 2,127, R. Schmitz, 5th October,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. E. C. Wright, Mrs. E. C. Wright, Rev. Dr. J. C. Davison, Mrs. Davison, Miss Mabel Davison, Miss Judiah Davison, Mr. N. S. Clark, Mr. Geo. Steinway, Mr. Howard Burk, Mr. and Mrs. James Comly, Rev. and Mrs. M. S. Vail and 3 children, Mrs. E. J. Dorn, Miss Olga H. Dorn, Mrs. J. K. Robinson, Rev. and Mrs. J. D. Davis and 2 children, Mrs. H. Yamawaka, Rev. James L. Barton, Hon. Wm. P. Ellison, Rev. J. G. Johnson, Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Joseph Cook, Rev. A. H. Bradford, Mr. Geo. Winslow, Mrs. W. D. Rose. Mr. David Deshler, Mr. J. K. Eveleth, Rev. Calvin Wight, Mr. Philander Moore, Mr. Justin Spaulding, Mrs. G. M. Haller, Miss Frances Chaffey, Mr. H. A. Young, Mrs. M. E. Gleason, Mrs. E. M. Woodward, Mr. Wm. B. Jones, Miss Teen Goodall, Mrs. T. G. Walkington, Miss Nellie Boyd, Mrs. M. L. Loud, Mrs. K. C. Ledlie, Mrs. Emilie J. Smith, Mr. Saml. Ritchie, Mrs. Ritchie, Mr. Ed. Suhr, Mrs. Suhr, and Mr. Sam Sing in cabin; 12 Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss Aldrich, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. C. Anderson, Miss Archer, Mr. R. B. Archibald, Mr. W. Barker, Rev. and Mrs. G. H. Bondfield and child, Mr. J. J. Buckheister, Miss Buckheister, Mr. D. M. Clark, Rev. and Mrs. Dwight H. Clapp, Rev. and Mrs. Jas. Chappell, Mr. C. H. Conover, Miss Croucher, Hon. Mrs. Duncombe, Rev. E. P. Fisher, Mr. R. P. Forshaw, Mr. F. M. Garland, Mr. and Mrs. Girand, Rev. and Mrs. O. E. Goddard, Mr. G. A. Goodwin, Rev. R. S. Halsey, Mr. W. Hibbard, Jun., Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Horne, Dr. Henry Hartshorn, Miss Hartshorn, Mr. Jungermann, Miss E. James, Rev. W. Y. Jones, Mr. Sanford J. Kilby, Miss Kirkwood, Mr. Richard J. Kirby, Lieut. Lamb, Mr. C. R. Lindenberg, Mr. Theodore Lindenberg, Miss G. Lowry, Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Lyon, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Nelson, Rev. and Mrs. Jesse F. Newman, Rev. and Mrs. Howard Nicolls, Mrs. McEwan and family, Rev. G. W. Marshall, Miss Meyer, Mr. E. R. P. Moon, M.P., Captain A. D. Mitre, Miss Oviate, Miss Oviate, Mrs. M. S. Parsons, Rev. E. Pilley, Mrs. Poate, Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Rogers, Rev. and Mrs. A. Shaw, Mr. T. A. Snidner, Rev. and Mrs. G. A. Stewart and children, Mr. Percy Smith, Mr. A. H. Swayne, Miss Swayne, Dr. and Mrs. J. M. Swan and children, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Swift, children, and nurse, General de Solomko, Madame de Solomko, Miss Takahashi, Miss C. F. Taylor, Miss Taylor, Miss Todd, Mr. Otto Traun, Ven. Archdeacon Warren, Mrs. Warren, Miss Warren, Rev. and Mrs. B. W. Waters and family, Miss P. C. Wells, and Mrs. Williams in cabin; 9 passengers in second class, and 261 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, from Hongkong:—Mr. Ross Thomson, Mr. R. Layard and family, Mr. M. Wignall, Miss Laseton, Brigadier W. M. Powell, Mr. Geo. Kirckpatrick, Mr. Hans Nielsen, and Mr. Toyo Kan in cabin; Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. J. A. Wilder and Rev. C. Johnson in cabin; 32 Chinese in steerage. For Tacoma, Wash.:—Captain and Mrs. Kasten and family, Captain A. M. Ross, Mrs. J. Sanger, Miss Edna Sanger, and Mrs. Thomas in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. F. B. Dick, Surgeon T. W. Hawton, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Else, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Seybert, Mr. Chas. Von Buse, Lieutenant Von Studnitz, Lieutenant Von Koschembahn, Messrs. J. L. Patton, G. D. Campbell, de Loriol, Seippel, Kulukoff, Keyser, Soheuss, Bottcher, Zimmerman, Szernus, Meissmer, Fichofer, Rudowe, Schroder, Dnzewitz, Ludwig, Kaschubat, and Geidies in cabin; 16 men, R.N., in third class, and 2 European in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Donisthope, Dr. and Mrs. Main, Misses Butler and servant, Mr. H. J. Owen, Mr. J. L. Geo. Lamb, Mr. P. Sisppel, Mr. Percival de Loriol, Mr. A. P. Stokes, Mrs. McNicoll and infant, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Hunt, Rev. C. T. Warren, Mr. A. J. How, Rev. and Miss McGregor, Miss Duncan, Mr. H. Keswick, Mrs. Jones and daughter, Mr. W. A. Hague, Mr. T. H. Powers, Mr. A. Gillion, Mr. C. T. Benny, Mrs. and Miss Wilcockson, Mr. R. Fuhrmann, Mr. E. Tunmanel, Mr. J. R. Crook, Mr. A. P. MacEwen, Mr. S. Meadows, Mr. J. C. Hill, Miss A. Moss, Dr. Ashmore, Mrs. Ashmore, Rev. and Mrs. Thos. Barely, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. E. E. Andrews, Mrs. McMichael and child, Mr. J. C. Black, Mr. A. Haussmon, Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. W. Toms, Mrs. Death, Mrs. Fisher, Mr. M. A. Aldrich, Mrs. H. F. Aldrich, Mr. and Mrs. Morrison, Colonel Jno. A. Cockerill, Mr. Ohkubo, Mr. Gillet, Mr. Monnier, Mr. Radclyffe, Rev. H. Loomis, Mr. W. D. Graham, Mr. G. E. Hartwell, Mr. Nepean, Mr. H. C. Jones, Mr. J. C. Hill, Miss Croucher, Mr. and Mrs. F. Parrott, Mrs. Hay, 2 children, and nurse, Mrs. Campbell, 3 children, and nurse, Mrs. L. Dancer, Mrs. W. P. Lay, Mr. W. H. Short, Mr. and Mrs. Bland, and Mrs. Spray in cabin; Messrs. Lew Tsu Yu, Yue King Dong, S. Yamato, G. Jacobson, T. Shichai, and H. Smith in second class, and Messrs. Tsan Foo, Tu Kong Yin, Tsung Hoo, and 3 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. E. F. Mackey, Captain Crawford, Mr. S. Yoshida, Mrs. Sharp, Mr. J. V. Evelette, Miss H. M. Lansing, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Macleod and amah, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Dare, and Mr. and Mrs. Herod and amah in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Mr. Koebele, and Mr. O. Voigt in cabin; Mr. Ch. Kreger and Mr. Kai Chan in second class, and 21 Chinese on deck.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 370 bales; Waste Silk, 246 bales.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 295 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 196 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Fair trade all round without any very heavy sales. Outlook satisfactory for a good autumn season. Woollens and Blankets also feel the move and will further improve as the cold weather approaches.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.15
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.65 to 1.95
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2 00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.50 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches..	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.80 to 2.05
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.30 to 2.55
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 80 to 3.20

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WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.30 to 0.35
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.25 to 0.27½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.20 to 0.22½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.32
Cloths—Pilots, 54 to 56 inches	0.35 to 0. 0
Cloths—Presidents, 54 to 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.70 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb. per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/14, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$34.00 to 34.50
Nos. 16/21, Good to Best	35.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	37.50 to 38.50
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	41.00 to 43.50
No. 32s, Two-fold	42.00 to 43.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	48.00 to 50.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

The usual autumn demand is on and the general condition satisfactory. Importers would like to see still better prices, and even that may be accomplished in due time.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.20 to 3.25
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.25 to 3.30
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.25
Wire Nails, assorted	5.50 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.50 to 5.75
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

No special change to report. The S. S. *Conch* has landed her cargo from Batoum and buyers still appear to control the market. Surely prices are low enough now to suit them.

American	$2.00 to 2.05
Russian	1.95 to 2.00
Langkat	1.90

SUGAR.

Brown—Less doing after the previous heavy sales, but deliveries are satisfactory and the market firm. White—Good trade continues and prices strong at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$3.70 to 3.80
Brown Manila	4.30 to 4.60
Brown Daitong (New)	3.30 to 3.35
Brown Canton	3.25 to 3.80
White Java and Penang	6.10 to 6.20
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Market steady without very much doing as exporters do not seem to be very full of orders at present quotations. A further reduction in prices would probably bring about more business in the near future. Our quotations are all nominal. Better could be done.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den. ...Nom	$970 to 980
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	970 to 980
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers ...Nom.	940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den. Nom.	940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den. Nom.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den....Nom.	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	730 to 720
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	720 to 730
Kakedas—Extra	850
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Fair trade in good qualities but holders must come down if they want to dispose of large parcels. Plenty of stock on hand both here and in the country districts.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Market without notable change. The rush of the season is of course past but tasters are occupied in filling small orders to complete stock of consumers so that they can carry on till spring.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Silver and rates have been very steady all the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2¼
— — Bills on demand	2/2⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/2½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2¾
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅞
On Paris—Bank sight	2.76
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.81
On Hongkong—Bank sight	½% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	½% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight.	73
On India—Bank sight	193½
— Private 30 days' sight	196
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	53½
— Private 30 days' sight.	54¼
— — 4 months' sight	55
On Germany—Bank sight	2.22
— Private 4 months' sight	2.28
Bar Silver (London)	30 11/16

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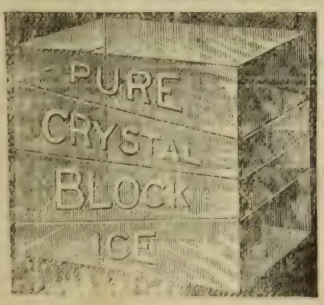

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 12TH, 1895.

DEATH.

At the residence of Rev. C. M. Landis, Meiji Gakuin, Tokyo at 1.30 a.m. October 11th, Rev. GEORGE EDWARD WOODHULL, of Osaka.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. POWNALL has been elected President of the Tokyo Chess Club.

THE *Belgic* was floated on Thursday at noon and is now at Yokosuka.

MR. HIOKI TSUNETARO, ex-M.P. for Okayama Prefecture, died a few days ago.

THE deaths from cholera in Japan this year average 63 per cent. of the cases.

THE programme for the Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club has been issued.

EVERYTHING promises well for the Cricket Week. The Shanghai team arrived on Tuesday evening. The Kobe players come up tomorrow.

THE transports *Isawa Maru*, *Genkai Maru*, *Chiyo Maru*, and *Kobe Maru* have been released.

THE Committee charged with investigating horse-breeding in Japan will shortly settle down to work.

DIPHTHERIA is now very prevalent in Tokyo, and Dr. Kitazato's hospital at Shiba is filled with patients.

MR. DUNCAN MCNEILL, of Yokohama, has been admitted to practise at the bar of the Supreme Court, Shanghai.

A BAZAAR is to be given in Tokyo on Wednesday and Thursday next in connection with the German mission.

THE Governor of Kyoto will petition for an Imperial visit during the approaching festival to be held in Kyoto.

MR. SHIRANE has been appointed Minister of Communications; Viscount Watanabe taking the portfolio of Finance.

MR. HARADA NOBUYOSHI, a war correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun*, died on the 22nd ult. at Chung-hua, Formosa.

MR. SHIMAMURA, the newly appointed Japanese Consul-General at Honolulu, leaves the capital on the 18th inst. for his post.

COLONEL FUKUSHIMA has left Japan for the continent of Asia, across which he is again to ride, this time towards India and Persia.

THE amateur theatricals to be given in the Public Hall next Tuesday comprise "Cut off with a Shilling," and "Tom Cobb."

THE military storehouses at Port Athur were closed on the 1st inst., and the business officers attached to them will shortly leave for home.

THE members of the Yokohama Town Assembly have agreed to vote for Mr. Saito Matsuzo at the election for Assistant-Mayor of Yokohama.

THE Awomori murder case has had a new development this week, a Catechist and a Bible-woman connected with the Mission, having been arrested.

A BALL will be given at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, on the Emperor's Birthday, Marquis Saionji, Temporary Minister of Foreign Affairs, acting as host.

THE Ku-cheng Inquiry still drags its slow length along; some further executions have taken place, and more convicted prisoners released by order of the Taotai.

COLONEL SAKAI was promoted to the rank of Major-General on the 3rd inst., and appointed Commander of the Second Brigade of the Imperial Guards Division.

THE ex-Viceroy of Sze-chuan, at the instance of the English Government, has been permanently degraded from office, for his connection with the Sze-chuan outrages.

THE coolie who murdered a Chinese cook on board an Empress mail-boat, in Yokohama harbour, on Sept. 12th, has been sentenced to nine years' penal servitude.

KOREA is again greatly disturbed, the Tai Wönkun having entered the palace at the head of some disaffected troops. The Queen is missing, and is reported to have been killed.

IT is stated that about 600 non-commissioned officers and ordinary soldiers of the First and Second Expeditionary Armies will receive decorations of the Golden Kite.

THE Government has granted *yen* 30,000 to the men of the transport department in the Railway Bureau, in recognition of services rendered by them during the past war.

REUTER TELEGRAPHS:—The British revenue for the past half-year shows an increase of four millions sterling as compared with the same period in 1894. Russia continues sending quantities of guns, munitions of war, and material to Vladivostock. The Premier at Adelaide has invited the other Australian Colonies to a conference to consider the question of the influx of Japanese into Australia. The Chinese Government has informed Germany who the ringleaders are of the missionary outrages at Swatow. The Chinese Legation in London states that the degradation of the Viceroy of Szechuan was decided upon before the British ultimatum was sent in. A French official note ascribes the decision to the pacific pressure exercised by France. The Foreign Office states that the ultimatum was presented before the issue of the edict degrading the Viceroy, which doubtless included China's submission. The details of the Armenian Riots at Constantinople are of the gravest nature. They were the result of an attempted procession to the Porte to present a petition, which was opposed by the Police. The crowd resisted and a major of gendarmes was shot. General riots ensued, in the course of which eighty persons were killed or wounded. There were further disturbances yesterday and there is alarm at the Palace, and troops are patrolling the streets. A reign of terror prevails at Stamboul. The Embassies have protested to the Sublime Porte against the brutality of the police towards the Armenian prisoners, and charge the police with killing the wounded. The Embassies have demanded measures to restore order and the Porte is acting in the matter. The *Novoye Vremya* prints a telegram received from Vladivostock to the effect that three Companies of Engineers have started for Manchuria to survey a railway route.

THROUGHOUT the week the Import market has been active and prices are advancing. A large business has been done in Yarns, Single and Double counts especially doing well. Woollens have seen a strong advance, and so active has been the trade in Italians that the market is now almost bare. Blankets have sold to a good tune and Grey Cloth also. In Metals, prices are looking up and the good transactions put through during the week includes both "spot" and "to arrive." Kerosene business, though good, still maintains its "hand to mouth" character, buyers expecting lower prices, though at this time of year, and with normal stocks, an advance is usually expected. The market has been cleared of Brown Formosa Sugars; Manilas and China sorts have all felt the influence of an active demand and the figures reached have been higher than for a long time past. In White sorts a steady trade has been done. The unfavourable news from Europe and America has brought about a lull in the Raw Silk trade, and transactions this week have been very small. Prices must come down very considerably if business is to be induced. In Waste also there is less demand, and holders are very stubborn. The stocks are increasing considerably and with the rising exchange dealers will be obliged to abate their demands. Late settlements in Tea have been for better grades, but Common is in request at comparatively good figures. Settlements to date are 227,000 piculs against 217,000 last year. Export 27,000,000 lbs., against 26,000,000 lbs. last year. With the advance in silver, Exchange has gone up smartly, and rates close firm.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

With the appointment of Mr. Shirane to the post of Minister of Communications, all talk of Ministerial changes has ceased. Public curiosity seems to be disappointed, that instead of several new Ministers, one only has been received into the Cabinet. As to the fitness of Mr. Shirane for a portfolio, no journal pretends to dispute it. The *Nichi Nichi* congratulates the country on having obtained a very able Minister. His business aptitude and long official experience fit him conspicuously for the position he has just received. In his new Ministerial capacity he is called upon to solve various problems, none of which has more pressing importance than that of railways. In dealing with this vital question, our contemporary hopes that Mr. Shirane will pursue an independent and comprehensive policy, neither attaching too much importance to, nor taking too little notice of, the suggestions offered by the Railway Council.

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We have already alluded to the fact that Mr. Shirane's entrance into the Cabinet has been employed by the Progressionist organs as an occasion to fan Satsuma jealousy against an alleged monopoly of political power by the Choshu men and their friends. Among these papers, however, the *Yomiuri* writes in a reasonable strain. It regards the appointment as the inauguration of a new epoch in the history of clan government. If Saigo, Kido, Okubo, Ito, Inouye, Yamagata, Kuroda, Oyama, and so forth belong to the first generation of clan statesmen, the second generation includes Mr. Shirane and men of about his age. His entrance into the Cabinet opens Ministerial posts to men like Baron Ito Miyoji, Lieutenant-General Viscount Kawakami Soroku, Rear Admiral Yamamoto Gombei, Mr. Suyematsu Kencho, and so forth. In one sense this state of affairs must be a source of disappointment to the Opposition politicians, who aspire to be the successors of the elder clan statesmen, but who now discover that the long coveted heritage is about to be transmitted to the younger generation in the opposite camp. But the *Yomiuri* advises them not to be disappointed. On the contrary, they have cause for congratulation, since the transfer of power now taking place among the clan statesmen cannot fail to benefit the cause of party government. With the passing of political power to the second generation of the clan politicians, the position of the Opposition leaders will be relatively raised, and they will have more chance of replacing their opponents.

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The comments of vernacular journals on the late Korean *coup d'état* have already been reproduced. We may notice, however, one or two articles that have since appeared on the subject. The *Kokkai* views the return of the Tai Wŏn-kun to power with anything but satisfaction. Supposing the Queen to be still living, the prospect is very gloomy, for she and her partisans are not likely to remain long quiet. They will try every possible means to overthrow their great rival. Nothing need prevent their invoking the aid of a foreign Power. Granted, on the other hand, that the Queen is dead, as most people seem to believe, is the situation any brighter? The *Kokkai* cannot think so, for it places little confidence in the Tai Wŏn-kun's good faith. Being as unscrupulous as, and more daring than, the Queen, the Tai Wŏn-kun, now confident in the support of the troops, may dream wild dreams of ambition and once more plunge the country into a state of anarchy.

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The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in a later article, remarks that order having been restored in Söul, the affair may now be regarded as over. As to the fate of the Queen, our contemporary sincerely hopes that the conjectures about her death may yet prove unfounded, and that the experience of 1882 may be renewed. In that year, after having been given up for dead under almost exactly similar circumstances, she was found safe under the care of a faithful subject. That person, however, is reported to have been the first to perish in the late disturbance, and later intelligence, the *Nichi Nichi* regrets to say, tends to discourage any hope of the royal lady's safety. Should her death be a fact, our contemporary has no doubt that the perpetrator of the heinous crime will be speedily brought to justice. In that matter, it may not be necessary for Japan to interfere, but the Japanese Representative must not fail to offer suitable advice to the Korean Government. As to the political bearings of the *émeute*, the *Nichi Nichi* does not think it at all necessary for Japan to step in, so long as peace is not prejudiced, and so long as her rights and interests remain secure from violence.

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Writing on the question of national defence, the *Jiji Shimpo* complains that the Navy is still regarded in this country as of secondary importance, the Army virtually monopolizing the attention of both the public and the Government. Such a mistaken idea about the relative importance of the Navy and the Army is to be attributed to mental habits contracted during ages of national seclusion when there was no scope for the development of a Navy, and war was always limited to land operations. The inherited conception makes even the Japanese of the present day believe that martial honour is to be won only on shore. The comparative unpopularity of a Naval career is proved by the fact that a deficiency is sometimes apparent in the number of applicants for admission to Naval Colleges, whereas the entrance examinations for Military Colleges draw thousands of eager aspirants. Official nomenclature, moreover, show that the Government has hitherto attached more importance to the Army, for whenever the two departments of national defence are spoken of together, the phrase used is invariably *Riku-kai-gun* and not *Kai-riku-gun*, though the latter order of syllables is dictated by euphony. Such an abnormal state of things in a country naturally a sea Power should be remedied without delay.

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In another article, the same journal urges the importance of employing a squadron to cruise round the principal countries of the world once in two or three years. The *Jiji* recommends the immediate despatch of such a squadron, the present being a unique opportunity for the purpose. That the Japanese Navy is not to be despised, has now become known all over the world, but the impression will be appreciably increased when Europeans and Americans have looked with their own eyes on Japanese war-ships, and their crews. The cruise of such a squadron would also be advantageous for extending the country's trade and carrying on business in foreign parts. Some people recommend that the squadron should include one or two ships captured from the Chinese fleet, but the *Jiji* objects to that as an act of discourtesy to a now friendly neighbour.

* * *

As to the question of a foreign alliance, it seems to be undeniable that the number of persons advocating cōoperation with Russia has of late greatly increased. Concerning many of these persons, it should be noticed that they entertained some such opinion before the late war, but were prevented from expressing their views by the general indignation prevailing against Russia and her two associates on account of the Liaotung intervention. Consequently, it may not be quite right to conclude that there has lately been an absolute increase in the number of advocates of a Russian alliance. But this much may be taken as a fact, that the recent conduct of Russia on the Liaotung question has not alienated any persons previously in favour of close friendship with her. On the other hand, it is also a fact that the feeling toward England is improving, as is evidenced by the increasing popularity of the study of the English language and literature.

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Alluding to the keen competition for Japanese orders taking place between the shipbuilding companies of different countries, the *Mainichi Shimbun* calls upon the Government to exercise judgment in making a choice between the competing applicants. It is proper for these companies to compete, but the Japanese Government is answerable to the country for the decision it makes. Blunders have been committed in the past, but the *Mainichi* is not disposed to recall them. Want of experience may be pleaded in extenuation. But the Naval Authorities can no longer be permitted to have recourse to such a plea. The *Mainichi* does not express any opinion as to the relative merits of the different ship-building companies, but merely advises the Government to place its orders wherever the best and most serviceable ships can be had, irrespective of the question of economy. If economy and excellence be both attainable, so much the better, but when the question lies between the two, there should be no hesitation about sacrificing economy.

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The *Jiji Shimpo*, meanwhile, is indefatigable in pointing out the advantages of an alliance with England. Alluding to the attempt made by a certain school of writers to be-little England and represent her as an effete Power, our contemporary points out the error of such views, and declares that, so far from being on the decline, England is still the leading Power of the world. Not prone to take any hasty steps she considers well before committing herself to a decisive course. When, however, she has once made up her mind to adopt any resolute measure, she carries out her purpose in a determined and irresistible manner. The course she is now pursuing in connection with the Kucheng massacre is cited as an example in point. It shows that England's policy in the Far East is not negative. On the contrary, in order to preserve her vast possessions in Asia, England must necessarily adopt an aggressive policy, and Japan, on her side, must not be contented with a purely defensive attitude. Such being the case, our contemporarary is firmly convinced that events will necessarily throw these two countries into each other's arms.

* * *

Discussing the question of national expansion, the *Kokumin Shimbun* laments the Japanese nation's deficiency in the spirit of individual enterprise. It refers to the history of French colonization, and points to the same shortcoming on the part of that great people. Military power is of course essential to the sway of a country, but national expansion depends upon the capacity of its people to colonize new countries by individual effort. Manchuria, even when returned to China, will still be open to the enterprise of individual Japanese, but nobody seems to bestow the least attention upon that fertile district. At present, there is considerable enthusiasm for the opening of Formosa, but the *Kokumin* fears that the feeling may soon cool down. If the Japanese hope to become a great nation, they must correct this conspicuous defect in their character.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"ABANDONING SHIP."

In a remarkably interesting dispatch, the *Standard's* correspondent, who was on H.M.S. *Empress of India* in the recent naval manœuvres, describes the exercise of "abandoning ship," which he remarks will probably be remembered in these manœuvres as one of the most striking incidents not only by reason of its pathetic nature, but also because of its extreme utility. When the signal was made all on board prepared instantly to quit their vessel. Rapidly the process of lowering the boats was proceeded with, and the men not actually employed fell in abreast of their boats waiting to go into them, and at once the abandonment of the ship began. The last to leave the ship was the captain in his gig, taking with him the chaplain and the surgeon. "All this had been executed within something like a quarter of an hour, and in that short space of time the whole of the vast fabric had been divested of her full complement,

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namely, 47 officers, 682 men, the admiral and his staff, four visitors, and she was left alone. Meanwhile, every other ship had performed the same exercise, the whole of the waters round our anchorage being swarmed with innumerable boats of all kinds, and presenting a scene of animation such as has probably never been witnessed before. Then suddenly the signal of recall was given, and back to each of their vessels went all the boats laden with their crews. The sides of the ships swarmed with all returning to their abandoned posts, and in a few more moments the latter teemed with fresh life. To show with what rapidity so useful an exercise as this can be performed, I should not omit to mention that it had occupied no more than thirty minutes from the sounding of the first bugle. A battle-ship, therefore, which is in a sinking condition, even from stress of weather, or collision, or explosion, can be quitted, we have learned, in less time than—except in a rapid and disastrous calamity—she can sink, or is likely to sink."

THE CRICKET WEEK.

THE Shanghai visiting eleven arrived on Tuesday evening by the *Ernest Simons* and were received by the Hon. Secretary of the Y. C. & A. C., Mr. E. O. Kenyon and others. The team comprises:—Messrs. R. C. Farbridge (Capt.), H. Adams, J. U. Buchanan, W. B. Cheetham, W. E. Inglis, A. E. Lanning, R. Macgregor, W. A. C. Platt, E. W. Sharples, R. Sale Hill; and A. P. Wickham (as extra man) Cornish (umpire) accompany the team. At Kobe the Eleven had a royal reception, being met by almost all the members of the Kobe Interport Team, while the Town Band was in attendance. In the afternoon the visitors were escorted on board the steamer in triumphal procession, the Kobe Band again heading the files. After a little practising on Wednesday, most of our visitors left for Miyanoshita till Saturday. We understand that W. D. S. Edwards will be in the Kobe team, a fact or that will lend additional interest to the matches; while there is a possibility of Dickinson only being able to play for Yokohama in the Shanghai match: Harries may not be able to play at all, and Murray in but one match.

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IT is now settled, says the *Hyogo News*, that the Team for Yokohama will leave this almost complete by the noon train on Saturday; two of its members—Abbott and Pakenham—are expected to be detained until Monday night. The latter has consented to go in place of Ross; the question is still open whether or no W. Braess will be numbered in the Eleven. Now that the matter has been brought back into the regions of doubtfulness every one must hope the decision will be in favour of his going; unquestionably Walter Braess is a very valuable member of the strongest team Kobe can select. The list then looks remarkably well—Abbott, G. & W. Braess, Duff, Edwards, Lightfoot, Lucas, Pakenham, Scrymgeour, Tate, and Wilkinson. It is nice to see the ex-Captain in the ranks once again. Hellyer goes as umpire and Curtis as scorer. The authorised list of the Yokohama players has not yet been published, but the following will no doubt be the eleven for the Shanghai-Yokohama match:—Messrs. Walford (Captain), Crawford, Dickinson, White, Murray Kenyon, Lias, Denne, Edwards, Libeaud, and E. R. Morriss.

MR. LABOUCHERE AS A THEATRICAL LESSEE.

MR. HOLLINGSHEAD in his recently published book tells the story of Mr. Labouchere's connection with the stage. He was practically the first tenant of the Queen's Threatre in Long Acre, built by Mr. Lionel Lawson of the *Daily Telegraph*, who was also Mr. Hollingshead's landlord at the Gaiety. Having a little misunderstanding with his landlord about the latter's rights and privileges, Mr. Labouchere went further and bought the theatre right out. But he treated his responsible position as manager with characteristic levity. Says Mr. Hollingshead:—"He had treated diplomacy as a joke, and he treated theatrical speculation in the same spirit. The man who sent his tavern and 'seeing the world' bills in New York to the Foreign Office, because Governments and Departments are very fond of vouchers; the man who arrived two months late at St. Petersburg to join his Ambassador, and defended himself on the ground that he had walked all the way because the 'despatch' said nothing about 'travelling expenses,' was not likely to treat the direction of a theatre very seriously. He gloried in stating the amount of the receipts, when they were excessively small, to humble the pride of certain members of his company. He said he used to placard these receipts in the green-room, to show the real 'drawing' power of his authors and artistes. He went to America on business, and laughed at telegrams telling him the box-office results in London, when he was supposed to be making the amount a thousand times over by an hour's attendance in Wall-street." Yet Mr. Labouchere's companies were excellent, and, thanks largely to Miss Henrietta Hodson (now Mrs. Labouchere), his management was at least a *succès d'estime*. Mr. Irving, Mr. Toole, Mr. Wyndham, Mr. Lionel Brough, Mr. John Clayton, and Miss Ellen Farren were among his stars, and the great Mrs. Rousby came out there. Mr. Irving played Bill Sykes to support Mr. Toole as The Dodger in a defiant performance of "Oliver Twist."

COLLAPSE AT KOBE.

THE site of an old rice-pond in the Nakayamatedori, Shichome, Kobe, has been filled up in a perfunctory manner, says the *Hiogo News*, and handed over to the builders. Two foreign-style houses, with two storeys, are being erected there, to the order, so it is reported, of foreign residents. The framework of the western residence was completed on Sunday, and was soon observed to have a perceptible tilt seawards. A number of men were at work there on Monday morning, and efforts were seemingly directed to correcting the level. About ten o'clock the whole structure collapsed. There was a wonderful escape for nearly everybody, the worst injuries being inflicted upon a carpenter's assistant, a lad of 14 years of age, who was caught by the falling timbers. Some others were slightly injured.

FIRE AND DISORDER AT KOBE.

ON Tuesday night, about half-past eight o'clock, a fire broke out near the offices of the *Yushin Nippo*, between Sakaimachi and Motomachi, Kobe. The alarms brought a great crowd to the spot, and a disorderly scene occurred which old men among the spectators declared could not be paralleled in the whole of their experience. Two soldiers were assisting the police with drawn bayonets to keep back the surging crowd, who nevertheless pressed closely in upon the firemen. When the soldiers and the police remonstrated the crowd jeered at them, shouting all manner of provoking remarks, punctuating them with boisterous laughter. Additional police were summoned to the spot, and put an end to the struggles which had meanwhile been taking place between the officers and the crowd. The firemen got complete control over the fire in half-an-hour, and the destruction was confined to a tea-godown. —*Chronicle.*

THE COLLIERY EXPLOSION NEAR HANKOW.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* give some particulars of the explosion at the Makiesan mine, that is situated about 60 miles from Hankow, and news of which has already been given in our columns. It says:—The mine is one of Chang Chih-tung's enterprises and has not been long opened. The coal from it is used for the manufacture of coke to be employed in certain iron smelting works. It is said to be well suited for this purpose and a number of coke-ovens had been erected, but in consequence of the accident the smelting furnace which had just been started will have to be blown down again. There is little doubt that the explosion is due to the Chinese authorities not acting upon the advice of the foreign experts they had employed. The mine is worked by a shaft of moderate depth, but very little attention has been paid to the matter of ventilation. The foreign overseers advised the establishment of a proper system by means of a fan, or else of fires at the bottom of a ventilating shaft, but instead of this an antiquated plan of pumping air in from bellows was employed. Altogether some 200 men were employed in and about the mines, and at the time of the explosion some 60 men were in the workings, of whom all are presumed to have perished by the explosion of firedamp. The occurrence has created considerable excitement, but as it happened in connection with an official undertaking every effort is being made to minimise it. The men seem disinclined to do anything, and but few of the bodies have been recovered.

GERMAN MISSION BAZAAR.

WE draw attention to a Bazaar which is to be held on Wednesday and Thursday next at the Theological School, 39, Kamitomisaka, Koishikawa, Tokyo, under the auspices of the German Mission. The articles for sale were made by friends in Germany. The proceeds of the Bazaar are for the benefit of the school for poor children, founded by the Mission, which now has 83 scholars.

ART EXHIBITION IN YOKOHAMA.

AN exhibition of art objects is now taking place at the Kaiko-ro, Aioicho San-chome, Yokohama. The exhibition is well worth a visit, the large majority of the articles on show and for sale being exquisite pieces of workmanship; and as the prices are marked in plain figures, intending purchasers will be freed from the usual haggling that disfigures these affairs.

DECORATIONS.

MARQUIS TOKUDAIJI, Grand-Chamberlain to H.I.M. the Emperor, and Count Inouye were yesterday decorated with the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun in recognition of their services during the past war. Viscount Hijikata was promoted to the rank of Count.

THE WAR-SHIPS ON THE YANGTZE.

THE steamer *Fuhwo*, which arrived at Shanghai from Hankow on the 4th inst. reports having passed H.M.S. *Æolus* at Kiukiang, H.M.S. *Spartan* at Wuhu, H.M.S. *Rainbow* and *Pigmy* at Nanking, and H.M.S. *Alacrity*, with the Admiral on board, anchored at Chinkiang. H.M.S. *Plover* and U.S.S. *Machias* were passed bound up-river.

SHOOTING LICENSES.

WE understand that, contrary to the system in vogue last year, applications for shooting licenses this year must be accompanied by cash instead of stamps.

MR. DUNCAN MC'NEILL.

MR. DUNCAN MCNEILL, barrister-at-law, late of Yokohama, has been admitted to practise at the Shanghai bar by His Honour Mr. Acting Chief Justice Jamieson. He was introduced by Mr. H. S. Wilkinson.

TSUKIJI LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

THE first regular meeting of the Society for the season will be held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gardiner, No. 40, Tsukiji, Tokyo, next Monday evening, 14th inst., at 7.30 p.m.

ROBBERY ON THE BLUFF.

THE residence of Mr. G. W. Bramhall, No. 244-E, Bluff, was broken into on Sunday night and a considerable quantity of property removed. The burglars, so far, have not been arrested.

FUJI-SAN.

SNOW was first seen on Fuji for the year on the 3rd inst. This is eleven days later than last year, and one day later than the average date.

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE N.R.C.

HER Britannic Majesty's Minister, Sir Ernest Satow., K.C.M.G., has accepted the position of President of the Nippon Race Club.

EARTHQUAKE.

AT 3.13 p.m. on Friday a short but very sharp earthquake shock was felt in Yokohama.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

Having referred in previous issues to rumours current in the capital about probable Cabinet changes, we think it advisable to reproduce all the predictions published on the subject. The latest story is that, for the present, Count Inouye will not enter the Cabinet, but will accept a Privy Councillorship, or a nominal post in the Court, as an Attendant in the Musk Chamber. It is added that, even if it should become necessary for him to enter the Ministry, he will probably take a portfolio having a minimum of immediate connection with troublesome political questions.

Count Okuma's conversation on the subject of the future government of Formosa is published by Tokyo papers, to which it has evidently been supplied by one of the news agencies. The Progressionist leader is opposed to the idea entertained by some persons that Formosa should be governed as a colonial dependency. He admits that, like Hokkaido and Okinawa, the island will have to be treated in some respects as an exception to the general administrative system of the Empire. But after its complete subjugation, he would not place it under the control of a Governor-General invested with almost vice-regal powers. Measures should rather be taken to assimilate it to the rest of the Empire, instead of governing it as a remote dependency, after England's fashion of governing India. In order to attain that end special attention should be paid to education and police administration. By a thoroughly Japanese education, the rising generation of new subjects, aboriginal and otherwise, should be converted in sentiment and language into complete Japanese. A rigorous system of police administration is essential for rooting out vices and habits peculiar to the Chinese, such as opium eating and gambling. By these means, as well as by the immigration of Japanese and by intermarriage between the latter and the natives, Count Okuma thinks it possible, in course of time, to effect a thorough Japonization of the island and its people. The *Kaishin-to* leader seems to labour under a misunderstanding. So far as we know, there is no intention, in any responsible quarter, of governing Formosa as a colonial dependency.

Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, the most eloquent member of the House of Representatives, is to be engaged in drawing up a question, or series of question, to be addressed to the Government in the next session of the Diet on the subject of the Liaotung Peninsula. Rumour represents him as opposed to the policy pursued by the Cabinet in this matter. The views ascribed to him are said to be identical with those of Count Goto, though exactly what the latter's views are, the public has no information beyond the bare fact that they are unfavourable to the Government.

Thirteen Koreans that came to Japan in the train of Count Inouye, are staying at the Keio-Gijuku. They are said to be men not only of good family but also of official status, some being of even higher rank than their Representative in Tokyo. They have been placed, by special request of the King, under the direction and supervision of Count Inouye. On the 2nd instant, the Count visited Mr. Fukuzawa and conferred with him for several hours as to the manner in which their education should be conducted. They are to be taught Japanese conversation and reading, after acquiring which they will be distributed among the different Departments of State to receive practical training in the conduct of official business. The number of Koreans staying at Mr. Fukuzawa's College, is now nearly two hundred and thirty.

A destructive fire broke out on the 5th inst. in the prostitute quarters at Yanagimachi, Hakata, Chikuzen Province. The flames burst out in a brothel shortly after four o'clock in the morning, and eleven large buildings were destroyed in a little over two hours, three others being damaged.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

That business is reviving in Japan has been noticed in these columns more than once. The observation had immediate reference to Tokyo and the adjacent localities. But the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* now tells us that the same is true of Osaka also and of the localities south of it. At Osaka, for instance, prices are said to be steadily rising, cotton goods being sold there more than 10 per cent. dearer than a month or so ago.

The rewards to be bestowed upon officers and men for services in the late war are to be given in the form of War Bonds, where the amount is upward of 50 *yen*; but under that amount will be credits of the savings book issued by the Government Postal Savings Bureau. As to the War Bonds, it was at first the intention of the Treasury to cause the Bank of Japan to buy up the necessary amount of Bonds; but the transaction involving much difficulty, the idea was given up, and it has been decided to issue new Bonds to the amount required from time to time, the aggregate being 10 million *yen*. The War Bonds are now quoted at about 3 per cent. premium, but they are to be distributed at their face value. This mode of rewarding the officers and men is thus of advantage both to the Government and to the fortunate recipients of the rewards, for it saves the former the trouble of handling money, and secures the latter the benefit of whatever premium the War Bonds may happen to command in the market.

Some persons ascribe the present appreciation of prices in general to the increased volume of currency in circulation. In order to expose the fallacy of this explanation, the *Chugai Shogyo* publishes statistics showing the state of the circulating media during twenty months:—

	Government Paper Money. Yen.	Bank Notes. Yen.	Convertible Notes. Yen.	Total. Yen.
January, 1894	12,279,279	22,531,900	145,484,948	180,297,127
February, 1894	12,077,058	22,287,588	143,350,151	177,714,797
March, 1894	11,760,462	22,284,453	138,926,564	172,971,479
April, 1894	11,505,298	22,277,479	138,078,499	171,801,274
May, 1894	11,255,310	22,270,045	136,101,185	169,532,540
June, 1894	11,014,313	22,268,381	137,487,353	170,770,067
July, 1894	10,841,205	21,788,837	139,200,575	171,830,617
August, 1894	10,733,189	21,788,657	139,310,846	171,832,992
September, 1894	10,631,170	21,788,657	140,107,766	172,527,593
October, 1894	10,496,075	21,788,271	138,210,688	170,495,034
November, 1894	10,349,236	21,783,646	136,495,406	168,628,288
December, 1894	10,221,483	21,783,405	142,296,177	174,301,065
January, 1895	10,111,760	21,302,224	144,702,668	176,116,652
February, 1895	9,985,205	21,302,224	137,883,327	169,170,756
March, 1895	9,798,524	21,300,224	133,331,790	164,430,530
April, 1895	9,516,024	21,300,224	131,388,514	162,204,762
May, 1895	8,377,225	21,294,488	128,671,927	159,343,640
June, 1895	9,149,712	21,294,488	132,403,383	162,847,583
July, 1895	9,004,675	20,801,447	141,525,802	171,331,924
August, 1895	8,909,392	20,801,447	149,834,909	179,545,748

From these figures, it will be noticed that the volume of currency has not reached a point calculated to affect prices. It has in general remained stationary during the period under consideration.

According to the report of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the yields of the principal agricultural products, besides rice, barley, and wheat, for 1894 were as follow:—

	Area under Cultivation. Cho.	Yield. Koku.	Yield per tan. Koku.
Daizu (large beans)	435,852.3	2,943,478	0.675
Azuki (small beans)	96,428.9	560,277	0.581
Millet	235,164.2	2,144,839	0.912
Hiye (Panicum crus-corvi)	84,144.4	999,209	1.189
Kibi (Panicum miliaceum)	26,286.9	250,474	0.953
Buckwheat	172,334.0	1,202,372	0.698
		Kwanme.	Kwanme.
Cotton	60,564.01	12,572,971	20.760
Hemp	20,948.6	3,224,094	15.390
Sweet Potatoes	238,942.9	495,948,701	207.560
Potatoes	23,103.8	49,738,587	215.283
Indigo	46,851.7	16,087,377	34.337
Tobacco	35,694.2	9,451,304	26.479

The reports obtained by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce from Tokyo and fifteen other localities noted for the production of rice, are very satisfactory. Only in three localities, Yamanashi, Toyama, and Miyazaki, is the harvest expected to be poorer than usual. In eleven localities the yield is believed to be nominal, namely, Tokyo, Niigata, Saitama, Ibaraki, Fukushima, Aomori, Ishikawa, Tottori, Okayama, Kochi, and Kumamoto. In Oita and Yamagata the crop is expected to be above the average. According to these reports, the crop for the whole country will not be inferior to that of an average year.

There has been a rumour, especially on the Exchange, that a fresh War Loan will be issued to meet the expenses of the operations in Formosa, but the story has no foundation. The expenses incurred in the subjugation of Formosa are being met by funds in the Treasury and temporary loans from the Bank of Japan, it being the Government's object to redeem these disbursements out of the instalment of the war indemnity due from China in November next.

LITERARY NOTES.

Some time ago a story went the rounds of the vernacular press that the celebrated writer, Mr. Fukuchi Genichiro, had been charged by Marquis Ito with the task of writing a history of the recent Japanese-Chinese War and the diplomatic complications connected with it, the remuneration agreed upon being 10,000 *yen*. Mr. Fukuchi was taunted by some papers as a servile flatterer of those in power. Somebody mentioned the matter to him, when he replied smiling:—"The story is a likely one, I own, but the simple fact is that it has not a particle of truth in it." He is now busily engaged and throwing all his energy into a play for the Japanese stage from Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables," so that even if he were offered such work as the History referred to he would be unable to accept it however tempting the proffered reward.

Prefessor Shigeno is one of the leading authorities on Japanese history. Such is his zeal for historical studies that he does not rest until he has probed to the very bottom whatever subject he undertakes to investigate. As the result of his incisive criticism, he has rejected as mythical many of the most picturesque episodes in Japanese history, such, for instance, as Kusunoki Masashige's last meeting with his son, Kojima Takanori's romantic loyalty to the Emperor Godaigo, and so forth. His thoroughgoing methods have offended Jingoism, and he goes by the name of Dr. Effacing (*Massatsu Hakase.*) In some instances, we are inclined to believe that the indefatigable historian goes too far in the iconoclastic direction, but on the whole the methods of investigation followed by him are sound and rational. At all events his fearless criticisms and the violent controversies to which they have given rise, have had a most powerful influence in stimulating historical studies. We are rejoiced to hear that the veteran historian is now engaged on a voluminous history of this country. Its appearance will create a great stir in literary circles.

It is a pity that Mr. Taguchi Ukichi allows himself to drift deeper and deeper into the vortex of the political whirl-pool. He is a great loss to Japanese literature, for undoubtedly his mission lies in the field of historical research. He made his reputation by his economical writings and by the publication of that excellent journal the *Keizai Zasshi*. But he is incomparably more at home in the domain of history, his essays in the *Shi-kai* (Ocean of History)—another journal edited by him—being masterpieces in point of style and general treatment. Such is the popularity of these essays that the back numbers of the magazine have been reprinted several times, and the demand for them is still increasing. The editor's unhappy entrance into political life has led to the suspension of his literary labours, and the *Shi-kai* did not appear for a space of a year and a half. But suddenly it has just made its re-appearance, and promises to come out regularly once in two months, instead of monthly as before. Let us hope that Mr. Taguchi may now return to a sphere of usefulness more congenial to his genius and to his character.

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KOREAN NEWS.

Min Yong-chun's return and his position form the principal subject of discussion in the latest letters from Japanese correspondents in Söul. Arriving at Ninsen on the 23rd ultimo, he passed that night at the villa of Mr. An, then Minister of War, in the vicinity of the port. The following day, he went over-land to Söul, but instead of entering the city, he remained at the house of a certain ex-official, named Pak, outside the West Gate. There he was visited by a large number of friends, including most of the Cabinet Ministers and the principal court officials. In the course of conversation with some of these visitors, he is reported to have made the following statement:—"During the summer of last year, I was for a long time flying before the Japanese troops. From Phyöng-yang I escaped to Chiu-lien, whence I made my way to Yingkow. On the fall of that place I went to Tientsin, where I was surprised to find the inhabitants in a state of great confusion and excitement. Finally I proceeded to Chefoo, where I stayed until my return home. During these wanderings I was everywhere impressed with the impotence of the Chinese soldiers and their utter inability to cope with the brave and daring Japanese. While at Chefoo I took a short trip to Nagasaki, where I saw something of the wonderful progress Japan is making in civilization. Experience has thus made me a thorough admirer of Japan, upon whose assistance we may rely with perfect security." How far his conversation is accurately reproduced by the Japanese correspondents, we have no means of ascertaining, but it seems certain that the Min politician professes friendship and admiration for Japan. On the 25th, he is said to have left for Chhun-chhön in Kang-wön-do, where his parents are living. The *Kokumin's* correspondent states that his alleged journey to Chhun-chhön was simply a ruse to divert public attention, and that he is staying secretly at a friend's house in the capital. But this report stands unconfirmed, all the rest of the correspondents agreeing that Min Yong-chun has really gone to visit his father in the country.

How his return will affect the political situation in Söul, is a question on which the correspondents as yet refrain from pronouncing any definite opinion. The unique position that he holds among the politicians of the Min faction as their acknowledged leader, induces us to believe that sooner or later his influence will be felt in Korean politics. That for the present, however, he will remain quiet, seems to be the opinion of the majority in the Korean Capital. It is also rumoured that he will probably come to Japan to qualify himself for the task of assuming the direction of his country's affairs; that such is the wish of the Queen; and that before his return his Japanese tour had been agreed upon between Her Majesty and the former Japanese Minister, Count Inouye. Rumour further alleges that he will be appointed either Minister of Home Affairs or a Privy Councillor. Whatever may be his ultimate course, Min's return to Söul is believed by the Japanese correspondents to be prejudicial to the influence of the small and fast dwindling faction of the so-called Independents, led by Kim Koshu, the present Minister President of State.

Another Min politician of influence is Min Yong-ik, the able rival of Yong-chun. Yong-ik's return to Söul would still further complicate the situation, but he does not seem to entertain any idea of going home, for the present at all events. It is also stated that these two rivals, having lately been fellow-refugees in China, have become reconciled. When Yong-chun left Chefoo, he was accompanied to his ship by Yong-ik, and the two bade farewell to each other apparently in a very friendly manner.

The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent states that the city of Söul was recently disturbed by rumours of a plot to assassinate the Prime Minister, Kim Koshun. The correspondent considers it a baseless story circulated by crafty intriguers as a sort of feeler. But although no faith can be placed in the rumour of an actual plot, the fact that such stories are circulated, shows that the political world of Söul is far from being in a state of tranquillity.

Simultaneously with the revival of Min influence at Court, some of the abuses that had for a time been restrained are said to have again become rife. One of these is the sale of official positions. Of late is has very often been noticed that officials appointed on one day are released from duty on the morrow. These mock appointments are a device of the courtiers to replenish the impoverished coffers of the Royal family. A man appointed to an official post is allowed to use a certain kind of ribbon for tying his hat, a mark of distinction that well-to-do people are willing to purchase for from ten to twenty dollars. The resurrection of this evil practice at Court is, however, effectually restricted, says the same correspondent, by the feeling of awe with which the present Japanese Minister, Viscount Miura, is regarded by the Queen and her minions.

The resignation of An, Minister of War, seems to have been the outcome of fierce rivalry between Min and Chin Sokun, Minister of Finance. Chin is known to enjoy the confidence of the Queen, and this circumstance explains the easy victory that he has obtained over his wary antagonist. But the ostensible cause of the latter's resignation seems to have been inability to comply with the King's pleasure concerning the retention of cavalry and engineering corps, the disbanding of which had been decided some time previously, on account of insufficiency of funds.

Mr. Kamada Eikichi of the Keiwo-gijuku, who went to Söul some time ago to arrange with the Korean Government about paying the expenses connected with the education of the Korean students at that institution, is still staying in the Korean capital. It is stated by the *Kokumin's* correspondent that his sojourn has been prolonged owing to the fact that the funds set aside to defray the expenses of the students at the Keiwo-gijuku had been arbitrarily applied by the Minister of Education to meet the cost of bringing out two American instructors whom he engaged without consulting his colleagues. The Minister is said to be in an awkward position, having to answer for a double irregularity, misapplication of state funds and unauthorised engagement of foreigners.

The report that the right of working the mines in Phyöng-an-do had been ceded to a certain American company was recently denied. But the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, writing under date of the 30th ultimo, states that the news is true. Neither the Foreign Office nor the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has had any part in the transactions, which were conducted directly by the Court. Mr. Stevenson of Ninsen, General Le Gendre, and Mr. Greathouse are said to be connected with the enterprise.

On Tuesday afternoon, the following official telegram was received in Tokyo:—

The second battalion of the newly trained Korean soldiers, being alarmed by a rumour of their approaching disbandment, and the punishment of their commanding officer, broke out of their barracks at about 3 o'clock on the morning of the 8th instant. They went to the house of the Tai Wön kun, and taking him as their leader, proceeded to the Palace and forced their way in, the Palace guard offering only slight resistance. The King and the Crown Prince are reported to be safe.

This telegram is dated at Söul, 11 a.m. Somewhat different intelligence was published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. It ran thus:—

Söul, October 8th, 7.30 a.m.

At 5 o'clock this morning, the Tai Wön-kun, giving out that he purposed removing evil officials from the Royal service, placed himself at the head of the second battalion of the newly trained troops, and forced an entry into the Palace, killing the captain of the Palace Guards, O Kei-kun (?). The Japanese Representative visited the Palace at 6 o'clock the same morning.

The former version, being official, and having been despatched from Söul 3½ hours later than the latter, must be taken as the more trustworthy. From each alike it appears that the Tai Wön-kun was at the head of the disturbance, though the official despatch represents him as a somewhat involuntary leader. The impression conveyed, it must confessed, is that the ex-Regent has been making one bid—a desperate bid—for power. That perfect tranquillity can ever be established in Korean politics so long as he remains in the field, seems questionable.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun's* version tallies with that of the *Nichi Nichi*, so far as concerns the part played by the Tai Wön-kun. It adds, however, that the Queen has probably been assassinated. This telegram further states that Lieut.-General Miura's visit to the Palace was in response to a summons from the King, and that the Tai Wön-kun's enterprise was undertaken in consequence of the Queen's resolve to place the political power in the hands of the Min family. Truly it seems as though Count Inouye's presence in Söul were the only means of preserving peace and good order.

The following telegrams have been published by the *Asahi Shimbun*:—

Söul, 7.12 p.m., 8th October.

On entering the palace, the Tai Wön-kun at once deposed the Queen, and what has become of her is a mystery.

Söul, 3.55 p.m., 8th October.

Ko Keikun, commander of the newly organized troops (*Kunrentai*) and a partisan of the Queen, was killed during the confusion. It is rumoured that a similar fate befell Li Ko-hoku, Minister of the Household.

Söul, 7.55 p.m., 8th October.

An Keiju, Minister of War, and Li In-yo, Police Inspector General, have been dismissed. Cho Giyen has been appointed Minister of War, with the additional post of Police Inspector General *ad interim*. Li Saiben has been appointed Minister of the Household, and Kim Sokan, Vice-Minister of the Household. It is reported that the King will probably order Kim Koshu, Gyo Inchu, and Kim Inshoku to organize a new Cabinet.

Söul, 9 p.m., 8th October.

It is stated the Tai Wön-kun will not interfere in politics, but will confine himself to directing the affairs of the Court. An Edict will be issued concerning the changes in the Government.

Söul, 9.40 p.m., 8th October.

The Edict has been promulgated about Government changes. Its purport is that all matters of State shall be discussed by the Ministers of State, and that the Cabinet and the Household shall each observe the limits set to their functions by the Official Organization recently promulgated. Li Kan-yo, Minister of Education, and Li Hanshiu, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, have been dismissed. Jo Kohan, Minister of Justice, has been entrusted with additional post of Minister of Education *ad interim*, and Tei Heika has been appointed Acting Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

According to information obtained by the *Asahi*, the disturbance at the Palace occurred at about 5.50 on the morning of the 8th, and the Japanese Minister repaired thither with troops fifteen minutes later. The Russian and American Ministers are said to have presented themselves at the Court a little past ten in the morning.

As to the cause of the *émeute*, the same journal's imformation indicates a probability that the immediate occasion was the Cabinet's decision on the preceding day to disband the newly trained troops. The soldiers hearing of this, hastened to the Tai Wön-kun's residence, and carried him to the Palace, the object of their vengeance being the Queen.

Such is the latest explanation. It represents the Tai Wön-kun in the light of a passive, if not altogether unwilling, agent in the whole affair. But without fuller information than we now possess, it is impossible to pronounce any definite opinion on this point. Judging from what has taken place since the entrance of the Tai Wön-kun into the Palace, and from the state of affairs in Söul immediately previous to the *coup d'etât*, it seems highly probable that some sort of intrigue had been going on for some time. The *Hochi Shimbun's* correspondent for instance, observes that the Tai Wön-kun's prolonged stay at his country villa and his persistent refusal to return to his city residence, was regarded with strong suspicion and doubt by the Queen. The ex-Regent, on the other hand, is said to have suspected the Queen's motives in urging him to return to the capital. Such being their mutual attitude, the Queen is believed to have taken special precautions to

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have a large number of constables and detectives posted in the vicinity of her enemy's mansion. It was also rumoured at Söul, some time ago, that a certain officer in the army had been thrust into prison on the ground of paying frequent visits to the Tai Wŏn-kun. Thus there seems to be reasons for assuming that the ex-Regent and his clever grandson had for some time been organizing an outbreak, and that they availed themselves of the opportunity afforded by the excitement caused among the troops in connection with the ill-timed decision of the Cabinet to disband them.

Whatever may have been his methods and motives, the Tai Wŏn-kun's restoration to power must seriously affect the position of the newly returned Min Yong-chun and the other politicians of the Min faction.

According to an official telegram, it appears that immediately after the entrance of the discontented soldiers into the Palace, with the Tai Wŏn-kun at their head, the Japanese troops hastened to the Palace and maintained order there, and it was owing to their presence that the collision between the palace guards and the *Kunrentai* soldiers was stopped after the exchange of only one or two shots.

The following telegram has been received by the *Nichi Nichi* :—

Söul, 9.55 p.m., 8th October.

The *Kunrentai* soldiers that broke into the Palace, shot down two of the guards and two court ladies. Nothing is as yet known about the whereabouts of the Queen. But there being no indication of her having left the Palace, she must be in hiding somewhere within its precincts. The Japanese troops are guarding the Palace. Things are now quiet.

No further news of importance has been received from Söul concerning the late *émeute*. The fate of the unfortunate Queen still remains uncertain, and apprehensions gather strength that she has probably met with foul play. Indeed, one telegram plainly states that, according to rumours in Söul, she was dead before noon on the day of the disturbance. As for the *Nichi Nichi's* telegram, to the effect that Her Majesty had not left the precincts of the Palace, it is difficult to understand how, in that case, her whereabouts could remain a mystery for even a couple of hours. What renders her death probable is the fact that, in addition to one or two courtiers, two ladies were killed during the confusion, whereas the collision between the Palace-guards and the *Kunrentai* soldiers is said to have been stopped after the exchange of a few shots. Under these circumstances the inference is almost irresistible that special measures were taken to reach the inmates of the Palace, and that Her Majesty has met with a violent death.

According to all appearances, the *émeute* is not likely to lead to any further trouble, for the present at least. The Cabinet, after the dismissal of a few partisans of the Min faction, appears to be conducting the ordinary business of state, as though nothing unusual had taken place.

A few words about the *Kunrentai* troops may not be out of place. This body of men owes its origin to the bitter experiences garnered by the Söul Government last year, when the absolute worthlessness of an army trained under the old system was clearly demonstrated. The creation of the neucleus of a new army was decided upon last December, but not until February of this year were the newly levied recruits called out for drill. At the request of the Korean Government, the organization and training of these troops were undertaken by a few Japanese officers. At present there are two battalions of *Kunrentai*, each consisting of 420 men. They form a regiment and are stationed in Söul. Another battalion was levied, some time ago, in Phyŏng-yang, but lack of arms and accoutrements still prevents its being called out for drill. The present instructor to the *Kurentai* battalions in Söul is Major Umayabara, commander of the Japanese troops quartered there, and he is assisted by his subordinate, Captain Murai. From the first, the Queen seems to have regarded the new troops with strong dislike and even suspicion, though on what ground we have no information. Whenever the Cabinet suggested the advisability of replacing the Palace Guards by these well-trained troops, Her Majesty used every means in her power to prevent the consummation of the proposal. Ultimately this question became the cause of a sharp quarrel between the Queen and the Cabinet, resulting in the overthrow of Pak Yong-ho, the powerful Minister of Home Affairs. After the flight of Pak from the country, the Queen placed her own nominees at the head of the *Kurentai* battalions, and thus endeavoured to win the troops to her own side. But as her efforts proved unavailing, she is said to have resolved to get the troops disbanded, and through her partisans in the Cabinet, she prevailed upon the latter to adopt that measure, with disastrous consequences. The number of the troops organized under the old system in Söul is said to be about 15,000, of whom some 1,200 used to be quartered in the Palace, the rest being at liberty to live where they pleased in the city.

PEKIN NEWS.

At the date of the latest Japanese correspondence from Pekin, namely the 23rd ult., it was not yet certain who was to be China's Plenipotentiary in the negotiations about to be opened for the conclusion of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Japan and China. All the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên are said to have shown extreme reluctance to assume the responsibility of the task. About the date of these letters, the Japanese Minister was negotiating with the Tsung-li Yamên about the rate at which Kaiping taels should be converted into Japanese *yen* in the payment of the war indemnity. On the Japanese side, the subject had been thoroughly investigated by Mr. Nomura of the Finance Department then in Pekin, and a proposal based on his researches had some time previously been forwarded to the Tsung-li Yamên. The latter, however, had not yet made any reply on the subject.

A new Chinese journal, *Man Kuo Kun-pau* (the World Gazette), published every alternate day, is said to have greatly improved since it first appeared some fifty days ago. It is a little affair of seven pages containing only some 1,700 words in all. The essays it contains deal with the political, social, and industrial institutions of the West; and the needs and faults of China are said to be discussed in a manner at once intelligent and fearless. The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent expresses wonder at the freedom with which all the abuses and evils connected with Chinese administration are pointed out and criticised. The editor's name is not known, but, according to the above mentioned correspondent, he must be a man that has studied and travelled abroad. The correspondent even suspects that probably the real editor is an official of some rank, or at least that the inspiration must emanate from an influential quarter. Otherwise it is difficult to account for the impunity with which the journal is allowed to expose the shortcomings of the existing political system. The appearance of such an organ of reform at the seat of Government is justly regarded by the Japanese correspondents as a sign that the beating administered to China by her progressive neighbour has had some effect.

Cholera is said to have abated much of its virulence in Pekin, as is attested by the greatly decreased number of funerals.

HONOURS.

The *Official Gazette* announces that Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, is raised to the rank of Count, in consideration of distinguished services, and that the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun has been graciously conferred by His Majesty on Marquis Tokudaiji and Count Inouye.

THE AWOMORI ASSASSINATION.

Further particulars have reached us bearing on the crime perpetrated in the house of Miss Suthon, a lady missionary belonging to the American Episcopalian Church, who has been carrying on work in Awomori for some years past. Miss Suthon resides in a two-storied building formerly used as a bank. The compound in which the dwelling stands is surrounded by a fence and the house is reached by passing through a gate and following a footpath. This gate Miss Suthon has been in the habit of leaving open at night. In the lower storey of the house were several rooms occupied by Japanese, and on the night of the assassination a catechumen named Oyu Heizo, aged 19, who had been burnt out a few days before, was occupying one of these rooms. Opposite was Miss Suthon's dining-room, in which a lamp was burning the whole night. At a little distance off were quartered the cook and his wife. Miss Suthon sleeps upstairs, and on the night in question retired to rest at about 11 o'clock. After sleeping soundly for several hours, she awoke and distinctly heard the creaking of a board in the veranda below. Recognising someone was moving, she struck a light and listened for further sounds, but hearing nothing, thought there was no cause for alarm and went back to bed. In the morning, when the young student's door was opened, he was found lying stretched on the bed saturated with blood and with his throat cut from ear to ear. The police were at once communicated with and, owing to a heavy fall of rain in the middle of the night about the time of the murder, they were able to trace the footsteps of the assassin in and out of the premises. They also discovered that he had entered the house by cutting a hole in a paper sliding door, which enabled him to reach to a little bolt, slide it back and let himself in.

Up to the 2nd instant, the police had not succeeded in discovering any clue to the motive of the assassin. Various explanations have been given, but none of them seem altogether free from difficulties. It is said that by some means or other the robber may have got to know that there was a considerable sum of money in the house—which we are informed was a fact, and that the only person in the house likely to interfere with his plans would be the young catechumen, since the cook, it seems, was ill and unfit to render any assistance. Hence he, perhaps, thought it best to settle Heizo before commencing operations. After the murder, he doubtless heard Miss Suthon's movements in the upper part of the house, possibly saw the light and decided to make his escape while he could. This explanation seems to us very unsatisfactory; for if the robber was so bent on plunder as not to shrink from murdering any person that had the power to frustrate his designs, it is scarcely to be supposed that he would be cowed by the footsteps of a woman in the upper storey. The second explanation given us attributes the murder to fanaticism. As our readers are doubtless aware, a catechumen is a person undergoing preparation for baptism. The murdered man was a most ardent advocate of Christianity, and had made many enemies in the town. His parents, relations, and friends were very much opposed to his entering the Christian Church, and it is surmised that among these there may have been one sufficiently bigoted to prevent the consummation of his design by killing him. Although cases of persecution carried to such a length are very rare in Japan, the theory that the catechumen in the present instance was the victim of religious zeal seems to be a plausible explanation of the catastrope. It is worth mentioning, however, that the parents cannot be supposed to have given their consent to the foul deed, for since the young man's death they have shown a certain amount of sympathy with the course he followed by allowing his remains to be interred in accordance with the rites of the Christian Church. It is neither impossible nor improbable, however, that some relation or former friend of the young man may

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have been moved by fanatical frenzy to commit the dire act.

A third explanation is suggested. It seems that, some little time ago, a girl that had been attending Miss Suthon's classes fell in love with a *soshi* actor. Miss Suthon, suspecting that the girl's relations with the actor were not of a creditable character, dismissed her from the class. The local papers, always eager to pander to the depraved tastes of a scandal-loving public, regarded the story of the Bible student's connection with the *soshi* actor as a god-send, and made it the basis for a novelette. It is asserted that Seizo supplied the papers with details bearing on the career of the young girl, and that this so enraged her relatives that they determined to punish his effrontery with death.

The police, who after all are the best judges of the probable motives of the crime, being in possession of all the facts bearing on the case, are said to regard the affair as an unsolved mystery, and to be still in search of some clue to guide their inquiries. The assassin is at large.

The latest news from Awomori respecting the assassination in Miss Suthon's house is that the Mission Catechist and Bible-woman have been arrested on suspicion and removed to a gaol 2 *ri* distant from the town. This action on the part of the police has naturally caused a great stir in the neighbourhoood, and consternation in the Mission. Miss Suthon and her fellow workers are of opinion that the course followed by the police is without justification, and the services of a lawyer have been secured. He has been instructed to watch the case on behalf of the Mission, and also to do his best to discover the real criminal. The grounds for the action of the police are only partially known. Report gives the following account of the Catechist's alleged guilt:—He and the murdered Catechumen are said to have had a quarrel, the latter having accused the former of improper relations with the Bible-woman.

The Catechist, it seems, has served in the army and is an expert swordsman. He is said to have been so enraged by the accusation of the Catechumen that he decided to take the latter's life. This purpose he was able to carry out without hindrance, being well acquainted with the structure of the house in which his enemy slept and with the habits of its inmates. The Bible-woman, who is accused of being accesory to the crime, slept in the house, in a room in the upper storey near that of Miss Suthon, on the night of the murder. The Catechist was domiciled elsewhere, and hence must have entered the compound during the night without leaving any traces of his movements, for the police have come to the conclusion that the footprints seen on the wet mud the next morning were certainly those of a woman. The whole affair is justly regarded by the American Episcopal Mission as most serious, and Archdeacon Page, accompanied by a Japanese pastor, has already gone up to Awomori, as representative of the Mission, to make a thorough investigation. It is thought that the police are in possession of information that they are not disposed to make public till the regular preliminary inquiry takes place. The local papers assert that the authorities have no doubt of the Catechist's guilt. But how the Bible-woman can have become implicated is a puzzle to everybody. Those professing to know her well say that she could never have been induced to give her consent to the perpetration of such a crime. Moreover, on the night of the murder she could not have left her room and returned to it without Miss Suthon's knowledge.

The Catechist attended the murdered man's funeral, but before and after the ceremony begged to be excused from his duties on the plea of illness. He was in bed when the constables entered his house to arrest him.

The epidemic inspection offices established at Yokosuka, Kitayama, Odawara, Ofuna, and other towns in Kanagawa Prefecture were closed on the 10th inst. with the exception of Yokohama Railway station. It is said that the Nagahama Quarantine station will also be closed at no distant date.

THE POLITICAL ASSOCIATION CASE.

The political association case, as our readers may remember, arose out of the celebrated Atago-kan conferences, at which the Opposition politicians of different sections discussed the question of the Liaotung peninsula. The authorities regarded these conferences as the organization of a new political association, and the politicians that had taken a leading part in the proceedings were arraigned before a law court on the charge of violating the Law of Political Associations, which requires that the fact of the formation of such an association shall be reported to the police within a stated period. At first the accused were Messrs. Suzuki Shigetoo, M.P., Kudo Kokan, M.P., Ozaki Yukio, M.P., Shiga Shigetaka, Taguchi Ukichi, M.P., and Suyeshiro Shigeyasu. Their counsel argued that the Atago-kan conference had no reference whatever to the formation of a political association, but on the strength of evidence supplied by the police, the court pronounced judgment against them, and sentenced them to a fine. They appealed to a higher tribunal, where the original court's decision was upheld in so far as it related to Messrs. Suzuki, Kudo, and Ozaki, but the three other appellants were acquitted on the ground of insufficient evidence. The case was then carried to the Tokyo Court of Cassation, where the decision of the lower tribunals has now been reversed and it is ordered that the case be re-tried by the Yokohama Local Court.

The prisoners in this case are undergoing daily examination by Judge Iida of the Tokyo Local Court. On the 9th instant, four or five friends and acquaintances of Watanabe were cited as witnesses. Watanabe is reported to be conducting himself in a rather creditable manner. He does not speak much, what he says is to the point, and his statements are singularly consistent and straightforward. He has some taste for national poetry, and diverts himself, while in confinement, by composing verses in the popular styles called *haikai* and *kokku*. On the afternoon of the 9th, he was observed writing verses on white paper by means of the yolk of an egg. The other prisoner, Shinozaki, is more obstinate than his younger accomplice. He refuses to answer nearly all the questions put him by the Judge, and is undergoing solitary confinement.

INSURRECTION NEAR CANTON.

Rather vague telegrams were received in Shanghai from Wangpo on Saturday, September 29th, stating that an insurrection had broken out in that vicinity, which the *North China Daily News* takes to be at a spot estimated at about forty miles distant from the city of Canton, the provincial capital of Kuangtung. As Wangpo—where is also situated the Naval College—is the headquarters of the Triad, or *Samhop* Society, a revolutionary organisation established by old Taiping adherents, and with ramifications throughout the two provinces of Kuangtung and Kuangsi; and furthermore, although a small town, Wangpo has always borne the reputation of being the home of sea-pirates who carry on their depredations hundreds of miles away from the place, but never harm the people in the vicinity of their homes, there is every reason to believe that the present insurrection has been organised by the leaders of the Triad Society, assisted by the large gangs of sea-pirates brought over from their hunting grounds in the vicinity of Hainan island and the West Coast ports. Further particulars report that the insurgents number some 4,000 men, all pretty well armed and "inured to fighting,"—a description further corroborating the supposition above. Meanwhile, the insurrection which began near Swatow over six weeks ago is not yet suppressed, but on the contrary has since spread to the borders of Fukien and Kiangsi.

THE KOREAN ÉMEUTE AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

The *coup d'état* by which the Tai Wŏn-kun has made himself once more master of the situation in Sŏul has been a complete surprise, but unexpected and sudden as it is, it has not produced any deep sense of astonishment among the journalists of Tokyo, for they consider the event to be in complete keeping with the political methods traditionally familiar in the ill-fated peninsula. The comments that the affair has elicited, in so far as concern its bearing upon the general situation in the East, are various and characteristic.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* approves the conduct of the Japanese Minister, who, while observing strict neutrality in the internal feuds of the Korean Court, took effective steps to preserve order and tranquillity at the Palace and in the city. "The fact seems to be that the Tai Wŏn-kun was forcibly carried to the Palace by the *Kunrentai* soldiers. But as a deadly feud exists between him and the Queen, there is no knowing what may take place hereafter. If the Japanese Minister and the Japanese troops suffice to preserve order in the Korean capital, well and good. But should a further collision take place between the contending factions, and the public peace be thus disturbed, Japan ought to be prepared to adopt a resolute line of action, and, in concert with the friendly Powers, to maintain the peace not only of Korea but also of the East. Such is the responsibility that Japan has incurred toward Korea. Concerted action is of urgent importance on the part of the Powers that have with Korea treaty relations similar to those of Japan. We trust that Russia and the other Powers will not hesitate to cŏoperate with this country in the task of preserving peace in the Orient."

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* is not at all surprised to learn that the Tai Wŏn-kun, in order to recover his prestige *vis-à-vis* the rival faction, has resorted to methods common enough in Korea. His obvious opportunity was to strike before the Min family had completely re-established itself. Our contemporary faintly censures Count Inouye, who in its opinion, ought to have taken some steps before his departure from Korea to obviate such a *coup d'état*. At the same time, the *Yomiuri* acknowledges that, in the existing state of affairs in the peninsular Kingdom, it is impossible for anybody, however able and powerful, to prevent the occurrence of events like that first reported. "The uncertainty of the situation in Korea is a logical consequence of the uncertainty of the situation in the East generally. Should the general situation be settled once for all, there need be no apprehension of further surprises in Korea. Would that such a day may not be far distant!"

The *Mainichi Shimbun* has no doubt that the steady revival of the Queen's power and the return of the great Min leader, Min Yong-chun, induced the Tai Wŏn-kun and his grandson, Li Shun-yo, to strike a desperate blow for power. As to the future of Korea, our contemporary regards it with doubt and misgiving—misgiving not on account of Korea alone, but also on account of Japan.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* dismisses the subject with a short leader from which the following may be quoted:—"These waves of disturbance and these political surprises result from the modification of the Shimonoseki treaty. We are not, nay, we have not the right to be, surprised at any event, however untoward, that may take place. No incident ever occurs quite independently; one thing always leads to another; we are only reaping what we have sown."

The *Chuo Shimbun* counts it very singular that the success of the Tai Wŏn-kun's daring *coup d'état* should have been followed by the ascendeney of Kin Koshu, Gyo Inchu, and Kin Inshoku, who are all in favour of reform and progress, and who, moreover, are generally believed to be favourably disposed toward Japan. What surprises our contemporary still more is that the Tai Wŏn-kun, if report be true, should behave with moderation after he has become

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master of the situation. The *Chuo* does not of course approve the method by which he recovered the ascendency, yet it hopes that, since what has been done can not be undone, the new possessors of power may so shape their policy as to promote the cause of reform and progress.

The *Choya Shimbun* is reminded by this occurrence of the enormous influence that Count Inouye's presence in Söul exercised over Korean politicians. So long as he remained there, they all continued quiet and gave little trouble. Had his stay lasted a month longer, our contemporary thinks that the present disturbance would probably have been averted. The *Choya*, however, reposes complete confidence in the ability of the present Japanese Minister to cope with whatever new difficulty may present itself in Söul.

EARL LI AND DR. SATO.

The following is the translation of a letter received by Dr. Sato from Earl Li in reply to his own, in which he acknowledged the receipt of the decoration that His Imperial Chinese Majesty had been pleased to confer upon him, and the valuable presents that had been sent him by the Viceroy :—

DEAR SIR,—When I was wounded at Shimonoseki, you were so good as to visit me and by your exceptional skill to cure me of my injury. Such was your proficiency in your art, that I was surprised to see my wound heal in a little more than ten days. My gratitude to you is so profound that words cannot adequately express it.

You have now placed me under a fresh obligation by favouring me with an epistle overflowing with sentiments of the warmest friendship. In it you acknowledge the receipt of the things forwarded to you through the kindness of Plenipotentiary Ito (Baron Ito Miyoji). Out of respect to my Imperial Master, you have been so kind as to say that these trifling presents will be preserved by you as a treasure. At the same time you are pleased to express thanks to me which I do not at all deserve.

Since my voyage home, I have kept very quiet, and my health and spirits have steadily improved so they are now in a normal condition. Even a rainy season lasting fully a month did not produce the slightest pain in the part where I was wounded. I beg you therefore, to be at ease about my wound, especially as I mean to take all possible care of my health.

Your country abounds with good physicians, but a proficient like yourself is not only to be rarely found in China but also is equal to any even in the West. A good physician is like a good statesman, for it is the aim of both to alleviate the miseries of earthly existence. Let me hope with you that peace and tranquillity may last for ever, and that people may be spared from sickness and wounds alike. Do not believe that in expressing this hope any selfish motives enter my mind.

Yours respectfully,

LI HUNG-CHANG.

To His Excellency Dr. SATO SUSUMU.

COUNT DE BYLANDT.

Count de Bylandt, Minister Resident of the Netherlands in Tokyo, is about to proceed to Europe on leave of absence, and will start, we understand, in the beginning of November. It has been publicly stated that Count de Bylandt has been appointed to represent his country at Bucharest, but though such a nomination is not impossible, there are no grounds for regarding it as an accomplished fact. We may therefore be permitted to hope that the Court of Japan will not lose an official so thoroughly versed in Japanese affairs and so universally popular as Count de Bylandt. At all events we trust, in the interests of Holland, that the Count will take the opportunity of his return to impress upon the Government at the Hague the anomaly involved in the present status of the Dutch Legation in Tokyo. Considering Holland's relations with Japan in the past, and, above all, the extremely important crisis of its international history through which this Empire is evidently destined to pass during the next two or three years, it seems only appropriate that the Netherlands should be represented by a Minister Plenipotentiary.

HORSE BREEDING.

The Horse Breeding Investigation Committee recently appointed by the Government, is to commence its conferences from the 10th inst. The topics on which it is requested to deliberate are as follow :—First, the general policy to be followed in the improvement of horses, especially with regard to the choice of sires to be used for stud purposes. Secondly, the establishment of Breeding Pastures and Stables. The Committee is required to express its views as to the general management of these establishments, their number and locations. Thirdly, the selection of brood mares. On this topic the Committee are given to understand that, as far as possible, Japanese full-breds and half-breds are to be used ; but should it be deemed necessary to import foreign dams an opinion is to be given with regard to the most desirable breeds. Fourthly, the examination and general control of breeding places in private possession. The importance of this matter having been recognized by the Government long ago, a notification was issued by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce in 1885, authorising local Governors to appoint proper officials for the examination of private breeding studs. But the system did not work well, and it is deemed necessary to remodel it completely by enacting uniform regulations applicable throughout the country. Fifthly, guilds of private breeders. The existing guilds do not work smoothly, and the Committee are asked to suggest a scheme of reform. Sixthly and lastly, the encouragement to be given to horse-breeders. This subject includes the bestowal of rewards upon deserving breeders, the holding of competitive exhibitions, and so forth.

"ADVANCE JAPAN."

Mr. J. Morris, formerly of the Imperial Public Works Department in Japan, has compiled a work entitled "Advance Japan." It is illustrated by Mr. R. Isayama, and being excellently brought out, in the matter of typography, paper, and general techinque, makes a very attractive volume. Mr. Morris writes simply. His purpose, he tells us, is "to draw attention to some of those characteristics of the Japanese and their undertakings which have tended to make of them, at this hour, a nation to be honoured." This purpose he achieves satisfactorily by judicious selections from books and records which, though already accessible to the public, can not always be easily consulted. He has added little that is original, so far as we can see, and his account of the recent war and its origin, though dispassionate and correct, might have been extended with advantage. It is probable, however, that he aimed chiefly at putting into succint and readable shape such knowledge of ancient and modern Japan as is required, and likely to be sought, by persons whose interest in her story has been awakened by recent events.

REVOLT IN TIMOR.

The steamer *Menmuir*, which arrived in Hongkong on the 30th Sept., from Australia and Timor, brought news of the revolt of natives in Timor. The trouble arose on account of the Governor having tried to compel the people to pay taxes and furnish men for forced labour. The natives obstinately refused to obey the regulations, and the Governor then ordered that all their villages should be destroyed. Upon this the natives rose in rebellion, killing Captain Camara, the Government Secretary, Lieutenants Lagos, Mendes da Silva, Bettencourt, Ensign Flores, four sergeants, twelve soldiers, and one hospital warder. The native soldiers who were in the Portuguese Government service joined the rebels and took part in the sedition. Lieut. Mendes da Silva was murdered, but the others were killed in the fighting. Captain Claudio da Silva and wife, two sergeants' widows, and a few soldiers arrived in Hongkong by the *Menmuir* and went on to Macao. All the officers above referred to were married in Macao.—*Daily Press.*

THE NEW MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS.

The new Minister of Communications, Mr. Shirane Senichi, is one of the ablest clan statesmen of the younger generation. He is of Choshu extraction. After distinguishing himself as a successful local Governor, he was appointed Vice-Minister of Home Affairs in 1890 under Marquis (then Count) Saigo. He continued to occupy that post until the Summer of 1892, under three successive chiefs, Marquis Saigo, Viscount Shinagawa, and Count Soyejima. During that time he proved himself the possessor of rare administrative qualitities. Indeed, such ability and energy did he display that he was generally regarded as the real head of his Department. He distinguished himself conspicuously under the Premiership of Count Matsukata, especially during the stormy winter session of 1891-2 and the equally eventful extraordinary session in the Spring of 1892, when he was universally believed to be one of the principal springs of action in the Government. Twice during his tenure of office as Vice-Minister of Home Affairs he was set up as candidate for a Ministerial post, and twice the well deserved reward failed to fall to his lot owing to considerations of policy. On the fall of the Matsukata Cabinet, he was appointed President of the Treasury Bureau in the Imperial Household, and for a time kept himself aloof from politics. But even during that period of comparative inactivity, he was not wholly forgotten by the public, for whenever there occurred a vacancy in the Cabinet, or whenever changes in its *personnel* were talked about, his name inevitably figured in the papers as a probable and proper candidate for a portfolio. He is a young Minister even in Japan, being only a few years past forty. His entrance into the Cabinet is regarded by some as a conclusive proof that the National Unionists are disposed to support the Government in the coming session of the Diet, for he is generally considered to be the leader of a large section of that Party. No doubt this phase of the matter irritates the Opposition organs that had some faint hope of gaining converts from the ranks of the National Unionists. In their despair we find these journals turning to the Satsuma men and trying to incite them against the so-called domination of the Choshu statesmen. The success of this manœuvre would, of course, produce a split in the Government's ranks, but it is a game that has been played more than once by the Progressionist organs, and there does not appear to be much prospect of its producing any effect on the present occasion.

THE IMPERIAL EDICT EXACTED BY ENGLAND.

The result of the decisive measures adopted by the British Government in the matter of the Szechuan outrages is that the ex-Viceroy Liu has been cashiered and disqualified for any official employment hereafter. The Imperial Edict announcing the fact was issued on the 29th of September, and ran as follows (we take the translation of the *North China Daily News*) :—

"On repeated occasions have Edicts been promulgated directing the Governors General and Governors of all the provinces to issue strict injunctions to the territorial officials that especial care must be exercised in the protection of the Mission Stations established by the various nations, in the hope that the people and the Christian converts may live at peace the one with the other.

"It came to our knowledge in the 5th moon of the present year that a disorderly mob had created a disturbance in the provincial capital of Szechuan, and destroyed Mission property near the East Parade Ground. This outbreak was followed by several others throughout the province, directed against Missionaries, all of which are to be attributed to the fact that in the ordinary course of things the territorial officials did not know how to admonish the people, and trouble consequently arose. Moreover, when the agitation had subsided, prompt measures were not taken to punish the offenders, and Liu Ping-chang, the Governor-General of the province in question, displayed

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none of the qualities expected from an officer holding the position he did. The blame attaching to him is therefore very great.

According to a memorial presented by the Censor Wu Kuang-kuei impeaching his conduct, Liu Ping-chang at the commencement of the outbreak in the capital took no notice thereof, nor did he send any soldiers to repress the mob. Such inaction resulted in the continual reinforcement of the ranks of disorderly vagrants, and in the increase of the number of attacks on Mission Stations at other places in the province. In consequence of this culpable negligence on the part of the Governor-General, and his abuse of the trust reposed in him, he is, as a warning to others, at once to be deprived of his rank, and is never to be again employed in the public service.

"As regards the other officials who failed in their duty, the Taotai, the Prefect, etc., Lu Ch'uan-lin is hereby directed in each individual instance to make the strictest enquiry into their conduct, which having been done he is to impeach and punish them."

It is to be observed that no mention is made of the British Representative's action in connection with the punishment of the ex-Viceroy. But that could scarcely have been expected. When an Emperor announces by edict that he degrades one of the highest officials in his realm at the instance of a foreign Minister, his imperialism becomes a vanishing quantity in the eyes of his subjects. Great Britain does not seek to weaken the authority of the Emperor of China; she only seeks to secure the lives and properties of her subjects. We can not but recall, in this context, the invidious comparisons that were drawn by certain journalists, a month ago, between the methods of the French and British Representatives in Pekin. M. Gérard's vigorous diplomacy was contrasted with the spiritless methods of Her Majesty's Minister, and Englishmen were told to hang their heads in shame. But the tables are turned now. There is no rational comparison possible between mere pecuniary compensation and the degradation of a Viceroy.

CHINESE COMMERCIAL MORALITY.

We hear so many compliments paid to the commercial morality of the Chinese as compared with that of the Japanese, that a piece of evidence furnished by Mr. Vice-Consul Scott's report on the Shanghai Mixed Court for 1894, is worth quoting:—

CIVIL CASES.—Compared with 1893, the list of civil cases set down for hearing at the Mixed Court during 1894 shows a large increase, being 92 against 76. Considering the unsatisfactory condition of trade during the past year, this increase in civil causes need excite no surprise. Chinese dealers have suffered heavily from the fall in exchange, for as business is now conducted nearly all contracts are on a sterling basis, and with the outbreak of war between China and Japan trade was completely disorganised. The claims thus entered in the Mixed Court represent but a small proportion of the losses incurred by English merchants in the course of their Chinese business. Time after time my good offices have been invoked to assist in arranging compositions out of Court; and it is only as a last resort that the foreign merchant has been compelled to summon the native dealer before the authorities.

A few firms engaged in the import of miscellaneous articles are constantly bringing claims in the Mixed Court; they have been giving credit to certain brokers who, possessed of no capital, were merely speculating for a rise in prices. In dealing with these cases the magistrate has repeatedly urged the necessity of caution on the part of the foreign merchant, and especially the necessity of obtaining bargain money, which can always be paid by respectable firms on signing contracts. Attempts have been made to repudiate agreements on the ground that no bargain money had been deposited. With Chinese dealers as between natives such payment is essential to validity, and otherwise it is important as determining the liability of each of several hongs who may have entered into a joint agreement with a foreign merchant; each Chinese dealer, party to the contract, can be assessed for any loss only *pro ratâ* to the amount of his bargain money.

This account of the state of affairs existing in Shanghai certainly does not indicate any freedom from the failing so often laid to the charge of the Japanese importer. Indeed it appears that, even taking into account the much larger volume of the trade, there were far more cases of broken contracts proportionately in Shanghai than in Yokohama during 1894.

CABINET CHANGES.

The speculations so freely indulged in by journalistic politicians during the past month as to probable changes in the constitution of the Cabinet, have been partially justified by events. The portfolio of Communications has been given to Mr. Shirane Senichi, who held the position of Vice-Minister of Home Affairs in the Matsukata Cabinet three years ago. Viscount Watanabe becomes Minister of State for Finance, the duties of which post he was already discharging. Mr. Shirane, previously to this promotion, was director of the Imperial Treasury Bureau in the Household Department, as well as a Court Councillor. He is succeeded in the former office by Mr. Watanabe Chiaki, now Governor of Kyoto, the latter's place being given to Mr. Yamada Nomumichi, Governor of Osaka, and Mr. Uchiumi Tadakatsu being appointed Governor of Osaka.

STEAMSHIPS IN JAPAN.

The outlines of the Government Bill for the encouragement of maritime enterprise have already been reproduced in these columns. Details relating to the subsidies for new lines to be opened to America, Australia, Europe, Wladivostock, and the China coasts, are said to be under discussion between the authorities and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Meanwhile, it may not be uninteresting to reproduce some figures from the *Nichi Nichi* bearing upon the number and tonnage of the Japanese steamers capable of engaging in foreign navigation. At the end of May last year, the number of sea-going ships registered was fifty-six, with an aggregate displacement of 97,286 tons (60,473 tons register). The outbreak of the war and the necessity of transporting troops, arms, ammunition, and provisions, led to a sudden and large addition of ocean going steamers to the mercantile marine of the country. The number of steamers newly purchased on that account from abroad during the twelve months ending June last was forty-six, with an aggregate displacement of 121,346 tons (77,515 tons register), thus bringing up the total of ocean-going steamers to 102, and their aggregate displacement to 218,630 tons (187,988 tons register). As to the age of these ships at the end of June last, twenty-five were above twenty years, forty-seven between ten and twenty years, and thirty under ten years. Of the steamers purchased during the war, twenty are above fifteen years and twenty-five under that age.

THE ELEVENTH CENSUS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Rev. Dr. Cochran, lately of Tokyo, recently contributed an excellent article on the above theme to an American paper, some items from which may be of interest to our readers. In the United States the list of separate religious denominations is very large. Almost every sect known to other countries is to be found there, including a few peculiar to the Union, as well as two original bibles, the Mormon and the Oahspe. If one desires to be a pagan, a Jew, or a Christian, he has the opportunity. If a pagan he may worship in the temple of Buddha; if a Jew, he may be orthodox or reformed; if a Christian he may take his choice of 125 or 130 different kinds. If none of these suit him, he still has a choice among 150 separate and independent congregations which have no denominational name, creed, or confession.

All these fall naturally into three great divisions, Christian, Jewish, and miscellaneous. The Christian group may be divided into Catholic and Protestant, evangelical and non-evangelical. Under the head of miscellaneous may be included Buddhists, Theosophists, Ethical Culturists and Communistic societies. These constitute a very small division—apart from the Chinese, they are less than 6,000. The Jewish division embraces simply the orthodox and reformed Jews—in all 130,496. The Christian division contains, of course, the great bulk of the population, over 20,500,000 communicants, besides adherents. Those who belong to the non-Christian organizations, such as Jews, Buddhists, etc., are less than 2 per cent. of the population, and except the Jews they are decreasing rather than growing.

The Christian forces are very large. They represent, in the first place, 111,036 ministers, the vast majority of whom give their whole time to pulpit and pastoral work, and are supported by the churches they serve. There are 165,297 organizations or church societies, and of these 23,000 own no church edifices but meet in halls or private houses. The services, including Sunday School sessions, amount to nearly 20,000,000 a year, with 10,000,000 of sermons. Add to this the activity of the Christian press, weekly, monthly, and in the form of books, and we have an aggregate of tremendous significance in the propagation of the Gospel.

There an 142,000 church edifices open to the public, with seating accommodation for 43,000,000 of worshippers—affording room for all who are free to attend worship once a week to do so. The aggregate value of these churches is $670,000,000, which has been freely invested for the public use and the public good. Nearly one person in every three of all ages is a Christian communicant.

The Christian population of the United States stands thus—Protestant communicants and adherents, 49,630,000; Catholics, 7,362,000; a total of 56,992,000. As the population, according to the census, is 62,622,250, it appears there are 5,630,000 who are neither Christian communicants nor Christian adherents; that is, one out of every 12 persons is either an active or passive opponent of the Christian religion. Out of the 49,630,000 of the Protestant communicants and adherents, the Methodist population alone numbers 13,794,000. Take the six largest Protestant denominations for the decade ending with 1890, and their increase amounted to more than 42 per cent., while the increase of the Roman Catholics during the same period was but about 30 per cent. As to the value of church property, the Methodists are assessed at $130,000,000; the Roman Catholics at $118,000,000. In comparison with the Protestant denominations in the United States, Roman Catholicism is small both as regards the number of communicants and adherents, and also in number and wealth of churches. M.

THE KYOTO CELEBRATION.

The date for the celebrations in connection with the eleven hundredth anniversary of the transfer of the Imperial Court to Kyoto has at length been fixed. Three days are to be devoted to the affair. Invitations have been issued by the Governor of Kyoto and by H.I.H. Prince Konoye, President of the Industrial Exhibition Committee. The Governor's invitation is for 9 a.m. on the 22nd, at the Heian Jingu, and the *invités* are requested to appear in frock-coats or corresponding uniform. Prince Konoye's invitation is for an evening party on the 23rd at 8 o'clock, the place being the Exhibition building and the dress evening costume. In each case persons attending are requested to present their cards with their invitations.

FLOATING OF THE "BELGIC."

The O. & O. steamer *Belgic* came off the beach at Suno-saki on Thursday at 12 o'clock, helped by a heavy sea. She passed Sagami at 3.10 p.m., under her own steam, and reached Yokosuka safely the same afternoon, where she will be docked. Captain Forbes and Captain Hardy are to be heartily congratulated upon the success attending the salving operations. We understand that the *Belgic* is the sixteenth vessel which Capt. Forbes has extricated from difficult positions on the shores of Japan, and the record of only one failure out of seventeen operations of a similar kind is one of which he may be justly proud. The *Belgic* went on the sand on the 8th September last. Captain Hardy conducted a survey of her bottom on Friday.

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CHINA NEWS.

The net result of the abortive Sikkim-Tibet Boundary Commission, according to a Shanghai contemporary, is that some knowledge has been acquired of the mountain ranges guarding the approaches to Tibet from India, and a small amount of surveying has been done.

The average gambler when driven to bay by the too frequent attentions of the police is capable of doing desperate things in the West. The Li Hongkew gamblers of Shanghai also, it appears, do not like the ever-recurring raids on and arrests of members of their fraternity, so last week when a Sikh policeman caught a gambler, he was attacked by a crowd armed with sticks and bamboos. The Sikh held on to his man, and though considerably bruised, took him to the station with the assistance of a Chinese constable. At the Mixed Court the gambler was sentenced to 300 blows and one week's cangue.

The *North China Daily News* translates the following for the information of would-be purchasers of land at the new treaty port of Shashi on the Yangtze :—The Chinchou Taotai, Hupeh, issued recently a proclamation to the effect that he and the Commissioner of Customs of Ichang had just finished their labours in selecting a suitable spot for government offices at the new treaty port of Shashi opened by the Treaty of Peace with Japan on the 8th of May last. The Shashi Customs and the Bureau of Foreign Affairs will occupy the new government land which contains a river frontage of 160 *chang* (about 2,000 English feet) in length and from 30 to 40 *chang* (about 500 English feet) in depth. The boundary stones are to be put up at once commencing on the west at the branch office of the Ichang Likin Customs stretching eastwards through Huangchiat'ai, Wangchiat'ai, and Wanchiat'ai, as far as the highroad named Huangchia Talu, or Highroad of the Huang Clan. T'aichou Talu highroad forms the northern boundary and the Yangtze makes the southern boundary. No one, continues the proclamation, will be able to buy any portion of the land within the above boundaries, as the original owners thereof have already been notified to proceed to the Chianglin magistrate's *yamên*, where they will be given a liberal price for the land which is to be specially devoted to government offices. Foreigners desiring to buy land at Shashi are to settle with the native owners themselves.

H.E. Wang Chih-ch'un, special envoy to Russia last year, has, we learn, arrived at Tientsin by the China Merchants' steamer *Hsinyü en route* for Pekin, and in the train also travelled Liu Taotai, ex-acting Taotai of Shanghai and Director of the Kiangnan Arsenal. The latter official was called to Pekin upon handing over the seals of office in Shanghai to the present Taotai, presumably for examination as to his qualification for the post of Minister to a foreign country.

The *North China Daily News* of the 28th ult. says:—A private letter from Lanchou, the capital of Kansu, *vid* Hsianfu, which latter place it left about three weeks ago, brings news agreeing with that in the telegram we published on Thursday morning. It states that the Mahommedans would not make a definite move until the 8th or 9th moon (September-October-November). Their intention is to set up a separate Kingdom in Kansu. It would seem from the *Kolao Hui* backing the Mahommedans, and Imperial troops (of whom the majority doubtless belong to the *Kolao Hui*) deserting to them, there is an arrangement that the Mahommedans shall have Kansu, and shall in return assist the *Kolao Hui* to oust the Manchu Government from Shensi and beyond.

According to an Indian contemporary, the trade of Burma with Western China is now making good progress. The advance is attributed in the report just issued to a slight relaxation of the exorbitant dues exacted by the Chinese officials. It is rather doubtful whether this relaxation will be permanent, as it is put down to a desire on the part of the Chinese officials to foster overland trade, owing to commerce from the coast ports being greatly hampered by the late war with Japan. Although the total figures show an improvement, the import trade in merchandise from Western China declined to the extent of two lakhs, due principally to lessened transactions in raw silk, silk piece-goods, and apparel. The amount of treasure imported and exported was very nearly the same, and the compiler of the report expresses his inability to see the reason for this apparently useless conveyance of treasure, unless bullion is brought, and coin taken back. The increase of the trade registered in Upper Burma, was to some extent minimised by the falling off in the transactions of Lower Burma, with Zimmé and Siam. In 1893-94 the trade showed an increase of 21.63 per cent., because international troubles between Siam and France interrupted dealings with Bangkok, and a portion of the traffic was diverted to Moulmein. Last year business returned to its normal channel, and consequently the Burmese trade was much smaller. The chance given in 1893-94 to obtain a surer footing beyond the border doubtless would have been much better utilised, if the communication between Moulmein and Chiengmai and the cost of transport had compared less unfavourably with those of the Bangkok route. The British Vice-Consul at Chiengmai has expressed his opinion that if the communications with Moulmein were improved, a good deal of business could be diverted from Bangkok, and that a new class of goods would be introduced, which are now unobtainable in the Shan States or not in general use because of their cost. While the British trade of the district has greatly increased in recent years, there has been a still larger development of French traffic and this is entirely due to the fact that nothing at all has been done to improve communications from Lower Burma, while the cost of transport has if anything risen owing to the general rise in wages. The British Vice-Consul at Chiengmai is of opinion that if railway communication with some seaport was established, or even if the existing routes were improved, British trade would be given an impulse and find an outlet in Northern Siam and the Southern Shan States that would well repay any initial outlay. "It is regrettable," he says, "that while complaints are rife of losses suffered by British trade, and of the effects of competition in other countries a promising field like this should be neglected." The question is one which should be pressed on the attention of the Government of India by the Chief Commissioner of Burma and the Chambers of Commerce.

Writing on the 23rd September, the Foochow correspondent of the Shanghai morning journal said :—In consequence of the hitch in the proceedings as to the Taotai's power to execute, of which you have been informed, the Commission of Enquiry did not sit for some days, but my information is to the effect that the list of murderers was almost complete by the 15th. To Chio hi, the standard-bearer, had been captured and was expected to arrive there that day, Ho Tiek (the "Butterfly") is supposed to have committed suicide whilst in custody by jumping over a bridge into a deep ravine in the Pingang district. The American Consul had received a telegram approving his action, but no instruction had come from Pekin. On the morning of the 17th seven of the murderers were executed at the South Gate of the city. All the members of the Commission were present with the exception of Captain Newell and the Rev. W. Banister. The scene was a most gruesome one, only one head being severed at the first blow, the others being chopped and the unfortunate wretches left to die. The seven men were :—Ting Huang-kiang, who stabbed Mr. Stewart, and Lung Nang-ming, who did the same, as well as assisting in the murder of Mrs. Stewart ; Ling-seng, who helped to kill the ladies after the flag came ; Lang Tau-kiang, who attempted to kill one of the children : Yek Ming-nik who boasted he had killed a little one about 7 years old, and also assisted in the murder of the ladies ; Ting King-sük, who helped to kill the sisters ; Sai Nu-long, who confessed to have stabbed two persons (a native of Hingsangpang, where the first trouble with Vegetarians took place). The executions took place quite suddenly, the Taotai on the previous day announcing that he had received a telegram from the Viceroy authorising the executions. Since then the names of sixteen more criminals have been communicated to the Viceroy for execution. Some difficulty was anticipated with regard to the procedure at the other trials, as the Consuls wanted to make it clear that the commutation of any sentence should rest with them, and be in accordence with their recommendations. A proclamation has been arranged with the Taotai, which it is hoped will set things right with the people and undo the mischief done by the one issued by the district magistrate some time ago. The British Consul insists that all the prisoners should be examined and he will doubtless carry his point, in which event the commission will take another month or six weeks, unless the Chinese authorities see the futility of obstruction and assist the enquiry more than they have been doing.

A correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, writing from Moukden says :—Among the enquiries addressed to the foreigners on their return to this city the most frequent was this :—"Is the Treaty of Peace settled ?" And another question immediately followed :—"Why do the Japanese not withdraw their troops?" Meanwhile the Amur and Kirin contingents are still quartered in the rich villages on the south of Liaoyang, and even the return of the prisoners who were interned in Haich'êng has not been sufficient to quell, though it allayed, the rumours persistently spread that war will again break out. A conversation reported between soldiers and a farmer, their involuntary host, may throw some light on the history of the late war. "When the war is resumed," they said, "we will let you know, and you must remove at once your family and what you can take with you. We don't mean to fight, and why should we ? If an officer is killed, his name is held in honour ; but if we fall, even our families never hear of it, and if we are wounded we are left to lie on the battle-field, and our pay is stopped." Again : "In time of peace there are officers and men, but on the battlefield we are all alike. We will first shoot our officers and then mount our horses and go ; and of course a man must live, so we will turn robbers, but we will give you notice in time to escape." Till recently the front was guarded by the Ch'u division of the Huai army under Hsü Pang-tao ; but after the death of their commander, orders were issued to disband them. The men, however, refused to lay down their arms until they received their arrears of pay and they showed such a united front that the authorities had to make a compromise. It was agreed to give them one-third of their pay in Moukden, one-third in Shanhaiknan, and the rest in Tientsin. One effect of the war has been to bring into relief the contrast between Chinese and Manchu troops. There is much jealousy both among the men and between the officers of the two classes. Thus it is asked why General Nieh is sent to the Board of Punishments to be condemned for the retreat from Siuyen, while General Fêng, who shared his guilt, is allowed to escape. The former is a Chinese, while the latter is a Manchu.

The Pekin correspondent of the same journal throws some light upon the inner history of the Tsung-li Yamên in a recent letter written from the capital. He says :—

Coming closely on the receipt of the news of the Kucheng massacre, it is some consolation to be able to report that a great change has taken place in the Tsung-li Yamên. Your correspondent has more than once called attention of this Yamên and even gone the length of advising that the Foreign Representatives should altogether ignore it. The crash has at last come. H.E. Sun I-wen has resigned, hounded out of place and power by the anti-Japanese party. H.E. Liao Shou-heng has been made Grain Commissioner at T'ungchow, near Pekin. But it remained for the arch-enemy of progress H.E. Ysü Hung-i to be dismissed. He was said to be an honest and capable official. For many years he has drafted all the despatches of the Yamên and only last year he was promoted to be member of the Cabinet, which was considered a great mark of honour. He still continued, however, to hold the pencil at the Fo-

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reign Office. He had formerly been one of the Cabinet secretaries. Your correspondent has had lying in his desk for years an *exposé* of this official's shortcomings but out of regard to the Powers that be, had refrained from giving publicity to his views. He may, however, say that he (the Minister) was the thorn in the side of the late Marquis Tsêng, and his political murderer. He opposed every reform in the country, Tsung-li Yamên, and T'ung Wên College, which the late Marquis proposed. He has long stood in the path of the adoption of Western medicine in the College. He refused the Korean reforms demanded by Japan and hence precipitated the war. He has had to do with the Russian loans, (we refrain from quoting the rumours that are afloat in this connection) by which the independence and dignity of this country have been sadly sacrificed, or at least placed in great jeopardy, and he has last of all been intimately connected with the Sino-Annamite convention which is just beginning to play its *rôle* on the stage of public events. The great Minister has been dismissed from the Tsung-li Yamên and the Cabinet, although he still holds the post of Left Vice-President of the Board of Civil Office. The Foreign Ministers have demanded, and rightly demanded, to be brought face to face with the responsible advisers of the Emperor, and not be obliged to carry on diplomatic work with a parcel of ignorant, powerless, and irresponsible officials. The two Imperial tutors to the present and late Emperors respectively, Weng Tung-ho and Li Hung-tsao, have been appointed Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên. We shall now have a strong Yamên—the leading minds being Prince Kung, Weng Tung-ho and Governor Yung Lu. H.E. Weng was formerly a bitter antagonist to foreigners, and thoroughly conservative, but has now become Liberal and Progressive. We shall see what transformation will take place upon these two men when they are brought into direct contact with foreign relations. If we had telegraphic communication with the spirit world it would be gratifying to forward a telegram to the spirit of his Excellency the late Marquis Tsêng, of the overthrow at last of his great antagonist—the opposer of all reforms. If the Government will only take up other matters in this spirit and make sweeping reforms, there may yet be hope for China, even at the eleventh hour.

The latest news regarding the new scholastic institution started in Tientsin by the Taotai Sheng is that Mr. Tenney, the President, has been holding examinations in Shanghai recently, and is now going on to Hongkong for the same purpose. The new institution is to be divided into a preparatory school and a collegiate department, with which special departments in law and engineering will ultimately be connected. The preparatory course and the advanced course will each be for four years. Mr. Tenney has been collecting students for the fourth class of the collegiate department and for the first, second, and third classes of the preparatory school. There were over ninety candidates for examination in Shanghai of whom about fifty have been accepted.

The *China Gazette* records with deep regret the death of the Mother Superior of the Convent of the Helpers of the Holy Souls, Sicawei, which occurred at the Institution of St. Joseph, Frenchtown, Shanghai, on the 28th ult. The lady, who was known in religious circles as Mother Marie Emmanuel, was a Belgian by birth and 54 years old, 28 of which she had spent in China, having been Superior of the Convent for the past 13 years. She was an accomplished Chinese scholar, and was deservedly loved and respected by all who came in contact with her during her useful and self-devoted career in China.

The Chinese Telegraph Administration has recently laid a cable across the Yangtze to Tsungming, and telegraphic communication with that important island will shortly be opened to the public.

H.M.S. *Alacrity*, flying the flag of Admiral Buller, left Shanghai on the morning of the 2nd Oct. for the Yangtze, Mr. J. W. Jamieson of the British Consulate-General, going as interpreter to the Admiral. By the same tide H.M.S. *Firebrand* left for Wênchow.

Eleven robbers were decapitated on the Parade-ground at the Old North Gate of the native city of Shanghai on the 2nd October. They were concerned in a robbery at Singyanghsien, and the value of their booty was placed at Tls. 3,000. Over 10,000 people are said to have witnessed the execution.

The *Sinwanpao*, a Chinese paper published in Shanghai, prints an article on the wisdom of giving way with a good grace in connection with the British Minister's ultimatum. It says that it was most unfortunate that the Emperor's advisers did not counsel his Majesty to give way from the first to Sir N. O'Conor's demands with reference to the degradation of Liu Ping-chang, knowing as they did the impossibility of resisting, and that they were bound eventually to accept whatever the British Minister at Pekin demanded. Had his Majesty been advised from the beginning to degrade Liu Ping-chang, the former would doubtless have received praise from the Western people represented by their Press, for his good sense and clear appreciation of what was just, "whereas," asks the editor of the paper, "what has been the result of the whole thing? The Tsung-li Yamên sternly refused the British Minister's demand for the instant degradation of the ex-Viceroy of Szechuan; the British Minister then gave an ultimatum, and finally scared by the warlike demonstration of the British fleet in the Yangtze, the Emperor surrenders and issues the edict demanded by the British Minister. What 'face' has the Chinese Government gained by this way of doing things? We shrink from going into details. It should, however, be a lesson which our chief rulers would do well to take to heart, for what with the disastrous results of the late war, China can scarcely afford to lose any more 'face' without seriously damaging her future prospects and losing the respect of the world."

Miss Codrington, who was so severely injured at Whasang, has gone home in the P. & O. steamer *Manila*.

Reports were received in Shanghai on the 3rd inst. announcing a rising in the prefecture of Kaochou, Kuangtung, and another, under the auspices of the *Pakua Hui*, in the prefecture of Tingchou, Fukien.

The sum of one hundred and thirty-two dollars has been contributed to the Hwasang Memorial Fund by the Tientsin and Taku communities.

H. E. Li Hung-chang has presented several deer and storks to Victoria Park, Tientsin. The gift, which was made through the Hon. Li Ching-mai, was accompanied by a very kind message from His Excellency, appreciative of the pleasant relations so long existing between himself and the foreign community of Tientsin.

Says the *Peking and Tientsin Times*:—Mr. F. D. Cheshire, who has been so long attached to the U.S. Legation in Pekin as Chinese Secretary, left Pekin for here on the 25th instant, for the purpose of joining the U.S. Cheng-tu Commission. Mr. Cheshire has been appointed by the Washington Government to take the place of the missionary originally intended to join the Commission, which is now only waiting the arrival of the naval officer to start overland for the seat of inquiry. The journey is some 1,700 miles. The members of the Commission are to be congratulated on having associated with them so accomplished a Chinese scholar and pleasant companion as the genial Mr. Cheshire. Many a mile will be the shorter for his company, and when the Commission starts business his experience of the wily Chinese official will simply be invaluable.

The situation is said to be very serious in the disturbed district near Swatow, remarks the Hongkong *Daily Press*. Minor outbreaks have occurred in a number of the districts surrounding the one in actual rebellion and the officials are taking the usual steps for suppressing the disturbance, namely, wholesale decapitations and the sending of the heads around the country for exhibition. One of the leaders who was arrested is described as having been a remarkably fine man, and it is said that when he was executed he would not kneel but had his head hacked off standing. It is reported at Canton that the rebels are being supplied with money and arms by Chinese in America, the Straits Settlements, and Australia.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 21st September says:—The anti-Christian rioting lately reported at Hok-chiang has spread to the Hinwha district. The mob has attacked two churches at a place called Sieng-In, doing them some damage, and the houses of the native pastors and teachers were plundered. A catechist was severely beaten. In these cases, at Hok-chiang, the magistrate took no notice, but allowed the rioters to have their way. It would appear that the mandarins are acting on some general plan of allowing the Christians to be persecuted. We hear from Kien ning-foo that the hospital there has been threatened and that anti-foreign placards have been extensively posted about all over the city and country. The authorities at Kien-ning-foo have sent some soldiers to protect the hospital, which it is to be hoped may result in its remaining untouched.

The new British dollar, says the Hongkong morning journal, is rapidly coming into general circulation. In payments made in silver almost as many of these coins will now be found as of Japanese *yen*, while the unsightly chopped Mexican is gradually disappearing.

ARMY RETURNS.

An interesting table, showing the number of officers in the various grades of the Japanese Army, is published by the *Jiji Shimpo*:—

Field-Marshals	4
Lieut.-Generals (including one on the Retired List.)	12
Major-Generals (including one on the Retired List.)	30
Inspectors-General	2
Inspectors-General of Hospitals	3
Colonels and officers of relative rank	106
Lieut.-Colonels and officers of relative rank	148
Majors and officers of relative rank	376
Captains and officers of relative rank	1,555
Lieutenants and officers of relative rank	1,295
Ensigns and officers of relative rank	1,629
Total	5,160

The total number on the 1st of July, 1894, was only 3,718, so that the increase caused by mobilization has been 1,442. The four Field-Marshals are H.I.H. Prince Akihito, Marquis Oyama, Marquis Yamagata, and Count Nodzu.

WEI-HAI-WEI.

Correspondence from Wei-hai-wei published in the *Jiji Shimpo* states that the Battalion of Infantry despatched there from Port Arthur for the purpose of acting as a guard to the parties engaged in the erection of barracks, landed at Mataukai on the 21st ult. The head-quarters of the Battalion were established at that place, while a Company was marched to a point outside the East Gate of Wei-hai-wei, where they are encamped for the present. The number of hands to be engaged in the construction of barracks will be 2,300 Japanese and 2,800 Chinese. Four hundred Japanese artisans and labourers arrived there on the 25th, and the rest are to follow soon. These barracks will be located at Mataukai, Wei-hai-wei, and other places within a circle of several miles. The lower order of Chinese are said to be well affected toward the Japanese, and to be obedient and humble in their attitude. But men of the higher classes, namely, those that do not derive any profit from the presence of the Japanese, seem to entertain more or less hatred for the invaders. A Chinese official from the Prefecture of Tung-wen is said to be busying himself affording all possible facilities to the Japanese. The engagement of coolies, the hiring of ground for the barracks, and other business transactions are conducted by the Japanese through the agency of Wang, a rich merchant of Wei-hai-wei. There is a scarcity of food stuffs for the Japanese troops, who are, consequently, compelled to fall back upon preserved meat and fish. Cases of dysentery were prevalent some time ago, but the disease is said to have almost completely disappeared.

Telegraphic instructions were issued by the Foreign Department to the Japanese Minister in Söul on the 9th inst. to make inquiries as to the whereabouts of the Queen, who is said to be missing since the recent *émeute*.

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"THE JAPANESE IMBROGLIO."

II.

BEFORE considering the gist of the remarkabe essay in *Blackwood's Magazine*, it seems worth while to continue our examination of the details, because, by his accuracy or inaccuracy in the setting of his picture the truth of a writer's portrait may generally be discovered.

> Great Britain, in fact, betrayed her anxiety to purchase China's friendship at any price, apparently forgetting the teaching of history and the lessons of worldly experience, that it is strength and not weakness that commands influence all the world over.

This paragraph, though conveying an explicit impression, is so vaguely phrased and covers such a large area of assertion, that to deal with it exhaustively would require a thesis on the whole of Great Britain's policy in China during the past ten years. The salient idea, however—namely, that Great Britain adopted the attitude of a suppliant for China's alliance—can be disposed of in a very few words. Great Britain never made the slightest overture in that sense. It was with China that the conception of an *entente* had its origin. After the Franco-Chinese struggle, from which China emerged with a fictitious halo of prestige, due not to her own merits but to the *insouciance* of her enemy, Viceroy LI'S ambition became fired with the project of recovering the Amur provinces, the cradle of the Manchu Dynasty. To that end—an end the consummation of which would have raised him to the highest possible pinnacle of reputation and reward in his country—he devoted, for a time, all his energies, and employed agents whose zeal often outran their discretion. England received these overtures with her wonted deliberation. Not even by her most callow statesman does the phantasy of an actual alliance with China seem to have been entertained. But there could be little question as to the advisability of strengthening any bulwark calculated to improve the stability of her position in Central Asia, and to assist in shoring up the barrier that it had always been her traditional policy to construct against Russia's southward aggression. To that extent she encouraged China's attitude, but that the Cabinet in London ever sacrificed the rights of a single British subject on the altar of a Chinese alliance, or exposed the nation's honour to humiliation in order to preserve an *entente* with Pekin, is a fiction worthy only of outport jingoism. The fact is that during the past decade the gun-boat element has been dropped out of British policy in the East. It is a change dictated, not by any desire to conciliate foes or to win friends, but by the spirit of the time. If England's treatment of Japan since 1885 be read by the light of immediately antecedent records, there will be found a thousand evidences of good-will and confidence such as have no place, comparatively speaking, in the story of Anglo-Chinese relations. That the time was not ripe even for a tentative degree of kid-gloved intercourse with China has unfortunately been demonstrated by a series of terrible events, and, curiously enough, the demonstration has been almost synchronous with a still more striking object lesson in China's utter worthlessness for fighting purposes. If England erred as to China's military value, she erred in common with all the Western world; if she extended even to China the higher canons of international intercourse prescribed by nineteenth century civilization, she set an honourable, though unhappily a premature, example to the rest of the Western world. But the point that no careful student of contemporary history can overlook is the consistency of her procedure in the Orient. Toward Japan her courtesy and amity have been even warmer and more progressive than toward China, but Japan, living up to this refined treatment, has not offered any shocking evidence of its incongruity, whereas China's conduct has been a chapter of proofs that the gun-boat was prematurely eliminated. Our faith in Great Britain's capacity to re-adjust her policy to any circumstances, and in her ability to practically enforce the re-adjustment, is too strong to permit any apprehension that she has permanently forfeited her leadership in the East, and should circumstances compel her to adopt a programme of coercion and force in the future, she will be justified by the patience and conciliation of her attitude in the past.

We pass now to the essayist's account of the DETRING mission, certainly not the least naïve and curious of his descriptions. He attaches great importance to the mission, declaring it to have been "the turning-point in the relations between Europe and China." He tells us that it was undertaken at the instance of the Foreign Powers, but is careful to add that "no consultation respecting the constitution of the mission appears to have been had with the Foreign Representatives in Pekin." That, indeed, was most improbable. It is easy to conceive what opinion the Foreign Representatives would have expressed had they been asked to endorse the choice of a foreign *employé* of the Customs Service as Envoy of the Chinese Empire to the MIKADO, and had they been told that his credentials were to be signed, not by the SOVEREIGN, but by Viceroy LI. As to the "objective points" of the mission, we are informed that they were three. First, "to probe the Japanese, whether they were open to treat for peace, and thus to give the cue to China and her friends." Secondly, "to open the way to peace negotiations should the Japanese prove accessible." Thirdly, "to enable LI HUNG-CHANG to weather the storm which was expected to burst on him when Port Arthur should fall, an event then daily expected. Having been named in the Imperial Decree constituting the mission as the medium of communication between the Envoy and the Throne, the Viceroy was secured in his position as long as the mission was *in esse*." These objective points repay careful perusal. They constitute the best possible justification of Japan's refusal to treat with the DETRING mission. For they show, in the clearest manner, that the mission had no plenipotentiary powers whatever, but was merely a pilot balloon sent out to discover how the wind blew in Japan. Its purpose was simply to test Japan's mood, to obtain some indication of her demands, and to play the part of a political instrument in the interests of Viceroy LI. Such is the character given to the mission by one professing full knowledge and writing in defence of Chinese procedure! It is precisely what the most violent organs of the War party in Japan said of the mission at the time of its coming, except that they failed to detect its third function as a buttress of the LI fortunes. Looking back calmly at the incident, and accepting implicitly this account of it from the pen of a thoroughgoing advocate, we are compelled to endorse the view taken by certain Japanese journals at the time, namely, that the mission was little short of an insult to Japan. But the writer in *Blackwood's* criticises Japan severely for not receiving and treating with Mr. DETRING. Would any self-respecting Power have received such an Envoy with such credentials? The writer in *Blackwood's* alleges that when the Japanese Ministers assigned the insufficiency of the Envoy's credentials as a reason for not negotiating with him, "they had not even seen his credentials." It is difficult to believe that such an allegation is made seriously. Not only had the Japanese Ministers seen the credentials, but the text of them had been telegraphed to Tokyo and thence to London. Unless we are greatly mistaken as to the identity of the author of "The Japanese Imbroglio," he must be well aware that, on the evening of the mission's arrival in Kobe, its members dined at the house of a certain foreign merchant; that they were there waited upon by a Japanese with whom they had been in telegraphic communication for months before leaving China, and that through him an account of their powers and credentials was immediately wired to Hiroshima. If any justification were needed of the attitude assumed by the Japanese Cabinet toward the DETRING mission, it is furnished by this extremely ingenuous account of the mission's powers and purposes. What follows is even more curious. For, having told his readers that the mission was intended only "to open the way to negotiations," and that its rejection by Japan disclosed "the large aims and inexorable temper of the Japanese," he proceeds to catalogue the terms that Japan might have

obtained had she received the mission and opened negotiations with China in its sequel. She might have had ceded to her "Korea and the whole southern coast of Liaotung, including the naval stations of Port Arthur and Talien-wan;" she might have obtained Formosa, and she might have had "an indemnity as large as that ultimately secured by the Treaty of Shimonoseki." But, as a matter of fact, she never asked for more. She never asked even for so much. After she had taken Weihaiwei and destroyed or crippled the Peiyang Squadron, she demanded only Formosa, Liaotung, and an indemnity, leaving Korea independent. So, then, the proof of her "large aims and inexorable temper" was that, before her final and conclusive victories, she declined to formulate demands more extensive than those put forward by her after her victories! The writer leaves us to find out for ourselves how Russia could have been induced to consent, at the time of the DETRING mission, to the cession of Korea and Liaotung to Japan; Russia who, "a month before the outbreak of the war," had made "representations of such a nature that no doubt could have been left in the mind of the MIKADO'S Ministers as to the part which she must eventually play in any re-adjustment of the balance of power in the Far East."

To continue the story, however. The DETRING mission was rejected, and "what actually resulted from its rejection was that the interested Powers were apprised that the reticence of Japan concealed inordinate pretensions and unfathomed schemes of aggrandisement with recklessness of the consequences of the overthrow of order in the Chinese Empire." By what possible process of reasoning Japan's refusal to formulate her terms to a German *employé* of the Chinese Customs, accredited by a Viceroy, could be construed as evidence that she entertained inordinate pretensions and unfathomed schemes of aggrandisement, with recklessness as to the fate of the Chinese empire, the bewildered reader is left to imagine. But can anyone be deluded by such writing? Because Japan did not, in January, ask for and obtain much more than she demanded in April, and much more than the European Powers could possibly have sanctioned, she stood convicted of inordinate pretensions and unfathomed schemes of aggrandisement! And is it not clumsily disingenuous to pretend that the European Powers drew any such deduction from her refusal to treat with such an envoy so accredited? Every interested European Power knew perfectly well before Mr. DETRING landed in Kobe that Japan would not ask for more than Formosa, Liaotung, an indemnity, and the independence of Korea. There was no mystery at all, nor could anybody acquainted with the most rudimentary proprieties of diplomatic procedure construe the Japanese Government's natural attitude toward a flagrantly unqualified envoy in the extravagant sense suggested by *Blackwood's* correspondent. Then came the CHANG mission. If there be one thing more clearly demonstrated than another about the CHANG mission, it is that the Envoy's credentials were inadequate. The credentials have been laid before the world, and no publicist has ever ventured to suggest that they were such as could have been considered satisfactory. They conferred no plenipotentiary power whatever, but merely constituted CHANG and his colleague channels for communicating the proposals of Japan to the Chinese Government; commissioned them, in short, to act as a superior kind of telegraphic clerk. The United States Representative in Pekin frankly acknowledged the fact. By him a very different form of credentials had been drafted. Mr. FOSTER, who accompanied the mission, made the same acknowledgment. The Envoys themselves acknowledged it, and offered to have the credentials corrected by telegraph. Corrected by telegraph! Conceive the fatuity of consenting to such flagrantly irregular and untrustworthy procedure with China for *vis-à-vis*; China that had made Japan pay dearly for a much smaller exercise of credulity in 1881! Remember, too, that the eminently doubtful element of the affair was China's sincerity. Was she earnestly suing for peace, or did she merely seek to gain time? That was the great question. She answered it by neglecting to comply with the recognised forms of international negotiation. Years previously, when the same reason to doubt her sincerity did not exist, credentials of precisely the same character carried by one of her envoys, had been rejected by a British Plenipotentiary as altogether inadequate. The world does not contain any ordinarily prudent statesmen that would have negotiated with CHANG on the strength of the credentials he carried, or would have consented to their amendment by telegraph. Noting all these things, what shall we say of the assertions in *Blackwood's* that "the second mission was treated more roughly than the first, and for the self-same reason, immaturity;" that "the Chinese at once offered to put themselves in order and to satisfy every exigency with regard to their credentials;" that "the mission was really wrecked because it did not suit Japan then to engage in negotiations for peace," and that "had the MIKADO'S Government desired a settlement, a word would have removed all the verbal obstacles behind which they were hiding their unreadiness to treat?" Surely it is more reasonable to say that had the Chinese Government desired a settlement, they would not have neglected the universally recognised forms of international procedure, would not have flouted the technical advice given to them by their own chosen intermediary, the Representative of the United States in Pekin, and would not have sent to Japan an Envoy carrying credentials that conferred upon him no higher functions than those of a mere channel of communication.

III.

IT is unnecessary to continue our examination of the errors and misconceptions that disfigure the details of the narrative in *Blackwood's*. We pass to the gist of the story, namely, that the pressure ultimately put upon Japan by Europe was due entirely to Germany; that whatever advantage China gained from that pressure, she owes to Herr VON BRANDT and Mr. DETRING, and that Great Britain's policy in not joining the triple alliance was suicidal.

The steps by which Germany's part was worked out are very clearly indicated. "China," we are told, "defeated in the arena of public opinion as well as on the field of battle, cast about for a champion, and her choice fell on Herr VON BRANDT." It appears that although the very remarkable activity displayed by this diplomatist in the interests of individual German merchants during his representation of the Fatherland in Pekin, often involved considerable inconvenience for China, his firmness and thoroughness won the respect of Chinese officials, and indicated him as a fitting person to fight the battle of the Middle Kingdom in a difficult crisis. He was invited to accept the post of "Ambassador Extraordinary charged to represent China at the various Courts of Europe." The honour was declined, but from that time Herr VON BRANDT began to "render China a greater service as confidential correspondent and adviser, to keep her informed of the state of opinion and of political currents in Europe, mayhap to give these currents a slight bias in Chinese favour." To impute motives is a miserable task, but how are we to close our eyes to the significance of this very injudicious revelation as to the main-springs of Herr VON BRANDT'S action? We had hitherto regarded him only in the light of a publicist whose very conspicuous propaganda during the latter half of the war was attributable solely to zeal for German interests and to a conviction, sincere if mistaken, that Japan's prëeminence would entail injury to his country's commerce. But we are now instructed by his panegyrist—who speaks with assumption of absolute knowledge—to recognise in him a "confidential correspondent and adviser" of the Chinese Government. What the change of character means, our readers may estimate for themselves.

This "confidential correspondent and adviser" of China was thenceforth found "ventilating his opinions more and more freely in the German press, showing how the upheaval in the Far East was likely to imperil the interests of European commerce and upset the political equilibrium."

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His "clear sight did not long escape the notice of German statesmen, eventually reaching the KAISER himself." "In the earlier stages of the war the EMPEROR had been enthusiastically Japanese, and it was only new light that caused HIS MAJESTY to veer round." That light emanated from VON BRANDT, and "the hand of the ex-Minister became distinctly visible in the direction of German policy in all its later developments." Such, succinctly, is the account given of Germany's conversion, or perversion. Other causes cö-operated — we shall presently consider them—but the *fons et origo* was the "confidential correspondent and adviser" of the Chinese Government.

Now, as to the other causes that helped to metamorphose Germany's mood. The first was Japan's treatment of the DETRING mission.

> Among the uncalculated effects of the mission was the growth of German sympathy for China. The attacks on the Envoy in the French and English press, on the *mot d'ordre* from Japan, set up a certain reaction in the German papers in favour of their countryman thus unfairly attacked. The Envoy had travelled to Japan in a German steamer, which was treated during his stay in Kobe harbour in a way by no means complimentary to the flag. All this, together with the daily vituperation in the Japanese press, the offensive espionage of the police, and other annoyances, could not but make a certain impression on the German representatives in Japan, whose reports to Berlin may very well have helped to swell the slowly rising tide of German sympathy with China.

What is the meaning of this paragraph? Its writer must know perfectly that no journalistic attack was ever made, either in Japan or in Europe, upon Mr. DETRING as Mr. DETRING. A foreign employé of the Chinese Customs, his unfitness to be accredited as China's peace envoy to the EMPEROR of Japan at a great crisis of the two empires' destinies, was freely pointed out. The man himself and his capacities did not enter into the question at all. Are we to suppose the German nation so hysterically sensitive as to resent criticism of a gross blunder perpetrated by China because the agent employed by her happened to be one of her German *employés?* With regard to the facts of the treatment received by the steamer that carried Mr. DETRING, it will be observed that the writer, so careful to expose details in other matters, preserves a discreet silence. The steamer was a vessel chartered by China for a Chinese purpose. The accident that it flew the German flag could not entitle it to any privileges incompatible with the character of the service upon which it was engaged. Germans have too much intelligence to betray such a lack of discrimination as the writer in *Blackwood's* attributes to them.

The second cö-operative cause had to be introduced to German sympathy by Herr VON BRANDT. It was nothing more or less than Russia's dilemma. "The fundamental law of nature, self-preservation," compelled Russia to set her face against the overflow of an active military race into the territories along her Chinese frontier. She could not allow Japan to become dominant there. It might be supposed that the leader of the Dreibund in Europe would not leap at an opportunity to secure the leader of the Zweibund against such a peril. But Herr VON BRANDT thought differently. "In short, he saw his chance to extract much advantage for his country by helping Russia in time of stress."

> From the German side here was a really providential opportunity of purchasing the lasting friendship of Russia by rendering a service which would cost next to nothing. By a single stroke the greatest results for the German empire might be attained; the sentimental alliance between Russia and France emasculated; possibly the door opened for eventual reconciliation even with France herself, and, as a consequence, Germany relieved of the crushing weight of the defence of both her frontiers.

But though statesmen might appreciate these things, they could not give concrete expression to their views without the pressure of public opinion behind them. To develop that pressure became, accordingly, the next problem demanding solution. It was solved thus :—

> The manner in which industrial, commercial, middle class Germany was brought round to the Chinese side is so illustrative of the world-wide question of German competition that it forms one of the not least interesting features in the whole movement. The German merchants in China were well aware that their interests lay in the cultivation of the China field, and that the most formidable opposition to their industries was threatened from the competition of Japan. To preserve their China markets became thus a definite object of German commercial policy. Machinery was set in motion to bring these views home to the commercial community in Germany. The Hanse towns, led by Hamburg, opened their eyes and took up the cause warmly. Their Chambers of Commerce made the strongest possible representations to the Government, urging the special advantages which would accrue to German commerce from the peaceful development of China. The great Krupp was enlisted in the propaganda, and he took up the matter energetically. The Essen factory had profited much by the Chinese demand for guns, and as of all the material supplied little remained save the portrait of the late Frederich Krupp in oils, presented by him to Li Hung-chang, there was a capacious gap to be filled by "repeat orders." Herr Krupp moved actively in financial and Government circles in Berlin, where his influence is great. Various other agencies were set to work, all directed to the one object of protecting the integrity of China. The effect of this converging fire was to reduce the fortress already disposed to capitulate; to bring, in short, the German Government and people into line, and to enable Germany to pronounce the decisive word.

It will be observed that in this analysis, on the whole explicit and detailed, an impersonal and mysterious element occasionally crops up. "Machinery was set in motion;" "the great KRUPP was enlisted in the propaganda;" "various other agencies were set to work," and so forth. In the gap thus left we have of course to place the hand of the confidential correspondent and adviser of China," Herr VON BRANDT.

Let us recapitulate the mainsprings of Germany's interference on China's behalf as set forth by the writer in *Blackwood's*. First, Herr VON BRANDT, who for 18 years had presided at the German Legation in Pekin, becomes "the confidential correspondent and adviser of China" in Europe, and in that capacity inaugurates a pro-Chinese propaganda in the press and in official circles. Secondly, the same VON BRANDT, having "as clear a perception as any Russian" of the danger that Japan's military expansion involves for Russia, persuades the KAISER and the Berlin statesmen to seize this "really providental opportunity of purchasing the lasting friendship of Russia" by forbidding Japan to retain any of her continental conquests. Thirdly, the merchants of Germany invoke official aid to save them from the peril of Japanese competition in the markets of China, Herr KRUPP conspicuously fomenting this agitation for the sake of getting "repeat orders" to replace the war material expended by China in her struggle with Japan. It does not fall within the range of our intelligence to comprehend how Japan's possession of the Liaotung Peninsula and the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea would interfere with Herr KRUPP'S chances of selling guns and ammunition to China, unless, indeed, the fact be taken into account that no re-armaments would then be needed for Port Arthur, Talien, and Yingkow. But we are not concerned to elucidate this point. The essayist's general *resumé* of Germany's motives subjects our reasoning powers to such a heavy strain that we have no residuum of strength to dwell upon a mere detail. It only remains to add that Germany, shaping her policy by such principles and directing her diplomacy to such ends, is held up as a splendid contrast to the invertebrate *laissez-aller*, somnolent attitude of Great Britain in the East. Accepting the essayist's analysis as it stands, we do not find that the contrast brings any flush of shame to our brow. In fact, it produces an entirely different sensation. But at any rate, justice demands that note be taken of the harshness shown by the fates toward England in this matter. For her no such happy factor operated as a "confidential correspondent and adviser of China," expounding *la haute politique* in the press, and clarifying the vision of Court and Cabinet. To her no "providential opportunity of purchasing the lasting friendship of Russia" presented itself. To her Japanese competition in open Oriental markets did not suggest any terrifying contingencies, since to compete fairly and squarely in all markets has always been an essential condition of her commercial supremacy. To her the notion of checking a nation's industrial expansion by military and diplomatic barriers did not commend itself, for experience had taught her the mischievous futility of such devices. In her case no KRUPP, inspired by a longvista of "repeat orders," brought strong influence to bear upon "financial and Government circles," to secure China's integrity. If, lacking all these advantages, Great Britain did not rise to Germany's level of international sagacity and commercial shrewdness, is she to be greatly blamed?

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IV.

OFFICIAL and public opinion in Germany having been persuaded of the importance of preserving Manchuria intact for China, we now find an account of the methods by which this change of sentiment was practically utilized. But first it must be noted that, according to *Blackwood's* essayist, Germany's unfriendliness to England was as consistent as her mood toward Japan was capricious. When Great Britain, at China's instance, originally sought to avert war by substituting European mediation, Germany not only refused to cöoperate, but also "took the opportunity to administer a rather tart snub, by asking point blank what ulterior action England was prepared to take in case of the advice of the Powers not being followed by the belligerents." That silenced Lord ROSEBERY, and "the subject of mediation was dropped." When it was revived at the final stage, this is what we are told about Germany's attitude toward England:—"The Berlin Foreign Office was predisposed towards the new imperial policy * * * by the smouldering ill-feeling of the department towards England which had been engendered by the friction connected with Samoan and African affairs. It was undoubtedly this official irritation which lent its sting to the surly answer which was returned to the British proposal for mediation in October last. Thanks chiefly to Germany, Great Britain was isolated whether in her policy of defending the integrity of China, or of seeking through the friendly offices of neutrals to put an end to the war." Then follows a *resumé* of "the illusions in England about Japan," and we are finally told:—"Such indications might easily suggest to any one viewing the matter from across the North Sea that, in this Far Eastern question, England might be safely left out; which brings us at last to the point of our argument, that the Berlin Foreign Office saw no great difficulty in a second time compassing the isolation of England. Nay more, she might be reviled in the Continental press for her egotistical abstention from the coercive coalition which was suddenly sprung upon her." Thus, in a word, the German statesmen deliberately defeated Great Britain's attempted mediation to avert war, and with equal deliberation contrived that she should be excluded from the coalition to preserve China's continental integrity. It must often have occurred to readers of journals and magazines that there prevails among some English critics a singular tendency to hold up British diplomacy to scorn, and to represent their country as the victim of constant international slights induced by her own ineptitude and flaccidity. One imagines that before undertaking a task naturally repugnant to patriotic sentiment, these critics would assure themselves of the accuracy of the facts forming the basis of their charges. But if they do devote any labour to research, the results must come to them through an extremely refractive medium. It is true that Germany declined to second Great Britain's efforts in the cause of peace before the war broke out. But it certainly is not true that the statesmen in Berlin, by virtually defying England to convert her amicable mediation into armed intervention, "snubbed" Lord ROSEBERY into silence. At that time Germany's sympathies being with Japan, it is very possible that she found Great Britain's methods insufficiently appreciative of Japan's claims. But there is no foundation for the statement that the Cabinet in Berlin treated Lord ROSEBERY'S proposals in the brusque, unfriendly manner described by the writer in *Blackwood's*. Still wider of the truth is the assertion that the Berlin Foreign Office deliberately "compassed the isolation of England" in connection with the Liaotung question. On the contrary, the Berlin Foreign Office frankly and earnestly invited Great Britain's cöoperation, and expressed, with regard to her refusal, sentiments bearing no manner of resemblance to the superficial criticisms penned by a section of the German press. As for Great Britain, her chief reason for declining to join the Triple Alliance was simple: having laboured from the first with the object of averting war, she had no disposition to interfere with a settlement for restoring peace.

The European combination having been formed, mainly through the efforts of Herr VON BRANDT, a connecting link between it and China was found in Herr DETRING. The latter laboured in Tientsin and Pekin to keep erratic China in touch with Germany; the former toiled in Berlin to make Germany secure China's continental integrity for the sake of conciliating Russia. Here a chronological difficulty presents itself. We know, as a matter of history, that the Triple Alliance was not formed until after Japan's terms had been stated at Shimonoseki. *Blackwood's* essayist declares that it was "in due process of crystallization" at least two months earlier, namely, when LI HUNG-CHANG accepted the mission to Japan, and proceeded to Pekin to receive instructions. It is essential for the sake of his story that the date assigned by him should be correct. For the sake of Germany's fair fame, however, we note the discrepancy, and shall refer to it later on. LI HUNG-CHANG, though he did not receive any "specific promises" before setting out as to the contemplated action of the European coalition, "was undoubtedly given in a general way to understand that anything like dismemberment or other outrageous demand would be opposed by force." Thus fortified, he approached the negotiations. In describing these, *Blackwood's* essayist betrays the same flagrant bias that disfigures all his writing. He is most reluctant to admit that in granting an armistice to China without conditions, Japan was really moved by the attempted assassination of the Viceroy, and he endeavours to discount the value of the armistice by alleging that "it reserved full liberty to the Japanese to carry on the War in Formosa, the only place where the season was favourable for operations." Now the period covered by the armistice was March 30th to April 20th. Every person acquainted with the topographical and climatic condition of Pechihli knows, none better than the writer in *Blackwood's*, that April and May are the very best months in the whole year for moving an army from Shanhaikwan or Taku against Pekin. Such an operation above all others China wished to prevent, and precisely for such an operation Japan was preparing when the Shimonoseki conference opened. Hence it is impossible to be more disingenuous than a writer pretending that the armistice was of little value because it did not suspend insignificant operations against a distant island which China was perfectly willing to cede to Japan, while it did suspend the only really fatal blow from which China was shrinking in affright, the capture of her capital. Similar injustice is observable in the writer's allegations that "the Japanese delayed delivering to LI HUNG-CHANG the particulars of their demands, notwithstanding his repeated applications to be furnished with them;" and that "as soon as they had communicated their terms they began to hurry him for his final answer, a full week before the expiry of the armistice." The dates are these:—On March 24th, when the preliminaries of the conference had been barely arranged and the Japanese Plenipotentiaries had definitely announced their intention of stating their terms on the following day the Viceroy received a wound, and became incapacitated to continue the sittings. On March 30th, the armistice was signed. On April 3rd, the Viceroy was able to leave his house in a palanquin. On April 1st, the Japanese terms were explicitly formulated, and on April 10th the Conference was formally re-opened. There was not so much as one hour's unnecessary delay. As for the charge that the Japanese pressed for an answer "a full week before the expiry of the armistice"—namely, after the terms had been under consideration by the Viceroy for 10 days—what if they did? We lay no stress on the Viceroy's repeated fixings, and repeated postponements, of a day for giving his answer. We lay no stress on his requests to have the time of the armistice extended, in the face of Japan's emphatic declarations that extension could not be considered for a moment. We simply accept the explanation advanced by the writer in *Blackwood's*:—"Following the advice given him, LI HUNG-CHANG was

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Japanese terms until he should hear positively what had been determined in Berlin." Could any admission be naiver? LI dilly-dallied and shilly-shallied until some sign came from Berlin that he might solemnly sign, on behalf of his EMPEROR, promises that he knew would never be fulfilled! Against this miserable trickery on the part of the Chinese Envoy the writer in *Blackwood's* has not a word to say. All his indignation is reserved for the Japanese Plenipotentiaries who, by refusing to submit to the Viceroy's iterated procrastinations, tried to save their country from becoming the victim of his shameless chicanery. This part of the story is so striking that we quote it in full:—

> During the negotiations the anxiety in Pekin was intense, for, following the advice given him, Li Hung-chang was delaying his final submission to the Japanese terms until he should hear positively what had been determined in Berlin. The foreign Ministers in Pekin were slow to believe in a coalition at all, although the efforts of at least three of them had contributed materially towards it; and they were candidly sceptical as to the possible influence of a retired official on public affairs. The Chinese Ministers, it would seem, in their flurry, had let out what had been till then a secret, that Herr von Brandt was behind the scenes and virtually managing the play. The Tsung-li Yamên was, on the one hand, warned against indulging in false hopes of assistance, and, on the other, it was supported by the confident assurances conveyed through Mr. Detring. The negotiations were going on daily at Shimonoseki, the days of grace were running out, and nothing tangible yet forthcoming. It was no wonder that the nervous ministers at last yielded to pressure and forbade Mr. Detring to occupy himself further in the affair. Whether the message conveying this instruction was "delayed in transmission," or whether the receiver put his blind eye to the telescope, makes no matter, for it fell out that the official announcement that the three Powers had decided to save Liaotung was made to the Yamên very soon after. The deed was done. The word was given to Li Hung-chang at Shimonoseki to sign, and he signed the treaty, well knowing that so far as the territory on the mainland was concerned it was but a Platonic exercise.

Little need be said to emphasize the turpitude of the scandalous transaction here recorded. If LI HUNG-CHANG signed the Shimonoseki Treaty with the certainty that he was pledging his country to a pretence; if, in the name of his EMPEROR, he purchased peace by paying for it in coin that he knew to be spurious, by ceding Liaotung after the Tsung-li Yamên had received an official announcement that the Three European Powers would save the peninsula—if he did these things, he added to the annals of his country the most disgraceful chapter that has yet disfigured them. But can we believe the tale? Observe what it involves. In the first place, it involves the hypothesis that Germany, Russia, and France officially conveyed to the Chinese Government a promise that they would guarantee China against the consequence of a deliberate act of the grossest perfidy toward Japan. In the second place, it involves the hypothesis that Germany, Russia, and France, by intimating their resolve to China and concealing it from Japan, contrived the conclusion of a treaty which they had fully resolved to destroy. In the third place, it involves the hypothesis that Germany, Russia, and France wilfully regulated their action so as to cause a maximum of embarrassment and humiliation to Japan, inasmuch as they could have informed her of their Liaotung resolve before the signing of the Treaty, but withheld the information until after not only the Treaty's signature but even its ratification by the MIKADO. Not one of these hypotheses is tenable. We have thought that Germany adopted a mistaken line of policy with regard to Liaotung, and recent events have not shaken our conviction. We have thought, and do think, that the exigencies of her position in Europe induced her to perform, last March, another of the *volte-faces* by which her international policy as an empire has been disfigured. We have thought, and do think, that before she emerges from the unnatural boat in which she has now embarked, she will find her hands blistered by the oar. But that there has been so much as a shadow of double-dealing on her part, or on the part of either of her associates; or that she has not shaped her policy so as to do the least possible violence to her friendship for Japan, we do not for an instant conceive. The three Powers did not officially communicate to the Tsung-li Yamên, before the signature of the Shimonoseki Treaty, their resolve to erase one of its clauses, and their reason for not making the communication was that no such resolve had yet been definitely taken. They did not convey their resolve about Liaotung to Japan until after the Treaty's ratification by the MIKADO, and their reason for not making the communication sooner was that the resolve had only just been arrived at. They had no hand, act, or part, directly or vicariously, in the wretched trick ascribed to LI HUNG-CHANG by the writer in *Blackwood's*. It is very possible that Herr VON BRANDT, the "confidential correspondent and adviser" of the Chinese Government, keeping keen watch over the progress of events in Berlin, and probably furnished with some instrument to catch the echoes of official doings, was able to predict with practical certainty the *entente* finally established between the three Powers, and to interpret its exact significance. It is also possible that Viceroy LI had been placed in possession of VON BRANDT'S prediction and interpretation before he perpetrated the sham of signing away Liaotung. But that is a mere question of astuteness and contrivance on the part of China's secret agents and of chicanery on the part of her statesmen. To confound it with the acts of great, self-respecting Powers like Germany, France, and Russia, is an outrage.

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v.

IF the political insight of *Blackwood's* essayist were equal to his literary ability, and if his historical accuracy were on a par with his elegance of diction, his work would excite very much greater interest. At any rate, his appreciations as to England's present position are worthy of consideration. She has lost her leadership in the East, he tells us, by refusing to join the coercive coalition of the three Powers. How are we to reconcile that assertion with the fact that the invitation to join came from Germany? Had Russia, France, and Germany any intention of placing themselves under England's leadership—Russia, whose sole purpose was to free her frontiers from obstructions such as England has always tried to place there; Germany, whose policy was simply to placate Russia by furthering her projects, and to dilute the Franco-Russian *entente*; France, whose aim was to establish a fresh lien upon Russian friendship that she might utilize it against Germany and England? It seems to us that to ally herself with such a triplet of partners would have been England's most emphatic method of surrendering her leadership in the East. She retains her independence, and with it she retains her leadership, for to suppose that even the Triple Alliance is competent to control the destinies of the Orient in defiance of England, is an assumption that no open-eyed publicist can accept.

But we are told that "the net outcome of Great Britain's action and inaction has been to place China under a Russian protectorate." In a sense that seems true, but it is a superficial sense. France has lent money to China on the security of a bill endorsed by Russia. Germany, though a member of the alliance, has been carefully excluded from the arrangement. Would England's membership have guaranteed her against similar exclusion? And even as things stand, what is the prospect? It is safe to assume that to the endorser of the bill is reserved the privilege of recovering from the debtor. One of these days, therefore, we may see Russia driven to exact in kind an equivalent for what has been lent in cash. But England is the financial centre of the world. If British material interests in China are exposed to any serious danger in connection with a financial problem, the solution will be found in London, not in St. Petersburg. Again, Russia's expansion in districts that invite civilized control concerns Great Britain chiefly in the fact that it signifies the spread of a policy of commercial exclusiveness. If Russia is to expand territorially into China, England's acquiescence will simply mean that she finds a full equivalent. That may be a bad day for China, but England certainly will not emerge second-best from the complication. We do not see how Great Britain's association with Russia, Germany, and France at the present juncture could facilitate her proceedings at that other time. What we do see is that she could never have become China's creditor after the manner adopted by France and Russia. The British Government no longer plays the part of money-lender to foreign na-

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tions. In that field, it does not compete, and whether the alliance had been triple or quadruple, the official financing of Russia and France could scarcely have been prevented if China were a consenting party.

Another count upon which England's sagacity is arraigned is this :—"If it should hereafter turn out that after being disappointed in the Chinese, she should be now making the greater mistake of relying on the Japanese, to keep Korea, she will neither receive nor be deserving of sympathy for a second time building on the sands a house which it is too late to think of building at all." The "greater mistake of relying on Japan" can mean only that Japan is less trustworthy than China for such a purpose. That is obviously untrue. Japan's military potency was not less clearly demonstrated by the recent war than China's impotence. As to which of the two Powers is the more capable for belligerent purposes, there can not be a moment's doubt. Japan represents, even to-day, a growing force that any European Power would hesitate to defy. Five years hence, she will be able to take the field with a thoroughly equipped, well disciplined, and high-spirited army, a quarter of a million strong, and to put to sea with a navy more formidable than any Western State could easily assemble in these waters. China, on the other hand, represents an effete cripple that the pettiest Power in the West need not fear to encounter. This difference acquires no elaboration ; it is self-evident and universally admitted. To talk of building a house on the sand because Japan is preferred to China for a foundation, is mere audacity.

Let us pass from the vague, if pretty, verbiage of the writer in *Blackwood's* to the practical question, against whom is Korea to be kept? Against Russia, will be the immediate answer. Listen, however, to what this same writer tells us elsewhere about Russia :—"In this connection it is important to note that the views of Russian strategists respecting the occupation of Korea have undergone considerable modification in recent years. They have, in fact, arrived at the conclusion that, having regard to its numerous harbours, the peninsula could not be defended against a strong naval Power, and that it would be impolitic for Russia to compromise herself by attempting to hold the country." If that be so, then England need not give herself any concern about the contingency of Russia's seizing Korea, and since she certainly would not object to Japan's occupation of it, all source of trouble seems to be removed. But *Blackwood's* essayist must not be held fast to each and every one of his *dicta*. His essay is, in fact, a compilation of separate propositions, individually logical and consistent enough, but collectively incongruous and conflicting. If he tells us, in one place, that Russia has abandoned all idea of aggression in Korea, he bases his arguments in another on the assumption that to keep her out of it should be a guiding purpose of British diplomacy. It is important to consider, then, whether that purpose was really impaired by the action of the Triple Alliance, or by England's "isolation."

In advising Japan to surrender Liaotung, the main contention of the three Powers was that, if the Peninsula of the Regent's Sword and the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea were incorporated in the dominions of Japan, the independence of Korea would become illusory. An alliance, the alleged object of which is to preserve the independence of Korea, cannot, of course, survive any violation of that object by one of the allies, and it thus appears that if England has anything to gain by the conservation of the Korean peninsula, the three Powers are working in her interests so long as they remain united. As for the contingency of the union's dissolution owing to a departure of one or more of the units from the *raîson d'être* of the combination, it will scarcely be pretended, we imagine, that the independence of action reserved to herself by Great Britain can impair her ability to control the results of such a contingency. Thus the position is this :—Russia, in order to avert the danger of Korea's absorption by Japan, has secured the aid of two European Powers, and has constructively pledged herself with them to maintain Korea's independence. To Great Britain the main desideratum in this particular field of her foreign affairs is that the Korean peninsula should not fall into Russia's hands, its absorption by Japan being a conjuncture that she certainly would not regret. Thus, whether the Triple Alliance fail or succeed in its purpose, England's interests are equally served, and should the alliance be dissolved owing to Russia's passage from a conservative to an aggressive rôle, England will be free to adopt whatever course the circumstances dictate.

As we read *Blackwood's* essay we are forcibly reminded that any stick does to beat a dog. The writer has set himself the task of administering a drubbing to British diplomats, and it matters not a whit to him how ill-assorted may be the clubs that he collects for the operation. He maintains that "it ought to have been the constant aim of our political strategy to win China to a common purpose with ourselves," that purpose being to damm the tide of Russian aggression ; but he denounces the unwisdom of "purchasing the good-will of the newly-arisen Japan, and encouraging her to become the barrier against Russia at the price of alienation from the Christian Powers." Is China then among the Christian Powers, and has her attitude toward foreigners and Christianity, or her display of military prowess, entitled her to be preferred to Japan as a friend or an ally? Again, *Blackwood's* contributor, in solemn language, adjures his country's statesmen to reflect whether in their recent conduct, "they have been influenced by present convenience, or whether they have duly considered the day after to-morrow ;" yet in condemning them elsewhere for not averting the war by joining with Russia to neutralize Korea, he says :—"However much opposed the ultimate views of Russia and England might be, 'sufficient for the day is the evil thereof' is a maxim of wisdom which fitted the circumstances exactly." He is quite content, in short, that the policy he advocates should be disfigured by precisely the ephemeral and temporizing blemishes on account of which he condemns the policy to which he is opposed. Yet again, while noting that "Japan can not help being a barrier to Russia," he declares the valuelessness of all "vicarious barriers which depend either on autocratic caprice or national fortune over which we have no control ;" thus admitting, in one breath, that Japan possesses the very element on which the trustworthiness of a barrier depends, and, in the next, decrying vicarious barriers generally, Japan included, because they lack that element.

From all these confused criticisms, however, the charge that England has blundered in her Oriental policy emerges clearly enough. She has stood aloof from an alliance formed, according to the appreciation of the writer himself, chiefly for the sake of Russia : an alliance to which Germany and France belong, the former, because she wants to placate Russia by serving her in opposition to what Great Britain has always regarded as her interests ; the latter, because she hopes by Russia's cöoperation to force England's hand in other quarters ; an alliance from which its leader deliberately worked to exclude Great Britain ; an alliance the purpose of which is, first, to check the expansion of a Power that has given evidence of great military capacity and is naturally destined to stand with England across Russia's southward path, and secondly, to preserve the integrity of an empire that has been convicted of utter military impotence and is obviously doomed to fall to pieces. Such is the blunder prepetrated by British diplomacy ; the blunder that has procured for England the honour of being "reviled by the continental press for her egotistic policy of abstention."

There remains one disaster resulting from England's refusal to join the Triple alliance : "German commerce has been given an incalculable advantage" in China. Here at last we seem to be on tangible ground. If Germany's commercial position has been "incalculably" bettered in comparison with England's, there should be no difficulty in explaining how such a result has been brought about. The discussion of tradal affairs belongs to the solid ground of sober common-sense, not to the nebulous region of political theories.

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In what respect has German commerce been given an incalculable advantage in China? Two motives, and two only, are assigned by *Blackwood's* contributor for the anti-Japanese movement among the trading classes of Germany. The first is that "the most formidable opposition to German industries was threatened from the competition of Japan." Such is the statement that business men are asked to accept as a rational and comprehensible *exposé* of the situation! But how in the name of the commonest sense would Japanese competition be assisted by the occupation of the Liaotung Peninsula? So far as the inhabitants of the Peninsula are concerned, they might in time come to purchase their imports entirely from Japan. But that could not matter one mark to Germany. She sells nothing to the Manchurians, and has not the remotest prospect of ever selling anything to them. Certain writers have been so thoughtless as to pretend that if Japan held Liaotung, she would command the Gulf of Petchihli, and could therefore close China's markets to the outer nations. It is unnecessary to pay serious attention to such silly chimeras. In any case, where is the "incalculable advantage" that German commerce has gained? If Japan's industrial competition in Chinese markets is checked by depriving her of the Liaotung Peninsula, Germany will enjoy no monopoly of the advantage. The absence of a new competitor must be alike beneficial to all China's foreign purveyors in proportion to the volume of their sales, which means that it must benefit Great Britain above all others. But the whole hypothesis is ridiculous. To allege that level-headed German merchants were carried away by the vertigo of imagining that Japan plus Liaotung would be a more formidable industrial competitor in Chinese markets than Japan minus Liaotung, is one of the most comical romances conceivable. If any shallow apprehension ever tormented a German merchant lest Japan's victories over China might be employed to obtain special commercial privileges for the victor and to hamper her competitors by conventional disabilities, he might have learned in a moment at the Berlin Foreign Office that between him and such an alarming contingency there stands the impassable barrier of a most-favoured-nation clause. Finally, we are not entirely dependent upon abstract reasoning for our conclusions in this matter: we have some concrete facts to guide us. We see that the first effect of the Shimonoseki Treaty has been to provide a large market for the employment of British—not German—capital in the field of industrial enterprise in China. We see that its second effect has been to open to foreign trade several new centres of consumption and production, and experience justifies us in predicting that whether the benefits thus conferred on commerce be many or few, the share reaped by England will certainly not be second to that of any Power. Hence, from every point of view, "the incalculable advantage" conferred on German commerce in China by Great Britain's abstention from the Triple Alliance is so illusory that no sane person can be suspected of honestly crediting it.

There remain always Herr KRUPP and his "repeat orders." But need such things be counted among incentives to national action? Besides, it does not seem so certain that even Essen will have "an incalculable advantage" in commerce. China had large supplies of German arms and German ammunition during the recent war. The result was that at the end she set herself to manufacture jingals after her own old fashioned types, alleging that she could, at all events, trust these weapons to go off. Germany's commerce cannot owe much of its "incalculable advantage" to the advertisement it received in China last year.

PASTEUR AND THE THEORY OF FERMENTATION.

THE name of LOUIS PASTEUR is indissolubly connected with one of the greatest advances of nineteenth century science, the modern theory of fermentation. The enormous importance of the results of the application of this theory to the arts and manufactures and to medicine and surgery justifies a short review of the nature of his discoveries and of their practical results. At the outset it may be well to give some idea of what was understood by fermentation before the days of PASTEUR. Two of the oldest arts of practical life are the baking of bread and the manufacture of intoxicating liquors. Constant familiarity with the processes of these arts had, to most people, deprived them of their singularity; but to many thoughtful minds the peculiar changes that were summed up under the name fermentation were always a source both of interest and perplexity. The illustrious LAVOISIER was one of the first to undertake accurate chemical researches into the nature of the fermentative process, and two other distinguished French chemists, THENARD and GAY LUSSAC, followed in his footsteps. In this way, with the light of the chemical knowledge of the time, a fairly accurate understanding was obtained of the changes that fermenting substances undergo; but the true cause of those changes remained entirely unknown prior to the researches of PASTEUR. In order to get an exact idea of the views respecting fermentation that prevailed in pre-Pasteurian days, we have referred to the third edition of URE'S well-known Dictionary of Chemistry, published in 1827—when PASTEUR was five years old. We quote from the article "Fermentation."

"When aqueous combinations of vegetable or animal matter are exposed to ordinary atmospherical temperatures, they speedily undergo spontaneous changes, to which the generic name of fermentation has been given." (The writer then alludes briefly to the two principal varieties of fermentation—vinous and acetous,— and continues.) "An ulterior change to which all animal and vegetable matter is liable, accompanied by the disengagement of a vast quantity of fœtid gases, is called the putrefactive fermentation." (The writer next describes the general character of the vinous fermentation, showing that the principal change is that sugar is split up into alcohol and carbonic acid. He then proceeds to speak of the properties of the yeast that is added to a saccharine solution to excite fermentative changes.) "Boiling water speedily deprives yeast of the power of exciting fermentation. . . . By that heat, the ferment does not appear to lose any of its constituenets, or to acquire others. . . . From THENARD'S researches, the fermenting principle of yeast seems to be of a caseous or glutinous nature. . . . It is not clearly ascertained what the yeast or ferment performs in this operation. It seems probable that the fermentative process in considerable masses would be carried on progressively from the surface downwards; and would, perhaps, be completed in one part before it has perfectly commenced in another, if the yeast, which is already in a state of fermentation, did not cause the process to begin in every part at once."

What the writer meant by this cryptic utterance with which he concluded his article, we must leave to the ingenuity of our readers to determine. We doubt if he himself knew clearly what he meant. It was left for PASTEUR "to ascertain clearly what the yeast or ferment performs in this operation."

Briefly stated, the discoveries of PASTEUR in connexion with vinous fermentation amount to this. The yeast or ferment is a living organism. When it is added to a saccharine solution it grows and multiplies, and the decomposition of the sugar into alcohol and carbonic acid is a manifestation of its vital activity. It may be said roughly (for the comparison is not exact), that the sugar is the food of the yeast, and that the alcohol and the carbonic acid are excrementitious products. When the percentage of alcohol in the solution rises beyond a certain point, the growth of the yeast plant is inhibited by the product of its own activity, and it passes into an inactive condition. In the dried state it may be preserved indefinitely, to renew its activity when it once more finds itself in a suitable medium. It would require a large volume merely to summarise all the fruits of this discovery. We can here do no more than allude shortly to two departments of knowledge in which its developments have been more especially striking. It is hardly too much to say that medicine and surgery

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have been revolutionised by applications of PASTEUR'S theory of fermentation.

That the changes known as putrefaction were of essentially the same character as those of vinous and acetous fermentation had been recognized long prior to PASTEUR'S discovery of the organized nature of the yeast ferment. The relation is clearly pointed out in the article in URE'S Dictionary from which the above quotations were made. Before PASTEUR'S day also it must have been noticed by all observant surgeons that putrefactive changes in operation in accidental wounds were associated with serious illness and frequently with the death of the patient. It was, however, reserved for LISTER to determine the true nature of these conditions, and to show how they may be prevented. LISTER'S work was an extension of that of PASTEUR. He established that putrefactive processes in a wound are caused by the development in it of minute organisms; that these organisms are in most instances introduced into the wound from without the body, and that, were they not introduced, these putrefactive changes would not occur; that there are means at our disposal by which the vitality of these organisms may be destroyed, and their entrance into a wound in an active state effectually prevented, or their influence combated if they be present; and finally, that the dangerous local and constitutional complications of wounds may thus be entirely prevented. The conclusions of LISTER, and the practice he based upon them, have now been almost universally accepted, with beneficial results that no one but an expert is in a position fully to understand. The antiseptic system has served, not merely to mitigate the suffering and danger of ordinary injuries and operations; it has further rendered all kinds of pain-preventing and life-saving operations possible that the older surgeons would never have dreamed of attempting.

The application of PASTEUR'S theory of fermentation to medicine has been no less fruitful. The resemblance of the morbid processes of certain diseases to the process of fermentation had long been the subject of comment and speculation; and when a knowledge of PASTEUR'S researches became diffused among pathological investigators, it naturally occurred to many that the contagion of such diseases as small-pox and relapsing fever might also be of the nature of a living organism. The truth of this hypothesis has in recent years been proved beyond dispute; and though the practical applications of what is currently known as "the germ theory" have been hitherto less valuable in medicine than in surgery, the future in this direction is full of promise, and new and interesting fields of investigation are continually being opened up. In several diseases that were hitherto the reproach of therapeutics, valuable methods of treatment have been obtained; and in several other diseases, methods based on applications of the germ theory are still in the experimental stage. In this country the very latest of these mothods has been put in practice during the last few months. We refer, of course, to KITASATO'S inoculations for cholera.

Much, then, as the present generation owes to PASTEUR, there is no doubt that posterity will owe far more; and his name will always be one of those most highly honoured by students of the history of science. Yet PASTEUR himself, we suppose, at the time when he undertook his researches on the nature of fermentation, can not have forseen to any appreciable degree the vast importance of the results to which those researches would lead. How trifling they must have seemed to many of his friends! "Of some theoretical interest," they may have said, "to a brewer, though hardly likely to help one to brew better beer, your investigations appear unworthy to engage the serious attention of a man of science." In our own generation, indeed, which has seen so many great results from small beginnings, it is hardly necessary to insist upon the fact that no investigation should be condemned as trifling simply on the ground that no one can see how it can be of any practical benefit; but earlier investigators suffered much from the ill-concealed scorn of their more "practical" contemporaries. It is recorded that one of FARADAY'S friends once found him in his laboratory, hard at work on a complicated piece of mechanism. After the investigator had explained the nature of his machine, his friend said, "Yes, it's very pretty; but of what use is it?" "Use," replied FARADAY, "of what use is a baby? It is only of use for what it will grow to!" Students of electrical science are all familiar with the somewhat formidable adults that have grown out of FARADAY'S babies. An investigator in another branch of knowledge, KANT, the originator of the greatest reform ever effected in philosophy, must have been suffering from similar ignorant criticism when he wrote: "Nothing would be more prejudicial to the advancement of knowledge than that curiosity which, before entering on any researches, wishes to know beforehand the advantages likely to accrue from them, though quite unable as yet to form the least conception of such advantages, even though they were placed before our eyes."

The promoters of a railway between Kokura and Kumata, viâ Yobuno, Kanabe, and Kabaru, Fukuoka Prefecture, have petitioned the Authorities for permission to establish a company with a capital of *yen* 1,500,000. The head office is to be established at Kokura. It is stated that the project will prove a success as the line will skirt a number of coal mines owned by Messrs. Mitsui, Furukawa, Hara, and Fukita. The total length of the line is 29 miles and 4 chains.—*Jiji Shimpo.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE CHRIST ACCORDING TO PROPHECY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—It is astonishing in these days of inquiry and investigation to find any one as far behind the age as Mr. J.M. McCaleb, who, in a letter contributed to your columns on the 27th ultimo, endeavours to show that the coming of Christ was predicted in the writings of the Old Testament. Every one of the references which he quotes as "predictions" of Christ have been dealt with repeatedly for the last hundred years, and their futility as predictions exposed, until the more wary among the clerical members of the Christian Church have come to carefully avoid the subject of prophecy. What are the facts of the case with regard to the Messianic ideas which we find in the so-called prophets? Whenever the Jews, as was so frequently the case with this divinely protected people, were in bondage in another nation, there were always found some among them who did not lose hope, and who predicted that a deliverer should arise, a Joshua who should restore their ancient glories, and, coming of the line of David, raise the nation again to the pinnacle of glory and prosperity which it was supposed to have originally occupied. In the days when the Christ legend arose, and gathered materials from various sources as it grew, Judea was again in bondage to another nation—this time to the Romans—and there were many Jesuses besides the Gospel Jesus, for whom in each case it was claimed that he was the coming deliverer of the nation—the Messiah who should establish his kingdom upon the throne of David "even for ever." Naturally it was endeavoured by the adherents of each sect to show that the "coming" of their leader had been predicted in the sacred writings of the Jews; and so passages were wrested from their context, vague poetical allusions were credited with specific meanings, and the most astonishing interpretations were given to the plainest language. In days when an intimate acquaintance with the sacred writings was confined to a few, these fraudulent attempts met with success. But they never imposed upon the mass of learned Jews, who refuse to-day to accept the Gospel Jesus as the Messiah on the trivial grounds advanced in the "argument from prophecy."

To-day it is possible for each to examine and test the so-called "predictions" for himself, so that it is simply extraordinary that the most ignorant of Christian advocates can still attempt to maintain the thesis which imposed on the early Church. Let us examine one of these so-called predictions as offering an example of the folly or worse involved in the "prophetic" argument. Mr. McCaleb quotes the famous passage of Isaiah (vii. 14) which reads: "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." He says this is a prediction of Christ. Has Mr. McCaleb ever read the context of this passage? Does he know anything of the history of Judea and Israel during the time of Isaiah? It would seem not. If, then, he will refer to the headings of the chapter in which the above-quoted passage occurs, obligingly supplied by the translators and therefore not "inspired," he will find that Ahaz, then reigning over Judea, was troubled with fear of Rezin (King of Assyria), and Pekah (King of Judah). On reading the complete chapter, it will be found that Ahaz is represented as refusing to ask a sign of the Lord that he would be victorious in the impending conflict, "therefore," says Isaiah, "the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. Butter and honey shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good. For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings." And yet, in face of such a distinct limitation of the "prophecy" to a certain brief period, Mr. McCaleb and his like profess to regard these words as a prediction of Christ, who was not even called Immanuel by his mother, and to whom the words in italics can have no reference by any process of straining whatever. Fraud or folly could not go much further. Of what possible benefit to Ahaz, as a sign that he would be victorious in the impending struggle, could have been the birth of a child 742 years later? Again, if Mr. McCaleb will take the trouble to read the next chapter (Isaiah viii. 1-4), he will find the "sign" once more referred to in such a way as to support the contention that the

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word translated "virgin" in the previous chapter should properly be translated a "young woman." The passage is of such a nature as to be unfitted for public quotation outside religious circles, but on reference it will be found that an account is actually given of the conception and birth of the child which is to prove a sign to Ahaz. The child's name is now given not as Immanuel, however, but as Maher-shalal-hash-baz, and is the subject of the prediction: "For before the child shall have knowledge to cry, my father, my mother, the riches of Damascus and the spoil of Samaria shall be taken away before the king of Assyria" (Isaiah viii. 4). The "prophecy," therefore, clearly has reference to an incident which should occur in the prophet's own time, and yet it is calmly quoted as predicting an event which, according to Biblical chronology, occurred 742 years later!

Such is one example of the fashion in which words are torn from their context and rendered unmeaning in order to support the contention that Christ "came in fulfilment of a certain line of prophecy that had long since gone before upon him."

It is difficult, as I pointed out some years ago in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, to decide how far the attitude of those who revive these long-exploded contentions, outside the narrow limits of religious sects, is due to sheer ignorance or to a deliberate attempt to throw dust in the eyes of the unthinking, and I regret that in the case of Mr. McCaleb there should be evidence which raises serious doubts as to his controversial integrity. In his recent letter, not content with attributing such names as "Wonderful," "Counsellor," &c., occurring in the Old Testament, to Jesus Christ, he adds the actual name "Christ," thus implying that the alleged founder of Christianity was predicted even by name. It is difficult to characterise such a statement in language which shall not exceed the limits known as parliamentary, as Mr. McCaleb, if he knows anything of the subject of his letter, must be aware that it is untrue. The word "Christ" nowhere appears in any book of the Old Testament.

There is, however, no necessity to examine Mr. McCaleb's contentions further in detail. It is surely superfluous to refer to the absurd contradiction involved in the assertion that Christ was born of a virgin, and that he was nevertheless (by two inconsistent genealogies) of the House of David; or to do more than point out that Christ never sat on the "throne of David," and that it is not true that "of the increase of his Government and peace there [has] been no end." "It need hardly be added," says Mr. McCaleb, referring to a passage in Daniel, "that in prophecy a day is taken for a year," and with this delightful insight into the fashion in which language is dealt with to suit preconceived opinions, Mr. McCaleb on prophecy may be dismissed. The mere statement of his contentions is indeed sufficient confutation, and his letter is interesting simply as showing the methods by which it is sought even to-day to establish the doctrines of Christianity.

Enclosing my card, I remain, Yours faithfully,

SECULARIAN.

Kobe, October 2nd, 1895.

"CHINESE CHARACTERS."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Will you please allow me a final word in reply to a letter to the *Japan Mail* of the 26th inst.

I am glad to find that the critic admits that his first letter was not free from errors and misprints. But his admissions might have been a little more candid. He begins by saying: "I admit that the author is right as to 氣—this form being better than 気." As I pointed out in my previous letter, my form is not "better than 気." It is the only correct one, 気 being another character with a totally different meaning.

卍 he says is *not* a Chinese character. Williams says it is. The critic says that 卐 is "the swastika" Williams says 卍 is *the* "swastika." My form is on p. 73 of the Man-tsu-ji-rin Gioku-Hen (萬通字林玉編).

My work was compiled almost entirely from Japanese sources, but when the critic produced his arguments about "original" forms, I referred to Williams and found that he agreed with my Japanese authorities, as stated before. If he will not acknowledge the authority of the Kōki-jiten, Gioku Hen, and other Japanese dictionaries I have quoted, there is nothing further to be said.

He says that 汗 was a misprint. But misprints on the part of such a captious critic are inexcusable, especially when the result is that one character is transformed into another of entirely different meaning. I see he likewise, but only in a footnote, admits that he was wrong as regards 忍 and 忌. He says they appear in his first letter to have been "inverted by accident." A little more care might have prevented such inversion.

His remarks about the Radicals I have already fully discussed, so will not repeat them. I notice that, though he makes the admission, "it is true that in most dictionaries 巢 is placed under 巛," he still says that it more naturally belongs to 木. This is only his opinion. I prefer to follow "most dictionaries."

"Our ideas of what are worthless and what are valuable *Yomi* differ widely." They do, nor do I see reason for regret in such difference. My own ideas of *Yomi* are founded upon my reading. On this, as on other points, I refer him to my previous reply.

But to come to the principal part of his letter on the subject of the "on" of several characters, upon which he flatly contradicts me. "I know of no "example where 差 is read shi." Perhaps not, but it is not a question of his knowledge or ignorance, but of fact. I propose to give examples of the use of the disputed "on" in *each one* of the characters he mentions. Extension of reading will enable him also to meet with them.

"差 never read *shi*." He is wrong. I have before me a long list of *jukuji* in which this character is read *shi*, but will only give one or two examples. Examples:—差殊, shi-shu, 差差 shi-shi. Authority, 頭字韻. "And so on." I say "and so on," because I could give numerous examples besides. 差 is rarely read *sha*, see Gubbins' Dictionary, p. 776. *Shabetsu* is colloquial for *sabetsu*, as *samisen* is colloquially read *shamisen*.

"帳 not read *chū*." Wrong. Example 惆帳, *chūchō, kanashimi nageku*.

"拐 never read *kai*." Wrong. Examples 拐帶 *kai-tai, mochinige*, 拐騙 *kai-hen, tobinoru*.

"旁 not read *hō*." Wrong. Examples 旁午 *hō-go, kuichigai irikumu*. 旁脉 *hō-rai, amaneku miru*.

The authority for the examples to the last four characters is 大增補漢語解大全 (*Tai-sō-ho-Kango-kai-daizen*).

牀 *is* read *shō*. Examples 牀蓆 *shō-joku*, 牀座 *shō za*. Authority 頭字韻.

竄 *is* read *san*. Examples 竄匿 *san jaku, nigekakuru*, 竄殛 *san kioku, korosu*.

"曩 not read *dō* or *nō*." It is read both *dō* and *nō*. The former is the *Kan On*, the latter the *Go On*. Examples 曩昔 *nō seki or dō seki* 曩者 *nō sha or dō sha*. Authority.—*Tai sō ho Kango-kai-daizen*.

稔 *is* read *shin*. Examples 稔熟, *Shin-juku*, 登稔 *tō-shin*.

簸 *is* read *ha*. Examples 簸箕 *ha-ki*, 簸揚 *ha yō*.

播 *is* read *ha*. Examples 播穀 *ha koku, tane-kasu*, 播棄 *ha-ki, suteru*. See 頭字韻.

狩 *is* read *shū*. Examples 巡狩 *Junshū*, 冬狩 *tōshū*. Authority for the above, 韻府一隅.

I have already given an example of the use of the remaining character, 撒.

He makes the remark, "Then some dictionaries are wrong," in connection with the character 旁. I prefer, however, to "err" in the company of dictionaries than to be "right" with this critic. Perhaps he proposes himself to bring out a standard dictionary.

He admits the serviceability of my selection of *nanori* after all. He says, "setting apart this suggestion, I do not find fault with the list in question." Acknowledging, as he does, the fact that if a student can read my list, he can read most Japanese *nanori*, such an admission seems made somewhat grudgingly.

Yours truly,

A. H. L.

Yokohama, September 30th, 1895.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that, attracted by the enormous expansion in the trade of the Japanese Empire, the Government of this country has considered it desirable to take steps to increase the commerce between Japan and South Australia, and with that object in view have secured from our Governor a Commission authorising me to visit the Japanese Empire on their behalf.

The Mercantile community here, seeing what mutual benefit direct commerce would be to both countries, have heartily entered into the project, and have entrusted me with trial shipments of Wool, Wines, Brandy, Flour, Jams, Dried Fruits, Preserved Fruits, Canned Meats, Bacon, Hams, Butter, Biscuits, Honey, Cordials, Eucalyptus Oil, Olive Oil, Hay, Chaff, Tallow, Soap, Hides, Leather, Bones, Wattle Bark for tanning, Cement, Ostrich Feathers, &c., for the purpose of introducing South Australian Products and Manufactures into the markets of Japan, and in return I shall endeavour, whilst in the country, to select local products for the purpose of introducing them to the notice of my countrymen.

I intend to leave Adelaide in a few days and hope to arrive in Japan shortly after your receipt of this. I shall esteem it a favour shown to the Government which I am representing if you will be good enough to refer to the purpose of my journey in your newspaper, in order that manufacturers and others among your readers may have an opportunity of entering into commercial negotiations with me on behalf of the South Australian merchants and producers.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obed. servant,

JOHN LANGDON PARSONS.

COLONEL COCKERILL AND THE MISSIONARY QUESTION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of the 2nd inst., you reprint from the *New York Herald* a letter by Colonel Cockerill on the subject of missionary enterprise, and those who disapprove of it on broad grounds of principle and expediency will alike regret the appearance of a letter dealing with the subject in which generalities are neglected in favour of idle tittle tattle. It is unwise to treat of such a question as missionary enterprise "without thorough investigation." More especially is it unwise and likewise unjust without thorough investigation to make such charges as those contained in the following paragraph:

At Newchwang last winter, when the United States gunboat *Petrel* was there, the missionaries, who were forced to take refuge there on account of the war, made themselves very obnoxious by their querulousness and constant complaining. After the fighting in that vicinity they all went to work diligently, so an officer informs me, to hunt up 'atrocities," and many of the unfounded stories sent out about the cruelty of the Japanese were traced to these people who were inflamed against the Japanese because they had pushed the war to their abiding places, thereby discomforting them.

Colonel Cockerill himself tells us, in the paragraph immediately preceding that just quoted, that a specific accusation of drunkenness against the officers and men of an American men-of-war was based on the statement of a missionary woman, who had heard from one of her servants, who had heard from another servant, that she had seen two men-of-war's men of unknown nationality drunk in a shop. Colonel Cockerill immediately follows the example of the missionary woman by making a serious accusation against a large body of persons on the ground "so an officer informed him." It did not appear to occur to him that in a case of this kind the need for verification was just as urgent as in the case of a charge of drunkenness against the officers and men of an American men-of-war. Tastes differ, but for my part I should prefer to be accused of drunkenness than to be accused of a petty spitefulness that led me into a deliberate attempt to blacken by false or ill-proved charges the character of the Japanese army. Yet this latter accusation is one which, "without thorough investigation," Colonel Cockerill has thought fit to record against the missionaries resident in Newchwang last winter.

The conduct of these missionaries is a matter concerning which I am in a position to speak with some authority, since, in the capacity of Special Correspondent of *The Times*, I was in Newchwang from March 9th to April 25th. Prior to March 9th, the missionaries may, for aught I know to the contrary, have "made themselves very obnoxious by their querulousness and constant complaining;" but if so, it is a very remarkable fact that subsequently, when the Japanese, against whom, according to Colonel Cockerill's informant, "they were inflamed," occupied the city, these same missionaries should have become as cheerful and good-humoured a set of people as it has ever been my good fortune to meet.

The statement of Colonel Cockerill's informant that after the fighting in the vicinity of Newchwang, the missionaries "all went to work diligently to hunt up 'atrocities,' and many of the unfounded stories sent out about the cruelty of the Japanese were traced to these people," I can only characterise as a disgraceful falsehood. In my intercourse with missionaries whom I had the pleasure of meeting at Newchwang, I was particularly impressed with the manner in which they tried to see the best qualities of the combatants of both sides, and refrained from unjust condemna-

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tion of either belligerent. A few of the missionaries, as well as some of the officers of the two men-of-war in the port, and also certain other foreign residents of Newchwang, visited the field of Tien-chwang-tai shortly after the battle. These gentlemen in conversation described what they saw there, and some of them from what they saw drew inferences somewhat to the discredit of the Japanese; but that there was any attempt on the part of any foreign resident in Newchwang, missionary or other, to "hunt up atrocities," I categorically deny. To the best of my knowledge, only three detailed statements regarding the alleged "atrocities" committed by the Japanese in the neighbourhood of Newchwang have appeared in print. One of these was from my own pen, and was published in your own columns. Another appeared in the *North China Daily News*. It was written by a resident of Newchwang whose guest I had the honour to be at the time. In it he described what he had seen at the battlefield of Tien chwang-tai, and also, if I remember rightly, a few facts reported by others that had not come under his own immediate observation, and proceeded to draw certain inferences unfavourable to the humanity of the Japanese. Of this writer's own facts there can be no doubt whatever. He is a man of unimpeachable honesty, and a trained observer. With his inferences I myself did not wholly agree. But the most important point, with regard to the accusation contained in Colonel Cockerill's letter, is that this gentleman is not a missionary. The third published statement concerning the alleged "atrocities" appeared also in the *North China Daily News*. It was an editorial article modifying the condemnation that had been pronounced by the paper on the strength of the letter previously published from its correspondent in Newchwang. The article was based on information given personally to the editor by a British Naval officer who was in Newchwang at the time of the Japanese occupation, and was one of those who visited the field of Tien-chwang-tai shortly after the battle.

It will be seen that the statement in Colonel Cockerill's letter to the effect that the missionaries in Newchwang set to work to hunt up "atrocities," and circulated unfounded stories regarding the cruelty of the Japanese, entirely breaks down. It is Colonel Cockerill, on the contrary, who, by way of showing his sympathy with the missionaries, circulates unfounded stories with regard to their conduct in Newchwang. If I have written at considerable length, it is because I hope to convince him, as well as your readers, of his error.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

MAURICE EDEN PAUL.

Nagasaki, October 5th, 1895.

FILICES AT KYOTO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Several of your readers have inquired about my list of Filices at Kyoto, and as I am on the verge of departure from Japan I venture to send you the list for wider circulation. With the exception of a very few species which were found somewhat beyond the limit, it contains ferns occurring within a radius of ten miles of the city. Species in my herbarium as yet undetermined are excluded.

Gleichenia .....Glauca, Hook.
Gleichenia .....Dichotoma, Hook.
Onoclea .....Germanica, Wild.
Onoclea .....Orientalis, Hook.
Woodsia.....Manchuriensis, Hook.
Hymenophyllum .Polyanthos, Swartz.
Hymenophyllum .Barbatum, Miq.
Trichomanes .....Pavonium, Poir.
Trichomanes .....Japonicum Franch. et Sav.
Dicksonia .....Scabra, Wall.
Davallia .....Bullata, Wall.
Davallia .....Hirsuta, Sw.
Davallia .....Marginalis, Baker.
Davallia .....Strigosa, Swartz.
Davallia .....Tenuifolia, Sw.
Cystopteris .....Japonica, Luers.
Adiantum .....Monochlamys, Eaton.
Adiantum .....Pedatum, L.
Onychium .....Japonicum, Kunze.
Pteris .....Cretica, L.
Pteris .....Semilata, L.
Pteris .....Quadriaurita, Retz.
Pteris .....Aquilina, L.
Lomaria.....Nipponica, Kunze.
Lomaria .....Euphlebia, Kunze.
Woodwardia.....Orientalis, Swartz.
Asplenium.....Trichomanes, L.
Asplenium.....Normale, Don.
Asplenium.....Resectum, Sw.
Asplenium.....Ruta muraria, L.
Asplenium.....Pekinense, Hance.
Asplenium.....Varians, Hook. et Grev.
Asplenium.....Incisum, Thunb.
Asplenium.....Wardii, Hook.
Asplenium.....Rutaefolium, Kunze.
Asplenium.....Spinulosum, Miq.
Asplenium.....Thelypteroides, Mich.
Asplenium.....Macrocarpum, Bl.
Asplenium.....Göringianum, Mett.
Asplenium.....Nigripes, Bl.
Asplenium.....Nipponicum, Mett.
Asplenium.....Yokoscense, Franch. et Sav.
Asplenium.....Lanceum, Thunb.
Asplenium.....Wichurae, Mett.
Asplenium.....Couilii, Franch. et Sav.
Asplenium.....Japonicum, Thunb.
Aspelnium.....Textori, Miq.
Aspelnium.....Squamigerum, Mett.
Scolopendriume..Vulgare, Sm.
Camptosorus.....Sibiricus, Rupt.
Aspidium .....Craspedosorum, Maxim.
Aspidium .....Tsus-Simense, Hook.
Aspidium .....Aculeatum, Doll.
Aspidium .....Amabile, Bl.
Aspidium .....Pripteron, Kunze.
Aspidium .....Varium, Sw.
Aspidium .....Aristaum, Sw.
Aspidium .....Falcatum, Sw.
Aspidium .....Decursive-pinnatum, Kunze.
Aspidium .....Hirtipes, Hook.
Aspidium .....Polylepis, Franch, et. Sav.
Aspidium .....Gracilescens, Bl.
Aspidium .....Laxum, Franch, et. Sav.
Aspidium .....Lacenum, Sw.
Aspidium .....Erythrosorum, Eaton.
Aspidium .....Sabaei, Franch, et. Sav.
Aspidium .....Miquelianum, Maxim.
Aspidium .....Muticum, Franch, et. Sav.
Aspidium .....Viridescens, Miq.
Aspidium .....Uliginosum, Kunze.
Aspidium .....Sophoroides, Sw.
Aspidium .....Prolixum, Willd.
Aspidium .....Decipiens, Hook.
Polypodium .....Vulgare, L.
Polypodium .....Lingua, Sw.
Polypodium .....Buergerianum, Miq.
Polypodium .....Lineare, Thunb.
Polypodium .....Linearifolium, Hook.
Polypodium .....Hastatum, Thunb.
Polypodium .....Maximowiczii, Baker.
Gymnogramme..Totta, Tchlecht
Gymnogramme. Decurrenti-alata, Hook.
Gymnogramme..Javanica, Bl.
Gymnogramme..Lanceolate, Hook.
Gymnogramme..Makinoi, Maxim.
Vittaria .....Lineata, Sw.
Drymoglossum...Carnosum, Hook.
Osmunda .....Regalis, L.
Lygodium.....Japonicum, Sw.
Botrychium .....Ternatum, Sw.

Yours truly,

ARTHUR WILLIS STANFORD.

Kyoto, October 8th, 1895.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

Owing no doubt to the inclemency of the weather the annual general meeting of the Yokohama Literary Society, which was held in Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening, was but poorly attended. Mr. J. T. Griffin presided.

In presenting the report the Chairman commented on the number of original papers which had been contributed by members during the last session. A few years back the Society had been content with readings merely, but last session 16 meetings were held and 15 original papers read. In addition to this the services of Mr. Meakin had been secured for a lecture, and this meeting was thrown open to the public, proving highly successful and very interesting.

On the motion of Mr. BOOTH, seconded by Mr. WILKIN, the following report was taken as read and adopted.

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT, SEASON 1894-1895.

Again the Committee have the pleasure of announcing a prosperous session; the membership having grown to 170 and the Cash-balance to $304.89.

In accordance with suggestions made at the last Annual Meeting, the subscription was reduced to $2 for Lady Members. The roll to-day contains the names of 84 Ladies and 86 Gentlemen.

The work of the Society has also been satisfactory. Sixteen Meetings have been held at which fifteen original papers, essays, and lectures, have been given. The Committee also engaged Mr. J. E. Budgett-Meakin to give a lecture on Morocco, which drew a large audience, on 7th December, 1894.

Our Secretary, Mr. Sargent, left us for a trip home, and his position was ably filled by his son, Mr. N. J. Sargent.

The remaining members of Committee now tender their resignation with best wishes for the continued prosperity of the Society.

JOHN GRIFFIN,
President.

Yokohama, September 30th, 1895.

LIST OF MEETINGS SEASON 1894-1895.

No. 143—Oct. 5—Annual Meeting. Election of Officers, &c.
No. 144—Oct. 19—Essay: "Flowers" ... .Dr Meacham.
Address: .....Mrs. R. Swain
No. 145—Nov. 2—Address: "The Art of Lying"
Mr. A. P. Waugh.
Musical Selections.
No. 146—Nov. 16—Paper: "Reminiscences of the Indian Mutiny" .....Col. J. C. Hill
Paper: "A Night in a Casual Ward" .....Mr. Tennant.
No. 147—Nov. 30—Lecture: "Money" .....Prof. T. H. Terry.
Address: "On Early days in Japan" .....Dr. Greene.
No. 148—Dec. 7—Lecture: "Men and Manners in the Sunset Land" Mr. J. E. B. Meakin.
No. 149—Dec. 14—Paper: "Newspaper Advertisements, Quaint, Curious, and Humorous" .....Mr. W. P Page.
No. 150—Dec. 28—Paper: "Village Choir Minstrelsy"
Mr. W. F. Page.
Special Musical Programme.
No. 151—Jan. 11—Lecture: "Fiji and its People"
Mr. G. H. Scidmore.
No. 152—Jan. 25—Recitations .....Mr. H. J. Sharp.
Instrumental and Vocal Programme.
No. 153—Feb. 8—Readings .....Messrs. Tennant, Sargent, Morphy, and C. Griffin.
No. 154—Feb. 22—Address: "George Washington"
Rev. J. H. Ballagh.
Original Poem: "Fifteen" Mr. F. Staniland.
No. 155—Mar. 8—Paper; "Oliver Wendell Holmes"
Mrs. Rice.
No. 156—Mar. 22—Lecture: "The ubiquitous Microbe"
Dr. Eldridge.
No. 157—Ap'l. 8—Paper: "The brightest and blackest thing on Earth" .....Mr. A. J. Wilkin.
No. 158—Ap'l. 19—Readings (Mr. Page). Recitations
Mr. H. J. Sharp

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT. TENTH SESSION (1894-1895).

RECEIPTS.

Balance from last year			$255.97
Subscriptions:—84 Ladies ... $2	$168		
86 Gentlemen... $3	258		426.00
Interest on Current account to 30th June (Chartered Bank)			7.47
			$689.44

EXPENDITURE.

Refreshments	$137.02
Postages	23.70
Printing and Stationery...	52.25
Entertainments	47.10
Rent	120.00
Furniture	4.50
Balance in hand	304.89
	$689.44

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, September 30th, 1895.

WALTER S. YOUNG, Hon. Treasurer.

MR. GRIFFIN was then re-elected President; Mrs. Morris, Vice-President; Mr. A. H. Lay was elected Secretary, and Mr. F. J. Lias, Treasurer. The Committees were elected as follows:—Literary—Mr. W. F. Page and Mrs. H. Loomis; Music—Mrs. W. W. Campbell, Miss Thomas, Mr. F. Schmid, and Mr. H. M. Arnould; Refreshments—Miss Wilkin, Miss A. Page, Miss K. Page, and Mr. R. S. Sale. Twenty-five new members were then elected on the roll.

During the course of a general discussion,

MR. BROWN proposed that, in view of the flourishing state of the society's finances, Family tickets should be issued at $10, which should include five members and upwards of a family. Such tickets were issued by similar societies in England and were a great success.

The Rev. E. S. BOOTH seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

The Rev. E. S. BOOTH next moved that, as the Society had now reached a size which told severely on the seating accomodation of the Hall in which it gathered, the membership be limited to 200.

MR. WILKIN seconded.—Carried.

The Rev. E. S. BOOTH then moved that the alterations in the Constitution of the Society, necessitated by the resolutions carried that evening, be made, and a revised set of rules be printed and circulated, the work of revision being entrusted to Messrs. Page and Wilkin.

The CHAIRMAN seconded.—Carried.

Other suggestions for the well-being of the Society were discussed and the meeting separated.

CRICKET.

BLUFF GARDENS AND TOKYO V. THE WORLD.

The match on Saturday was between teams representing the Bluff Gardens and Tokyo against the World. The weather was perfect for both players and spectators, but the Autumn Regatta naturally had an effect upon the attendance. The World had to go out to field first having lost the toss, and the Revs. Tyng and Chappell went out to bat, facing the bowling of Edwards and Denne. Thirty-eight runs had been placed to the credit of the two first players ere a separation took place. The next few wickets fell rapidly, five being dismissed for 49. After this White and Dickinson were paired and a stand was made, the score being raised by them to 92. Dickinson's total included a five and 4 threes, and White's a five and 3 threes. Bugbird was the only other man on the side to get into double figures, 15. On the whole the fielding was very lifeless and the bowling far from brilliant. The World in their innings did nothing extraordinary.

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Denne made 15, which included 2 threes, Libeaud 16, Edwards 13—very quickly compiled—and Johnson 11, not out. Failing light brought the match to an undecided close about half past five, the World having still three wickets to fall. Scores:—

BLUFF GARDENS AND TOKYO.

Rev. T. S. Tyng, c. Libeaud, b. Edwards	12
Rev. J. Chappell, b. Edwards	20
Mr. A. B. Walford, b. Edwards	7
Mr. R. de B. Layard, b. Edwards	0
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, l.b.w. b. A. Kingdon	29
Mr. A. L. Dewette, c. and b. Edwards	10
Mr. F. E. White, run out	24
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, c. Kenyon, b. Edwards	25
Mr. A. J. Lloyd, b. Edwards...	8
Mr. W. J. White, c. and b. Denne	5
Mr. G. Philip, not out...	0
b. 5, w. 3	8
	128

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	WIDES.
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards ...	205	26	8	7	—
Mr. R. T. Denne	62	37	3	1	3
Mr. E. J. Libeaud... ...	70	30	4	—	—
Mr. A. Kingdon	30	27	—	1	—

THE WORLD.

Mr. E. R. Morriss, b. Philip...	8
Mr. R. T. Denne, c. Philip, b. A. B. Walford	15
Mr. Goodwin, b. Philip	3
Mr. A. J. Easton, c. Philip, b. Walford	3
Mr. E. J. Libeaud, c. and b. F. E. White...	26
Mr. E. Flint Kilby, b. White	0
Mr. A. Kingdon, c. White, b. Philip	3
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, b. White	13
Mr. C. K. Johnson, not out	11
Dr. Todd, not out	0
Mr. K. F. Crawford, Mr. E. O. Kenyon, } did not bat.	
b. 3	3
	75

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. G. Philip	80	35	4	3
Mr. A. B. Walford	50	24	19	2
Mr. F. E. White	25	13	1	3

THE KOBE ELEVEN V. THIRTY.

On Saturday afternoon Mr. Hellyer got together thirty men to play the Eleven which is to represent the Model Settlement during the Yokohama Cricket Week. Says the *Kobe Herald*:—The fielding of the Eleven, on the whole, was decidedly good. One or two misses were noticed, but in those cases it was by no means difficult to find an explanation for the seeming fault. As play was not commenced till 2.30, it was rather late when "the crowd" were disposed of and the eleven had consequently to bat in a steadily failing light. Tate and Lucas opened the innings for the Eleven, Pakenham and Chesai bowling. Most of the batsmen went out with the avowed intention of "hitting out," and possibly in consequence of this in a measure several made but a short stay at the wicket, both Pakenham and Marshall being in very good form. Edwards, from whom much was expected, was unfortunate, Marshall taking his stumps with a ball which was anything but difficult to play. Wilkinson put together 26 before he was caught out by Chesai. Lightfoot, the last man to go out, fell to a ball from Marshall after making things lively for a time by the smart way in which a few runs were snatched. At 5.50 time was called, it being too dark to continue playing. Duff was then nicely set and was hitting out freely. The Thirty made 103; Edwards took 15 wickets for 42 runs: G Braess 8 for 34, and W C. K. Lucas 5 for 17. The Eleven scored 85; Tate, 24; Lucas, 11; W. Braess, 2; Wilkinson, 26; Edwards, 6; Duff, 11; Lightfoot, 2; Ross, Scrymgeour, and G. Braess did not bat.

THE JAPANESE IN SIAM.

We have received the following from the *Bangkok Times*, and reproduce it for what it may be worth:—

About February last the Japanese residing in Siam had become so numerous that, with interests likely to increase, they decided on having some kind of consular representation. Chevalier Keun de Hoogerwoerd (H.I.N.M. Consul-General) was finally selected and, having consented to act, a petition was sent to the Japanese Government for the necessary authorisation. M. Pavie had just at this time returned to Bangkok and, contriving to meet a leading Japanese resident at the house of Chevalier Keun, next day sent an intimation, through the medium of a certain newspaper office, that he would like an interview with him. On arriving at the French Consulate this gentleman was informed by Pavie that if the Japanese wanted protection he was prepared to give it to them at once; they had simply to go and register themselves. The Japanese representative thanked M. Pavie and informed him that a petition had already been sent to the Japanese Government, and that they could not go back upon what had been done. Subsequently, M. Pavie visited another Japanese and stated that he was willing to register him. He also seems to have, at once, telegraphed to Paris to the effect that it would be of great political importance that France should undertake the protection of Japanese in Siam; and the Quai d'Orsay seems to have lost no time in telegraphing to its representative in Japan. Meanwhile, M. Devés, of the Bukanon Mine, asked the representative of the Japanese Immigration Co. to supply him with a number of labourers, and, after inquiries, Japanese coolies were recommended to accept his terms. The contract was signed at the French Legation, and there the labourers, 17 in number, were asked to register themselves as French protégés. This they did, and it is thought probable that it was taken advantage of by the French Minister in Japan to represent that Japanese were already registering themselves as French subjects. However this may be, M. de France last Saturday, sent for the leading Japanese here and informed him that France, at the request of the Japanese Government, had consented to represent Japanese interests here, and had instructed him accordingly. The reply to this was that it was incredible that the Japanese Government had made such a request, in view of the indignities France had heaped upon Japan. The Japanese representative also asked M. de France to show him any communication received on the subject. M. de France objected to this as unnecessary, and added that he had already written to the Siamese Foreign Office that he had assumed the protection of the Japanese in Siam. On Saturday the Japanese held a meeting, at which it was decided to petition their Government to send out a duly accredited agent, and a resolution was passed expressing regret and surprise if it should prove true that the French Consul had been appointed to represent them.

Now for the history of those Japanese who had already enrolled themselves as French *protégés* before going to Bukanon. According to the contract M. Devés was bound to supply them with medical assistance and medicines in case of sickness, and if any one died notice was to be at once given to the Japanese Emigration Co., in Bangkok, so that the remains could be brought here, cremated, and sent back to Japan in accordance with Japanese custom. It was also agreed that a certain percentage of the miners' wages should be paid to the Japanese Emigration Co. These conditions were never complied with. Fever and cholera broke out but all assistance was refused, and 12 of the 17 died, while one of the survivors was a five month's old infant both of whose parents had died. Even quinine was refused the sick people, and the Japanese tramped the surrounding country for long distances in search of Europeans from whom they could obtain it. Eventually one of them, almost dead from fatigue, crawled to an Englishman's residence and there begged piteously for quinine. To his honour be it said, the Englishman provided a full bottle of medicine, refusing any payment, though the poor Japanese pressed upon him the whole of their wealth. The Englishman has since visited Bangkok and made a statement on the subject to Chevalier Keun. Eventually M. Devés was attacked by fever and at once started for Bangkok; but the similarly afflicted Japanese were left behind. The following day the Siamese interpreter accompanying the Japanese told the latter they could return to Bangkok, as there would be no need for their services during Mr. Devés' absence; and without money they started on their long journey. Meanwhile the Directors of the Emigration Co., having heard something of the state of affairs, at once left Bangkok to fetch back their compatriots, whom they found on the way in an almost dying condition. One poor woman had then, for two days, through rain and knee-deep mud carried on her back the corpse of her husband, who had died from exhaustion and neglect. As for the surviving remnant of the party, they reached Bangkok mere skeletons and with marks of privation which will be life-long. The wages due have since been paid, but no redress has been made to the sufferers by the "protectors."

And now for a sequel. M. Jourdan, on behalf of the Wattana Mining Co. subsequently applied to the Directors of the Japanese Emigration Co. for 400 coolies. He was met by a blank refusal, supplemented by the statement that the Bukanon experience would suffice the Japanese for a lifetime. M Jourdan, we hear, is leaving for Japan in a few days to recruit these 400 labourers, with what chances of success we leave our readers to judge. When the story reached Japan the *Fedilio* was on the point of leaving with about 200 labourers on board, to the order of the Japanese Emigration Co., but the Government at once prohibited their departure and the labourers returned to their homes.

The Japanese in Bangkok, under these circumstances, resent most bitterly having been placed under protection of the French Consulate, especially because of the reflection this appears to cast upon the Siamese Government, from whom they say they have only received the kindest treatment, particularly so from Phyas Bhaskarawongse and Surisak, Educational and Agricultural Ministers.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

Sydney, September 3rd.

Yet another Australian commissioner is to visit Japan. If the efforts now being made to promote commercial intercourse between Australia and Japan do not result in the anticipated success, it certainly will not be from a want of special commissioners from the colonies. This time it is South Australia that is moving, and in selecting the Hon. F. S. Parsons as its honorary representative, the Government of that colony has acted wisely. Mr. Parsons is an able and experienced man and evidently entertains an extremely high opinion of the Japanese nation. In the course of an address delivered in Adelaide some little time before the departure of the *Menmuir* from Sydney, Mr. Parsons told his hearers that a large new market for Australians in wool was opening, and they should be ready for the opportunity. Continuing, he said:—Sheep did not thrive in Japan, and as the natives were going in extensively for fabrics the Australians should be alive to the situation. The indigenous fruits were poor, but foreign fruits had been introduced with some success. The Mikado had made a speech in which he stated that if the Japanese were to become competitors with outside countries they must become meat-eaters. That opened up a grand market for the stockowners, especially in the Northern Territory, for frozen meat and mutton. Up to the present, so far as his reading had gone, he had found no trace of any agitation in favour of the single tax or of the progressive land tax, nor had he met with anything that led him to suppose that they had had to resort to village settlements as a solution of any unemployed difficulty, or that it had been found necessary to propose such a measure as the State Advances Bill to relieve embarrassed and over-borrowed producers. No doubt those were among the economic luxuries of a more advanced civilization and of communities that had gone the pace of development too rapidly. A large and profitable market was also being opened up for breeders of Australian horses through the demand for horse coaches instead of the jinrikisha—the hansom of the East—which was drawn by the natives. Railways, telegraph stations, telephone services, and post-offices showed that the people were educated up to the use of those triumphs of science with which the world had become familiar only during the last few years. When they heard some audacious stump orator or some ambitious place-hunter like Sir Henry Parkes raving about inferior Asiatic races, it was well to bear those things in mind, and, except where racial conceit blinded the judgment utterly, some difficulty would be experienced in discovering where, with all those results of advanced invention and science in full activity, the inferiority came in. No man, at any rate, who was not hopelessly blinded by skin antipathy would withhold his respect and admiration for a people that in less than a generation had carved their way from feudal ignorance and backwardness to the full blaze of nineteenth century civilization. He quoted figures regarding the trade of Japan, which had been gathered by Victorian Commissioners. He concluded by saying that the true answer to the question of what Australia's policy should be towards those new wonders of the East was expressed in the motto "Advance Australia."

Mr. Parsons, who leaves Australia in the *Menmuir*, is in charge of an extensive shipment of produce made with a view to testing the Japanese and Chinese markets. It includes flour, chaff, compressed hay, preserved meat, soap, preserved fruit, jam, honey, ale, wine, brandy, olive oil, leather, bark, bacon, biscuits, and salt, the whole amounting to about 120 tons, and the costs of forwarding the same being defrayed by the South Australian Government. On arriving in Sydney, Mr. Parsons was interviewed by a reporter of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, who enquired:—"What first drew the attention of the South Australian Government to the matter of trade with Japan and China?" "Well" (Mr. Parsons replied), "having visited the Far East I was convinced that, especially in wool, Japan intended to compete with European manufacturers, and I placed myself in communication with the Pastoralists' Association of South Australia and the West Darling, and they commissioned me to give them a full detailed report upon the exact conditions and prospects of the woollen industry both in China and Japan. I then had an interview with the Hon. C. C. Kingston, Premier of South Australia, and informed him it was my intention to visit the East, and the Government gave me special commissions to Japan, China, and the Philippine Islands to inquire into the conditions

of trade and commerce there, with a view to the extension of business between those countries and South Australia, because this is purely a South Australian affair. Then the Government, in order to call public attention to the matter, made it known by advertisements that they were prepared to pay all shipping freights and charges on trial shipments of South Australian staples, the products of the colony. In response a number of the leading producers, manufacturers, and merchants replied, and they have entrusted me with trial shipments."

After Mr. Parsons had repeated many of the details given in his Adelaide address, the interview proceeded as follows,—"What is your opinion as to the prospects of trade with the East?" "Well, the Japanese, it is well known, intend to carry out the manufacture of wool with the same energy that they have that of cotton. There are 10,000,000 of *yen*—equal to dollars—invested in cotton mills in Japan, and the Japanese are able to produce cotton fabrics cheaper than Bombay, whilst Bombay can produce them cheaper than Lancashire. Therefore, a good market ought to be obtainable for South Australian wool. The Japanese must purchase all the wool they require for manufacturing purposes. Sheep are not only not indigenous to the country, but a sheep-farming experiment that was carried out not far from Tokyo, the capital, although at first promising to be successful, ended in complete failure, as the sheep gradually died. The native kayr grass and stunted bamboo, which is common in the open and pastoral lands, are fatal to sheep." "What about the other samples you have with you?" "There are many articles which will undoubtedly be a good deal sought after. There is no doubt that the Japanese will be large importers of tallow, and they will be manufacturers of soap and candles of which, in the meantime, they are already considerable importers. There is another probable line of business, both with the Philippine Islands and Japan, and that is in live cattle. It may not be generally known that the South Australian Government subsidises a steamer at Port Darwin to the extent of £5,000 a year, which carries live cattle to Singapore and Batavia, and those who are well acquainted with conditions in the East are of opinion that a new market may be found for fat stock. As far as Japan is concerned, although a large quantity of beef is exported from Kobe, the Emperor has informed his subjects that if they are to compete with Western nations as producers and manufacturers, they will require a more generous diet than rice and condiments, and will have to become meat eaters." "What is the chief competition you fear?" "Our chief competition will be with California, as the shorter distance, the lower freights, and the general American policy of unloading in foreign markets will necessitate South Australia's fighting for a portion of the trade. As the trend of custom and fashion in Japan is to imitate European manners, it should be an increasing trade. As far as my knowledge of Asiatic nations is concerned, I am convinced that there are few articles of food which are palatable to Europeans which are not also palatable to Asiatics, and all that is wanted on their part is the money required to purchase them." "Is the South Australian Government likely to offer other assistance?" "No; I cannot say that it is. The expenses are being paid of this trial shipment, but after that the trade will have to rest on its own foundation. I am chiefly representing commercial houses in South Australia. My object is to collect all the statistics I can, to visit the different manufacturing centres, to go into the country and see the conditions of cultivation, and to acquire such information as will be a guide to producers and to commercial people of the colony generally. What the Government are doing is to give a little assistance with the object of finding out whether a profitable trade can be opened up."

While Mr. Parsons is thus active in one direction, Mr. Richard Synot, of Victoria, who recently passed several weeks in Japan, is equally vigorous in another. Writing to the Editor of the Melbourne *Age*, he says:—"Recognising the great interest you have always shown in the extension of the markets for Australian products, I have much pleasure in advising you that arrangements for the wholesale export of wool and skins to the manufacturers of Japan approach completion. By a happy coincidence at the very time my overtures were under the consideration of the Japanese merchants, Mr. A. Marks, H.J.M.'s consul to Melbourne, was visiting the empire, and was called into counsel on the subject of importing raw wool from Australia. By supplying technical information as to our commercial usages, and various other data in connection with shipments from Melbourne, Mr. Marks tendered our woolgrowers very valuable service by demonstrating the natural possibilities for the establishment of a considerable system of exchange between the 'England of the East' and these colonies."

Despite the depth of water in which the ill-fated *Catterthun* lies, the underwriters have not abandoned all hope of securing £10,000 on board. Mr. Briggs, the diver who ascertained the position of the sunken vessel, being interviewed by a newspaper reporter, said in reply to a question as to whether it was possible to recover the lost treasure:—"Oh, yes; I think it can be got; but I really can't say when we will be ready to begin. What's wanted is new gear—brand-new gear—and it must be a particular make. Then in the proper season I think we can manage it."

"The vessel being in 29 fathoms, the deck would be in about 25, so that you landed on the deck when you went down?"—"Oh, no. You see, in order to land on the vessel, you must be right over it when you start. You must go down on the line, and if it happens to be two or three fathoms away you would not land on it. The depth has been mentioned as 29 fathoms, but it is really more than that. When measured exactly it was found to be 18in. short of 30. I was level with the deck, but I did not touch it; as I was two or three fathoms away from it. I did not consider it necessary to do any more, for we couldn't work with the gear we had." "What did you actually see, Mr. Briggs?"—"I saw a ship—a mast, and rigging, and a deck; I suppose anybody who was not used to it would not have known what it was just like seeing a ship in a fog the way it was at that time." "Where is the treasure stored?"—"In a strong-room built under the chartroom. You had to get into it from the chartroom, which was on the bridge." "Would a diving-bell be of any use?"—"No; they would never get down 25 fathoms with a diving bell. I do not know the exact distance it would be possible to get down with a diving-bell, but I do not suppose it would be more than 40ft. or 50ft.—in fact, it would be impossible to use one in the open sea." "Do you think electric light is necessary?"—'It is not necessary—not exactly so; but it is very good. I could see, but it was like being in a fog. It was new moon at the time, and in the spring time there is always a little thickening in the water. In the neap tide the water is perfectly clear, especially with westerly winds. At a depth like that, though, it is always gloomy. The sun cannot penetrate so far." "What is the pressure at 25 fathoms?"—"Just about 65lb. to the square inch. Just a fraction over." "Is it true that if the gold is in 25 fathoms no man could stop down long enough to get it?"—"No; that is all rubbish. It is possible to get down, and to get it too. I guarantee it can be got. We would have had it if we had had the gear we needed for that kind of work. They call 25 fathoms the limit; but some men have been down more than that. I have been down 26 myself; and I dare say I have walked through deeper water than that; but for doing any work that is the limit. Up in Torres Straits I have done it, and outside the Heads here looking for the *Duckenfield* about six years ago. We can only wait till the underwriters have obtained the new gear, and when the westerlies have set in some time early next year. We could not lift the vessel into less water. It would cost too much."

The Commercial Treaty between Great Britain and Japan continues to be discussed in Australia. In the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, the Colonial Secretary was asked:—"What action has been taken by the Government in respect to the commercial treaty entered into between Great Britain and Japan last year, establishing reciprocal trade relations between the countries named and their dependencies and possessions?"; to which he replied,—"This treaty was entered into on 16th July, 1894, and contains a provision to the effect that certain colonies named, New South Wales being one, could come within the the operation of the treaty upon notice given within two years from the date of exchange of ratifications. This Government does not propose to take any steps to bring New South Wales within the operation of the treaty. I may point out that those countries joining in the treaty with Japan engage that the Japanese shall have full liberty to enter, travel, or reside therein." It is almost certain that the other colonies, with the exception, perhaps, of South Australia, will follow the example of New South Wales. The Melbourne *Age*, alluding to the subject, says:—"The opportunity given of entering into trade relations with Japan involves considerations of another kind. Under the provisions of the Imperial treaty wherein the colonies may participate if they intimate their desire before August next, a reciprocity of privilege is arranged for. As far as Great Britain is concerned an undertaking of this sort can be accepted without any difficulty. The islands in the northern seas have nothing to fear from any invasion of alien immigration. The position of Australia is very different. These colonies are situated at no great distance from Japan, and its excess of population might readily seek an outlet on this continent. The prediction that Australia might be turned into a Japanese province is not inherently devoid of possibility. The objections which are raised against the influx of Chinese apply with equal force to their more enterprising and spirited conquerors. In numbers and in frugality they represent a similarly dangerous form of competition, and should their intrusion assume alarming proportions the destiny of Australasia might become imperilled. We should be chary of introducing racial problems if this difficulty can be avoided. The introduction of Japanese labour into northern Queensland may become a source of future peril, and it will not be wise policy to offer encouragement to any course which will enlarge the area of contention. The trade benefits arising from the adoption of the Japanese treaty should be dearly purchased if we had to abandon our power of regulating alien immigration." The Rockhampton (Queensland) *Bulletin*, commenting on the action of the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce, in passing a resolution to the effect that Queensland be included in the Treaty, says,—"If there were no clause in the treaty about the free admission of the subjects of the contracting Powers, nothing but approval could be expressed of the resolution come to by the Chamber, and of the reasons advanced in support of it. But there is this clause, and it is an extraordinary fact that no mention whatever was made of it in the discussion. Members either forgot or ignored it. But neither the Government nor Parliament will follow them in this. The prime question in considering this matter will be, Is Queensland to be thrown wide open to the Japanese, to come in, buy land, engage in industries and trade, become naturalised, and in time be admitted to the voter's roll and the full privileges of citizenship? That is the question which the Government and Parliament will have to consider, and it is one of such vital importance to this colony that it ought not to be left over till the last moment. Queensland, it must be remembered, is the nearest of all the self-governing colonies to Japan. There are a good many Japanese here already, and a strong disposition has been shown by others to come. If they come in under this treaty, they will come as Frenchmen or Germans would, with the full privilege of becoming British subjects whenever they wish. Are the people of Queensland prepared to agree to this even for the advantage of securing the Japanese market for their products? One of the arguments always used in favour of Kanaka immigration is that the Islanders, from their limited mental development and power of improvement, could never enter into competition with white men in the callings which the latter follow. But this could not be said of the Japanese. On the contrary they have shown a remarkable power of mastering European trades and avocations, and if they came here in large numbers, as they would be free to do under this treaty, they would soon be found competing not only with white workmen but with white employers. The question of whether or not Queensland will remain outside the Japanese treaty is one of prime importance, and is not to be settled by such a perfunctory discussion as took place in the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce." J. P.

YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

(CRIMINAL SECTION.)

Before Judge TAKAHASHI BUNNOSUKE, President; and Associate Judges HARA SEIICHI and OHASHI JUTARO.

WEDNESDAY, 9th October, 1895.

THE "EMPRESS OF INDIA" MURDER CASE.

Iida Tsunekichi, a coolie, was charged with having cut and wounded and thereby caused the death of a Chinese ship's cook on board the British steamer *Empress of India* on the 13th of September last, while she was lying in the port of Yokohama.

The prosecution was in the hands of Public Procurator Miyakoshi Shinjiro, the prisoner being defended by Mr. Anzai Rimpachiro.

In answer to questions put by the Judges, the prisoner stated that he went on board the C. P. steamer *Empress of India* on the 12th of September last to seek employment as a coolie. From 50 to 60 other coolies were with him. They reached the ship at 10 a.m. Shortly after noon, when he was taking the midday meal on deck, a quarrel took place over the loss of a pair of trousers. A certain Chinese resident of Yokohama had gone on board the steamer that day to sell some clothes, which were displayed on the deck. A coolie threw a pair of trousers overboard, and was discovered by a Chinaman named Wong Yow Fook, who gave the alarm to the owner. The Japanese coolie, who threw the trousers overboard, then pursued Wong Yow

Fook, and the latter escaped to a small room At this time Iida declared that he was eating his food some distance away. Hearing the disturbance on the board, he went in the direction of the noise and therefore followed the Japanese who was chasing Wong Yow Fook. Arriving at the small room into which the Chinamen had fled, Iida discovered about six Chinese and three Japanese fighting. He, therefore, entered the chamber to separate the men and to quiet the disturbance. While doing so one of the Chinamen assaulted Iida with a stick, and he sustained a slight wound above the eye. Iida then ran out of the room, but at the door was caught by another tall Chinaman. He succeeded in escaping from him and jumped over the ship's side into the *daruma* (the lighter), where he washed his face. He carried no knife. He denied being the murderer of the Chinese.

After further evidence,

Public Procurator Miyakoshi argued that the evidence given by the Chinese crew of the steamer clearly indicated that Iida was the murderer, and that the wound on the right arm of the Chinaman Chen Sung was also given by him. The Public Procurator believed the statements of the Chinese witnesses, who had recognized the prisoner as the man who had stolen the trousers and had assaulted Chen Sung on the right arm, and fatally wounded Lee Sing. The Public Procurator drew the attention of the Court to the fact that prisoner was found in hiding when the lighter was searched, which was another circumstance that told against the credibility of his story. The Public Procurator urged that the punishment to be meted out should be in strict accordance with the law, as he feared that unless persons of the lower classes were taught that they must respect the persons and property of Chinamen, a state of things might be brought about which would tend to endanger the friendship now existing between the two Empires. The Public Procurator desired that prisoner be sentenced in accordance with Article 100 of the Criminal Code.

Advocate Anzai, in defence, said that the evidence given in connection with the murder was very weak, and asked that punishment be moderated, as the act was done by a reckless person, when his angry feelings were not under control.

The Court gave judgment as follows:—The accused, Iida, on the 12th of September, on board the *Empress of India*, stole a pair of trousers from a Chinese clothes' dealer, and threw them into the sea. The matter was discovered by a Chinaman, who told the owner. Strongly excited at hearing this, Iida pursued the Chinaman, but the latter ran into the Chinese smoking-room. On the way Iida was interfered with by Chen Sing, and Iida cut him with a knife upon the right arm. Iida afterwards assaulted Lee Sing, who was on the deck with the other Chinese, and who had inquired what he was doing. Lee Sing was cut in the neck and from the effects of the wound he died shortly afterwards. Iida then fled to a lighter, where his arrest took place. The facts have been proved by the evidence given by the Chinese and Japanese witnesses, and the report of the constables. The prisoner's action in stabbing Chen Sing is an infringement of Clause 2 Article 301 of the Criminal Code, and the wounding of Lee Sing, which resulted in death, is an infringement of Article 299 of the same Code. As the two crimes were committed at the same time, the prisoner will be punished in accordance with the more serious offence, and is sentenced to nine years' penal servitude with hard labour.

FOREIGN MISSIONS IN JAPAN.

The following letter appears in the *North China Daily News* of the 28th inst:—

SIR,—My attention has been called to a communication in your issue of the 27th of August signed "Observer," and dated, "Yokohama, 15th August."

In common with other missionaries I have not hitherto noticed any of the vague rumours in regard to missionary work in Japan which have found their way into the local press. The pseudonymous letter above referred to ought perhaps to be treated in the same way, but the charges it makes are so sweeping that I cannot remain silent. I wish therefore for my immediate colleagues and myself at least, in the most unequivocal manner to pronounce the main assertion of that letter mistaken, and to declare several of its insinuations to be entirely unwarranted. The main assertion referred to is as follows:

"Every missionary who has gone outside of Treaty limits to propagate his faith has done so under a false pretence, and by the practice of deception, in connection with some Japanese friend, who has pretended to employ the missionary as a teacher in his family, or under a bogus contract in some school."

This is a false statement. Not being omniscient I cannot and do not say that no missionary has taken such a course, and I am not in any way authorised to speak for the whole body of missionaries in Japan. But I do positively assert that some, and to speak in a concrete way I myself, have not done so.

I have lived in Kyoto fifteen years on a contract to teach in the Doshisha School. This contract has not been a "bogus" one, for I say it boldly, that I have been a hard-working teacher all these years. And I could speak in still stronger terms of my colleagues. It is true that our salaries have come ultimately from America, but this has been concealed from no one. We have been known as Christians and Christian missionaries by the successive governors of Kyoto and by the leading officials of the Central Government. The late Dr. Neesima, the founder of the Doshisha, was for a time connected with Prince Iwakura's Embassy which visited America and Europe in 1872-3, and with this introduction to official circles he became the intimate personal acquaintance of Marquis Ito, Counts Inouye, Okuma, and other statesmen. They thoroughly understood his loyal Christian character and the high Christian aims which he cherished for the school, as well as the source of the school's support. They visited the school again and again. They had interviews with the president and the teachers, foreign and Japanese, and they continued year after year to approve the school and grant permits to live in the interior to its mission teachers. One of the three noblemen mentioned once spoke in my presence of the high reputation of our students for morality, attributed it to Christianity, and gave the fact as one reason why he was ready to see Christianity propagated in the empire. More than this. Two of the statesmen mentioned, thoroughly conversant with the character of the school, the aims of its teachers and the source of its revenues, as I have already explained, not only subscribed a thousand dollars each to its endowment, but they also interested their friends to contribute nearly thirty thousand dollars more.

These facts—unquestionable facts—are the ample justification of my absolute denial that my colleagues and myself are here "under a false pretence," "under a bogus contract," or "by the practice of deception."

Again, so far as the Doshisha is concerned, the implication that the Trustees purpose to take the school property which was theirs only nominally and make it their "own absolutely" is untrue. The Doshisha school property has not been held by the Trustees in a merely nominal way. It has been a gift outright, and the American Board has never expected to have it returned. The Trustees hold the property in trust for a Christian school, and there is not the slightest anxiety lest they make it their "own" absolutely in the sense of appropriating it for their private ends. As showing the falsity of the insinuation that these trustees are a set of grasping rogues, I will mention the fact that one of them resigned his seat in the first Imperial Diet that he might come over to Kyoto and without salary devote himself to the interests of the Doshisha

Turning now from the Doshisha, it is well to remember that the holding of property off the concessions has not been and is not confined to missionaries. Honourable men in other walks of life in Tokyo, Kobe, and elsewhere have done so, as has been well-known to the highest officials. Indeed, it is commonly said that men in high official positions have been parties to such arrangements. As is well-known the stricter enforcement of the treaties under a feverish public sentiment in 1893-4 brought considerable anxiety to both parties in those arrangements, but so far as my knowledge goes there is only one case in which mission property has been taken from the unwilling hands of missionaries and diverted to other purposes; and in this case, where the action meets the general disapproval of the Japanese Christians, the property is still said to be used for the benefit of a school and not for private ends. There may be other cases to an equal or greater degree regrettable, but I do not know of them.

It is not denied that the past two or three years have been trying ones to the missionaries in Japan and that questions of the gravest nature now confront them. It is not denied that some Japanese Christians have shown antagonism to missionaries, that some have lost their faith and done things not consistent with the highest sense of honour. But it remains true that these are a very small minority, that there are many more who are showing that they possess a living faith by their better lives, and by their zeal in religious and philanthropic work, and who are manifesting the most friendly spirit towards the missionary from abroad. Speaking for myself, I can say that some of the warmest expressions of appreciation of missionary service which I have known in a residence of twenty-three years in Japan have come during the past six months.

Asking your pardon for trespassing so greatly upon your space and patience,

I am, etc., M. L. GORDON.

Doshima University, Kyoto, Japan,
21st September.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 8.

In the Athletic Sports meeting held at New York, the Yale representatives beat the Cambridge University team in eight out of the eleven events.

London, October 10.

The *Novoye Vremya* prints a telegram received from Vladivostock to the effect that three Companies of Engineers have started for Manchuria to survey a railway route.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, September 28.

A fresh expedition has left Mombasa against the Chief Mbaruk who has re-assembled his forces.

Foochow, September 28.

All the chief criminals have now been tried and condemned. It is reported that forty more prisoners have been released without the consent of the Consuls.

Mr. Mansfield, the British Consul, has been insulted by a Hunan soldier.

The Chinese officials are apparently working to make the investigation end in failure.

London, October 1.

The *Times* states that Colonel Scott, Inspector of Constabulary on the Gold Coast, has been summoned home to confer with the War Office concerning an expedition to Ashantee, in the event of a war with that country becoming inevitable.

The Armenians have made a demonstration before the Patriarchate at Constantinople. The Police dispersed them and killed several.

China has accepted the ultimatum of Great Britain, and has degraded the Viceroy of Szechuan for all time as a warning to others.

Much comment has been raised by the Emperor William's aide-de-camp, von Moltke, conveying to the Czar an autograph letter.

Prince Lobanoff, the Russian Chancellor, is staying in Paris and is in frequent conference with M. Hanotaux, Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Foochow, October 1.

Orders have been received by the mandarins here from Pekin to produce a final settlement of the Kucheng question on the spot if possible, but the local officials have vowed to screen every man who participated in the massacre except the actual murderers. The missionary societies and foreigners of all classes should stir up the powers interested to obtain immediate justice, and the punishment of all concerned directly or indirectly.

London, October 4.

Rioting and bloodshed were renewed in Constantinople on Tuesday night, when seventy Armenians were killed. The riots are likely to strengthen the Porte in its resistance to the reforms in Armenia.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

Amoy, Friday, Oct. 4 (10.30 a.m.)

A German man-of-war, the *Arcona*, arrived here a few days ago to protect the German churches and missions. All is quiet here. No marines have been landed, but a few unarmed sailors have disembarked on the usual shore leave.

Later.

The *Arcona* has left for Swatow, and will return here on Monday.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, Sept. 20.

England, irritated at the Franco-Russian entente, threatens to join the Triple Alliance

The Portuguese troops at Goa have revolted because they cannot get their pay.

(From Japanese Papers)

Söul, October 10.

The fact that the Queen had privately consulted with Li In-yo and others to re-arrest Li Shun-yo, grand-son of the Tai Wön-kun, and her intention to accuse the Tai Wön-kun of having instigated a riot at Chhol-won, are said to have been some of the causes for the easy acceptance by the Tai Wön-kun of the request of the discontented soldiers to lead them to the attack on the Palace.

Ken Yei-chin, ex-Commander of troops at Phyöng-an, has been appointed Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police.

Nagasaki, Oct. 10.

No. 11 torpedo boat has been towed in by the *Hiyoshi Maru*. The boiler exploded, and eight men have been injured, of whom two are receiving medical treatment at the hospital.

Akita, Oct. 10.

Three persons were arrested to-day for having infringed the rules for the management of explosive substances. It is said that the men threw a bomb at the residence of Governor Hirayama.

Söul, Oct. 11.

Mr. Hoshi Toru, a Japanese adviser to the Korean Government, who lately resigned his position, left there for home to-day.

The King has issued an Ordinance deposing the Queen. The chief reason for this step is said to be her ambition to place political power in the hands of the Min family, and thereby causing trouble to the country.

Twenty Russian marines entered the capital to-day to guard the Russian Legation.

The guards of the Palace have united with the *Kunren-tai*.

Söul, October 10.

Colonel Nienstead has been appointed military adviser to the Government.

Ninsen, October 11.

About half-past 4 o'clock this morning sixteen U.S. naval officers and men embarked on the steamer *Zenmei Maru* at Tsukioshima and proceeded to Söul.

Rumour has it that British marines will be dispatched to the Korean capital.

Kobe, Oct. 11.

The Korean King's Ambassador reached here to-day, and put up at the Nishimura Hotel. He will leave for Tokyo the day after to-morrow. He conveys many Royal presents to the Emperor of Japan.

Taipeh, Oct. 10.

During the engagements on the 8th and 9th Sub-Lieutenant Nagashi of the 1st Regiment, Capt. Toda and Lieutenant Mukaimishi of the 4th Regiment, and 32 other non-commissioned officers and men were injured. Lieutenant Nagashi's wounds are severe. Five non-commissioned officers and men were killed during the fighting. About 200 of the enemy were killed. The total number of the enemy in the neighbourhood of Kagi was 800 Kan soldiers and 3,000 natives.

Söul, Oct. 11.

A well authenticated rumour is afloat that one of the three women killed during the disturbance at the Palace was the Queen.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 197.

White to play and mate in two moves—1—Q to B 5 ch., Kt takes Q; 2—Kt to Q 6, mate.

White forces Black to mate in two moves—1—Q to R 3 ch., R takes Q; 2—Kt to Q 6, Kt takes Kt, mate.

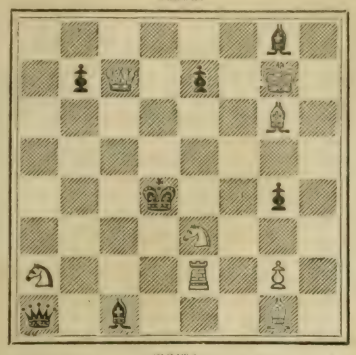
Black to play and mate in two moves—1—R to K 5 ch., Q to K 7; 2—B to R 5, mate.

Black forces White to mate in two moves—1—B to R 5 ch., Q takes B; 2—Kt to Q 3 ch., Kt takes Kt mate.

Correct answers from Digamma, W.H.S., Kr., E. J. King, and J.D.

Problem No. 199.

By B. G. Valle.



White to play and mate in two moves.

To the Chess Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—So much comment has been made on the statement of the Secretary of the Yokohama Chess Club that "he had not been informed of the Tokyo team's inability to come together," that I beg you will be good enough to give publicity to the following letter,

Yours truly, W. B. MASON.

Tokyo Chess Club, Oct. 8th, 1895.

[Copy.]

Tokyo Chess Club, Jan. 26th, 1895.

J. Davieson, Esq.,
Secretary,
Yokohama Chess Club.

Dear Sir,—I am requested by the Committee to inform you that owing to the inability of several of the most prominent players to take part in a match, they much regret that, for the present, they cannot forward a challenge to your club. It is hoped, however, that circumstances may, later on, admit of their again taking the matter into consideration,

Yours faithfully, W. B. Mason,
Secretary.

Hastings Congress.

We have not yet received a fresh instalment of games, but we publish the following note from our esteemed contributor "Digamma:"—

"At the banquet in honour of the players, Mr. John Watney, President, proposed the toast of "The Masters." Messrs. Lasker, Steinitz, Tarrasch, and Tschigorin responded. Mr. Tschigorin (whose remarks were interpreted by Mr. Hawkes of Newcastle) said that a match of five Masters, including Mr. Pillsbury, was contemplated during the autumn, every competitor to contest three or four games with each of the other entrants. The match to be held in St. Petersburg. Prizes ranging from £100 to £30 and all expenses paid by the St. Petersburg Chess Club."

We give one or two of the earlier games from rounds V. and VI. while waiting for later information.

Game No. 363.

French Defence—Tschigorin's attack:—

White. M. I. Tschigorin.	Black. R. Teichmann.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—Q to K 2	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to K 4
4—P to B 3	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 3	5—B to K 2
6—P to K Kt 3	6—P to Q 4
7—B to Kt 2	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—B to Q 3
9—Q Kt to Q 2	9—Castles
10—Kt to B 4	10—B to K 3
11—Castles	11—Kt to K sq.
12—P to Q Kt 4	12—P to Q R 3
13—R to Q sq.	13—Q to K 2
14—P to Q R 4	14—P to B 3
15—B to Q R 3	15—P to Q Kt 4
16—P takes P	16—P takes P
17—Kt to K 3	17—R to Q Kt sq.
18—B to Q B sq.	18—Kt to Q sq.
19—R to K 7	19—Kt to B 3
20—R to R 6	20—Kt to Q sq.
21—Kt to Q 5	21—Q to Q 2
22—Kt to K sq.	22—P to B 3
23—Kt to K 3	23—Q to Kt 2
24—R to R sq.	24—B to Q B 2
25—Kt to B 5	25—B to Kt 3
26—B to K 3	26—B takes B
27—Q takes B	27—R to B 2
28—Kt to Q 3	28—B to B sq.
29—Kt takes P	29—P takes Kt
30—R takes Kt	30—B to K 3
31—Kt to Q 6 and white wins.	

Game No. 364.

The encounter between Tarrasch and Tschigorin, round five (Queen's Pawn Game):—

White. Dr. Tarrasch.	Black. M. I. Tschigorin.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to Q 3	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to K B 4	4—Kt to Q Kt 5
5—Kt to K B 3 (a)	5—Kt takes B ch.
6—P takes Kt (b)	6—P to K 3
7—Castles	7—B to K 2
8—Q Kt to Q 2	8—Castles
9—Q to B 2	9—B to Q 2
10—Kt to Kt 3	10—B to R 5
11—Q to B 3	11—P to Q Kt 3
12—Q to K sq. (c)	12—P to Q B 4
13—B to Q 2	13—B to Kt 4
14—Kt to K 5	14—Kt to Q 2
15—Kt to B sq.	15—Kt takes Kt
16—Q P takes Kt	16—R to B sq. (d)
17—R to B 2	17—P to B 3
18—B to B 3	18—P to Q 5
19—P takes Q P	19—P takes Q P
20—P takes K B P	20—R takes P
21—B to Kt 4	21—B to B 4
22—B takes B	22—P takes B
23—Q to Q 2	23—Q to Q 3
24—Kt to K 2	24—Q R to B sq.
25—Q R to K B sq.	25—Q to Q 4
26—Kt to Kt 3	26—P to K 4
27—P to K B 5	27—P to Q B 5
28—Kt to K 4	28—P takes P (e)
29—Kt takes R ch.	29—R takes Kt
30—R to Q B sq.	30—P to K R 3
31—R to B 8 ch.	31—K to R 2
32—Q to Q Kt 4	32—B to B 3
33—Q to Q Kt 8	33—R takes P
34—R to R 8 ch.	34—K to Kt 3
35—R to K B 8	35—R to K Kt 4
36—R (B 8) to B 3	36—P to Q 7 & wins.

(a) P to Q B 3 to keep knight out and preserve the king's bishop is preferable.
(b) To prevent Kt to K 5 White doubles his pawns awkwardly.
(c) It is clear that time is lost by the queen moves.
(d) Preparing well for the strong advance of the pawns which ultimately proved irresistible.
(e) The exchange is thus well surrendered for the pawn and position. The game is really won now, and the only interest is in the method by which Black concludes.

Game No. 365.

Giuoco Piano.

White. Fucini.	Black. Olivari.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Kt to Q B 3	5—P to Q 3
6—Castles (a)	6—B to K Kt 5
7—P to Q Kt 3 (b)	7—P to Q R 3
8—P to K R 3	8—P to K R 4
9—P takes B (c)	9—P takes P
10—Kt to K Kt 5	10—P to K Kt 6
11—Kt takes K B P	11—Kt takes K P (d)
12—Kt takes Q	and Black mates in four moves (e).

(a) Too early in the Giuoco Piano. It is well known that in opening early castling is not good generally.
(b) This is not commendable either.
(c) And the capture of the piece is altogether wrong.
(d) Threatening in any case R to R 8 ch, followed by Q to R 5 ch and mate next move.
(e) 12—P takes P ch; 13, R takes P, B takes R, ch; 14, K to B sq, R to R 8 ch; 15, K to K 2, Kt to Q 5 mate.

Game No. 366.

Fianchetto Defence.

White. H. Jonsson.	Black. C. A. Mobius.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q Kt 3
2—B to B 4 (a)	2—B to Kt 2
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—P to K 3
4—Q to K 2	4—Q to Kt 4
5—P to K B 3	5—Kt to Q B 3
6—P to Q 3	6—Q to K 4 (b)
7—P to K B 4	7—Q to B 3
8—Kt to K B 3	8—B to B 4
9—B to K 3	9—B takes B
10—Q takes B	10—Kt to K R 3
11—P to K R 3	11—Castles Q R
12—Castles Q R	12—Kt to Q R 4
13—R to Q 2	13—P to Q 4 (c)
14—P to K 5	14—Q to K 2
15—B to Kt 3	15—Kt takes B ch.
16—B P takes Kt	16—Kt to B 4
17—Q to K B 2	17—P to Q 5
18—Kt to K 4	18—Q to Q Kt 5
19—K to Kt sq.	19—Kt to K 6
20—R to Q B sq.	20—R to Q 4
21—Kt to Q 6 ch.	21—K to Kt sq.
22—Kt takes K B P	22—R to K B sq.
23—Kt (B 7) to Kt 5	23—R takes B P
24—Kt takes K P	24—R to B 2
25—Q to K 2 (d)	25—R (B 2) to Q 2 (e)
26—Kt (K 6) takes Q P	26—Kt takes K Kt P
27—R to B 4	27—Q to K B sq.
28—P to K 6	28—Kt to B 5

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29—Q to K 3	29—R to K 2
30—Kt to K 5	30—K to B sq.
31—Kt to Q 7	31—Kt to Kt 7 (f)
32—R to K B 2	32—Q to Kt sq. (g)
33—R takes P ch.	33—K takes R
34—Q to Kt 3 ch.	34—K to Q sq.
35—Q to Kt 8 ch.	35—B to B sq.
36—Kt to B 6 ch. and mates next move.	

(a) Not good in the Fianchetto generally. P to Q 4 and Kt to Q B 3 are preferable.
(b) He should have gone to B 3 at once.
(c) The objection to White's B to B 4 now becomes apparent.
(d) Preparatory to Kt takes Q P.
(e) He should now have played P to Q B 4.
(f) Clever; because R takes Kt is answered by Q to B 8 ch followed by Q takes R.
(g) It was better to play Q to Q sq. Now a pretty sacrifice concludes the contest.

Game No. 367.

FOUR KNIGHTS' GAME.

WHITE. P. K. Traxler.	BLACK. Jan Hamr.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to B 3	3—Kt to B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to Kt 5
5—Castles	5—Castles
6—P to Q 3	6—P to Q 3
7—B takes Kt	7—P takes B
8—Kt to K 2	8—P to K R 3
9—P to B 3	9—B to R 4
10—Kt to Kt 3	10—Kt to R 2
11—P to Q 4	11—Q to K sq.
12—Kt to R 4	12—P takes P
13—P takes P.	13—B to R 3
14—Kt (R 4) to B 5	14—Kt to K B 3
15—Q to B 3	15—B takes R
16—Kt takes Kt P	16—Q to K 2
17—B takes R P	17—B to Kt 3
18—Kt (Kt 3) to B 5	18—Q takes P
19—Kt (Kt 7) to R 5 and wins (a).	

(a) Delightful. There is mate in two if Q takes Q.

Glimpses of Great Players.

The comportment of these two famous men of chess when contending with each other is said to have presented a striking contrast.

McDonnell, lymphatic of temperament, was dignified and composed in demeanour—vigilant, resolute, and self-possessed. He sat at work, maturing his conceptions with a patience and tenacity of purpose nothing had power to disturb.

Labourdonnais, who had a full share of the excitability of his nation, would jest and laugh with the gallery, puff his cigar, and hum his favourite airs. This was when fortune smiled benignant on him. But when she shook her swift wings and fled he fumed and fretted, rapping out maledictions with surprising rapidity. He was much quicker in his play than his antagonist, whose tardy strategy exercised him not a little, and made him give vent to his dissatisfaction in open grumbling and frequent elevation of the shoulders.

Paul Morphy.—I had the gratification of witnessing some of Morphy's games, which I reckon among the white stone occasions of my chess experiences. I have now before my mind's eye the aspect of the youthful American chess chief as he sat, cool as a cucumber and grandly calm, before his game. So still was he that but for the searching intellect which glittered in his full dark eye you might have taken him for a carved image as he pondered his moves. His bearing was mild and that of a refined gentleman; and he dealt the most crushing blows on his adversary with an almost womanly ease and grace.—*Weekly Times.*

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 12th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Oct. 18th.†
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, Oct. 16th.‡
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 20th.§
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 26th.
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 28th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Oct. 30th
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 7th.

* *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on September 24th. † *Gaelic* left San Francisco on October 1st. ‡ *Peru* (with English mail) left Hongkong on October 8th. § *Ravenna* left Hongkong on October 11th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 12th
For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 12th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 18th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Oct. 19th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 22nd.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 27th
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 28th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 1st.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Nov. 8th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 6th October,—Put Back, Ballast.—Order.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 6th October,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 14th September, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 7th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, 27th September, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,638, Foerk, 8th October,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, 8th October,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, Delacroix, 8th October,—Marseilles 1st September, Hongkong 30th, Shanghai 4th October, Nagasaki 6th, and Kobe 7th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,783, Morgan, 8th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Retriever, American schooner, 75, H. J. Snow, 9th October,—North Pacific, 891 Seals.—T. M. Laffin.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Buyers, 9th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, 26th September, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, 9th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Petrarch, German steamer, 1,173, 9th October,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Pronto, German steamer, 632, Bohn, 9th October,—Newchwang, General.—Japanese.

Willow Branch, British steamer, 2,147, Maling, 9th October,—New York, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 846, 10th October,—Kobe 8th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 10th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, 2nd October, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 483, Kori, 11th October,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Benlarig, British steamer, 1,452, E. Le Boutillier, 5th October,—London viâ ports, General.—Comes & Co.

Ariel, Norwegian steamer, 1,356, Rafin, 6th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Ballast.—Frazar & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, R. Crawford, 7th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Saipan, American schooner, 75, Petersen, 8th October,—Guam, Stores.—J. Kernan.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Buyers, 11th October,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 11th October,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, 11th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 846, 11th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Messrs. J. H. Johnson, Jno. Anderson, M.D., Lewis, Schantz, and Chapin in cabin; 14 Japanese and 52 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. E. Mitchell, Ah Foo, Sang Kong, F. W. Loring, Young Sen Un and servant, Chan Hai Shew, and Yeung Yam in cabin; 2 passengers on deck.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Collins, Mr. Braizo Agashi, Mr. Nato, Mr. J. S. Villiers, Mr. and Mrs. Slater, Mr. and Mrs. Forster, Mr. Kaoud Mulah, Mr. and Mrs. Wood, child and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Wickham, Mr. and Mrs. Platte, Mr. Fairbridge, Mr. Cheetham, Mr. Sale Hill, Mr. Macgregor, Mr. Buchanan, Mr. Lanning, Mr. Inglis, Mr. Adams, Mr. Sharples, Mr. Cornish, Mr. Tripler, Mr. Corbill, Mr. Reid, child and amah, Mrs. Harris, Miss and Mr. Clark and amah, Mr. H. Harris, Mr. Lalcaca, Mr. Williamson, Miss Perkles, Mr. C. Smith, Mr. W. Bennett, Mr. Keydzwsky, Lieut. Wm. Hault, Mr. Pekowosky, Mr. J. W. Jeen, Mr. and Mrs. Brand, Mr. A. Werner, Mr. Yong Sone, and Mrs. John, 3 children and amah in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Miss Unacke, Mr. Millward, Mr. Copman, Mr. Kozhevar, Mr. Casati, Mr. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Bright, Mr. J. Keddie, Mr. J. C. Black, Mr. Haussmann, Mr. and Mrs. McBain and 2 children, Mrs. Wylie, 2 children and nurse, Lieut. Von Späth, Mr. Meikle and nurse, Mr. J. H. Moore, Mr. J. W. Baird, Miss Wehrmann, Mr. and Mrs. Connelly, Mr. and Mrs. Payne and child, Mr. J. L. Jensen, Mr. Rickett, Mr. Duff, Mr. Voigt, Mr. Delacamp, Mr. Kahl, Mr. Kellmann, Mr. Guggenheim, Mr. Danckwerts, Lieut. Close, and Mr. Henderson in cabin; Mr. M. Francisco, Mr. McGill, and Mr. Hazelton in second class, and one Chinese in steerage. In transit:—Mr. Cadell, Captain Maxland, R.N., Mr. and Mrs. Don Sang, 2 children and servant, Mr. Gordon, Mrs. Stout, Mr. Alcock, Mr. Schall, Mr. Harper, Mr. Walker, Mr. Hope, Miss Bardsley, Mr. Fernald, Mr. Dutton, Mr. Burns, and Mr. Sugihara in cabin; 7 passengers in second class, and 212 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Dautremer, four children and amah, Mrs. Gibson and maid, Mr. R. Steiner, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Wrightson, Mr. Siegfield Marcuse, Mrs. G. Stewart and amah, Captain and Mrs. G. Hunt, l'Abbé Cyprian Balet, Mr. Rapp, Mr. N. S. Pott, Mr. E. C. Mearns, Colonel Fukushima, and Mr. Bonnet Fernand in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. M. W. Alcock, Miss Bardsley, Captain R. N. Blaxland, Mr. H. F. Burns, Mr. G. E. A. Cadell, Mr. Horace Dutton, Mr. F. E. Fernald, Mr. C. W. Gordon, Mr. J. Harper, Mr. R. C. Hope, Mrs. Little, Miss Little, Mr. C. T. Marshall, Mr. J. E. A. Oadell, Mr. Don Sang, Mrs. Don Sang, children, and servant, Mr. John Schall, Mr. J. Simms, Mrs. Stott, Mr. H. Sugihara, Mr. G. C. Turner, Mr. F. H. Walker, and Mr. Walter Young in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per French steamer *Océanien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 439 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 134 bales.

Per British steamer *Evandale*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	ST. PAUL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	1,369	294	—	—	—	—	1,663
Foochow ...	1,118	965	1,268	2,268	—	—	5,363
Hyogo	1,797	2,442	1,308	1,855	—	—	7,402
Yokohama.	2,763	1,540	1,128	837	511	852	7,631
Hongkong.	434	—	—	—	—	—	334
Amoy	173	17,690	244	—	—	—	20,267
Total ...	7,654	22,931	5,852	4,960	511	852	42760

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	95	—	95
Hongkong	—	408	—	408
Yokohama	—	508	—	508
Total	—	1,036	—	1,036

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	51	27	78
Calcutta	—	—	—	95	—	95
Foochow	271	—	—	—	—	271
Shanghai	3,908	4,216	3,043	115	—	11,282
Colombo	—	—	—	168	—	168
Kobe	1,995	261	493	—	—	2,709
Yokohama ...	4,497	—	—	9	—	4,506
Total	10,631	4,477	3,536	438	27	19,109

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	20	—	20
Shanghai	624	—	624
Yokohama	745	—	745
Total	1,389	—	1,389

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Active market all round and prices advancing. Yarn—Large business at much better prices all along the line. Single and Doubles, fine counts, doing extremely well. Grey Cloth—9lb. doing well and active at an advance in prices. Some enquiry also for 8¼lb. Fancy Cottons—Outlook rosy with business doing. Woollens—Strong advance in Italians with stocks low and market almost bare of supplies. Blankets—Sold to a good tune, but Cloth quiet.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼ lb., 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 30 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb., 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 75 to 3 35
T. Cloth—7lb., 24 yards, 32 inches	1 70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,	1 70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 12-3 inches,	0 75 to 0 90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1 75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 90 to 3 40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0 35 to 0 40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 25 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.45 to 0 50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0 60 to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36 00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39 00 to 40 00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41 00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43 00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45 00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53 00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Good trade with better prices. Business done includes both "spot" and "to arrive."

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4 30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9 00 to 9 50
Wire Nails, assorted	5 60 to 6 00
Tin Plates, per box	5 75 to 6 00
Sig Iron, No. 3	1 65 to 1 70

KEROSENE.

Demand is good, but values do not improve owing to competition. Buyers, expecting lower prices, continue to operate from hand to mouth. Stocks do not exceed requirements, and under ordinary conditions prices would be moving up.

American	$1.95 to 1.97½
Russian	1.95 to 2.00
Langkat	1.90

SUGAR.

Brown—Buyers have come with a rush, clearing the market of Formosa at a small advance in price. Manilas and Chinas have also been heavily sold at much better figures than for a long time past. Stocks much reduced. White—Steady trade and market firm at last rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.40 to 4.50
Brown Manila	4.40 to 4.75
Brown Daitong (New)	3.60 to 3.65
Brown Canton	3.60 to 3 90
White Java and Penang	6.40 to 6.50
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Small business, and prices must come down if holders want to move their stock to any extent. Supplies ample, and the stock has increased to about 14,000 piculs. Quotations more or less nominal. The rising exchange must pull them down if nothing else does it.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom $970 to 980
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	... 970 to 980
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	.... Nom. 940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	..... 900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	Nom. 900 to 910
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	..... 870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	..... 870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	....Nom. 870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	..... 830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	..... 780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	..... 750 to 770
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	..... 720 to 730
Kakedas—Extra	 850
Kakedas—No. 1	..... 830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	..... 810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 2	..... 780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	..... 740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Less demand; but holders are stubborn and will not reduce quotations at present. They will have to come to it with a stock of 12,000 piculs, small business, and a rising exchange.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

A fair amount of business continues. Latterly the settlements have been of the better grades, but Common Teas are in request also and command relatively good figures. Supplies are good for the time of year, and stock fairly ample for all requirements. Settlements to date 227,000 piculs against 217,000 last year. Export 27,000,000lbs. against 26,000,000lbs. last year.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Silver went up with a jump, and Exchange rates followed more steadily, closing firm at the advance.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2⅝
— — Bills on demand	2/2¾
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	2/3⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/3¼
On Paris—Bank sight	2.81
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.85@6
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛ % p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅛ % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	193½
— Private 30 days' sight	196
On America—Bank Bills on demand	54¼
— Private 30 days' sight	55¼
— — 4 months' sight	55¾
On Germany—Bank sight	2.25
— Private 4 months' sight	2.31
Bar Silver (London)	31⅛

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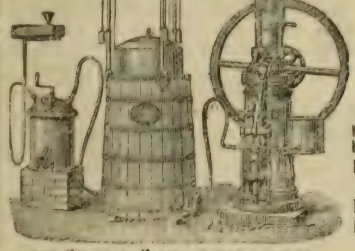

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 19TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At No. 10, Bluff, Yokohama, at 10 a.m. on the 14th October, the wife of VALDEMAR BLAD, of a Son.

DEATH.

At 61-D, Yokohama, on the 16th inst., at 9.50 a.m., ALEXANDER BIELFELD, of Shanghai, aged 56. China papers please copy

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Black Flags have surrendered unconditionally.

MR. SAITO MATSUZO has been elected Assistant Mayor of Yokohama.

THE *Kokkai* was suspended on the 11th inst. for the usual offence.

MR. SAITO KAN was appointed, on the 11th inst., Japanese Consul at Tacoma.

THE amateur theatricals at the Public Hall on Tuesday were a great success.

SHANGHAI was beaten by Kobe in the Kobe-Shanghai match by an innings and 125 runs.

COUNT HINO, a Chamberlain to H.I.H. the Crown Prince, has been released from the post.

MR. WAKAMIYA SEION, Chief of the Trade and Industry Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department, was placed on the Retired List on the 10th inst.

THE repairs of the *Iwaki Kan* have been completed, and she left Yokosuka on the 11th inst. for Sasebo.

THREE houses were destroyed by fire at Uramachi, Akasaka, Tokyo, on the 14th inst., two others being damaged.

KIM KA-CHIN is appointed Korean Minister to Japan. Prince Wi-hwa is to make a tour through Europe.

A STATUE of the late Dr. Müller has been erected in the compound of the College of Medicine in the Imperial University.

THE butchered body of the late Queen of Korea is said to have been found in a well in the compound of the Royal Palace.

A CARRYING company to be named the Shiba Kwabutsu Unyu Kaisha will be established in Tokyo with a capital of *yen* 300,000.

THE Government has decided to establish meteorological observatories in Formosa, and the work will be commenced at no distant date.

MR. LAFFIN'S yacht *Mary* beat Mr. Weston's *Tori* in a private match for $100 a side, on Saturday. She had about five minutes to spare.

CAPTAIN VISCOUNT DE LABRY, Military *Attaché* of the French Legation, has been appointed to to the Legion of Honour, for services during the late war.

FIRE broke out at Shioiri, Yokosuka, shortly after midnight on the 12th instant, and nineteen houses, occupied by thirty-six families, were destroyed.

MR. HOZUMI NOBUSHIGE, Director of the College of Law in the Imperial University, has been released from his post at his own request, and Mr. Tomii Masakichi succeeds.

THE funeral of the late Colonel Nakaoka, Commander of the Third Regiment of the Imperial Guards Division, who died in Formosa recently, took place in Tokyo on the 12th instant.

H.I.H. PRINCE KANIN, who lately received a decoration from the French Government, gave a banquet on the 12th inst. at the Akasaka Detached Palace to celebrate the event.

COUNT OKUMA gave a garden party to his friends on the 18th inst. in commemoration of the sixth anniversary of his escape from assassination while acting as Minister of Foreign Affairs.

THE British steamer *Isis* attempted to cross the bows of the *William H. Macy* in the Uraga Channel on Monday night and a collision resulted. The *William H. Macy* has been beached. The *Isis* is seriously damaged.

IN the first match of the Yokohama Cricket Festival, Shanghai made 254 and Yokohama 20 for no wickets. Stumps were drawn for the day, and on Tuesday the match was abandoned owing to heavy rain.

MR. OI BOKUSHIU and over twenty other leading capitalists of Osaka have agreed to organize the Japan Coal Mining Co. with a capital of *yen* 500,000. The object of the company is to engage in mining operations in Kushiro, Hokkaido.

FIVE hundred and fifty officers below the rank of Lieut.-Colonel, belonging to the Second Army, were decorated on 12th inst. in recognition of services rendered during the past war. One hundred and six received decorations of the Order of the Golden Kite.

THE King of Korea has assumed the title of Emperor.

THE Odawara residents propose constructing water-works at Odawara with Hakone Lake as the base of supply. It will be remembered that cholera was very prevalent in the district this year, the spread being assisted by the impurity of the water.

THE receipts of the following private railway companies during the ten days ended the 10th inst. were:—Sobu Railway Co., *yen* 7,054.480, a daily average income of *yen* 22.394 per mile; Osaka Railway Co., *yen* 12,779.240, a daily average income of *yen* 25.102 per mile; Chikuho Railway Co., *yen* 18,743.470, a daily average income of *yen* 39.490 per mile. During August last the Hokkaido Tanko Railway Co. received *yen* 40,057.173 on the Horonai line, a daily average income of *yen* 21.184 per mile; *yen* 6,954.659 on the Sorachi line, a daily average income of *yen* 6.598 per mile; *yen* 28,432.693 on the Muroran line, a daily average income of *yen* 8.272 per mile.

REUTER TELEGRAPHS:—Constantinople is now becoming quiet. The Armenian churches in the city are crowded with women fearing fresh massacres. The horrors in the streets on Monday and Tuesday were beyond description. The Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has declined on the plea of sickness to receive a visit from Admiral Buller, at Nanking, and the British ships have left their anchorage. All the Great Powers have presented a Collective Note which demanded a vigorous enquiry, the release of innocent prisoners, and the taking of adequate measures to preserve order in Constantinople. An official note from Great Britain, France, and Russia, states that these Powers will not allow disorders to impede the negotiations, the object of which is to procure peaceable reforms in Turkish rule and the security of the Christians. The Sultan accepts the reforms [for Armenia] in principle, but declines to promulgate them forthwith, because that course would make it appear that he was yielding to pressure. The outlook generally is regarded as much more hopeful at Constantinople.

IN the Import trade, though buisness is quieter, prices are strong and the outlook is good, and the latest turn in silver will induce buyers to come on, especially for the purchase of Textiles. There has been a fair enquiry in the Metal market, and a moderate amount of business has been put through. There is no change in the Kerosene trade, and transactions have been only on a scale to fill immediate requirements. The Sugar trade is not brisk, though there have been fair sales of Browns other than Formosa at late rates, the latter being neglected. Whites are quiet, but the market is steady. Through a small demand for Raw Silk, and fairly good arrivals, stock is increasing, and is now fully 15,000 piculs, with a certain tendency to pile up unless quotations are lowered. There has only been a small daily business in Waste, but this is the fault of holders, who will not be current. Supplies are large and increasing daily. There is less doing in the Tea trade, and the long run upon the commoner grades has reduced them to a scarcity, and the stock of leaf now on the market—about 5,000 piculs—consists mainly of grades Medium to Fine, and these will be sure to find buyers if offered at anything like a reasonable figure. Exchange has been fairly steady, but declined at the end of the week.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Korean *émeute* has naturally occupied a leading place in journalistic discussion during the week. The news of the disturbance did not at first seem to produce any feeling of astonishment in the minds of the metropolitan journalists. They did not detect in the whole affair anything incongruous with the methods usually pursued by Korean politicians. But the aspect of the affair was entirely changed by an apparently well founded suspicion that a number of Japanese *soshi* were implicated, and that they took upon themselves the execution of the most execrable part of the tragedy. Papers of all parties unite in deploring the incident, and calling upon the Government to inflict exemplary punishment upon every Japanese criminally concerned in the affair. We have already reproduced some articles on the subject, but reference may here be made to a few that have since been published.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* deeply regrets to have to acknowledge that according to latest reports, a number of Japanese *soshi* were connected with the *emeute*. In this connection, the Diet can not be entirely absolved from blame, for it appears that the presence of political fanatics of the *soshi* type in Sōul is due in some measure to the refusal of the people's representatives last year to approve, and thus continue in force, an Urgency Ordinance issued for the purpose of preventing the influx of men of that class into Korea. What has been done, cannot be undone. Our contemporary hopes, however, that the Diet will be wiser next session when the Urgency Ordinance just promulgated comes to be laid before it for approval. The *Nichi Nichi* goes on to criticise severely those Japanese in Korea, who, from misguided notions of national interest, do not scruple to meddle with party politics there. Japan's policy, as the protector of Korea, should be to keep herself above the petty faction strifes that divide the Court there, and consistently to maintain her neutrality, which ever party may happen to be in power. Past experience sufficiently proves how little reliance can be placed on the constancy of a Korean political party. The only wise course left for Japan is to keep herself strictly aloof from the internal politics of the peninsular kingdom. As to the ignorant adventurers that have jeopardised the Empire's interests in Korea, the *Nichi Nichi* urges their speedy and signal punishment.

* * *

The *Nippon* agrees with other journals in deploring that any Japanese should have been concerned in the disgraceful *coup d'état*. Profoundly as it regrets this, our contemporary cannot regard either the Japanese Minister or the officers of the Japanese troops in Sōul as in any way blameworthy on account of the conduct of their misguided countrymen. The *soshi* that are reported to have taken part in the recent drama did not act under Japanese direction or even inspiration, but placed themselves for the time being under the authority of the Korean authors of the disturbance, whoever they may have been. For what they may have done, nobody but themselves and their employers can justly be held responsible. They are like those Europeans and Americans that fought on the Chinese side in the late war. Because a few Germans and a few Americans took up arms against Japan, nobody would think of connecting their action in the slightest degree with their respective countries: they personally had identified themselves with the Chinese cause and in that respect cast off their original nationality. Similarly the Japanese *soshi* that are said to have been mixed up in the recent *émeute* in Sōul, were in the service of a Korean party, and anything done by them in that capacity does not constitute a reason for blaming Japan or her Representative.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* is shocked to hear of the crimes said to have been committed by some of its countrymen in Korea. These offenders should be speedily brought to justice in an exemplary manner. In no other way can Japan show how profoundly she feels on the subject, and how strongly she abhors such acts of violence and inhumanity. At the same time, our contemporary exhorts the Government not to commit the error of supposing that the country's rights and interests are in any way affected by the actions of a few misguided adventurers. Should an attempt be made to pervert this incident into a pretext for diplomatic action prejudicial to the interests and rights of Japan, a resolute attitude must be assumed by the Japanese Government. Our contemporary criticises in another article the strictures passed by the *Nichi Nichi* upon the Diet on account of its having rejected, last session, the Urgency Ordinance restricting the passage of the Japanese to Korea. In the *Mainichi's* opinion, the rescinding of that Ordinance had nothing to do with the presence of *soshi* in Sōul. The Japanese Consuls in Korea are invested with power to deport any of their nationals whose presence in the peninsula they deem undesirable. This power ought to be amply sufficient for the purpose. Moreover, the scarcity of men of standing among the Japanese going over to Korea is attributable to a sense of insecurity engendered by the irresolute and inconsistent policy pursued by the Government toward Korea. In the present state of affairs, men of substance are naturally reluctant to make investments in the peninsula, and, *per contra*, the very conditions that discourage business men, attract those that have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Thus the presence of Japanese *soshi* in Sōul is due to the mistaken policy pursued by the Government toward Korea.

* * *

Next to the Korean question, public attention has been directed to the alleged meeting between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma at the latter's residence. That the two statesmen met seems to be an indisputable fact, but the conjectures made about the object and results of the conference seem, for the most part, to lack value. Important results may or may not follow from the meeting, but for the present it seems premature to hazard any prediction. The Progressionist organs preserve silence on the subject. The *Yomiuri* alone has taken the trouble to deny that the Premier's visit to Count Okuma had any political meaning. Our contemporary states, however, that the conversation between the two greatest of Japan's present statesmen was of the most friendly and intimate character, recalling the happy days in the early years of the present era when they were bosom friends, supporting each other in the task of inducing reforms and improvements. The *Jiji Shimpo*, the well known editor of which is considered to have been the mediator between the two statesmen, urges the appointment of Count Okuma to the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs. It looks as though Mr. Fukuzawa's favourite theme of reconciliation between the statesmen of the elder generation has now a fair chance of a partial success. But nothing definite can now be stated on the matter.

* * *

Writing under the heading "China," the *Jiji Shimpo* regrets that politically she is of little assistance to Japan, not only on account of her weakness but also because of her known duplicity and utter untrustworthiness. Our contemporary reviews the diplomatic history of China to illustrate the truth of the above statement. In consequence of the worthlessness of her neighbour, Japan is forced to seek cōoperators among Western Powers in order to settle what might otherwise be better arranged between the two Oriental States without any reference to other countries. From a commercial point of view, however, China offers a vast field for the extension of Japanese trade. The *Jiji* deplores that its countrymen are very slow in availing themselves of their unique advantages as compared with Western people in trading with China. In this respect both Government and people are alike blamable, for if the latter lack enterprise, the former do not pay sufficient attention to the selection of Consuls at the Chinese ports. The Government should send to China Consuls possessing proper qualifications for the post, and business men should travel in China and see for themselves what can be done done for the extension of trade there.

* * *

The *Kokkai* reviews the present situation in China and expresses its conviction that, unless a chivalrous benefactor comes to her assistance, China is doomed to fall a prey to the rapacity of Western Powers. It is a great mistake to suppose that Russia, France, and Germany are the only Powers whose aggressive designs on China are to be feared. England will not be slow to put in her claim for a large share of the spoil. The *Kokkai* does not seem to have any faith in the possibility of a chivalrous benefactor's coming to rescue China from the clutches of the Western robbers.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE KOBE CRICKETERS "SEND OFF"

From the *Hyogo News* we gather that the smoking concert given in honour of the departure of the Kobe Interport team was one of the best of a long series of now famous entertainments. The programme, it remarks, can hardly be treated in detail; an iteration of items and the publishing of so many stage-names could convey no idea to those who were not present. But we may say that the Ebony Boys gave a series of Christy Minstrel choruses and solos and banjo selections and "gags" in a manner fully in keeping with the reputation earned by their earlier appearance. And after them came a succession of star artistes in song and dance. The Sisters Giggle made an immense hit, the Dazzler carried the house by storm, the Royal Submarine Band played as no earthly orchestra has played before, and Harro Enoski, M'ddle Gusto, and Mr. Amstead Eath, to mention a few striking personalities, continued and varied the proceedings with contributions often suggested by their cognomens. The wild fun and fury of the final tableau, an Indian dance, can be remembered as a fantastic dream but cannot be reduced to plain words. Many popular compositions were levied upon in the course of the evening to provide so much good music. Proceedings closed with rousing cheers for the artistes, including Mr. H. Grimble the indefatigable accompanist, and with "God Save the Queen" by the Town Band, which had rendered some capital selections at intervals during the evening.

UNIQUE CRICKET MATCH.

The sequestered village of Thornton Heath was the scene of a cricket match which, a Surrey paper remarks, appears to be almost unique in the annals of cricket. Mr. Bacon, one of the oldest and most respected tradesmen of Thornton Heath, who is a postman and pursues the business of a shoemaker in the High Street, with his ten sons challenged eleven of the postmen of the place to a cricket match on the Recreation Ground. The "Men of Letters" were victorious, but we hope that this will not be the first and last appearance of old Mr. Bacon and his ten athletic sons upon the ground. We cannot at present recall another instance in which an eleven has been represented entirely by the members of one family, sons of the same mother and father. Some of our readers, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, will doubtless recall the days when Mr. A. P. Lucas formed his invincible Lucas eleven, but that illustrious team was composed of Mr. Lucas's cousins as well as his brothers. Dr. W. G. Grace—when his brother, Dr. E. M. Grace, was the finest point in England, and his brother, G. F. Grace, the most brilliant field the world had ever seen—formed, with his cousins, the Gilberts, what he called the Grace family eleven, and challenged the Gloucester county eleven.

THE AUSTRIAN CRUISER "AURORA."

The Austrian cruiser *Aurora*, now in port, says the *Hiogo News*, is to make a stay of about ten days in Kobe, and during that time an oppor-

tunity will, we hope, be afforded us of hearing something of the rich musical talent that we understand abounds on board. The reputation of Captain Constantin Edler von Pott and his staff of officers—Lieutenants Anton Vertovetz, R. Skingass, C. Kailer, R. Graubner; Naval Ensigns A. Lernet, A. von Khuepach, E. Bulla, Alois Schusterschitz, Emil Wilde; Dr. Casimier Microszewsky, Chief Engineer Johann Seifriedsberger, Second Engineer H. Knisch, and Paymaster Wilhelm Senautka—has preceded them to Kobe, and an opportunity of judging for ourselves will be most welcome. The *Aurora* is a vessel of 1,370 tons, with engines of 1,000 horse-power; she carries three machine-guns, and six breech-loading guns; her crew numbers 223 all told.

THE GRACE SHILLING TESTIMONIAL.

THE *Daily Telegraph* National Shilling Testimonial to the well-known cricketer, Dr. W. G. Grace, now amounts to 91,183 shillings. Amongst recent subscriptions received from abroad is one from the Hongkong Cricket Club, the hon. secretary of which, Mr. Ed. A. Ram, writes:—"I have the pleasure to forward you a draft upon the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank for £10 (200 shillings), which you will be so good as to accept as the slight but sincere tribute of admiration from 200 members of the Cricket Club and community of Hongkong." There is also a subscription from Bangkok amounting to thirty-six shillings forwarded by Mr. Harry Hillman, editor of the *Siam Observer*, who writes:—"Bangkok is not a very big place as regards Europeans, and although English predominates, a large proportion of the small European community is non-English. I was consequently somewhat doubtful when some local cricketers suggested the opening of a fund. However, I expected thirty, and got thirty-six, in which are included the British Chargé d'Affaires, the Consul, the Anglican priest, and even a few Siamese."—*L. and C. Express.*

MRS. BROWN POTTER.

THE Melbourne *Punch* says:—The American paper tide which turned so suddenly for Mrs. Cora Urquhart Potter last season has become a flood, and she will in the fall be the prominent figure in the theatrical world. She has been taken up by Augustin Daly, who, having brought out the finest comedienne America has had in Ada Rehan, proposes now to turn his attention to the tragedienne. Mrs. Potter owns the French play "The Queen's Necklace," in which Marie Antoinette is the leading character. But it is likely that Mr. Daly, having an actress who can realise high tragedy, will do for the classic play of that kind what he has done for the highest comedy. Mrs. Potter will justify all he can undertake for her, for she would have been the leading female star on the stage long ago had she had proper management. In the meantime, a noted sculptor is doing a bust of her, a well-known artist is painting her picture, and as Mr. Daly is the best stage manager in America and has a theatre in London, Mrs. Potter will benefit largely by both advantages.

WARSHIPS ON THE YANG-TZSE.

THE French cruiser *Duguay Trouin* arrived at Woosung on Saturday, October 5th, from Yokohama, and the Italian cruiser *Umbria* arrived at Shanghai the same day. The U.S.S. *Machias* was recently at Hankow, but wass leave in a day or two. The *Æolus* was at date of latest advices at Kiukiang, the *Rainbow* and *Spartan* at Wuhu, the *Alacrity*, flying the flag of Admiral Buller, is on her way to Wuhu, the *Plover* is on her way to Hankow, and the *Caroline* and *Edgar* are at Woosung. H.M.S. *Daphne* left Shanghai on the 7th inst. under orders for Swatow. H.M.S. *Caroline* will probably remain at Shanghai during the winter.

CHANGING SERVICE.

THE *Straits Times* says:—We understand that Messrs. G. T. Hare, R. J. Wilkinson, and G. J. L. Litton, at present members of the Civil Service of the Straits Settlements, have telegraphically received permission from the Secretary of State to leave their present appointments and enter the Consular service in China. Dissatisfied with their prospects in the civil service, these gentleman applied some time ago for the permission they have now received with unexpected celerity. They are disbelievers in the Straits; they are optimists regarding the prospects in the diplomatic field of the Far East. They prefer to sacrifice their years of labour here, their pension qualifications, their seniority, all in fact, to enter what to them appears a far easier and more rapid route to distinction and substantial remuneration. It is a serious step to take, some may call it rash, but these gentlemen are men of erudition and common sense, and we wish them success in their undertaking, if they undertake it—but there is yet time for repentance.

PERSONAL ITEMS.

THE Russian Minister received a long telegram from the home Government on the 16th inst. It will be remembered that the appointment of Li Hung-chang as Chinese commissioner to discuss the Liaotung question, took place the same day. On the following day, the 17th, the Russian, French, and German Representatives proceeded to the Foreign Office, and had an interview with Marquis Saionji for two hours. Marquis Ito called on Marquis Saionji on the 18th inst. at the Foreign Office, and the British Minister visited the Foreign Office about the same time. Count Okuma's garden party, which was given on the 18th inst., was attended by over one hundred guests, but no Cabinet Ministers were present. Mr. Komura, Chief of the Political Business Bureau in the Foreign Office, is gazetted to-day Japanese Minister Resident in Söul, and Mr. Motono is commissioned to act as chief of the same Bureau. Viscount Miura, Japanese Minister to Korea, and Mr. Sugimura, Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Söul, have been recalled. This matter is published in to-day's *Official Gazette.*

A FORMOSAN REFUGEE.

THE *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tsz Yat Po*) says that General Woo Kwong Liang, who effected his escape immediately after the evacuation of Chang-hwa by the Chinese soldiers in Formosa, is now residing in a lodging-house in Canton. Our contemporary adds that probably the escape of this general gave rise to the report that Liu Yung-fu, the Black Flag General, had abandoned Formosa and had crossed over to the mainland of China.

COMMANDER BARBER.

THE *N.-C. Daily News* learns that Commander Barber, U.S.N., fearing that his health would not support the 1,700-mile land journey from Tientsin to Chéngtu, has resigned his post on the Chêngtu Commission, and Admiral Carpenter has appointed Lieut.-Commander John P. Morrell, of the U.S.S. *Baltimore*, in his stead.

VISCOUNT DE LABRY.

WE learn that the French Government has conferred the Legion of Honour on Captain Viscount de Labry, Military Attaché of the French Legation in Tokyo, in recognition of his services during the recent War between China and Japan.

SIR NICOLAS O'CONOR.

SIR NICHOLAS O'CONOR, the British Minister to Pekin, says the Shanghai morning journal, has been down to Tientsin to meet Lady O'Conor, who returned from Chefoo in a Russian gunboat. Sir Nicolas proposes to leave his present post at the end of this month.

NEW SPANISH GUNBOAT.

THE Spanish gunboat *General Noval*, Commander Guillermo de Avila, arrived at Singapore on the 27th ult. from Glasgow and anchored in the roads. The vessel is of 906 tons, 72 horse-power, and carries a crew of 72 men. She is on her maiden trip to the East and goes on to Manila.

WATERWORKS FOR ODAWARA.

THE Odawara residents propose constructing water-works at Odawara with Hakone Lake as the base of supply. It will be remembered that cholera was very prevalent in the district this year, the spread being assisted by the impurity of the water. In consequence of the unfortunate outbreak of the epidemic the number of visitors to the district was considerably decreased, and the residents feel the importance of water-works.

PEKIN NEWS.

Concerning the appointment of Earl Li as Plenipotentiary for negotiating the new Treaty with the Japanese Minister, the Japanese correspondents mention a rumour prevalent in Pekin, to the effect that the Grand Secretary's position is very unenviable. He has been appointed, it is said, to this difficult duty not because he is of all Chinese statesmen best qualified to discharge it, but principally because he is regarded as the sole cause of China's recent humiliating defeats, and is consequently held responsible for settling all affairs connected with the war. Under such circumstances, his powerful enemies promise themselves a unique opportunity for attacking him in the sequel of the negotiations, and they will seize every pretext to impeach him to the Emperor. Such is the rumour widely circulated among the Chinese. Information obtained by the correspondents from another source, however, indicates that the Pekin Government had at first resolved to associate with Earl Li one or two other negotiators, but that everyone to whom the offer was made declined to accept it, and it was next decided that all the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên should be appointed Plenipotentiaries. That plan, also, proving impracticable, the Chinese Government was already beginning to think that the best course would be to entrust the task to Earl Li alone, when its idea was strengthened by suggestions in the same sense from the foreign Representatives, including the Japanese Minister. According to this view, Earl Li's position, though not completely re-established, is less insecure than some people seem to imagine.

The question of the rate of exchange between the Ku'ping tael and the British pound sterling took more than a month to settle. Receiving no reply from the Tsung-li Yamên after the lapse of a month from the time of communicating his proposal on the subject, Mr. Hayashi is said to have addressed, on the 25th ultimo, a vigorous note to the Chinese Ministers of Foreign Affairs, remonstrating against their incomprehensible delay, and telling them that, should they continue undecided, he must withdraw his proposal and demand the payment of the indemnity in coin in Pekin. This brought them to their senses, and on the 27th ultimo, Wang, Chang, and two other Ministers visited the Japanese Legation. After expressing regret for their inability to give a more speedy answer, they produced a counter-proposal based on the views of Sir Robert Hart. The *Kokumin's* correspondent states that between the two proposals there was a difference of about 4 grains per tael. So the matter was not settled at that day's conference.

On the above occasion, after the immediate business had been concluded, Wang Tung-ho is said to have asked Mr. Hayashi various questions about the state of things in Japan, especially education and civil service examinations. Mr. Hayashi willingly afforded all the information required. The aged Chinese statesman evinced lively interest in everything that he heard from the Japanese Minister. Perceiving the sincere desire of his guest to learn all about Japan, Mr. Hayashi is said to have recommended him to instruct the Chinese Minister in Japan to collect all desired information. The Japanese correspondents are glad to observe that Yang, hitherto regarded as a most bigoted opponent of modern civilization, has at last opened his eyes, and is now in a fair way to be converted into an enthusiastic advocate of reform and progress. This is an encouraging sign for all well wishers of China. It seems probable that the rumoured reconciliation between Wang and his old antagonist Li Hung-chang, is not a baseless story.

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KOREAN NEWS.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12.

The situation in Korea remains unchanged so far as our information goes. The impression grows stronger that the Queen has fallen a victim to the resentment of her enemies. A few Japanese war-ships were to have been despatched to the peninsula, but things having resumed their ordinary aspect, the order has been rescinded. A telegram mentions that some adherents of the Tai Wön-kun wore Japanese clothes when they forced their way into the Palace, for the Japanese being greatly feared by the Koreans, it was supposed that such a disguise would disarm resistance. This circumstance is said to have occasioned no small annoyance to the Japanese, who are naturally indignant at a cowardly artifice tending to implicate them in an affair with which they had no connection.

One correspondent wires a rumour that Her Majesty is hiding in the Russian Legation, but this telegram is not credited.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 14.

The Edict deposing the Korean Queen, already referred to in our telegraphic column, runs as follows :—

Our reign has already lasted two-and-thirty years, and yet it grieves Us to think that the country has not been sufficiently benefited under our sway. Our Queen, of the Min family, collecting around Our throne a large number of her relations and partisans, has obscured Our intelligence, robbed the people, confused Our orders, bartered official rank, and practised all sorts of extortion in the provincial localities. Bands of lawless robbers roamed in all parts of the country, and the dynasty was placed in a perilous situation. That We have not punished her, though knowing her wickedness, may perhaps be ascribed to Our lack of wisdom, but it is principally owing to the fact that she surrounded Us with her partisans. In order to impose restraints upon the evil, We made a vow to the spirits of Our Ancestors in December last, to the effect that the Queen and all her blood relations should henceforth be prohibited from meddling with State affairs. It was Our hope that the Queen would repent of her errors. But instead of repenting, she continued to favour her followers and to keep at a distance those of Our own family. She also prevented the Ministers of State from directly approaching the Throne. She further conspired to cause a disturbance by falsely making it known that it was Our wish to disband Our troops, and when the disturbance arose, she left our side, and following the method pursued by her in 1882, she hid herself beyond the reach of Our search. Such conduct is not only inconsistent with her rank as Queen, but is the acme of crime and heinousness. We therefore, in pursuance of Our family precedents, are compelled to depose Our Queen and to degrade her to the level of the common people.

The date of this Edict is not known, but from telegraphic communications bearing on the subject, it appears that it was issued on the 11th instant. It is mentioned in a later telegram that, out of sympathy with the Crown Prince, the Queen was allowed to retain the rank of Royal Mistress.

According to a telegram, dated Söul, 12th inst., 10 p.m., published in the *Asahi Shimbun*, the following Edict is said to have been issued to ease the minds of the Min faction, who are supposed to be in grievous dread of persecution :—

"We regard all Our loyal subjects with equal benevolence and unbiassed humanity. Neither Our rewards nor Our punishments shall be influenced by party considerations. We therefore enjoin upon Our subjects to forget their private feuds, and in view of the difficult position in which their country is now placed, to unite their efforts harmoniously with Ours for the furtherance of the great task of reform."

A Fusan telegram, dated 12th inst., 8.15 a.m., published by the *Nichi Nichi*, states that the foreign Ministers at Söul have been holding frequent conferences at Chon-don since the *émeute* of the 8th instant, and that the Japanese Minister does not seem to have attended any of these meetings.

Another telegram from the same place announces that various rumours are circulated in Söul, the alleged sources being General W. McE. Dye and a Russian architect. These two live in the palace, and are consequently credited with having been eye-witnesses of the occurrences on the 8th instant.

Concerning the Japanese troops that assisted in restoring order at the Palace, it is stated that they were withdrawn as soon as the disturbance subsided, and as soon as it was seen that no apprehension of further trouble need be entertained. That was about 9 o'clock in the morning.

A Ninsen telegram, dated the 11th instant, says that it is very generally rumoured among the Koreans that the Queen is still safe in a private house. But the sender of the telegram places little confidence in this rumour.

The news of the disturbance has produced various impressions upon the Korean students staying at the *Keiwo Gijuku*. Those that had been sent to Japan while Pak Yong-ho was in power, did not show any sign of alarm, but the report produced great excitement among those that had come subsequently under the patronage of the Min faction. Among the latter, the most seriously alarmed are the forty-five brought over in the train of Count Inouye. Five of them tried to escape from the College on the night of the 9th instant, but were prevented from doing so by the College authorities. Hearing of this incident, Count Inouye invited the students to his residence and pointed out to them the inadvisability of taking any hasty step. He earnestly advised them to stay quietly at the school. But having become possessed of a strong desire to return home, they refused to avail themselves of their refuge in Japan. Count Inouye then requested them at least to wait until he should have communicated with their King, but this, too, they declined. Thus there remained no alternative for Count Inouye but to let them have their own way. He exacted from them, however, a written acknowledgment that the course taken by them was in opposition to their guardian's explicit recommendation. Thirty-six of these students left Tokyo for home on the evening of the 10th instant. Five have gone to their Legation, but the rest are quietly pursuing their studies at Mita.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15.

The latest Söul correspondence, dated five or six days previous to the *coup d'état*, makes it tolerably clear that, although the citizens were not prepared for an event of such a character and such importance, intelligent observers of passing events had ample reason to suspect that some sort of crisis was at hand. The *Nippon's* correspondent, for example, wrote that "a strange drama was about to be enacted." Among the circumstances that seem to have suggested misgivings to the representatives of the Japanese press, the foremost place must be given to an extraordinary revival of the influence of the Min politicians, and of the abuses and corruptions historically associated with that faction. The Queen, confident in her re-established power, not only began to recall to office many of the Min politicians dismissed when the programme of political reform wes adopted, but even authorised the sale of official rank to anyone that could afford to pay twenty or thirty dollars for the privilege of increased social status. Min Yong-chun, who had recently been recalled by the Queen, was to be appointed Minister of the Household. It was further rumoured that the Queen meditated the revival of the *Shosei-in*, a sort of inner Cabinet in the Court, the offices in which would be filled no doubt with politicans of her own faction, slowly and cautiously. Her Majesty seems also to have set about eliminating all alien elements from the Government. The first that fell a victim to her policy was Yu Kitsu-ei, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, who had proved himself a consummate intriguer in the interests of the party opposed to the Min. He was transferred to the comparatively insignificant post of Governor of Wi-ju. These events could not fail to cause uneasiness to Kim Koshu, Minister President, the leader of the indepenpendent faction. He had promised Count Inouye never to leave his position unless under compulsion. But he is said to have been greatly shaken in his resolution and to have begun to think of resigning a post the real power of which he was not allowed to exercise.

An Keiju, Minister of War, also tendered his resignation because he found himself the object of profound resentment on the part of the Queen in consequence of his share in introducing Japanese soldiers within the Palace grounds last year. Kim Kachin, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, was also directed by the King to tender his resignation, the Queen entertaining against him the same prejudice as against An.

Mention is further made of the growing ill-feeling between the Palace Guards and the *Kunrentai* troops. It is stated that an officer of the latter was publicly insulted by two privates of the Guards in the streets of Söul. Quarrels were also frequent between the *Kunrentai* soldiers and the police constables. Recently a drunken private of a *Kunrentai* battalion was rebuked by a constable for his rudeness to civilians. The soldier quietly went back to the barracks, where he was joined by a number of his comrades, and the party marched to the nearest police station, attacked the constables, smashed furniture, and inflicted severe wounds on two police sergents and three constables. The infuriated soldiers then proceeded to a prison where they committed wanton acts of violence.

Such was the state of affairs in Söul a few days previous to the recent disturbance. It is evident that the position of the section devoted to the policy of reform and progress had become extremely perilous. In fact, the correspondents plainly express their conviction that a crisis of a grave nature was impending. Kim Koshu and his followers must have felt that all was over unless some desperate *coup* were resorted to. It is now believed in Tokyo that Yu Kitsu-ei was the prime actor in the daring plan executed on the morning of the 8th. How far he and his chief Kim Koshu, were directly concerned in the ghastly details of the affair, we shall probably remain always in ignorance. But from the past history of Yu, as well as from the extraordinary smoothness and absence of confusion with which the reorganization of the Government was effected immediately after the entrance of the Tai Wön-kun into the Palace, it seems probable that everything had been previously arranged and agreed upon between the King's father and his friends in the Cabinet.

The following Imperial Ordinance, restricting the passage of Japanese subjects to Korea, was published yesterday in the *Official Gazette :*

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE.

We, judging that urgent necessity exists, and acting with the advice of Our Privy Council and in accordance with the provisions of Article VIII. of the Imperial Constitution, do hereby forbid that, with the exception of Civil and Military officials, or persons under instructions from the heads of Departments, no Japanese subject shall travel to Korea with obtaining permission from the Local Governor within whose district he resides.

[Imperial Sign Mannal.]
[Great Seal.]
[Signatures of Minister of State.]

IMPERIAL ORDINANCE NO. 144.

With the exception of Civil and Military officials or persons under instructions from the heads of Departments, Japanese subjects are hereby forbidden to proceed to Korea without obtaining permission from the Local Governor within whose jurisdiction they reside. Any one violating this order shall be liable to major confinement of from one month to one year, together with a fine of from 20 to 200 *yen*.

This Ordinance shall take effect from the day of its promulgation.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find the following :—"In the disturbance on the 8th instant in Söul, a party of rioters broke into the Queen's apartments, dragged out three females, apparently ladies in waiting, slashed them to

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death, and taking their corpses out the castle, burned them. One of the murdered ladies appears to be undoubtedly the Queen. Such is the rumour circulating generally in Sŏul. The former Minister of the Household is said to have been killed at the same time. Who these assassins were, is not known, and as they were foreign costume and carried Japanese swords, there is no discerning whether they wore rioters who took advantage of the confusion caused by the military *émeute*, or whether they were actually soldiers. It appears that some Japanese loafers entered the Palace at the same time as the troops, and the Japanese residents in Sŏul are consequently in great trouble."

The above intelligence is in the form of a telegram from Ninsen, dated 8.50 p.m. on the 13th instant. If its worst construction be confirmed, a very evil impression will be created. People will naturally say that the Japanese, whose pretext for being in Korea is to civilize the country, have themselves set a flagrant example of lawlessness and barbarism. But of course it does not follow that because a party of rioters wore foreign costume and wielded Japanese swords, they were necessarily Japanese. There is another, not unreasonable, hypothesis, namely, that if any Japanese had contemplated taking part in such an affair, they would have been more likely to desguise themselves by wearing Korean costume than to court identification by wearing foreign clothes. At all events, we must await farther evidence before forming a definite decision. It is known that many Japanese of the worst type, including unscrupulous adventurers and *soshi*, flocked to Korea after the expulsion of the Chinese, and after the restrictive measures adopted by the Japanese authorities ceased to be operative. Those measures are now again put into force, and we may at least be confident that, under the circumstances, any lawless part played by Japanese adventurers during the *émeute* will be exposed and punished. Meanwhile, it will be seen from the information furnished by the Japanese correspondents quoted above, that the *coup d'état* of the 8th instant was obviously the climax of a rapidly developed struggle between the party of progress and the conservative relatives of the Queen.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16.

Later letters from Sŏul, dated only two or three days before the disturbance of the 8th instant, run in the same strain as those quoted in our last issue. One or two fresh facts are narrated showing to what lengths the Queen had carried her disregard of the functions of the Cabinet. An Edict reviving the system of distinguishing personal ranks and social classes was promulgated over the countersignature of the Minister of the Household Department, which procedure was a flagrant violation of the official regulations. The Queen also took her own way of late in the appointment of military and civil officers of the higher ranks. Whenever the Cabinet ventured to question the propriety of any appointment proposed by the Court, the King became highly indignant and did not hesitate to apply very strong epithets to his refractory Ministers. In such cases the appointments were effected in entire disregard of the Cabinet's remonstrances. Recently, the Queen wanted to have an impotent official of *Haunin* rank transferred from the Household Department to be Director of a Bureau. The position carried with it the rank of *Chokunin*, the highest grade in officialdom. Apart from any question as to the personal qualifications of the candidate, a sudden leap from the lowest to the uppermost step in the ladder of promotion was against all precedents and rules. The Cabinet remonstrated, whereupon the Queen withdrew the proposal, and three days afterwards the appointment was announced in the *Official Gazette*. From that time, official nominations were made without the slightest reference to the Cabinet.

Another irregularity alluded to is the fact that, while the law of official organization limits the number of officials in the Household Department to 600, including court ladies, the Queen arbitrarily increased the actual number to more than 2,000, exclusive of ladies. It being impossible to support such a crowd of officials out of the civil list, the Minister of Finance was requested several times to appropriate money from the Special Reserve Fund. It was probably with a view to such requisitions that Her Majesty took care to appoint to the Ministry of Finance, Chin Sokun, one of her most trusted partizans.

The Queen and her followers do not seem to have had the slightest suspicion of the conspiracy that was secretly hatching in the suburbs of the capital. But Her Majesty appears to have been aware that the policy she was pursuing could not fail to drive the Reform party into an alliance with the Tai Wŏn-kun. It was some faint apprehension of this danger that induced her recently to cause the King to send a secret messenger to his father at his country seat of Kong-tŏk-ri, summoning him to return to his place in Sŏul, where he could be watched with greater ease and might even be kept in a kind of custody. The Japanese correspondents attach great importance to this incident.

These correspondents, throw out, here and there, mysterious hints about an impending political crisis, but none of them seems to have had any clear idea as to the manner in which the event was to occur. They make no attempt to be explicit.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17.

Letters describing the Korean *émeute* on the 8th instant have just been published in the vernacular press. From them it appears that, although the *coup d'état* of the 8th was a sudden and complete surprise to those not directly concerned in it, the situation had been gradually growing critical. From the way in which the Queen and her partisans behaved, it had been clear for some time to all intelligent observers in Sŏul that things must sooner or later culuminate in serious trouble. But none except those immediately involved in the plot had the least idea that the issue would arrive so soon and in such a decisive manner.

The apprehended danger was precipitated by the supposed intention of the Queen's party to disband the *Kunrentai* troops. These, having been organized by the reform party, were regarded with special aversion by the opposite side. In order to constitute a pretext for their meditated disbandment—that is to say, the breaking up of the only body of fighting men worthy of the name in the whole peninsula—the Queen's partisans are stated to have contrived repeated collisions between these soldiers on the one hand and the police and palace guards on the other. Allusion has already been made in our columns to these disturbances. Having thus created a fair pretext for their long meditated move, the Queen's partisans are said to have decided to take all the arms from the *Kunrentai* troops and disband them, except the officers, who should be punished according to their supposed guilt. This was on the afternoon of the 7th. The opposite party seems to have had a spy at Court, for the news of this intended move on the part of the Queen's party soon reached the ears of Her Majesty's enemies. When the *Kunrentai* officers heard what was impending, they saw that their only chance lay in a decided counter-move. They at once appealed to the Tai Wŏn-kun for his countenance, and if possible, for his active leadership in the meditated *coup d'état*. Whether this was the first appeal for the aid of the King's father, or whether the plot had included him for some time, none of the correspondents can say for certain. Be that as it may, it seems unquestionable that the Tai Wŏn-kun suffered himself to be escorted to the Palace at the head of the discontented troops.

At 2.40 a.m. on the 8th—so explicit is the correspondent of the *Kokumin Shimbun*—the Tai Wŏn-kun left his country seat of Kong-tŏk-ri, about two miles and a half from the capital. It had been arranged—so says the same writer in the *Kokumin* from whom we proceed to quote the principal events of the day—that the Tai Wŏn-kun should be met on the way by a party of the *Kunrentai*. But he and his suite proceeded some distance along the principal road toward the south gate of the city without meeting the expected detachment. The little party arrested their advance and waited for about an hour in great doubt and misgivings, when a man on horseback approached and dispelled all anxiety by reporting that the troops sent for their escort had proceded by a different road, but that, finding out the mistake, they were now waiting for the royal party at the Western Gate of the city. When the King's father and suite approached that place, they were saluted by the 1st Battalion of the *Kunrentai* which was drawn up there. It was then 4 a.m. The whole party thereupon proceeded at a rapid pace towards the Kwang-hwa gate of the Palace. When they presented themselves there, the guards discharged a few shots and fled. At this moment a small party of about twenty men who had appeared in front of the Home Office close by fired at the Tai Wŏn-kun's escort, and about thirty or forty shots had been exchanged when a man rushed from the ranks of the small party of assailants. But before he could reach the Tai Wŏn-kun's men, he was shot down. The assailants then took to their heels. The fallen man was found to be Ko Kei-kan, one of the Queen's sworn followers, who had but recently been appointed commander of the *Kunrentai* Regiment. Entering the Palace grounds without further resistance, the Tai Wŏn-kun stopped at the Thai-hwa Palace. Meanwhile, the *Kunrentai* troops possessed themselves of all the principal gates of the palace. After a short rest in the above mentioned building, the Tai Wŏn-kun proceeded to the Kang-nyŏng Palace, where His Highness asked for an audience with the King. Having waited a short time, he was shown to the King's apartment. It was then about 5.30 a.m. What passed at the interview between the father and son, the correspondent does not profess to know. But he states that during the conference the Crown Prince was by the side of the King. Great confusion prevailed among the court ladies, who soon assembled in one room in a state of surprise and consternation. As to the Queen, it was not known what had become of her. A tumultuous scene is said to have taken place between her personal attendants and the *Kunrentai* soldiers who approached her Majesty's chamber to protect her—so says the correspondent.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent is informed that the Queen fell a victim to foul play.

At seven in the morning, says the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, the Japanese Minister repaired to the Palace in response to a summons from the King, and immediately afterwards the Japanese troops, at the request of the King, mounted guard over the principal gates of the palace.

The Russian and American Ministers called at the Japanese Legation, but finding that Viscount Miura had already repaired to the palace, they, too, followed him thither. It was then about nine in the morning. In the afternoon, the same Ministers again called at the Japanese Legation, and had a conversation with Viscount Miura, asking for information about the *coup d'état* of the morning.

Among the Korean Ministers of State, An Keiju, Minister of War, is said to have been the first to repair to the palace. He was soon followed by Kim Koshu, the Premier, and Kim Sushoku, the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

These things took place while the citizens of Sŏul were yet sound asleep in bed. When they awoke, they found a proclamation posted at various places in the streets, calling upon them to keep quiet, inasmuch as a party of patriots, no longer able to remain inactive while the safety of the country was being endangered by wicked people that swarmed in the Palace, were engaged in purifying the Court and inducing the Tai Wŏn-kun to assist the King in the the administration of the kingdom. A short time later in the morning the following proclamation was posted at the principal thoroughfares of the capital in the name of the Tai Wŏn-kun:—"Of late a gang of perfidious courtiers have surrounded the throne to obscure His Majesty's natural wisdom and induce him to turn from the prudent and favour the wicked. They have thus rendered the great work of reform impos-

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sible, and placed in serious danger the foundations of the Royal dynasty laid during the past five centuries. Born in the Royal family, I cannot sit still under the circumstances. I am therefore determined to enter the Palace and assist His Royal Majesty in eliminating from the Court this gang of traitors, thus rescuing the dynasty from the imminent peril that threatens it, and thereby ensuring peace and tranquillity to the people. I enjoin upon you, all classes of the people, to pursue each his own vocation and avoid from all riotous conduct. Be it known to you all that any breach of this injunction will be instantly and signally dealt with."

The letters just published in Tokyo are all dated on the day of the *coup d'état*, so that further and more accurate details may be looked for by next mail.

COUNT OKUMA INTERVIEWED.

The *Mainichi Shimbun* publishes an account of an interview that its representative had with Count Okuma. When the interviewer was ushered into the room, the Count was conversing with a certain business man on industries in Hokkaido. The conversation then turned on the foreign trade of the country, and the Count dwelt with satisfaction on the rapid rate of its growth. Now that the war with China has revolutionized Japan's relations with the outer world, Count Okuma cannot but think that the growth of trade in the near future will be still more rapid than heretofore. Nevertheless, he reminds the business men of Japan that much depends upon their energy, their judgment, and their prudence. Especially ought they to be aware that their most formidable antagonists in the field of commerce are not Europeans and Americans but the people of China. Impotent as they are in real war, the Chinese are dangerous competitors in commerce and industry. The Count at the same time hopes that the Government will take all necessary steps for the extension of Japanese trade in China. These steps are, to select for Consular positions men of practical capacity, with knowledge of commercial affairs; to establish Consulates at all important places; and to determine and publicly announce the policy to be pursued toward China. After sundry other remarks on the general position of Japanese trade, Count Okuma again returned to the subject of trade with China. He was glad to learn that the industrial department of the Mitsui firm had decided to start a cotton mill in Shanghai. He welcomed this new departure because he thought that it would serve to stimulate the industrial and commercial classes in Japan. But as to the question whether the Mitsui Firm had acted wisely or unwisely, the distinguished statesman seemed to hesitate about pronouncing an opinion. He observed, however, that Shanghai was not the best place for the Japanese to establish manufactories. It would not be easy —at least not so easy as in Japan—to obtain the necessary female hands in China. Moreover, the necessity of employing interpreters and sending inspectors would involve much trouble and expense. This outlay and trouble could be avoided by locating the mill at Moji, or some other place in Kyushu, where there is plenty of cheap coal and cheap labour, and where excellent shipping facilities are obtainable. The Count was therefore disposed to consider it a mistake to start factories in China.

FORMOSA NEWS.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that important news has been received at Amoy by the steamer *Harold*. It is to the effect that the Black Flags in Tainan have surrendered to the Japanese Squadron, through the intervention of the British Consul, and that measures have been taken to preserve order in the town and protect the lives and property of the inhabitants. A condition of the surrender was that the lives of the Black Flag soldiers should be saved, and that they should be sent back to China. It seems strange that, if this be true, some intelligence of it should not have been conveyed direct from the Japanese head-quarters in Formosa, but there is of course a possibility that as the surrender was made to the Navy, no opportunity of communicating overland may have been immediately available. We have never anticipated any very serious resistance on the part of the Black Flags, and their surrender, as described in the above telegram, would not surprise us.

Another telegram, published by the *Hochi* and the *Mainichi*, says that Liu Yung fu with the troops under his command, has surrendered to the Japanese, but gives no particulars whatever.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* attributes the absence of any direct news from Head-quarters at Taipeh to the fact that the telegraph is interrupted between Tamsui and Amoy.

The same paper informs us, on authority said to be trustworthy, that the Second Division, which left Kelung under the command of Lt.-General Takashima, arrived at the Pescadores on the 8th instant, and was to proceed thence, southward, in two sections on the following morning, one to land at Tang-kang and the other at Pau-tay-chi. It was expected that the landing would be completed on the 12th inst. If this programme was adhered to, the surrender of the Black Flags must have anticipated the landing of the Division.

The first batch of telegrams relating to the movements of the Japanese troops in the south of Formosa has just been received. The delay is accounted for by an interruption of the cable between Tamsui and Amoy.

The following telegram from the Staff at the Governor-General's Office, is dated Tai-peh October 13, 1.43 p.m :—

"According to a telegram from the Guards Division, the right column of that Division effected a junction with a company of the Fourth Mixed Brigade at Ku-sui-kang at 8 a.m. on the 11th instant. It is reported that the landing of the principal part at the above mentioned Brigade was to have been completed on the 11th.

The Second Division commenced disembarkation on the sea shore west of Fang-liao at 8.45 a.m. on the 11th. It encountered no resistance from the enemy nor any climatic inconvenience.

According to the captain of the *Toyohashi Maru*, which left the last mentioned place at 4 p.m. on the 11th, the advance guard of the Second Division came into collision with a hostile force, four or five thousand strong, at Fang-liao and its vicinity, about noon on the day of debarkation. The enemy having gradually retreated, it was expected that the greater part of the Division would be landed in the course of that day."

Concerning the landing of the Second Division, alluded to in the above telegram, Lieutenant-Colonel Mikami telegraphs as follows from Fang-liao, the message being dated Tamsui, 6 p.m., 13th instant :—

"Disembarkation was commenced at a place opposite Ban-si-lin (?), north-west of Fang-liao, at 8.45 a.m. on the 11th. There being no resistance from the enemy nor any wind, everything goes on well."

The following from Major Nishiyama dated Pau-tai-chi, was transmitted from Tamsui, at 6 p.m. on the 13th instant :—

"The transports carrying the Fourth Brigade commenced landing troops at 3 p.m. on the 10th. The boats have to be rowed for two hours over a distance of more than three miles against strong and high waves, their size increased by the rapid current at the mouth of the river. Weather remaining unchanged, the landing will be completed on the 14th. At the landing place, there were posted about seven battalions (500 each) of the enemy, who, after offering slight resistance to a party of marines, set fire to the village where they had been posted and beat a retreat. The village was completely burnt down. Yesterday afternoon a junction was effected with the Imperial Guards Division."

The following telegram, dated Tang-kang, 8 a.m. on the 14th instant, is from Lieutenant Kuroi of the Navy :—

"Leaving Ban-si-liu on the forenoon of the 12th, the transports steamed to Tan-kang. Of our two months' supply of provision and fodder, a quantity sufficient for five days is to be landed at Tan-kang, while the rest is to be discharged at Takao. This change of arrangement has necessitated a delay in the departure for home of the transports. The ships that have already left for home after discharging their cargoes are the *Satsuma*, *Niigata*, *Fusan*, and *Sendai*. For the purpose of a second shipment, the *Toyohashi* and *Sakura* have been sent back to Kelung; the *Kyoto*, *Fukuoka*, and *Yamaguchi* to the Pescadores; the *Seitoku* and *Suma* to Pau-tai-chi. The *Tairen Maru* is shipping the wounded and sick. Tan-kang is not a good shipping place, so that disembarkation there is attended with serious inconveniences."

THE KOREAN AFFAIR AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

The latest intelligence from Korea indicates a strong probability that some Japanese *soshi* were implicated in the affair of the 8th instant. In what spirit this feature of the matter is discussed by the Japanese press will be apparent from the articles quoted below.

The *Nichi Nichi* writes in this strain :—

"From the latest telegrams from Korea, it appears to be true that the Queen met with a violent death under the sword of an assassin. It seems also beyond doubt that, during the confusion of the *émeute*, some persons clothed in European fashion and armed with Japanese swords entered the Palace. Whether these men were Koreans in disguise or whether they were Japanese desperadoes, we are not in a position to say. But judging from the circumstance that an American officer and a Russian architect, happening to be at Court, were eye-witnesses of the horrible scene, it must be acknowledged that the men attired in European clothes and carrying Japanese swords, whoever they may have been, were the perpetrators of the heinous crime. It is sincerely to be hoped that they are not Japanese, but considering the way in which they were accoutred it is natural that suspicion should attach to Japanese—a suspicion certainly not allayed by the fact that the Cabinet organized under the new state of things is composed of statesmen popularly credited with pro-Japanese sympathy. We are grieved to confess that counter-proofs are not forthcoming to remove this injurious suspicion. We doubt not that Mr. Komura's mission will succeed in probing the matter to the bottom, and should it become clear, as a result of his investigations, that the criminals were Koreans in disguise, then it would be Japan's duty to advise the Korean Government to deal with the offenders in a proper manner. But if it turn out that any Japanese were criminally implicated in the matter, the delinquents, whosoever they be, should be brought to justice without the slightest scruple. Is not our object in Korea to realise her independence, reform her administration, and lead her into the path of civilization? Have we not proclaimed this fact to the world, and has not our position in Korea been tacitly recognized by the Powers? How great, then, would be our dishonour, should it turn out that our own countrymen have been participators in criminal Korean intrigues? Isolated acts of violence attempted by individuals like Tsuda Sanzo and Koyama Rokunosuke, were a disgrace to the country. Much more would it be a stain on the country's reputation should it be proved that a number of Japanese acted in concert with the Korean troops on the 8th instant. Since the Pak incident, our authorities have increased their vigilance in watching the Japanese residents in Korea, and the Government has just issued an urgency Ordinance imposing restraints upon Japanese going to Korea. Under such circumstances, it should be a matter of no small difficulty for a number of Japanese to cōoperate with Koreans in a treasonable scheme. But if unhappily such cōoperation has occurred, the only course for Japan would be to show no mercy to these offenders. And if it be discovered that there has been neglect of duty on the part of Japanese officials, they, too, ought to be dealt with

properly. The Korean Government, it is true, has made public the deposition of the Queen, but has not proclaimed her death. According to the edict of deposition, Her Majesty must still be considered living. But facts do not warrant such a conclusion. Should it appear that any Japanese were connected, in the slightest degree, with her death, we repeat our earnest wish that no leniency should be shown. It is Japan's duty as a civilized State and as Korea's guide in the path of civilization to sift the mystery to the bottom and to bring to justice whomsoever may have been implicated in the criminal proceedings. Nothing would be more fortunate for her than conclusive proof that none of her subjects had the slightest connection with the affair."

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes in a similar strain. The whole truth, it says, is not yet known about the affair, for the reports thus far received are in many respects open to the charge of exaggeration. But there is no escaping a strong suspicion that some of the Japanese residents in Sōul were more or less implicated in the treasonable tragedy. As a result of the violent political convulsions that shook the country from end to end and led to the Revolution of 1868, there have grown up a peculiar class of political fanatics that do not think it a dishonour to murder public men for the supposed benefit of the State. To this category belong the assassins that have stained the annals of the *Meiji* era. Even at the present moment men of this type are in prison charged with a plot to kill the Minister President of State. The *Jiji* is sincerely sorry that such persons should be numbered among its compatriots. They have of late regarded Korea as a field specially reserved for practical applications of their dangerous creed. The Government has taken every possible measure to prevent them from crossing the sea, and to deport them as soon as they are found on Korean soil. But in spite of all official vigilance, a large number of these desperadoes have found their way to the peninsula either in the character of peaceful traders or as apparently inoffensive deserters from service in steamers plying between Japan and the Korean ports. Under such circumstances, the report that some Japanese were connected with the tragedy just enacted in Korea, is highly probable. Should it be true, the *Jiji* hopes that the facts will be made public without the slightest concealment or reservation, and that the offenders will at the same time be visited with the most signal punishment. Nothing could be more grievous for the sake of Japan than that the acts of ignorant and misguided fanatics should furnish foreign nations with a pretext for questioning her civilization.

STATUE OF THE LATE DR. MÜLLER.

The ceremony of unveiling a statue of the Dr. Müller in the grounds of the Imperial University took place on the 13th instant. Dr. Müller was the first German professor at the Tokyo Medical College, the embryo of the present College of Medicine in the Imperial University. He came to Japan in 1871, when few even among the Japanese professors of the College could speak German. In spite of serious difficulties, he patiently laboured to impart his knowledge to his students, and thus laid the foundation of modern medicine in this country. Hearing of his death in January, 1894, his former pupils including Surgeon-General Dr. Ishiguro, Professors Miyake, Taguchi, and Adachi, and a large number of other well known Japanese, decided to erect a bronze statue of their esteemed master in the compound of the university. The work has been executed by Mr. Fujita Bunzo, the same sculptor that earned a reputation by casting the statue of Dr. Aoyama. The statue represents the German Professor in his military uniform.

JAPANESE EMIGRANTS TO HAWAII.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has a note on the above subject, based on a report by Mr. Shimizu, Japanese Consul in Hawaii. According to Mr. Shimizu, public opinion in Hawaii with regard to Japanese immigration is divided. These are, first, the view of the traders, who are deriving great profits from the sugar and coffee plantations on which Japanese labour is employed; secondly, the view of the politicians who are in favour of American annexation and who regard with disfavour the large influx of Asiatics that is taking place. The traders maintain that the prosperity of the Sandwich Islands is principally owing to the fact that planters having been for many years supplied with cheap labour, have been enabled to grow sugar and prepare it for export at a cost that leaves a good margin of profit. But if the Hawaiian Government were to place any obstacles in the way of the planters' utilising the facilities offered to them by such countries as China and Japan, the consequence would be a general collapse of the whole trade from which the revenue of the country is now derived. Among immigrants, the planters prefer the Japanese to the Chinese and Portuguese, on the ground that they are easily managed and that they do more work in proportion to wages paid them than labourers of any other nationality. Hence if the planters have their way, Japanese immigrants will always be welcome in Hawaii. But there is no disguising the fact that the Hawaiian Government are implacably opposed to the policy of the planters, and regard with some apprehension the presence of a multitude of Asiatics in the islands. The objections that these politicians have to the employment of Eastern labourers are the stereotyped arguments so often urged in America and Australia; arguments which, when closely examined, are found to depend upon nothing but race prejudice. In these days of keen competition, it is little likely that politicians influenced by such prejudices will be allowed to place serious obstacles in the way of the further development of an industry to which Hawaii owes all its importance and prosperity.

ONE OF THE RESULTS OF CHEAP LABOUR IN JAPAN.

The *Jiji Shimpo* furnishes an account of an interview held with Mr. Hanbury — an American gentleman who had been superintending the erection of a clock and watch factory in Osaka—prior to his departure for the United States at the end of August. The following are the opinions said to have been expressed by Mr. Hanbury. The Japanese have made the most wonderful progress in the manufacture of clocks and watches, and are now able to sell for 50 *sen* a clock that will keep time, and thus answer the purpose of the ordinary Japanese purchaser. The Japanese artisan is a capital imitator. He takes in an idea as quickly as an American, and in many cases he improves on what he learns, originates skilful adaptations of old methods to new requirements. Clockmakers can be obtained at 12 cents a day, and such men will do as much work in a day as the American, who is paid $1.50 for the same time. If in America two men by hard application can make a clock in a day, two men in Japan will do the same work. There is not the slightest doubt that before very long, instead of, as heretofore, importing clocks from America, Japan will be exporting her timepieces to that country and, unless some special protective measures are inaugurated, America will have to close her clock factories and allow Japan to supply her people with time-keepers. Though originally an ardent supporter of free trade, Mr. Hanbury is stated to have become a rabid protectionist before leaving Japan, and to have gone back to the United States to urge on his fellow-countrymen the importance of taking immediate steps to prevent the country being supplied with Japanese cheap clocks and watches.

Although agreeing with the general tenor of the remarks put into Mr. Hanbury's mouth by the *Jiji's* interviewer, we are sure that no one having a practical acquaintance with the watch-making business would be rash enough to say that a Japanese artisan of the class required for this delicate workmanship can be obtained for 12 cents a day. That the Japanese, however, are making wonderful strides in all classes of manufacture, and that they seriously intend to come into competition with the Western world wherever any prospect of success offers, is a fact inviting the earnest attention of all business men. Publicists like Herr von Brandt think that the movement can be stopped by official interference, or by limiting the area of Japan's territorial expansion. The unsuccessful attempts made by the whole world to check England's industrial development ought to teach the futility of such devices.

THE "KOKUMIN-NO-TOMO."

The *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, hitherto published three times a month, has been converted into a weekly journal and is now issued every Saturday. Its first issue appeared in February, 1887, and inaugurated a fresh epoch in the history of Japanese periodical journalism. Its extraordinary literary success is well-known and needs no comment. Of even greater interest, perhaps, is its equally extraordinary financial success—extraordinary when compared with the general unprofitableness of journalism in Japan. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo* demonstrated for the first time that a periodical magazine might be made to pay. Its success in this respect has no doubt induced the exuberant growth of periodical Japanese journals that has characterised the past seven or eight years. In the opening number of the new series of the paper, the editor remarks that it had long been his ambition to publish a weekly journal of the type of the New York *Nation*. He set about his task in a very prudent manner, first converting his monthly magazine into a fortnightly journal, then increasing its publication to three times a month; and finally attaining his original object, weekly publication. The principal reason why the achievement of his aim has been so long deferred is to be ascribed to the publication of a daily newspaper, the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which for a time demanded the principal share of the attention of Mr. Tokutomi and his staff. Now, however, they have more time and energy to spare for the periodical magazine.

The present number contains two interesting articles, one of which deals with Satsuma men. The general opinion prevails that the Satsuma clan produces soldiers, not statesmen. In the late war for instance, the men that most distinguished themselves in the Army and the Navy were generally of Satsuma extraction, as, for example, Field-Marshals Oyama and Nozu, Lieut.-General Kawakami, Admirals Saigo and Kabayama, and Vice-Admiral Ito. In political circles, our contemporary observes, Satsuma influence is steadily dwindling. Count Kuroda is entitled by his position and past career to be regarded as the leader of the Satsuma statesmen; but he is said to be no longer what he was in former years. The only statesman of the Satsuma clique in whom the *Kokumin* reposes confidence is Count Matsukata. That the finances of the country were maintained in a condition to meet the demands of the expensive war, is said to have been chiefly due to the wise administration of the ex-Minister of Finance. It deeply regrets that circumstancee have made it necessary for him to leave the Cabinet, and the regret is embittered by the thought that his fall might have been prevented, had his fellow clansmen been in a better state of discipline and harmony. Under such circumstances, the present Cabinet, though nominally a combination of Sat-cho elements, is really a Choshu Administration, or a Ministry of Choshu men and naturalized Choshu adherents. Marquises Oyama and Saigo, and Count Kuroda together are not equal to Count Mutsu in political influence. In our contemporary's opinion,

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the Government should be called the Ito-Mutsu-Ito (Miyoji) Cabinet. The *Kokumin-no-Tomo's* object is not to set the Satsuma men against the present Cabinet, but simply to state facts, and induce them to unite either in opposing or supporting the Cabinet. Notwithstanding the obvious fact that the Satsuma influence is at present almost *nil* in the Government, the writer of the article cannot think that the days of Satsuma influence have altogether passed away. On the contrary, a clan that has produced statesmen like Shimazu Narihisa and Okubo Toshimichi, is surely capable of producing men worthy of its traditions. There are already men of great promise among the rising generation. These younger Satsuma men are in sympathy with the political parties outside the Government. This phenomenon is regarded as a sign that the Satsuma influence, though dying away in the Government, is increasing in another and better sphere, namely, among the friends of the people and constitutional government. The *Kokumin* urges the elder Satsuma men to join their younger clansmen in the new path to political greatness, and in combination with the Opposition parties, regain elsewhere the power they have lost in the Cabinet.

Another article of interest is entitled "Japan, England, and Russia in the Far East." After observing that in whatever form complications may hereafter arise in Korea and China, the ultimate contest will be between England and Russia, the *Kokumin* argues that the issue entirely depends upon the attitude of Japan. First as to Russia: she is naturally an aggressive Power, and cannot be otherwise. Her immediate concern is to find an ice-free terminus for the Siberian railway either in Korea or Manchuria, but her ultimate object lies in acquiring an absolute ascendency in the East by constituting herself the sole executor of the Sick Man of the Orient. Now in attaining this object, it is necessary for Russia to secure the friendship, if not alliance, of Japan. Should Japan be opposed to her, she must be prepared to be stoutly resisted by Japan at every step of her southward march. Not only has she to expect violent opposition from Japan, but, should England range on the same side with Japan, it must even be apprehended, says the *Kokumin*, that the gallant soldiers of the Island Empire might threaten the frontiers of Russia in Europe. Japan is not afraid of becoming Russia's opponent; but she is not irrevocably determined upon taking a belligerent attitude. Consequently, Russia is told that her attitude towards Japan in Korea and China will determine whether or not she obtains the friendship and even alliance of Japan in the Orient. With regard to England, she is said to be in yet greater need of Japan's friendship than Russia. Of late, England's weak and vacillating foreign policy has produced an impression that she has attained the limits of her expansion and is on the road to decline. The *Kokumin* thinks otherwise, and advises England to adopt a strong and unequivocal policy against Russia, with a view to keeping that Power within proper limits. Had she always been so disposed, she might have contributed to the erection of a strong barrier against the southward advance of Russia by rendering effective assistance to Japan when the three Powers objected to her permanent occupation of Liaotung. Had England known how to utilize her unique situation in China, she could at least have prevented her from falling into the clutches of Russia and preserved her closely linked to Japan in combined opposition against the Northern Power. But extreme caution and hesitation prevented England from availing herself of either of these splendid opportunities. The wisest course for the English Government to pursue under the present circumstances is, in the *Kokumin's* opinion, to maintain friendship with the Dreibund in Europe, and to combine with Japan and China in the Far East. So far as her situation in the Far East is concerned, the *Kokumin* is convinced that the loss of Japan's friendship would be the death-blow to England. The *Kokumin* does not mean to infer that Japan is ready to form an alliance with either Russia or England, but has discussed the subject entirely from the standpoint of England and Russia. What policy then should Japan pursue toward these two Powers? Our contemporary's advice is that she should aim at following an independent policy, by providing herself with armaments sufficient to defy Russia on land, and on sea to guarantee the result of any encounter with England.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

According to the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, there has taken place an enormous appreciation of prices in Tokyo, the rise being in some cases as much as 50 per cent. Silk goods are among the commodities in greatest demand, and in their case prices have gone up more than 40 per cent. The other articles chiefly in demand are cotton goods, cotton yarns, muslins, shirtings, velvets, satins, toilet articles, and things included in the term *komamono* (both Japanese and foreign), umbrellas, foot-gear, sugar, *saké* soy, vinegar, timber, iron wares, and so forth. The quantity of these commodities carried over the principal railways, as the Tokaido, the Nippon, the Kobu, and the Sobu lines, has of late increased by from 15 to 40 per cent., and is steadily growing. Similar reports are obtained from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and other shipping firms. To give a concrete example: cotton goods transported during the season over the Nippon Tetsudo line alone show an increase of 160,000 pieces as compared with the corresponding season last year. This remarkable prosperity of trade in the capital is caused chiefly by increased purchasing capacity among the farming class.

The Finance Section of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce met, on the 10th instant, to consider to what extent applications for the establishment of private banks in Tokyo might be safely granted—a question on which the Chamber's views had been asked by the Governor of the city. There were present Messrs. Oye, Yoshida, Kitani, Tokuda, and Sekine. After various expressions of opinion, the Chamber finally decided that it was impossible to fix any safe limit for the expansion of private banking business in the capital. The matter is to be debated at a general conference of the Chamber on the 14th instant.

The new Chinese open ports are to be shortly visited by a large number of Japanese officials and business men. The official section includes Messrs. Ariga Nagabumi, Shimura Gentaro, and Eguchi Komanosuke, of the Deparment of Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. Narahara Chinsei, of the Foreign Office, and Mr. Chinda Sutemi, Japanese Consul in Shanghai. The business men of the party, numbering in all about thirty, represent chiefly Chambers of Commerce in large cities like Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Nagoya, Kobe, and so forth. The officials have already left for Shanghai, where they are to be joined by the business men about the 20th instant. Thence the whole partly will start on their voyage up the river by a specially chartered steamer.

Among the projectors of the Nippon Shogyo Ginko (Japan Commercial Bank) of Hyogo there is a section in favour of increasing the capital of the bank, now fixed at 1,000,000 *yen*. It appears that when the scheme was first floated, some of the projectors invited their commercial clients in the interior to take shares, and the invitation was answered by applications to the extent of nearly half a million *yen*. But 850,000 *yen* of the capital having been taken by the projectors and the remaining 150,000 *yen* by other business men of the locality, there remained not a single share for the provincial applicants. In order to "save their face," and gratify their clients, the projectors that had issued the above invitations, are canvassing their follow-projectors to join in increasing the capital.

Messrs. Otani Kahei, Asada Matakichi, and Minoda Chozaburo of Yokohama, and Mr. Nagai Rehei of Tokyo, applied, on the 9th instant, for a licence to establish a company called Taiwan Boyeki Kabushiki-kaisha (Formosa Trading Company, Limited) with a capital of 300,000 *yen*. The object of the projectors is to engage in the export trade of the island. The company will be located in Yokohama with a branch office in Formosa.

Mr. Funakoshi Mamoru, a member of the House of Peers, is reported to be endeavouring to interest capitalists in the establishment of a large iron foundry in Hakodate.

A railway project of considerable importance is reported from Kyoto. The idea is to connect Tsuruga on the Japan Sea with Kyoto by a line along the western shore of Lake Biwa, that route being shorter than the existing Government road, which makes a detour along the eastern shore. The whole distance is 65 miles, and the estimated capital of the company, 3,200,000 *yen*. Among the projectors we find most of the names of the principal business men in Japan, including Messrs. Shibusawa, Okura, Yasuda, Nakamigawa, and Yonekura of Tokyo; Messrs. Isono and Abe of Osaka, and Messrs. Okamoto Jisuke, Iwai Hachibei, and Mori Ichibei, and Viscount Yuri of Kyoto.

The projectors of the above line have also applied for a charter to construct another line connecting the two cities of Kyoto and Osaka. This second road is to start from the Kyoto terminus of the above-mentioned Kyoto-Tsuruga line at Okazakicho, the site of the recent domestic exposition. Thence passing through Fushimi, Yodo, Yawata, Mokigata, and Morikuchi, it will have its terminus at Noda in Osaka. This means that it would run at some distance to the east of the existing Government railway. The length of the line is 29 miles, and the capital is estimated at 2,200,000 *yen*. Should both these lines be permitted, the projectors' intention is to amalgamate the two under one company.

The Asahi Cotton Spinning company contemplates increasing its capital by 350,00 *yen*, and adding 15,000 new spindles to its factory. An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders was to have been held on the 12th inst.

The newly organized Ise Cotton Spinning Company has been prevented from opening its factory on account of delay in the arrival of a part of the plant. But the machines having now come to hand, it is expected that the mill will commencence operations by the end of next month.

A REMARKABLE CORRESPONDENT.

During the war between Japan and China, one of the most striking journalistic features of the time was the correspondence from Korea published in the columns of the *N.-C. Daily News*. It was scarcely possible to conceive a more gullible or less discerning person than the correspondent. Each of his letters tended to increase our doubt whether he really expected to be taken seriously, or whether he even took himself seriously. It might have been supposed that after inevitable and repeated exposés of his blunders and exaggerations, he would have been denied further access to the columns of the leading Shanghai journal. But we find him still continuing to flourish like the green bay tree of the Psalmist. His latest is this:—"The new Minister Miura has brought over to Korea with him three million *yen* as Korea's share of the indemnity, part of which sum is to be distributed amongst the districts which suffered. I also hear, but whether true or not I am unable to say, that one of the conditions of the present of this three million *yen* is that two millions are to be spent on railways." Imagine a writer so ignorant of the methods of financial administration in Japan, and of the general relations between Korea and her protector, as to suppose that a sum of three million *yen* could be calmly handed, without parliamentary consent, to General Miura to convey as a gift from Japan to Korea! The thing is really too silly to justify specific comment. And by such writers grave contributions are made to contemporary history.

EUROPEAN INTERVENTION IN JAPAN.

Under the above heading the *Berliner Tageblatt* recently published a letter from its Tokyo Correspondent, dated June 18, from which we reproduce the following:—"The high waves of excitement in the Japanese press, with regard to the intervention of Germany, France, and Russia have subsided to such an extent that the number of suspended papers now scarcely reaches a dozen, among which there is but one metropolitan paper of Chauvinistic Nippon. In place of a glossary, as to the motives that actuated the Powers to interfere, the question with reference to the diplomatic skill of the respective statesmen of Japan and China has now come to the front, and the once roundly abused Chinese Viceroy, Li Hung-chang, of whom one could hear the children sing songs of contempt on the streets, is now praised as a diplomat, who has proven himself as much superior to Count Ito and Viscount Mutsu, as the Japanese military power has proved itself superior to the Chinese on land and sea. The anger, because Japan gave up one-half of the fruits of her victory, is now directed against the statesmen who, it is alleged, did not see in advance the coming danger of intervention, and when it came did not take a sufficiently firm stand to save, at least, the important harbour of Port Arthur for Japan. Li Hung-chang's apparently important concession of the peninsula, with its valuable situation for China and with almost four million of inhabitants, is said to have been granted only because he saw beforehand that it would have no practical consequences, but would serve him to keep the war indemnity at such a low figure. For even the Japanese can scarcely expect that China will subsequently increase her money indemnity because Japan gave back her Continental acquisition, not of her own accord, but in obedience to European pressure. But notwithstanding the secrecy in diplomatic affairs, as it obtains in this country, and the seemingly indignant ado of the official *Japan Mail*, there is nothing serious in the alleged surprise of the Japanese statesmen because of the intervention of the Powers. The preliminaries of peace were signed at Shimonoseki on the 17th of April, and three days later, April 20th, they were ratified by the Emperor of Japan and were at once made public, although the Japanese Plenipotentiary, who was to take them to Chefoo, did not have to leave until fourteen days later. Why this haste? The answer is, that in giving the Official reply to the expected, and confidentially intimated, intervention, a very difficult backward step could thus be pleaded in excuse. The three Powers, of course, took no note of this artificial difficulty. Three days after the ratification they presented to the Vice-Minister of the Foreign Office, Mr. Hayashi, in Tokyo, the document in which they recommended the retrocession of the Peninsula to China. That this intervention met with success is due to Russia, which had shortly before made ready for war. Not less than 31 men-of-war, among them 6 iron-clad cruisers, and the much admired battleship *Rurik*, had in quick time come together in East-Asiatic waters. Don Cossacks were on their way to the Pacific Ocean, ostensibly for the purpose of guarding the Siberian railway. The Harbour of Vladivostock was obstructed by torpedoes. Japan might, of course, in the event of war with Russia, reckon on the friendship of England. But even here in the far East, where English interests are greater than those of all other Powers put together, her desire to take action under serious circumstances is very faint. America, which on account of her geographical situation would have a stronger claim than we to participate, is for the present still sleeping on her Monroe Doctrine. Thus the intervention passed off successfully and without opposition. On the 10th of May, the Emperor of Japan proclaimed to his people that he had accepted the "friendly advice" of the three Powers without hesitancy. . . . Thus the agreement of the great European Powers has proved itself an important determining factor in this East-Asiatic question and the attending political situation. It is an important precedent for the future, and is all the more important because England, which stood aside, could not hinder its success. Germany had her full share in this diplomatic success, although she had, at the time, only two cruisers on the spot, the *Irene* and *Marie* of 4,400 and 2,162 tons respectively, while France had here 14 ships at her disposal."

This question of the intervention of the Three Powers will long constitute a topic of discussion, the noise to which it gave rise in the East being echoed in Europe and re-echoed back to Japan. We are still so near the event that to speak of it without rousing passions that tend to confuse reason, is scarcely possible. There is one point, however, in the *Tageblatt's* correspondence that deserves brief notice. It is the credit assigned to the Viceroy Li. Here in the East, where the German newspaper's correspondent asks the public to believe that every one agrees as to the complete out-manœuvring of Marquis Ito and Count Mutsu by Earl Li, we have not ourselves seen evidences of such a conclusion. Certainly it is not the conclusion that would suggest itself to any one reading the minutes of the Shimonoseki Conference. The claim of superior astuteness advanced on behalf of Earl Li rests wholly on the assumption that when he signed away the Liaotung Peninsula, thus obtaining a substantial reduction of the indemnity, he had already received assurances from his agents in Europe that the great Powers would intervene to save the Chinese continent from all alienation of territory. Knowing that, he is supposed to have signed the Treaty, and the act is accounted unto him for diplomatic ability. We can only say that it was a kind of ability perfectly consistent with the worst traditions of Oriental guile, and that to find Western critics applauding it is somewhat surprising. The correspondent of the *Tageblatt*, however, seems to have devoted himself to making a case. He actually contrasts the extraordinary delay shown by the Chinese in ratifying and exchanging the ratifications of the Shimonoseki Treaty with the by no means extraordinary promptitude of the Japanese. The Treaty was signed on April 17th, the agreement being that the ratifications should be exchanged at Chefoo by May 9th at latest. Thus Japan had to despatch to China an envoy bearing the ratified Treaty and everything had to be concluded within three weeks. We can not see that the Emperor showed any precipitancy in signing on April 20th, but we can and do see that the Chinese showed most remarkable procrastination in deferring the exchange of ratifications until midnight on the 8th of May. Their tardiness was plainly inconsistent with good faith, and it is their tardiness, not Japan's reasonable celerity, that we should expect to find an honest critic condemning.

A DYNAMITARD IN AKITA PREFECTURE.

The vernacular press reports the arrest of a dynamitard in Akita Prefecture. The man's name is Nomura Kibun, and he is a member of the Chiusei-ha, an association about which we have no special information. Some excitement was recently caused among local politicians in the Prefecture, in connection with the election of Mr. Hatayakeyama to the presidency of the Prefectural Assembly, it being supposed that the Governor, Mr. Hirayama, had exercised undue influence to bring about that result. Nomura, presumably a person of the *soshi* class, resolved to kill the Governor with a dynamite bomb, but the police obtained intelligence of his scheme and arrested him in his own house. A Justice of the Preliminary Court then proceeded to the place and caused an examination to be made, with the result that some dynamite and apparatus for the manufacture of bombs were discovered. It was further found that Nomura had two accomplices, but they effected their escape at the first news of the arrest and remain still unapprehended.

"NOTES ON HABITUAL MISTAKES MADE AND COMMON DIFFICULTIES MET WITH IN SPEAKING ENGLISH."

Any one undertaking to teach the English language to Japanese students soon becomes conscious of a tendency on the part of his pupils to commit errors for which he is entirely unprepared and against which he has naturally made no provision. The fact, at first perplexing, is easily understood when one remembers the radical difference existing between the idiom of the Japanese and the idiom of any Western tongue. The whole group of European languages may be said to form one family: its members are bound together by numerous affinities of structure and syntax. Each, of course, has its own peculiarities and each presents special difficulties to the learner. But a common spirit permeates them all, so that a student having acquired Italian and French, for example, does not, when he approaches English and German, find himself confronted by a large number of essential stumbling-blocks such as his previous lessons have in no way led him to anticipate. Should he attempt to master Japanese, however, he quickly discover that his only hope is to divest himself as rapidly and thoroughly as possible of all his old forms of speech and methods of marshalling words, and to bow implicitly to the spirit of the Eastern tongue. The same experience awaits a Japanese attempting to learn English. He falls into countless sloughs of error, as novel as they are disheartening to his instructor, who, unless he recognises the origin of these obstructions, can never hope to remove them successfully. Did ever a foreign teacher, for example, compass the feat of inoculating his students with a really working capacity for using the article? There is no article in Japanese. There is a demonstrative qualifier that occasionally does duty for it, but, speaking generally, the article is a *terra incognita* to every Japanese, and how to set about familiarizing him with its employment is a grievous puzzle. Other cognate, though less extensive, sources of error might be copiously enumerated. Were they all systematically catalogued, and embodied in a series of lessons for the guidance of students, the acquisition of English would be immensely facilitated. We have before us a work inspired by that idea. The author is Mr. F. Muller, and the book was prepared for the use of cadets in the Imperial Naval College. It is a work inviting many comments, but we are not justified in criticizing it, since Mr. Muller explains that a few copies only have been printed—apart from those used by his own classes—for distribution among persons interested in the teaching of English, and that if a sufficient demand be discovered, a re-arranged and revised edition will be published for general use. In fact, the work is still in a rudimentary stage. We confine ourselves, therefore, to offering a very few suggestions. One is that some effort be made to rescue Japanese students from the almost-universally-prevailing confusion between "which" and "that." The two forms being essentially different, are by no means interchangeable as the great majority of writers seem to think. Mr. Muller himself says:—"There are a number of mistakes which are repeatedly made," and, "Across is a preposition which is often misused," two sentences indicating that if he have due theoretical cognisance of the difference in question, he does not apply his knowledge in practice. Again, has he not recognised the besetting sin of English-speaking Japanese when they attempt to employ "shall," "will," "should," and "would" in oblique narration? And does he not observe that their perplexities about the article and the present perfect are altogether too large to be resolved by the trifling keys he furnishes? Besides, in a work intended to correct errors, faulty English ought to be most carefully avoided. For example, such a phrase as "there are a number of mistakes the incorrectness of which is obvious," is as inadmissable as it would be to speak of "an incorrect mistake." Yet again, there is no such verb in English as "to prac-

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tice." On p. 9 we find a long paragraph on the use of this verb, the writer misspelling it throughout. But if the work shows a few blemishes and some omissions, it gives evidence, at the same time, of much research and attention, and its conception is so admirable that we sincerely hope to see it ultimately published in a revised and greatly enlarged form.

POLITICAL GOSSIP.

There is talk of Count Okuma's joining the present Administration. The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, which is reputed to possess special facilities for obtaining political news, was the first to publish a report that a meeting had recently taken place between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. The *Nippon* now prints an account of the circumstances connected with the alleged conference between the two statesmen. The meeting, according to our contemporary's story, took place on the 8th instant. But long before that—about the end of June last—certain well-known persons in business circles had tried to effect a reconciliation between the Premier and the Progressionist leader. With that view they first waited upon Marquis Ito, represented to him the evil consequences of separation from Count Okuma, and ventured to hope that the pernicious party strife then threatening to disturb the public mind might be avoided by a happy reconciliation between the two leaders. The Premier expreased his appreciation of their motives, and told them that no personal disagreement existed between himself and Count Okuma, and that so far as he was concerned, he would be delighted to talk over public affairs with the Progressionist leader and even to share political power with him. Encouraged by this auspicious beginning of their mission, the interceders, whoever they were, next called upon Count Okuma, and informed him of the result of their conference with the Premier. But they were surprised to find the Count in no way disposed to trust the friendly professions of Marquis Ito. In short, he rejected the well meant offer of mediation, and the matter was dropped for the time. Another mediator, however, began to busy himself in the beginning of the present month. Mr. Fukuzawa is said to have been the person, but the *Nippon* is not positive on that point. At all events, the second mediator carried a verbal message to Count Okuma from Marquis Ito, desiring a meeting. Count Okuma answed that, sincerely desirous as he was to have an opportunity of meeting the Premier, he was afraid that, in the present state of political discussion, especially with regard to the question of the Liaotung Peninsula, the meeting might suggest undesirable inferences. The Marquis, however, replied through the same channel, that as to the Liaotung question, he was perfectly willing to have his policy freely discussed, and that his object was not to talk about such political matters at the proposed meeting. No longer able to decline the desired conference, Count Okuma consented to receive the Premier at his residence on the afternoon of the 8th instant. The meeting took place on the appointed date, and the two statesmen conversed together for a space of two hours, nor did the visitor leave until he had dined with Count and Countess Okuma. The fact of the meeting was at first kept secret, but somehow it began to be whispered about in official circles. Some critics say that Marquis Ito has surrendered to Count Okuma, while others say that the latter has been once more persuaded by the former. Looking at the matter without partiality—so writes the *Nippon*—Marquis Ito is more likely to be benefitted by the alleged reconciliation than Count Okuma.

The *Naigai Tsushin* (Home and Foreign News Agency) is responsible for a report that Count Okuma's garden party to-day (Friday) will be attended by the Premier and other Ministers of State.

The *Chugai Shogyo* states in its latest issue that Count Okuma recently assured a certain visitor that he should not enter the Cabinet for the present at all events.

Thus all kinds of stories are circulated in Tokyo. Some people attach significance even to Marquis Yamagata's journey to Kyoto, their only ground being that, on a former occasion, a similar movement on the part of the Marquis was followed by an important political change. But there seems to be no doubt that the Marquis's present journey is entirely for the benefit of his health.

Under these circumstances, the *Jiji Shimpo's* leading article on the 16th instant, urging Count Okuma's appointment to the Foreign Office, has attracted much attention. After alluding to the increasing difficulties of the situation in the East, our contemporary urges the importance of appointing a new Minister of Foreign Affairs. Not that Count Mutsu is unfit for the post, but his sickness does not seem to permit his resuming official duties for some time. Among the present statesmen of Japan, the *Jiji* cannot find a fitter man for the position than Count Okuma, who has prestige, influence, ability, experience, in fact everything that contributes to the making of a good Minister of Foreign Affairs. As to the question of personal considerations, always urged by men that do not like to see the distinguished statesman raised to power, the *Jiji* pooh-poohs all such ideas as entirely unworthy of attention at an important juncture in the nation's history. Though cognisant of the reserve that should be shown in discussing such matters in the columns of a newspaper, our contemporary says that the interests of the country prompt it to disregard any restrictions of that nature.

LETTER FROM KOREA.

(From our own Correspondent).

Söul, October 8th, 7.30 p.m.

The Capital at this writing is in the throes of great excitement. Trouble has been brewing for some time. We have been hearing lately a good deal about a "Cabinet crisis," and for the past few days we have been treated to a feud between the soldiers and policemen, the object of which seems to have been to incite the soldiery against the King. About five o'clock this morning there was firing heard in the direction of the Royal Palace, and at once the streets were filled with anxious inquirers. From a great number of rumours afloat and by diligent enquiries, I have every reason to believe the feud between the thousand or more troops recently trained by the Japanese and the guards in the Palace was the immediate cause of the outbreak. It is well-known that the Mins have been gaining ascendency for some time past, and it is alleged that an attempt was made by this party to remove those opposed to them. How true this is I cannot tell, but the report is very general to-day. The opposite party hearing of this, lost no time in bringing things to a crisis. A number of *soshi*, who by the way seem to be the convenient peg on which to hang unpleasant doings, went early this morning to the residence of the Tai Wŏn-kun, the King's father, and either compelled him or persuaded him to enter the Palace and seize the reins of power. He was escorted, and when the company arrived at the Palace gates, they were challenged, but the troops recently trained by the Japanese being in smypathy with the Tai Wŏn-kun's party, joined them and easily overcame the frightened guards, who, after firing a few shots, threw down their guns and made for the nearest place of safety. With but little opposition, they secured the person of the King. The cry war soon raised, "down with the Queen," and a madly savage rush was made for her quarters. Four ladies, I am informed, were killed, in the hope that one of them would be Her Majesty. One of these ladies, we are told, was beheaded and her body burned.

When the foreign representatives had audience with His Majesty early this morning, he told them he did not know where the Queen was. This afternoon the rumour gained currency that the Queen was among the ladies killed. If this should prove to be correct, it is the culmination of a bitter feud that has been carried on between the Tai Wŏn-kun on the one side and Her Majesty on the other for a long series of years.

Great excitement prevailed all day. The doings of to-day are more ominous of evil than any act during the past decade. What the outcome will be, where the butchering will end, what the Tai Wŏn-kun will or will not do, no one knows, and no one ventures even a conjecture. The feeling, as the evening comes upon us, is not reassuring.

Wednesday, 8 a.m.

The night passed quietly without any disturbance. The mystery about the Queen's disappearance remains unexplained, but it is earnestly hoped that there will be no occasion to sound the bugle to-morrow morning from the mountain in the rear of the Palace to announce to the people the death of Her Majesty.

THE ORIENTAL ASSOCIATION.

The Tŏhô-kyokai (Oriental Association) recently held a public lecture meeting at which addresses were delivered by Messrs. Hashiguchi Bunzo, Shibusawa Eiichi, and Oishi Masami. Mr. Hashiguchi spoke on the subject of Formosa, where he holds the position of director of the Industrial Department in the new Japanese Viceregal Government. Much of what he said about the island, the people, and their manners is already known to the public. He laid emphasis on the necessity of perseverance and patience in developing the resources of the island, strongly deprecating any hasty attempts at assimilating the people and settling the country. The next speaker, Mr. Shibusawa, discussed the question of extending marine business. He commenced by pointing out the importance, as shown by the late war, of developing the country's marine business on account of the safety and prosperity of the empire. Then briefly recounting the history of the carrying trade in Japan, the speaker went on to expound the method and degree of development desirable under the present circumstances. After alluding to the education of officers and men and to the encouragement of the shipbuilding business, Mr. Shibusawa proceeded to consider the routes that should be newly opened. They are three, in his opinion, namely, the European, American, and Australian. In order to open these routes, he thinks it necessary to build five or six new vessels each costing five or six hundred thousand *yen*. He also alluded to the importance of constructing cruisers which, in time of peace, should be placed under the management of the private company running the lines upon which they were used. He thought that the execution of the plan proposed by him would cost the State about two million *yen* annually. The third and last speaker, Mr. Oishi, discoursed on the future of the Japanese people. Just as Russia's ambition is to bring the whole world under her sway, and just as England aspires to a monopoly in the world's trade, so Japan, said the lecturer, ought to have some grand object in view—an object which, though it may not be openly proclaimed to the world, shall be generally understood and always kept in view by rulers and ruled alike. In his opinion, Japan is now acting with regard to China as though she had forgotten the object for which she undertook the recent war. She may be compared to a surgeon who has cut open a wound, but, forgetting his duty, has stopped his operation at the critical moment, thereby affording opportunity to his more astute rivals in the profession to step in and take the patient from his charge. What then should be the national aim of Japan? Japan's aim, said the speaker, should be to become the preserver and promoter of peace and civilization. With this lofty purpose before her eyes, she should pursue an aggressive policy, not for the sake of aggression but for the sake of self-defence. In order to discharge her duty as the preserver of peace and civilization, Mr. Oishi thinks it absolutely necessary for Japan to keep neighbouring countries secure from the encroachments of European Powers. Should any of these countries find itself incapable of resist-

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ing such encroachment, it would be Japan's duty to annex its territories without a moment's hesitation.

CHINESE NEWS.

A determined attempt is being made in China to show that Great Britain stole France's thunder in the matter of the degradation of Liu, ex-Viceroy of Szechuan. It is alleged that when M. Gérard, the French Representative in Pekin, obtained the Chinese Government's consent to give full compensation for the destruction of foreign property by the Cheng-tu rioters, he also obtained a promise that the guilty officials should be punished, of which promise the subsequent degradation of the Viceroy is said to have been a direct result. But every one acquainted with Chinese methods knows that there is an immense interval between the giving of a vague pledge and its explicit fulfillment. The guilt of the officials had to be ascertained before they could be punished, and since M. Gérard left the Chinese to perform the task of ascertaining it, the officials might have lived in peace for an interminable period. At all events, the thunder from the Dragon Throne would not have struck the ex-Viceroy first. *Per contra*, the British Government's energetic display of force was so promptly followed by the ex-Viceroy's punishment that the two things stand plainly in the relation of cause and effect. Lord Salisbury's ultimatum seems to have been that Nanking and Wuchang would be taken and held by the British naval forces unless the ex-Viceroy was promptly and adequately punished. Thereupon an Imperial Decree degrading Liu was issued, and there can scarcely be any doubt as to the manner in which the incident will appear in the pages of history.

After the Chinese Government's acquiescence in Lord Salisbury's demands, a portion of the British squadron, which had assembled in the Yangtse, proceeded to Nanking, and Vice-Admiral Buller proposed to call on the great Viceroy Chang Chih-tung. It was purely a visit of courtesy, but the Viceroy pleaded indisposition, and his conduct has furnished cause for a fresh outcry on the part of persons disposed to construe everything as an insult to the flag of some country or other. Whether Chang was really sick or only sorry, he is not likely to have made any egregious departure from the etiquette prescribed on such occasions.

The intelligence recently circulated that some 89 of the Vegetarians concerned in the Kucheng massacre had been executed, proves erroneous. Such a measure would have settled the affair, whereas at present a satisfactory issue is not within sight. Briefly speaking, the situation is this. Originally some 60 arrests were made. After due examination of 53 of the prisoners, 13 were selected as unquestionably guilty of murder on the strength of their own confessions and of collateral evidence. Their capital sentence, approved by the local Prefect and the Foreign Consuls present at the investigation, was despatched to the Viceroy at Foochow for approval and confirmation. After a delay of over a fortnight, the Viceroy sanctioned the execution of 7, and they were decapitated on September 17th. The Consuls insisting that the death penalty should be carried out in the case of the remaining 6, their names were returned to the Viceroy. But to this day His Excellency has not appended his sanctioning signature. Meanwhile, some forty of the remaining prisoners have been released, despite the protests of the Consuls, who naturally claim that whether these men did or did not actually assist in cutting and hacking the unhappy ladies and children at Whasang, they have been convicted of participation, inasmuch as they belonged to the band that marched 15 miles from the Vegetarians' mountain fastness on an errand of murder. It is evident that every member of the band merits severe punishment. But the Viceroy at Foochow seems bent upon treating the affair as though it were a mere mob tumult, not a deliberately planned expedition by an organized body of assassins. The conduct of the Chinese officials is aggravated by proclamations that were issued in Kucheng itself. The first of these documents promised that members of the Vegetarian sect—the very sect whose leaders and most active members were then under trial for murdering 12 foreigners, and whose existence had been declared by the authorities to be a perpetual menace to peace and good order—would be admitted to the ranks of the imperial troops after apparent amendment. Against this public condonation of the Vegetarians' crime the foreign Consuls vigorously protested. They demanded that the proclamation should be replaced by one prohibiting the extension of any such privilege to the Vegetarians until a year should have passed without any disturbance, and adding other stringent conditions. The Prefect agreed, and instructed the District Magistrate accordingly. But the latter's writers made a convenient mistake, the result being that the old proclamation was re-issued virtually unaltered. Ultimately the desired changes were made, but not before the Vegetarians and the anti-foreign elements of the population had learned pretty clearly that by their own officials no very serious view is taken of such crimes as that of August 1st at Whasang. It seems inevitable that another display of foreign force will be made, this time at Foochow. The Foochow Viceroy has almost qualified for treatment similar to that received by his ex-colleague of Szechuan. But whatever punitive measure be adopted, the events of the past few months will bequeath a new legacy of anti-foreign and anti-Christian hatred to the masses in China.

Another flagrant instance of the anti-foreign feeling pervading the educated classes in China has been furnished by Yun Yen-pin, Chancellor of Education in Kwangtung province. He has issued a pamphlet inciting the literary men and students under his jurisdiction to show no favour to foreigners and Christians. Such acts are even more significant than the sanguinary doings of riotous mobs.

Intelligence from Chunking goes to show that when, in accordance with the Shimonoseki Treaty, the Japanese go to open the port, they may meet with a warm reception. In a city hundreds of miles up the Yangtse the people have not received a very clear perception of the results of the late war, and some of them are said to be only too eager to try conclusions with the Japanese.

With regard to the Mahommedan rebellion in Kansu, a Chinese paper published in Shanghai states that the Throne has recently appointed the Kashgar Commander-in-Chief General Tung Fu-hsiang to be Generalissimo of all the Imperial forces now present and about to arrive in Kansu. General Tung has also been authorised to brigade the train-bands and militiamen of the province into an army corps, and as a precaution against treachery he has been warned not to enlist Mussulmans in the new corps. Official despatches to the local mandarins received in Shanghai confirm the statement made above, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, and also from the manner in which the Imperial Edicts on the rebellion have been issued, it is plain that the Emperor has been kept in ignorance of the fact of Mahommedans being backed up by the *Kolao Hui*, and that the numerous desertions to the enemy were mostly by troops of Hunan and Hupeh origin belonging to that revolutionary society.

A correspondent of the Shanghai morning paper, writing from Swatow under date the 2nd inst., states that the German man-of-war *Cormoran* arrived there on the 29th ult. direct from Singapore. She is a handsome third-class cruiser of 1,640 tons and 2,800 horse-power, steaming 16 knots, armed with eight 10½-centimetre quick-firing guns. She is constructed of steel throughout, teak-sheathed and coppered. The wood sheathing is carried high up the sides, which makes her a cool ship in the tropics. She, with her sister-ship the *Condor*, and the ironclad *Preussen*, came over from Zanzibar to remain some time on the China station. Everything was very quiet at Swatow on the 2nd, and very little was known of the reported troubles up-country.

SHIPPING DISASTER IN THE URAGA CHANNEL.

About twelve o'clock on Monday night the American sailing ship, *William H. Macey*, 124 days out from New York, was run into by the British steamer *Isis*, Captain Walker, bound in from Middlesboro', while the former was working up the Uraga Channel, on the port tack, heading for Sagami light. It appears that the sailing-vessel, which has been off the coast of Suruga for the last ten days, owing to contrary winds, had had several of her stays carried away and was therefore unable to beat up the Channel; the *Isis* endeavoured to cross her bows from the starboard and failed to work clear. The *William H. Macey* was struck a severe blow causing great damage to the starboard bow, and the water poured in. The master asked the steamer to stand-by, which she did for a while and then proceeded on her way up to Yokohama, her own damage being of a severe nature. Signal blue-lights were burnt all night, but no vessel came to the assistance of the damaged ship, and it was determined to beach her, the water coming in so rapidly. At five o'clock on Tuesday morning the *William H. Macey* was beached near Tateyama Bay, and there was then 10½ feet of water in her hold. She has 24,000 cases of petroleum and a general cargo on board. Mrs. Amsbury, the captain's wife, accompanies her husband on this voyage and she is at present down at Tateyama on the vessel. At the time of the accident a stiff breeze was blowing, but the rain did not come on for nearly two hours afterward. The *Isis* was struck on the port-side and many plates were fractured and knocked in between the boilers and engine-room. The davits and rails were snapped off, and the planking of the bridge deck ripped. Much damage was done inside and outside the engine-room, the comings and two ventilaton shafts being knocked away, and many pipes bent. Indeed, looking at the locality of the principal damage, it seems passing strange that the main steam pipe was not broken. If this had happened, serious loss of life must have resulted. The sailing ship's bowsprit, which appears to have done most of the damage on the bridge deck of the steamer, was carried completely away. Captain Efford made a survey of the *Isis* yesterday, and this morning Captain Hardy and Mr. T. M. Laffin have gone down the Bay to assist the *W. H. Macey*.

COUNT OKUMA ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF WARSHIPS.

In a conversation with the representative of the *Hochi Shimbun*, Count Okuma is reported to have delivered his opinion on the question as to what countries should be commissioned to construct Japan's new warships. It is bad policy, he said, to place these orders with the ship-builders of any one country. Supposing that ten new vessels are to be constructed, he recommends that they should be ordered from England, the United States, Italy, France, and Germany at the rate of two ships per country. In this way he believes that competition between the builders of the different countries will be productive of most advantageous results. As to the propriety of placing orders with the Italian and American dockyards, the Count is said to have been very enthusiastic in extolling their skill and experience. He was particularly loud in praise of Italian builders, who were the first to conceive and carry out the construction of battle ships of upwards of 10,000 tons. He also referred to the extremely friendly relations existing between the two countries, and expressed his conviction that this circumstance was another reason why Italy should not be excluded from the advantages of Japanese orders for new ships. He urged similar reasons in favour of the United States, which are not only Japan's best political friends but her best commercial customers.

"Papa," asked Tommy Goodman, "who was Cain's wife?" "Caroline," said the Rev. Dr. Goodman, after an ominous pause, addressing his wife, "will you please hand me my heaviest slipper and leave the room?" There is going to be a trial for heresy right here and now."

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BISHOP CORFE ON KOREAN AFFAIRS.

IT is difficult to comprehend Bishop CORFE'S motive in seeking to bring ridicule upon all the attempts of the Japanese to introduce reforms in Korea. The Right Reverend gentleman is head of the Church of England in the peninsular Kingdom, and in that capacity he might be expected to observe the wholesome rule generally adopted by missionaries in the East, namely, to abstain from publicly meddling in politics. But we presume that he has special reasons for inserting over his own signature in the *Morning Calm* a species of running commentary on the relations between the Japanese and the Koreans, nor can it be denied that the results of his observations would be very welcome were they not disfigured by remarkable bias. Plainly if the choice lay with him, the Japanese would not remain an hour in Korea. Yet no one can doubt that the Japanese are thoroughly in earnest in their endeavours to introduce into the peninsula the civilization by which they have themselves so much benefited. It is their interest to do so. Unless they can educate some degree of capacity for self-defence among the Koreans, there is little reasonable hope of preserving the Kingdom's independence, and unless they can put a stop to the tumults and intrigues by which the Court and Officialdom are torn and the people perpetually disturbed, the country must continue to furnish constant incentives to foreign interference. These considerations effectually dispel all suspicion that the Japanese are merely playing at reform for purposes of show. They undoubtedly want to give to the Koreans the blessing of good government and secure life and property. Hitherto their success has been not very conspicuous. Individual Japanese subjects do not appear to second the laudable efforts of their statesmen. Their rough, imperious demeanour, that shocked intelligent observers before the war, has not improved since military successes gave them fresh material for arrogance, nor have the Japanese merchants and adventurers visiting the peninsula appreciated the fact that the readiness with which men accept any new system must depend largely on the popularity of its propagandists and representatives. But that is a mere incident of the story. Neither Bishop CORFE nor any other honest observer can doubt that Japan is doing everything in her power to correct the corruption, oppression, and disorder that have made Korea a by-word. Is not the Bishop in sympathy with that effort? Does he wish Korea to be left to itself in order that thieving, plotting, murdering, and oppressing may continue unchecked? In the *Korean Repository*, a magazine edicted chiefly by missionaries, we find a tone diametrically opposed to that of Bishop CORFE. It is there fully admitted that Japanese statesmen are exhibiting sagacity and patience in their reformatory programme, and that success seems likely to crown their work. But Bishop CORFE writes of them as though they were nothing better than truculent aggressors, hectoring it over the Koreans in the intoxication of newly acquired power, and dictating needless and vexatious changes merely for the sake of dictation. Writing recently of an officially ordered alteration in the unpractical and inconvenient costume of Korean men, he speaks of it as a "Japanese order;" compares it with the compulsory shaving of the heads of the Chinese after the Manchu conquest, and adds that "the poor Koreans, knowing that they have been made to look riduculous by their enemies, appear crest-fallen enough." Bishop CORFE must be very well aware that any change of costume inaugurated in Korea at Japanese suggestion has nothing whatever in common with the tonsure-and-queue fashion dictated by the Manchus, but is designed entirely in the interests of practical usefulness. He must be equally well aware that the new sumptuary law was not promulgated in the form of a Japanese order. As for the good taste or tact shown by him in calling the Japanese the "enemies of the Koreans," and pitying the latter for having been "made to look ridiculous" by the former, we need not offer any criticism. Some time ago, Bishop CORFE denounced, as the very reverse of a reform, the removal of the oppressive disabilities under which Buddhist priests had laboured for many years in Korea. The Bishop is not in favour, it would seem, of freedom of conscience. Possibly, therefore, his estimate of what reforms should be, differs widely from that held by persons cast in a commoner mould. At all events, we should like to know the reasons of his marked hostility to the Japanese in their capacity of reformers in Korea, the motives that induce him to obstruct the working of the only instrument apparently available for the reformation of a depraved and emasculated nation, and the considerations that impel him, as a prominent Christian Minister, to play the part of a public and constant sneerer at the only Oriental people that have ever adopted Western civilization.

THE KOREAN AFFAIR.

THE recent occurrence in Korea, although it does not seem likely to produce any wide-spread disturbance at present, is of too grave a character not to suggest uneasiness. As to the aspect of the incident from a moral point of view, not much need be said. The assassination of a woman is always shocking, but when the victim is a QUEEN, and when the assassins are soldiers of her country led by the father of her husband, the affair presents itself in an appalling guise. Until reminded by such horrors, we are apt to forget that the ethics of some nations are still on a mediæval level. Mob violence is incalculably cruel. The brutalities it achieves generally represent the aggregate of all the evil impulses working among the units of the mass. Hence no rational observer thinks of inferring the morale of individuals from their deeds in active combination. That a body of soldiers, believing themselves the victims of deliberate injustice at the hands of their royal mistress, should join in an assault on her Palace, and that some phrensied miscreant, of whom several are always to be found among such law-breakers, should turn his weapons against the QUEEN herself—these are incidents that can be matched from the history of most nations even in comparatively modern times. But it is our pride to believe that such events have ceased to be possible in the Occident of to-day, and when we are brought suddenly face to face with them in the Orient, the shock is rude. In the present case additional horror is lent to the affair by the issue of a royal edict, in which the KING, after ruthlessly cataloguing the misdeeds of his spouse, goes through the solemn farce of deposing the unfortunate lady, as though she were not already beyond the reach of all human arraignment or punishment. Putting aside these sentimental features of the story, however, we have to ask what the incident means for Korea herself, and how its influence upon her foreign relations is to be interpreted.

For the past twenty years Korea has been torn by the strife of two rival factions, one headed by the QUEEN, the other by the TAI WÖN-KUN. Tumults not visibly connected with these prime factors have varied the record, but in no serious case has the ultimate source of disturbance lain outside the families of the KING and QUEEN; that is to say, outside the partizans of the KING'S father and ex-Regent, the TAI WÖN-KUN, and the QUEEN'S relatives, the MIN. For the purpose of a broad estimate, we have no need to enter into any detailed account of the struggle, or to consider on which side stands the blacker score of misdeeds. Of the TAI WÖN-KUN it may certainly be said that the man's first thought in any emergency runs on acts of violence and assassination. The vitality of his bloodthirstiness almost commands respect. He learns nothing from the times, nor have the changes coming in the train of foreign intercourse made any apparent impression on his obdurate faith in poison and the dagger. It seems necessarily fatal to the moral progress of any nation that such a man should have a controlling voice in its administration. On the other hand, nearly all the corruption and oppression that disfigure the reign of the present King of KOREA, are attributed to the QUEEN'S relatives, and from them has emanated the chief opposition to progress and reform. So long as the two factions retained any competence for strong rivalry,

it was impossible that the country should be at peace. The only hope of tranquillity seemed to lie in the annihilation of one side's capacity to struggle. That is what has now happened. The MIN family, just as they appeared to be on the verge of recovering political supremacy, have been crushed by the death of their source of influence; and the TAI WÖN-KUN, whose fortunes during the past few months had steadily ebbed, until any turn of the tide seemed hopeless, has suddenly become complete master of the political situation. Thus at length a fair chance of the full establishment of tranquillity is discernible, especially if, as is promised in the KING'S edict—translated elsewhere in our columns—the MIN family do not become the objects of ruthless persecution, or seek to avenge the murder of the QUEEN. Out of evil good sometimes comes. On the whole it seems reasonable to conclude that the bloody page now added to the annals of Korea may preface a happier and quieter era.

But from the point of view of the country's foreign relations the incident has a decidedly embarrassing aspect for Japan. We do not believe that the Tokyo Cabinet ever seriously contemplated the inclusion of Korea in this empire's dominions. But if such a dream occupied the mind of any Japanese statesman, he must have abandoned it incontinently when the command of the maritime and overland communications between the peninsula and China was wrested from the latter's conqueror by the intervention of three European Powers. Thenceforth Japan must have perceived clearly that her footing in Korea was only on temporary sufferance, and the Koreans must have apprehended the fact with scarcely ess distinctness. A virtually impossible situation was thus created. Japan, when she drove the Chinese out of the peninsula, became responsible for the reform of the little Kingdom on the lines of Western civilization. To discharge that responsibility, it was absolutely unavoidable that she should exercise a controlling influence in the administration of public affairs. Any attempt to substitute upright government and the competent operation of good laws for the corruption, nepotism, oppression, and perversion of justice that reigned in every department of the State, must be unsuccessful unless supported by effective authority. But Japan had been indirectly though unmistakably forbidden by Germany, Russia, and France to exercise any controlling influence in the administration or to assume any effective authority. Recognising the *impasse* thus created, her wisest course would have been to invite the European Powers to push their interference to its logical sequel. They had placed an effectual barrier in the path of Korean reform under Japanese guidance alone, and since without reform the independence on which they so peremptorily insisted could never be anything but a farce, it rested with them to devise some way out of the deadlock. Their action last April amounted to a declaration that the policy of the East was thenceforth to be directed from Europe. Unless Japan were prepared to defy that declaration, we do not see what practical programme was open to her, except to invite the cöoperation of the Powers for the neutralization of the Peninsula, and to obtain their mandate for undertaking its civilization. Korea could never be a valuable acquisition to Japan. The temperament of the Japanese people does not adapt them for settlement in cold regions, and to take possession of the peninsula would be to do violence to the nation's innate tendencies as well as to abandon the immense advantages of an insular position. On the other hand, if Russia has a vital interest in preventing the overflow of an aggressive, warlike people into territories that border her own, Japan has precisely the same interest in averting Russian occupation of a peninsula within sight of her shores. The whole gist of Korea's relation to Japan seems to us to be summarized in that statement. It is the peninsula's destiny to be either a bone of contention or a neutral zone. If the latter—and surely little room for choice exists—then it is essential that means be adopted for correcting a state of national depravity such as must always be a source of friction to neighbouring empires. Japan, since April last, has been attempting the impossible task of directing Korean affairs without authoritatively interfering in them. The feat was not beyond the capacities of a statesman like Count INOUYE, who has the rare power of exercising authority without wielding it, and directing affairs without stretching out a visible hand to guide them. Had Count INOUYE remained in Söul, the recent horror would not have been perpetrated. But the supply of Count INOUYES is limited, and so soon as it fails, the public at once becomes conscious of the impossible task that Japan is essaying in the peninsula. She abstains from controlling interference, yet attempts to accomplish results quite unattainable without interference, and while incurring all the risks of responsibility, she possesses no means of discharging it. Incidents like the TAI WÖN-KUN'S barbarous *coup d'état* will be counted to her discredit, and the sooner she places something more than happy chance between herself and their recurrence, the better for her fair fame. We do not see how anything but disrepute and disaster can result from the programme of drift that she is now pursuing.

Fair American (after listening to a graphic account of a fox-hunt in England)—"But I should think, Captain Fitzhugh, that you would be greatly hampered by lack of space. It is rather cruel to limit the chances of the fox to England alone. Does he go in circles round the island?"

THE RECENT WAR AS A TEST OF JAPANESE MILITARY CAPACITY.

NEITHER the Japanese themselves nor their foreign observers have fallen into the mistake of imagining that the recent war was a conclusive test of the victors' military capacity. With such foes as the Chinese in the field, fighting assumes something of a farcical element, and it would be extravagant to draw any hard and fast deductions as to the belligerent qualities of the Japanese from their successes against troops so deficient in everything that goes to make a formidable adversary. What may fairly be said, however, is that the Japanese evinced organizing capacities of a high class, and that their military system proved itself capable of supporting severe strains. They successfully accomplished a feat always and justly regarded as the most trying that a nation can undertake, the feat of carrying on a protracted campaign in a foreign country beyond the sea. In the face of strong resistance they might have broken down. As to that we can say nothing. But they did not break down, and it is only fair to give them credit for grappling with and overcoming a difficult military problem. We ourselves think that much more may be said on the subject of the pluck and endurance displayed by the troops, and the patriotism evinced by the nation. But these qualities also, not being altogether independent of the nature of the resistance encountered, can not be conclusively discussed in the present case. On the other hand, criticisms such as those recently published by the correspondent of *Le Temps* appear to be both superficial and biassed. He sets out by saying that "the Japanese owe a large part of their victories to strangers;" that "without the English captains of the vessels hired by the Government from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, it would have been impossible to have made the movements which conduced to the victory at Ping Yang, the fall of Ching-chow, Chiang, Talien-wan, Port Arthur, and the capture of Weihaiwei;" and that "it is also due to them that the first and second armies did not die of hunger and cold in Manchuria, Liaotung, and Shangtung, as nearly all the provisions and necessaries had to be sent from Japan."

There is, of course, no doubt that high credit is due to the captains of the transports engaged in the Japanese service. They achieved a remarkable record, for during operations extending over a period of ten months, they never lost a single vessel by faulty seamanship. But they were not all Englishmen, nor even all foreigners. They included men of several nationalities, and among them were some Japanese. Were it certain that without foreign officers a Japanese transport service could never be safely carried on, the comments of the correspondent of *Le*

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Temps would be justified. But when we observe that the whole of the Japanese Navy—which had not so much as one foreigner among its officers or men—was engaged, throughout the War, in operations demanding the exercise of as great navigating skill as that required in the case of the steam transports, and that, from first to last, not a single collision occurred nor was a single ship lost, we can not avoid the inference that however useful the part played by foreigners in the transport service, they were an adventitious, not a radically essential, element of the situation. It is true that Japanese navigators competent to take their place were not immediately available, and from that point of view the transport service owed its efficiency to foreign aid. But the record of the Navy shows that there need not be any inherent impossibility in educating Japanese for the purpose. At all events, nothing could be less conducive to the interests of the foreigners engaged by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha than to belaud them at the expense of the Japanese in the shallow, thoughtless fashion adopted by the correspondent of *Le Temps*. Such writers simply help to impart a morbid value to independence of foreign aid, and to develop among the Japanese ideas more romantic than practical.

The same critic makes some other comments that we find difficulty in appreciating. Especially with respect to the intervals that separated the principal operations of the war, his strictures are emphatic, and as this phase of the fighting has attracted attention elsewhere, it deserves a moment's consideration. By way of preliminary, however, one point must be noted. "In the march on Mukden," says the correspondent, "which was afterward renounced, the military operations were not conducted at all strategically." Condemnation couched in such general terms cannot be analysed without an extended examination of all the details of the campaign in central Manchuria, and since the correspondent of *Le Temps* was not with YAMAGATA'S army, is not a military man, and has neither special qualifications not special materials for forming a conclusive opinion, we shall not pause to review his verdict, confidently as it is phrased. But his assertion that a march upon Mukden was intended and afterwards renounced leads us to think that he is not yet familiar with the general plan of operations mapped out by the Japanese Head Quarter Staff. Into that plan the capture of Mukden never really entered. The programme, as we understand, was to conduct the campaign beyond the Yalu on such a scale as to suggest a march upon Mukden, and thus draw off the Chinese troops from the position of prime strategical importance, Liaotung. No blow, nor series of blows, delivered in Manchuria could be decisive. The Chinese Empire's articulation is not sufficiently perfect to convey to the heart sensations produced at the extremities. Whether Pekin were attacked *viâ* Shanhaikwan or Taku, or the destruction of Weihaiwei and the annihiliation of the Peiyang Squadron were objective points, Port Arthur had to be captured by way of preliminary. Hence the two problems that presented themselves to Japanese strategists for earliest solution were, to drive the Chinese out of Korea and to get possession of the Liaotung Peninsula. As to the former, a plain course offered. YEH'S intrenchments at Asan had to be assaulted, after which Pyöng-yang had to be reduced, and then, by a general forward movement of the Japanese army from the neck of the Korean peninsula—between Gensan and Phöng-yang—the Chinese had to be pushed across the Yalu. This last object effected, it seems, at first sight, that a corps of observation might have been posted on the Korean side of the Yalu, and that the main body of the Japanese army might have been launched directly at the Liaotung Peninsula across the Yellow Sea. But we must recall what kind of aspect the Liaotung Peninsula then presented to military men. It was believed to be virtually impregnable. At Port Arthur and Talien there existed magnificent fortifications, powerfully armed and supplied with all modern appliances for defying assault, while the topography of the Peninsula was such that a small body of resolute troops might have held the Chinchow isthmus against a host of invaders. We must guard against the mistake of allowing our review of the situation to be obscured by *ex post facto* knowledge. Liaotung proved a "soft nut" after all, but there was no reason whatever to anticipate anything of the kind last October. In truth the easy capture of the place took away the breath of the public. It was an almost incredible fiasco on the part of the defenders, and there is a certain measure of difficulty in recalling now the estimate that existed a year ago of the formidable task awaiting the Japanese army of invasion. Marshal YAMAGATA is said to have counselled the daring course of assuming a merely defensive attitude along the line of the Yalu, and striking immediately at Port Arthur with the First Army. Events would evidently have justified the brilliant insight of the Marshal's plan, but it involved such wholesale assumptions as to the worthlessless of the Chinese troops and the miserable state of their preparations, that its approval by the Head Quarter Staff would have been almost reckless. Hence the original scheme was pursued, namely, a demonstration in the direction of Mukden such as should induce the Chinese to concentrate their forces in the Liaoyang-Fenghwan districts, leaving the Liaotung Peninsula comparatively undefended. The correspondent of *Le Temps* is mistaken, then, when he talks of a march upon Mukden "afterwards renounced," and it may well be that we are disposed to applaud its celerity strategical deductions, being based on that fallacy, are themselves equally fallacious.

We pass to his specific and principal allegations. He says that the Japanese "hesitated for a month, from Sept. 25th to Oct. 26th, as to the invasion of Liaotung, and afterwards for two months, from Nov. 21st to Jan. 10th in their attack on Weihaiwei, and up to the last moment an attack on Shanhaikwan was preferred." Let us see how these allegations correspond with the actual dates. Phyöng-yang was assaulted and captured on the 15th and 16th of September. A short delay then became necessary to organise arrangements for an advance northward, and it was not until the 24th of the same month that the van of the First Army moved out of Phyöng-yang. The distance to Wiju was 125 miles. The Brigade forming the van covered that distance in 17 days, being at the rate of over 7 miles a day. Wiju was occupied on the 17th of October, and by the 23rd YAMAGATA had massed his forces along the Yalu preparatory to forcing the passage of that river and assaulting the Chinese position at Chiu-lieng. It appears, therefore, that the month during which the Japanese are supposed to have "hesitated about the invasion of Liaotung" was a month of continuous operations in Korea; operations sufficient to tax the military capacities of many countries greater than Japan. Evidently no every-day standard is applied to Japan when it is counted a defect that she did not combine the operation of assembling and provisioning an army of from 30,000 to 40,000 men in Korea with the operation of simultaneously despatching another army in a another direction across the sea. We now come to the second interval, nominally of two months—November 21st to January 10th—but in reality of 50 days. Apparently the correspondent of *Le Temps* regards the despatch of big armies over sea much in the same light as the discharge of pith pellets from a magazine pop-gun. He thinks that Port Arthur having been captured on November 21st and 22nd, three or four days should have sufficed to raise the Second Army's strength sufficiently for the garrisoning of Liaotung and for a fresh expedition to a new part of China. In point of fact, nearly one half of OYAMA'S Liaotung Army had to be detached for operations in the north of the Peninsula, and it became necessary to carry another large force from Japan to Talien before an expedition against Weihaiwei could be undertaken. Under any circumstances, seven weeks would not have been a long time to devote to transporting a *corps d'armée* from Hiroshima to Talien and collecting at the latter place all the equipment necessary for an expedition against a strongly fortified position in a hostile country. But when the feat had to be achieved simultaneously with two other campaigns in other regions,

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rather than to criticise its tardiness. It must not be forgotten that the number of steamers at Japan's command was limited, and that the duties devolving on them did not terminate so soon as they had carried a *corps d'armée* to its point of debarcation. On the contrary, the services of a steam fleet were continuously needed to convey re-inforcements and supplies, and generally to maintain communications between each *corps d'armée* and its base in Japan. So far as we can see, the only delay that can reasonably be charged against the Japanese occurred after the left wing of the First Army marched out of Söul *en route* for Phyöng-yang. Apparently the Japanese programme was then imperfect. It contemplated an immediate advance upon Söul by one Division only. Subsequently the plan was modified by the addition of a second Division moving from Gensan as a base, and this change involved a long halt of the Söul Division so as to synchronise the movements of the two bodies. But from the battle of Phyöng-yang no undue hesitation or delay seems chargeable against the Japanese military authorities. Four months (September 16th to January 20th) can not be regarded as a long time to devote to operations of such magnitude as the movement of one army from Phöng-yang into central Manchuria; the transportation of another to the Liaotung Peninsula, and the carrying of a third to Shantung, the record including the reduction of three first-class fortresses.

We have devoted some space to this question because it has already afforded food for comment, independently of the shallow and inaccurate criticisms of *Le Temps'* correspondent.

THE PROBLEM OF HIGH CLASS EDUCATION BY MISSIONARIES.

(CONTRIBUTED).

IF America, as we now know it, had existed at the time when CHRIST and His Apostles, according to Biblical records, performed a series of miracles and founded thereon what is known as the Christian religion, the Americans, before committing themselves in any way to accept the new creed, would have despatched from New York or Boston a number of commissioners, with instructions to prepare a full report of the movement and its prevailing tendencies; and upon the nature of this report would have depended the attitude of practically the whole American nation toward the Christian faith. That is their way of doing business. For some time past certain American Churches, especially the Independents, have seriously questioned the wisdom of the educational policy pursued by Christian Missionaries in Japan, or perhaps it may be more correct to say, by a large and influential class of Christian Missionaries in Japan. These latter, regarding with alarm, natural to men of their creed, the exclusively secular nature of Japanese national education, determined, some years ago, to compete with government high class institutions, and under the able leadership of the late Mr. NEESHIMA, established the Kyoto Doshisha. From its earliest infancy to the present time the Doshisha has received a large amount of support from the American Board of Foreign Missions, and has no doubt been regarded by the Missionaries connected with it and by home subscribers as a most important missionary agency. But the management of the institution has been in Japanese hands, and what is more, in soliciting pecuniary support from the Japanese public, members of the faculty have been careful to make it plain that high class education, and not propagandism, is the chief object of the school. On this understanding numbers of prominent men not Christians and entertaining no desire to be identified with the spread of Christianity, have allowed their names to be placed on the subscribers' list. When, some years ago, it was decided to make the Doshisha a University, it was plainly perceived by the Japanese promoters of the scheme that the adoption of this measure would involve the thorough secularisation of the education to be imparted in the institution. The forecast has been verified, to the satisfaction of the general Japanese public. But many missionaries, having watched with keen interest the transformation that the school has undergone, are extremely dissatisfied with its present character, and speak of the whole Doshisha enterprise as a failure, when regarded from a purely missionary point of view. News of this state of feeling having been conveyed to the American Board of Foreign Missions, commissioners were appointed and sent out to Japan to investigate the whole question of high class education as carried on by Christian Missionaries here, and with special instructions to report fully on the Doshisha. The commission consists of four gentlemen; Dr. BARTON, Foreign Secretary of the American Board of Foreign Missions; the Rev. A. H. BRADFORD, and Messrs. ELLISON and JOHNSON, who are now engaged in visiting different mission stations and conferring with the missionaries on the vexed question.

The view held by many missionaries, as we have stated above, is that the Doshisha has not fulfilled the object for which it was founded by the late Dr. NEESHIMA, and hence that it can no longer properly claim the support of the American Board of Foreign Missions. The money collected by missionary societies is subscribed, often by persons that can ill spare it, with the distinct understanding that it is to be employed in the promulgation of the Christian faith. If, say the critics whose opinions we are giving, it can be proved that high class education of a purely secular kind is conducive to the spread of Christianity, then money granted to an institution like the Doshisha is not misappropriated. But if statistics show that even in the case of colleges where the curriculum is of a Christian character, high class education as an evangelising agency has yielded very meagre results, what justification can there be for applying mission money to the maintenance of a University like the Doshisha? Concerning the benefits to be derived from a liberal education the missionaries entertain no manner of doubt. But what they object to is the appropriation of money subscribed for a fixed purpose to agencies that do not in any way assist the attainment of that purpose.

Note must be taken of the fact that religion is taught in the Doshisha; but not Christianity alone. Buddhism has its share of favour. A Buddhist priest is allowed to address the same students that, an hour previously, were sitting at the feet of a Christian missionary. Religion is not a compulsory subject, and is, we are told, regarded with indifference by a majority of the students. While all the foreign professors and a certain number of the Japanese are paid with foreign money, the management of the Doshisha is entirely in Japanese hands. The faculty is in favour of the greatest liberty being given to students in the matter of religion. It is said by persons in a position to know, that the Japanese leaders of thought in the Kyoto University are either Unitarians or sceptics, in heart if not in profession.

The subject of missionaries' taking part in purely secular education has been frequently discussed. From the point of view of pure propagandism there is difficulty in perceiving what justification exists for the practice. Wherever missionaries are employed by the Japanese Government, or by large public schools like the Keio-gijiku, it is distinctly understood that they are not to make use of their position in an unfair manner as a means of gaining converts. We say in an unfair manner, because it would be impossible always to prevent the personal influence gained over students while teaching in a school from being subsequently used by the missionary to promote the cause of Christianity. But on the whole, results have apparently shown that purely secular teaching carried on by missionaries can not be counted a genuine missionary agency. The question is not whether such a system is a direct or an indirect agency, but whether it can be deemed an agency at all in Japan. We do not doubt that in many countries to which missionaries have been sent, Madagascar and Africa for example, the case has been different. There the natives have been wholly dependent on missionaries for even the most elementary education. But in Japan of late years hundreds of good secular schools have thrown open their doors to

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eager searchers afterknowledge. A Japanese youth is ready enough to be taught a foreign language by anybody that will teach, but in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred he resents any attempts at proselytism, and if such attempts be persisted in, he will quietly find instruction elsewhere. Within the last few years the feeling of antipathy to educational establishments wholly under foreign missionary control is said to have greatly increased. Perhaps that is to be regarded as part of the movement in favour of Japan for the Japanese. It seems to be a well established fact that when the management of any Christian educational institution is solely intrusted to the Japanese, there gradually ensues a laxation of discipline and Christian doctrine. That is not difficult to account for. The Japanese as a rule fail to see any desirable object in observing many of the old established rules of Western Christendom and are as a people singularly averse to dogmatism in matters of religion.

On the other hand, although secular education may not have great force as an agent of direct religious propagandism, its indirect effects must be apparent to every close observer. A school conducted by Christian teachers, above all by men whose lives offer a fine object lesson in the beauty of the faith they profess, is permeated by an atmosphere of Christianity, to breathe which daily at the most impressionable period of his life can not but affect the student's moral development. The professors and instructors at whose feet he sits to acquire the chief possession that a man can boast, remain with him, a revered memory, through all the years to come. Insensibly he models himself upon their methods and accepts their principles for his guidance. Christianity presented to him, however indirectly, through such a medium becomes a beneficent creed; a creed that he must always associate with the good it has conferred on him. Moreover, the fact that his *alma mater* wears the vestments of religion can not but awaken reflections to which he might otherwise have remained a perpetual stranger. The spiritual factor acquires practical vitality in his life. All these items have to be remembered in casting up the account. To those that discern no fitting instruments for propagating Christianity except the pulpit and the lectern, education must seem an unsatisfactory agent. But a different view will be taken by men sufficiently liberal and discerning to perceive that the seeds of Christian ethics may flourish in an intellectually cultivated soil as well as in an atmosphere of sentiment and supernaturalism.

If the arrival of the Missionary Commissioners from the United States may be regarded as an inclination that the American Board of Foreign Missions recognises the fact that the conditions of Christian propagandism in Japan are of a sufficiently exceptional character to demand a special study, and if the delegates have resolved to accomplish their task in a thoroughly impartial manner, some very interesting information will be elicited, and we doubt not some far-reaching consequences will result from their visit. With regard to the Doshisha, its critics claim that the institution has assumed its present character owing to its exclusive Japanese management, and ask whether any other educational establishment organised by Christian Missionaries is not destined to undergo a similar transformation. If that danger actually exists, the question arises whether foreign Missions can subscribe largely to purely Japanese institutions, without being guilty of misappropriating Christian money. On the other hand, where the Japanese are not allowed to take the lead in the management of schools, it is alleged that the best class of students carefully avoid them. The subject is full of interest, and if the American delegates can throw any light on it, they will receive the thanks of the whole Missionary body as well as of Christian men and women generally.

LETTER FROM FORMOSA.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY.

Changwha, Formosa, September 21st.

Although it is rather late to dwell on the subject of a battle that occurred on the 28th of last month, I wish to give a few details not yet published regarding the capture of this place, for it was effected by perhaps one of the cleverest bits of strategy displayed in the whole war; and as it was the first engagement in which the famous "Black Flags" had a hand, it may prove of interest to many that prophesied that in the "Black Flags" the Japanese would meet a real opponent.

Changwha, a big inland city, one of the most important on the island, lies three miles from the sea, on a plain scarcely above its level. To the East rises a range of hills, and crowning one of these overlooking the city, is a fort erected by the Chinese, protected by four 12-centimetre modern guns, with a great number of miscellaneous relics intended long ago for use, but now practically useless. To the North, about three miles distant, runs a mountain stream which at this time of the year is converted into a surging river. Upon the banks of this river we find the Japanese and Chinese troops on the 27th, the Japanese to the north, hidden by fields of sugar cane which covers the district; the Chinese to the south, partially protected by entrenchments newly built. It had always been the custom to ford the river at one point where it was known to be comparatively shallow, and here the Chinese had their force; for, as it "blong olo custom," the Japanese would certainly cross at the same point. But the Japanese have a reputation for dropping old customs, and they did so in this case. One detachment was left to engage the Chinese at this point, and one column of the main army very quietly crossed the river some 1,500 metres higher, about midnight, in the shadow of darkness. This column again divided, one detachment crawling along through the sugar cane to get to the rear of the fort on the hill, and the others following along the low land to place themselves between the Chinese troops guarding the river and the city. At daylight the Chinese were on the alert, and opened fire on the few troops left across the river as a decoy. At the first shot the Japanese troops that had crossed whose presence had not been discovered, rushed down yelling and shouting, to the great dismay of the Chinese, whose force numbered about a thousand. They fled, but many were killed as they retreated.

At the same time the column that had secured a position to the rear of the fort made a charge with fixed bayonets, to the astonishment of the garrison, who retreated by climbing over the walls and escaping down the hill towards the city. The retreating troops had now all gathered in the city, and as the Japanese gained possession of the fort the former evidently came to the conclusion that it was time to escape, so fleeing through the city they were about to emerge through the south gate, when they were paralyzed with fear to find a detachment of Japanese troops closing in from the South. Many escaped, but others of the terror-stricken soldiers ran to and fro about the city, while the Japanese fired upon them from the fort above. The Japanese then reached the city and climbed over the walls, as the gates were barricaded, making their entrance without opposition. The streets were littered with soldier's uniforms and equipment, and three hundred and seventy dead bodies were found about the city and two hundred and fifty outside.

The Prefect and other Mandarins escaped during the early morning, but carried nothing with them, everything about the place giving evidence that defeat had not been thought possible. Many fled to the coast, and, taking possession of junks, made the rest of their journey by water.

After the occupation, a batallion of infantry and a troop of cavalry followed the retreating soldiers towards to the South, being obliged to ford one stream of considerable size. The heavy rains had then commenced, and soon the stream was of such depth that they could not recross. The Chinese, re-inforced from the south, then returned and made an attack, but were defeated, although the Japanese did not dare advance, as all supplies had been shut off on account of the storm. As soon as the storm abated and the river had become fordable, they re-crossed, and took up a position to the north of the river where they now are. The place where the Chinese troops are now gathered is about 35 miles from Tai-nan-foo.

Here at Changwha two Chinese officers, who were captured, are living very comfortably and will be sent to the mainland on the first opportunity. They say that the force from the mainland taking part in the Changwha fight consisted of ten camps or 5,000 men.

After the taking of Changwha sickness increased to an alarming extent among the Japanese. Before reaching the city nearly seventy streams of different sizes had to be forded, and with insufficient food, as the supplies in many cases could not be forwarded, the troops were in a much weakened condition. As there had been heavy rains for several days, Changwha was almost flooded, and as no method of draining offers, the city could hardly be called a very healthy resort for soldiers already ill. Work was commenced at once to bury the dead Chinese, but it was necessarily slow, and a week elapsed before all were disposed of, many having been found concealed in the underbush and in the river. The stench from the dead bodies was terrible, and practically poisoned the air. The effect was quickly felt, for from the highest officer to the lowest coolie, all were effected, and one-third of the whole division were incapacitated. Only the very serious cases were taken to the field hospital, although these numbered 824, and of them 82 died. Of the hospital corps of 1 chief and 5 doctors, 3 were struck down, so that 3 were forced to look after the large number of cases; 16 out of the 41 nurses sickened and 4 died. But after the bodies were all buried and a few days of dry weather had driven away the dampness, this awful period of sickness passed away, and health improved, although now about 100 a day are being sent back to Taipehfu. The sick that are unable to walk are carried on a stretcher by three Chinese coolies with one noncommissioned officer with each squad, and one Japanese coolie with each ten stretchers. The Japanese dead are cremated and the ashes buried in graves marked with a memorial board. The Chinese were buried in large trenches holding twenty or thirty, but after the atmosphere had affected the bodies the remainder were cremated.

All is peaceful for some distance south of Changwha, and to the north entirely. No guards are needed and the farmers are working as industriously as ever. The people seem to feel perfectly contented, and are making more money than they ever thought of doing before. The coolie question is practically settled and perhaps no more Japanese coolies will be sent for.

Fifteen to twenty thousand Chinese coolies are employed altogether, and with the very liberal pay they are receiving, there is no difficulty in securing any number. In fact the principle difficulty is to pick out the best, and to try and prevent the fights that occur among the Chinese for the work. For carrying one package six or eight miles about forty cents is paid, the whole family engaging in the work; a group consisting of the mother and daughter struggling along with one package swinging from a shoulder pole, two small boys with another package, similiarly carried, and the father and perhaps older son with two, thus giving them $1.60 for a few hours work. Chinese cash is seldom seen and the Japanese *sen* and small silver pieces seem to be the principal me-

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dium. No coolie will think of work short of a dollar a day, and three coolies, whom I endeavoured to engage to carry my chair for a half day's trip, wanted $1.20 apiece and stuck to it. Of course, commodities have gone up in consequence. No doubt many thousand Chinese would sincerely regret to see the Japanese leave now.

The following news is from Chinese sources in the south and is considered trustworthy, if trust be possible:—A relative of General Liu has gone to Canton to endeavour to secure more troops. The soldiers from one of the camps who were loud in their condemnation of General Liu for being forced to fight the Japanese, deserted their camp and left in junks for the mainland. A Chinese merchant from Singapore arrived in Amoy and succeeded in getting a considerable amount of powder shipped to Formosa for General Liu. A Mandarin was sent from Tai-nan-foo to Amoy on the 13th to purchase powder. Many spies have been sent to Taipehfu as merchants, carpenters, etc., some having even entered Japanese employ as writers in Government House.

Taels 160,000 were delivered to the rebels by an English merchant steamer at Anping to aid in the rebellion. Gen. Liu endeavoured to escape; claiming that he wanted to go to Foochow to secure additional troops and more funds to continue the war, but his people who are watching him very closely would not allow him to go, saying that he had all the troops he needed, that they had supplied him with funds, and that he must stick by his troops. It is the opinion of the Chinese throughout the country that the "Black Flags" are very much frightened and do not want to fight. Gen. Liu endeavoured to arrange with the savages to allow him to retreat into their territory in case of defeat, but they refused. He then endeavoured to punish them and several were killed. The savages have shown the greatest friendliness to the Japanese and have turned the guns furnished them by the Chinese upon the Chinese themselves instead of upon the Japanese, as intended.

Kelung, October 3.

Wishing to join the southern expedition, I left Changwha September 23rd, for Taipehfu, taking a chair, as the roads are almost impassable for a horse. On the second morning we reached the Taikai river, and found it impossible to cross, as the current was too strong for boats, and fording was out of the question. It was a simple question of wait, and three days passed before any one ventured to cross. Then two Japanese coolies plunged into the stream to swim to the other bank, but the powerful surging current drew them under and they were both drowned. A later attempt was made to get some horses across but they met the same fate. On the fourth day the water perceptibly lowered, so a line was secured from each bank and a Chinese boat made trips all day. After crossing, about thirty streams were forded before we reached Teck-cham (Hsien chu ku). The Engineering Corps have been doing good work in building roads, and work will be commenced extending the railroad south from Teck-cham to Tai-nanfoo at once; and it is expected that a considerable portion of it will be built this fall. At Teck-cham we took the railroad for the forty miles to Taipehfu, ending our two hundred and fifty mile journey on the 28th. General Takashima is in command of the Southern Expedition, which will leave here to-day and to-morrow for the Pescadores. There it will divide, and a Southern Expedition, under command of General Nogi, will land, it is my opinion, at Pong-lian, a harbour 30 miles south of Takao. There is not expected to be any Chinese camp at this place, although five miles south, at Che-tong-ka, there formerly were some soldiers. Further south, however, there are known to be two camps. The travelling towards Takao, which is of course the objective point, will be extremely difficult. Many streams must be forded, and at Tau-kang is a very large river, which must be ferried. If the Chinese destroy all the boats, it will be necessary to make a considerable detour and cross the river farther inland. The city of Tau-kang, situated on the left bank, has about eight thousand inhabitants, and is a flourishing place. If the "Black Flags" intend to oppose the Japanese, the first battle of any importance will probably take place at this point. After leaving the city we pass through richly cultivated fields of sugar cane and indigo, coming out on to a barren sandy plain with five or six streams to ford, which during heavy rains becomes one water course. Several small villages of but little importance are passed, and after about half of the distance has been travelled, the route lies along the sea beach. As Takao is neared, the natural vegetation, which in some places consists of jungles of pines, mangroves, bamboos, cycads, etc., will offer an excellent opportunity for the Chinese to indulge in a little guerilla warfare. After Takao is taken the troops will probably be hurried on to Tiananfoo and Anping, where it is hoped to finally quell the resistance of the Chinese soldiers.

The main expedition will probably land at Pawtaychin, a harbour about 25 miles north of Anping. They will no doubt unite with the Guards division, which will have taken Kagee, a point now occupied by the Chinese, and will then drive the Chinese troops ahead of them towards Anping. They will travel first through the territory of the Pepohoans, but as these have expressed their friendliness to the Japanese, it is not thought that any resistance will be met with. Nearly all the distance to Anping will be an immense plain, and the travelling not specially difficult. It is expected that the southern and northern expeditions will have the whole Formosa Chinese force between them; with the savages to the East and the ocean to the west, the Chinese must fight or surrender, and there will be no more retreating. The Japanese forces will no doubt concentrate at Anping.

I shall accompany General Nogi with the southern expedition, as it will pass through a portion of Formosa new to me and of considerable interest. Mr. Kasawamura, formerly military attaché of the Japanese Legation at Berlin, who has been with me since my return to Formosa, is my companion and will act as interpreter. Every facility is given me in my work, and none of my letters pass through the hands of the censor, as was the custom in the north. It is said that at Tainanfoo there are 10 complete camps amounting to 5,000 men, and at Anping, 6 camps or 3,000 men, as well other scattered camps which will make the Chinese force in the district about 10,000 men. The Japanese men-of-war will play their part from the sea, and with the large Japanese force on land General Liu with his world famous "Black Flags," who are brave only in the columns of certain journals, will be brought to bay and disposed of in short order. It is the opinion among many of the Japanese that Gen. Liu will make good his escape as General Tang did in the north. The principal foe the Japanese troops have to face in Formosa is sickness, although the percentage of deaths is decreasing rapidly.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A regular seeting of the above mentioned Society was held at the Genrokukwan, Kobiki-cho, Tokyo, on Friday, 11th Oct., at 5 p.m., Mr. S. Kajima, Junior, in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and approved, the following paper was read by Mr. Y. Isawa:—

Liesgang's Collodion Transfer Paper.

I received a circular about Transferotype some time ago, kindly forwarded by the manufacturer, Dr. Liesgang, of Germany. It struck me that, if this paper would work well, it would be most useful, particularly as there have been difficulties in working other papers of a like kind, so I decided to try it and, if successful, to give my results to the Society. Accordingly, I wrote to Dr. Liesgang on the 17th June to forward me some sample packages, and I received these last August.

I have to thank Dr. Liesgang for kindly giving me the chance to show you his "new paper," at the same time I regret that the paper came to hand here very badly discoloured. Besides the transfer paper, Dr. Liesgang sent samples of his famous Aristopaper and his new Li-paper; both of these came to hand without the least sign of discolouration. I perceived a smell of glycerine on opening the package of transfer paper, and I think this was the cause of discolouration, as it keeps the paper soft but at the same time keeps it somewhat moist, and the moisture probably attacks the paper. The paper came by parcel post, so that it had not the protection it would have had in a tin or zinc-lined case. Last year Prof. W. K. Burton imported some carbon tissue without glycerine, and some with glycerine in its composition, and found the kind with glycerine was damaged more quickly than that without, though it kept for some months. If the transfer paper came in an air-tight box it might very likely keep undamaged for some time. It was as much damaged as you see in the case of this sample (paper send round), but fortunately this discolouration does not interfere much with the prints; on fixing, I found the colour almost disappeared so that it cannot be observed by transmitted light using the prints as transparencies or Lantern Slides, though it shows slightly by reflected light using the prints as positives on porcelain or placques. I do not condemn the paper on account of discolouration, but, on the contrary; I recommend the paper for any kind of transfer work. I only hope that the manufacturers will make it with a less quantity of glycerine or altogether without it if possible, though perhaps the paper may thus become difficult to manipulate. The paper, in its present form, is so easy to manipulate that, were the difficulties of manipulation increased even two or three times it would still be not other than easy in the hands of one exercising even moderate care.

The sample slides I am going to show you are made out of this discoloured paper, but I believe that you will find it difficult to imagine that they were printed on such paper, because they are perhaps clearer than slides made on special lantern plates coated with gelatine emulsion. There are many advantages in this paper. It can be inspected during printing, can be toned to any desired shade, is easy to manipulate, and the results are beautiful. As I told you before, the use of this paper is not only to make transfers upon clear glass for making lantern slides, diapositives, etc., but also for ornamenting porcelain, placques, etc., in fact anything that it is wished should be decorated with a photographic picture. This evening I am going to demonstrate how to transfer this paper, using glass as the support, for making lantern slides. The transfer to other kinds of surface may be done in the same way. After my demonstration there is to be a lantern exhibition of the slides sent from America to this society. Should there be time I will show the result of my demonstration on the screen. I send you round a set of lantern slides made by the use of this paper by Mr. Konishi from his own negatives. Here is the paper which has been printed during the day time. Now I am going to show you, with the assistance of Mr. Konishi, the process of toning and fixing, and then of transferring upon the surface of glass.

The process of transferring recommended by the manufacturer for ordinary transparencies, is gone through after toning, fixing, and thoroughly washing, but the toning and fixing may be done either before detaching the film from paper, or after it is fixed on the surface to which it has been transferred. The particular samples I received were damp and the film came off in the first washing water, so I am going to show you the process of transferring with the usual order somewhat reversed, that is the film is detached in the first washing water and film is toned, fixed, and washed and after all manipulations is transferred to the glass surface. This mode of transferring is not recommended for ordinary transparencies by the manufacturer, but is recommended in the case of curved surface. I used the separate toning bath recommended by the manufacturer, though there is also a formulæ for a combined bath. I proceeded thus: First I wash the prints in several changes of water, till the free silver is washed out, during this washing I detach the films from its original support and wash off as much white medium between the paper and film as I can. When the washing is completed the film is transferred to the following toning bath recommended by the manufacturer:—

A	Water	1,500 gr.
	Chloride of Gold	1 gr.
B	Water	1,500 gr.
	Sulphocyanide of Ammonia	40 gr.
	Hypo	3 gr.
	Glycerine	60 gr.

I take equal parts of A and B, and pour A into B, never reversing this order. When it is sufficiently toned, I transfer the proof into the fixing bath without any previous washing. In five or six minutes the prints are completely fixed, when I proceed to wash in clean water. With several changes of water the washing may be finished in a couple of hours. Now the film is put on a piece of glass in luke-warm water, and the back of the film is gently rubbed with a brush to remove all the remaining white stuff. When it is cleared, I fix it on the final support, for which I take a piece of glass to make a transparency.

I make a solution of 5 gr. of gelatine in one litre of water and maintain the temperature during the process of fixing. The gelatine solution is poured into a bath of convenient size, and this is put into another large-sized bath into which is poured hot water to keep the gelatine solution warm. Now we put the clean glass into the solution, waiting a little till it becomes of the same temperature as the solution, then we take the film in the solution and raise it out of the bath together with the glass. We lay the glass flat, film-side up, and put a clean piece of paper upon it, and squeeze to expel the air. When it is in perfect contact with the glass, it is dried thoroughly in the air.

Mr. Isawa's demonstration was most successful. The films readily left the paper, and were so tough that they went though the subsequent processes without showing any tendency to tear, and without needing any very great care in manipulation. Thay showed no tendency to curl up either. Severel slides produced by the transfer paper were afterwards shown in the lantern, and were declared to

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be of as good quality as could be wished. Even in the lantern there was no perceptible veil.

Mr. C. D. West, M.A., showed a Hetherington camera, which he had improved by adding a "cloud-compelling" arrangement to the shutter. Many shutters have been made to give a shorter exposure to the lower part of the plate—corresponding to the upper part of the subject—than to the lower with the view of getting a better rendering of clouds, but such shutters are not suitable to subjects in which there is little or no sky. The shutter of the Hetherington camera consists mainly of a revolving disc having two circular openings, either of which can be made to pass rapidly in front of the lens, so as to give an instantaneous exposure. By modifying the shape of one of the openings, the shutter is converted into one that can be used either for an equal exposure all over the plate, or so as to give the sky relatively less exposure than the foreground. Many prints, both direct and enlarged, were shown to demonstrate the advantage of the addition. Some taken at Ikao showed comparatively dark foregrounds, fully exposed, the pictures having, at the same time, magnificent clouds. Such effects are impossible with a single exposure with a shutter giving the same relative exposure all over the plate. The Hetherington is a 5 × 4 hand camera with a changing arrangement that seems to work without a hitch at any time, and the camera is justly becoming popular in this country.

Mr. T. Asanuma showed a very handsome half-plate camera for hand or stand, by the Rochester Optical Company of the United States. The camera, with three double backs, folds up into a small space, and is extended with a bellows for use. The workmanship is throughout of a very high class.

Mr. Asanuma also showed a hand camera by Mr. T. R. Dallmeyer. Mr. W. K. Burton showed one by Mr. George Hare. They are so similar that they may be described together. The cameras are both very compact, and have all motions necessary, including rising front for both vertical and horizontal pictures. The most novel feature in both is the dark slides, with 6 of which each camera is fitted. These have wooden frames, and corrugated steel *doors* for the actual exposure of the plate. The doors are opened into the cameras by turning a little lever. Thus the nuisance of pulling out a sliding shutter, which is always in the way afterwards, is avoided. The slides occupy much less space than do those of the ordinary kind.

Mr. Burton should a large quantity of work done by his camera, both direct and enlarged. He considered the camera a thoroughly useful and reliable one, and one as good as could be got at less than an extravagant price.

Mr. Asanuma showed a tele-photographic lens, without name, but said to be of "French make," which had engraved on the tube quite an elaborate table to facilitate determing the magnitude of the image, and to assist in focussing—always rather a difficult task with a tele-photographic lens.

In the evening the slides sent by the American Lantern Slide Interchange Society were exhibited to a large audience. The collection is of the greatest excellence, and the exhibition was most thoroughly enjoyed. Dr. Augustus Wood read out a description of each slide as it appeared on the screen; and what with this, and the fact that many of the slides were detained whilst the audience was discussing or asking questions about them, only a little more than half the slides had been shown when, at a late hour, it was announced that the supply of gas had failed, and that the meeting would have to be adjourned.

Due notice of the adjourned meeting will be given to members, and will be printed in the Yokohama press.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the American Lantern Interchange Society, and to Mr. S. Kajima, Junior, who had put the Genrakukwan at the disposal of the Photographic Society of Japan, and had provided the lantern.

It is understood that the Government are desirous of availing themselves of the advice and ability of General Sir Redvers Buller in the approaching reorganisation of the War Office, and that he has therefore been offered a prolongation of his appointment as Adjutant-General for a period of two years. As Sir Evelyn Wood has yet more than three years to serve as Quarter-master-General, this arrangement would seem to imply that the Duke of Connaught does not go to Army Head-quarters just yet. Nevertheless, it is believed at Aldershot that he has put in his last season there. But there is certainly no sign of the removal of his effects from Government House.

YOKOHAMA CRICKET FESTIVAL.

The first day's play in the Yokohama Cricket Festival took place on Monday. The weather was dull and threatening, besides being very cold, when the elevens got down to the ground, and taking it altogether the prospects did not look particularly favourable for a continuous fine day. But later on bits of blue sky began to peep out and in the afternoon a flood of sunshine was pouring on to the ground. The wicket was in capital order, indeed it has seldom been in finer condition. The laying out of the ground has been most tastefully done and reflects great credit on the Committee specially in charge. The Pavilion was draped in the club colours; the flags of the S. C. C., the K. C. C., and the Y. C. & A. C. flew from the flag staffs, while the shields of the three Clubs were hung in front of the Pavilion, immediately over the clock. A most artistic scorers' and press-box was erected to the left of the Pavilion—this latter will be a permanent object of beauty, and utility—and in the opposite corner of the ground stood the Ladies' Refreshment Tent. This was most charmingly set out with flowers and draperies, the Club Colours predominating. On Monday it was in charge of Mrs. J. P. Mollison, wife of the President of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, Mrs. Stuart Eldridge, and the Misses Eldridge. For a first day the attendance was poor, and even the ladies did not turn out in large numbers, but doubtless this will be amended as the week progresses. Play commenced at 10 20 a.m., and Shanghai going out to the wickets first remained in until nearly a quarter to five o'clock. In that time 254 runs were compiled. The play of the visitors was exasperatingly careful all the way through, from a spectators' point of view, but the bowling of the home team left much to be desired, while the fielding was poor. Upon Yokohama going in Kenyon made things lively, and within eighteen minutes 20 had been scord. Then time was called. Rain set in during the night and continued all day on Tuesday, the game was therefore declared a draw to the regret of every one. Mr. Dodds was Umpire for the home side all day, with Messrs Lightfoot, Wilkinson, and Lucas, for Shanghai; Mr. Carew kept the score for Yokohama, Mr. Braess doing the same for Shanghai during the afternoon.

SHANGHAI.—1ST INNINGS.

Mr. A. E. Lanning, b. Denne	46
Mr. R. C. Farbridge, hit wicket, b. Murray...	33
Mr. A. P. Wood, c. Edwards, b. Murray	22
Mr. R. Sale Hill, l.b.w., b. Murray	4
Mr. J. U. Buchanan, b. Murray	8
Mr. W. B. Cheetham, b. Murray	24
Mr. W. Platt, c. White, b. Murray	41
Mr. McGregor, st. Dickinson, b. Lias	22
Mr. W. F. Inglis, run out, b. Libeaud...	4
Mr. E. P. Wickham, not out	43
Mr. H. Adams, st. Dickinson, b. Murray	2
b, 21, l.b. 4, w. 1	26
	354

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	Wide.
Mr. Murray	283	82	22	7	—
Mr. Lias	120	52	11	1	—
Mr. Denne	52	22	7	1	1
Mr. Edwards	60	28	7	—	—
Mr. Walford	70	28	4	—	—
Mr. White	40	29	5	—	—
Mr. Libeaud	35	8	1	—	—
Mr. Morriss	20	6	2	—	—

YOKOHAMA.—1ST INNINGS.

Mr. K. F. Crawford, not out	5
Mr E. O. Kenyon, not out	12
b. 3	3
	20

On Wednesday the sun shore out from an absolutely cloudless sky. There was hardly any wind stirring, and the soaked wicket dried slowly: it was, however, much better than might reasonably have been expected. Still Farbridge, the Shanghai Captain, would have been better advised if he had sent in his opponents to bat, instead of putting his own side in. This error in judgment greatly accounts for the poor showing of Shanghai. Going in at about twenty minutes past ten o'clock, they were all out immediately after tiffin for the paltry score of 65 runs, and many of the team that had stood so well on Monday were out for miserable ducks on Wednesday. Then Kobe went in and played havoc with the Shanghai bowling, completely bereaving it of life, and when stumps were drawn at five o'clock the Southern Settlement had complied 246 and had three wickets still to fall. The Kobe Captain gave a grand exhibition of good cricket, and his 81, not out, is a record of hard hitting mingled with judicious blocking of difficult deliveries. Shanghai is certainly weak in bowling, as a glance at the score will show, nearly all their opponents being caught out, and not bowled clean. Kobe, as usual, made an interesting display of leg hitting—its favourite run-getting device; and in fielding it was smart. Lucas' bowling average is remarkably good, and at one time looked even considerably better, but the glorious uncertainties of the game upset calculations towards the close. Tiffin was served as usual on the ground, the President of the Club, Mr. J. P. Mollison, in the chair: on either side he had the Shanghai and Kobe Captains, Messrs. Farbridge and Duff. In a few cheery words he welcomed the visitors to the Yokohama ground, and then announced his intention of giving a bat for the best individual score during the Festival, a statement that was greeted with loud cheering. Messrs. Farbridge and Pakenham duly returned thanks for the hospitalities and courtesies shown by Yokohama during the Festival. There was a very good attendance during the afternoon, the bright weather inducing a large number of ladies to don smart gowns and patronize the ground. A number of Tokyo visitors were also present.

On Thursday the second day's play in the Kobe-Shanghai match took place in fine, but overcast weather. Once or twice during the day the sun came out, but not for long, and at tiffin time a few drops of rain fell. A slight breeze sprang up soon after and the rain-clouds dispersed, and from then on the sky cleared and clouded alternately. When stumps were drawn the previous evening the game stood—246-7-9, with Duff, not out, 81, and Pakenham, not out, 5. Upon going in on Thursday Duff hit out freely and 279 was soon reached, at which point Duff, having made 103, the Kobe innings were declared closed. This was a tremendous total for the Shanghai team to face, and it was soon seen that the task was entirely beyond them. At tiffin time they had made 58 runs and six wickets had fallen; and the possibility of playing out the afternoon was seen to be impossible. At a quarter to three o'clock their last wicket fell, and only 89 runs had been compiled. A win of an innings and 125 runs is a feather in the cap of the Kobe Captain, and more than sufficiently atones for Kobe's defeat at Shanghai last year. Long and hearty was the cheering of both teams as the men returned to the Pavilion, and the Captains came in for an ovation. The stopping of the game at this early hour of the afternoon was rather unfortunate for the ladies, who had just begun to assemble, while even the Town Band had not started its proposed programme of music. A pick-up game fell through, the Kobe team having to reserve themselves for to-morrow's struggle, when they meet Yokohama in the annual interport encounter.

SHANGHAI, 1ST INNINGS.		SHANGHAI, 2ND INNINGS.	
Mr. A. E. Lanning, c. Pakenham, b. Lucas ...	0	Mr. A. E. Lanning, ct. Wilkinson, b. Edwards ...	8
Mr. R. C. Farbridge, b. Lucas ...	7	Mr. J. U. Buchanan, ct. G. Braess, b. Edwards ...	23
Mr. A. P. Wood, b. Lucas...	0	Mr. W. Platt, b. Edwards ...	0
Mr. J. U. Buchanan, b. G. Braess ...	12	Mr. R. Sale Hill, l.b.w., b. Edwards ...	28
Mr. W. D. Cheetham, c. Scrymgeour, b. Lucas...	0	Mr. R. C. Farbridge, b. Lucas...	0
Mr. W. Platt, b. G. Braess ...	4	Mr. E. P. Wickham, b. G. Braess ...	0
Mr. R. Sale Hill, b. Lucas...	3	Mr. A. P. Wood, ct. Lucas, b. G. Braess ...	0
Mr. E. P. Wickham, l.b.w., b. Lucas ...	12	Mr. W. D. Cheetham, ct. Lightfoot, b. G. Braess ...	22
Mr. R. McGregor, c. Wilkinson, b. Edwards... ...	18	Mr. R. McGregor, ct. Scrymgeour, b. Packenham ...	16
Mr. W. F. Inglis, b. Braess.	0	Mr. W. F. Inglis, ct. Duff, b. Packenham	1
Mr. H. Adams, not out ...	3	Mr. H. Adams, not out ...	0
6, b. l.b. 2...	8	b. 10, l.b. 7 ...	17
	65		89

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.		O.	M.	R.	W.
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards ...	15.3	11	10	1	Mr. Edwards...	24	16	16	4
Mr. H. C. K. Lucas	27	13	27	6	Mr. Lucas ...	22	10	22	1
Mr. G. Braess ...	16	3	20	3	Mr. Tate...	1	0	4	0
					Mr. G. Braess ...	10	1	22	3
					Mr. Pakenham..	3.3	1	7	2

KOBE.

Mr. E. W. Tate, ct. Inglis, b. Farbridge	37
Mr. F. F. Wilkinson, ct. McGregor, b. Sale-Hill	4
Mr. H. C. K. Lucas, ct. Wilkinson, b. Farbridge	43
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, l.b.w., b, Farbridge	4
Mr. C. M. Duff, not out	103
Mr. W. Braess, ct. McGregor, b. Sale-Hill	24
Mr. J. Scrymgeour, ct. Buchanan, b. Farbridge ...	18
Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, ct. Wood, b. Cheetham...	9
Mr. G. C. Pakenham, not out	22
Mr. G. Braess } innings declared closed	
Mr. T. W. Helyer }	
b. 13, l.b. 4, w. 4, n.b. 2	23
	279

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	N.B.	W.
Mr. Sale Hill ...	22	3	87	1	—	2
Mr. Farbridge ...	33	8	97	—	2	4
Mr. Buchanan ...	3	—	14	—	—	—
Mr. Cheetham ...	7	—	37	—	—	1
Mr. Inglis	6	2	12	—	—	—
Mr. Wood	2	—	17	—	—	—

TENNIS MATCH.

To fill up time, a tennis match was arranged between Shanghai and Kobe, and Shanghai avenged its defeat at cricket by winning at tennis by two sets to one. Kobe was represented by Wilkinson and Lucas; Shanghai by Platt and McGregor. Then an adjournment was made to the Ladies' Pavilion where Mrs. Platt, wife of the genial hon. secretary of the S.C.C., handed over the pretty red and white silk Shanghai flag to Kobe's Captain, Mr. C.M. Duff, accompanied by a charming little speech.

ABANDONMENT OF THE YOKOHAMA-SHANGHAI MATCH.

To the great disappointment of everyone concerned, the match between Shanghai and Yokohama has to be declared drawn, the heavy rains of Tuesday making the continuation of the game impossible. The storm came on during the night, and continued with varying force until late in the afternoon. As Wednesday and Thursday are arranged for Kobe Shanghai, and Friday and Saturday to the annual Kobe-Yokohama encounter, the match with Yokohama stands drawn at 254 for the visitors, and 20 runs, no wickets, for Yokohama. This is not the first occasion on which Jupiter Pluvius has taken a hand in an interport match in which Shanghai has been practically interested. Some years ago a Hongkong Eleven visited Shanghai and the rain poured down in torrents for days after their arrival. "Tung Chia" has immortalised the incident in one of his Lays of Far Cathay. He describes how

'Twas in the palmy days of ancient Greece
To'ards sea-bound Corinth, on whose classic plain
That year were being held the sacred games,
From out Minerva's city came a train
Of heroes comely as the sons of Zeus,
Hearts buoyant with expectancy of fame;
With purpose firm, all eager for the fray,
Eleven dauntless souls to Corinth came.

Then the lyrist proceeds to describe the reception Shanghai accorded the visitors on their landing, how

Unto the market place the elders came
With joyful steps and decked in glad array;
* * * *
[And] brought them with great rejoicings on the way
To lodge them with the Chief Men of the State.

A lively pen-picture of the Hongkong team follows, and a hint at the forthcoming festival.

But in Olympus, when the Immortals saw
The pride and glory of these sons of Greece
Was wrath; (it was the twilight of the Gods)
And great Jove swore, ay, by the Golden Fleece,
That not in vain had he been "Pluvius" called,
Swore it, and next rude Boreas he bade
Gather the winds and loose the floods of heaven:
* * * *
And from the classic plain no sound was heard
Of contest, save the croaking bull-frog's din.

How long the rain lasted we do not know, but Shanghai did its best—as Yokohama at the present time is doing—to keep up the spirits of their visitors, for the bard tells us:—

There was banquetting within the halls,
And many amphoræ of goodly wine:
And eke the dance, and dice, and games of chance—
In one and all did the Athenians shine.

But Jupiter grew tired long before the Shanghai cricketers—whose patience we now know by only one day's experience to be more than that of average men—and anon the rain ceased and the sun came out. The rush to the cricket ground is well told, and the classical fragment concludes:

But all the record of those glorious days
Before th' Athenians turned them to their homes,
Is it not graven in the hearts of men,
And told o' nights when dreary winter comes!

During Tuesday afternoon Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Mollison held a reception in honour of the visiting teams and the local Club. The rain has now completely cleared off and the Kobe-Shanghai match opens with fine weather, but a damp wicket.

AMATEUR THEATRICALS AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

The rain had cleared away long before the time for starting for the Public Hall, and theatre-goers had the pleasure of proceeding thither under a star bespangled sky, in which the Milky Way was particularly brilliant. By a re-arrangement of the sittings over a hundred extra seats were provided, and an audience of nearly five hundred consequently settled itself in comfort. The Public Hall, we may mention in passing, has been tastefully decorated and now presents a bright and pleasing appearance with its floral scrolls and Grecian panels. Another exit has also been provided under the staircase leading to the smoking-room, and this apartment has also been improved. Altogether the changes are distinct improvements and meet a really long-felt want. Pots of lovely flowers—principally chrysanthemums—and foliage plants were grouped around the stage and orchestra, and over the proscenium hung the flags of the S.C.C., the K.C.C., and the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, marks of distinction absent from an ordinary theatrical performance. The programmes too bore a neat design of the "three associated flags," appropriately emblazoned in their proper colours.

The performance commenced with a Septette of Beethoven's by Mrs. Bayne, Mrs. Strähler, Miss Orth, and Miss Meier—during the intervals the same ladies kindly contributed the Overture from "Tannhauser;" Reissiger's "Die Felsenmühle;" and Brahms' "Ungarische Tänze." The Comedietta "Cut off with a Shilling" was the curtain-raiser, and the parts were taken as follows:—

Gaythorne ... ...Mr. H. J. Sharp.
Colonel Berners ... ...Mr. W. G. Bayne.
Kitty Gaythorne ... ...Miss Wheeler.

The story opens with *Kitty Gaythorne* and her young husband at a seaside breakfast. *Gaythorne* has married his wife straight from boarding school—eloped with her in fact—and the pair are speculating upon the probable nature of the answer that the young man's uncle—*Colonel Berners*, of the Volunteers—may make to the letter announcing their marriage. Considering that *Colonel Berners* had intended *Gaythorne* to marry into a family of high degree, and that he has threatened to cut his nephew off with a shilling it he refuses, it is hardly surprising that the expected missive, when it does arrive, contains the promised shilling and the literary fulfilment of the threat. A tiff between the newly wedded pair results, and *Gaythorne* "makes himself scarce" for a while. Then fate oppotunely sends *Colonel Berners* into the apartment occupied by *Kitty*—he had effected a masterly retreat from a bull—and the little comedy is worked out prettily between the pair: *Kitty's* beauty, winsome ways, and whole-hearted love for her scrape-grace husband bringing about the desired consummation—the restoration of *Gaythorne* to his uncle's favour, and to the reversionary rights in the avuncular relative's property. Miss Wheeler carried her part out splendidly. She improves vastly in characterization, manner, and delivery every time she appears upon the boards. But fortunately with the fuller knowledge of her craft she loses none of the dainty simplicity and genuine naturalness which charmed everyone on her first appearance. The brightness of the *ingénué* remains with all the finish of completer art. Mr. Sharp had naturally little to do, but he did that little well. Mr. Bayne was very much at home in the part of the irascible old bachelor uncle, and his interpretation of the character received the hearty approval of the audience. On the players being recalled a handsome basket of flowers was handed over the footlights to Miss Wheeler.

It was close on half-past ten o'clock when the scene rose on "Tom Cobb," Gilbert's well-known farcical, comedy in which he so cleverly satirises the Æsthetic craze. The craze has spent itself long years ago, but the shade of the ineffable *Bunthorne* rises fresh and delightfully vivid before the mind's eye, when the lily-cluster and the sunflowers burst upon the view again. It is not *Bunthorne*, however, who figures in this comedy, but his stage-relatives, the *Effinghams*: they are almost as diverting as the archtype himself. But to the play. The characters were cast as follows:—

Colonel O'Fipp ...An Irish Adventurer...Mr. A. C. Read.
Tom Cobb, *Whipple* ...(Young Surgeons)...Mr. H. J. Sharp. / Mr. W. R. H. Carew.
Matilda O'Fipp... ...The *Colonel's* Daughter...Mrs. A. C. Read.
Mr. Effingham ..., *Mrs Effingham* ..., *Bulstrode Effingham*..., *Caroline Effingham* ...Members of a Romantic Family...Mr. H. V. Henson. / Mrs. Carew. / Mr. F. Coghill Jackson. / Miss Wheeler.

It is some years since "Tom Cobb" has been presented, so a brief sketch may be given of its plot. An Irish adventurer, to wit *Colonel O'Fipp*, has a beautiful and accomplished daughter *Matilda*, who is repeatedly asked in marriage by susceptible young men. When the confiding swain has obtained consent from both father and daughter, the former borrows money from the young man, for which he gives bills. After many years of this kind of thing, one man turns up whom *Matilda* really likes, *Tom Cobb*, a surgeon without a practice. Of course he falls in love with her and equally naturally, as she "goes with the bills," *Matilda* and he are engaged, and the father obtains the loan of all *Tom's* money. Then a friend of *Tom's*, a surgeon with a rattling good practice presents himself, and *Matilda* is engaged by her charming papa, without her consent, to this young man—who is named *Whipple* by the way—and of course the inevitable loan is contracted and "bills" are given by the doting parent to the son-in-law-elect. *Tom*, penniless and love-lorn, is in despair and proposes suicide, but the death of an old man in a deserted house bearing the same name suggests to *Whipple* the possibility of *Tom* dying by proxy. *Tom* accepts, but before putting the idea into practise makes a will leaving all his property to *Matilda* and appointing her father executor. Then he vanishes, with £25 from *Whipple*, for three months. Meanwhile, *Whipple* discovers that the deserted old man has died worth a good deal of money, which he had hidden under the hearth stone of his cottage. By virtue of the living *Tom Cobb's* will, *Colonel O'Fipp* collars this money and sets up house-keeping in grand style. Upon *Tom Cobb* coming out of banishment after the three months, all his old friends refuse to recognise him, and the *Colonel* induces him to assume the name of a General officer serving in India, upon guaranteeing him a pension of a pound week. As luck would have it, *Caroline Effingham* has fallen in love with this military man in a most æsthetic fashion. She has never seen him, except in spirit, yet letters of fondest endearment have passed between them; these suddenly stop, and the romantic girl sends them to her solicitors and claims £5,000 for breach of promise. It will therefore be realised how *Tom* complicates matters by taking on the General Officer's patronymic, especially as the *O'Fipps* are great friends of the *Effinghams*. The fun consequently grows fast and furious when all parties get together under one roof; but Gilbert in his inimitable manner manages to straighten out the topsy-turvey business—with many a quip and lively crank, and many a diverting situation—and eventually *Tom Cobb* comes by his own name and fortune again, and wins the fair but transcendant *Caroline*, the *O'Tipps*, father and daughter, being very much "left."

Mr. and Mrs. Read bore away the honours of the piece with their splendidly sustained brogue, and ready conception of the nimble Irish wit. The house was in sympathy with them from the start—as indeed it was with all the other characters in the piece—and the comedy therefore went with a spirited action that makes it the biggest theatrical "hit" ever achieved by our amateurs. Its success was beyond all expectation. Mr. Sharp played in his usual quiet, restrained style, never over-emphasising a situation, nor allowing a point to slip. In the last scene in particular, when surrounded by the romantic *Effinghams*—sunflower and lily bedecked and wearing clothes of æsthetic cut and colouring—he was seen to great advantage. Mr. Carew made a capital *Whipple* in a negative sort of way; Mr. Henson was excellent as *Effingham père*—a part he realised thoroughly—and Mr. F. Coghill Jackson as the more than ineffable son, was very good. As *Mrs. Effingham*, Mrs. Carew was noticiably successful, and Miss Wheeler gained fresh laurels by her interpretation of *Caroline*. The curtain was rung down at a few minutes past twelve o'clock amid hearty applause, and the ladies were afterwards presented with some lovely bouquets and baskets of flowers.

THE CRICKET DINNER.

The Cricket Dinner was held at the Club Hotel in the evening, nearly seventy people sitting down. Mr. J. P. Mollison, President of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, presided. He was supported right and left by the visiting captains, Messrs. Farbridge and Duff; while the vice-chairs were filled by Mr. A. B. Walford, and Mr. E. O. Kenyon, Captain and Honorary Secretary respectively of the local club.

After full justice had been done to the capital bill-of-fare provided, the CHAIRMAN proposed the "Rulers of our respective countries," which happened, curiously enough, to be Queen Victoria, the Queen of the Netherlands, and the Emperor of Japan. He next proposed "Our Visitors," and after alluding to the pleasure which it gave Yokohama to welcome both the Kobe and Shanghai teams on the local ground, referred to the first interport match of the Far East. This was played in 1866, when Shanghai sent a team to Hongkong and was badly beaten. He took part in the Shanghai match of 1867, and therefore when a Shanghai team visited Yokohama he felt that he was among "old comrades" again. Then as now, the houses of Jardine, Matheson, and Gibb, Livingston, did all they could to further sport, for they placed their steamers, the *Glenglye* and the *Dumbartonshire* at the disposal of the visiting eleven. One of the men he remembered playing with in the sixties was Mr. Hearne, the present President of the Shanghai Cricket Club, and he was rejoiced to find that he still took a keen interest in the game.—(Hear, hear.) With regard to Kobe, he knew he was echoing the sentiments of all Yokohama cricketers when he said they were always glad to meet them on the cricket field in a friendly encounter. The annual interport cricket match was an incentive to good cricket.

Mr. FARBRIDGE returned thanks for the unbounded hospitality extended towards his team by Yokohama. The members of the Y.A. and A.C. were imbued with the spirit of true sport, and he hoped that the mingling of the three cricket flags of Shanghai, Kobe, and Yokohama would lead to lasting friendship which would cement into a strong union, aad conduce to the benefit of a game which was the joy and happiness of them all. —(Applause.)

Mr. DUFF responded for Kobe in a hearty speech, and concluded: Happy have we met, happy have we been, and happy may we meet again.—(Loud applause.)

The health of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Club was proposed by Mr. HELLYER and Mr. FARBRIDGE. The former in his speech referred to the first cricket match in which he had played in Japan. It was exactly 25 years ago, and one of the men whom he remembered most distinctly as meeting then was their present host, Mr. Mollison.—(Hear, hear.) Having paid a tribute to the Chairman's good, sportsmanlike qualities, Mr. Hellyer went on to refer to the manner in which Yokohama had received its cricketing guests. To borrow a vulgar phrase for the moment, "Yokohama had done themselves proud." The refinement of their hospitality was beyond all praise. He could remember the hospitality that Kobe used to dispense in the days of long ago, and he for one was not sorry that that those "good old days" had gone by, for in order to survive them one required a cast-iron constitution, and if such hospitality was the order of things now-a-days he was afraid that he would never be able to return home to his wife.—(Loud laughter and applause.)—Therefore, for the hospitality shown by Yokohama, for the consideration extended, and the courtesy everywhere experienced be returned deep-felt thanks. Since the teams had been here not one had spent a dull moment. —(Hear, hear.)

Mr. FARBRIDGE in his reply alluded to a photograph taken of the teams that had engaged in the match which the Chairman had mentioned, that adorned the walls of the Cricket Pavilion at Shanghai and in which Mr. Mollison appeared. He hoped to see a team from Yokohama in Shanghai at no distant date, and he promised them a hearty reception. The team which he (the speaker) had the honour to captain had been called "an eleven of old men and boys:" all he could say was that if the old men did not feel as young as boys again, they never would: the team really felt 10 years younger all round after the reception accorded them in Yokohama.—(Applause.)

Mr. WALFORD responded, and referred in appreciative terms to the good feelings engendered and friendships made by the triangular encounters of the week. He hoped to meet Kobe on its own ground next year. Shanghai was a far cry from Yokohama, still, if a team could be got together—and the difficulties seemed well nigh insuperable—he felt no doubt that it would go across to play.

Mr. KENYON next proposed "Umpires, Scorers, and all who have kindly assisted." He alluded in happy terms to the services rendered by the Umpires, Scorers, and those who had received the visitors and put them up during the week.

Mr. DODDS responded.

Then the event of the evening took place. The CHAIRMAN said they all knew what valuable services Mr. W. D. S. Edwards had contributed to the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, both at batting and bowling. Well, he was about to take unto himself a wife—(loud applause)—and the members of the Club had felt that they should like to mark their sense of his services by making him a small gift.—(Renewed cheering.) He therefore begged Mr. Edwards' acceptance of the enclosed cheque.—(Applause.)

Mr. EDWARDS thanked the donors briefly. He well remembered the first game he had played in Yokohama. It was on the 13th of October, a Saturday, ten years ago, and was against the Fleet and Tokyo. Among the men who took part were Dr. Wheeler, Mr. Mollison, Mr. Duff, and, he thought, Mr. Dodds. He had the photograph of the teams in his room still. He had hoped to meet St. Croix, of Shanghai, at dinner that evening, for they had been at the same school in the old country and had learnt cricket together. He was very pleased to see a Shanghai team visiting Yokohama, and trusted that it was but the first of many similar encounters.—(Hear, hear.) He was sorry he was playing against Yokohama the next day—after receiving such a gift from them—but he was pleased to be playing for Kobe—(hear, hear)—as he did not like to be left out of an interport match, and he hoped he might be able to get into three figures on the morrow.—(Laughter and applause.) He had only missed one interport match since coming to Japan, and that was in the autumn of the year when he was at home. He hoped the match on the following day would be favoured with fine weather, that the game would be well fought out, and that the best team would win.—(Applause.)

Mr. ADAMS proposed "The Ladies," for which toast Mr. White responded. "The Press" was proposed by Mr. Walford, and Mr. Tennant responded. Mr. Flint Killy proposed the health of the popular and energetic honorary Secretary of the Y.C. and A.C., Mr. E. O. Kenyon, and the same was drunk with musical honours; Mr. Kenyon suitably responded. During the evening the following songs were sung: "When the King enjoys his own again," Mr. Walford; "The Harbour Bar," Mr. Sale Hill; "In the North Sea lived a Whale," Mr. Barton; "Life's short: or the verdict was," Mr. Wickham; "Of Mullingar Town," Mr. Platt; "Where are you going to, my pretty maid," Mr. White; "The Jaglet," Mr. Sale Hill; "Nancy Lee," Mr. Wickham; "Old Madrid," Mr. Johnson; and many others.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 16.

The Sultan accepts the reforms [for Armenia] in principle, but declines to promulgate them forthwith, because that course would make it appear that he was yielding to pressure. The outlook generally is regarded as much more hopeful at Constantinople.

(FROM THE "CHINA MAIL.")

Foochow, Saturday, Oct. 5, 4.40 p.m.

The British and United States Consuls have wired to Admiral Buller and Admiral Carpenter for warships to Foochow to demonstrate the intention of the Powers to insist on a more satisfactory conduct of the Enquiry at Kucheng, and for adequate reparation for the Whasang massacres. Two British warships have just arrived.

Mr. E. L. B. Allen, the British Vice-Consul, and Lieut. Evans, of the U.S. Navy, left Kucheng for Foochow to-day. They are probably bringing despatches for their respective Governments.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

Foochow, Oct. 5 (4 p.m.)

The Prefect left Kucheng to-day *en route* for Foochow. He is reported to be tired of the whole business of the Commission.

Vice-Consul Allen, a member of the Commission, left Kucheng this morning and he will proceed to Pekin to represent matters to the British Minister.

Lieut. Evans, of the U.S. Navy, and Dr. Hart, left Kucheng this morning for Foochow.

The work of the Commission appears to be over. The members are tired out with being at continual loggerheads with the Chinese officials.

Hongkong, Oct. 5 (5.53 p.m.).

The *Bangkok Observer* is reliably informed that M. Gerard, the French Minister at Pekin, is negotiating for the Chinese in Siam to be placed under French protection.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

Foochow Oct. 10.

Despite all the remonstrances from the Consuls, the deadlock in the proceedings of the Kucheng Enquiry continues, the Viceroy remaining obdurate and insisting that his orders be carried out. There are now four foreign warships, British and American, here and more are expected. The British Admiral's arrival is hourly looked for, and it is reported that the next naval demonstration will be in these waters.

[Admiral Buller left Shanghai in the *Alacrity* this afternoon for Foochow.]

Pekin, Oct. 12.

It is reported here in well-informed circles that the acting Viceroy of the Liang-kiang provinces, Chang Chih-tung, has been ordered to return to his former post as Viceroy of Liang Hu (Wuchang). And it is believed that the reason for this important step is that Chang has failed to raise the necessary funds to carry on the business of the most expensive viceroyalty in China, and because no other efficient man can be found to take over the Hu provinces on account of the many costly and ruinous enterprises that Chang has started there but never put upon a paying footing. It is believed that Li Hung-chang is not unlikely to get the viceroyalty of the two provinces (despite his being a native of Anhui) in the event of Chang vacating them, as Li's knowledge of foreign affairs would stand him in good stead in Nanking, the importance of which is daily growing in relation to foreign intercourse.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 9.

King Menelek of Abyssinia is matching against the Italians, and the Italian Government is sending re-inforcements.

The Sultan has sent Marshal Fuad to inspect the forts at the Dardanelles, and torpedoes have been sent to the Dardanelles Straits.

Ninety-five corpses of Armenians have been collected for interment, and it is believed that numbers of bodies have been thrown into the sea. The churches are still crammed with Armenians who refuse to leave these places of safety.

Guard-ships belonging to the Powers are moored off Galata for the protection of foreigners.

London, October 10.

An armed body of Turks, including soldiers, has made an attack upon the Armenians at Trebizond, in the course of which many were killed.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Söul, October 11.

Seventeen U.S. Marines have arrived here.

Kobe, October 12.

The Austrian ship *Aurora* arrived from Nagasaki this morning.

Okayama, Oct. 12.

A violent shock of earthquake was felt here at 2.20 p.m. to-day.

Tientsin, October 12.

It is stated that the Japanese Government will obtain 30 million taels from the Chinese Government for the return of the Liaotung peninsula.

Shimonoseki, October 13.

The spot where the *Chow Chow Foo* stranded is two miles from Mitsureshima, and her hull has not yet disappeared; the vessel lies at an acute angle. Most damage was done to her bottom, but no particulars are yet to hand. The passengers were brought to this port the day after the stranding. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's steam launches and cargo boats are employed in lightering the cargo, which consisted of grain to the amount of over 12,000 bags.

Shanghai, October 13.

The Russian, French, and German war-ships have been instructed by their respective Governments to assemble at Chefoo, and the ships are now proceeding to that port.

Nagasaki, Oct. 13.

The *Izumi Kan* came out of dock on the 11th inst.

Söul, Oct. 13.

Gyo In-chu was yesterday appointed Minister of Finance, and Boku Tei-yo, Minister of Home Affairs removed to be President of the Privy Council, Yu Kitsu-ye, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs was being ordered to act as Home Minister. Chin So-Kun, Minister of Finance Li Zai-sei, Vice-Minister of Justice, were dismissed, Kei-ju and Li In-yo being appointed members of the Privy Council.

Mito, Oct. 13.

A destructive fire broke out at Suwa, Otsucho, Taga District, at one o'clock this morning, and 500 dwellings, the Post Office, and a police station were destroyed.

Shimonoseki, Oct. 14.

Half of the cargo of the *Chow Chow Foo* has been removed. She is very badly damaged on the bottom, and has taken in a lot of water. It is said that there is no hope of floating her again.

Söul, Oct. 14.

Prince Wi-hwa has been commanded to visit England, France, Germany, Russia, Austria, and Italy as Ambassador from Korea.

Shanghai, October 14.

Lanchow, in Kansu Province, has been occupied by the Mahommedans, and the Governor-General has committed suicide.

Pekin, October 16.

Li Hung-chang has been appointed a Plenipotentiary to the negotiate return of the Liaotung peninsula. The first meeting of the commissioners of the two countries is fixed for the 17th inst. It is likely that the negotiations will be concluded at two or three meetings. It is said that the Chinese Government will pay 20 or 30 million taels as an indemnity for the return of the peninsula. Li Hung-chang has been visit-

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ing the Russian, French, and German Legations the last two or three days.

Söul, Oct. 18.

Viscount Miura, Japanese Minister; Mr. Sugimura, Secretary; Mr. Kokubu, Interpreter; Mr. Horiguchi, an attaché, and Mr. Hagiwara, Police Inspector, have suddenly been recalled, and Mr. Hioki, Secretary, only remain at the Legation.

Mr. Komura, Chief of the Political Business Bureau in the Foreign Department, who has been dispatched here on business connected with the recent disturbance, has been appointed Japanese Minister Resident in Korea.

Mr. Okamoto, ex-Japanese adviser to the War Department, and a few other Japanese residents have been ordered to leave Korea on suspicion of being associated with the plot of the *Kunrentai* soldiers.

Söul, October 17.

Mr. Komura, Chief of the Political Business Bureau, and Viscount Miura, Japanese Minister, proceeded to the Royal Palace to-day, and interviewed the King. Thirty gendarmes arrived here from Japan to-day. Things are now very quiet.

Shanghai, October 17.

To-day's Pekin telegram states that the first meeting of Mr. Hayashi, the Japanese Commissioner, and Li Hung-chang, the Chinese Commissioner, took place to-day, to discuss the Liaotung question, and the Japanese commissioner explained the terms for its return.

According to rumour the demands made by Japan, after consultation with Russia, France, Germany, are as follow :—

1. That the Chinese Government shall pay an indemnity to the amount of 30 million taels.
2. That neither Russia, France, nor Germany shall permanently occupy the Liaotung peninsula, and that the Chinese Government also shall not cede the peninsula to any other nation.
3. That Talienwan shall be thrown open as a free trade port.
4. That Tatung and Takushan shall be opened to foreign trade.

Pekin, October 17.

The first meeting of the commissioners of both countries, which was to take place to-day, has been postponed until the 20th inst, owing to some unexplained circumstance.

Söul, Oct. 18.

Viscount Miura visited the Cabinet Office to-day.

It is said that a number of persons, who were punished for having attempted to depose the King some time ago, will be restored to public life, and others who were deprived of rank in connection with the affair will be promoted again.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 198.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—K to R sq.	1—B to Q 5
2—R takes B ch.	2—K to Q 4
3—R takes P dis. mate	
	1—P to B 3
2—Q takes B	2—Kt takes Kt
3—Q to B 5, mate	
	if 2—B to Q 5
3—Q to K 4, mate	
	1—B takes B, B takes R, Kt takes Kt, etc.
2—Q to Q R 8 ch.	2—P interposes
3—Q to Q R 2, mate.	

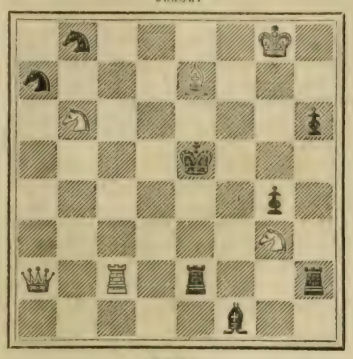
Correct answers received from Digamma, Kr., W.D.C., E. J. King, J.D., Don, W.H.S., and Omega.

Don.—Your Key-move to No. 198 is correct but you should follow out the variations as above. You will miss much of the beauty of many good problems, unless you do so.

E.D.—Your first communication is withdrawn as you request.

Problem No. 200.

By Antonin Kvicala.



White to play and mate in three moves.

We commend our 200th Problem to the attention of our solvers. It is a beautiful position and a fine example of the modern Hungarian school.

The local Chess Clubs are hard at work, practising well, so as to be ready for any matches that may arise. The Tokyo players have already begun their Club Tournament, and at Yokohama the Championship Cup contest begins 1st November. All entries to be lodged with the Secretary before 31st October. One round per month to be played, the best out of three games to decide a heat. These arrangements should cause the Championship for 1896 to be settled not later than 28th February.

Appended is another collection of games from the Hastings Chess Congress:

Game No. 368.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Schlechter.	BLACK. Schiffers.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—Castles	5—Kt takes P
6—P to Q 4	6—P to Q Kt 4
7—B to Kt 3	7—P to Q 4
8—P to Q R 4	8—Q R to Kt sq.
9—R P takes P	9—R P takes P
10—P takes P	10—Kt to K 2
11—P to B 3	11—B to Kt 5
12—B to K 3	12—P to Q B 3
13—B to B 2	13—Kt to K B 4
14—B to R 7	14—R to B sq.
15—P to R 3	15—B takes Kt
16—Q takes B	16—Kt to R 5
17—Q to K 2	17—Kt to Q B 4
18—P to Q Kt 4	18—Kt to K 3
19—P to K B 4	19—P to K Kt 3
20—Kt to Q 2	20—Kt to K B 4
21—B takes Kt	21—P takes B
22—Q to Q 3	22—Kt to Kt 2
23—Kt to B 3	23—B to K 2
24—B to K 3	24—Castles
25—Kt to Q 4	25—Q to Q 2
26—Kt to Kt 3	26—R to R sq.
27—B to B 5	27—K to R sq.
28—B takes B	28—Q takes B
29—Kt to Q 4	29—Q to Q 2
30—Kt to Kt 3	30—R to K Kt sq.
31—Kt to Q 4	31—K R to K sq.
32—K to R 2	32—R to K B sq.
33—Q to Kt 3	33—R to R 5
34—Q to Kt 5	34—K R to R sq.
35—Q R to K sq.	35—R (R 5) to R 3
36—R to B 3	36—Q to Q sq.
37—Kt takes P (B 4)	37—Q takes Q
38—P takes Q	38—Kt takes Kt
39—R takes Kt	39—K to Kt 2
40—R to B 6	40—R to Q B sq.
41—P to K 6	41—P takes P
42—R (K sq.) takes P	42—P to Q 5
43—P takes P	43—R to R 5
44—R to K 7 ch.	44—K to Kt sq.
45—R (B 6) to B 7	45—R takes P
46—R to Kt 7 ch.	46—K to B sq.
47—R (K 7) to B 7 ch.	47—K to K sq.
48—R takes P	48—Resigns.

Game No. 369.

PETROFF DEFENCE.

WHITE. Marco.	BLACK. Schlechter.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt takes P	3—P to Q 3
4—Kt to K B 3	4—Kt takes P
5—Q to K 2	5—Q to K 2
6—P to Q 3	6—Kt to K B 3
7—B to Kt 5	7—Q takes Q ch.
8—B takes Q	8—B to K 2
9—Kt to B 3	9—B to K 3
10—Castles (Q R)	10—Kt to B 3
11—P to Q 4	11—P to Q 4
12—B to K B 4	12—Castles (Q R)
13—Kt to K Kt 5	13—B to Q 3
14—Kt takes B	14—P takes Kt
15—B takes B	15—P takes B
16—B to B 3	16—K R to K sq.
17—K R to K sq.	17—R to K 2
18—R to K 2	18—Q R to K sq.
19—K R to Q 2	19—P to K R 4
20—P to K R 4	20—P to K Kt 3
Drawn.	

Game No. 370.

SCOTCH GAMBIT.

WHITE. Teichmann.	BLACK. Mieses.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—Kt to B 3
5—Kt takes Kt	5—Kt P takes Kt
6—P to K 5	6—Q to K 2
7—Q to K 2	7—Kt to Q 4
8—P to Q B 4	8—B to R 3
9—P to Q Kt 3	9—Castles (Q R)
10—B to Kt 2	10—Kt to Kt 3
11—P to Kt 3	11—R to K sq.
12—B to K R 3	12—P to B 3
13—Castles	13—P takes P
14—P to R 4	14—K to Kt sq.
15—P to R 5	15—Kt to Q 4
16—Q to Q 2	16—Kt to B 3
17—R to K sq.	17—P to K 5
18 Kt to R 3	18—Q to B 2
19—P to Q Kt 4	19—B takes B P
20—B takes Kt	20—P takes B
21—Kt takes B	21—Q takes Kt
22—Q takes P	22—B to R 3
23—Q R to Q sq.	23—P to R 3
24—B to B sq.	24—Q to B 7
25—B to Q 3	25—P takes B
26—R takes R ch.	26—R takes R
27—Q takes R ch.	27—K to Kt 2
28—Q to K sq.	28—B to B 8
29—P to Kt 5	29—R P takes P
30—P to R 6 ch.	30—K to R 2
31—R takes B	31—P to Q 7
32—Q to K 3 ch.	32—P to Q B 4
33—R takes Q	33—P Queens ch.
34—K to Kt 2	34—Q takes R
35—Q to K 6	35—P to B
36—P to Kt 4	36—Q to K 5 ch.
37—Q takes Q	37—P takes Q
38—K to B sq.	38—K takes P
39—P to R 4	39—P to Kt 5
40—K to K 2	40—K to R 4
41—P to Kt 5	41—P to Kt 6
42—K to Q 2	42—K to Kt 5
43—P to R 5	43—K to R 6
44—P to Kt 6	44—P takes P
45—P takes P	45—P to Kt 7
46—P to Kt 7	46—P Queens
47—P Queens	47—Q to Q 6 ch.
48—K to K sq.	48—Q to Kt 8 ch.
49—K to Q 2	49—Q to Q 6 ch.
50—K to K sq.	50—P to B 5
51—Q to Q B 8	51—K to Kt 7
52—Q takes P	52—K to B 7
53—P to B 4	53—P to K 6
54—Resigns.	

Game No. 371.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

WHITE. Bird.	BLACK. Teichmann.
1—P to K B 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 3	2—P to K Kt 3
3—Kt to K B 3	3—B to Kt 2
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P to Q 4	5—P to Q Kt 3
6—Kt to K 5	6—B to Kt 2
7—B to K 2	7—Kt to Q 2
8—B to Kt 5	8—Castles
9—Castles	9—Kt to Kt sq.
10—B to Q 2	10—P to Q R 3
11—B to K 2	11—P to Q B 4
12—B to K sq.	12—Kt to B 3
13—B to R 4	13—P to K 3
14—Kt to Kt 4	14—P takes P
15—P takes P	15—Kt to Kt sq.
16—Q to K sq.	16—Q Kt to Q 2
17—B to Q 3	17—Q to B 2
18—Kt to K 5	18—Q R to Q B sq.
19—R to Q sq.	19—P to Q Kt 4
20—Kt to K 2	20—Kt to K 5
21—Kt to Kt 3	21—P to K B 4
22—P to Q B 3	22—Q Kt takes Kt
23—B P takes Kt	23—B to R 3
24—Kt takes Kt	24—Q P takes Kt
25—B to B 2	25—B to Q 4
26—B to Kt 3	26—P to Kt 4
27—B to B 2	27—Q to K B 2

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28—Q to K 2	28—Q to Kt 3
29—P to K R 3	29—K to Q B 2
30—P to K Kt 3	30—P to K B 5
31—Q to Kt 4	31—P to K 6
32—B to K sq.	32—R to Q B 5
33—K to R 2	33—Q to K 5
34—R to K Kt sq.	34—P to B 6
35—Q takes Q	35—B takes Q
36—B takes R	36—P takes B
37—B to B 2	37—P takes B
38—K R to B sq.	38—P to Kt 5
39—R takes P	39—B to K 6
40—R to K sq.	40—B takes R
41—R takes B	41—B takes P ch.
42—K to Kt sq.	42—B to R 7 ch.
43—K to B sq.	43—P to Kt 6
44—R to Kt 4 ch.	44—K to R sq.
45—P to Q Kt 3	45—P to Kt 7 ch.
46—K to B 2	46—B to Kt 8 ch.
47—Resigns.	

GAME No. 372.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Janowski.	BLACK. Marco.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—Kt to B 3	5—P to Q 3
6—Castles	6—P to K Kt 3
7—P to Q 4	7—P to Q Kt 4
8—P takes P	8—P takes P
9—Q takes Q ch.	9—Kt takes Q
10—B to Kt 3	10—B to Q 3
11—B to R 6	11—Kt to Kt 5
12—B to Q 2	12—Castles
13—P to K R 3	13—Kt to K B 3
14—B to Kt 5	14—K to Kt 2
15—K R to Q sq.	15—Kt to K 3
16—B takes Kt ch.	16—K takes B
17—Kt to Q 5 ch.	17—K to Kt 2
18—Kt to Kt 6	18—R to Q Kt sq.
19—Kt takes B	19—R (Kt sq.) takes B
20—B takes Kt	20—P takes B
21—P to Q R 4	21—P to K R 3
22—P takes P	22—P takes P
23—R to R 7	23—K to B 3
24—K R to Q R sq.	24—P to Kt 4
25—R to Kt 7	25—R to Q Kt sq.
26—R takes R	26—R takes R
27—K to B sq.	27—P to R 4
28—P to K Kt 4	28—P takes P
29—P takes P	29—K to Kt 3
30—K to Kt 2	30—R to K B sq.
31—Kt to K sq.	31—R to B 5
32—P to B 3	32—R to B sq.
33—Kt to Q 3	33—P to B 4
34—R to R 6	34—R to Q sq.
35—P to Kt 3	35—K to B 3
36—R to B 6	36—B to K 2
37—K to B sq.	37—R to Q 3
38—R to B 7	38—R to Q 5
39—Kt takes B P	39—B takes Kt
40—R takes B	40—R to Q 8 ch.
41—K to K 2	41—R to Q B 8
42—P to B 3	42—R to B 7 ch.
43—K to Q 3	43—R to B 7
44—K to K 3	44—R to B 7
45—P to Kt 4	45—R to B 8
46—K to Q 2	46—R to B 8
47—R takes Kt P	47—R takes P
48—R to B 5	48—R to B 5
49—P to Kt 5	49—R takes Kt P
50—P to Kt 6	50—R to Kt 7 ch.
51—K to B sq.	51—R to Kt 8 ch.
52—K to Kt 2	52—R to Kt 7 ch.
53—K to R sq.	53—R to Kt 8 ch.
54—K to Kt 2	54—R to Kt 7 ch.
55—K to Kt 3	55—R to Kt 8
56—K to B 4	56—R to Kt 8
57—R to Kt 5	57—Resigns.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 20th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 29th.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Oct. 26th.‡
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 28th §
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 24th.‖
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Oct. 30th
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 7th.

* *Ravenna* left Nagasaki on October 16th. † *City of Peking* left San Francisco on October 12th. ‡ *Salazie* (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 16th. § *Empress of India* left Vancouver on October 14th. ‖ *Coptic* left Hongkong on October 17th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 22nd.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Thursday, Oct. 24th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 27th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 28th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Wed'day, Oct. 30th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 1st.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 2nd.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wednesday, Nov. 6th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Nov. 8th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Priam, British steamer, 1,802, Jackson, 12th October,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Arroyo, British steamer, 1,970, R. Samuel, 12th October,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Oswald, British steamer, 1,781, Altreete, 12th October,—Middlesboro', General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 13th October,—Yokosuka, Light.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 13th October,—San Francisco 24th September, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Menelaus, British steamer, 2,466, Fowler, 13th October,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ping Suey, British steamer, 1,988, Davis, 15th October,—Hakodate, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Isis, British steamer, 1,588, Walker, 15th October,—Middlesboro', General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Lion (4), French gunboat, Captain Papaix, 16th October,—Kobe.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Duncan, 16th October,—Hongkong, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 17th October,—Hongkong 8th October, viâ Nagasaki 14th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, Murray, 17th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 18th October,—San Francisco 1st October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, McGilvray, 18th October,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 12th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Amaranth, British steamer, 1,735, Cliff, 13th October,—Australia, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathclyde, British steamer, 2,151, Dulling, 13th October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Kriemhild, German steamer, 1,638, Foerk, 14th October,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. T. Smith, 15th October,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 16th October,—Honkgong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Arroyo, British steamer, 1,970, R. Samuel, 17th October,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Priam, British steamer, 1,802, Jackson, 17th October,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, Murray, 18th October,—Portland, Oregon, viâ Victoria, B.C., General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Germania, British steamer, 1,896, Miller, 18th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 19th October,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 3,370, Delacroix, 19th October,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, Jno. Phentie, 19th October,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco :—Miss Lillian Waters, Commander Stockton, U.S.N., Mr. N. B. Wyse, Miss M. Clark, Miss H. Martin, and Mr. H. L. Carnegie in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki :—General and Mrs. Subolitch, General and Mrs. Tukee, Lieut. Dachu, Messrs. Chas. Kregei, B. Kane, R. Hazleton, Geo. M. Booker, John A. Blattau, R. L. Richardson, and James Stanes in cabin. For San Francisco :—Messrs. Fred. Richter and A. Seiffert in cabin.

Per British steamer *Asloun*, from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. and Mrs. Schimhorn in cabin; 11 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco :—Miss Elizabeth Babbitt, Rev. Leigh Layman, Mrs. Layman, Rev. J. P. Richardson, Mrs. Richardson, Mr. D. Soutar, Mr. F. John Hornimann, Mr. Ho Tung and family, Mr. Geo. B. Swayne, Miss Louise Imhoff and servant, Mrs. Jas. Jones and infant, Mr. Chas Rayner, Miss Emma Silver, Mr. C. Harrison, Mrs. C. Harrison, Mrs. S. B. Morgan, Mr. C. K. Harrington, Miss Jessie P. Rhind, Mr. Wilfred Webb, Mrs. L. L. Smith, Mr. B. F. Brown, Mrs. Brown, Mrs. A. C. Williams, Mr. Hobarth W. Williams, Mr. W. T. Hamilton, Mrs. Hamilton, Miss L. E. Hamilton, Mr. L. H. Chick, Mrs. Chick, Mr. Oscar Rowe, Rev. Geo. E. Partch, and Mrs. Geo. E. Partch in cabin. For Hongkong :—Mr. R. Billington, Mr. D. N. Longden, Mr. Ralph Slater, Mr. Geo. Eckley, and Mrs. Geo. Eckley in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Madame E. de Ojeda, Messrs. Albert Russell, Morphy, W. Cabeldu, F. Popert, F. Hubbard, R. N. St. John, Mr. and Mrs. Vail and 3 children, Messrs. Wong Ah Sing, Woo Yew Sang, R. T. Byland, L. T. Corke, H. C. Owen, D. M. Clark, and Eh. Zalinspi in cabin; one Chinese and one Manila man in steerage.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco :—Dr. Maurice Artus, Lieut.-Colonel E. Balfe, Lieut. D. Daehn, Mr. S. Keith, Mr. N. Kunagaya, Mr. Albert Laserie, Mr. C. P. Low, Mr. S. Nishikata, Mr. K. J. Okamoto, Mr. Edward D. Oppenheimer, Mrs. R. Pollak, Lieut. Andre de Pokrowsky, Mr. C. O. W. von Spath, and Mr. E. C. Wright in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Kobe :—Mr. G. Lowther, Miss Lowther, Mr. A. H. Lay, Misses Lay (2), Mr. Ch. A. W. Pownall, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Payne, child and amah, Mr. Reid, Mr. C. N. Crosse, Mrs. and Miss Young, Mr. J. W. Geen, Mr. Sibiodon, Mrs. Renson, child and amah, Baron D'Anethan, Mr. Larrieu, Mr. Geo. B. Swayne, Mr. E. Krause and servant, Mrs. Eldridge and servant, Captain de Labry, Mr. Viengné, and Mr. W. B. Meikle and servant in cabin; Mr. Gheyssees, Mrs. Brackhill, Miss J. Jord, and Mr. C. Young Foo in second class. For Nagasaki :—Mr. Ch. Raynes and Mr. James W. Baird in cabin. For Shanghai :—Mrs. D. Reid and amah, Mrs. A. Harris, Mr. Harris, Mrs. and Miss Clarke and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Adler, Dr. Salenca, Mr. and Mrs. Galles, 4 children, and amah, Mr. S. J. Kilby, Mr. N. E. Cornish, Baron Gunsburg and boy, Mr. R. J. Thomson, Mr. J. W. Zermett, Mr. and Mrs. Faga, Mrs. J. W. Lee and child, Mr. W. T. Inglis, Mr. R. Sale Hill, Mr. R. C. Fairbridge, Mr. R. MacGregor, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Maitland, Mr. G. Lanning, Mr. Matignon, Mr. E. Sharples, Mr. J. W. Buchanan, Mr. J. Keddie, Mr. W. B. Cheetham, Mr. and Mrs. W. Platt, Mrs. MacIvor, and Mr. and Mrs. Wood and amah in cabin; Mr. J. Williamson, Mr. Galle and governess, Mr. Robert Crawford, Mrs. B. Monttegia, Mrs. John, 3 children, and amah, Mr. Chingly, Mr. Hoon Wan Hoi, Mr. Chang A-tung and one Chinese in second class, and Mr. Jayasuriga in steerage. For Hongkong :—Mr. and Mrs. Chaffangon, child and amah, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Heemskeik, Lieut. Ch. W. Knox, Mr. Coytier, Mr. J. W. See, and Mr. M. Katzenotein in cabin. For Singapore :—Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Forster in second class; Mr. Geo. A. Derby and Mr. Fred. Cochrane in third class. For Colombo :—Mr. J. L. Villiers in cabin. For Alexandria :—General Koukel and Mrs. Koukel in cabin. For Marseilles :—Miss Iwasaki, Miss Glein, and Mrs. Kato in cabin; Mr. Tamao Shirai in second class; Mr. Fujisawa Genzo and Mr. T. Inouye in third class.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Silk, 502 bales; Waste Silk, 240 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco :—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	CANADA.	ST. PAUL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	2,337	1,377	1,242	—	—	—	4,956
Hyogo	475	—	—	—	—	—	475
Yokohama.	1,399	—	—	—	—	—	1,399
Hongkong.	1,211	—	—	—	—	—	1,211
Total ...	5,422	1,377	1,242	—	—	—	8,041

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	10	10	—	20
Hongkong	—	321	—	321
Yokohama	—	892	—	892
Total	10	1,223	—	1,233

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai viâ ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 367 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 93 bales. Treasure for Shanghai, $4,000.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Less doing, the recent rise in Exchange checking buyers. Now that Silver is lower again, there will probably soon be more trade, for the position of affairs is good and the money received for Silk during the last few months will apparently soon flow out again for the purpose of buying textile fabrics. Although markets generally are quiet, prices are strong and the outlook good.

COTTON PIECE GOODS

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2 75 to 3 35
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 41 inches,	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,	2 00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.50 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,	0 75 to 0.90
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1 75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 90 to 3.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 25 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 45 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0 60 to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36 00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39 00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43 00 to 45.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market continued firm. Fair enquiry and a moderate amount of trade at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6 00
Tin Plates, per box	5.75 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1 70

KEROSENE.

No change. Moderate daily business for actual requirements only.

American	$1.95 to 2.00
Russian	1.95 to 1.97½
Langkat	1.90

SUGAR.

Browns—Small arrivals and fair sales at practically unchanged prices. Nothing done in Formosa kinds. White Refined—Quiet and little doing: but market steady.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	$4.40 to 4.50
Brown Manila	4.40 to 4.75
Brown Daitong (New)	3.60 to 3.65
Brown Canton	3.60 to 3 90
White Java and Penang	6.40 to 6.50
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Quiet, small demand and stock increasing. Stock over 15,000 piculs and growing larger with good daily arrivals. Quotations nominally unchanged, but must come down.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom $970 to 980
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	970 to 980
Filatures—No. 1, 10/12 deniers	Nom. 940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom, 940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	Nom. 900 to 910
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	Nom. 870 to 880
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	750 to 770
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	720 to 730
Kakedas—Extra	850
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

A small daily business at unchanged rates. Holders cramp the trade by their pretensions, but will have to be current if they want to move the stock to any good tune. Supplies on the Yokohama market are now 13,000 piculs and increasing daily.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Less doing and Market quiet. Principal business has been in Medium and Fine, Common grades scarce. Stock 5,000 piculs.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been fairly steady, but declined at the end of the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2¼
— — Bills on demand	2/2⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/2½
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2¾
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅞
On Paris—Bank sight	2.77
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.82
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅜% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	193½
— Private 30 days' sight	196
On America—Bank Bills on demand	53½
— Private 30 days' sight	54¼
— — 4 months' sight	55
On Germany—Bank sight	2.22
— Private 4 months' sight	2.28
Bar Silver (London)	30⅞

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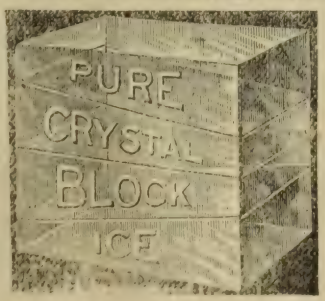

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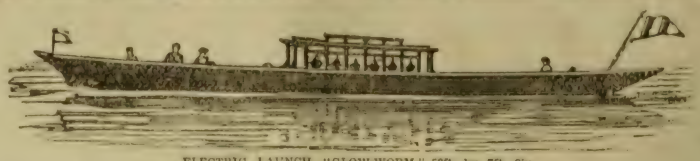

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"MAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 26TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At No. 255, Bluff, Yokohama, at 11 a.m. on the 25th October, the wife of SAMUEL DEBRABANT, of a Daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 24th of October, at the Union Church, Kobe, by the Rev. Sidney Swann, assisted by the Rev. C. G. Gardner, MARY HARDING second daughter of Thomas Fenn, of Downton, Ludlow, England, to WILLIAM D STUART EDWARDS, second son of the late Edward Edwards, of Boreton, Salop, England.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. TOTSUKA SENTARO has been elected President of the Yokohama Commercial Bank.

WOR. BRO. CHARLES DAVIS MOSS has been reinstalled W.M. of the Otentosama Lodge, Yokohama.

MR. KO EI-KI, ex-Korean Minister to Japan, left Tokyo on the 19th inst. for home. Pending the arrival of his successor, the business of the Legation will be discharged by Mr. Li Taishoku, a Councillor, as *Chargé d'Affaires*.

THE presence of H.I.M. the Emperor is hoped for on the second day of the Autumn Race Meeting.

THE Kobu Railway Co. proposes to declare a dividend of 11 per cent. per annum for the past half-year.

Two thousand five hundred artisans will shortly be engaged in Tokyo for Formosa to construct barracks there.

A LONG shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama on Wednesday evening and a smart shock the following mornieg.

MR. SAITO KAN, the newly appointed Japanese Consul at Tacoma, left the capital for his mission on the 22nd instant.

COUNT ITAGAKI, the Radical Leader, who has been visiting Ominato, in Awomori Prefecture, returned to Tokyo on the 18th inst.

H.I.H. THE PRINCE IMPERIAL is now in pretty good health. He has increased in weight, and may again personally receive visitors.

COUNT INOUYE has been ordered to Korea to condole with the King, on behalf of the Emperor of Japan, upon the recent *émeute*.

A *banto* employed by Messrs. Grösser & Co., Yokohama, has been arrested by the police for embezzling over $2,000 from his employers.

A MARINE Court of Inquiry sitting at Yokohama has severely reprimanded Captain Walker for the stranding of the O. & O. steamer *Belgic*.

THE annual interport cricket match between Yokohama and Kobe was played last week and resulted in a draw, but greatly in favour of Kobe.

A POLICE GUARD has been placed near the Greek Church at Surugadai, Kanda, Tokyo, for the past few days, for what reason is not known.

IT is stated that the quantity of sugar procured in Formosa this year will be only from 50 to 70 per cent. of the average yearly out-turn in consequence of the war.

THE eleven hundredth anniversary of the founding of Kyoto as a capital city was celebrated this week. H.I.M. the Emperor was represented by H.I.H. Prince Yamashina.

THE *Wm. H. Macy*, which was recently in collision with the British steamer *Isis*, in the Uraga Channel, has been towed up to Yokohama by the *Musashi Kan*.

DURING the absence of the Austro-Hungarian Consul from Yokohama, the business of the Austro-Hungarian Consulate will be transacted by the British Consul.

THE *Yomiuri Shimbun*, of Tokyo; *Sakigake Shimpo*, of Akita Prefecture; and *Tottori Shimpo*, of Tottori Prefecture, have been suspended for the usual offence.

A DESTITUTE tramp found travelling in the interior of Japan without a passport, has been sentenced to 20 days' imprisonment by the U.S. Consul-General at Kanagawa.

H.I.H. Prince Kwacho, who has been pursuing his studies in a military school at Kiel, Germany, since 1889, will return home by the *Empress of India*, which is expected to arrive at Yokohama on the 28th inst.

NINE Australian horses have been drawn for by members of the Nippon Race Club during the week. An Off-day will be arranged for these animals, they having arrived too late to be trained for in the legitimate programme of the Autumn meeting.

THE weather has been showery all the week, with a decided drop in the temperature.

THE redoubtable Black Flag leader has fled from Formosa in a junk, and the Japanese forces are now in full possession of the island.

THEIR IMPERIAL MAJESTIES THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS have granted *yen* 500 toward the relief of the sufferers by the recent conflagration at Otsu, Taga District, Ibaraki Prefecture.

REUTER telegraphs:—Prince Lobanoff, at an interview with the German Emperor, said that Russia cannot tolerate the Japanese establishing themselves in Korea, where their presence would be a continual menace to both Russia and China. The French have occupied Antananarivo after a brilliant action, and peace has been concluded. France is creating a stringent Protectorate and is garrisoning the capital with French troops. The Queen of Madagascar is to be maintained by France, but the Premier is to be deported. The American Government has notified to Spain the necessity of promptly crushing the rebellion in Cuba. Seven hundred persons have been killed and wounded in Constantinople since the first outbreak of rioting. There have been disorders at different points in the neighbourhood of Ismid, a seaport of Asia Minor, but the number of persons killed is unknown. The Porte is fortifying Besika Bay. Cholera is raging in Volhynia, a province in the south-west of Russia. There have been four thousand cases within a fortnight, and seventeen hundred deaths. The Russian Press is bitterly hostile to England on the Armenian Question. A British ultimatum to the King of Coomassie demands a British Protectorate with the appointment of a Resident. If this is rejected, it is expected that an expedition will be despatched.

THE Import trade is somewhat quieter, and there is less doing in Yarns, while prices, if nominally unchanged, are easier. Shirtings are neglected, but Fancy Cottons meet some enquiry, especially Turkey Reds. There is not much actually passing in Woollens, but prices are fully maintained in the business done. The Metal market is strong, due to an advance in values at home, but actual transactions here are not on an extensive scale. Deliveries of Kerosene continue good, and the market is in a healthy condition though values are a shade easier. Sugar has been in fair demand, and prices for Browns show a turn in favour of sellers. There is no Formosa Sugar now on offer, the market having been cleared at $4.50. Of White sorts a moderate quantity has been moved at full rates, and the market remains firm. The principal Export has attracted more attention through lower quotations, but notwithstanding several transactions in Silk, the stock is accumulating fast, and it is plain that if sales are to keep pace with arrivals lower prices will have to be accepted. Not much has been done in Waste Silk, but there is a feeling among holders that they would like to be moving some of the rapidly increasing stock now on offer, but prices remain unchanged, and so long as they do there will not be much business. The Tea market is quiet, though some parcels of Common to Good Medium have been taken at about late rates. Common sorts are now scarce, and the present stock of all grades is only about 5,000 piculs, but settlements total 8,000 more this season than last at same date. Exchange has fluctuated, though rates are on the whole higher than those of last week's age. The latest movement, however, is a slight decline.

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THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Korean *émeute* and the questions that have grown out of it continue to engross the attention of the metropolitan journalists. Organs of all parties are unanimous in denouncing the sanguinary and treasonable *coup d'état*, and demanding the exemplary punishment of all Japanese criminally concerned in the affair. One newspaper, however, endeavours persistently to consider the *coup d'état* itself independently of the murder of the Queen and other sanguinary issues. It is the *Nippon*. So far as these acts of brutality are concerned, our contemporary condemns them in the strongest language. But it contends that to extend condemnation to the general political change of which these were but accidental incidents, would be an error. The object of the *coup d'état* was not to murder the Queen, but to place on a sounder basis the work of reformation which had been thwarted and endangered by the selfish and arbitrary conduct of the Min faction. Such having been the primary purpose of the Tai Wŏn-kun and his followers, the Japanese Minister did not act in opposition to the general policy of his Government when, in compliance with the ex-Regent's request, he consented to furnish to the latter an escort of Japanese troops for the purpose of entering the Palace. In justification of the high-handed proceeding planned and carried out by the Tai Wŏn-kun, our contemporary alludes to the dangerous position in which the task of reform and its advocates were placed by the restoration of power to the Queen and her faction. The Min politicians being positively averse to reform, it was evidently Viscount Miura's duty to render countenance and support to their opponents. Our contemporary in this manner endeavours to defend the procedure of the ex-Japanese Minister, the only part of his conduct that it recognises as reprehensible being his failure to adopt precautions against the accidental bloodshed by which an otherwise perfectly laudable political change was disfigured. Such in brief, is the gist of the *Nippon's* argument. Its zeal on behalf of its special friend and patrons seems to have perverted its judgment. Its writings are valued at their true worth, and little notice is taken of them by the other metropolitan papers, which, as already stated, unanimously condemn the whole incident in the most unsparing terms, and applaud the frank and manly course pursued by the Government.

* * *

There is a tendency in certain quarters to hold that the absence of a fixed policy on the part of the Government is primarily responsible for the occurrence now engaging so much attention. This phase of the question is dealt with by the *Nichi Nichi* in an article worthy of reference. For some years past it has been the fashion among certain journalists in Japan to advocate the adoption of a fixed permanent foreign policy, and to blame the Government for tardiness in following their counsel. The *Nichi Nichi* has more than once pointed out the absurdity of these publicists' contention. To declare that a country should pursue a fixed and permanent foreign policy, is to show entire ignorance of diplomatic affairs. It is true that each country, owing to its historical traditions and geographical position sees outlined before it, more or less distinctly, a path that its interests as well as its circumstances would ordinarily impel it to follow. There is no more occasion for the persons charged with the direction of the administration to point out that path to the people than there is necessity for them to pursue it in defiance of the policy indicated by the needs of the moment. England, for example, aims generally at maintaining her commercial ascendency and maritime supremacy, and endeavours to avoid all entanglements or complications with other Powers. Russia's dogged persistence in a southward march in search of an ice-free port; Germany's anxiety to preserve peace in Europe so that she may devote herself to the work of colonization and commercial extension; France's ambition to keep her army equal to that of Germany and to increase her Navy to the point of equality with that of England—if these may be cited as instances of a national policy, Japan, too, is not without such a policy. To maintain equality on land with a certain neighbour on her north and on sea with a certain neighbour on her south, has ever been the basis of her policy in matters of national defence. The encouragement of navigation, commerce, and colonization, and the creation of a Navy competent to satisfy the ever-increasing demand for protective duties; the preservation of tranquillity in order to attain these objects—such may be called the salient features of Japan's national policy, and such, indeed, is the policy indicated by the Emperor in the Rescripts of April 21st and May 13th of the present year. Thus a general national policy has long been established. For the rest, there is no occasion to decide upon a fixed foreign policy. It is impossible to do so; for a country's diplomacy must be constantly adjusted to ever-changing circumstances abroad and at home. Another circumstance, too, must be borne in mind. "The national aims above set forth require a long time to realize, and pending their realization, only one course offers for Japan, namely, to maintain peace as far as possible by avoiding all needless complications. That principle should govern her attitude not only toward China and Korea but also toward all the countries of the West. By that principle she was actuated when she concluded peace with China, when she renounced the possession of Liaotung, and when she agreed to a written understanding with some European Powers in respect of the possession of Formosa and the southern boundary of the Empire. Under those circumstances, she must maintain the *status quo* in Korea by continuing the policy of advocating and promoting reforms,—a policy that ought not to be abandoned so long as Korea does not compel the Japanese to interfere with her domestic affairs by conducting herself in an abandoned, lawless, and ungrateful manner toward her benefactor." The *Nichi Nichi* then proceeds to criticise some of the apologies that have been advanced in defence of Viscount Miura and others implicated in the *coup d'état*. They may have thought it desirable to have in power men understood to be well affected toward Japan; but they forgot how little there is to choose in the matter of fidelity and consistency between the various contending factions in Söul, and they did not reflect that Japan's real interest is to keep herself aloof from all faction struggles. Some people allege that the Queen meditated a sweeping revolution in secret concert with the Russian Minister. If so, the matter was not to be settled in Söul, but either in Tokyo or St. Petersburg.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo*, declaring that Japan's object in Korea has always been and will always be to preserve the peninsular Kingdom's independence and promote its civilization, points out in the most emphatic terms the injustice of confounding the actions of a few misguided Japanese in the peninsula with the aims and motives of their nation as a whole. Our contemporary compares the conduct of Viscount Miura and his coadjutors with that of the Russian officers, who, thirty years ago, unlawfully landed in Tsushima and made as though they were bent upon seizing the island in the name of their country. Their actions were disowned by the Government in St. Petersburg, and they were recalled. Such irregularities on the part of subordinate functionaries sometimes occur in the most civilized States, and there is no reason to expect that Japan alone should be free from errors of the kind. The purity of her motives toward Korea may be seen from the fact that she was not unwilling to share the task of propping up the peninsular kingdom in combination with a third party, namely, China. What she desires is that Korea's territorial integrity shall be secured against all danger of violation, to the end that the peace of the East may not be endangered.

* * *

As to political responsibility for the late incident in Korea, the press is remarkably unanimous in arguing that the Cabinet, or at least the Premier and the Foreign Minister, should tender their resignations, not because they were in any way connected with the disgraceful *coup d'état*, but because they recommended to His Majesty the appointment of an official who has brought such a stain upon the country's fair fame. With regard to this question, metropolitan journalists are not without interested motives. Some of them go so far as to publish predictions not at all likely to be fulfilled. As to the rumour about Count Okuma's joining the Ministry, a somewhat guarded denial of it by the Progressionist papers has not at all tended to check the circulation of the story.

* * *

The *Yomiuri Shimbun's* article on the report of Count Okuma's return to power may be noticed briefly. Reading between its lines, one is led to think that our contemporary has no small apprehension of its leader's consenting to take a seat in the Cabinet. In its opinion, the present is not a fit time for him to assume office. The programme of combining in office all the leading statesmen of the elder generation, as advocated by the *Jiji* with so much zeal, is pronounced by the *Yomiuri* to be a mere dream. The experiment was once tried under the premiership of Count Kuroda, with results best known to Count Okuma. The latter may think that, if the terms proposed by him be accepted by those in power, there can be no reason why he should not assume office. But he is reminded of the fact that the so-called conditions exacted by him on a former occasion were of little use in practice. Before he had been long in office, he was forced to forget such matters. A compact necessarily entered into orally and in secret, is apt to lose force in the presence of personal considerations not taken full account of by the contracting parties at the outset. Whatever promises be given, no weight should be attached to them if circumstances are unfavourable to their fulfilment, and instances are unfavourable at present in the *Yomiuri's* opinion. Hence the Progressionist leader is advised not to put any confidence in fair words. Our contemporary concludes by hoping that the Count will not be over anxious to employ his ability in the service of his country despite adverse conditions.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* raises its voice against the tendency among teachers of the Middle Schools and primary schools to suppress and misdirect the religious yearnings of their young pupils. The morality taught in these institutions is based on the nationalized system of Confucian philosophy from which all the religious features of the cult, as it existed in China, have been carefully eliminated. Our contemporary does not say that the teaching of this system of morality is in itself bad: what it complains of is that teachers, mistaking their duties, very often take it upon themselves to prejudice their pupils against religious creeds of all kinds. When any of the pupils are known to have attended a Christian service or worshipped in a Buddhist temple, he or she is publicly rebuked in the presence of the class, and the rebuke is enforced by a discourse on the absurdity of religious beliefs. All teachers do not behave in this manner, but it is bad enough that some do so. The *Kokumin* plainly tells these officious educators that, since they are not required to teach religion, they should at least abstain from interfering with the religious progress of the young souls under their care. To pervert school rooms into places for the propagation of any particular religion is not commendable, but it is unquestionably important that school teachers should encourage the religious propensities of their pupils. Our contemporary of course takes it for granted that no human society can exist without religion of some sort. To attempt to build up a respectable edifice of society completely on a secular foundation, would be an impossible task, says the *Kokumin*. The present unsatisfactory condition of Buddhism and Christianity in Japan, is no doubt, in a large measure due to faults on

the part of the priests and propagandists themselves. But the principal cause is to be found in national indifference to religion; indifference resulting, to a great extent, from the dry and anti-religious system of ethics taught in the schools.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

THE following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-second ordinary meeting to be held on the 30th inst.:—The directors have now to submit to the shareholders a report of the business of the Society for the year 1894, and for the six months ending the 30th June, 1895. 1894.—The net premium collected for the year, after deducting returns and reinsurances, amounts to $1,585,288.06. after providing for a bonus of 25% on contributions paid in April last, there remains at credit of working account a balance of $439,177.18. From this sum the directors recommend the paymeat of a second bonus of 6% on contributions, dividend of $12 per share, equivalent to 48% on the paid up capital of $25 per share, and an addition to the reserve fund of $80,000 raising the reserve to $1,050,000. The balance remaining of $161,025.43 they propose to carry forward to meet liabilities and claims still outstanding, and thus close the account for the year 1894. With reference to the division of profits the new articles of association apply only from the 1st January, 1895, and although the old articles were cancelled by special resolution on the 16th May, 1894, the directors have thought it right to follow the provisions of the old articles and to allot the usual two thirds of the total profits as bonus to contributing shareholders. 1895.—The position of the Society for the present year, as far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:—Balance of working account to the 30th June, $683,236.15, add estimate of premium to 30th September, $410,000.00, total, $1,093,236.15; less estimate of losses to pay, $336,000; balance, $747,036.15. The remuneration to directors remains as originally fixed in the articles of association, namely, $7,000 per annum, and while not wishing to bring forward any motion on this subject, the board feels that the figure is more suited to the rates of exchange and the society's business of twenty years ago than to those of the present time, and has therefore shown the item separately in the accounts for the consideration of the shareholders. Since the last general meeting the directors have had to deplore the death on the 12th December last of Mr. H. Hoppius, who had for many years served on the board. The Hon. J. J. Keswick and Mr. C. J. Holliday resigned their seats on their departure the from the colony. Mr. R. L. Richardson, of the firm of Messrs. Bradley & Co., was invited to join the board. In accordance with clause 86 of the articles of association, Messrs. D. R. Sassoon and G. B. Dodwell retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

A SHREWD SPECULATOR.

THE recent extraordinary rise in prices is said to have been shrewdly utilized by a keen speculator. Foreseeing that the appreciation would be felt much more quickly in the centres of trade than in the provincial towns, and that its effect would be necessarily sensible in the case of newly manufactured goods, whereas the prices of old stock in retail dealers' possession would remain for a time unchanged, this gentleman made a hasty tour of the provinces, and bought up great quantities of piece-goods at the prices with which their labels had been marked since last year. Carrying them to Tokyo and Osaka, he easily and quickly realized a profit of from twenty to thirty per cent.

JAPANESE SHIPS' NAMES.

THE Captain of the N. Y. K. steamer *Miike Maru* has written to the *Times of India* to put people straight as regards the name of his ship. All Japanese ships, he says, are called after some province, district, town, or city in Japan, and Miike is a province. The word Maru is applied to all merchant ships; it means that the ship is engaged in mercantile pursuits. All men-of-war, or armed ships, have the word Kan applied to their names, which means fighting ship. He was induced to give this explanation by hearing a man in the dock inquiring for his ship as the *Mucky Mary*! If the nickname had not gained any wide circulation before Captain Brown's explanation, the letter is likely to secure it, and to do more towards making it "stick" than towards repressing it. It will be surprising if the worthy Captain does not hear a great deal more of the *Mucky Mary* in future than he ever did before!—*Madras Times.*

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

THE following is a summary of the Customs Returns for September, showing the foreign trade of the empire for the month:—

	1894. SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	9,842,689.790	13,299,210.350
Imports	10,015,621.910	11,5[illegible]9,187 320
Total exports and imports		24.808,397.670
Excess of exports		1,790,023.030

CUSTOMS DUTIES

Exports	245.940.036
Imports	350,114.344
Miscellaneous	13,847.652
Total	609.902 032

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
Hongkong	1,621,243.160	1,045,414.360	2,666,657.520
China	817,858.300	1,456,306.620	2,274,164.920
British India	329,325.170	1,250,083.080	1,579,408.250
Annam & other French India	1,922.060	842,568.010	844,490.070
Korea	341,429.740	324,173.460	665,603.200
Russian Asia	178,332.700	67,500.110	245,832.810
Philippine Islands	22,037.130	46,710.170	68,738 300
Siam	266.000	13,039.290	31,305 290
Great Britain	569,125.660	3,972,279.800	4,481,405.460
France	2,020,301.900	407,663.990	2,427,965.890
Germany	320,225.840	1,216,083.460	1,537,209.300
Italy	267,784.400	23,263.480	291,047.880
Switzerland	69,967.400	84,536.880	154,504.280
Belgium	12,422.300	108,155.380	120,577.680
Austria	10,686.200	1,570.860	12,257.060
Sweden & Norway	—	7,646.300	7,646,300
Russia	907.200	4,540.240	5,447.440
Holland	4,045.810	358.740	4,404.550
Spain	3,480.000	770.200	4,250.200
Turkey	1,926.570	57.240	1,983.810
Denmark	325.000	835.260	1,160.260
Portugal	—	296.080	296.080
United States of America	6,173,045.720	509,431.040	6,682,476 760
Canada & other British America	156,376.810	2,032.800	158,409.610
Australia	199,957.620	104,964.670	304,922.290
Hawaii	102.550	—	102.550
Other Countries	22,618.850	18,014.800	40,633,650
Total	13,085,714.090	11,509,187.320	24,594,901.410

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
Yokohama	9,010,373.610	4,665,770.070	13,676,143.680
Kobe	3,267,555.120	5,973,411.900	9,241,967.020
Osaka	90,692.770	337,707.460	428,400.230
Nagasaki	402,537.610	439,777.030	842,314.640
Hakodate	48,794.540	16,966.890	65,761.430
Niigata	910.100	597.800	1,507.900
Shimonoseki	162,766.380	65,047.170	227,813.550
Moji	106,036.500	—	106,036.500
Hakata	—	8,486.180	8,486.180
Karatsu	15,033.500	—	15,033.500
Kuchinotsu	159,134.000	—	159,134.000
Idzugahara	1,570.550	1,631.480	3,202.030
Shishimi	653.920	728.500	1,382.420
Sasua	1,166.350	302.800	1,469.150
Fushiki	900.400	4,680.400	5,580.800
Muroran	4,550.000	—	4,550.000
Otaru	16,535.000	2,079.640	18,614.640
Specie and Bullion Exports			63,531.220
Specie and Bullion Imports			979,898.240
Total			1,043,429.460
Excess of exports			916,367.020

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants Exports	2,643,910.920
By Japanese Merchants Imports	2,868,037.770
Imported by Government	444,495.900

VALUE OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM JAPAN EACH MONTH THIS YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	12,704,459.990	9,862,419.680	22,566,870.670
February	8,633,963.380	8,239,136.430	16,873,099.810
March	9,638,333.280	9,939,827.600	19,578,160.880
April	8,498,406 640	9,974,473.312	18,472,879.950
May	9,840,349.470	11,021,372.740	20,861,722.210
June	10,139,046.910	10,989,848.710	21,128,895.620
July	10,564,333.980	9,396,601.750	19,960,935.730
August	16,249.954.390	11,820,847.080	28,070,801 470
September	13,299,210.350	11,509,187.320	24,808,397.670
Total	99,558,058.390	92,753,714.620	192,311,773.010

THE TERM "FILATURE."

WE have been requested, says the *American Silk Journal*, to give the derivation and explain the meaning of the word "filature," so frequently used in connection with raw silk production. Filature is derived from the word "filament," a thread or fibre, and means: 1. The act of spinning; 2, a spinning-ground, and 3, a spinning-mill. Hence the term in most commonly applied to an establishment such as are common in Italy, Japan, and elsewhere in silk-growing countries, where cocoons are received from the growers and the silk is reeled from the cocoons and prepared for the market. A certain number of the exceedingly fine separate filaments are united by pressure, or twisting, according to the standard of raw silk to be produced. This filature silk, being the resultant of skilled labour and utmost care, is far superior to the "country silk" reeled by the growers at home after the most primitive methods. Very little of this latter reaches this country of late, its manipulation being comparatively difficult and labour here being too costly. A "filateur" is a spinner, or proprietor of a filature or a spinning mill.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LIMITED.

THE following is the Report presented to the shareholders at the fourteenth ordinary general meeting, held at the offices of the General Agents, Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., Hongkong, on the 19th inst.:—The General Agents and Consulting Committee have pleasure in laying before the shareholders the final accounts for the year 1894, and an estimate of the present year's underwriting to the 30th ultimo. 1894 Account.—The balance at credit of this account is $542,455.65, out of which the sum of $263,693.97 has already been paid for a dividend of 10 per cent. to shareholders, and a bonus of 20 per cent. to contributors of premia. Subject to the approval of shareholders, it has been decided to dispose of the remaining balance of $278,761.68 by adding to Reserve Fund $175,000, thereby increasing it to $1,200,000; paying a final dividend of $6 per share, and carrying forward the sum of $43,761.68 to 1895 account. 1895 Account.—This account shows an estimated balance at credit of $676,352. Consulting Committee.—The present members, Messrs. Dalrymple, Sassoon, Gillies, Chater, and Bird retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

INFRINGING THE GERMAN COMMERCIAL CODE.

C. F. REIMERS, of Kobe, appeared on Saturday before Mr. R. von Krencki, H.I.G.M.'s Consul, at Kobe, on a summons charging him with an infringement of the German Commercial Code. It appeared from the evidence given that the accused had been warned some time since not to use the firm name "Reimers & Co." in the business, as he was registered under the name of "C. F. Reimers." He then stated that he had painted out the "& Co." which appeared on his sign-board, and had prefixed the letters "C. F." but on the Amtsdiener going to the office of the accused on the 10th and 11th inst., he found the original sign-board "Reimers & Co." still displayed. The charge being made out, the accused was fined 200 marks and costs, and warned that a repetition of the offence would be followed by a further fine of 200 marks. —*Chronicle.*

SHIPPING DISASTER.

A REUTER'S telegram from Flushing, dated 10th September, states that a collision occurred at night on 9th September off Borselen between the Spanish steamer *Manila*, proceeding to China, and the Norwegian steamer *Xania*, bound for Antwerp. The latter sank. The Belgian pilot, who was on board the *Xania*, and five of the crew were drowned. The *Manila* was badly damaged and anchored in the roadstead. The *Manila* was recently constructed in England for a Spanish commercial line, and was making her first voyage to the Straits Settlements and the Philippine Islands. She was damaged in the bows, and her fore-peak is full of water. The cargo has apparently not suffered.

THE AUSTRALIAN HORSES.

WE understand that two prizes have been offered by "Mr. Worthington" and "Mr. State" respectively, to be raced for by the Australian horses on Saturday, the 16th November, when it is hoped that an Off-day may be arranged for beaten ponies at the Autumn meeting. The "Worthington Cup," value $200, will be open for Australian horses only, distance, three-quar-

HATHITRUST DIGITIZED BY GOOGLE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ters of a mile; while the "State's Cup," value $150, is given for a mile race between the Australian and country-bred horses, in which category are included thorough-bred horses bred in Japan. The present lot of Australians consist of eight geldings and one stallion. Ten were originally brought, but one had to be destroyed early on the voyage owing to an accident. Japanese owners are said to be prepared to bring forward five native thorough-breds to compete, and they will probably be admitted in the five races to be set apart for these horses at the Spring meeting, 1896. Considering the time these horses have been on board the steamer, they are in good condition, and although none of them are handsome they will undoubtedly develope into useful animals for hacks and carriage horses.

"TOWNSEND HARRIS, FIRST AMERICAN ENVOY TO JAPAN."

THE above is the title of a new book, by William E. Griffis, author of "Japan:—In History, Folk-Lore, and Art," "The Lily Among Thorns," "Brave Little Holland," etc. With Portrait. Crown 8vo, $2.00. The material of Dr. Griffis's book, says the *Dial*, is of very high historic value, and is new to Americans, Europeans, and Japanese. It omits what may be found in other books which treat of various phases of Japanese life, and gives Mr. Harris's journals which contain matter of unique value; hence this work must always stand as one of peculiar interest.

THE KOREAN SPECIAL AMBASSADOR.

THE Ambassador of the King of Korea proceeded to the Palace on the 19th instant. He was conveyed in a carriage sent from the Imperial Household, and Mr. Asano, a Master of Ceremonies, rode with him. At the entrance to the Palace the Ambassador was received by other Masters of Ceremonies, and was then conducted to the ante-room, where he was welcomed by Marquis Saionji, Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies. H.I.M. the Emperor then gave audience to the Ambassador in Hoo-noma. He was next introduced to the Kiri-noma, where he was received by H.I.M. the Empress.

THE DISTURBANCES IN SOUTH-WEST KWANGTUNG.

A TELEGRAPHIC advice from Pekin to the *Chinese Mail* (*Wah Tsz Yat Po*) is to the effect that on Saturday, the 12th inst., an Imperial Edict was issued ordering the suspension of Li Chelan, magistrate of Ng Chun district and acting magistrate of Shun E district, for not having brought to justice the rebel chiefs Peng Lai Cha Mi, who is organising disturbances in the Ko Chow Prefecture, in the South West of Kwangtung. The Tien Pak magistrate is ordered to be dismissed the service for incompetency, although he is exonerated from the charge of receiving bribes to release captured robbers.

ANTI-FOREIGN LITERATURE IN CHNIA.

THE Rev. Griffith John, writes from Hankow, under date of October 7th, the following letter to the *North China Daily News*:—

On Saturday last a native friend of mine turned up in my study bringing in his hand a number of the Hunan anti-foreign publications. In reply to the question as to how he get hold of them, he said:—"These are only a part of a large quantity just received at the office of the —. They have come direct from Changsha, and no doubt from Chou Han. The letter which accompanies them is anonymous, and contains an urgent request that the firm will reprint them, and have them widely distributed. These seven have only been lent to me till Monday, when I must return them without fail."

I have just been looking over these seven, and I find that they are old friends, with the exception of one, which is a sheet tract. Two of the books, however, have greatly interested me, for I find that they are old friends in new dresses. They are no other than two editions of the infamous *Death to the Devil's Religion*. One of the two is a Szechuan edition issued for the first time in 1890, and the other is a Kuangsi edition, issued for the first time in 1889. Both contain the Hunan manifesto, which was translated by me in 1891, and is giveu in *The Anti-Foreign Riots in China*, published by you in 1892. On the covers it is stated that all the scholars and people of Kuangsi and Szechuan are, in imitation of Hunan, printing this book and widely distributing it. The get-up of these two editions is superior to that of the Hunan edition, and there can be no doubt that the copies before me have been struck from blocks perfectly new.

I called special attention to this work in my lettor of 1891, which have been published in the *The Foreign Riots in China*. The author is Chou Han himself. On the cover it is stated that the book is the production of "Chou, a disciple of Confucius and a Minister of the Great Pure Dynasty." Of all the anti-foreign publications this is most popular in Hunan. It has been distributed gratuitously by the hundreds of thousands of copies It takes the place of the *Death Blow to the Corrupt Doctrines*, published some twenty-five years ago. The *Death Blow*, however, was written for the scholars, whilst *Death to the Devil s Religion* is written for the peopie. Any one who can read at all can read this book; and I know that it has been read and is being read by millions of ordinary readers in Hunan and in all the provinces.

Of all the Hunan publications I do not know one more violent, more abusive, more foul, or more inflammatory than this. It finishes up with a song, to be committed to memory by the reader. Were I to translate, and send it to you, you could not print it, it being too dirty and vile for your columns. I may, however, give you the closiug words, which are words of exhortation to old and young. "Let fathers and elders teach the children to sing this song and thus accumulate merit and secure happiness. Let the little boys learn to sing this song and thus remove calamity and escape danger. Why fear because the demons (foreigners) are many? We are firmly resolved to exterminate them utterly." All the charges brought against foreigners are given this book in full detail. The use of the eyes and brains, and other parts of the human body, for medicinal and other purposes are minutely described. The history of Jesus is given; and anything more blasphemous it would be impossible for the mind of man to conceive.

This is the book which Chou Han has been scattering over the face of the land. We know that there is a Szechuan edition and a Kuangsi edition. It is highly probable that every province has its edition. Be that as it may, there can be no doubt as to the widespread dissemination of the book. It is everywhere and its abominable libels are believed by everyone. Is it a thing to be surprised at that the people have got to fear us and hate us? Is it not a wonder that riots and massacres are not more numerous? Let us not forget that Chou Han is not only a scholar, but, an official, but an intimate friend of some of the greatest officials in the land. Some of the highest officials have been his abettors in this unholy crusade.

The question now is—What is to be done with Chou Han? Whilst Hunan is closed, and whilst Chou Han is allowed to work his dark deeds in that dark place, we shall never be safe. Let Hunan be opened; let Chou Han be dragged out of his den, and let this infamous literature be suppressed everywhere—let this be done, and a change for the better will soon follow.

THE MEKONG.

WE take the following from *The Times*:—

The arrival of Lieutenant Simon in a French gunboat at Luang Prabang, nearly 1,500 miles from the sea, is regarded here as an important feat, the crowning achievement of two years' labours. At Khong the gunboat had to be transported over land by a short temporary railway, but it managed to surmount the Kemerab Rapids, 60 miles in length, though one of Lieutenant Simon's subordinates declared that no personal considsration would ever induce him to pass another six days like those. Above Khong, up to the foot of the Rapids, the Mekong may serve for trade, except in the spring, when the water is very low. Above Wieng-kang the Mekong does not appear to be practically navigable, and, pending the details of Lieutenant Simon's voyage, his arrival at Luang Prabang may be considered conducive to French prestige rather than to trade. His own belief is that on the Middle Mekong a few hundred piastres expended on dredging certain spots would make it available for trading steamers. The Laos chiefs repeatedly asked him what would be the cost of sending goods to Saigon as compared with Bangkok, and trade may be expected to take the former route.

TERRIBLE BOILER EXPLOSION.

NEWS reached Shanghai on Wednesday the 16th, by telegram, that the C.M.S.N. Co.'s steamer *Kungpai* had had her funnel blown away and some of the soldier passengers on board hurt. The telegram stated that the fore part of the vessel had been blown out by an explosion. The *Kungpai* was engaged in conveying soldiers from Kinchow to Tongku. The *Shanghai Mercury* prints a telegram to the effect that only the following were saved:—Third Engineer (Mr. O. Frome), 10 of the crew, one foreign and ten Chinese passengers.

CHEVALIER DE KONTSKI.

THE Chevalier de Kontski seems to have taken Shanghai by storm. Most enthusiastic notices of his concerts are given by all the journals of the model settlement. We understand that the Chevalier is not unlikely to pay Japan another visit next April.

DEPARTURE OF COUNT INOUYE.

COUNT INOUYE left Shinagawa by the 2.35 p.m. train on Thursday. Marquis Ito and Baron Ito Miyoji, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, rode with him down to Oiso. Viscount Nomura, Minister of Home Affairs; Mr. Yoshikawa, Minister of Justice; Mr. Shirane, Minister of Communications; Princess Mori, Countess Kuroda, some Local Governors, and several others assembled at Shinagawa to see him off.

MISS AMY SHERWIN'S JEWELS AND COSTUMES.

THOSE who remember Miss Amy Sherwin's visit to Japan some years ago will be interested to learn that her residence in London was entered by burglars during the absence of the family at the seaside, and every room in the house ransacked. The burglars decamped with the bulk of Miss Sherwin's jewels, as well as a number of costly presents and her costumes.

THE CHAMPION CRICKET COUNTY.

AT the Oval, on 3rd September, Surrey wound up a most successful season with a decisive victory over Hampshire, and thus retained the county cricket championship. The batting and bowling averages of the Surrey eleven have been published, their chief features being the remarkable batting of Abel, and the even more extraordinary bowling of Richardson.

THE SHANGHAI VISITORS.

THE Shanghai team was seen off on Saturday morning on the *Ernest Simons* by a large number of members of the Y. C. & A. C., and other friends. They carry away with them impressions of a thoroughly enjoyable week—as their captain, Mr. Farbridge, expressed it, it has been the jolliest and happiest week of all their lives.

THE CRUISER "AURORA."

THE Austrian cruiser *Aurora*, under command of Captain Constantin von Pott, came up the Bay this morning. The *Aurora* is a vessel of 1,370 tons, with engines of 1,000 horse power; she carries three machine-guns, and six breech loading guns; her crew numbers 223 all told.

ROBBERY.

A JAPANESE named Horiguchi Yosaburo, employed by Messrs. Carl Rohde & Co., was arrested on Thursday for having stolen since the 3rd September, 24 revolvers, 2 silver watches, and 6 alarum clocks, valued at $193. All the goods were recovered on the apprehension of the thief.

THE YANGTZE VALLEY.

When the pessimists cry out about Great Britain's self-effacement in the East because she declined to become a unit in a coalition of Powers of which one is her hereditary enemy and open rival in Central Asia; another her persistent and petulant opponent in various quarters of the globe, and the third a purely selfish friend of the two first, we can not but speculate how effectually the theories of these publicists would be shattered did events force the hand of the patient Secretary in Downing Street. From time to time rumours circulate about a British occupation of Chusan, and within the past few weeks the seizure of the Yangtze Valley by Her Majesty's China Squadron might have occurred at any moment. In either of these events, the position in which Great Britain would stand needs no explanation. The fact is that England has at her command in the Far East a force sufficient to make her virtually mistress of the situation. Any attempt to eliminate her from the settlement of the Eastern problem would merely provoke action of a conclusive character. With Chusan and the Yangtze Valley in British occupation, the Chinese empire would be cut in two, and it would not greatly matter what events transpired in Manchuria or even in Korea. It is not to be supposed that Great Britain could tamely submit to Russia's posting herself within cannon's range of the rich tradal routes established by English capital and English enterprise in this quarter of the globe. Were such a contingency in sight, the law of self-protection would quickly find signal application.

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KOREAN NEWS.

The latest news from Sōul has greatly changed the aspect of affairs. Not merely a few ignorant and insignificant Japanese of the *Soshi* class, but several well known men have been found to have been active participators in the horrible drama of the 8th instant. The facts relating to the incident, thus far gathered from trustworthy sources by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, are as follow:—"On the evening preceding the *émeute*, or more exactly at about 11 p.m. on the 7th instant, a Japanese, whose name is withheld from publication, and thirty *Soshi*, held a secret conference at Yong-san. It is stated that the party included some Japanese police officials, but this point requires confirmation. After concerting a general plan of action, the party proceeded to the Tai Wŏn-kun's residence at Kong-tok-ri, reaching it at a little past midnight. On the way they were met by two Koreans, Gu Zenju and Sen Bai, sent by the Tai Wŏn-kun. When they approached the ex-Regent's mansion, they found the gates closed and guarded by constables that had been sent by the Queen. The first action of the Japanese *Soshi* was to seize these constables and confine them in a well secured apartment. This done, the party entered the Tai Wŏn-kun's chamber, where they had a conversation with him for some time. Immediately afterwards, the ex-Regent proceeded toward the Royal Palace, escorted by a party of Japanese troops and the *Soshi*. It was two o'clock in the morning when the procession left Kong-tok-ri. But it stopped about an hour on the way, waiting for the Second Battalion of the foreign drilled Korean troops, with which some previous arrangement seems to have been made. Presently the party were met by Wu Hanzen at the head of a picked body of about thirty soldiers, and resuming their march they entered the palace through the Kwang-wha gate. It appears to be a fact that some Japanese troops secretly rendered assistance to the foreign-drilled Korean soldiers when the latter forced their way into the Palace. Following the Tai Wŏn-kun, who had safely entered the Palace, the Korean soldiers and a small body of Japanese troops, forming His Highness's escort, were marching through the gate, when they were attacked on the flank by Ko Keikun, a trusted follower of the Queen, and commander of the foreign-drilled Korean troops, at the head of the Palace Guards. This essay, proved ineffectual, and Ko himself was shot down, recieving a mortal wound. The Tai Wŏn-kun, meanwhile, under the escort of his body-guard—the *Soshi* and the picked body of foreign-drilled troops—proceeded direct to the apartments occupied by the King and had an audience with His Majesty. While the old Prince and his son were closeted together, the *Soshi* and the Korean troops entered the ladies' apartments and behaved in a riotous manner. They slew a lady who was surrounded by several female attendants. The *Soshi*, being of course ignorant of the Queen's personal appearance, had to proceed by guess work. They took this lady for Her Majesty, and unfortunately, they seem to have been correct in their supposition. According to report, the lady slain by them was soon afterwards burnt to ashes. A certain personage is said to have asserted most emphatically that he not only saw many Japanese *Soshi* taking part in these acts of violence, but that he recognised them to be the principal actors. Whether or not the murderers of the Queen were Japanese, cannot be definitely ascertained without fuller investigation. But that a gang of *Soshi* were directly connected with the *coup d'état*, was recognized, from the first by the Japanese residents of Sōul, who could not believe that faint-hearted Koreans had planned and executed such a programme so promptly and decisively. One story says that in ignorance of the topography of the Palace, the *Soshi* by mistake rushed into the King's apartments, where they were made aware of their mistake by His Majesty's attendants, who waved their hands, at the same time loudly calling out "King," "King." The *Soshi*, according to the same authority, then, turned toward the ladies' apartments, and killed a lady in the manner already described. It is also stated that the Crown Prince was an eye-witness of his mother's murder, and that His Highness afterwards put down in writing a description of the persons of the murderers and sent a copy to a certain foreign Minister. One or two other officials were on the spot and defended the Queen. One of these was Li Koshoku, Minister of the Household. The *émeute* had not been entirely unexpected. The Queen had been becoming more and more tyrannical and lawless in her conduct, especially since Count Inouye's return to Japan. Her Majesty had indeed gone so far as to project the replacement of the existing Cabinet by politicians of her own faction. In order to ensure the complete success of her design, she had decided, on the one hand, to secure the person of the Tai Wŏn-kun and on the other, to disband the foreign-drilled troops, replacing them by her own soldiers. Repeated collisions that occurred between the foreign-drilled soldiers and the police, were part of her plan, her object being in this way to establish a pretext for the disbandment of these troops. The plot become known to the Tai Wŏn-kun, and he was not slow to plan a counter movement, a leading share in the execution of which was entrusted to a gang of Japanese *Soshi*. But the astonishing feature of this *coup d'état* is that not *Soshi* only were implicated in it, but that several Japanese civil officials and military officers are believed to have been privy to the plot. The reports from Minister Miura are said to have been very vague and indifinite, but the truth has gradually become known."

The facts set down here will, we believe, suffice to convey to our readers a tolerably accurate idea of what took place in Sōul. Under the circumstances, the Government, rightly taking a serious view of the matter, at once despatched Mr. Komura, to Sōul, to replace Viscount Miura, who, together with some forty officials of the Legation and Consulate, have been recalled. We are in possession of further information, apparently trustworthy, but we think it advisable to observe a measure of reticence pending the investigations now being conducted by the Authorities." The *Nichi Nichi* concludes thus:—"It is to be deeply regretted that an incident such as that now engaging public attention should have furnished a pretext to the world to call in question the motives of this Empire in its avowed policy of maintaining Korean independence, reforming her administration, and leading her along the path of civilization. We sincerely hope that the Government will preserve the country's honour and dignity by taking frank and just measures."

The same journal in its issue of yesterday, gives further particulars:—"When the Japanese troops and the *Soshi* (includiug journalists, physicians, and merchants) arrived at the Tai Wŏn-kun's residence at Kong-tok-ri, one of the Koreans, Sen Bai, who had been sent out to meet the Japanese party on the way, attempted to open the gate. But it was found to be strongly secured on the inside and guarded by a body of constables sent by the Queen. Thereupon two or three Japanese policemen made their way through a window, dragging the above named Korean after them, and once inside they easily succeeded in overpowering the Korean constables. To open the gate and admit the whole party was then the work of a moment. The leaders immediately had an audience with the Tai Wŏn-kun. On leaving his residence, the latter issued orders that the persons of the King and the Crown Prince should be guarded from all harm, but that in the case of the Queen whatever measures circumstances rendered expedient should be taken. It had originally been arranged that the plot should be carried out in the dead of night, but but the entrance of Tai Wŏn-kun into the Palace was delayed until five o'clock in the morning on account of a mistake committed by the Korean and Japanese troops that came to Sōul to meet the Tai Wŏn-kun; they took a route different from that previously arranged. At the time of the ex-Regent's entrance in the Palace, the party was preceded by some Japanese policemen, who scaled the walls with the aid of a ladder, and opened the gate. Taking advantage of the consternation into which the Palace Guards were thrown, the Tai Wŏn-kun, and his escort rushed through the gate opened by the Japanese police. The escort consisted, first, of a party of Japanese troops, then a portion of the second foreign-drilled battalion of Korean soldiers, and, lastly, another body of Japanese troops. While this force was still filing through the gate, Ko Keikun attacked them at the head of the First Battalion of the foreign-drilled Korean soldiers. The latter thought that the Tai Wŏn-kun's escort consisted of Korean troops only, but on finding that Japanese soldiers accompanied them, they speedily took to their heels. On the other hand, the Japanese troops, too, beat a retreat, for they had no orders to fight. As already stated, unforseen mistakes delayed the execution of the *coup d'état*, and it was about eight in the morning when the Japanese *Soshi* came out of the Palace, armed with pistols and swords, some even carrying drawn swords with marks of blood on them. These *Soshi* as they made their way through the crowds that had gathered in the street, bore themselves as men proud rather than ashamed of what they had done in the Palace. This incident renders it probable that the Russian and American Ministers, who repaired to the Palace at six in the morning, did really see, as they supposed, some Japanese *Soshi* carrying blood stained swords in the Palace. It is stated that Minister Miura, ex-Adviser Okamoto, Secretary Sugimura, Consular Probationer Horiye, Interpreter Kokubu, Police Sergeant Hagiwara, and six police constables were the principal parties implicated in the *émeute*. The Japanese troops seem to have acted under the orders of the Korean Government, Messrs. Saito Shuichiro, Hoshi Toru, Oshizuka Eizo, and a few others had no connection whatever with the affair. These persons are said to have strongly remonstrated with Viscount Miura on the day of the disturbance."

THE KOREAN AFFAIR AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

Most of the Japanese correspondents in Sōul were implicated in the recent *coup d'état*, and it is not surprising that the news first published in Tokyo should have been wilfully misleading in many essential points. But when the astounding revelation was made by the *Nichi Nichi Shmbun* that not only *Soshi* but also Japanese diplomatic officials and military officers had taken part in the drama, the metropolitan press, rightly interpreting the sentiments of the nation, united in condemning in the strongest terms the inexcusable conduct of their nationals, and unhesitatingly approved the prompt and vigorous measures taken by the Government in connection with the incident. On the other hand, they urged that the Government's duty would not be discharged by merely disavowing the conduct of its agents in the peninsula, for the responsibility must extend to higher quarters. The *Kokumin Shimbun's* article may be taken as representative in this respect.

After expressing wonder and regret, the *Kokumin* urges the importance of condemning in the strongest language the savage and inhuman actions of the Japanese connected with the affair. Should any mercy be shown to these enemies of civilization and humanity, with what face could Japan confront the world or claim the status of an enlightened State? While, therefore, the action taken by the Ito Cabinet must be approved without reserve, the question arises whether the responsibility should not be carried higher than Minister Miura. Should not the Minister actually charged with the direction of foreign affairs be also held responsible for an affair so serious? Who is the actual Minister of Foreign Affairs? Our contemporary thinks that neither Count Mutsu nor Marquis Saionji has the actual control of foreign affairs, but that Marquis Ito is the *de facto* Minister. Moreover, Marquis Ito has a further responsibility in the matter, for it was chiefly

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by his recommendation and that of Count Inouye that Viscount Miura was appointed to the Court of Sōul. The *Kokumin* further thinks that in a case like the present, the Minister President of State should properly be held responsible, and illustrates its point by reference to English history, special allusion being made to the fall of Khartoum for which Mr. Gladstone, Prime Minister, was called to account, and to the Russo-Turkish war, when Mr. Disraeli, Premier, and not Lord Salisbury, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, was the prime object of public criticism. But it is not necessary to go abroad in search of precedents bearing on the question. The changes effected in the *personnel* of the Cabinet at the time of the Otsu incident, and on the failure of the treaty revision programme of Count Okuma, suffice to show what sort of measures the Government ought to adopt in the present instance. So far the *Kokumin*.

As to the question of responsibility, the *Nichi Nichi*, too, writes as follows:—"It is a matter of course that responsibility does not stop with the Japanese Minister at Sōul and his subordinates, but we propose to discuss this point at greater length on some future occasion."

THE KOREAN AFFAIR AND THE POLITICAL PARTIES.

The Constitutional Reform party held a meeting on the morning of the 18th instant, there being present Messrs. Kusumoto, Ohigashi, Kudo, Suzuki, Kawashima, and so forth. They adopted the following resolutions:—

1st.—Concerning the recent Korean *émeute*, the Japanese Government should endeavour to prevent any confusion of legal with international questions, and adhering to the original purpose of Japan's policy, should strive to promote the rights of the Empire in Korea.

"2nd.—Whether or not the present affair involve international complications, the responsibility of all the officials concerned should be clearly established.

"3rd.—Should any Japanese subject be discovered to have been criminally concerned in the affair, he should be brought to justice, so that the dignity of Japan as a Constitutional State may be maintained."

The *Chuo Giin Kai*, a club formed by the Progressionists and their allies, met on the same day and adopted the following resolution:—

"That the Government should institute thorough investigations into the recent Korean disturbance and find out where the responsibility lies, with a view to the maintenance of the dignity of the country."

The National Unionists held a meeting on the 19th instant. There were present Messrs. Minai Giichi, Motoda Hajime, Wada Hikoshiro, Ono Kamesaburo, and others. They adopted the following resolutions:—

"1st—Prompt measures should be taken to ascertain the truth about the affair."

"2nd—In case any Japanese subject be found to have taken part in the disturbance, he should be dealt with according to the law, without any mercy. As to public functionaries guilty of negligence in not providing against the affair, they too, should be dealt with in a proper manner."

"3rd—We sympathize profoundly with our unfortunate neighbour, and sincerely regret that some reckless Japanese were concerned in the trouble, but we fail to conceive how international complications can reasonably arise out of the situation."

"4th.—It should be the aim of the Japanese, as pioneers of civilization in the Orient, and as guardians of peace in Eastern Asia, to afford increasing assistance to Korea, so that the peace of the Far East may be preserved for ever and Japan's honour may be kept intact."

The *Doshi Kai* politicians, too, met on the 18th instant, but they do not appear to have come to any decision, for they are to meet again today (21st).

The Radicals have not taken any open step with regard to the question. It is stated that they are opposed to adopting any measure in the name of the Party, preferring that individual members be left free to adopt any course they may think proper.

It seems pretty plain, on the whole, that the Opposition Parties are inclined to hold the Cabinet responsible for the affair. Their organs have begun to raise a cry for the resignation of the Ministry, or at least, the Minister President and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

LETTER FROM KOREA.

(From our own Correspondent).

Sōul, October 10th, 1895.

Since my letter of yesterday, more has been learned and the worst has been confirmed in reference to the Queen of Korea. It is now known that the Queen was foully murdered by Japanese. Reports are still more or less unsatisfactory, but it is certain that the ex-Regent entered the Royal Palace on the morning of the 8th inst. accompanied by Korean and Japanese soldiers. There were also *soshi* among them. These forced their way into the Royal presence and demanded to know the whereabouts of the Queen. I am informed that the Crown Prince was rudely asked where his mother was and cuffed when he refused to tell. While part of the band were in the presence of the King flourishing their swords and calling out for the Queen, another part slipped round the back way to Her Majesty's apartments and there assaulted and killed four ladies, one of whom was the Queen. The report states that the ladies were dragged out of the rooms by the hair of their heads. The Queen was knocked down by a Japanese, killed, and her body then burned—a barbarity worthy of the darkest ages of the world's history.

Such are the plain facts. The most shocking part of this most cruel assassination or butchery is that it seems to have been done with the knowledge of the Japanese authorities here. I make this statement based on what seems to me the strongest evidence. It is known that the Japanese and Korean soldiery entered the presence of the King, that the insults offered to him and to the Crown Prince were made by Japanese in civilian's dress, and that officers of the army were standing by and making no objection. These knew what their comrades were going to do when they slipped around and brutally butchered and burned the Queen.

During the night of the 9th, the Queen Dowager committed suicide by taking a dose of opium. And during the same night the heads of Ministers of State or supposed friends of the dead Queen were sought for. The foreign community is burning with indignation at the slaughter of the last two days.

THE KOREAN AFFAIR AND THE RADICAL PARTY.

The Radicals met to consider the Korean question on the 21st instant, and adopted the following resolutions:—

First, that it being the united aim of the nation to assist Korea in the maintenance of her independence, we view the recent incident with the sincerest regret.

Secondly, that the Government should take proper measures to bring to justice all Japanese connected with the *émeute*, so as to make it clear that their conduct is not countenanced by their countrymen at home.

Thirdly, that all other topics connected with the present affair be enquired into by our Party without loss of time.

BISHOP BICKERSTETH.

Bishop and Mrs. Bickersteth are leaving Yokohama on Monday by the *Empress of India en route* for England. We understand that the Bishop has been unexpectedly summoned to consult with the ecclesiastical authorities in England in reference to the proposed extension of the English episcopate in Japan, and hopes to return to the East in the early spring of next year.

THE KOREAN AFFAIR.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has just published a long and interesting article reviewing the relations between Japan and Korea during the past year, and discussing the responsibility of the Cabinet about the recent *émeute* in Sōul. We reproduce the gist of the essay under the respective headings into which it is devided:—

I.—The Government's Policy and Count Inouye's Views.

The Japanese Government advised the Korean Government to introduce reforms in all departments of the administration, and accredited Count Inouye to the Court of Sōul with instructions to devote himself to the guidance of Korea in matters of administrative reform. He had not been long at his post, however, before he discovered that the task entrusted to him was attended with peculiar difficulties. In addition to perpetual rivalry between the contending factions at Court, the Korean politicians showed themselves not only incapable of understanding the rudimentary principles of political science, but were also lamentably deficient in public spirit and patriotism. They also proved exceedingly untrustworthy. To give a few examples illustrating these statements:—The Tai Wŏn-kun, who owed much to the assistance of the Japanese Minister, was unscrupulous enough to conspire with the Tonghaks and even to ally himself with the Chinese Generals in Phyŏng-yang. Having found out the old Prince's plots, the Japanese Minister next turned to Pak Yong-ho, who was, consequently, appointed to a Ministerial post. He, too, proved no better than other Koreans. Instead of promoting the work of administrative reform, he suffered himself to be so far carried away by ambition as to attempt to contrive a rupture between the Court and the Japanese Legation. As a result of his unprincipled conduct, he became an object of suspicion to the Queen and hatred to his colleagues, and at last he was driven from office in disgrace. Thus it was found that, whenever Koreans were placed at the head of the administration, it was almost impossible to hope for reform, and some of the Japanese Cabinet Ministers began to insist on the necessity of giving up the task of administrative regeneration and adopting a new line of policy toward Korea. About that time Count Inouye returned to Tokyo, and pointed out the unwisdom of pronouncing a hasty judgment upon the political capacity of the Koreans on the strength of an experience of only eight or nine months. Moreover, slow as was the progress of reforms in Korea, he pointed out that in some respects a change for the better had been effected since the country was released from the baleful control of China. Another consideration also counselled the continued pursuance of the policy thus far followed, namely, the consciousness that, having just passed through a great war, Japan was not then in a position to face the difficult complications that were sure to arise with the Western Powers in connection with the change of situation in Korea. So it was decided to persist in the policy of guiding Korea along the path of reform and progress; and Count Inouye was again sent to Sōul. It was, however, understood that he would not stay in Sōul longer than might be necessary for the purpose of readjusting the political situation disturbed by the Pak incident, and that he would be succeeded by Viscount Miura. During the recent war with China, there existed a defensive and offensive alliance between Japan and Korea, and it was deemed necessary to have at the Korean Court a statesman of Count Inouye's power and standing, but the alliance having ceased to be operative upon the termination of hostilities, there was no longer any positive necessity for his continued residence in Sōul. When Viscount Miura was appointed to the Legation at Sōul, it is unnecessary to state that he went there with definite instructions to pursue the same policy that his predecessor had consistently followed, namely, the policy of guiding Korea in the path of reform and independence.

II.—The Korean Royal Family and Factions.

It has already been observed that there is no

statesman in Korea who has proved himself capable of comprehending the true nature of political reforms, and who is free from the evil of faction jealousy. It may not be out of place to describe more in detail the principal personages on the stage of Korean politics. First, as to the Tai Wŏn-kun. Notwithstanding the fact that his third son is the present occupier of the throne, he at first caused his eldest son to conspire against the crown, and when the plan did not succeed he again instigated his grandson to carry out a similar design. At another time, he caused a dynamite bomb to be thrown into the residence of the Queen's parents, killing her father and brother. In politics, he was at first anti-Japanese when he was Regent of theKingdom. But on his return from captivity in China, he ingratiated himself with the Japanese, and through the latter's influence he again obtained ascendency in the State, last year. But he soon showed his gratitude to the Japanese by opening secret correspondence with Chinese officers at Phyŏng-yang. Next, the late Queen was a woman of extraordinary intelligence. In spite, however, of her intellectual capacity, she was remarkable for all the weaknesses common to her sex. On one occasion, when Count Inouye had an audience, Her Majesty talked with him for three hours about the history of the foreign intercourse of her kingdom, handling the subject in a masterly manner. She was well read in Chinese literature, being intimately acquaintedwith the works of the principal writers. She used to have Japanese newspapers daily read to her. In discussing political matters, she was observed not infrequently to take at disadvantage such men like Pak Yong-ho, Kim Ok-kyun, and Gyo Inchu. Intelligent as she was, she was after all a woman, and had a due share of women's weakness. Her intellect was clouded by a strong suspicion of the Tai Wŏn-kun and his partisans. She could not trust any body except those in the immediate vicinity of her person, and she even refused to eat food prepared by the ordinary culinary department of the Household. Her unconquerable propensity for suspicion was the primary cause of the perpetual misunderstanding between the Court and the Cabinet. As for the King, His Majesty is a man of average ability among the Koreans, and it is out of the question that he should comprehend what was beyond even the intelligence of the Queen to grasp. Among the Korean politicians, Gyo Inchu is known for his solidity, while Kim Koshu is valued as an upright and virtuous man. But they do not understand the question of political reform. One or two stories may be cited to show how things are managed in the peninsular kingdom. On one occasion, Count Inouye, while talking to the King about reforms, referred to the inadvisability of the Queen meddling with political affairs, and advised His Majesty to cause her to put down her vow in writing that she would never again interfere with the affairs of State. The King assured the Count that the evil practice would not be allowed any more, but asked to be released from the vow. Kim Koshu and Gyo Inchu happened to be present at the audience, and they, too, expressed their opinion that there was no necessity for a written vow. Thereupon, Count Inouye turned upon them and demanded if they could give him an assurance in the King's presence that the Queen would never again meddle with politics. The two Ministers turned pale, and seemed at a loss how to answer. The Count then reproved them severely for their wank of conviction and their lack of courage to offer straightforward advice to their Sovereign. When Count Inouye went to Korea for a second time, the King told him that His Majesty's Ministers had represented to him that, according to the usage in Japan and other countries, the Sovereign was bound to sanction every measure decided upon by the Cabinet, and that he was not free to reject whatever might be suggested by his Ministers. Whenever His Majesty had ventured to hesitate about giving his sanction to any measure proposed by the Cabinet, he was sure to be told that his refusal of sanction was contrary to law and would bring down upon his head the wrath of Minister Inouye. The Count of course acquainted His Majesty with the erroneousness of the views entertained by his Ministers of State. These stories show something of the difficulties with which the task of reformation in Korea is attended.

III.—Japanese in Korea.

The insolence of the Japanese residents toward Koreans was once pointed out by Count Inouye. The manner in which the Japanese are conducting themselves is indeed a matter of grave concern to all sober-minded observers. To cite an instance of utter disregard of treaty obligations, it may be mentioned that, in direct violation of the treaty, the Japanese own land in the interior of the country. It is idle to multiply these instances, which are indeed countless. Suffice is to say that not only are the Japanese overbearing in their attitude toward the Koreans, but they resort to all sorts of deceitful practices. Unless these things are checked, it is to be much feared not only that Korean sympathy will be entirely alienated from Japan, but that the reputation of Japan will be seriously damaged in the eyes of other nations. It should be the aim of the Japanese to confine themselves strictly within the limits of the treaty stipulations, and to avoid all illegal procedure, especially such as may tend to dry up the sources of Korea's revenue. In view of these circumstances, it is to be sincerely regretted that the extraordinary session of the Diet at Hiroshima refused to approve the Ordinance issued to restrict the passage of men of undesirable character to Korea. Had this Ordinance been in force, many of the *soshi* that took part in the recent disturbance would not have been able to cross the sea. It might be said by way of objection that the Japanese Consuls are empowered to deport men whose presence is deemed incompatible with peace and tranquillity. But this authority is to be exercised only when there are sufficient grounds for it, and is, consequently, obviously insufficient for the purpose unless assisted by the discretion of the Authorities at home in granting passports to those intending to go to Korea.

VII.—Change of Japanese Minister at Sŏul.

Count Inouye seems to have made it his policy to compel his nationals in Korea to abstain from all infringement of the stipulations of the existing treaty, justly holding it inconsistent for Japan, in the character of Korea's protector, to take any unfair advantage of the latter's helpless position. As to political affairs, Count Inouye came to the conclusion that it is better to give definite recognition to the Queen's interference with public matters. It being found impossible to prevent her from exerting her influence over the mind of the King, to try to keep her under restraint was sure to convert her interference into a secret, and, consequently, more dangerous force. Under these circumstances, the Count thought it advisable to bring about a coalition between the Queen's faction and the faction led by Kim Koshu. So, before his departure from Sŏul, Count Inouye earnestly called the attention of the King and the Queen to the paramount importance of the Royal family's standing aloof from all party contentions, and showing no partiality to any particular set of men. He also alluded to the return of Min Yong-chun, and advised their Majesties never to take any precipitate steps to raise him to power. Not content with these oral representations, Count Inouye addressed a long memorial to the King on the eve of his departure from Ninsen, reiterating what he had had the honour to state to His Majesty personally. He also took care to send a copy of the document to his successor, Viscount Miura, who had already arrived in Sŏul. When Viscount Miura took charge of the Legation in Sŏul, the late Queen had already recovered her political position, and the Mins were just beginning to show their heads once more. Alarmed by the recovery of power by the Mins, the opposite party resorted to a desperate plan of action in concert with the Tai Wŏn-kun. How this counter movement has been carried out has been already described.

V.—Opinions about the Recent Incident.

Under this heading the *Nichi Nichi* exposes the fallacy of some of the criticisms and apologies attempted by some journalists in Tokyo. We may skip this chapter without any loss. There is, however, a point to which allusion may be made. The *Nippon* had been absurd enough to insinuate that the Government had to disown Viscount Miura's actions in obedience to pressure brought to bear upon it by a foreign country. On this point, the *Nichi Nichi* states that, from the first the vague and incoherent messages sent from the Legation in Sŏul had attracted attention; and that instructions had been issued to Viscount Miura to forward more complete and accurate information. The Government's suspicion was still more excited by the tenor of the telegrams received from Japanese Ministers at Washington and St. Petersburg. This led to the despatch of Mr. Komura to Sŏul, and before his arrival there, Minister Miura sent some telegrams which in many respects confirmed the suspicious information that had been wired from the Legations in the United States and Russia. Mr. Komura's reports subsequently cleared the affair, and the Government has not been slow to take measures suited to the nature of this incident. Under such circumstances, it is scarcely necessary to point out that the *Nippon's* insinuation about foreign influence is absolutely without foundation.

V.—Responsibility about the Incident.

On this point the *Nichi Nichi* expresses its opinion as follows:—

First, that the Minister and his subordinates should to be properly punished for having acted in direct disregard of the general policy and instructions of the Government, and for having acted on their own responsibility without asking for instruction from their superiors at home; and that their punishment should be carried out by the Cabinet in pursuance of Imperial Command;

Secondly, that the Cabinet which recommended the appointment of the erring Minister should be held responsible;

Thirdly, that, the question whether the responsibility stops with the Minister of Foreign Affairs or whether it ought to be extended to the Minister President, and even to other Ministers, must be left to the ultimate pleasure of the Emperor; but that, since according to the existing Official Organization, the appointment of officials of a Minister Plenipotentiary's rank is made by the recommendation of the Cabinet, the whole Cabinet should he held responsible; and

Fourthly, that, while, on the one hand, recommending themselves for proper punishment by the Emperor, the Cabinet Ministers should, on the other, take such measures as may be deemed necessary under the circumstances; and that they are not permitted to lay down their portfolios at their own discretion.

THE "WILLIAM H. MACY" IN HARBOUR.

The American sailing ship *William H. Macy*, recently in collision with the British steamer *Isis*, arrived in harbour at 5 o'clock on Wednesday evening, in tow of the Japanese cruiser *Musashi Kan*. The cruiser happened to be down in Tateyama Bay practising, and her commander's kind offer to tow the damaged ship up to Yokohama was thankfully accepted. Considering how badly damaged the *William H. Macy* is, her stem being very much smashed and twisted down to the keelson, it speaks well for Mr. T. M. Laffin's ability as a wrecker, that she got off so soon, and that not one case of cargo was discharged. She was got off the beach stern first, the strain of hauling her round so that she might slip into deep water bows first, being considered too great. The *William H. Macy* will be moored bow and stern while her cargo is being discharged, and arrangements will be made for her speedy repair.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

FAREWELL DINNER TO COUNT DE BYLANDT.

On the evening of the 19th instant the members of the Tokyo Club gave a farewell dinner to Count de Bylandt, who is about to visit Europe on leave of absence. Fifty-six of the members were present, the chair being taken by Mr. W. H. Stone, Vice-President of the Club. Among those present were the Russian and Spanish Ministers and their Staffs, the Hawaiian Minister, the Austro-Hungarian and Italian *Chargé d'Affaires*, the Vice-Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, the Director of the Commercial Bureau in the Foreign Office, Mr. Kusaka, Minister in Reserve, Messrs. Paget, Longford, and other members of the British Legation and Consulates, several friends from Yokohama, &c.

Count de Bylandt, during his stay in Tokyo, has won the warmest friendship among all nationalities, and his return to Japan is earnestly hoped for. His health was proposed by the Vice-President in the following terms :—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES and GENTLEMEN—Another of the off-recurring disagreeablenesses incidental to living in regions far from home brings us together this evening. We have to say farewell to an esteemed friend and member of this Club who has been with us for the past six years and who is now returning to Europe on leave of absence. We fear, however, that Count de Bylandt's services may be required by his Sovereign in some other part of the world, and that he may not return to Japan. Count de Bylandt has been an active member of the Tokyo Club since he first arrived here. He has done good service on the Committee; has always taken the warmest interest in its success, and has been a good and valued friend to many of us here.

I need hardly say that it is with mixed feelings, in which there is much sorrow, that I ask you to drink to him. May he be granted health and strength, a bright and prosperous career, and the best success in all he undertakes. We can assure him that we should hail with pleasure the information that the post he has been filling here is raised in rank, and that he is coming back again to this country.

Health and happiness to Count de Bylandt!

The toast was drunk with all the honours and the greatest enthusiasm.

H.E. Mr. Hitrovo, the Russian Representative, speaking in French, made some very friendly and sympathetic remarks upon the approaching departure of Count de Bylandt. His Excellency said that the Count was an old acquaintance of his; that he had known his father and mother; that the father had lived in the same round of duties as the son—the life of a diplomat—travelling from country to country, always changing his surroundings, not only of objects but of people, of acquaintances, of friends, not having the advantage that our ancestors enjoyed, that of being born, of living, of dying, under the same conditions and with the same friends and surroundings. Mr. Hitrovo finished his warm and friendly remarks by expressing the very best wishes for the future of Count de Bylandt.

Count de Bylandt, who on rising was received with loud cheers, spoke as follows :—

MR. CHAIRMAN, your EXCELLENCIES and GENTLEMEN, my friends all!

I am very sorry, I am extremely sorry indeed, both for you and for myself, that I am not an after-dinner speaker. For, next to the awkward feeling of one who has to rise in response to a toast, knowing that he cannot rise to the occasion, surely comes the sensation of anguish of those who, with a smile, have to listen to his feeble utterances. This reminds me of a happy remark, made by one of the best Englishmen that lived and worked in this century His name, if not his work, is known to every student of England's modern parliamentary history. He was for many years Clerk of the House of Commons, and his name was Sir Thomas Erskine May. On one occasion, it was, I believe, a wedding, he was asked, being an old friend of the house, just to say a few words. And when he rose he prefaced his remarks by saying that, if he had the choice, he would much prefer to speak at a party dinner than at a dinner party. Well, I am sorry that I do not stand in the late Clerk of the House's shoes, nor have the advantage of his [illegible]. For, if I have rightly understood Mr. Stone, you have all assembled here with one and the same object, which is the distinctive feature of a party-dinner, whereas the assembly is equally a dinner-party in so far that that object is a purely social one.

You must therefore be patient with me, the more so because I am not speaking in my native tongue.

It is therefore with a certain diffidence, that I turn to the chair, to tender to you, Mr. Stone and also to you, Mr. Hitrovo, the expression of my heartfelt and sincerest gratitude for the kindly and, I must say, by far too complimentary terms in which you have addressed me, and to you, gentlemen, my very best thanks for the way in which you have received that toast.

I have gathered from Mr. Stone's words that he spoke in your name, and it seems to me that you have endorsed them. But that is not for me a sufficient reason to accept for myself all the good things which he has said. I will do it on one condition, and that is, that you will, on your part, accept a theory, which I can propound to you in a few, brief words. It comes to this. I do not believe in a free will. At least not in an unlimited free will. Free-will is an invention, a useful fiction in the domain of speculative philosophy, just like other fictions. Take for instance the "average number" in the field of statistics. Have you ever seen the average? Or, to put the question in a more concrete form, has any one of you ever eaten the average apple? I dare say not. What we are apt to call "free will" is after all only the result of circumstances, of surroundings, of the education, and the influence of those with whom we associate. And if you accept this view, then you must admit that I have no difficulty in bringing home the responsibility for all the good things which Mr. Stone has placed at my door.

I am afraid that it takes but little time to make us acquainted with trouble or disappointment; and I dare say that many of us have had their fair share of either or both of them. But, luckily, Providence has shaped us in such manner that we are enabled to shake off unpleasant recollections, allowing the better and brighter memories to become the companions of our later years. In this respect I have been singularly fortunate. For during the 5½ years which I have, so to say, spent in your midst, you have given me the opportunity of collecting a treasure, which I shall always cherish; a treasure so big, that none of Kamakura's caves would be able to hold it. Accept, therefore my best thanks.

Speaking of surroundings and associations; I feel that it would be ungracious, if not ungrateful in me if I did not mention this Club. I have seen many Clubs in different countries, and it has always struck me that their atmosphere contained dissolving elements, that there lived microbes, intent upon destroying something. It might be the happiness and charm of home life, it might be the good and friendly relations between members, it might be health or the balance at the banker's. Here I have found a Club with only constructive elements. I have found mutual forbearance and goodwill, resulting in a good fellowship, which, if opportunities and occasions were only favourable, would grow into something which comes very near to close and lasting friendship. If that good spirit continues to prevail, which no doubt it will, I can safely prophesy prosperity to the Club when it shall have left this building and taken possession of its future abode.

I must take this opportunity to say that Mr. Stone has been right in one of his statements. It is true that I have shown some interest in the Club and in the comfort of its members. I plead guilty to having written complaints, long and short. I admit that I have often called for the acting Manager's presence, that I have, in fact, made myself generally disagreeable to the servants. But I trust that I may have been forgiven.

I began by a reminiscence from my stay in London. Let me finish by a reminiscence from Tokyo, from this Club and from this very room. Many of you will remember that when our friend Mr. Oki Morikata was appointed to be Governor of Wakayama Prefecture, he was our guest at a farewell dinner in this room, and that the toast of the evening was then given by Admiral Count Kawamura. In winding up, the Admiral took a flower from the stand before him and holding it up to the Governor, said: "Beware, my friend, of the many flowers which you will meet on your path." As you probably all know, Wakayama is noted for abundance of feminine beauty.

Well, since I do not think that very many of you will ever be appointed to be Governor in that prefecture, I need not repeat the warning, nor the word play which it contains. But I may still be allowed to take a flower from this stand before me, and hold it up to you, and I may express the wish that you may find your paths strewn with flowers, for to those who love them they are a joy for ever. And I may ask this flower to be my Ambassador to you, and to convey to you what I have tried to say this evening. Listen to me: I do not know whether it is a quotation, or whether I am inspired, but this is what I want you to hear: The rose may wither, and the leaves may drop from the stem, but the flower's sweet fragrance will always linger in my memory.

And now, gentlemen, let me drink your good health, individually and collectively, and let me assure you that, on my part, the "auld acquaintance" will not be forgotten.—(Loud cheers.)

Mr. Casati, on behalf of Italy, bid the Count farewell in these lines :—

Les vapeurs du Champagne et du Chateau-Larose
Ne veulent pas, cher Messieurs, que je parle en prose;
Par conséquent je vous demande mille excuses,
Si je dis ma pensée en chatouillant les muses.
Le désir que je sens c'est d'offrir une guirlande,
À notre Victime... le Ministre de Hollande!
Après tant d'années dans ce beau Pays du Soleil
Voilà le Comte qui nous prive de son Conseil!
En verité, Monsieur de Comte, êtes vous sans cœur
Pour plonger comme ça vos amis dans la douleur?
Vous faut il absolument l'air de la Mer Noire
Pour être plus heureux et vous couvrir de gloire?
J'espère bien que vous plaisantez et que le beau jour,
N'est pas très loin où nous fêterons votre retour;
Donc, sans adieux, Monsieur Le Comte, et sans Good-bye,
Je vous dis tout simplement: "Mata irasshai"!!
Dans cette douce attente, Messieurs, je vide mon verre,
Au plus charmant des hommes sur la croute de la terre!!!

COUNT OKUMA & HORTICULTURE.

It has already been stated that Count Okuma's recent garden party was not attended by any of the Ministers of State; nor were they invited to it. The false rumour that it was to have been attended by the Ministers originated in the fact that they are expected to visit his garden for the purpose of viewing a horticultural exposition to be held there by the members of the Tokyo Horticultural Society on the 27th instant. There is a close resemblance in sound between *yen-gei-kai* (horticultural exposition) and *yen-yen-kai* (garden party), and the reporters of a certain news agency, confounding the two terms, circulated the above mentioned rumour. *En passant*, we may notice that the Tokyo Horticulture Society counts among its members a large number of distinguished personages in the capital. The President is Mr. Hanabusa Yoshikata, of the Household Department, and its Vice-Presidents are Messrs. Fukuba Hayato and Tanaka Yoshio. Count Okuma is one of the most enthusiastic members. He is said to have attained a high degree of skill in growing the crysanthemum, a certain species of which is reported to have made such excellent growth under his care that a single stem carries two thousand petals, while its branches cover a circle of four yards in diameter. But the most celebrated horticulturists are said to be Mr. Iwasaki Hisaya, of Tokyo, and the Archbishop of the Nishi Hongwanji in Kyoto. The exposition of the 27th instant is looked forward to with great interest.

COUNT INOUYE'S RETURN TO KOREA.

According to the *Jiji Shimpo* Count Inouye's return to Korea has been decided upon. His Excellency's mission is to convey to the King of Korea the Emperor of Japan's condolences in connection with the recent *émeute* in Söul and its lamentable issue. The Count will start on the 24th or 25th instant. It is not expected that he will remain long in Söul.

Rumours are again circulated that Mr. Hoshi Toru will soon be appointed Japanese Representative in Söul. The *Kokkai* is very confident on the subject. It alleges that Count Ito has always been in favour of the appointment, but that some opposition was formerly encountered in the Cabinet. Now, however, there is a consensus of opinion as to the advisability of sending Mr. Hoshi after Count Inouye has "straightened out" the recent complications.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

FORMOSA NEWS.

The following telegram from Governor-General Kabayama, dated Tai-peh, 16th October, and wired from Kagoshima on the 20th at 7.10 a.m., has been received at the Imperial Military Head-quarters :—

"On the 10th instant, a British warship came to the Pescadores with the British Consul at Anping on board. He brought a letter from Liu Yung-fu, addressed to Vice-Admiral Ariji, Commander of the Standing Squadron, asking for peace in language of a brusque character. Vice-Admiral Ariji answered that he should proceed, on the 12th, to a point off Anping in the warship *Yoshino*, to receive either Liu or his properly appointed representative.

"Vice-Governor Takashima, acting in my (Count Kabayama's) behalf, sent a reply to Liu Yung-fu on the 11th through Vice-Admiral Ariji, rejecting his request.

"On the 12th, Liu once more addressed a note to the Commander of the Imperial Guards through two Englishmen. The request was again rejected.

"On the 10th, the Fourth Mixed Brigade commenced landing at Pan-tay-chi, after overcoming some feeble resistance made by the enemy. The naval squadron cöoperated. The process of debarkation being attended with extraordinary difficulties on account of the naturally bad roadstead and the inclement weather, some portions of the troops were still on board the transports on the 14th. Rebel soldiers, together with some of the inhabitants, having risen northward of Pan-tay-chi, measures are now in progress to deal with them.

"The main body of the Imperial Guards Division is still at Chia-i, but its van has reached Chia Tung-tsz.

"On the 11th, the Second Division landed in the vicinity of Fang-liao without any opposition from the enemy. The debarkation was completed by 6 p.m. The vanguard and right detachment encountered a tolerably stout resistance at Ka-liao and Chie-tung-chue, and after a sharp skirmish, put the enemy to flight. The loss on our side was 84 in killed and wounded.

"On the 12th, the Second Division reached Tan-kang. It is believed that the Division occupied Têng-shan on the 14th, but no news has been received from it."

It is scarcely necessary to state that the above telegram has been anticipated by messages sent through Amoy.

The latest letters from the Japanese correspondents with the Army in Formosa relate to the landing of the Fourth Brigade of the Second Division at Pan-tay-chi. With this Brigade, commanded by H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, were the Commander-in-Chief of the whole army in the island, Lieut.-General Takashima, and his his staff. At 6 a.m. on the 10th instant, the Brigade left the Pescadores in nineteen transports, escorted by three warships, the *Naniwa*, *Saiyen* (former *Tsai Yuen* of the Chinese Northern Fleet), and the *Kaimon*. After the departure of these vessels, there still remained at the Pescadores more than thirty transports and a few warships, the *Yoshino*, *Akitsushima*, *Yamato*, *Saikyo*, and *Yayeyama*. The transports left behind had on board troops of the Third Brigade under Major-General Baron Yamaguchi) destined to leave, a few hours afterwards, for a point south of Tainan, namely, Tang-kang.

When the fleet of transports carrying the Fourth Brigade commenced its voyage on the morning of the 10th, a gale was blowing and the sea ran very high. After steaming for about two hours, the ships were met by a British man-of-war, which signalled to the *Naniwa* that she had brought an offer of surrender from Liu Yung-fu. The Japanese warship referred her to the Commander of the fleet at the Pescadores. At 10.50 a.m., the transports reached their destination. The roadstead being very shallow, they had to drop anchor at a distance of about three miles from the shore. Straggling parties of insurgents were observed moving along the shore, and it was besides known that the village of Pan-tay-chi contained several battalions of the enemy, afterwards ascertained to have been 3,500 strong. The *Saiyen*, *Naniwa*, and *Kaimon* began to bombard the place at about 11.40 a.m.

At half-past two, a party of marines, about 160 strong, rowed toward the shore. At a short distance from the land, they were fired at by a band of insurgents, two or three hundred strong. The marines, however, easily put the enemy to flight and effected a landing. The insurgents retreated only a short distance from the landing place and seemed determined to resist the progress of the Japanese at every advantageous point. Fire was again opened, and with the assistance of a company of Foot, which had landed soon afterwards, the marines were able to drive the enemy from the field. The greater part of the troops occupying the village seem to have evacuated it as soon as the marines got ashore, setting fire to the houses as they retreated. The skirmish lasted about two hours. No exact statement of casualties is given, but one of the correspondents mentions that two were killed and several wounded on the Japanese side.

Japanese correspondents continue to describe the progress of the troops that began to land at Pau-tay-chi on the 10th inst. As to the burning of the village of Pau-tay-chi, some of the correspondents are of opinion that it was not the work of the retreating Chinese, but that the conflagration owed its origin to shells from the Japanese warships. Whatever may have been the cause, the Japanese troops had ample reason to regret the fire, for insufficiency of roofed shelter gave them considerable inconvenience. On the night of the 10th, the marines remained on shore to support the troops, that had to bivouac before the enemy. Firing continued during the whole night, skirmishes frequently taking place between the advance posts on both sides.

On the morning of the 11th, a detachment of the Fourth Brigade was despatched from Pau-tay-chi in the direction of Yuen-sui-kang, a seaport town of about 700 houses, eight miles to the south. On nearing the place, it was found that a force of the Imperial Guards had just commenced an engagement with a few hundred rebels posted in the houses of the town. The two bodies of Japanese troops cöoperated and occupied the place after a short skirmish, at half-past ten in the morning. A junction was thus effected between the Guards and the Fourth Mixed Brigade. The Guards, it may here be stated, had commenced their southward march from Chang-wha on the 6th instant, and fighting all the way, had seized Chia-i on the 9th. Chia-i was defended by Black Flags and volunteers, in all about 2,500 strong. The engagement had continued an hour and a half, when the issue was decided by a general charge against the insurgents, who fled though the gate of the town.

The people in the vicinity of Pau-tay-chi are said to be bitterly hostile to the Japanese. They conduct themselves much in the same fashion as the Hakkas did between Tai-peh-fu and Shin-chuh. Like the semi-savages of the north, the peasants in the vicinity of Pan-tay-chi assume a peaceful mien when the Japanese pass in large numbers, but are always ready to attack small isolated parties. A few instances will suffice to show what trouble these people are giving. On the afternoon of the 12th, a number of coolies were despatched from Pau-tay-chi to fetch drinking water from a well about two miles and a half distant, there being no supply of good water at Pau-tay-chi itself. Having been joined on the way by a party of five or six scouts, the whole were proceeding in the direction of the well, when they were suddenly attacked by thirty or forty peasants, variously armed with guns, swords, spears, kitchen-knives, and so forth. The Japanese slowly retreated toward a field hospital in the vicinity of the well, guarded by a detachment of infantry, with whose assistance the truculent mob was soon dispersed. On the same day, Captain Ogino, an officer attached to the head-quarters of the Southern Army, was returning to Pau-tay-chi from Yuen-sui-kang, accompanied by interpreters and coolies, numbering in all about twenty, when the party found itself assailed by a superior force of armed peasants. Beside Captain Ogino, a sick private was the only fighting man among the Japanese. The officer, seizing the invalid's rifle, covered the retreat of the party, which fortunately soon fell in with a company of Engineers that happened to be in the vicinity. Toward evening on the same day, a military post stationed between Pau-tay-chi and Yuen-sui-kang was attacked by armed peasants. These incidents will probably lead to the adoption of summary measures such as those resorted to in the north.

Letters from the correspondents accompanying the expedition under Lieut.-General Baron Nogi, since known to have landed at Fang-liao, have not yet been received, except one or two dated on board transports that had just arrived off the point of debarkation. The latest, indeed the only, news about the doings ashore of this part of the army, is published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* on the authority of an anonymous individual that has just returned from the south by the transport *Himeji Maru*. According to his report, the troops landed at Banshirin on the 11th instant. The locality is not marked on the map, but from the context we gather that it is somewhere in the vicinity of Fang-liao, about twenty-five miles south of Takow. There were insurgents assembled on shore, but without attempting the slightest resistance, they fell back upon Kataukha, seven or eight miles inland to the north. A detachment having been despatched in pursuit of the retreating enemy, the bulk of the Japanese troops moved northward along the coast. Subsequently, no report having been received from the above mentioned detachment, a fresh force was sent in the same direction. A pretty sharp engagement seems to have taken place at Kataukha, for it is stated that the Japanese sustained a loss of sixty-one in killed and wounded. The enemy fled to Sekikoken. Without pursuing them, the Japanese turned in the direction of Tan-kang. At the time of the *Himeji's* departure—the date of which is not given—it was arranged that the troops then at Tan-kang should march toward Feng-shan on the 14th, and preparations were briskly going on for building bridges where practicable, and providing ferry boats elsewhere. The troops had all been landed at Banshirin, but the provisions and baggage were partly discharged at Tan-kang, the rest being sent on for landing at Takow. The people in this part of the island are said to be keeping themselves quiet. When the *Himeji* steamed out of port, the *Yayeyama* and *Saikyo* were off Tan-kang, while the *Akitsushima*, *Naniwa*, *Yoshino*, and *Yamato* were lying off Arcontien-chi.

An official telegram from Governor-General Count Kabayama, dated at Taipeh, 3.05 p.m. on the 22nd instant, says that the leader of the Black Flags, General Liu Yung-fu, has escaped by sea to China, and that a portion of the Second Division entered Tainan on the 21st instant. The Head-quarters of the Southern Army were to be moved to the same place on the 23rd, and Count Kabayama himself was to leave Keelung by steamer for Tainan on the 24th. Intelligence of the flight of Liu Yung-fu had reached Japan before the receipt of Admiral Kabayama's message, but an official message was required to place the matter beyond doubt.

LOCAL GOVERNORS' ASSEMBLY.

The Local Governors Assembly, now sitting in the Department of Home Affairs, will be brought to a close in a few days. The subjects of discussion are laws relating to the regulation of rivers and roads, and the establishment of reserve funds. The chair is usually occupied by Viscount Nomura, Minister of Home Affairs, and, in case of his absence, by Governor Miura of Tokyo. The measures submitted for the consideration of the Governors are explained by one or other of the higher officials of the Home Office.

REVISED TREATY WITH DENMARK.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the revised Treaty with Denmark, which has been for some time under discussion in Copenhagen, was signed on the 20th instant.

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CHINESE EDUCATION.

Mr. Otori Keisuke, late Japanese Representative in China and Korea, in an address delivered to the Young Men's Christian Association a short time ago, described the results of his study of the Chinese system of education during his stay in Pekin. We give in our own words a summary of Mr. Otori's speech.

Learning in China is of two kinds, one being theoretical and the other practical: the former designed to train men for official life, the latter to prepare them for a business career. The education of an official consists in a thorough study of the Chinese classics, practice in the art of writing verses and of composing essays on texts culled from the works of standard authors. The training of a youth who aims at becoming a man of business, consists of instruction bearing on the actual condition of political, commercial, and industrial affairs, and of lessons on physical science and kindred subjects. There is a great deficiency of public schools in China. Most of the education is obtained by means of private tuition. Rich houses employ three or four tutors to instruct their children, while parents in less affluent circumstances often unite with their neighbours or friends in providing the salary of a single teacher, who takes charge of a class consisting of the sons of the contributors. The instruction imparted by private tutors consists of a thorough explanation of the meaning of the Confucian classics and the works of Mencius. After receiving this private coaching, the student resorts to one of the public libraries, called 書院, Shu-jüan, or 義學 I-hsiao in China, where he is provided with books, lights, fuel, and other requisite. Here he enters on the serious business of preparing himself for his first examination.

The first examination that a Chinese student has to press is called 歲試 Sui-shih, or the age examination, because after the pupil reaches a certain age he has to undergo this examination, which is held annually. Next comes the 鄉試 Hsiang-shih, the village or district examination, held once in three years. Then follows the 會試, 'Hui-shih, or Combined Examination, which is held in Pekin once in five years and is attended by students from all parts of the empire. Next to the above is the 殿試 Tien-shin, or Palace Examination, held within the precincts of the Palace. Each district of the empire is represented by a learned man in Pekin, whose duty it is to receive the students sent up from the provinces to undergo examination. Those who pass this examination successfully become graduates of the first degree, and bear the title of 秀才 Hsiu 'tsai, or men of superior talents. There are three higher degrees to be won, and the examinations to be passed by the competitors for these degrees are graded so that each is more difficult than its predecessor. The successful candidates receive new titles as they ascend the ladder of learning. Graduates of the 2nd degree are called 舉人 Chii jên, men of eminence or high rank; those of the 3rd degree 進士, Chin Shih, or advanced scholars, and those of the 4th degree 殿試 Tien Shih, that is men who have passed the final Palace examination and have thus reached the acme of literary fame. The number of students sent up to Pekin from the provinces to attend these examinations is limited, so that only young men that have won the highest honours in their own provinces are allowed to compete for degrees. The candidates that pass the examination for the third degree successfully, receive a perfect ovation from the inhabitants of their native villages or towns. But still higher honours await those successful at the Palace Examination. They are for the time being treated as princes, and when they leave the Palace they pass through a gateway which on all ordinary occasions is only opened for members of the royal family and the very higher officers of State. The men that soar to this height in the literary world are all drafted into the Government service. Notwithstanding the care with which these examinations are conducted and the severe tests of intellectual power to which Chinese students are subjected, there is no disguising the fact that the training of the higher Chinese officials is a very poor preparation for their duties and responsibilities as the rulers of a great empire. These polished classical scholars are ignorant of the geography, the history, and the science of the world. Of the state of Eastern countries, of the burning questions of Eastern policy, they know nothing. The scope of the education they receive is too narrow to qualify them to hold their own in the progressive age in which we live. While in Pekin, observed Mr. Otori, I repeatedly pointed this out to certain high-class officials with whom I was intimate. Whether what I said had any effect I cannot tell. The traditions of generations are hard things to part with. Yet, among the young men of Pekin I have reason to think there are a few anxious to strike out in a new line, having obtained from foreign teachers and other sources a knowledge of the outside world and being desirous of seeing an entirely new system of education inaugurated in China. But for the most part, those that have acquired knowledge of a foreign language and whose minds have been expanded by study of western science and literature, occupy subordinate positions in the Government, and are hence unable to make their influence felt to any appreciable degree in the administration of public affairs. Those aspiring to rise to high positions in the State are usually men that have confined their studies to classical literature. To expect that any radical reform should originate from such officials is to to expect an impossibility.

The Chinese as a nation are represented to be extremely bigoted and averse to change. But in my opinion the mass of the people are in no way opposed to reform. It is officialdom that blocks the path of progress. Nothing can exceed the diligence and perseverance in their several callings manifested by the non-official classes. They take no interest in the Government and are entirely without patriotism, owing to the fact that by their despotism and oppression the officials have rendered themselves a hated class. Patriotism cannot live where a nation's rulers are from generation to generation held in abhorrence by the masses. There are no enlightening influences in China. The newspaper and magazine, as they exist in Japan, are practically unknown in China. Yet there is no denying that the Chinese possess many of the characteristics that go to make a great nation. Their business capacity is marvellous; their simplicity of life and economy are unsurpassed by any nation. Some of their richest men live in modest looking dwellings, such as are elsewhere inhabited by persons that still have their fortunes to make.

In Japan education has made rapid strides, and we are now sufficiently far advanced to be qualified to act as China's instructors in numerous subjects. But we must not overlook the fact that in one particular we are inferior to the Chinese. We lack as a nation the power to persevere in the face of difficulty. We are impetuous. Without much forethought, in a light, inconsiderate mood, we embark on a new enterprise. We fail; and are at once thoroughly disheartened and abandon the enterprise with the same lightness with which we pledged ourselves to carry it through. Not so the Chinaman. No amount of difficulty, no giant obstacles daunt his spirit. With dogged perseverance he pursues the course he has marked out for himself, and never loses heart though years of toil lie between him and the final goal of his ambition. In learning how to do new things the Chinaman is not so quick as we are. But his dullness in this respect is more than atoned for by the persistence with which he works when he has once begun.

Japan is in some danger of being too elated by her victories and of overlooking her imperfections and weaknesses. There is an old saying, *Katte kabuto no o wo shimero*: "Tighten the strings of your helmet after victory." The lesson we should learn from the war is, increas edcaution.

THE ERUPTION OF KIRISHIMA-DAKE.

An eruption causing some loss of life took place on Kirishima-dake, at the boundary of the Province of Hyuga and Osumi, on the 16th instant. On receipt of the news, an official party of exploration, including Councillor Kikuchi and Chief Police Inspector Tateishi, were dispatched from Kagoshima the same day. After passing the night at Taguchi, a few miles from the volcanic peak, the party commenced the ascent on the morning of the 17th. Before proceeding far, however, they met a party of five persons who had just come down from the Peak of Takachiho, which is higher than that of Kirishima and is apparently reached by crossing the latter. These persons said that while ascending Takachiho, they had met a party of three persons who were descending, an old man, a woman, and a boy, and that the three could scarcely have escaped injury, as the eruption had taken place when they were within a dangerous distance of the crater. The persons making this statement had heard the report of the eruption just as they were commencing the descent. Not knowing what had happened and seized with fear, they had run down the mountain, evidently along a path different from that followed by them in going up. The official exploration party had ascended some distance when they saw the terribly mutilated corpse of a boy being carried down by some men, from whom it was learned that another dead body was higher up, but could not possibly be extricated from the mass of stones under which it lay. The unfortunate boy, Horikiri Takeo by name, was a son of the proprietor of the hot spring of Iwo-dani. At a short distance from the crater, the exploration party discovered an old woman's dead body lying on a large slab of rock, her face and body cut and bruised in a fearful manner, the rock and the thick layer of ashes around being dyed with her blood. At some distance lay the body of an old man in a similar condition. It was afterwards ascertained that the boy had conducted the old woman, a relative of his, to the hot spring belonging to his father at Iwo-dani, and, before accompanying her back to her home in Kajiki, had guided her to the peak of Takachiho to worship at a famous national shrine there. The old man was the boy's servant. As to the eruption, it took place within the old crater, which is about a hundred yards deep and more than a mile in circumference. A curious circumstance is that, while a strong shock was felt at Kagoshima, more than thirty miles from the mountain, the shaking of the ground was comparatively slight in the immediate vicinity of the volcano.

THE EMIGRATION ASSOCIATION.

The Standing Committee of the Emigration Association held a meeting on the 21st inst., with Viscount Enomoto in the chair. There were present Messrs. Ando Taro, Tamari Kizo, Yasui Mankichi, Takano Shusei, Sakuma Teiichi, Inouye Kakugoro, Kawamura Hisanao, Magaki Jocho, and so forth. Viscount Enomoto reported the results of negotiations with the Mexican Minister concerning a project of emigration to that country. He also submitted the draft constitution of a corporation to be formed for carrying out the above mentioned scheme of emigration. After a debate, the following reresolutions were adoptad:—

First, that the first instalment of the capital be paid in the course of the month of November.

Secondly, that a tract of land be purchased at Eskintra (?), in the month of December.

Thirdly, that the first batch of emigrants be confined, as far as possible, to independent settlers.

Fourthly, that detailed regulations be fixed at a meeting of the Standing Committee of Investigation to be held on the 30th instant.

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POLITICAL ITEMS.

It is now denied very explicitly that any foundation existed for the rumours recently circulated about a political *rapprochement* between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. The story is said to have been manufactured out of whole cloth by a news agency. At all events, the prediction that the Minister President of State and several of his colleagues would attend the garden party given by Count Okuma on the 18th instant, was falsified by events, for neither Marquis Ito nor any member of the Cabinet was present. Hence whatever inferences might have been drawn from the presence of the Ministers, falls to the ground in their absence. It was on the 18th of October, 1889, that Count Okuma lost his leg by the explosion of a bomb thrown at him as he was driving into the gate of the Foreign Office on his way back from a Cabinet meeting. The Count has not been in the habit of organizing any special festivities to commemorate the anniversary of the day, but his friends and well-wishers have usually called upon him, each year, *more Japonico*, to offer their congratulations, and in anticipation of their coming some hospitable preparations have been made. This year, however, being the seventh since the event, an exceptional step was taken. A garden party was organized, and invitations are said to have been issued to the Cabinet Ministers, among others. As to truth of that we know nothing, but certainly none of the Ministers were present. If their absence be significant of the Count's continued seclusion from official life, the fact is exceedingly regrettable in the interests of the country, for assuredly his services are badly needed.

A correspondent of the *Mainichi Shimbun* raises a curious and very shallow question about the interview said to have recently taken place between the Premier and Count Okuma. While the latter, after resigning the portfolio of Foreign Affairs in 1889, held the office of Privy Councillor, he opened communications with Count Itagaki, leader of the *Jiyu-to*, which party was then bitterly opposed to the Government. Commerce with a party leader hostile to the Cabinet being considered improper, Count Okuma had to give up his post of Privy Councillor. Has the principle then observed been altered now, asks the correspondent. If not, how is it lawful for Count Ito the Premier, to pay a friendly visit to Count Okuma, leader of the *Kaishin-to*, if it was not lawful for Count Okuma, the Privy Councillor, to pay a friendly visit to Count Itagaki, leader of the *Jiyu-to*? We presume that the writer in the *Mainichi* expects to find some reader completely lacking in discernment. Otherwise it would obviously be labour lost to invite comparison between a member of the Government's opening correspondence with a party leader for the purpose of overthrowing the Government, and the Minister President's opening relations with a party leader for the purpose of bringing him into the Government.

THE LATE PROFESSOR KONAKAMURA.

In the person of Professor Konakamura, who has succumbed to cholera, Japan loses one of the greatest scholars of her national literature. He was born on the 22nd of January, 1822, in the family of a goldsmith in Kojimachi, Yedo. Although belonging to the despised class of plebeians, his family was descended from the lower grade of gentry, his ancestor who first settled in the Shogun's capital having been a son of the Shinto priest attached to the celebrated Hachiman Shrine of Iwashimizu in Yamashiro. With the priestly blood there seems to have descended in the family a taste for the national classical literature that the guardians of the Shrines have always been distinguished for cultivating. At the age of six he could read story books in the popular style. He studied national classics under the guidance of such masters as Iwo Hidenori and Motowori Uchitoo. His fame as a scholar finally reaching the ears of the powerful Prince of Kii, he was appointed President of the Classical Department in the College of the Clan at Wakayama, when he was about forty years of age. This appointment carried with it the status of a *samurai*. At the time of the Restoration, his extensive stores of information relating to the institutions and usages under the ancient Imperial régime were of immense value to the new Government in compiling the organizations of the newly revived departments of State. After rendering similar services in the compilation of laws, he was appointed a Professor in the Imperial University, his speciality being the ancient laws and institutions of the Empire. In addition to his Professorship, he was appointed by the Emperor a life member of the House of Peers in September, 1890. His official rank meanwhile was advanced by degrees until he was of the First Grade of the Fifth Class when he died. Besides his official duties, he was indefatigable in lending assistance to every project started for the encouragement of study of the national literature. His sudden death is deeply regretted by the public in general, and by every student of national classics in particular.

DRAFT OF NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET.

The *Taiyo* publishes a financial statement said to have been presented to the Cabinet by Count Matsukata before he resigned his portfolio. The figures given are as follow :—

BUDGET OF 1896.

	Yen.
Revenue	94,080 000
Expenditure	84,050.000
Surplus	10,030.000
Increase of Government Expenses	8,210,000
Increase of Expenditure consequent on the War	17,300,000
Total	25,510,000
Surplus	10,030,000
Deficiency	15,480,000
War Expenditure in the past	159,000,000
Realized by Government bonds and from surplus of last year's revenue.	104,000,000
Deficiency	55,000.000
Increase of the Saké tax to be levied from October 1st, 1895	10,800,000
Tax on business, to be collected from January 1st, 1896	7,500,000
	18,300,000
Loss on taxes to be abolished	2,600,000
	15,700,000
Deficiency (as above)	15,480,000
Surplus	220,000

Method of expending the Indemnity to be paid by China :—

	Yen.
To meet outlays already incurred on account of the War, as shown above	55,000,000
Increase of the Army	50,000,000
Increase of the Navy	30,000,000
Cost of building a dockyard for the construction of ironclads	5,000,000
Contingent and Incidental Expenses	50,000,000
Expense of Establishing a Bank of Agriculture	10,000,000
	300,000,000

MARQUIS ITO AND COUNT OKUMA.

Marquis Ito's visit to Count Okuma, on the 8th instant, having given rise to a very generally credited rumour that the latter statesman is about to enter the Cabinet, the Progressionists sent a deputation to wait upon their leader with the object of ascertaining the truth of the story. The deputation consisted of Messrs. Koizuka Ryu, Ogawa Michizo, and Kurosu Ryutaro. The conversation, as reported in the *Mainichi*, was as follows :—

Deputation—May we ask if it is true that your Excellency was recently visited by the Premier, Marquis Ito?

Count—It is true. Ito is in office and I am out of office, but we were such intimate co-workers in the early years of the Restoration as to be completely identified with each other in the eyes of the public. It is, therefore, but natural that, however much we may now differ in political opinions, we should see in each other close friends whenever we meet. Ito knew my deceased mother very well, as he also knows my wife. He recollects the former days of intimate friendship with my family, and was good enough on the 8th instant to pay us a visit of condolence in consequence of the lamented loss of our parent. He remained with us three hours, during which, although we avoided all political topics, we had most pleasant talk about subjects that caused us mutual sorrow or joy in the days of the Restoration. Our present difference in politics is not sufficient to obliterate our friendship.

Deputation—We think we know your Excellency pretty well, but the public say that you are about to enter the Cabinet.

Count—The public is apt to say extraordinary things. When there is any anti-Cabinet movement, the public alleges that I am at the bottom of it. When Matsukata resigned, men said I had instigated him. They say I am an intriguer and that my object is to pull down the Government. Whenever anything unfavourable to the Government is projected, it is always ascribed to my influence. I am confident that I am the best judge of myself, and that whatever abuse the public chooses to heap upon me has no power to make me different from what I am. One day or another, the truth will be known, and even if it should not be known, I do not care, I am sure that, if anybody is in a fortunate position, I am the man. I used to say that three beings deserve to be worshipped and revered; namely the deities, the Emperor, and my mother. My mother having died, my duties are to the deities and the Emperor. In all other respects I am perfectly at liberty; I have not to bend my knees to anybody in the world. Nothing can be more delightful for me than to live in this secluded suburb and say what I like to say about the current events of the time. Occupying such a situation, what should induce me to desire power? Whatever the public may say about me, I am contented to remain in a position where I can enjoy complete freedom of opinion. Nothing could be more extraordinary than that men should talk of my entrance into the Cabinet. You know well that long as I served in the Government, I never held office at the sacrifice of my political views. Obstinacy is my constitutional malady. So long as it remains uncured you may believe I am still alive. Had I been free from this weakness, I might have continued without interruption to hold a Ministerial post. That you now find me leading a retired life, is a proof that my self-confidence is still unshaken. I feel constrained to differ from those in power about the meaning of the term loyalty. The men in power are apt to say that though sincerely reluctant to assume office, they dare not disobey the Imperial Command without doing violence to their loyalty. Is that true loyalty? If it be, it is the kind of loyalty taught by Chinese philosophy. I am disposed to believe that true loyalty requires men sometimes even to disobey the Emperor's Commands. Such cases may be rare, but still it is quite conceivable that the Imperial orders may not be compatible with the interests of the Imperial House and of the Empire. In such instances, true loyalty should counsel disobedience to the Imperial wishes. I am confident that my interpretation of loyalty is correct, and I shall not abandon that confidence for the sake of obtaining a Ministerial post. You must not suppose, however, that I have become a recluse. Although leading a retired life, my thoughts never wander from the Imperial House and the Empire. Should the time arrive when I can serve my country without doing violence to my conscience, I shall ever be ready to offer myself to the State, not hesitating to serve in its cause until the last breath of my life. But I shall never be guilty of taking office against my convictions.

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WHAT SHOULD BE THE EDUCATION OF ISLANDERS?

In the *Kokumin Shimbun* we find some interesting statistics bearing on the shipping tonnage of Japan compared with that of other countries, furnished by a naval officer, Captain Kimotsuki Kaneyuki, who makes these statistics the basis of certain general observations on Japan's past history and the text for a discourse on the policy to be adopted in future. The following is a full *résumé* of Captain Kimotsuki's address.

There is no truer saying than that "marine transport is the mother of the navy." Any country that aims at enlarging its navy must be prepared to develop transport facilities in a corresponding ratio to the proposed increase of its men-of-war. A glance at the marine transport of western countries is sufficient to show how far we are behind and how urgent is the need of increased attention being paid to this subject. If all ships of over 100 tons be included, the total number of merchant vessels in the world is 30,792, aggregating 24,655,000 tons, distributed as follow:—

	Tons.
England	12,970,000
America	2,171,000
Germany	1,785,000
Norway	1,669,000
France	1,090,000
Italy	772,000
Spain	547,000
Sweden	498,000
Russia	477,000
Holland	437,000
Greece	343,000
Denmark	333,000
Austria-Hungary	303,000
Japan	282,000

The above table shows that England does more than half of the carrying trade of the world and hence holds the rank of the Monarch of the Seas. There is nothing surprising in the fact that next on the list to England stand America and Germany; but that a little country like Norway should rank so high is specially calculated to excite admiration and to stimulate hope in Japan. Although the late war was the means of adding a number of ships to our merchant fleet, last year's official report gives the total number of ships as only 450 and the tonnage 282,000. If the shipping tonnage of several of the above-named Powers be compared to the number of inhabitants, the results are as follow:—For every 1,000 inhabitants Norway has 835 tons, England, 312, Japan, 7. If the number of inhabitants per 100 tons of shipping be calculated, it is found that Norway has 120, England 321, and Japan 14,540. Though in point of population Japan occupies the fifth place among the nations of the world, with a feeling of shame I say it, in marine transport she is but an infant. We all know what kind of a country Norway is. It does not extend beyond the 57th degree of south latitude; its northermost boundary reaches the 72nd degree; in size it does not exceed 20,800 square miles,* and 75 per cent. of this area is utterly useless for cultivation. Such a country cannot for a moment be compared with Japan. And yet, with all these physical drawbacks, the Norwegians have succeeded in developing a marine transport business of dimensions that are perfectly astounding.

Now let us turn our attention to the freight paid on goods imported into Japan. In 1893 this amounted to 16,886,000 *yen*. Of this sum our ships only earned 1,415,600 *yen*, that is about 8 per cent. This is like buying a fish and allowing the cat to carry it off. There is no reason whatever why the whole of the above large sum of money should not annually swell Japanese coffers.

The rank held by the various countries of the world in naval power are as follow:—England I., France II., Russia III., Italy IV., Germany V., America VI., Spain VII. Prior to the late war, Japan ranked 12th, but the captured Chinese vessels have enabled her to rise four grades and she now occupies the 8th place. But where we are so far behind other countries is the inability of our people to provide money for the increase of our armaments. The amount annually collected for this purpose is pitiably small. While France is able to raise an annual sum in gold of 174,920,000 *yen*, Japan can only raise in silver 18,450,000 *yen*. Taking the population of the two countries, France collects in gold 4 *yen* 56 cents per inhabitant and Japan only 45 cents in silver. Even including the amount provided for incidental expenses, the budget of 1894 gives a total sum that represents only 61 cents per inhabitant, being 36 cents for the army and 25 for the Navy.

When Napoleon was asked what is the most important thing in war, he replied "money." It is here that Japan feels her deficiency when compared with Western Powers. It is plain that the country can only be permanently enriched by the harmonious working of four distinct agencies. 1, There must be good government; 2, an efficient army and navy; 3, development of trade and industry of every kind; 4, moral power. These agencies must be adjusted so as not to injure each other. The increase of the army and navy must be proportioned to the ability of taxpayers to meet the additional expense involved. In regard to the efficiency of our troops, the late war proved that we need have no apprehensions on this point. All our energies should therefore be centred on increasing the volume of our trade and developing industry. In this lies the source of a country's greatness.

The present position of our country may be compared to that of a man finding himself in the capital of a great empire after spending most of his life in the country. We find ourselves in the midst of new surroundings. We can no longer live after the fashion of our ancestors. Our actions cannot but be influenced by the new associations. Thus there will arise a new generation of Japanese whose lives will be moulded by the spirit of the age. Among the material sources of a country's prosperity three call for special mention, namely: (1) increase of population; (2) quality of the soil; (3) location and physical advantages. (1). In respect of population, leaving China out of the calculation, the order in which different countries stand is as follows:—I., Russia; II., America; III., Germany; IV., Austria; V., England, France, and Japan. As regards the quality of her soil, location, and physical advantages Japan very much resembles England.

Captain Kimotsuki here institutes an elaborate geographical comparison between Japan and Great Britain. The Straits of Tsugaru are said to correspond to the Straits of Gibraltar, Tsushima to the island of Malta, and so on. England is represented as having attained her present position as lord of the seas owing to her geographical position, and it is argued that Japan is no less favourably situated. The time is not far distant, observes Captain Kimotsuki, when the completion of the Siberian railway and the Nicaragua Canal will make Japan one of the most important centres of the world. In view of this, is it not to be regretted that our agriculture is so far in advance of our commerce and industry? Just as the centre of a great city is too valuable to be turned into a rice field, so a country which lies on the very highroad of commerce is better designed for taking the lead in trade and industry than growing cereals. The following table gives the proportionate development of agriculture, industry and commerce in England, France, Germany, America, and Japan:—

	Agriculture.	Industry.	Commerce.
England	22	68	10
France	57	30	13
Germany	48	41	11
America	57	29	14
Japan	79	7	14

It is quite evident that with its rapidly increasing population and its urgent and even growing need for money, Japan can no longer depend principally on its agricultural resources as it has hitherto done. The rapidity with which the population is increasing ought to occupy the serious attention of our statesmen. It has been calculated that in a hundred years it will be three times what it now is. Since the products of the soil will no longer sustain the growing population, the rising generation must be prepared to strike out in a new line, to make it their ambition to win for Japan's industries and commerce a name such as has been won for her army and navy. How best to prepare the young men of Japan for the world of commerce and industry in which they are to play a prominent part is the most urgent of all educational questions.

* These figures are incorrect, even supposing that the Japanese *ri* is intimated, they do not represent more than about a third of the size of Norway, which is given in Bartholomew's Gazetteer at 125,646.39 *ri*.

CHINA NEWS.

"From a private letter just received from Foochow," says the *Pekin and Tientsin Times*, "we learn that two or three days before the Kuchêng massacre, Mr. Stewart was visited by one of the leaders of the Vegetarians, who brought presents for the children, and had tea with the family. He enquired from Mr. Stewart whether he could lend him a gun as he was desirous of setting out after tigers which were giving trouble in some near neighbourhood. It is now supposed that he was spying out the situation of the houses, and satisfying himself that the Missionaries had no firearms."

Concerning the notorious Chou Han, who, from his retreat in Hunan, has again been issuing rabid anti-foreign brochures, the *North China Daily News* recalls the following interesting facts:—

In May, 1892, there was published in the *Pekin Gazette* the report of the investigation by the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung and the Governor of Hunan into the charges made against Chou Han of issuing libellous placards, etc. The substance of the report was that Chou Han was not guilty, that he had fits of insanity, and that "designing persons must have made use of his name, as that of a person in high position, in order to attract more attention." The Viceroy and Governor acquitted him of the actual charges made against him, but proposed that he should be temporarily cashiered and kept at home under surveillance in order to prevent his doing it again. Prince Ching and the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên backed the report, and an Imperial Decree was issued, declaring that Chou Han, by his wild language and insane conduct had enabled evil-disposed persons to make use of his name and excite the public by fabricated stories. He therefore could not be held guiltless. He was to be cashiered forthwith, and further compelled to return to his home, to be kept under the strict supervision of the local authorities, who were not to allow him to go abroad or cause trouble. Some wood blocks with which the offensive placards had been printed were burnt at Hankow in the presence of the British Consul, and Sir John Walsham was satisfied.

In 1892, Dr. Griffith John was Chou Han's chief accuser, and now once more the same sturdy Christian arraigns the nominally insane ex-official on the same charge. There have been published in Szechuan and Kwangsi new editions of the infamous "Death to the Devils' Religion," the authorship being openly attributed to "Chou, a Disciple of Confucius and a Minister of the Great Pure Dynasty." It is impossible not to endorse the contention that the opening of Hunan to foreign trade, and the invasion of Chou Han's retreat at Changsha are measures essential to peaceful relations with China.

The *Pekin Gazette* gives an account of a terrible practice said to be in vogue in the south of Chihli. Children are kidnapped and held to ransom. Should no ransom be forthcoming, they are killed, cut up, and the pieces of their bodies sent to their parents. A Censor brought the matter to the notice of the Throne, the local officials having refused to interfere.

The Pekin correspondent of the *North China Daily News* gives the following account of Sir Nicholas O'Conor's action with regard to the ex-Viceroy Liu:—

He began by asking for Commissions, and such like, but finally last Thursday, 26th September, he went to the Tsung-li Yamên with an ultimatum in his pocket. He had previously given them three days to think the matter over and come to some decision. Their mind was, however, made up, and there on the spot they stood to their determination not to concede the demands of the British Minister,

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and therefore they said the granting of a period of time in which to deliberate and come to a conclusion was altogether unnecessary. On the day in question, the Princes and all the Ministers with Ex-Viceroy Li Hung-chang, were at the Yamên to meet Sir Nicholas. The conference lasted between two and three hours, and it ended by the British Minister tabling his ultimatum to the effect that if in four days (the period expiring on Sunday evening at sunset, 29th September) a favourable decision was not arrived at, he would put the whole affair into the hands of the Admiral. The Minister gave them till 10th October, a period of 14 days, in which to issue the edict degrading and banishing Liu Ping-chang, the late Viceroy of Sze-chuan. On Sunday the edict was issued and it is eminently satisfactory in every respect, although not banishing the degraded official. The local magistrates have their penalties yet to be meted out to them after their cases shall have been investigated. This puts an end, humanly speaking, to all further trouble in China against foreigners. He will be a bold official who in the face of this edict of degradation and deprivation for ever from office will attempt directly or indirectly to stir up trouble against missionaries and foreigners.

The American Commission to inquire into the circumstances of the Szechuan riots started from Tientsin on October 6th. The route selected is almost the same as that followed by Messer Marco, so many years ago. It is a two months' journey, some 1,700 miles, and the Commission can not hope to begin its work until seven months after the occurrences it has to investigate. The Commissioners will travel through the capitals of Chihli, Shansi, and Shensi, and will receive from the Governor of each province a cavalry escort of 50 troopers to accompany them to the capital of the next province. A quicker and easier route would have been *viâ* the Yangtze river, but the idea of the United States Government is to advertise as widely as possible the fact that a Commission has been sent by the great Republic, under the compulsory auspices and protection of Chinese officialdom, to investigate anti-Christian riots and determine the penalties imposable for the destruction of foreign property. From that point of view, the long, weary journey of two months will probably bear commensurate fruit.

A batch of nine men have been executed at Chêng-tu for participation in the riots of last May. We take the following paragraph on the subject from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

According to despatches received from Chêngtu, nine of the rioters concerned in the disturbances last May were executed by order of the Viceroy Lu on the 10th ult. The names of the condemned were Wang Hsiang yo, Hsia Lao-hsing, Yang Ying-shih, Tung Lao-wu (a Manchu), Wang Ts'ih (who volunteered to die for his relative who is the only son of a widow), Liao Kuang P'i-ku, Fu Ma-yao-ku, Wu Lao-wu, and Chang Sz-ma-ize also nick-named "the Hungry Tiger." These men decorated themselves with red cloth tied round their heads as bravoes (*Ying hsing*), and some had coloured paper tied like aprons round the waist. They conversed gaily with the crowds that followed the procession to the execution ground and some sang warlike songs of ancient heroes. There were no regrets expressed as sometimes happens in such cases, except the harangue of Tung Lao-wu, the Manchu, who cried out to the crowd on the execution ground:—"We are here to die to-day; but in what a manner! Is this the reward we deserve, and ought not *our friends* to have come to bid us a farewell? Really it makes one indignant to think of this!" There was apparently a covert meaning in these remarks for they had friends and sympathisers following them by the thousand—and probably referred to the instigators of the riots, whom Tung Lao-wu really expected to escape scot-free. The Provincial Judge and principal civil and military local authorities watched the executions. There are still a number of prisoners waiting in the Yamens probably to be tried before British and American Commissions when the time comes. This execution took place for certain reasons best known to the officials, and perhaps was really meant as a warning to the populace to abstain from further violence against foreigners.

The men that made such a savage attack on Dr. Sheffield in Tungchow three months ago, nearly accomplishing his death, are confined in the Tungchow prison, their hands free but their feet in wooden stocks. They threaten, if they ever get out, to kill every foreigner they can find and to make mince-meat of Dr. Sheffield.

According to the *China Gazette*, several of the German officers engaged for service at Nanking during the war, have returned from Shanghai, completely dissatisfied with the arrangements about their pay.

Mr. Wright, third engineer of the Blue-funnel steamer *Sarpedon*, died in the Shanghai General Hospital on October 11th. He was turning on the steam in the pipe on deck connected with one of the winches a week previously, when the valve blew out, the steam scalding him fearfully, and the force of the explosion throwing him across the open hatch into the 'tween-decks. He was able to get up and call for assistance, and on the steamer's arrival at Shanghai was taken to the Hospital, but all the care that was given him was unavailing. He was only 25 years old.

According to a despatch received in Shanghai from Pekin, the Grand Secretary Li Hung-chang having been delegated full powers to conclude the Commercial Treaty with Japan, has really no proper office, outside the Inner City, where he can conveniently meet the Japanese Minister. To supply this want the Emperor has ordered apartments to be prepared for him in the Tsung-li Yamên and has also appointed a staff of eight secretaries and deputies to serve under him. A wooden seal containing the legend: "The seal of the Chief High Commissioner, granted plenary powers by Imperial edict to conclude the Treaty," has also been given Li; but the fact of its being a wooden one suggests the transitory nature of Li's "plenary powers," and that as soon as this Treaty has been ratified the ex-Viceroy will be relegated to the literary sinecure provided for him in the *Nui-kô* or Inner Council Chamber. It is generally believed, though, that it will not be long before the Emperor will be obliged to bring him back into full power.

It is reported in Shanghai that the Rev. Timothy Richard is now in Pekin busy making arrangements for establishing a Chinese daily paper in the capital, and that this scheme has received the hearty support of a large number of distinguished officers connected with the Imperial Court. There is even a report that the Emperor, upon being informed of Mr. Richard's intention, was much pleased at the idea, hoping that when it is realised he will be easily informed of what is going on in the world without being dependent on Court gossip or the uncertain memorials of his Ministers.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says that two Edicts dated the 13th instant were received at Shanghai from Pekin, appointing Yü Lu, the Tartar-general and Brevet Viceroy at Moukden (Fengtien) to the post of Tartar-General of Foochow and Superintendent of Customs at that port in the empire. It will be remembered that Yü Lu, as Governor-General of Féngtien or Western Manchuria, was during the recent war degraded step by step successively for the fall of the Yalu cities and those in the Liao-tung Peninsula, and for the loss of Newchwang and Yingkow, so that by this time, although still retained in office, the button on his official hat ought properly speaking to be merely a gilt one. With his new appointment, however, all his former ranks and titles are returned to him, which shows that in spite of losing three-fourths of his Viceroyalty to the Japanese, Yü Lu is still in high favour with his Emperor. By the same decree the famous Tartar-General E-k'ô-t'ang-à (also described as "General I"), commander of the Tartar forces that opposed the Japanese in East and North Manchuria, is appointed to the post vacated by Yü Lu, as a reward for his (E-kô-t'ang-à's) services last year and this spring. By another decree of the same date, Shou Yng, one of the Vice-Presidents at Pekin, has been appointed to the Military Governorship of Jeho, *vice* Ch'ung Li, whose illness was reported last week.

The *North China Daily News* reported the other day the existence of another insurrection in Kwangtung, this time in one of the districts belonging to the prefecture of Kaochou, on the sea-coast and about 500 miles to the north-east of Canton. According to an edict of the 12th inst. wired to Shanghai, the Vice-President of the Court of Censors, Yang Yi, a native of Canton, has memorialised the Throne of this rising and denounced the inability of Li Chih-fan, the district magistrate of Wuch'uan-hsien, of Kaochou prefecture, for having been unable to nip the insurrection in the bud when it began in his district. The Viceroy and Governor of the province having been instructed to investigate the matter, report that the district magistrate in question had neglected nothing to suppress the rising and had succeeded, by offering large rewards, in capturing a number of insurgents, but that owing to the limited means at hand he had been unsuccessful in capturing the two chiefs of the rising, nick-named "P'ang Lai" and "Cha Wei" (Eczema and Dregs), who were therefore still at large. The said district magistrate is therefore, by this decree, removed from office and the Viceroy T'an is commanded to send troops to suppress the insurrection, which, as the denouncing Censor Yang Yi reports, "threatens to assume serious dimensions if not promptly and vigorously dealt with."

The local native papers, says a Shanghai contemporary, accuse Liu Wei-yuan, the Formosa millionaire who fled from Taipehfu to Amoy about the time of the collapse of the Formosa Republic under President T'ang, of having, through his agents in Formosa, offered five million dollars to the Japanese for the privilege of retaining his immense estates in the island, offering also to become a citizen of Japan. The speedy fall of Taipehfu at the time of the Japanese attack on Kelung is also attributed to the treachery of the millionaire, whose friends were the first to notify the Japanese of the defenceless condition of the Formosan capital. Liu Wei-yuan, it will be remembered, is a descendant of the chief lieutenant of the celebrated Chinese pirate Koxinga, who drove the Dutch out of the island at the end of the Ming dynasty. Upon the occupation of Formosa by Koxinga's hordes, he divided up the island amongst his lieutenants, the chief share naturally falling to Liu Wei-yuan's ancestor and remaining in the hands of the family until the present day. For Liu Wei-yuan's numerous contributions to the government in times of financial crisis, amounting to nearly eight million dollars during the last fifteen years, he was made Director of the Court of the Imperial Stud—one of the five Courts attached to the Imperial Palace—or a mandarin of the 3rd rank, class A, and also Vice-Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for Formosa, a Board established for the encouragement of agriculture amongst settlers as well as for the civilisation of the savages. Upon the cession of Formosa to Japan, however, Liu Wei-yuan resigned his posts on the score of sickness, which was permitted by Imperial decree. This left him free to become a Japanese subject, if he considered the change advantageous.

The *Wantai*, the Foochow built cruiser which ran down and sank the *Birkhall*, at Woosung recently, has been paid off, according to the *China Gazette*, and put out of commission for three years in order to save sufficient money to make up for the loss the Chinese Government has been let in for over the accident, and she has gone to the Kiangnan Arsenal to lie up for that period. When this decision was made known amongst the crew, and they were all told they would be dismissed in order to save their wages (which, by the way, were seldom paid), there was a regular mutiny on board, and Captain Yung, who himself, poor man, was far from a gainer through the accident, as we shall presently relate, had to sleep that night with two revolvers under his pillow in order to be ready for the Chinese crew who were expected to rise every moment. Captain Yung, who is a very advanced young Chinaman, educated in the highest naval schools in Germany, has been stripped of all his private wealth, which goes against the bill presented by the owners of the *Birkhall*, and has been exiled to the "fever regions" for three years as a punishment for saddling his Government with so much expense as the settlement of the *Birkhall* claim will entail, at a time when China has as much on her hands in the financial line as she can conveniently tackle.

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THE KOREAN IMBROGLIO.

PUBLIC opinion will not be likely to find any extenuation of the part played by Japanese in the Korean *coup d'état* of the 8th instant. Nothing more unfortunate for the reputation of this country could possibly have occurred. Standing before the world as guardians of the wretched little Kingdom's morals, pioneers that should lead its people into the path of civilization, the Japanese themselves have cöoperated in precisely the kind of crime most opposed to the principles they profess. It is a miserable business. What we have to avoid, however, is an indiscriminate verdict. Considering the evidence thus far available, it appears just to distinguish between the actual incidents of the *émeute* and the general plan. It may be that the assassination of the QUEEN entered into the programme conceived by the Japanese *Soshi*, whose secret conference at Yongsan immediately preceded the *coup d'état*. But we can not believe that any Japanese officers or officials were privy to such an act of brutality. A more rational hypothesis is that the conspiracy, as represented to those whose share in it constitutes the most serious disgrace to Japan, did not extend beyond the deposition of the QUEEN and the final overthrow of the MIN faction. On the purpose entertained by the TAI WÖN-KUN, indeed, we have no warrant to put anything but the worst construction. The old Prince's unvarying loyalty to deeds of blood, throughout his whole career, makes it very probable that he intended the QUEEN'S violent death to be an essential feature of the affair. With her decease the power of the faction opposed to him would be finally broken, and, moreover, events had shown of late that his own personal safety, not merely his recovery of political influence, depended on getting HER MAJESTY out of the way. It is true that her public deposition and disgrace would have served that purpose equally well, but looking back to the long struggle in which this clever, resourceful woman had always defeated his attempts to overthrow her, the TAI WÖN-KUN may not unreasonably have thought that nothing short of her death would suffice to bring him peace and power. Whatever may be the extent of the old Prince's savagery, however, we are most unwilling to think that educated Japanese were privy to such a deed: their purpose probably did not extend beyond a reversal of the political situation, the deposition of the QUEEN and the disgrace of the MIN faction. But when a man sets fire to a dwelling-house, the law holds him guilty of manslaughter, as well as arson, should any lives be lost in the conflagration, though no idea of taking life originally prompted his act. So, too, every Japanese that countenanced or cöoperated in the *émeute* in Söul must accept responsibility for everything that occurred in its sequel. Nothing can mitigate the disgrace except a frank and full national condemnation of the affair, a searching inquiry into the details, and unflinching punishment of the guilty persons. We observe with pleasure that the Government is not disposed to hesitate. The almost instantaneous recall of Viscount MIURA, together with some forty members of the Legation and Consulate at Söul, is a measure of the most uncompromising nature, nor can we doubt its justification, seeing that the return of Mr. HOSHI TORU to Tokyo has placed the Ministry in possession of sufficiently explicit information as to the action of the Japanese officials in Söul. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, indeed, mentions a report that Viscount MIURA himself was privy to the *coup d'état*, and that he suffered the arrangements to proceed, despite the strong remonstrances of Mr. SAITO SHUICHIRO, and two or three other far-seeing persons. Our contemporary would scarcely allude to such a story unless there were reasons to credit it. If it be true, we shall not be surprised to receive confirmation of the rumour that Viscount MIURA has committed suicide. Judging from the tone of the vernacular press, he and all those directly or indirectly concerned in the disgraceful affair will go down in history as objects of national execration. They may have thought that in the deposition of the QUEEN lay the only remaining chance of saving the cause of reform in Korea, but although that hypothesis would tend to vindicate their motives, no conceivable theory can excuse their methods. We have not the smallest doubt that without direct interference in the domestic affairs of the Kingdom, no programme of administrative and fiscal regeneration has any chance of success, and we perceive plainly enough that, in view of the attitude assumed last April by Germany, Russia, and France, direct interference by Japan must involve serious international complications. But it would be incomparably better to bow to the logical necessity of direct interference, defying its consequences, than to have recourse to the disgraceful alternative illustrated by the events of the 8th instant. If the sight of immediately impending administrative relapse, and the menace of retrogressive intrigues obscured the moral vision of some Japanese in Söul, it is re-assuring to find that their countrymen at home take a more wholesome view and are not slow to give expression to it.

ANONYMS AND ANONYMITY.

WITHOUT desiring to take any part in the controversy now carried on in these columns between defenders and deniers of Old Testament prophecy, we feel constrained, in our editorial capacity, to notice a remark made by the Rev. J. M. MCCALEB in his last letter. The Rev. gentleman, referring to his opponent "Secularian," writes:—

> While there may be certain circumstances from which one is justified in withholding his name from his own writings, it is to me nevertheless a reason of suspicion that the writer is either ashamed of his position or lacking in a due degree of sincerity in actually believing what he claims. That such suspicion may not rest upon Mr. Secularian, I request that before he attempt further objection to my letters, that he either give me satisfactory reason, by private note, for writing over an assumed name changing with each succeeding letter, or give his real signature. Indeed, Sir, if the thinking world of to-day are, as indicated, with Mr. Secularian, I should think he would be pleased to be identified with such honourable company. I may be far behind the times and exceedingly ignorant, yet I am nevertheless so sincere in what I hold that I am anxious that my name go down to posterity on the side of Christ and his saints. While Christian people generally have not abandoned the prophecies as my critic seems to think, I may be allowed to suggest perhaps a truer statement, that many of the more experienced, avoiding my mistake, rather than be unfairly treated before the reading public, and be pained by having that Holy Name evil spoken against, have abandoned such critics as Mr. Secularian.

This paragraph contains one very grave assertion, seriously impugning not alone the good faith of "Secularian," but also that of the *Japan Mail*. Putting aside for the moment the question whether or not anonymity is permissible and proper in such controversies, we can not but think that Mr. MCCALEB should have exercised more discretion than to accuse "Secularian" of "writing over an assumed name changing with each succeeding letter." It is a rule invariably observed by all respectable journals—a rule founded on the plainest principles of integrity—that communications on the same subject from the pen of the same writer must not be inserted if they have different *noms de plume* appended. There can be only one object in using various signatures under such circumstances, and that object is to deceive the public; to convey the false impression that writers as numerous as the signatures employed are ranged on the side of arguments advanced by only one person in reality. No honest editor, we repeat, would lend his columns for the purposes of such simulation, and no honest correspondent would resort to it. Mr. MCCALEB doubtless preferred his accusation without reflecting on its significance, and will make due acknowledgment when he recognises the nature of the deception ascribed by him to both our correspondent and ourselves. We do not pretend to say that the rule here laid down is observed by all the foreign journals published in Japan. It is on record that an English newspaper of Yokohama suffered two correspondents—one a reporter on its own staff, the other an *employé* of the Japanese Government—to publish in its columns letter after letter, all bearing different anonyms and all devoted to abuse of the *Japan Mail*. The wretched fraud was continued for some years, but beyond the narrow circle of imposters privy to it, no one could have been found to defend it for an instant.

As to the question of anonymity, it may be advisable to say a word from an out-

sider's point of view. We are constrained to think that "Secularian's" prudence in not writing over his own signature, is vindicated by the attitude of Mr. McCaleb himself. The one paragraph quoted above sufficiently illustrates our meaning. Unfortunately, the time has not yet arrived when defenders of Orthodoxy can be persuaded to treat their opponents as every sincere and conscientious thinker is entitled to be treated. To all digressions from the narrow path of traditional faith there attaches a stigma the value of which as an unfair means of deterring criticism is only too well understood. No man deserves to be hounded for his opinions, so long as they are not immoral or degrading, yet the history of religious controversies forbids us to hope that any man assailing orthodoxy to-day can escape a certain measure of opprobrium. Assuredly he would be bound to face that danger if by proclaiming his identity the cause of truth could be promoted. But how can the value of Old Testament prophecies be affected one tittle by publishing or withholding "Secularian's" real name? Mr. McCaleb must appreciate that point quite as clearly as we do, and when he seeks to discredit "Secularian's" arguments on the ground of their formulator's anonymity, he simply points the wisdom of excluding the personal element altogether from such discussions.

POPULAR QUALIFICATIONS AND OFFICIAL ORDINANCES.

THE large interval by which popular sentiment is separated from practical administration in Japan has been frequently illustrated. Claiming to speak in the name of the nation, the Opposition in the Diet protests, every session, against all legislation tending to restrict the liberty of the subject. At the outset of parliamentary institutions the extremists on the Radical side—then a numerous and influential coterie—clamoured so loudly for a large extension of the franchise and liberal interpretation of the Constitution, that foreign critics began to predict for Japan the future of a South-American republic. That mania passed away in part, but in some other respects the Representatives' estimate of their constituencies' qualifications remained as high as ever. Absolute freedom of speech and pen—liberty for the safe enjoyment of which not more than two or three peoples have shown themselves sufficiently advanced—has always been demanded by an overwhelming majority of the Lower House, and would long ago have received legal sanction did not the Upper House stand in the way. So, too, each session has seen the Representatives unconditionally rescind the Peace Preservation Regulations, and each rescission has been followed by incidents conclusively demonstrating the utility of the obnoxious law. An equally conspicuous example has just been brought into special prominence by the Korean *coup d'état*. Last year, the Government issued an urgency ordinance imposing restrictions on the passage of Japanese subjects to Korea, the object being to keep out an element so disturbing as the Japanese *Soshi*, who, ever since the celebrated conspiracy in which certain members of the present House of Representatives took a leading part, have betrayed a markted disposition to regard the politics of the little kingdom as a proper arena for their stalwart performances. In the ordinary course of constitutional routine the Government had to submit the Ordinance to the Diet in its next session, and the House of Representatives, true to its habitual rôle, refused to sanction the law, which consequently became, from that time, inoperative. Now, within a few months of the Diet's action, the public learns that Japanese *Soshi* have just taken a leading part in a disgraceful *émeute* in Söul, bringing discredit on their country and impairing her foreign relations. We can scarcely imagine any more striking evidence that the Government's knowledge of the nation's administrative needs is much more accurate than the Diet's estimate of popular qualifications. It is, of course, a most wholesome feature that the people's representatives ask for a fuller measure of liberty than they enjoy, and attach to the rights of the subject a higher value than they are yet entitled to command. Such a state of affairs indicates that legislative progress remains fully within the bounds of safety. But we must confess that the reasoning of the Opposition organs at the present juncture does not strengthen the claims they habitually advance. When it was pointed out that a portion of responsibility for Japanese participation in the Söul *émeute* must be borne by the House of Representatives, which had rescinded a measure directly intended to avert such occurrences, the Opposition journals ridiculed the assertion, contending that Consuls in Korea, in the ordinary discharge of their functions, have ample power to deport questionable characters. It is incredible that an argument so shallow should be gravely advanced. The Government's Ordinance was a preventive measure, whereas the deporting power of the Consuls is punitory. There is all the difference in the world between keeping Japanese *Soshi* out of Korea lest they should foment disturbances there, and sending them out of Korea after they have fomented disturbances. Then, again, we find the Opposition's organs pointing with triumph to the fact that responsible Japanese officials and officers were privy to the *coup d'état*, and asking how the exclusion of *Soshi* from Söul could have affected that phase of the affair. Yet no intelligent writer can fail to see that the only really disgraceful incident of the *coup d'état* was the assassination, and that, as that foul deed was perpetrated by the *Soshi*, the responsibility of bringing obloquy upon their country rests with them alone. The *coup d'état* itself was not a shameful affair. In so far as it imported military force into the domain of politics, it could not escape condemnation. But had its result been limited to deposition of the Queen, final disgrace of the Min faction, and restoration of the programme of national reform, neither those planning it nor those executing it need have hung their heads. The one shocking outrage that put a halter round the neck of the whole business was the murder of the Queen and her ladies in waiting. For that piece of savagery the *Soshi* alone have to answer, and it is the obliquest persiflage to contend that because respectable Japanese were privy to the general scheme of the *coup d'état*, the presence or absence of *Soshi* at the moment of execution was a point of no consequence. Two things, so far as the evidence goes, combined to decide the fate of the unhappy Queen. One was the barbarous injunction of the Tai Wön-kun as he set out from his house in the the deal of night, "Let the Queen be dealt with according to expediency; the other was the fact that the interpreters of that injunction were *Soshi*. In truth the Diet, when it rescinded an Ordinance now of necessity re-issued, showed that it lacked the Cabinet's perception of administrative requirements and of the people's condition.

THE LEAF.

(COMMUNICATED.)

THE season for flowers has largely passed. The great parable of the fading and falling leaf is once more represented before us in many-coloured lights. And while we gaze with wonder at the kaleidoscopic glory of the autumnal spectacle, we think of the nearly 200,000 species of plants, and are overwhelmed at the thought of the countless varieties of colour, form, and size of this vast multitude. It is worth remarking, however, that besides being rich in colour and graceful in shape, they are very simple in structure, and are "among the most exquisite productions of nature's loom." Submit the leaf to the microscope and you find under the cuticle several layers of elongated cells, beneath which is a tissue of loose but exceedingly delicate texture, while each leaf is strengthened by ribs of woody tissue.

A singular fact, perhaps first dreamed of by Linnæus, propounded as a theory by Wolff, and popularized by Gœthe, is now accepted as a correct scientific theory, and taught in all the schools: that all the parts of a plant—the seed, the stem, the blossom, the fruit—are but modifications of a leaf. "The stem is a leaf rolled up tight; the blossom is a leaf transfigured for a higher purpose;

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the fruit is a leaf changed into a receptacle for the seed; and the seed itself is a leaf packed together in a case to protect it from unfavourable weather, and furnished with a sufficient amount of food for its unfolding and growth into a new plant in more favourable circumstances." The discovery and establishment of this great truth revolutionized the study of Botany. It solved mysteries, hitherto insoluble, in the singular metamorphoses that plants undergo. It gave valuable assistance to the florist and horticulturist in the development of flowers and fruits; and it gives us the clue to find our way through the vast varieties of form and structure in the vegetable kingdom, and furnished another striking illustration of the unity that may be traced throughout nature. We are not as one lost in a forest through which there is no pathway; this principle will conduct us safely through all the mazes of the labyrinth.

A necessary food of the plant is carbonic acid gas. In early ages of the earth, long before man's appearance, the air was charged heavily with this gas, which would have quickly destroyed all animal life. It nourished, however, a luxuriant vegetation. Gigantic plants were produced, which in course of revolving ages became coal-beds in the bowels of the earth. Thus the air in process of time was purified and stores of fuel were provided to enable our race to live upon the earth. Still the leaves of the trees are purifying our atmosphere and keep the air in a condition fit for human lungs. And were it not for them, carbonic acid gas would accumulate to such an extent that all animal life would perish. Wonderful is "the balance that is constantly kept up between the animals that contaminate the air and the plants that purify it; the refuse of the one kingdom being the food of the other!"

This is not the only wonder; everything concerning the leaf is wonderful. Wonderful is the adaptation of the form of the leaf to the purpose that it has to serve, not only in reference to the conditions and requirements of the plant itself, but also in reference to its place and use in the economy of creation! Wonderful the variety of forms that the leaves display in all the three great classes into which the vegetable kingdom has been divided! Wonderful, too, the variety of colours; not only all the varied shades of green, but all the other tints, in the beautifully-foliaged plants, gay as any flowers! And wonderful, very wonderful, the chemistry that, out of black mould and invisible vapour, builds up the stately structures we call trees, towering aloft in pillared majesty, crowned with a glorious capital or dome of green!

No more exactly does law regulate the movements of the planets in their spheres than it regulates the various arrangements of the plant. Law is seen, as Dr. McCOSH has taught us, in the fact that the spiral regulates the positions of the leaves; in the correspondence between the distribution and disposition of the branches, and the disposition and distribution of the leaf veins; in the correspondence between the angle at which the branch goes off, and that at which the lateral veins go off; and in a correspondence between the curve of the vein and the curve of the corresponding branches. Very interesting it is to see the strong liking that leaves seem to have for light, without which they could not throw off the oxygen so indispensable to our life; the agitation as of fear that some seem to feel on coming in contact with other bodies, the Mimosa sensitively shrinking and drooping at the slightest touch, or even if you breathe upon it; and the protection that is afforded to some leaves by an arrangement of hairs, to others by their form and structure, as in exposed places they are narrow and rough, and to others again by their defensive armour of prickles, thorns, or stings. What is all this but a Divine contrivance of means to ends, which should fill us with awe as in the immediate presence of GOD! Well has MILTON sung:

> By contemplation of created things—
> By steps we may ascend to God.

Dr. McMILLAN contends that the green leaf is the source of all the life of the world. He says that it is "by its agency alone that inert inorganic matter is changed into organic matter. The green leaf alone conserves and creates. Everything else consumes and destroys. It is because of its ministry that in a world once burnt up is found an abundant supply of combustible materials for all our wants. The quiet sunbeams, working by means of the most delicate of all structures, the cellular tissue of the green leaf, by a process the most subtle and wonderful in the whole range of chemistry, have partly undone the work of that fire; and whatever now exists on the earth unburnt—wood, coal, animal and vegetable tissue, the wondrous body of man himself—we owe to that simple agent, the green leaf."

Let us pause for a moment to notice some special idiosyncracies and uses of the leaf. The Sundews capture and devour insects. No sooner do the latter alight than they are entangled in a sticky substance that holds them fast. Thereupon the tentacles close over the body of the insect and never uncurl until the victim has been digested and absorbed into the substance of the plant. The Areca of the West Indies, which shoots up a hundred and fifty feet or more, produces a leaf six or seven yards long; while from ten to twenty people parched by the rays of a vertical sun, may find shelter under a single fan-shaped leaf of the Talipot Palm of Ceylon. Besides the shelter it affords, the uses of the palm-leaf are manifold. Orientals say it can be applied to 376 uses. The leaf of the Cactus on the arid prairies is fleshy and juicy; having no evaporating pores in its skin, the moisture it draws from the soil is retained. The Pitcher-plant holds up to monkey or man its cup of pure water, covered with a lid to protect it from the dust. The Eucalyptus leaf, which is furnished with multitudinous breathing pores, exhales into the atmosphere during twelve hours several times its own weight of water, and secretes large quantities of an aromatic essential oil; it is these properties that render it useful in effecting great sanitary changes in the regions where it is planted. The Rain-tree of South America grows to a height of sixty feet with a diameter of three feet at its base, and possesses the power of attracting, absorbing, and condensing a vast amount of humidity. Water is always dripping from its trunk, and the ground about it is rendered marshy. It is in the heat of summer, when the rivers are nearly dried up, that the tree is most active. In a leafless world there would be no rains and no streams. Let the slaughter of forests, woods, groves, and orchards go on and no trees be planted in their stead, and it will not be long before no rain clouds will form, no streams will flow, the world will become a dreary desert. On the other hand multiply your trees, and the wilderness becomes a garden of the LORD. For the leaf pumps water from the ground through thousands of tubes and sends out into the atmosphere invisible vapour, which, condensed, falls in showers that replenish the springs and streams. An acre of trees, it is affirmed, will yield 800 barrels of water to the air in 24 hours.

The leaf is also a mighty worker in man's behalf in that it is our best conductor of electricity. This is one of its great functions, to handle electricity. It is said to be three times as effective as the metallic points of the lightning rod. The leaf is always pointed, and its pointed edges are all adapted to this end of seizing and transmitting immense quantities of electricity from the clouds to the earth.

And when it has spent its strength in the service of man

> The leaf presents to God its finished story,
> Receiving at His hand its meed of glory;
> And floating gently down with mission ended,
> Moulders beneath the bough its life defended.
> Freely it gave its all the tree to nourish,
> That by its tiny power the oak might flourish.
> For 'tis the blossomed branch whose vital juices
> Fed by the foliage dense the fruit produces.

And men gather them up and use them as mulching material, as stock bedding, and as a stable absorbent, without a thought of the immense and inconceivable value of the leaf to us and the world we live in. It has rescued us and all that is of life in our world from the first great conflagration; it has built up the mighty monarchs of the wood to which we are indebted for our homes and so many of our necessaries and comforts; it has given us pure air, and kept it pure; it has furnished

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us with our springs and streams and wells; it has averted from us the lighting stroke; and in the autumn, winding up its useful toils, it is transfigured before our eyes, and puts on all the glories of the chromatic scale, all the rays of the sun's spectrum, which have fallen upon it in its earlier life, reappearing with a richness and variety of colouring, splendid beyond the power of the artist to depict.

It would be well for us if with the *Duke* in "As You Like It" we could say:

This our life, exempt from public haunt
Finds tongues in trees.

What an eloquent tongue has TENNYSON'S "Talking Oak!" In the fable of Jotham, that fine bit of satire, stinging and true, how admirably do the Olive, the Figtree, and the Vine discourse, and how true to its grovelling, base-born nature is the speech of the Bramble! "He who understands," says Dr. MCMILLAN," the typology of plants, finds an eloquent tongue in every leaf, and a suggestive sermon in every tree and flower. He walks among continual and delightful surprises and never wearies even in the most monotonous season. At every step he is arrested by some new proof of his Heavenly Father's wisdom, which leads his mind out into far-reaching vistas of thought." Leaves will tell him of GOD'S care over the lowliest things and of the lofty uses to which He will put them. Like the famous Sibylline leaves of old, they will utter oracles of profound significance. They will teach him the unity of the kosmos, and how all things are bound together in one by Him who is the sole Creator and Governor of the universe. The fading leaf will warn him of his own mortality, for how slight is the hold—as slight as the leaf's—he has on the tree Igdrasil, the Tree of Existence. The tree abides, but the leaf perishes. But the teachings of the leaf are not pessimistic. It does not teach that "death ends all." It gives us many intimations of the trees that grow on either side of the River of Life, whose leaves are for the healing of the nations, where there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain, for the former things shall have passed away.

LETTER FROM FORMOSA.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY.

Aboard the *Satsuma Maru*, Military Transport,
Ponghhou Harbour, Pescadore Islands,
October 10th, 1895.

The following correspondence has been exchanged between Governor Kabayama and the Black Flag Chief General Liu Yung-fu. Being very anxious to obtain a copy of these letters and having been specially favoured in having my wishes gratified, I express my thanks to the Governor Count Kabayama and to Admiral Tsunoda, to whose kind services in my behalf this rather extraordinary request was granted.

Admiral Viscount KABAYAMA, Governor of Formosa sends this communication to LIUZAFU-KU (Liu Yung-fu).

Last year war was declared between Japan and China, and as a result of the battles that ensued the Chinese troops were defeated at Asan and Pingyang. Their navy was defeated at the battle of the Yalu, and later the important positions of Port Arthur and Weihaiwei were taken. The Chinese lost all the vessels belonging to the northern squadron, and thus the Capital of the empire was endangered. The Chinese Emperor then sent his plenipotentiaries, Li Hung-chang and Li Kaho, to propose terms of peace, and the Japanese Emperor appointed his plenipotentiary to meet them. Negotiations were conducted at Shimonoseki and terms of peace were agreed upon, in which one of the conditions was that all Formosa and the Pescadore group should be ceded to Japan.

Lately the Chinese Plenipotentiary, Li Kaho, and I, the Governor of this island, met at Kelung and the islands above mentioned were formally handed over. The Administration by the Japanese Government was then established at Taipeh-fu and the island taken under our rule. As I hear you occupy Tianan with the intention of resisting our occupation of that portion of the island, I wish to point out to you how fruitless will be your attempts to oppose us. With the whole north at peace you will be unable to obtain reinforcements, and shut out from outside help as you are, success is almost impossible.

It is easy for you to understand this.

Your name is widely known, and you have the reputation of being a brave man. You are well acquainted with international law, but you go contrary to its precepts, as well as directly disobey the commands of your Emperor. In this you conduct yourself in the manner of an ignorant person.

If you will respect the orders of the Chinese Emperor, disband your army, and give peace to the country, I will beg my Emperor to send you back to the mainland with honors worthy of your rank, and the soldiers in your command will be pardoned and given passage to their homes.

We sent from Taipehfu, Kelung, Gelan, and Hobe about 8,000 Chinese soldiers, carrying some with our own ships and in the case of others furnishing them money to purchase their passages on merchant ships.

As I have long been acquainted with your name, I offer you these suggestions and advice. Whether you choose to accept them or not, remains with you.

The above letter was sent to General Liu by a special Chinese messenger who returned with the following answer some time in September.

General LIU YUNG-FU, Minister and Military Governor of the defences of Formosa, General-in-Chief of Fukien and Formosa, gives this answer to His Excellency KABAYAMA, Japanese Governor.

I received you communication; and offer you my thanks.

In this letter I find much that I do not understand. But of other points I will try to inform you.

The Chinese Emperor, having succeeded in a dynasty lasting several hundred years during which good was always done for our country, and friendships were established with other countries, has endeavoured, even to a greater extent than his ancestors, to do good for his own people and to be at peace with all nations. To make firm his friendship has he not sent Ministers to every country? And your country, Japan, being in Asia and a near neighbour, should have closer relations than all others, and by becoming strong allies we would thus both be strengthened. But your country has not thought of that, for without cause you declared war against us. Our country possessing many brave soldiers, pledged to battle for our Emperor, there with arms in hand, were anxiously awaiting your coming. But in our army there were some people who were not competent and therefore did not take advantage of the right opportunities, which resulted in our losing Asan, Ping Yang, Port Arthur, and Wei-hai-wei. The battles were not lost because our soldiers were not brave, but because certain of our people could not comprehend the right time and plan of attack. But even if you think this was not so, you must admit that although all Japan's soldiers were engaged they were unable to fight their way into the heart of our country.

On the fourth month our good Emperor, unwilling that his soldiers and people should longer suffer, made peace.

I, Minister, with orders to defend Formosa, must cast my lot with the people.

Your letter says I am going contrary to the orders of my Emperor; it is this that I cannot understand. Also I cannot understand or believe that Formosa and all its islands have been give to Japan by order of my Emperor, and that his representative Li Ka-ho formally handed over the islands to you. If this is all true, why has not my Emperor notified me? And why did not Li come to Tianan rather than Kelung to inform me?

I wish to ask you whether, since the olden times, it has not been the rule and the custom when a person has been entrusted by the Emperor with the defence of a country to continue to oppose the enemy until orders are received by the Emperor to do otherwise. You are Governor and Chief of the army, what do you think of this—am I not right?

I hear now by reports from my people in the north that your army is without discipline, that your soldiers are ravaging women, burning all towns, and killing all the inhabitants, and the people in Tianan are very anxious in consequence.

The people are under Chinese law and obey well the wishes of their master, and are flocking to me asking my aid.

Such being the feelings of the people, and I, Minister and General, being the Emperor's Representative and obeying his orders, I must protect this country and its people until the end.

Thus do I lay open to you my mind. It expresses my wish—my will.

You are capable of understanding the feelings of the people, and if I have made my position clear to you, I will be very glad. I thus have the honour of sending to you this my answer.

Aboard the *Kioto Maru* Transport,
Off Pong-lian, South Formosa Coast,
October, 11th, 1895.

As the advance guard is aboard this ship, I have changed into her.

Yesterday at daybreak the northern expedition with Prince Fushimi, Fourth Brigade Commander and General Takashima, Commander, departed for Pawtoy-chui, North of Anping.

At 3 p.m. yesterday our Expedition consisting of 28 steamships, escorted by several men-of-war, left the Pescadores for Pong-liau, where we arrived this morning at daybreak. The transports carry 13,459 soldiers and military coolies, 2,725 horses, besides 3 steam launches, 72 large Japanese sanpans, and 10 big cargo boats to be used in landing.

It is very quiet this morning, scarcely a breath of wind and the sea as smooth as a mirror, although when we left the Pescadores it was blowing a gale of wind. Owing to the deep water all the transports lie close to the shore, and we shall have no difficulty in landing. There are a few houses scattered about on shore, but no soldiers can be seen. Pong-lian lies about twenty-five miles south of Takao.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PROBLEM OF HIGH-CLASS EDUCATION BY MISSIONARIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My attention has been called to an article entitled, "The problem of High Class Education by Missionaries" which appeared in the *Daily Mail*, of Friday, October 18th. Perhaps it might seem possibly unnecessary, even improper, for a member of the mission immediately concerned to refer to the important questions dealt with in that article, and I should have hesitated to do so were it not for the fact that some of your readers have gained the impression that the writer was, to a certain extent, in the confidence of the gentlemen, named in the article, who are now in Japan at the invitation of the Japan Mission of the American Board. It is only fair to them, and, indeed to all concerned, to say that they have as yet given but little time to the consideration of the Doshisha problems. They have given no intimation of what their counsel to the Mission and the Board will be, and the presumption is that they have not, even provisionally, formed an opinion upon these many-sided problems.

I have said advisedly that these gentlemen are here at the invitation of the Mission, for it must not be supposed that their coming betokens distrust of the Mission on the part of the managers of the Board. They come because the Mission for many years has sought such counsel and has felt, especially during the past year, that the grave importance of the questions confronting it demanded the careful study of fresh and unbiassed minds. The same considerations have led the Japanese Christians to second the Mission's request.

It is a mistake to suppose, as the writer of the article apparently does, that there has been a growing distrust on the part of American Christians of the educational policy pursued by the missionaries in Japan, at least, if we mean thereby

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that the present tendency is to narrow the scope of missionary operations and to give to education a less prominent place. My own impression is the reverse of this.

Again the article says:—"On this understanding" (*i.e.*, that high education and not propagandism is the main object of the Doshisha) "numbers of prominent men, not Christians and entertaining no desire to be identified with the spread of Christianity, have allowed their names to be placed on the subscribers' list. When some years ago, it was decided to make the Doshisha a university, it was plainly seen by the Japanese promoters of the scheme that the adoption of this measure would involve the thorough secularization of the education to be imparted in the institution. The forecast has been verified to the satisfaction of the general Japanese public."

This paragraph is based, as I am convinced, upon a misapprehension of motives which induced the Japanese gentlemen in question to contribute about *yen* 40,000, toward the endowment of the Doshisha. Some of the large givers, one certainly who not only gave liberally himself but secured very large gifts from others, took pains to say that they were interested in the Doshisha because of the strong moral influence exerted upon the students which they attributed to its Christian character—an influence so strong that an officer of very high position stated in my hearing within the present month, that, as regards the moral character of its students, the Doshisha stood first among all the schools of Japan.

Again; while I freely admit that the secularization of the Doshisha has gone far enough to cause much anxiety to its friends, it is not true that it has gone to the length indicated. It is not true that Christianity and Buddhism are placed upon the same plane, as the article seems to imply. Neither is it true that the teaching of Christianity in the Doshisha does, or would, diminish its popularity. Two well-known Japanese gentlemen occupying high positions in educational circles have recently declared with emphasis that the very life of the Doshisha depends upon the maintenance of its Christian character.

Whatever the future of the Doshisha may be, and I believe it is to have a future worthy of the hopes and prayers which have centred in it, it certainly has had a history in which every one connected with it may take pride. Even from a missionary point of view, it has been a grand success.

I remain, yours faithfully,

D. C. GREENE.

October 22nd, 1895.

THE CHRIST ACCORDING TO PROPHECY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—While there may be certain circumstances from which one is justified in withholding his name from his own writings, it is to me nevertheless a reason of suspicion that the writer is either ashamed of his position or lacking in a due degree of sincerity in actually believing what he claims. That such suspicion may not rest upon Mr. Secularian, I request that before he attempt further objection to my letters that he either give me satisfactory reason, by private note, for writing over an assumed name changing with each succeeding letter or give his real signature. Indeed, Sir, if the thinking world of to-day are, as indicated, with Mr. Secularian, I should think he would be pleased to be identified with such honourable company. I may be far behind the times and exceedingly ignorant, yet I am nevertheless so sincere in what I hold that I am anxious that my name go down to posterity on the side of Christ and his saints. While Christian people generally have not abandoned the propecies as my critic seems to think, I may be allowed to suggest perhaps a truer statement, that many of the more experienced, avoiding my mistake, rather than be unfairly treated before the reading public, and be pained by having that Holy Name evil spoken against, have abandoned such critics Mr. Secularian.

But I am pleased to say, Sir, that this opponent of Christianity, though no doubt very much against his own will, in his attempts to destroy the gospel is establishing the very facts of it, as foretold by the prophets, when he says that the mass of the Jews did not accept Christ. For does not Isaiah say, "The Lord of hosts, him shall ye sanctify; and let him be your fear and him be your dread. And he shall be for a sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling and for a rock of offence to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and for a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem." "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the remnant of Israel, and they that are escaped of the house of Jacob, shall no more stay upon him that smote them, but shall stay upon the Lord, the HOLY ONE of Israel, in truth. A remnant shall return, even the remnant of Jacob unto the Mighty God. For though thy people Israel be as the sand of the sea, only a remnant of them shall return, a consummation is determined overflowing with righteousness." Isaiah 8:13, 14; 10: 20-22). Paul and Peter apply the prophet's language thus: "And Isaiah crieth concerning Israel, If the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea it is the remnant that shall be saved. . . . What shall we say then? That the Gentiles which followed not after righteousness, attained to the righteousness even the righteousness which is of faith: but Israel, following after a law of righteousness, did not arrive at that law. Wherefore? Because they sought it not by faith but as it were by works, they stumbled at the stone of stumbling; even as it is written, Behold, I lay in zion a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence; and he that believeth on him shall not be put to shame." And David saith, (Pls, 69: 22,23) "Let their table be a snare and a trap, and a stumbling block and a recompense unto them: let their eyes be darkened that they may not see, and bow down their back alway." "If ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious; unto whom coming a living stone, rejected indeed of men, but with God elect, precious, ye also, as living stones, are built up a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. Because it is contained in scripture (Isaiah, 28: 16). Behold, I lay in Zion a chief corner stone elect precious; and he that believeth on him shall not be put to shame. For you therefore which believe is the preciousness; but for such as believe, the stone which the builders rejected the same is made the head of the corner; and, a stone of stumbling and a rock of offence; for they stumble at the word, being disobedient; whereunto also they were appointed." (Rom., 9: 27-33; 11: 9, 10; (Pet., 2; 3-8). In the light of these scriptures, to which profane history also corresponds, we need hardly be told at this late date that the mass of the Jews did not accept Christ. Not, however, from the weakness of prophecy but from the very strength of it, which predicted not only the unbelief of the Jews but the ground of this unbelief. But Mr. Secularian, being willingly ignorant of these things, in his attempts to destroy the gospel is unwittingly giving his testimony in its favour. Surely the Lord maketh the wrath of man to praise him.

In attempting to evade the force of Isaiah's prophecy concerning the Christ, my critic has repudiated the New Testament, and hence, so far as he is concerned, before proceeding further to show the fulfillment of the prophecies from this source of testimony it would be proper to first show that this is a reliable source of authority. But as his denial is without the slightest evidence in support of it I shall proceed with this source of evidence by again calling attention to Matthew's application of Isaiah, 7: 14, which says, "Fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife; for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she shall bring forth a son; and thou shalt call his name Jesus; for it is he that shall save his people from their sins. Now all this is come to pass that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, Behold the virgin shall be with child and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel, which is, being interpreted, God with us" (Matt., 1: 20-23). It is no matter of surprise that one who sets aside the prophecies should also reject the testimony of the New Testament writers, for in the face of such language as the above, with which their writings abound, it would be impossible to disbelieve them. But noticing our critic's language on its own merits, it should be noted that the fulfilment he seeks for Isaiah's language cannot possibly be the proper one, for, (1), the one the prophet speaks of is to be called "Immanuel" (God with us), while the one spoken of in Chapter 8: 3, is called "Maher-shalal-hash-baz." (The spoil speedeth, the prey hasteth.); (2). Immanuel was to be born of a *virgin*, Maher-halal-hash-baz was born of a *prophetess*; (3), in reference to the former, God speaking through the prophet addresses the "house of David," but in regard to the latter no such reference is made. Hence those who reject the New Testament as to who was meant must look elsewhere than here for a fulfillment of the prophet's language. Nor can it be shown that his mother did not call her son Immanuel, but suppose we grant she did not, the prophet leaves it indefinite as to who is to call him Immanuel; but Matthew makes Isaiah's language clear at this point by saying, "*they* shall call his name Immanuel." But suppose there should be found some other person in whom the language of Isaiah was partially fulfilled, would it, therefore, mitigate against its complete fulfilment in Jesus? Now to make this point clear I shall take an example from the source Mr. Secularian seems to place credence in, the Old Testament. God said to Abraham, "And I will make thee exceeding fruitful, and I will make nations of thee, and kings shall come out of thee." (Gen., 17: 6) Abraham said, "O, that Ishmael might live before thee." (Gen., 17: 18). The Lord replied, "And as for Ishmael, I have heard thee: Behold I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and I will multiply him exceedingly: twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make him a great nation." (Gen., 17: 20), Here then is a secondary fulfilment of God's promise to Abraham. But no one of the most ordinary students of the Bible need be told that Isaac is the chief one referred to. Even so David and the prophets frequently spoke in language partly applicable to themselves or others but which found its chief fulfilment in Christ. They frequently spoke concerning their own condition or that of the people, but being moved by the Holy Spirit their language often had an import they themselves did not fully understand. (See I Pet., 1: 10-12.)

Further, we are gravely told that the name "Christ" is nowhere found in any of the books of the Old Testament; which simply means, that the Old Testament was not written in Greek, for what more is the word "Christ" than the Greek word, χριστος (Kristos), transliterated to English, but which if translated would be, The Anointed. The Old Testament writers being Hebrews used in the place of this word *Mashiakh*, which we have anglicised to Messiah, but which when translated means, The Anointed. Now, as already commented upon, Daniel speaks of the coming of "Messiah the Prince," or as the revised text has it "the anointed one" who should "make reconciliation for iniquity, and bring in everlasting righteousness and seal up the vision and prophecy, and who was to be "cut off but not for himself." (Dan., 9: 24-26; see also John, 4: 25). Let it be noted that the only objection to this as applicable to Christ was the name, which we have just dwelt upon; and the time, to which we now proceed. In prophecy a day is taken for a year. And this statement shall be made good from the same source (the Old Testament) upon which my critic relies for the only argument he has produced. The Israelites had disobeyed God in regard to Canaan for which he predicted their punishment in the following language:—"After the number of days in which ye searched the land even forty days, *each day for a year*, ye shall bear your iniquity even forty years, and ye shall know my breach of promise." (Numbers, 14: 34). Predicting the captivity of the Jews, Ezekiel says: "Moreover lie thou upon thy left side and lay the inquity of the house of Israel upon it, according to the number of the days that thou shalt lie upon it, thou shalt bear their inquity. *For I have appointed the years* of their iniquity, *to be unto them a number of the days*, even three hundred and ninty days . . . . thou shalt lie on thy right side and shalt bear the iniquity of the house of Judah; forty days, *each day a year*, have I appointed it unto thee." (Ezk., 4: 4-6). No one in light of these scriptures can with candour deny that in prophecy a day is taken for a year. Moreover, the Prophet Daniel lays *aside* the figure and tells us plainly (Dan., 2: 44) what he means by the seventy weeks, namely, that "in the days of these [Roman] kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed," which leaves us without doubt as to the time this Kingdom should begin when the Lord would "bring in everlasting righteousness" and "seal up the vision of prophecy" and "anoint the Most Holy:" and which history both sacred and profane verifies to be true.

Before proceeding further, I must apologize, Sir, for taking time and space upon objections of so trivial a nature. For we are told, that to say Jesus was born of a virgin is contradictory to his being of the house of David; just as though a virgin could not descend from David! And that he never sat upon the throne of David. "And the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David; and he shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end." (Luke, 1: 32, 33) "Brethren, I may say unto you freely of the patriarch David, that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us unto this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins he would set one upon his throne; he foreseeing this, spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that neither was he left in Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus did God raise up, whereof we all are witnesses. Being therefore by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath poured forth this which ye see and hear, for David ascended not into the heavens: but he saith himself, the Lord said unto my Lord, sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies the foot-stool of they feet. Let all the house of Israel therefore

know assuredly, that God hath made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom ye crucified. (Acts, 2: 29-36). These words of Peter were spoken to those who were the murderers of Jesus, hence certainly not prejudiced in his favour. But not one of them seems to have found fault with Peter's application of the prophecy, but many were convicted of its truthfulness and cried out "Brethren what shall we do?" But Peter explains that though Jesus was a descendant of David according to the flesh, he was nevertheles to sit upon his throne in a spiritual sense. He was the legal heir to the throne of David according to the flesh, hence became true the prediction "The Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David;" but he did not become a "King of the Jews" in the sense the people looked for or desired. He broke down the midde wall of national differences and was crowned King of kings and Lord of lords.

Are the geneologies contradictory? Luke gives the line from Mary back to David, Mathew gives the line from Joseph (Jesus father by law) back to David. These two lines are precisely the same as that of any child whose ancestry, on both the side of his father and mother, should be given. In tracing the geneology of any child in this way two independent lines would have to be followed. But it would be a very common occurrence if these lines should meet in the same persons at some points. Now this is precisely what occurs in the case of Jesus: upon his mother's side he was a descendant of David through David's son Nathan (Luke, 3: 23-31) but upon his fathers side he was of the royal line through Solomon (Matt., 1: 6-16.) Thus he became both of the blood and royal descent of the throne. These two independent streams as they descend from the fountain touch in Shealteal and Zerubbabel, part again and descend independently till they unite in Christ (comp. Matt., 1: 7-16, and Luke, 3: 23-51). Hence no contradictions.

Most respectfully, J. M. McCALEB.
12, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—If I may again encroach upon the valuable space of your correspondence columns, I should be glad, through them, to make known, to those who may be interested in the subject, the fact that the two students from the Tsukiji School, who presented themselves last June for the Preliminary Examinations for admission to Harvard College, have been notified of their success in the subjects in which they offered themselves, and I am glad to state that the College authorities were so well pleased with their papers that they have asked me to congratulate both the candidates and their instructors on their success.

Similar examinations, Preliminary and Final, will be held in Tokyo in June next, of which the exact dates and hours will be duly announced. In the meantime, I shall be glad to communicate with intending applicants, giving fuller particulars, and furnishing specimen examination papers.

Thanking you for your courtesy in giving publicity to this announcement,

I remain, yours very truly,
J. Mc. D. GARDINER,
Agent for Harvard University.

No. 40, Tsukiji, Tokyo, October 22nd, 1895.

A LIST OF CHRISTIAN CHARITIES.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Last March or April you were courteous enough to publish a tentative list of Christian Orphanages, Asylums, Hospitals, and Industrial Schools, prepared under my supervision. I have received quite a number of corrections and addition to that partial list. Intending shortly to publish a revised census, may I use your columns to ask that missionaries or others who noted errors or ommissions in last spring's list, and have not informed me of such, will be kind enough to write me *at once?* In this way a fairly complete and accurate table may be compiled, which will be of some practical service in the broad field of institutional charity.

Yours very truly, J. H. PETTEE.
Okayama, Oct. 17, 1895.

"SECULARIAN."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With considerable interest I have read the letter appearing in the correspondence columns of the *Japan Weekly Mail*, of October 12th, in which "Secularian" criticizes Mr. McCaleb's remarks on Messianic Prophecy.

It seems really a pity to have carefully prepared arguments so summarily disposed of, but Mr. McCaleb evidently had yet much to learn. Perhaps his recantation has already appeared in your columns.

I hope, however, that I may be pardoned if I express my surprise that one possessed of so much theological erudition as "Secularian" displays, should think it "astonishing in these days of inquiry and investigation to find any one so far behind the age as Mr. J. M. McCaleb." This innocent amazement at such a phenomenon leads one to ask in what corner of this world our "Secularian" was brought up, and with what kind of people he has associated that it should be astonishing to him to find one holding the ordinary Christian faith. If he should desire to extend the range of his observation a little, I could give him the names and addresses of quite a number of astonishing characters like Mr. McCaleb.

To these strange people belong Mr. Gladstone, the author of "The Impregnable Rock of Holy Scripture;" Mr. Balfour, not unknown in English political circles, the author of "The Foundations of Belief;" all the men elected to the Presidency of the United States since 1876; and a substantial majority of the College Presidents and Professors in America. I should be surprised to find that there is a single respectable institution in the world, having the four faculties of the true University, where some one is not found to teach this doctrine, and to teach it with all the learning of modern historical and linguistic science.

It has fallen to the lot of "Secularian" to furnish a new illustration of the frog in the well. Truly, when we need a man to tell us whether we are behind the age, we shall look for one well enough acquainted with the age not to be astonished at the apparition of a Christian believer.

But there is a reason for "Secularian's" astonishment. He informs us that he favoured the readers of the *Mail* with a discussion of this subject some years ago. I have not been so fortunate as to read these remarks, but we can guess their nature from the present article by the same author. Doubtless profound and accurate scholarship and a judical temper shone forth from every line. Perhaps the remarks were even courteous in expression. It must have been a geniune "Death blow to Corrupt Doctrine." It should have settled the matter once for all. And now, in spite of all this, up pops this ignoramus, McCaleb, and has the audacity to set forth these ideas in the public press. This is truly exasperating. It makes one feel sorry for "Secularian." Another Moses, offering to lead the men of his time out of Egyptian bondage, has been rejected. No wonder "Secularian" is astonished. We are astonished ourselves that the Christian faith should have survived the attacks of such a foe.

Let "Secularian" take comfort, however. To quote Daniel Webster:—"This is not the first time in the history of human affairs that the vigour and successes of the war have not come up to the sounding phrase of the manifesto." Moreover, it is better to be heartily admired by the excellent audience of one's self than to be applauded to the echo by a crooked and perverse generation.

There is another reflection suggested by reading "Secularian's" letter, and that is that a man may show himself to be behind the times not only by lack of knowledge but also by lack of manners. Some of his sentences have a strong flavour of the time when eminent theologians threw offensive epithets at each other's heads like brickbats; and when every man who differed from another in opinion was of necessity either a knave or a fool. But that was a long time ago; I scarcely dare to say how long. Perhaps I am behind the times in this also, and it may be that in "these days of inquiry and investigation" such pleasant little courtesies are again in fashion. If so, more's the pity, for many of us are so fond of the enlightened and gentlemanly controversial methods of the nineteenth century as to have neither skill in the use of such weapons nor desire to acquire it.

I remain, yours faithfully, ERIC ERICS.
Nagasaki, October 18th, 1895.

PHOTOGRAPHY IN JAPAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In the notice of a recent meeting of the Japan Photo. Soc. it is mentioned that Mr. C. D. West exhibited "a cloud compelling shutter" which he had been using with good results during the summer. It should have been stated, as doubtless Professor West told the meeting, that it was at my suggestion that he fitted it up. in fact I wrote an article on such a shutter in an English Photographic Journal some few years since.

Truly Yours, F. W. GROVES.
Kobe, October 17th, 1895.

MEMORIAL

(Adopted at a Meeting of the Missionary Association of Central Japan, October 15th, 1895.)

The Providence of our Divine Father, always good and wise, though at times inscrutable, has allowed the stroke of death to fall upon one of our members, the Rev. George Edward Woodhull, in whom were being realized the fondest hopes of aged parents, and the joy of wife and children. This dispensation has occurred at the beginning of a missionary career full of constantly enlarging work and usefulness. From the time of his coming to Japan in 1888 until his decease on October 11th, 1895, he lived in the city of Osaka, making it the centre of direct evangelistic work for this and the outlying provinces. The preaching of Christ in this large district has been the one work into which, until the Lord called him home, he threw all the energies of a cultured and sanctified manhood.

As an Association we desire to record our high esteem of his work as a faithful, zealous missionary, his companionableness as a co-labourer, his unswerving devotion to the doctrines of the Cross, his uniform courtesy towards all, and his usefulness as a member of the community in which he lived.

To the Board of Missions to which he belonged we desire to express our appreciation of the fidelity of his labours and our sense of the greatness of the loss which his death has occasioned.

To the mission with which he was connected we extend our heartfelt sympathies in view of this trial which would, under any circumstances, be great, but which, at the present time when such men are so sorely needed, must be all the more keenly felt. We desire to unite with them in praying that the Lord of the Harvest will graciously raise up worthy successors in his place.

To the father and mother, to whom this sad intelligence of the death of an affectionate son will come so suddenly, and to whom the blow will be so severe, we would especially recall the rich promises of Divine Grace in the Word of God upon which they have learned so long to lean for comfort.

To the devoted wife, upon whom this lamented calamity has fallen with gradually increasing severity, and whose physical weakness just now calls all the more for our hearty sympathy, we offer our sincerest and tenderest condolence; and we commend her and her little ones to Him who has made special promises of protection and care for the widow and the fatherless.

THE YOKOHAMA JUVENILE TONIC SOL-FA SOCIETY.

This Society held its fourth annual meeting on Saturday afternoon in the vestibule of the Public Hall, Mrs. Patton, President, in the chair, nearly every member being present. The report of the retiring Treasurer, Master C. S. Moss, was received, and showed a balance to the credit of the Society clear of all expenses of $150.86. Mrs. Patton congratulated the members upon having such a sum in hand as would enable to Society at any time to carry out one of the chief conditions of its existence, by making a suitable contribution towards the alleviation of any public calamity that might occur.

The resignation of three members was reported Miss P. Cheetham, Masters H. Cooke and M. Mollison, and an accession of seven new members, Misses M. Thomas, C. and N. Mudie, and Masters C. Pulford, R. Loomis, E. Cleveland, and A. Hutchison.

The President reminded the members that the Society had now entered upon the fifth year of its existence, and continued to flourish in spite of many drawbacks, and she impressed upon the members the desirability of keeping up an active interest in its progress, which they could best exhibit by regular attendance at choral practice.

The next concert would take place in the Spring, all being well, and will be for the benefit of Mrs. Patton.

The resignation of Master C. S. Moss as Hon. Treasurer, was accepted, and Master C. Bennett, proposed by Mrs. Patton and seconded by the Secretary, Mr. N. Sargent, was elected in his place.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Master Moss, to which he replied in a few well-chosen words; and at the suggestion of the Secretary, three cheers were given for Mrs. Patton and Miss Bloxham, which terminated the proceedings.

Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

YOKOHAMA CRICKET FESTIVAL.

YOKOHAMA-KOBE MATCH.

When play began on Friday week in the annual Kobe-Yokohama match, the heavy clouds which completely covered the heavens looked ominous for a wet afternoon. Fortunately a slight breeze sprang up, and the rain held off, only a wisp driving across the ground just after Yokohama went out to field after tiffin. A few heavy drops had fallen about eight o'clock in the morning, so the wicket was a little damp, but it quickly dried and again played excellently. Yokohama won the toss, and, going in to bat, opened disastrously, Dickinson coming out first ball leg before. White was also sent back to the Pavilion l.b.w., after scoring three. Then Denne joined Crawford, but only to stay a little while, during which time he made six. Upon Walford going out some stand was made, and a separation was not effected until 78 had been reached. Morriss, who followed, saw all his partners go, and by a quarter to three o'clock the whole side were out for 129. Crawford was caught by Lighfoot when he had made 6, but Hellyer, upon being appealed to, gave a verdict in favour of the batsman, who then went on and made top score for his side, 60. Tate's bowling analysis deserves studying: it is one of the best performances of the week. Kobe started its first innings at three o'clock and made matters lively for the local eleven. For the loss of three wickets they compiled 126 by the time stumps were drawn. By a quaint coincidence the last ten minutes of the game was played to the doleful accompaniment of "The heart bowed down," by the Town Band—an appropriate melody as regards one of the elevens engaged. When the men came back into the Pavilion it was found that White had severely strained a tendon of his left leg; he could barely hobble in; and Denne has incapacited himself by the strain induced through throwing in. These mishaps will account in no small degree for the the wretched display of fielding on the part of the local men.

The last day of the Yokohama Cricket Festival produced one of the most exciting games of the whole week. The weather was delightful, a deep blue sky being flecked with snow-white fleecy clouds, and a pleasant breeze moved beneath. From an early hour visitors made their appearance on the ground, the game having been left at a very interesting point the previous evening. Yokohama had had its first innings and been dismissed for 129; while Kobe was left at the wickets with 126 runs on the score and three men only out. Everything therefore looked rosy for Kobe attaining her hearts' desire—a win over the northern treaty port. For years she has gallantly sent up team after team in order to make a game, though she knew that to win was hopeless: now for the first time since 1887, we believe, an eleven had come up to Yokohama possessing all the elements necessary to success, being strong in all points—batting, bowling, and fielding. The prize of victory seemed almost within her grasp: but the fates willed otherwise. Seven of Kobe's wickets fell on Saturday for 31 runs, the younger Edwards playing sad havoc with their stumps, and at a quarter past eleven the side were out for 157. Yokohama again opened disastrously, six of the best wickets—Dickinson, Denne, White, Crawford, Murray, and Morriss—being dismissed for 38 runs. Then the Captain of the home eleven and Johnson came together and the stand of the week was made. Bowler after bowler was changed, but Walford steadily refused to budge, playing with judicious caution. Slowly the score mounted as the hours went by. At 87, Johnson was caught by Pakenham. This was shortly after three o'clock. Still Kobe's chances were bright, though the band did ironically start in with "There's nae luck about th' house." E. B. S. Edwards had a short but merry innings, however; Lias followed suit, and when he was finally disposed of Kobe had to make 120 to win. With only three quarters of an hour before them, they found the task impossible, and the game has consequently to be declared drawn at 71 for two wickets. Scores:—

YOKOHAMA.

1ST INNINGS.		2ND INNINGS.	
Mr. K. F. Crawford, c. Scrymgeour, b. Pakenham	60	c. and b. Lucas	12
Mr. H. V. Dickinson, l.b.w., b. Edwards	0	b. Lucas	2
Mr. F. E. White, l.b.w., b. Lucas	3	b. Edwards	1
Mr. R. T. Denne, c. & b. G. Braess	0	c. W. Braess, b. Edwards	12
Mr. A. B. Walford, c. Wilkinson, b. Tate	17	not out	40
Mr. E. R. Morriss, not out	13	c. Lightfoot, b. Edwards	5
Mr. G. C. Murray, c. W. Braess, b. Tate	15	b. Edwards	2
Mr. R. K. Johnson, c. Scrymgeour, b. Tate	4	c. Pakenham, b. Lucas	27
Mr. E. O. Kenyon, c. Lightfoot, b. Tate	0	b. Lucas	0
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Lucas, b. Tate	0	not out	16
Mr. F. J. Lias, b. Tate	0	b. Lucas	23
b. 5, l.b. 3, w. 1	9	b. 5, w. 1	6
	129		147

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.	W.	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards	145	32	25	1	1	225	69	90	5
Mr. Lucas	130	42	10	1	—	106	43	17	5
Mr. G. Braess	30	10	1	1	—	15	13	—	—
Mr. Tate	123	15	17	6	—	45	8	3	—
Mr. Pakenham	40	21	1	1	—	10	8	—	—

KOBE, 1ST INNINGS.

Mr. E. W. Tate, b. Murray	26
Mr. E. E. Wilkinson, b. E. B. S. Edwards	38
Mr. H. C. K. Lucas, c. White, b. Edwards	47
Mr. W. D. S. Edwards, st. Dickinson, b. Murray	2
Mr. C. M. Duff, l.b.w., b. Murray	28
Mr. J. Scrymgeour, b. Murray	1
Mr. W. Braess, b. Edwards	3
Mr. G. W. Barton, b. Edwards	0
Mr. C. H. Lightfoot, not out	3
Mr. G. C. Pakenhain, b. Edwards	3
Mr. G. Braess, c. Dickinson, b. Edwards	3
b. 8, l. b. 5	13
	157

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. G. C. Murray	185	59	23	4
Mr. F. J. Lias	90	20	2	—
Mr. A. B. Walford	45	15	5	—
Mr. F. E. White	20	13	2	—
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards	131	31	13	6

KOBE, 2ND INNINGS.

Mr. H. C. K. Lucas, b. Lias	24
Mr. E. W. Tate not out	30
Mr. F. E. Wilkinson, c. Crawford, b. Murray	8
b. 8 l.b. 1	9
	71

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Mr. Murray	70	32	4	1
Mr. Edwards	40	19	3	—
Mr. Lias	23	11	1	1

THE CHAMPION BAT.

The Champion Bat was presented to the Kobe captain in the Ladies' Tent, by Mr. Mollison, President of the Y. C. and A. C., at the close of play. Mr. Mollison said it gave him extreme pleasure to make the presentation. One hundred and three runs were not often made on the Yokohama ground, particularly in interport matches, and he was glad the bat had been won by such a score and that it was a member of the Kobe team who had won it. He hoped Mr. Duff would make many more such scores in the interest of the Kobe Club. He called for three cheers for Duff, and these were vociferously given. Mr. C. M. Duff, in responding, hoped he might have many opportunities of making scores with the bat in Yokohama and Kobe, and he also hoped that he might use it in playing again against their Shanghai friends. He desired on behalf of the Kobe team to say how deeply indebted they all were for all the kindness extended to them during their stay in Yokohama. He called for three cheers for Mr. Mollison, and three cheers for the ladies, calls which met with a very hearty response.

L'ENVOI.

The year is waning to its close:
The blood-red autumn leaves
Cover the summer grass beneath
The gaunt Pavilion eaves.
Retiring Cricket yields her place
To Football's rising sway;
Come, umpire, in thy long white coat,
And take the stumps away

Triumphant Grace* has run his course,
Though still to memory dear
Lingers the record of his feats
And England's† hearty cheer;
But the goal-posts are a-painting,
And Cricket's had her day.
So, Umpire, in thy long white coat,
Come take the stumps away!

The verging year brings chilly air
As Time unfolds his scrolls,
Congenial to the duller day
The ampler football rolls.
The parting umpire waves his hand;
He ends where we begin;
Come, craftsmen, here are last year's marks,
Deep drive the goal-posts in!—J.W.M. in *Sketch*.

* Read, Duff.
† Read, The three ports—Shanghai, Kobe, Yokohama.

The London correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian* hears that the Government are contemplating the appointment of a small committee of experts to assist Mr. Chamberlain in his design of developing and extending the resources of the British colonies.

The litigation connected in one way or another with the Russell matrimonial suit is said to be by no means over. The question of "legal cruelty" is to be taken up to the House of Lords. There is also a libel case pending against Lady Russell, and Lady Russell, on her part, has instituted similar proceedings against a newspaper.

MARINE COURT OF INQUIRY.

YOKOHAMA, OCTOBER 21ST, 1895.

THE STRANDING OF THE "BELGIC."

A Marine Court of Inquiry was held at H.B.M.'s, Consulate on Monday, to inquire into the circumstances connected with the stranding of the O. & O. steamer *Belgic* at Sunosaki, on the 8th September.

The Court was composed of H.B.M. Consul, Mr. J. C. Hall, President; Commander Edward Street, of the P. & O. steamer *Ravenna*. Captain Wm. A. Evans, steamer *Monmouthshire*; and Captain Robert McGregor, steamer *Guildhall*. Mr. Dodds represented the owners of the *Belgic*.

Capt. W. H. Walker, master of the *Belgic*, was the first witness called. Upon being sworn, he said—On the day coming in, 8th Sept., we had good observations at noon, and at the course for three miles south of Noshima Light, the 89 miles distant. At 4 p.m. we sighted land on the starboard side, and at 6.40, after altering the course, we sighted Noshima Light bearing W. compass. At 7 p.m. we altered course to S. 75 W. by compass. At 7.25 Noshima Light was abeam. I estimated the distance at three miles, and altered course to W. ½ S. At 7.55 altered course to N. by W., and at 7.59 altered course to N. ½ W. At 8.05 altered course to N. and at 8.10 to N. ½ E., and at 8.17 to N. by E. At 8.20 altered course to N. 17 E., I taking Mela Head for Sunosaki, and considered that Sunosaki was abeam. I then left the bridge for about ten minutes. Upon returning to the bridge at 8.31 the Second Officer was in charge and reported that we were running into a thick fog-band. On looking ahead I noticed we were close to the land and could see the line of breakers. At 8.32 put the helm hard astarboard and put the engines full speed astern, the ship driving on to a sandy beach. At 8.47 engines full speed astern. At 8.49, ship stranded, and stopped engines. The ship's head was N. 29 W., Sunosaki about N. 57 W. Mela Head S. 5 E: all by compass. The moon was just rising over the land, and the horizon was a little deceptive. It was a fine night. The fourth and second officers were on the bridge and a Chinaman on the look-out forward. After setting the courses I had no conversation with the officers on the bridge, beyond saying Sunosaki was abeam. I have made the entrance to Tokyo Bay for ten years running. This was my forty-ninth voyage over the course. I was steering more by the land than by the compass courses. A current might possibly have deflected my course, but there was nothing unusual in wind or tide. We allow a degree and a half for the current.

The chart by which the ship was steered was then put in.

To Capt. McGregor—I saw the breakers about ten or eleven minutes before we struck.

To the President—We passed outside the Mela Ledge. The ship was going at 12 knots. We did not slacken until we grounded. I do not impute any blame to any of my officers or men in regard to the stranding.

To Capt. McGregor—The look-out was on the forecastle head, and reported nothing. The second officer reported that we were running into a fog-bank, about a couple of minutes before we struck. The officers and crew behaved in the best possible manner after the casualty happened. Boats were lowered and lights arranged. The second officer, Mr. Beckman, lost his life in getting out the boats. Everything possible was done to rescue him. I think he was probably stunned against the side of the ship as he went down into the boat. There was a south-westerly swell running at the time.

To the President—I attribute the accident entirely to my own mistake in judgment in taking Mela Head for Sunosaki. I was not ill or out of sorts at the time.

To the Court—My orders as to the courses were all carried out. Had I been right in my judgment as to my position, I should have passed Sunosaki point by about 2 miles and a half. We had taken all the observations we could during the morning and afternoon. I saw nothing of Sagami Light.

To the President—Sagami Light is visible when Sunosaki is abeam. It is possible that the lights could have been seen full distance: there was more on less haze over the horizon, and appearances were deceptive. I was trusting to my own knowledge, and did not think it necessary to take soundings.

Mr. Lowder, who appeared for Capt. Walker, with the permission of the Court then put some questions.—How long have you been at sea?

Captain Walker—Thirty-one to thirty-two years.

How long have you been in command of a ship?—Four years and 10 months on a sailing ship, and ten years in my present command. I have been in the service of my present owners about 18 years.

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This is the first time I have been before a Board of Trade or Naval inquiry for an accident to a ship under my command. I made the observation that Sunosaki was abeam to the fourth officer. It was a very usual thing for me to steer by the land. I should judge that it is a usual thing for officers or pilots in command of vessels making the entrance to the Bay to steer by the land. The breakers were distinctly visible when I came up on the bridge the second time. I cannot hope that if I had been on the bridge when they first came in sight that the casualty could have been prevented, but I am not in a position to say. There are no lights on Mela Head or Suno-saki, and at night time they present a similiar appearance. I only know of one vessel, the *Tokyo Maru*, being in the same position.

The entry in the official log referring to the accident was then read over: and also the entry relating to the death of the second officer.

G. T. Tiltson, First Officer of the *Belgic*, sworn, said—I went on watch at four o'clock on the day of the grounding. Everything went on well; at 6.40 we sighted Noshima Light bearing West, by compass. The course was then altered to S. 70° W. at 7 o'clock, the course was altered to S. 75° W.; at 7.10, Noshima Light was 4 points on the bow; at 7.25, the Light was abeam, at a distance of three miles by 4-point bearing. The course was then altered to W. ½ S. At 7.55, the course was altered N. by W.; at 7.59, it was put at N. ¼ W. I then suggested to the Captain, who was on the bridge, not to haul round too soon, but to let the ship get out to the westward. He answered, "No, all right." At that time 8 bells were struck, and I was relieved by the second officer, to whom I gave the course N. ¼ W., and reported lights burning brightly. I then left the bridge, the captain and the second officer being up there. I went forward and saw the anchors and chains all clear, and similar duties up till about a quarter-past eight. Then I went to my room and sat down. A short time afterwards I felt the ship strike something, and I immediately rushed to the bridge. I found the ship heading directly to the land and amongst the breakers. The engines were going full speed astern. They continued working astern for some little while, but the southwest wind drove her stern ashore, and the ship touched the beach all along the starboard side, and remained so. We then proceeded to put out boats and show signals of distress. It was decided to send a boat to Kannonsaki for assistance, with the second officer in charge. When near the water the boat was driven forward by the swell and the second officer, who was holding on to the life-line, was blown overboard. We threw him a life-buoy, which he grasped, but the swell drove him forward and away from the ship. I called to the men in the boat to push out an oar; but by this time he seemed fatigued and disappeared from sight. I then sent off the third officer in charge of the same boat. Shortly afterwards some fishermen swam out from shore, and offered to pilot one of our boats ashore, if we would send her. We then dispatched a boat with the purser, and she reached shore safely and established communications. The ship by this time was broadside to the beach. Nothing could be done but to make everything secure, shut water-tight doors, etc., and wait for assistance from Yokohama. The carpenter reported the ship making no water.

The President—To what do you attribute the casualty?

Witness—Well, I can hardly say: except keeping too close to the land, and mistaking Mela Head for Sunosaki, as entered in the log. The entry in the log in regard to the time of stranding was not signed by me when first presented, as my time log did not tally with the time entered in the official log. The times were then corrected, and I signed the entry. Everything possible was done to save Mr. Beckman's life. The behaviour of the officers and men after the accident was very commendable. I have made the entrance of the Bay from San Francisco for thirteen years.

To a Member of the Court—Before entering my room at a quarter-past eight, I did not look at the land. The duties of the junior officers kept them near the wheel-house, and the second officer was on the bridge.

To Capt. McGregor—I have been chief officer of the *Belgic* for five years. I have always been on good terms with Captain Walker. Nothing occurred between us on the date of the accident. I saw Mela Head, but I did not think we could have been at Suno-saki by the time. The ship was going at about 13 knots. The deviation of the compasses I estimated on Westerly courses to be about 5 W., on south-westerly courses from 4 to nothing.

The President—Have you always been on good relations with Capt. Walker?—None of the best.

How long has this lasted?—Dating back some time. For four years I have not been on cordial terms with him.

Did you make the suggestion as to the alteration of the course in a proper and respectful way—? Yes, sir.

Was Captain Walker sober?—Up to the time I left the bridge he seemed so.

Is he a man of sober, steady habits?—I can't say he was.

Have you ever seen him under the influence of liquor?—I am sorry to say I have remonstrated with him in regard to drinking. I think he was not under the influence of liquor up to the time I left the bridge.

Have you any reason to suppose that he was under the influence of liquor the night of the accident?—I am afraid he was.

How long after the accident?—Before midnight.

Have you any reason to believe that he obtained liquor, and was under its influence soon after, or before, the accident?—I can only infer that he was under the influence of liquor from his extraordinary manner after the stranding.

Captain Street—Are you certain it was liquor, or was it only due to excitement?—Possibly it may have been both.

The President—You are quite certain that the captain was under the influence of liquor on the evening of the stranding, after the ship had gone ashore: remember, you are on your oath?—I know that he was under the influence of liquor before midnight.

Captain Evans—Then your feelings towards Captain Walker were not exactly friendly?—They were not hostile to him. I am willing to serve under any master the company may put in command of its ships, but I have my own duty to perform and I do it. Personally, as a man, I have nothing to say against Captain Walker. He is master of the ship, and I am the chief officer. I have a master's certificate to defend, and therefore I do all I can for the welfare and safety of the ship.

The President—How do you infer that the Captain was drunk?—From his dazed and dull kind of manner.

Mr. Lowder—How long after you joined the ship was it that you gave up taking meals in the cabin and messed by yourself?—About a year.

From that time you had no social relations with Captain Walker?—None particularly.

You have said that on several occasions you have seen Captain Walker under the influence of drink and have remonstrated with him?—Yes, sir; but I have no specific dates.

Could you tell me on how many occasions you spoke to him on the subject?—Well, I spoke to him, I think, about four or five times,

Had you occasion to remonstrate with him on this voyage?—I have done so since the steamer stranded.

But prior to the stranding?—No.

When you remonstrated with him did he make you any answer?—Yes.

What did he say?—It is so long back since I first spoke to him that I do not remember what answer he gave.

Did he tell you to mind your own business?—No, sir.

On these occasions, do you not think that you might possibly have been mistaken as to his condition?—Certainly not.

Not on any one occasion?—Not on any of the four or five times that I speak of.

You have no note or memorandum regarding any of these occasions?—No, sir.

Was it not your duty to have entered on the log, in your own log, if not in the official log, that you had seen your Captain intoxicated?—I don't say that he was intoxicated, merely that he was under the influence of liquour.

You wish to draw that distinction?—Yes.

Then I am right in inferring that on none of these occasions was Captain Walker in a condition that would interfere with the discharge of his duties on board his ship?—I think you are wrong there. On some of the occasions I speak of, he was far from being in a fit state, and in a condition not to know what was the right and proper thing to do for the ship; consequently I spoke to him about it.

If he was in that condition, was it not your duty to have logged the fact?—I thought not in my subordinate position. I thought that it was my simple duty to speak to him. I don't think that on any of these occasions Captain Walker could stand up in this Court and say—

Never mind what you think.—Very well, sir.

Can you give me any idea of the date of any of these occasions?—It was so long ago when the thing first took place, that I don't think I can give you a date. It happened after we ran down a fishing boat in going out of Yokohama Bay, four years ago.

Have you anything else by which you could fix it?—It must have been entered on the log-book. I could look back to the logs of four years ago.

You spoke to him after the fishing boat was run down?—Yes, I did.

And after the fishing boat was run down he had this dull, dazed sort of manner?—Yes, he had at the time.

You noticed his dull, dazed condition at the time and afterwards attributed it to drunkenness?—I supposed it was so.

Now, you are not prepared to swear that on any of these occasions of which you speak, you had seen him drinking?—No.

I suggest to you that Captain Walker's dull, dazed condition arose from the fact of having just run down a fishing boat?—I think not, from my experience of the sea.

You can give no particular instance, until after the stranding, of seeing Captain Walker in this dull, dazed condition?—Oh, yes, I can. I saw him so when we were going thorough Van Diemen's Straits to Nagasaki, on the same voyage.

You always noticed him to be in this state, dull, dazed, when nearing land, going in, or coming out of harbour?—I never noticed it at sea, out on the ocean.

Then if your Captain on those occasions presented a dull, dazed appearance upon approaching land, was it a fair inference to draw, that he was under the influence of liquor?—I have also smelt it. I have seen him drinking.

You are evading the question?—I think the inference I drew was quite fair.

Has he not, to your knowledge, always been extremely nervous when approaching or leaving the land?—Yes, he has always been so.

Now, to come to the date of the stranding. After the casualty you say you saw that Captain Walker was under the influence of liquor?—I think it was before midnight when I saw him so. Everybody was upset at the stranding, and everybody was on deck. I had my duty to attend to, and ordered the carpenter to close the water-tight bulkhead doors, to batten down the hatches, etc. and to make all things safe. I went along the deck and saw Capt. Walker stretched out on a canvas chair, snoring. I think therefore he was under the influence of liquor; at any rate he was the only man asleep on board the steamer that night.

And because he was asleep at that time, you inferred that he was drunk?—I thought so.

The ship was now in safety?—No sir, she was bumping; and there was a heavy list to port.

If the captain had been awake could he have prevented that?—No, sir: but there was no telling when the masts might go.

Could he have prevented that if he had been awake?—No.

Well, then, could he not go to sleep if he so desired: what was there he could do?—(No answer.)

When next did you see him, or think you saw him, under the influence of liquor?—Next morning. It was like this. In the morning, the Japanese head official of the village near where we stranded, came aboard. He asked a lot of questions; asked if we had permission to take the ship into that bay; then he wanted to know if we had passports, or whether the passengers had passports, if they had not the passengers could not land, and unless Customs permits were given their baggage could not be landed. Altogether, this official stayed about half an hour, then he asked me if I was the Captain. Upon hearing that I was not, he said he had some private questions to put to the Captain. I did not know where the Captain was, but I took the official, whom I afterwards discovered to be the Mayor, through the saloon to the captain's room. I found him lying down on a couch. I introduced the Japanese to him. Ten minutes afterwards the Japanese came on deck to me and said—

Mr. Lowder—I don't want to hear what was said: it is what you saw yourself that you have to speak.

Witness—I saw that Capt. Walter was under the influence of liquor. I saw it at a glance. He got up off the couch when I roused him.

And he presented the dull, dazed appearance?—Very much so.

He had suffered a great mental strain?—We all had.

Yes, but he in particular as Master of the ship; the catastrophe may have made you more energetic for all I know.

Thomas Dillon, third officer of the *Belgic*, sworn, deposed—I was below at the time of the stranding, going off watch at eight. I went immediately on deck, and from thence to the bridge, where I found the captain, first, and second officers. The engines were going full speed astern. I heard no conversation between the chief officer and the captain as to the course before I went off duty. I have been on this line for 5 years or so. At 6 o'clock, we were steering S. 61° W., compass course. At

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that time we could see the land on the starboard side. At 6.40 Noshima was sighted. It bore W. by compass. I reported to the captain, and he said alter the course to S. 7° W. He also said get a four point bearing of it and let me know when it is abeam. I then hove the log and found the ship to be going at a little over 12 knots. At 7 o'clock the course was altered to S. 75° W., and a four point bearing again was taken; at 7.10 the course was altered. We where then three miles from Noshima and steering W. ½ S. by compass. At 7.55, the captain again altered the course, and as she came round I called the points to N. by W.; then he said steady the ship on that. At 7.57, I left the bridge to enter the course on the slate, and at 7.59, the course was altered to N. ¼ W. Then I was relieved by the fourth officer, to whom I reported the course. I saw the second officer engaged in getting out the boats. Every officer did the best he could after the accident, the Captain as well, and I left the ship a little after 9, to go to Kanonsaki to obtain assistance.

To a Member of the Court—I noticed there was a coolness between the Captain and the Chief Officer, but the latter never mentioned it to me. I never heard the Chief Officer speaking disrespectfully of the Captain. I did not hear the Chief Officer make a remark about the ship being too close to land. I merely conned the ship.

To the President—I have never seen Captain Walker under the influence of liquor. I can not form any opinion as to the Captain being a sober man.

The Court then adjourned to 2 p.m.

H. Gankroger, Fourth Officer of the *Belgic*, sworn deposed—I relieved the third officer at eight o'clock on the 8th inst. I met him at the bridge ladder, and he gave me the course, N.¼W. I then went to the quartermaster and obtained the course he was steering. At 8.5 p.m. the course was altered to N., at 8.10 to N.½E., at 8.17 N. by E.; and at 8.20 to 17° E. Then the Captain called me over and said Suno-saki was abeam, and the course was to be N. 17° E. He ordered me to go down and enter it in his log-book; which I did. Then I went into the wheel-house and entered the same on the log-slate. I then returned to the bridge, and saw the second officer looking through the glasses. I also saw a dark bank ahead. I said, "What is that, it looks like land?" And he said, "Land be d—d, what are you talking about; there's no land there: its fog." Just then the captain came on the bridge, and the second officer said, "There's a thick bank of fog ahead." The Captain said: "Is there?" I looked up again, and saw what I supposed to be breakers.

The President—With the naked eye or with glasses?

Witness—With the naked eye.

Witness continuing—I rushed to the telegraph and just as I got there, the Captain shouted: Stop, full speed astern. The ship grounded immediately. The chief and third officer came rushing on the bridge. The chief ordered me to take soundings, which I did. I found three fathoms amidships; three fathoms aft, and 2½ forward. Then he ordered me to go and clear away the boats, the captain was on the bridge all the time. I saw nothing of the death of the second officer. I attribute the stranding of the ship to the mistaking of Mela Head for Sunosaki.

To the President—The Captain was on the bridge at 8 20, he came up again just as I had finished talking to the third officer. The Captain seemed all right, and I saw him between eight o'clock and midnight on the night of the stranding. He seemed all right, nothing the matter with him, the same as he always is. I did not see him asleep. I consider the Captain was sober all that night, both before and and after the casualty. I have never seen the captain under the influence of liquor. I joined him on Nov. 8th, 1894.

To Captain McGregor—I did not hear the Chief Officer tell the Captain that he was too close to land.

To the President—I do not think that the Captain and the Chief Officer were on friendly terms. They were very cool. I never heard the Chief Officer speak disparagingly or disrespectfully of the Captain on the ship.

M. S. Niswander, Purser, deposed—I did not see the Captain on the evening in question until the vessel struck. After the stranding, the Captain was in his normal condition. He was not under the influence of liquor. He asked me to go ashore and take a telegram, which he wrote out, I made the entry in the log on the 9th Sept., referring to the stranding. I asked the Captain if I should make the entry, and he said yes. He did not dictate the wording. It was siged by the captain, that afternoon, I think; the chief officer did not then. He did so subsequently a few days ago. I made the mistake myself in regard to the time. I have served under Captain Walker for a year. He has always been steady and sober. I have never seen him under the influence of liquor. He has taken a drink occasionally, but never to excess. I have never witnessed any displays of ill feeling between the captain and the chief officer, nor has the latter ever made any remarks about the Captain.

Mr. Lowder—In the summons calling Captain Walker to this Court no indication is given that a charge of drunkenness was to be preferred against him. If any notice had been given that such a charge was to be brought I should have been ready to produce evidence on the other side. But if the Court thinks that sufficient evidence has been given in rebuttal of the charge, then it will not be necessary for me to put any questions to this witness. I do not wish the Court to give an opinion before the time arrives for it to do so, but in my own mind I am convinced that the charge has not been sustained. I will, however, ask the Court to allow me permission to reserve my examination of this witness.

The President said that he did not intend to express any opinion before the proper time arrived to pronounce the decision of the Court. The Court had no objection to Mr. Lowder reserving his questions.

Mr. Lowder said that he proposed to put in evidence a statement made *de bene esse* before H.M. Consul at Yokohama, by a Mr. Hansell Easton, who was a passenger by the steamer *Belgic* on the voyage from San Francisco when the stranding occurred.

The President read the statement which was made on the 23rd Sept. by Mr. Easton, who deposed to being an American citizen and on board the *Belgic* when she ran ashore between Sunosaki and Mela Head. He had long known Captain Walker as a personal friend, and had made three voyages across the Pacific with him. He knew him as an abstemious man and not given to drink. There was nothing abnormal in his manner before the stranding, and from deponent's own observation, Captain Walker had not been drinking. He was seen by deponent two hours after the stranding and he then presented the appearance of a man who was suffering from a great mental strain. He did not attribute this to drinking. Some four days later he saw Captain Walker and he seemed to be in the same mental condition. Captain Walker had suffered from sunstroke; he was not a total abstainer. Good feelings prevailed between him and his officers. The night was fine when the *Belgic* went ashore, but the horizon was hazy.

Mr. Lowder said that after that statement he should take it for granted that the charge of drunkenness had entirely broken down. If the Court was not with him on this point, then he should ask for an adjournment of the Inquiry in order to produce some 30 to 50 witnesses who could give evidence in his client's behalf.

The President (after consultation with his assessors) said that they unanimously found the charge of drunkenness to be entirely unproven. The Court did not consider it necessary to call further evidence, but would proceed to consider its finding, unless Mr. Lowder wished to address the Court.

Mr. Lowder said the decision of the Court on the charge just raised greatly abbreviated his task. He did not think a man could occupy a more serious position than did his client, when such a charge was preferred. He (counsel) was prepared to have rebutted it by evidence, and, even if it took a week, the matter would have been sifted to the bottom. But the charge had completely broken down, and the Court were unanimous in arriving at that decision. The question now to be considered was the punishment which was to be awarded Captain Walker—for unfortunately blame did attach to him. After paying a tribute to the straightforward, honest, open-hearted manner in which Captain Walker had given his evidence that morning, Mr. Lowder said that Captain Walker had taken all the blame of the accident upon his own shoulders, even after an opportunity had been given him to explain it away. When asked if he could have rectified his mistake in time to prevent the stranding, he replied that he did not think he could have done so. Counsel hoped that the Court would bear with him while he addressed it at some little length upon the reason why the punishment to be awarded Captain Walker should not be severe. The Court was called under section 260 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1854, though section 489 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894, was really the statute quoted, this Act having repealed the former Act. The Act of 1894, if he might be allowed to say so, was not artistically drawn, and required a little study ere the exact meaning of the legislature could be arrived at. The Court was called under section 480 as a Naval Court by Consular official. Mr. Lowder then quoted the different clauses of the Act bearing on the duties and powers of Naval Courts of Inquiry, and pointed out that they had power to remove a master from his ship if they thought fit: still they could not exercise this power without the consent of the consignor of the ship. The owner of the ship was fully represented at the inquiry, and, as his Honour was aware, he had been informed of the *de bene esse* proceedings. No complaint, however, had been brought against the master of the ship by the owners, and the inference to be drawn from that was, that as far as the owners were concerned, they had not lost confidence in Captain Walker, nor did they think it in the interest of the ship or crew that he should be removed from the command of the ship. They were therefore thrown back upon section 470 of the Act of 1894, which provides that the certificates of a Master, Chief Officer, or Engineer might only be suspended if the Court found that the loss of the ship, or the abandonment of the ship, or serious loss or damage to the ship, on loss of life, had been caused through his or their wrongful act or default. Mr. Lowder then pointed out that the vessel had neither been lost nor abandoned, while there was absolutely no evidence before the Court that the ship had been damaged at all. If there had been no loss of the vessel, no abandonment of the ship, nor no serious damage done, the only conclusion that could be arrived at was that the certificate of the master could not be dealt with at all. That the casualty had occurred could not be denied. They were, however, construing a penal statute, and therefore the Act must be construed properly. Mr. Lowder therefore submitted with confidence that according to the wording of the Act, Captain Walker's certificate could not be dealt with. He regretted that the other side was not represented by Counsel, so that he might have strengthened his argument in reply. He thought that the assessors of the Court must feel deep sympathy for Captain Walker in his present position. Captain Walker had held a position in which he was thoroughly trusted by his owners and by everybody who knew him, except by one witness, who had come into Court that day with the evident intention of doing him harm. It was notorious—they had the evidence of their own eyes to prove it—that the ship had been got off the beach and was now in Yokohama harbour. The captain's owners had no intention of getting rid of his client, who had worked hard for a month past to get the vessel floated. He had suffered more during that time than he, the speaker, had the power to imagine or adequately bring before the imagination of their minds. For a whole month he had been doing his best in circumstances that would depress—it was a weak word to use in the case—the strongest man, and now appeared before the Court a broken-hearted, broken-spirited man. He had met with an accident, for the first time in his life, through an error in judgment—not a wrongful act or default. Under the circumstances, a censure by the Court would go as far to prevent a repetition of the error as any punishment could do. After all, the Court did not sit there to take revenge. He simply could not see what fault his client had committed which deserved more than a severe reprimand, and he confidently believed that beyond that the Court would not feel it their duty to go.

The Chief Officer wished to address the Court, but the President said he could not hear him.

The Court was then cleared, and upon the public being readmitted, the President read the finding of the Court. After reviewing the evidence the Court found:—

1.—That up to the time of passing Noshima Light the Master appears to have navigated his ship with due care.

2.—That after that point sufficient care was not taken in calculating the distance run by the ship.

3.—That owing primarily to this neglect the Master was led into an error of judgment in mistaking Mela Head for Sunosaki.

4.—That the casualty was due entirely to this error of judgment on the part of the Master.

5.—That the conduct of the first officer, Mr. Tilston is commended for having paid due regard to the navigation of the ship, and for having drawn the Master's attention to the fact that the ship was too near the land and should not have been hauled up so soon.

6.—That after the casualty everything appears to have been done that was necessary for securing the safety of the ship and passengers.

7.—That the second officer, Mr. Beckman, was drowned in performing his duty of launching and getting ready the boats, and that all available measures were taken to save his life.

8.—The Court considering that the Master's mistake, though a serious one, is the first made by him during a service extending over 14 years in command, are of opinion that a severe reprimand

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will meet the justice of the case, and he is hereby reprimanded accordingly. The conduct of the rest of the officers and crew is free from blame.

9.—That the expenses of this Court, amounting to £8 12s. 6d., be paid by the master.

MASONIC INSTALLATION IN YOKOHAMA.

On Saturday evening at the Masonic Temple, Yokohama, Wor. Bro. C. D. Moss, Vice-president of the D.B. of G.P. of the Grand Lodge of Japan, was duly installed W.M. of the Otentosama Lodge, No. 1263, E.C. The outgoing Master, Wor. Bro. H. Moss, Pres. D.B. of G.P., conducted the ceremonies, in which Wor. Bros. Kiel, Crane, and Hodges assisted. The newly installed Master then invested his officers as follows:—

Wor. Bro. H. Moss .....I. P. M. & Treas.
Bro. S. E. Unite.....S. W.
Bro. A. B. Brown .....J. W.
Wor. Bro. G. Hodges .....Secretary.
Bro. Rev. A. R. Morgan ...Chaplain.
Bro. L. Harlow .....D. of C.
Bro. C. F. Rhine.....Org.
Bro. G. S. Nelson .....S. D.
Bro. F. C. Herb .....J. D.
Bro. H. J. Neville .....I. G.
Bro. J. E. Beale .....Steward.
Bro. C. B. Clausen.....Steward.
Bro. H. Ivison.....Tyler.

A banquet followed, at which Wor. Bro. C. D. Moss presided, being supported by six Past Masters of the Lodge, and many P.M.'s of both constitutions, and many visitors, nearly fifty in all sitting down. The *menu* was as follows:—

Ox Tail Soup.
Salmon and Shrimp Sauce. Truffled Chicken Patte.
Fillet of Beef and Mushrooms. Salmi of Snipe on Toast.
Green Peas.
Artichokes. French Beans.
Roast Leg of Mutton. Pheasant and Bread Sauce.
Salad.
Diplomatic Pudding, Vanilla Ice Cream.
Dessert.

When the glasses were charged, the W. M. gave "The Queen and the Craft;" and The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, and Officers of Grand Lodge: the loyal and patriotic anthems suitable to each being played by Wor. Bro. John Griffin.

The next toast, "The Right Worshipful the District Master and Officers of the District Grand Lodge of Japan, was given by the W.M. After an instrumental trio from the "Cavalleria Rusticana," by Bro. Dr. Gordon Munro, Wor. Bro. Crane, and Wor. Bro. John Griffin. Wor. Bro. E. Flint Kilby, D.G.S.W., in the unavoidable absence of the D.G.M., returned thanks. In doing so he congratulated the Otentosama Lodge upon reinstalling Wor. Bro. C. D. Moss in the chair. He was a Mason who carried out the grand principles of the Craft in all the thoughts and actions of his busy, outer life. The Lodge, honoured itself by honouring such a Mason.—(Loud applause.)

The "Newly Installed Worshipful Master and his Officers," was given in feeling terms by Wor. Bro. Crane. The speaker had known Bro. C. D. Moss from the day of his first landing in Japan. He had been initiated into the Craft twenty-years ago, and twelve years since was W.M. of the Otentosama Lodge. Both as a Mason and as a citizen of the world, the newly re-installed W.M. had won the regard and esteem of men. His fresh year of office would be followed with deep interest, for he was one of those men who did not leave his Masonic principles of benevolence, uprightness, and true charity behind, when the door of the Lodge closed at his back.—(Hear, hear). The best wishes of the whole masonic fraternity of Japan were extended to Wor. Bro. Moss and his officers for a year of continual prosperity.—(Applause.)

Wor. Bro. C. D. Moss responded in felicitous terms, which were warmly endorsed by Bros. Unite, S.W., and Brown, J.W.

The toast of the "Past Masters of the Otentosama Lodge," was given by Bro. Dr. Gordon Munro in happy terms. Wor. Bros. Booth and Crane responded. "The sister constitutions and our visitors," was given by Wor. Bro. Hodges, and Wor. Bros. R. Hay, Home Cook, Beatty, Griffin, and Goodwin responded. "The mothers, wifes, daughters, and sisters of Masons," was given by Bro. A. B. Brown and Bro. J. B. Barrett replied. "The Tyler's Toast," by Wor. Bro. Hodges concluded the speeches of the evening. During the course of the proceedings instrumental selections were given by Bros. Griffin, Munro, Crane, Rhine; songs by Bros. Crane, Unite and Clarke, and recitations by Bros. Pauncefote, Davieson, and Brown.

FRENCH CONSULAR-GENERAL COURT.

Before M. A. KLOBUKOWSKI, Consul-General, President, and Messrs. S. DEBRABANT and T. SCHŒNINGER, Assessors

MONDAY, 21st October, 1895.

THE "NATAL" COLLISION CASE.

Kobayashi Daikichi, owner of the junk *Eiho Maru v.* The Messageries Maritimes Company.

This was a claim $10,135.745 alleged to be due for damages sustained by plaintiff through the sinking of the *Eiho Maru* by the steamer *Natal* and interest.

The plaintiff was represented by Mr. Kusaka, Mr. Conil appearing for the defendant Company, and Mr. M. Adam and Mr. J. Oueda acted as Interpreters.

The Court said that in this case the evidence of three naval experts had been requisitioned—a French and Japanese first, but as these two conflicted in the deductions drawn from the evidence laid before them, the services of an American naval officer had finally been asked for and rendered.

Mr. Kusaka contended that the steamer was entirely to blame, seeing that the sailing vessel was making no headway at the time and was going against the current.

A chart prepared by the American expert was produced and examined, which showed the respective courses of the two vessels.

Mr. Kusaka wished to know whether the Report of the Captain of the *Natal* had been deposited

The Court—Yes. The petition had been filed so late—4 months after the occurrence—that the *Natal's* report had to be sent for from France and then filed. Of course the usual pilot's Report had been made on the vessel's arrival in port.

Mr. Kusaka wished to know whether it was not necessary for a full report to be made at the first port of arrival of any such occurrence as the present. Such not having been done the ship must be held liable.

The Court replied that it was not the business of the Court to discuss the question, but would read the Report of the Captain made on the 18th of September before the French Consulate at Shanghai relative to the accident, which occurred between Kobe and Nagasaki. As the vessel made only a few hours' stay there, the report of the circumstances was made in Shanghai.

Mr. Kusaka said that the crew of the *Eiho Maru*, after she had been run down by the *Natal*, were not permitted to go on board, and that in consequence the crew of the junk had been enabled to reach land only after great hardship and difficulty.

Mr. Conil said that the claim of $10,145.745 was preposterous for a junk. He could only characterise such a demand as an attempt to make money out of the affair. The *Natal* left port in the morning and at 7.30 p.m. saw a white light 300 metres ahead. As soon as it was seen the helm was put down 45° to 50,° and two minutes later the collision occurred. There was sufficient time for the avoidance of the accident had the junk followed the rules of the road. Captain James, the pilot, was explicit on this point. The assertion that the Japanese not only were not succoured, but were not permitted to go on board, was a base libel on the M.M. Co. They actually came on board and demanded money on the ground that they were poor and had lost their all. A passage to Nagasaki was then offered them which they refused. This was fully referred to in Capt. James report, which was very minute, and had been sent to Tokyo. It was an extraordinary circumstance that the case was only brought four months after the occurrence instead of immediately. Why? They came to the Agent and begged for some recompense, which he said he was unable to give until he had made enquiries, when they went away.

Mr. Kusaka contended that when the junk was first seen she was immovable, consequently the steamer should have given way. In regard to the question of their having gone on the *Natal*, he could not reconcile it with the fact of the men having been obliged to take to their boat to reach the shore. They would have jumped at the opportunity to get to Nagasaki on the steamer.

Mr. Conil pointed out that this was denied by all on board, passengers included. The refusal to take them on could never be charged against a M.M. steamer.

Mr. Kusaka remarked that as to the report of the pilot James, seeing that he had, in connection with this case, returned the licence he received from the Teishinsho, his evidence could not be taken as conclusive on any point, and it was therefore useless. He was called before a Marine Court of Inquiry, where he refused to give evidence, nor even before this when questioned by Captain Mahlmann, the Harbour Master at Kobe.

Mr. Conil replied that Captain James was called to give evidence in the case months after its occurrence, when he claimed that the Osaka Court had no jurisdiction and refused to speak. This was common knowledge, as it had been reported in the papers of Kobe.

Mr. Kusaka claimed that the original report of the accident should have been made at Nagasaki, and not at Shanghai. The lapse of time before bringing the case was beside the question.

Mr. Conil could not understand why, if such was the case, in regard to the report the claim was made four months afterwards instead of immediately on arrival of the steamer at Nagasaki or Shanghai.

Mr. Kusaka replied that the plaintiff was not sure of the name of the vessel, so had waited to make sure. Anyhow, the case was brought within the legal limit of time.

Some discussion here took place as to whether Mr. Beguex, who acted as interpreter, understood the Japanese, and whether they in their turn understood him when the parley took place after the accident.

The Court remarked that Mr. Mahlmann had sent the report of the accident to Tokyo four days after its receipt, and the plaintiff must have known it, yet he allowed at least three months to pass before he brought his claim.

Mr. Kusaka said the report was wrong. The Japanese never went on board, and if they did no foreigner could have understood them, as they belonged to Bichu.

The Court—It is said that they attempted to go on board, but were not permitted; how do you account for your assertion that they could not understand each other?

Mr. Kusaka—They never got on deck.

The Court—I may remark that the whole of the evidence is against this.

The evidence of the Japanese was here read. The plaintiff is reported to have said that the *Natal* stopped after she struck the junk, and that two boats were lowered. Witness told the interpreter four men had been hurt. They were told to come on board, but had refused. The interpreter spoke good Japanese. Witnesses never asked for money, but used the words "*Tasukete okure.*" They were asked on board, but did not go.

Mr. Kusaka contended that this could not be construed into their having been on deck.

The Court pointed out that according to the evidence of the deck officer, the Japanese said they could look after themselves, so the vessel proceeded.

Capt. James's report was here read. This corroborated that the Japanese refused a passage to Nagasaki.

Mr. Conil remarked that in view of the fact that two boats were lowered, the assertion that no succour was offered was a falsehood.

Mr. Kusaka would admit the lowering of the boats, but denied that the men were offered a passage to Nagasaki.

The Court remarked that the main question at issue was, which vessel was to blame for the collision, and upon this question there also was conflict of deduction.

The Court—Was the junk stationary, or had she headway at the time?

Mr. Kusaka—She had her sails up, but was stationary at the time.

The Court pointed out that there was a discrepancy in plaintiff's evidence relative to this: in one place he said she had headway, while in another he said she was anchored; if the latter was the case, how could they account for the two halves of the junk sinking in different directions, and the moving of the forward part?

Mr. Kusaka said the cable must have been severed by the force of the collision.

The evidence of the Japanese and French technical experts was then read. Both were lengthy documents: the former placing the steamer in the wrong and the latter the junk.

An argument here arose as to the length of the cable of the junk and the depth of water in the locality of the accident. It was here proved beyond all doubt, by the official soundings in the charts, that the junk could not have been at anchor, the regulation length of cable for a boat of her size bring altogether inadequate.

The evidence of the third expert was then read. In this every available point *pro* and *con* was fully given, as well as the the rules of the road at sea, lights, &c., and the decision arrived at was that everything possible was correctly done by the pilot and officers of the *Natal* and that no blame whatever attached to her. Good

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discipline was maintained and the true instincts of humanity followed.

The Court then adjourned till 2 o'clock, when both sides addressed the Court, plaintiff asking for judgment for the amount claimed, and the defendants for the dismissal of the case.

Judgment will be delivered on Monday next, the 28th inst.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 21.

Prince Lobanoff, at an interview with the German Emperor, said that Russia cannot tolerate the Japanese establishing themselves in Korea, where their presence would be a contiual menace to both Russia and China.

(FROM THE "CHINA GAZETTE.")

Foochow, Oct. 8th, 9.45 a.m.

It is reported here privately that the British and American Ministers have informed the Chinese Government that unless their demands connected with the Kucheng Inquiry are satisfatorily settled and all the murderers punished within twenty days, united action will be taken by the Fleets of the Powers concerned. To this end several vessels of the British and American squadrons have been ordered to be in readiness to proceed to Foochow at a moment's notice.

Foochow, October 11., 9.20 p.m.

The deadlock at Kucheng continues. Mr. Mansfield is returning to Foochow, and is due here to-morrow (Saturday).

Tientsin, Oct. 11.

The American Commission appointed to enquire into the Szechuen riots of May last started from Pekin on Sunday on their long journey to Chengtu. The party consisted of Consul Read, Mr. Cheshire of the U.S. Legation, and Lieut. Merill of the U.S.S. *Baltimore*. They were escorted by twenty-five mounted coolies in military uniform.

It will take the Commission fully two months to reach their journey's end, where they will arrive seven months after the events into which they are to enquire took place.

Foochow, October 12.

Mr. Mansfield, British Consul, and the Rev. W. Banister, C.M.S., have arrived from Kucheng for the purpose of interviewing the Viceroy, and will return to Kucheng on Wednesday.

Foochow, October 13.

Admiral Buller arrived here yesterday.

Pekin, October 15.

An Imperial Decree has been published in the *Pekin Gazette* stating that all the officials whose names were given to the Tsung-li Yamên on 30th August last by M. Gérard, the Minister for France, and who have been found guilty, after trial by competent courts, of complicity in the Szechuan Riots, have been degraded in accordance with M. Gérard's representations. Liu Ping-chang—ex-Viceroy—was the first name on the list.

The Chinese Legations in Paris and London having been separated at the request of the French Government, Tchin Tchong, Chancellier of the Legation in Paris and *Chargé d'Affaires*, Mandarin of the Second Class, has been appointed Minister to France.

The Chinese Government has ordered the Chinese General commanding in the neighbourhood of Monkay, from which M. Lyaudet, the French Customs officer, and his family were carried off by pirates, to hand the captives over to the French Consul at Pakhoi. This is the first occasion on which the Chinese Government has admitted its responsibilities for the operations of native maraunders on the southern frontier.

Sir Nicholas O'Conor's attitude towards the Yamên over the Kucheng trial is very strong, and yesterday the Chinese signified (or pretended) entire acquiescence with his just demands.

Foochow, Oct. 15.

After the visit of the Admiral and Consul to the Yamên, the Viceroy was evidently impressed with the danger of his playing any longer, and he has promised to give a full settlement within a week's time, and offers to behead 18 more of the prisoners, hoping this will satisfy all demands.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 15.

Reuter's Agent at Constantinople states that Great Britain is resolved to secure the adoption of Armenian reforms, and that she will not hesitate to use pressure on the Sultan.

Foochow, October 15, 8.55 p.m.

Mr. Mansfield has had a satisfactory interview with the Viceroy. Eighteen more men are to be executed immediately and others who have been convicted are to be banished. The investigation is to be continued.

Pekin, October 13, 3 p.m.

Several urgent telegrams have been received from Kansu this morning, and there is a report now here that Lanchou, the provincial capital of Kansu, has succumbed to the attacks of the Mahommedan rebels, and that Yang Ch'ang-chün, Viceroy of Shen-Kan, whose seat is at Lanchou, has committed suicide in order to escape indignity at the hands of the captors. Another report is that Lanchou, having fallen into the rebels' hands, the Viceroy Yang with a body of cavalry succeeded in cutting his way through the rebels, and is now with General Lei Chên-kuan, whose force of 8,000 men is also in danger of being surrounded to the north of Lanchou. General Tung, the Kashgar Commander-in-Chief, is still about 100 miles to the south-east of Lanchou. The Emperor, upon receipt of these telegrams, issued two secret decrees immediately afterwards, ordering General Tung to hasten to meet the rebels and fight a decisive battle with them. Four decrees were also sent to the Governors of Shensi, Shansi, Honan, and Shantung to send all available troops to reinforce General Tung. This General has reported in a secret memorial that he is surrounded on all sides by traitors and does not dare to make a general forward movements for fear of wholesale desertions in the face of the enemy. General Tung's troops are nine-tenths natives of Kansu, and it is feared that they will refuse to fight their friends and kinsmen. Secret society men from Central China are also reported to have joined the Mahommedans, so that this rebellion is not purely a war of religion. The situation is considered so serious that it is proposed to send off a large body of the Pekin Field Force, and to call in the Tartar troops of Kirin and Heilungchiang and send them by way of Mongolia to the aid of General Tung.

London, October 17.

It is stated that two thousand Spaniards have been either killed or have died in the course of the Cuban campaign.

Pekin, October 11.

The Edict of the 29th of September, exacted by the British Minister exclusively, provided explicitly for the punishment of all the officials concerned in the riots. The second Edict, dated the 14th instant, is issued in fulfilment of the engagement thus made with Sir Nicholas O'Conor.

London, October 18.

The Straits Association has accepted Lord Ripon's proposal of 28th June as to the military contribution required from Singapore. The proposals made for other colonies in the East, with regard to their military contributions, are as follows:—Seventeen and a-half per cent. is demanded from Hongkong, five per cent. from Mauritius, and it is expected that Ceylon will contribute from eight to ten per cent. of their respective revenues.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, October 5.

The King of Portugal is visiting Paris.

The funeral of M. Pasteur was an imposing ceremony. M. Faure, Prince Nicolas, and Archduke Constantine were present. Many wreaths were sent, including one from the King of Portugal.

Paris, October 6.

President Faure and the King of Portugal have exchanged visits.

(FROM THE "SIAM OBSERVER.")

London, September 30.

Lord Lamington has been appointed to the Governorship of Queensland.

London, October 3.

A band of missionaries are leaving to take the places of those killed in the recent massacres.

(FROM "LE COURRIER D'HAIPHONG.")

Haiphong, October 10.

The Chinese Marshal Sou handed over the Lyaudets the day before yesterday, to M. Bons D'Anty, French Consul at Lungchow, who is on a visit to Moncay.

There are no details yet available showing how Sou got the captives out of the hands of the brigands.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Sôul, Oct. 22.

Li Shun-yo, who was to have left here for Japan last night, has postponed his departure until the 26th inst.

Shimonoseki, Oct. 22.

Mr. Okamoto Ryunosuke and over forty other Japanese residents, who left Ninsen on the 21st inst. by the *Chikugogawa Maru*, are expected to reach here to-morrow.

Shanghai, Oct. 22.

Liu Yung-fu, the Black Flag leader, effected his escape in a junk on the 19th inst., and his whereabouts are unknown.

Later.

Liu Yung-fu and eleven followers have escaped from Formosa in a junk, and landed in the neighbourhood of Amoy.

A report from Amoy says that the Black Flags have surrendered, and the Japanese army is expected to have now occupied the whole of the island.

A report has reached here to the effect that the British steamer *Thales* has been inspected by a Japanese man-of-war on suspicion that she was conveying the Black Flag leader. The statement, however, requires confirmation.

Kyoto, Oct. 22.

The anniversary of the foundation of this capital was celebrated to-day. The ceremony took place at 9 a.m. in the Taikyoku-den, at which H.I.M. the Emperor was represented by H.I.H. Prince Yamashina. Mr. Yamada, Governor of Kyoto, read an address, after which an Imperial Rescript was read by Prince Yamashina. Congratulatory addresses sent from Viscount Nomura, Minister of Home Affairs, and H.I.H. Prince Komatsu, were then read. The guests, numbering over 400 in all, afterwards sat down to a banquet. The streets are richly decorated, but the bad weather is causing trouble, and the city is unexpectedly quiet.

Sôul, Oct. 23.

Although some of the Foreign Representatives have been entertaining doubts as to the good faith of Japan in connection with the recent *émeute*, they have since become assured that the disturbance was chiefly the work of Koreans, and that the Japanese merely lent assistance, while these same Japanese were chiefly *soshi*, who acted contrary to the wishes of the Japanese Government. Expressions of opinion towards the Japanese have grown mild.

Hiroshima, October 24.

The *Chikugogawa Maru* is expected to arrive at the Nishima Quarantine Station at 4 p.m. to-day. Chief Public Procurator Kusano, and Mr. Terada, Superintendent of the Hiroshima Police, attended by seven police inspectors and thirty constables, will proceed to the *Chikugogawa* to arrest the Japanese deportees, and bring them to the prison in this town.

Judge Yoshioka and Public Procurator Kitagawa proceeded to Ujina to-day.

Four hundred and fifty soldiers will leave here for Formosa to-day.

Osaka, Oct. 24.

Marquis Yamagata and Count Okuma are meeting almost every day, and whenever they meet they indulge in a long conversation. It is said some important questions of the day are discussed.

Fusan, Oct. 24.

A Russian man-of-war passed off this port to-day with about one thousand Russian soldiers for Vladivostock.

Nagasaki, October 25.

The French flagship *Bayard* left here for Yokohama to-day.

Söul, October 24.

Li Tai-ben, Minister of the Imperial Household, was placed on the Retired List to-day.

The Tai Wön-kun, who has been staying at the Palace since the 8th inst. has returned to his residence at Un-hyon.

Prince Wi-hwa left here to-day for America and Europe. In Chi-yo and In Chi-ken have been ordered to accompany the Prince.

Hiroshima, October 24th.

Twenty-two Japanese deportees arrived at the Nishima Quarantine Station by the *Chikugo-gawa Maru* at 1.30 p.m. to-day. Medical inspection was concluded at 4 o'clock and no one was found to be indisposed. Chief Public Procurator Kusano issued warrants for all to be arrested. They are accused of wilful murder and the instigation of a riot. The prisoners were conveyed to this town in *jinrikisha*, and reached the Hiroshima Local Court at half-past 8 o'clock. The names of the deportees arrested are:—Okamoto Ryunosuke, Kunitome Shigeaki, Hirota Shizen, Sasa Tadashi, Sato Keikichi, Mayeda Shunzo, Hirayama Iwahiko, Kikuchi Kenjo, Iyeiri Kakichi, Tsukinari Hikaru, Fuji Katsuaki, Yamada Ressei, Yoshida Tomokichi, Shiba Shiro, Suzuki Junzen, Osaki Shokichi, Takeda Hanzo, Matsumura Ryuki, Kumabe Yonekichi, Uno Takeo, Ushijima Hideo, and Sawakura Measa.

Nagasaki, Oct. 25.

The *Idzumi Kan* has left for Saseho, and the French cruiser *Isly* has arrived from Ninsen.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 199.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to K B 2	1—K takes Kt (ch.)
2—R to Kt 2, mate	
	1—K B takes Kt
2—R to Q 2, mate	
	1—P to K 4
2—Q to Kt 6, mate	
	1—Q or Q B takes Kt
2—R to B 4, mate	
	1—Q to Kt 8
2—Q to B 3, mate.	

Correct answers from Shogi, W.H.S., Kr., Digamma, and J.D.

E.D.—Another cancel! You would at least have been in good company this time.

R.—Your Key-move is unsound. If Black replies Q B takes Q there is no possible mate.

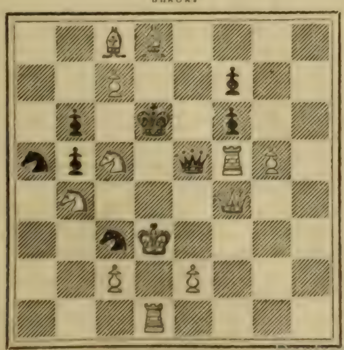
Don.—Q B to Q B 5 is an answer to your Key-move.

E. J. King.—No use! After Black's move of 1—B to B 5, 2—Kt to Q sq. does not mate; as Black's K B interposes.

Problem No. 201.

By W. Pulitzer.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Game No. 373.

Played by correspondence between the Glasgow and North London Chess Clubs, and recently concluded.

STAUNTON'S OPENING.

WHITE N. London.	BLACK. Glasgow.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q B 3	3—P to Q 4
4—Q to R 4	4—P to K B 3 (a)
5—B to Kt 5	5—K Kt to K 2 (b)
6—P takes P	6—Q takes P
7—Castles	7—P to K 5 (c)
8—Kt to K sq. (d)	8—P to Q R 3
9—P to Q B 4 (e)	9—Q to Q 3
10—Kt to Q B 3	10—B to B 4
11—B takes Kt ch.	11—Kt takes B
12—Kt to B 2	12—Castles
13—R to K sq.	13—Kt to K 4 (f)
14—P to B 5 (g)	14—Q takes P
15—P to Q Kt 4 (h)	15—Q to Kt 3
16—Kt to K 3	16—Kt to Q 6
17—R to B sq. (i)	17—B to Kt 3
18—P to Kt 5	18—R to Q 5 (k)
19—Q to Kt 3	19—P takes P
20—Q takes P (l)	20—Q takes Q
21—Kt takes Q	21—R to Q 2
22—B to R 3 (m)	22—Kt to B 5 (n)
23—K R to Q sq.	23—B takes B
24—Kt takes B	24—B to R 4 (o)
25—P to Kt 4	25—B to B 2
26—Kt to Kt 5	26—P to R 4
27—Kt to B 3	27—B to Kt 3
28—P to Kt 5 (p)	28—P takes P
29—Q R to Kt sq.	29—R to B sq. (q)

And North London resigns.

NOTES BY THE GLASGOW COMMITTEE.

(a) Looks peculiar, but appears on analysis to be the best move; first, we believe, played by Steinitz.

(b) Gives an apparently confined game, but in reality Black's position is perfectly safe.

(c) At once turns Black into the aggressive. This move was suggested in the "International Club Magazine" of September, 1891. If White now play Kt to Q 4, Black replies B to Q 2, with a good game. Kt to Q 4 was, however, better than Kt to K sq, as, we believe, the North London players realised immediately after making the move.

(d) White's position becomes now somewhat cramped.

(e) Seems doubtful, for it leaves the K B in a constrained position.

(f) Preparatory to planting at the commanding position of Q 6. White's last move is weak, because if here 14—Kt takes P, then Q to Q 6; and if 15—R to K 3, Q takes P, with much the better game.

(g) This is at once the loss of a valuable pawn, but White's position has become so cramped that it is difficult to show a good move.

(h) If here 15—Kt takes P B takes Kt; 16—R takes B, Kt to Q 6; 17—R to K 2, Q to R 4. If 16—Q takes B then Kt to R 6 wins a piece or the excahnge.

(i) It is, of course, obvious that at this point Kt cannot take B.

(k) A strong and effective reply. The result is to lead to the exchange of Queens, with Black a pawn up, and still maintaining a deadly attack.

(l) Of course, if here Kt took P, Black wins by R to Kt 5.

(m) If the B remained at B sq, then Kt takes B followed by R takes P.

(n) A move adopted on the suggestion of Sheriff Spens. Strong as the Kt was at Q 6, it is still more effectively posted here.

(o) In pursuance of the combination instituted at the 22nd move.

(p) Useless.

(q) White has no resource left.

Game No. 374.

The subjoined "skittle" game between Bird and Lasker, played at Newcastle, shows the danger of playing too fast with the cunning old veteran:—

DANISH GAMBIT.

WHITE. Bird.	BLACK. Lasker.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to Q 4	2—P takes P
3—P to Q B 3	3—P takes P
4—B to Q B 4	4—P takes P
5—Q B takes P	5—Q to Kt 4
6—Kt to K B 3	6—Q takes P
7—R to Kt sq.	7—B to Kt 5 ch.
8—K to K 2	8—Q to R 6
9—B takes P ch.!	9—K to Q sq.
10—B takes P	10—Kt to K 2
11—Kt to Kt 5	11—Q to R 5
12—Kt to K 6 mate.	

Game No. 375.

An off-hand game played some years ago between two well-known American experts:—

KING'S BISHOP OPENING.

WHITE. Richardson.	BLACK. Delmar.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Kt to K B 3	3—Kt takes P
4—Kt to B 3	4—Kt takes B P (a)
5—K takes Kt	5—B to B 4 ch.
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—R to K sq. ch.	7—K to B sq.
8—Kt to K 4	8—B to Kt 3
9—Q to Q 3 (b)	9—P to Q 4
10—Q to R 3 ch.	10—K to Kt sq.
11—B takes Q P	11—Q takes B (c)
12—Kt to B 6 ch.	12—P takes Kt
13—Q to B 8 ch.	13—K takes Q
14—B to R 6 ch.	14—K to Kt sq.
15—R to K 8 mate.	

NOTES BY CAPTAIN MC'KENZIE.

(a) A sacrifice quite in keeping with Mr. Delmar's dashing style, but one that is pretty sure to turn out badly against his present antagonist.

(b) Evidently courting the "fork" of his two pieces by the Q P and preparing the very fine ending which results therefrom.

(c) In an off-hand game as was the present, Black may be pardoned for not having foreseen the blaze of glory in which his King is now about to be consumed.

Game No. 376.

CHESS IN TOKYO.

A Queen's Gambit with a smart ending recently played in the T. C. C.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P takes P
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—P to K 3
4—P to K 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—Kt to K B 3	5—B to Q 3 (a)
6—B takes P	6—P to Q B 3 (b)
7—P to Q R 4	7—P to Q R 4
8—Castles	8—B to Kt 5
9—P to R 3	9—P to R 3
10—B to Q 3 !	10—Q Kt to Q 2
11—P to K 4	11—Q to B 2
12—P to K 5	12—Kt to Q 4
13—B to K 3	13—Q Kt to Kt 3
14—Kt takes Kt	14—Kt takes Kt
15—Kt to Q 2	15—B to Q 2
16—Kt to Kt 3	16—P to Kt 3
17—B to K 4	17—Castles
18—Q to Kt 4	18—Kt takes B (c)
19—P takes Kt	19—B to K 2
20—R to B 6 (d)	20—B takes R
21—P takes B	21—P to Kt 3
22—B takes Kt P	22—K to R sq.
23—Q to R 5 and mates in two moves.	

(a) B to K 2 is recommended by the books.

(b) P to Q B 4 seems stronger.

(c) White wished to open his K B file by getting rid of this B P to K B 4 might have equalised Black's game.

(d) The winning move.

Hastings Congress.

Game No. 377.

In view of the fact that Steinitz is very desirous of playing a second match with Lasker, by means of which he expects to regain his old position as world's champion, the game played by these redoubtable men at the Hastings tourney possesses more than ordinary interest. The full score, with notes supplied by Mr. Kemeny to the Philadelphia *Ledger* follows:—

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Lasker.	BLACK. Steinitz.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to R 4	4—P to Q 3
5—Castles	5—K Kt to K 2
6—P to B 3 (a)	6—B to Q 2
7—P to Q 4	7—Kt to Kt 3
8—R to K sq.	8—B to K 2
9—Q Kt to Q 2	9—Castles
10—Kt to B sq.	10—Q to K sq. (b)
11—B to B 2	11—K to R sq.
12—Kt to Kt 3	12—B to Kt 5 (c)
13—P to Q 5	13—Kt to Kt sq.
14—P to K R 3	14—B to B sq.
15—Kt to B 5	15—B to Q sq.
16—P to K Kt 4	16—Kt to K 2
17—Kt to Kt 3	17—Kt to Kt sq. (d)
18—K to Kt 2	18—Kt to Q 2
19—B to K 3	19—Kt to Kt 3
20—P to Kt 3	20—B to Q 2
21—P to B 4	21—Kt to B sq.
22—Q to Q 2	22—Q Kt to K 2
23—P to B 5	23—P to K Kt 3
24—Q to B 3	24—P to B 4 (e)
25—Kt takes K P	25—P takes Kt
26—Q takes P ch.	26—Kt to B 3
27—B to Q 4 (f)	27—P takes Kt P
28—P takes P	28—B takes P (g)
29—Q to Kt 5	29—Q to Q 2
30—B takes Kt ch.	30—K to Kt sq.
31—B to Q sq. (h)	31—B to R 6 ch.
32—K to Kt sq.	32—Kt takes P (i)
33—B takes B	33—Kt to B 5
34—B to B 6	34—Q to Q 7 (k).
35—R to K 2 (l)	35—Kt takes R ch.
36—B takes Kt	36—Q to Q 2
37—R to Q sq.	37—Q to B 2
38—B to B 4	38—B to K 3
39—P to K 5	39—B takes B
40—Kt to B 5 (m)	40—Resigns.

NOTES.

(a) Superior to P to Q 4, for it enables White to maintain his strong center pawns.

(b) With the intention to continue Kt x Q P winning an important pawn. The move was loss of time only, as White's proper reply B to B 2, proves. K to R sq., followed by P to B 4, was a much superior line of play.

(c) Q to B sq., followed by P to B 4, was probably better.

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(d) This is an extraordinary position, indeed. Seventeen moves were made, and Black has all his pieces on the first row. Could he only retreat the K P, Q P and Q R P the climax of modern chess would be reached.

(e) Black should have made every effort to advance the K B P for the past twelve or fourteen moves. Now it was disastrous on account of threatening sacrifice. He should have continued P to K B 3, K to Kt 2, Kt to R 3 and Kt to B 2.

(f) The best continuation. Had White played P to K Kt 5 Black would answer Kt (K 2 x Q P, and very likely would have escaped defeat.

(g) This loses a piece, as White's reply, Q to Kt 5, shows. However, there was no proper defence for Black. P to K R 3 was dangerous on account of opening the R file.

(h) Excellent play! This powerful move annihilates any counter attack Black might have in view.

(i) The sacrifice of a piece was not sound. The game, however was beyond repair already.

(k) R x B followed by R to K B sq. and Kt to Q 6, was more promising.

(l) The quickest win! White, by sacrificing the exchange, forces back the Queen, and also brings his Q R and K B into play.

(m) An exceedingly neat finish! In order to avoid the threatening mate, Kt to R 6, Black is obliged to sacrifice the Queen.

Mr. Mason says that at the outset the Knights are easily moved about—"and easily moved too much. They should not be overworked, or heedlessly exchanged for other pieces, because in mere exchange there can be no loss. When you have no Knight a great part of the flexibility of your position is gone, especially for attack. A Knight posted and supported on adverse ground, looking towards the King and free from Pawn disturbance, is often a host in himself. The Pawn is the Knight's worst enemy. Sometimes a Rook's Pawn—of all Pawns—will Queen against him single handed and alone. It is generally well to have the Knights either supporting each other or side by side. In this latter position they command more ground. A single Knight is often a good protection to the King against close checks from the Queen. Place a King, friendly Knight, and adverse Queen on three successive squares in rank or file, and it will be found that the Queen cannot give check without going *en prise*."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Oct. 29th.*
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 28th.†
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 5th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Monday, Oct. 28th.§
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 3rd.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 7th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 8th.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco on October 12th. † *Empress of India* left Vancouver on October 14th. ‡ *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 22nd. § *Hohenzollern* (with English mail) left Hongkong on October 23rd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Oct. 27th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Oct. 28th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 1st.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 2nd.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 5th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, Nov. 6th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Nov. 8th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 9th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 9th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ingo, German steamer, 672, Assalsan, 18th October,—Kobe, 16th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwannon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, K. Sugita, 18th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 18th October,—Karatz, Coal.—Japanese.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 846, 18th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Thomas, 19th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palamed, British steamer, 1,472, Williams, 20th October,—Liverpool viâ Shanghai, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ravenna, British steamer, 1,915, E. Street, 20th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, 11th October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tritos, German steamer, 1,085, Desler, 21st October,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Bobr (5), Russian gunboat, Captain Molos, 20th October,—Chefoo.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,666, Petersen, 21st October,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 21st October,—Australia viâ Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnston, 21st October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Phentie, 23rd October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. St. G. Lindsay, 23rd October,—Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki, 17th October, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,359, West, 23rd October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Wm. H. Macy, American ship, 2,188, J. A. Amsbury, 23rd October,—New York 13th June, Oil and General.—T. M. Laffin.

Bonnington, British steamer, 1,976, Leighton, 24th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 846, 24th October,—Kobe 22nd October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aurora (9), Austrian frigate, Captain von Pott, 24th October,—Kobe.

Salazie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 24th October,—Marseilles 15th September, Hongkong 16th October, Shanghai 19th, Nagasaki 21st, and Kobe 23rd, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Chiyoda Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, 24th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 24th October,—Cardiff, Coal.—Langfeldt & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 24th October,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,439, Bailey, 25th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 2,283, Jackson, 25th October,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shanghai, British steamer, 1,672, J. Cowie, 25th October,—London viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, 19th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ingo, German steamer, 672, Assalsan, 19th October,—Jinsen viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 19th October,—West Coast, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 20th October,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 846, 20th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kwanon Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,236, Z. Yasuno, 20th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Menelaus, British steamer, 2,466, Powell, 20th October,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, R. Forsyth, 20th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 21st October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riversdale, British steamer, 1,311, Peck, 21st October,—Otaru, Ballast.—Japanese.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 21st October,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Petrarch, German steamer, 1,173, 21st October,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 23rd October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 24th October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Phentie, 24th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tritos, German steamer, 1,085, Desler, 24th October,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Fing Suey, British steamer, 1,988, Davis, 25th October,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Ravenna, British steamer, 1,915, E. Street, 25th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,359, West, 25th October,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Argyll, British steamer, 1,886, Duncan, 25th October,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Guildhall, British steamer, 2,057, 25th October,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Order.

Willow Branch, British steamer, 2,147, Maling, 25th October,—Hongkong viâ Moji, Ballast.—Order.

Palamed, British steamer, 1,482, Williams, 26th October,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Chan Ah Wan, Mrs. E. P. Myres and servant, Hon. J. J. Parsons, Mr. F. Hubbard, and Captain Haswell and servant in cabin; one Chinese on deck.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. Neil Sinclair, Mr. A. H. Rand, Mr. S. M. Mears, Mr. McGray, Mr. T. McElven, Mr. J. E. Stevens, Mrs. T. G. Walkington, Miss Nellie Boyd, Miss Teen Goodall, Colonel Bryce Thomas, Mr. A. H. Fulton and 4 children, and Mr. A. H. Rennie in cabin.

Per British steamer *Hankow*, from Hongkong:—Mrs. K. Kimble in cabin. From Kobe:—Messrs. H. A. Parsons, H. J. Owen, and L. T. Corke in cabin.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Messrs. Guand, Peschand, Sagande, Pereiro, and Sisters Crawford, Wilder, and Roch in cabin; 10 Chinese and Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Shanghai*, from London viâ ports:—Mr. F. Ravelle, Mr. Arnold, Baron D'Anethan and valet, and Mr. J. P. Reid in cabin; 2 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. H. O. S. Thompson, Mr. Ho Tung and family, and Mr. T. D. McKay in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Hauschild, Mr. A. S. Haynes, Mr. R. E. Kozhevar, Mr. Chang Wang and servant, Mr. and Mrs. James Comley, and Mr. W. J. Warnock in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Asloun*, for Portland, Or., and Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	175	—	4	—	179
Amoy	—	—	—	35	35
Foochow	1,071	—	504	141	1,716
Shanghai	894	—	852	394	2,140
Hyogo	605	848	605	106	2,164
Yokohama ...	1,017	1,556	346	685	3,604
Total	3,762	2,404	2,311	1,361	9,838

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong and Canton ...	91	—	91
Yokohama	07	—	67
Total	158	—	158

Per British steamer *Ravenna*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 301 bales; Waste Silk, 177 bales.

Per British steamer *Hankow*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	1,994	5,074	1,896	43	8,946
Amoy.....	50	—	8,752	—	8,802
Hyogo	785	1,544	1,279	—	3,608
Yokohama ...	2,422	2,213	784	250	5,669
Hongkong.....	481	—	—	20	501
Foochow	3,750	2,111	3,733	75	9,669
Total	9,482	10,882	16,444	388	37,196

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	259	—	259
Hongkong	—	113	—	113
Yokohama	—	627	—	627
Total	—	999	—	999

RATES.

Tea	1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk	3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement.....	$11 Gold per ton.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market is quiet, dealers ruminating. Yarns—Less doing and prices easier, though nominally unchanged. Shirtings—Dull and lifeless. Fancies—Prices firm with fair sales in Turkey Reds. Woollens—Prices maintained but not much done.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2 00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0 16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.50 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches..	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.00 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75

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Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 90 to 3 40

WOOLLENS. PER YARD.

Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 25 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0 35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0 60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0 70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0 60 to 0 75

COTTON YARNS. PER PICUL.

Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39 00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41 00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/32, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00

TWIST. PER BALE.

No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market strong; sustained by an advance in prices on the home side. But dealers here do not respond enthusiastically and there is not much trade at the moment.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3 20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6 00
Tin Plates, per box	5.75 to 6 00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1 70

KEROSENE.

Deliveries good and the market in a healthy condition; but the competition between holders has again lowered quotations.

American	$1.90 to 1.95
Russian	1.85 to 1.90
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Browns—A fair business at prices which show a turn in favour of sellers. Formosa—The last parcel on the market was cleared out at $4½ and there is nothing offering now. White Refined—A moderate amount of trade has been done at firm rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.40 to 4.75
Brown Daitong (New)	3.70 to 3.75
Brown Canton	3.65 to 4.30
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Sellers have lowered quotations at last and have thus attracted some American customers into the market. But stocks continue to increase, and prices must apparently come down yet more before the 16,000 piculs stock is sensibly reduced.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom —
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	$940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	880 to 900
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	860 to 870
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	850
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK

Prices unchanged: but dealers are getting anxious to move a little faster, and will probably follow the Raw Market down ere long.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	72 to 73
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Something done in Common to Good Medium, but the market is quiet, and prices are easier without quotable change. Common grades are scarce. Present stock 5,000 piculs. Settlements to date show an increase of 8,000 piculs over last year.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated, but on the whole is higher than a week ago, though the latest movement is a slight decline.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/2½
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/3
On Paris—Bank sight	2.78
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.83
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅝% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅜% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	193½
— Private 30 days' sight	196
On America—Bank Bills on demand	53¾
— Private 30 days' sight	54¼
— — 4 months' sight	55¼
On Germany—Bank sight	2.23
— Private 4 months' sight	2.29
Bar Silver (London)	30⅞

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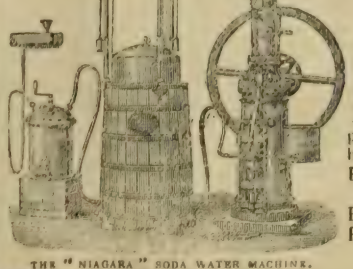

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 2ND, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

COMMANDER TAKAI TADATOSHI has been appointed to the *Hosho Kan*.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL will be held in Yokohama this year on St. Andrew's Eve.

BISHOP and Mrs. BICKERSTETH left Japan on Monday on a short visit to England.

THE Imperial Guards will return to Tokyo from Formosa before the close of November.

IT is stated that Mr. Daigoro Go, Japanese Consul at Bombay, sent in his resignation a few days ago.

THE *Jiyu Shimbun* was suspended on the 25th ult.; on the 29th the *Nichi Nichi* experienced a similar fate.

VISCOUNT MIURA and others implicated in the Korea *émeute* have been arrested upon arrival at Shimonoseki. All are now confined there pending the finding of the Court of Preliminary Examination.

COUNT INOUYE, the special Korean Ambassador, and the ex-Korean Minister to Japan, have arrived at Söul.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA entertained the Princes of the Blood and Ministers of State on the 26th ult.

AN Imperial Ordinance convoking the ninth session of the Diet will, it is said, be issued about November 10th.

DANGO-ZAKA and other famous chrysanthemum shows in Tokyo have been thrown open to the public during the week.

THE funeral of the late Major-General Baron Yamane took place in Tokyo on the 27th ult. with full military honours.

RUMOUR has it that some leading Japanese capitalists are contemplating the establishment of a silk spinning factory at Shanghai.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA, Commander of the Imperial Body-Guards in Formosa, is dead: and the Birthday Ball has been abandoned.

THE Supplementary articles of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, relating to import duties has been reported upon by the Privy Council to the Emperor.

THE Hantan Railway Co. has distributed *yen* 150,300 as a dividend for the half-year ending September last at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

FIFTEEN Korean students, who have been studying at the Keiwo Gijuku, Shiba, Tokyo, left for Korea on the 27th ult. owing to sickness and other circumstances.

THE Toyama Prefectural Assembly passed, on the 26th ult., a vote of no confidence in Governor Tokushima in connection with his management of the public works fund.

SOME paper manufacturers in Kanagawa Prefecture are contemplating the establishment in Yokohama of a paper export company with a capital of *yen* 400,000.

H.I.H. PRINCE KWACHO arrived at Yokohama on Monday, by the *Empress of India*. The Prince was received by Count Nanbu, Commander Bando, and several others.

THE surveys being made by the *Kaimon Kan* along the western coast of Formosa have for their object the discovery of an anchorage suitable for converting into a harbour.

TRAINING for the Autumn races is proceeding apace, and the prospects of good sport are bright. The early morning gallops are attracting a number of people to the Course.

THE case brought in the French Consular Court by some Japanese junk-owners to recover damage caused through the M.M. steamer *Natal* running down their vessel, has been compromised.

VISCOUNT NOMURA, Minister of Home Affairs, gave an entertainment on the 28th ult., at his official residence to the Local Governors now in Tokyo and the leading officials of the Home Department.

MARQUIS ITO, the Premier, and Marquis Saionji, Temporary Minister of Foreign Affairs, gave a farewell banquet to the Netherlands Minister on the 29th inst. at the official residence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

ONDA JUSHIRO, of Koishikawa, Tokyo, who was arrested a few days ago for having forged a quantity of 20 *sen* silver coins, has confessed that he was engaged in forging coins for four years, during which period he made over two thousand pieces.

THE sale in Japan of the *Sokojiji* (No, 120), a Japanese Magazine published in America, was prohibited by the House Minister on the 30th instant, as it contained matter regarded as injurious to the public peace.

MR. OTORI gave a banquet to the leading Japanese residents of Yokohama on the 26th inst. at the Maple Hall, Shiba Park, Tokyo, in return for the warm reception tendered him at Yokohama immediately after his return from Korea.

THE first anniversary of the Japanese army's entry into Mongolia was celebrated at the Military Club, Kudan, Tokyo, on the 25th of October. Marshal Count Nozu, Major-General Baron Ogawa, and Major-General Shioya were present.

REUTER telegraphs:—A telegram to *The Times* from Hongkong says that Russia has concluded a treaty with China, securing to the former Power the right of anchoring her fleet in Port Arthur, together with other advantages outside the most-favoured-nation clause. The papers regard the news as of very great gravity, and declare that if it is true Great Britain is bound to intervene. The Foreign Office is without information on the subject. China pays to the Japanese, on the 8th of November next, thirty million taels for the evacuation of the Liaotung Peninsula. It is stated that Russia, France, and Germany are presenting a note to Japan, accepting the reply of Japan concerning the evacuation of Liaotung by the Japanese within three months after the payment by China of thirty million taels, and the assurance of the freedom of the navigation of the Formosa Channel. There is excitement at Lebanon where fatal conflicts have taken place between the Druses and Metualis. The latter complain of Turkish injustice, and it is feared that the Sultan's acceptance of the reforms urged will not settle the question from the Armenian point of view, while there is increasing discontent amongst the Mussulman Liberals.

THERE is no change of importance to note in the Import trade, but recent large purchases must have well supplied dealers in the interior, and a quieter condition of the markets must be now expected. This is beginning to be apparent as regards Yarns and Textiles, which meet with somewhat less enquiry, though there is no quotable change in prices. There has been some business in Metals, but buyers do not readily rise to the advance in value following increased home cost. Stocks of Iron, however, are known to be short, and requirements will have to be supplied. In Kerosene there is not the business that might be expected, having regard to the present price of Oil. There is little change in the Sugar trade, and the principal business of the week has been the delivery of recent purchases. White sorts are in some demand, and are firmly held. The Silk trade is quiet, due principally to the firmness of holders, who might induce a considerable business by making some reduction in the prices at present demanded. In the Waste trade the attitude of holders is also a bar to business, which would doubtless follow a fall in prices—in fact less money must be taken before any movement of importance can come about. There continues to be a little done in Tea at late rates, but the season may now be considered as very nearly at an end. Exchange has fluctuated slightly, and during the past few days the tendency of rates has been to the upward grade.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The Korean question continues to occupy the most prominent place in Tokyo journalistic discussion. The Opposition journals insist, though with decreasing ardour, upon the resignation of the Cabinet in connection with the *émeute* in Söul, which they endeavour to depict in the worst possible light, so that their demand for Ministerial changes may be urged with the greater degree of plausibility and force. Various motives induce these papers to call for the Ministry's resignation, but the most important are two; namely, first, their desire to pull down the Government, for the attainment of which end they welcome any and every opportunity, fair or foul; and secondly, a conviction that the present Administration's foreign policy, especially with regard to Korea, is vacillating and out of touch with the spirit by which the nation is animated. Doubtless the regret they express for the incident is genuine. In that respect they evidently echo the sentiments of the people. But they are betrayed into palpable exaggerations by the personal and political considerations always uppermost in the minds of the Opposition journalists.

* * *

The *Nippon*, as we mentioned in our last weekly summary, has erred on the other side. Though regretting the acts of barbarity by which the *coup d'état* was accompanied, it has done everything in its power to extenuate the part taken in the affair by Japanese diplomats and residents. Seeing, however, that there is no longer any possibility of maintaining an apologetic position about the doings of Viscount Miura and others, the *Nippon* now begins to add its voice to the cry for the resignation of the Cabinet. Consistency has evidently no value in its eyes.

* * *

Concerning the position of the new Government in Söul, the *Nippon* thinks that there is no reason why it should not be recognized by the Treaty Powers, especially Japan. The recent change did not affect in the slightest degree either the position of the Sovereign, or the political system of the country. It was simply a change of Cabinet. Under such circumstances, Occidental Powers refusing to recognize the new Ministry act in a very unfair and unwarrantable manner, evidently consulting their own interests only. As for the Japanese Government, should it follow the example of these self-interested States and refuse to deal with the present Cabinet in Söul, it will incur a grave responsibility, for such a step would surely lead to a state of anarchy in the peninsula,—a result that might be convenient for some Powers, but would be productive of the worst possible consequences for Japan. Thus the *Nippon* is strongly opposed to the policy of disowning the new Korean Cabinet, a policy contemplated, it fears, by the Government. "Abandoned by the Imperial Government, the Korean Cabinet would be like a fish deprived of water. The Tai Wön-kun and the Ministers of State would in that case, feel as though they had been rudely awakened from a pleasing dream. Unwilling to say much on this subject, we may, nevertheless, be permitted to express our wonder at the controlling influence exercised by a few strong Powers, and at the Imperial Government's tame acquiescence with the wish of these Powers. Are we, the Japanese nation, doomed to find that what we have done and thought during the past twelve months was merely a long dream?"

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* thinks otherwise. It observes that a Korean Cabinet, in order to be recognized by Japan, ought to be freely chosen of the King and unconnected with any heinous crime. In the case of a truly independent State, these things are beyond the interference of a foreign country. "But having regard to the present relationship between Japan and Korea, our Government is in duty bound to urge upon the King the advisability of dismissing a Cabinet liable to be accounted lawless and unfit for office. The present Korean Government, even supposing that it had no hand in the atrocious crimes committed during the recent disturbance, can not escape the disgrace of incompetence to prevent such incidents. Is it permissible for the guardian of Korea to raise no objection to a Cabinet that has either been connected with or has tacitly approved an act of heinous treason? There is no evidence that the present Cabinet owes its existence to the spontaneous will of the King. The question cannot be decided on the strength of official declarations made by the Government in Söul. At all events, close investigation is needed to determine whether the present Cabinet owes its appointment to the free wishes of the King, and if so, whether it is morally qualified to direct the affairs of the Kingdom." Our contemporary then goes on to refute the absurdity of contending that the new Korean Government ought to be supported because it is friendly to Japan. "It is a grievous mistake to suppose that the maintenance of Japan's influence in the peninsular depends upon the favour of any particular set of politicians, be they Mins, Lis, or Kims."

* * *

The *Mainichi* agrees with its contemporaries as to the propriety of bringing to justice all Japanese subjects, whoever, they be, that were connected with the barbarous drama of the 8th of October. But our contemporary thinks it quite possible to be too severe in punishing these offenders. It places full confidence in the uprightness of Japanese law officers, but insinuates that the ministry may be tempted, from diplomatic considerations, to bring pressure to to bear upon the administrators of justice. The criminals should be punished to the full extent provided by law, but only to that extent.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* observes that, since no doubt remains that the conduct of the knot of Japanese concerned in the *émeute* is unqualifiedly condemned by the whole nation, Japan must not suffer herself to be thrust out of the position occupied by her in the peninsula. Some folks, the *Kokumin* alleges, though we ourselves have never come across them, are weak enough to suggest the desirability of withdrawing the troops from Korea. But the necessity of keeping Japanese troops there cannot be denied by any fair-minded person. Some European Powers may not like to see Japanese forces in the peninsula, but there is no reason to question Japan's sincerity when she declares that her object is not to occupy Korea for ever, and that her historical, social, and commercial relations with the peninsula, as well as considerations of national safety, make it absolutely necessary for her to maintain, at whatever cost, the territorial integrity of the peninsula. The present relationship between Japan and Korea is a logical consequence of the late war, and should any of the European Powers be disposed to object to Japan's position in the peninsula, such Power ought to have expressed its objection at the commencement of the war. Our contemporary proceeds to discuss the question of Ministerial responsibility in connection with the question, but its remarks on this topic need not be noticed, as they are a mere repetition of what has already been reproduced more than once.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo*, as usual, takes a comprehensive and cool view of the matter. It regrets to observe its countrymen engaging in fruitless party disputes at a time when external circumstances call for national unity and harmony. "Reserve your disputes for future opportunities, and not only allow the Government perfect freedom of action but also render it every possible assistance and support. That is our most earnest wish. The Government is perfectly acquainted with the views of the people, so that there can be now no danger in giving it *carte-blanche* to manage the country's affairs. Not only is there no danger, but such generous trust on the part of the people cannot fail to make the Ministers feel more keenly the gravity of their responsibility. "Some of the metropolitan journals, probably from a desire to help those in power, do not hesitate to publish things that had better be left unsaid; others, from partiality toward participators in the disturbance, try to distort facts; and others, again, seem bent upon perverting the question into a weapon for party warfare against the Government. Patience and disinterestedness are essential in considering questions of this nature."

* * *

Writing on military development, the *Jiji Shimpo* laughs at the timidity of the Government and the people about the expenses required for the purpose. It assures both the Ministry and the nation that the wealth of the country has enormously developed during the past fifteen years, and that the nation is quite capable of bearing, without any inconvenience, taxation sufficient to maintain an Army and Navy for more powerful than the most extreme advocates of increased armaments contemplate. The *Jiji* cannot comprehend why the Government should be ignorant of this fact. Any body doubting the truth of its assertion is referred to the ease with which the War Loan was raised, and the stability maintained in national economy during the war. The Government should be bold in devising a programme of Army and Navy increase, and the Diet liberal in granting supplies.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MISS ANNIE MAY ABBOTT IN TOKYO.

For the past week Miss Abbott has, despite the dull weather, performed to crowded houses twice daily, the large hall of the Kinki Kan, Kanda, being chosen. Mr. Black, or rather Mr. Ishii, for he has been naturalized as a Japanese citizen, acted as spokesman interpreter, interlarding his remarks with those whimisial speeches which so delight a Japanese audience, and to which he owes his success as a professional *hanashika*. At first the audiences appeared a bit unsympathetic, probably owing to the wide-spread opinion that the whole performance was a hoax. But when physicians, scientists and well-known merchants took their places on the platform and willingly gave their opinion that there was not the slightest deception about the marvels performed by the "Little Georgia-Magnet," a more enthusiastic time prevailed. Miss Abbott, moreover, has had the honour of performing in the presence of the Prince Imperial, and was, on last Friday, the guest of the Army and Navy Club at Kudan. The metropolitan press speak in terms of unstinted praise of the performances, which were attended by over ten thousand people during the last eight days.

NAVAL NOTES.

We understand that the following is the approximate programme for the wintering of H.B.M. ships in North China:—The *Esk*, at Ichang; *Firebrand*, at Hankow; *Linnet*, at Tientsin; and *Rattler*, at Newchwang. The winter stores are, as usual, being duly forwarded from Hongkong. H.M.S. *Caroline* is reported as likely to proceed Home from Shanghai by way of the Cape. The *Narcissus* and *Immortalité* are expected to take the place on the China station of the *Caroline* and *Mercury*. It is reported that new crews for the *Daphne*, *Plover*, *Redpole*, *Pigmy*, and *Alacrity* may be looked for in Hongkong in the early part of the year. Two new second-class cruisers, the *Theseus* and the *Sappho*, are mentioned as the medium of transport of those new crews; but it may be noted that the *Sappho* has recently been commissioned to relieve the *Melita* in the Mediterranean. H.M.S. *Tweed* will, we hear, be escorted to Foochow (by either the *Pique* or *Peacock*) in order that she may there take the place of the *Linnet*, ordered to Tientsin. The present crew of the *Daphne* will "turn over" to the *Victor Emmanuel* on Thursday next, during the refitting and docking of the *Daphne*. H.M.S. *Porpoise*, which has been for some time in the Behring Sea, is expected to arrive at Yokohama. Referring to our remarks in the *China Mail* of the 11th inst. we may add that the steam steel-lighter for mooring purposes has been finally

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

settled, and the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company will at once proceed with the work. This useful craft is intended to take the place of the old *Opossum* (which, it may be noted, took part in the bombardment of Canton), which ancient and historical hull will probably be sold. —*China Mail.*

THE LOSS OF THE "KUNGPAI."

THE following telegram from Kinchou has been handed to the *N.-C. Daily News* for publication :—"Herewith a few details about the fearful disaster which happened to the steamer *Kungpai* a few days ago, 80 *ri* from here. Captain Soden, the first and second mate, and the first and second engineer are all dead ; only the third engineer, a Swede, is saved. The disaster occurred on the morning of the 14th inst. The steamer had on board 700 soldiers when a powder explosion happened and the steamer took fire. The crew worked hard for more than half an hour to extinguish the fire, but in vain, and another powder explosion followed. The captain and chief officer were wounded by the first explosion, and they were laid in a boat to be brought to shore, but the soldiers rushed on in such great numbers that the davits broke and the boat was smashed by the heavy sea running at that time. The steamer sank in shallow water and the survivors, one foreigner and 200 soldiers, were sitting on the wreck for seventeen hours, the sea being too heavy for any boat to reach them. Twenty-seven wounded soldiers were brought to the foreign hospital here yesterday. They look a fearful sight, scalded and burnt as they are. To judge from their appearance the steamer was wrecked by a simultaneous powder and boiler explosion. The third engineer is leaving for Tientsin shortly." Kinchou, near where the explosion occurred, is the prefectural city near the north-west corner of the Gulf of Liaotung. The *Kungpai* was formerly the British steamer *Wycliffe*. She was a vessel of 940 tons gross register and 95 horse-power, built at Leith in 1880. She was commanded by Captain R. Soden, her officers being Messrs. A. F. Ljunglof (married), Petersen, chief and second officer respectively. W. H. Graham, chief, A. Wise (married), 2nd, and O. From, third engineer. She had a crew of nearly seventy all told, and a passenger, Master E. Clements, a lad of about seventeen.

FLOATING OF THE "KINSHIU MARU."

A CORRESPONDENT sends the *Kobe Chronicle* a description of the floating of the *Kinshiu*, which, as will be remembered, went ashore at Kelung on the 24th ult. in a typhoon. With a view to getting the vessel off at the earliest possible moment, Captain Thomsen put out five heavy anchors, with chain cables and wire ropes attached to each, and commenced to haul on these inch by inch night and day for a distance of 900 feet, the vessel being imbedded in from 5 to 9 feet of sand. An attempt made by the *Kisogawa-maru* to render assistance was a failure, as he could scarcely tow the rope taut, while the cables attached from the *Kinshiu-maru* to her anchors were standing like iron bars. After much hard work under adverse conditions owing to lack of the necessary apparatus, the operations at last proved successful, and Captain Thomsen had the satisfaction of seeing the *Kinshu Maru* come off into deep water on the evening of the 9th inst. On examination it was found that the bottom of the vessel was uninjured, with the possible exception of a few rivets started, and the vessel being found seaworthy, at once took in a general cargo for Makung, in the Pescadores, whence she will proceed to Hongkong to be docked and overhauled.

RIOTING AT WANNGANHIEN.

ON the 15th inst. an anti-foreign riot occurred at Wannganhien in Southern Kiangse in which a Roman Catholic Misson was attacked. It appears that a mob attacked the French Lazarist Mission premises, which they partly destroyed, and wounded some of the priests. The mob did a good deal of damage. On the evening of the 16th, news of the riot reached M. Dubail, the French Consul-General at Shanghai, who wired the next morning at 8 o'clock to H.E. Chang Chih-tung. The Viceroy was exceedingly angry with the district officials over the affair and he promptly issued telegraphic orders of a most severe nature holding the local officials responsible for what had occurred and may occur. It is believed that this trouble is due solely to the way in which the Foreign Governments have permitted hitherto the Fuhkien authorities to do as they please, and the Kucheng crime has invited this attack. But the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung is determined to render full justice and punish the officials if found guilty. Both M. Dubail and the Viceroy are to be congratulated for their promptitude in acting, and the latter especially for his expressed determination to keep his government in order.—*Mercury.*

THE "EQUITABLE."

THE *Equitable Record* for this month is a big advertisement, which, in the interests of the United States Equitable Life, whose organ it is, ought to be widely circulated. It contains in full the text of the report presented by the New York Insurance Superintendent, after his recent exhaustive examination of the Society's affairs. He found, says a home paper, everything in "apple-pie" order although he seems to the rather "down" on some sections of the Society's foreign business, chiefly, it would appear, on account of the increasing exactions of foreign Governments, for the mortality experience has been favorable all round. It is needless to say that the objection does not apply to England, in which the risks in force total over seven millions sterling. The Superintendent's report is too lengthy to be referred to in detail, but the concluding sentences will speak for themselves:—"It affords me profound satisfaction," he says, "to find that all the affairs of this vast insurance corporation are in a sound and prosperous condition. The policy-holders of the Equitable may be satisfied that their interests are guarded by conscientious and skilled officers and directors, whose integrity is a guarantee of fidelity, and who long experience qualifies them to conduct the business in a manner best calculated to conserve the true interests of the policy-holders.' Speaking of the U.S. Equitable, it must be admitted that the Society is fortunate in the possession of representatives of abnormal enterprise and originality, if the following advertisement inserted by the local manager in a Toledo (U.S.) paper may be taken as a sample. It is too good to be left out. This is how the gifted genius puts it :—

> Lives there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself has said: "I must protect my loving wife, and so I must assure my life." I would not be a soulless boor, who dies and leaves his family poor. I'll pay a premium every year and then my loved ones need not fear but what, when I am in my grave they'll have far more than I can save ; or if when old I living be, the money will provide for me, and "an old age serene and bright, and peaceful as a summer night, shall lead me to the grave." If you would be another such, and wish to find out just how much the premium cost to you will be, write, 'phone, or call on me.

BOOKS OF TO-DAY.

IT was remarked at the time when Mr. Layard found the books of the Babylonians engraved on bricks, so that neither time nor weather can destroy them, and we, thousands of years afterwards, can read them as clearly as those for whom they were written, that if Europe suffered from a cataclysm, all our records, being written on perishable paper, would be destroyed, while those of Nineveh would still be legible. According to the *Publishers' Circular*, our case is still worse now. It declares that a "hundred years hence, probably indeed in much less time, the whole of the newspapers, periodical literature, and most of the books which are now being printed will have disappeared. The fact is, paper is being made out of anything and everything but rags, aad not only are powerful chemicals used to obtain the necessary whiteness, but foreign materials, such for instance, as China clay, enter largely into the composition of many of the highly-finished, hot-rolled papers, the presumable object of their introduction being to obtain a good printing surface at a low figure, and at the same time to add to the weight." Our contemporary goes on to say that all that remained of an extensive collection of modern books in Brazil, which has a moist, warm climate, was a mass of matter in a state of semi-pulp. "The leather bindings stood up gaunt and erect, but the books themselves had entirely collapsed, with the solitary exception of a set of Fielding's works and an old copy of "Tom Brown's School Days." The metamorphosis in the case we have cited was rapid, owing to the climate ; as the climate of Britain is also humid, the same result will eventually overtake all our publications which are printed on cheap papers. Only the other day we had occasion to refer to a newspaper printed twenty-three years ago, and though carefuly preserved, it crumbled to pieces as though it had been scorched, while copies of the same journal printed a hundred years ago are in a perfect condition."

THE "NATAL"-"EIHO MARU" CASE.

THIS case was adjourned from Monday last for Judgment, but on the 26th inst. a telegram was received from Mr. Kusaka, withdrawing the case. The Judgment of the Court to-day was to the effect that on the 27th of May last it was decided to ask the assistance of technical experts to elucidate the case. A Japanese and French expert were requisitioned but as they disagreed, the services of a U.S. Naval officer was asked for on 7th August. On the 21st October the case came on for hearing when several questions were asked and the reports of the experts were read. In the meantime an arrangement was made outside the Court, the Japanese asking for a compromise by the sending of a telegram to stop judgment. The Court ordered that the expenses of the Court 215 francs ($75.97) be equally divided by both parties, also the Japanese expert's fees, $170; the French and American officers having rendered their services to the Court free of charge. The compromise, we understand, was for a nominal sum.

YOKOHAMA ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

THE annual general meeting of the members of the Yokohama St. Andrew's Society took place on Wednesday afternoon at Kiel's Building. A balance in hand of $350.14 was reported, and the accounts having been proposed and seconded were duly passed. The membership was stated as being 89, but over forty members were absent from Yokohama. Nine new members were elected at the meeting. The office-bearers and Committee were appointed as follows :—President, M. T. B. Macpherson ; Vice-President, W. Ross ; Committee, James Stewart, E. A. Coutts, J. T. Boag, J. Dodds, and J. A. Fraser ; Hon. Treasurer, Geo. Philip ; Hon. Secretary, Charles W. Ure. The 30th of November falls this year on a Saturday and it was therefore decided, in the event of a Ball being given in commemoration of the Saint's anniversary—prospects of which are particularly bright—that the function should take place on St. Andrew's Eve, Friday, November 29th.

A MAN-CARRYING KITE.

LIEUT. BADEN-POWELL recently gave an exhibition in Christchurch Park, Ipswich, of his man-carrying kite. The weather was not very favourable for an ascent, the breeze being of the lightest description. Nevertheless, after repeated attempts, Lieut. Baden-Powell, and subsequently two other individuals, were easily raised to a height of some 50ft. The apparatus was held captive during the experiment. It consists of five hexagonal kites flying at varying distances apart on a continuous line. Some distance below the last kite a basket is suspended, and above it a parachute, which would ease the descent of the basket in case of accident. Much interest was displayed in the exhibition, and the officer was loudly cheered by the spectators on accomplishing his first ascent.

A FAST MAIL PACKET.

THE new steamer *Rapide*, built for the Belgian mail service between Dover and Ostend, figured successfully, *The Times* says, in two exciting races which took place in the English Channel, beating first her Majesty's ship *Magnificent*, one of the fastest battleships in the British Navy, and subsequently the Margate and Boulogne steamer

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La Marguerite, which has the reputation of being the "greyhound" of the Thames. Both trials were quite unexpected, the *Rapide*, which had been taken out for a private trip by Mr. D. N. Bridge, the general agent of the Belgian Government in London, being in each case the challenger. The races were watched with intense interest from the shore, and the superiority of the Ostend boat was frankly acknowledged by the dipping of the flag on each of the British vessels. At her recent trial on the Clyde the *Rapide* attained an average speed of 20.834 knots, and this, while making 52 revolutions per minute, she slightly exceeded in the contests referred to, the opinion entertained being that she will reach even a higher record.

A DISCIPLE OF CARLYLE.

THOMAS CARLYLE, remarks a contemporary, put it on record that the world as he knew it was populated mostly by fools. Mr. Commissioner Kerr, one of the London stipendiaries, is in wonderful agreement with the Carlylian philosophy. In the course of a case that came before him recently the Commissioner gave a short dissertion on the average thickness of the brainpans of humanity. The plaintiff, a fish-salesman, of Billingsgate Market, sued a fish-dealer to recover the value of certain goods supplied. The defendant swore emphatically that he had paid the money, and the plaintiff was equally positive that he had never received it. Foxhall wished to produce his books to show that he had paid it, and the plaintiff wanted to show his to demonstrate that he had not done it. To this Mr. Commissioner Kerr remarked: "I must tell both of you that your books are not evidence in your own favour. I have been telling people so for thirty years, but their heads are so thick they do not seem to understand it. The average man's head is so thick that it is impossible to drive it into him; but I will give you both an instance. When you go home write down in your books that you have supplied the Lord Mayor with £1,000 worth of soles. Then bring an action for your £1,000, and see if you will recover. I think you will find yourself in a woeful position." The jury subsequently found a verdict for the defendant.

A QUEER ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following advertisement appears in the columns of the *Hiogo News*, and purports to concern a country hostelry much frequented by residents of Kobe. In reading it one is very much struck by the close family likeness it bears to those fugitive productions known as "Kobe Expresses." Perhaps therein lies the "humour" of the thing:—

For the information of the crowds who intend visiting this resort we desire to say that it is the most accommodating house on this mundane sphere. Cats, Dogs, Monkeys, and Parrots are allowed without any extra charge, cows are kept, so all pets may have fresh cream at all hours of the day.

Guests need not wipe their feet when they come in, they can get postage-stamps at the office free; bring snakes, horned toads, lizards, and other such animals into the house, and the manager will skin and prepare them free of charge.

If you don't pay your bills every week it makes no matter, for we are related to Rothschild. We furnish a piano, corkscrew, and sewing-machine to every guest.

For ladies who want to wash and cook in their rooms we offer our best suites. Plenty of hot-water bags and medicine, from Niwo to Tansan. Our can take all the glass and silver to your room and the cooks will serve you with any kind of liniment or poultice day or night.

You can do, in fact, anything you want to, but not more than 6 gentlemen are allowed to sleep on the dining table at once.

Any one breaking the rules of this house can receive massage treatment with a club by leaving notice at this office.

T. YAMASHITA, Manager.
E. SHIRASAKI, Chucker-out.

THE "KUNGPAI" DISASTER.

A TELEGRAM was received at Tientsin on the 20th ult. from Captain Crawford of the *Irene*, who had been sent to investigate the *Kungpai* disaster. The telegram stated that a strong northerly wind was blowing so that it was impossible for a boat to land. The *Kungpai* was submerged at high water and the deck awash aft at low water. The vessel is completely destroyed from mainmast to stem. Several natives who had managed to get off to the *Irene* stated that three of the *Kungpai's* crew were on shore. Captain Crawford was waiting for boats from shore to get anything he could from the wreck. We learn that on the first trip of the *Kungpai* from Kinchou to Taku, the soldiers were so careless that gunpowder was lying on the deck like sand. The *Kungpai* was making her second trip when the disaster happened.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

SILK IMPORTS TO UNITED STATES.

THE Imports of Raw Silk at the Ports of New York and San Francisco in September, 1895, were:—

	Bales.	Lbs.	Value.
New York	737...	158 466...	$ 628,041
San Francisco	4,687...	596,234...	1,983,591
	5,424	754,700	2,611,632

The Imports of Waste in the same period were:—

New York.....	39...	11,700...	5,536

The Imports of Japanese Piece Goods and Handkerchiefs from July 1st to August 24th, 1895, were:—

Silk Piece Goods	20,099 Pcs.
Handkerchiefs	201,757 Doz.

THE ISLY.

THE French second class unarmoured steel cruiser *Isly*, now in harbour, has a displacement of 4,160 tons. Her length is 346 feet, her beam being 43.6, and draught 19.6. She is driven by two propellers, her engines having an indicated horse-power of 8,100, which send her along at a speed of 18.1 knots. Her armanent consists of 4 16-c.m. quick-firers, 6 14-c.m. ditto, 6 47-m.m. ditto, 8 machine guns, and 5 torpedo tubes. The *Isly* cost £252,760 to build, and was launched in 1891. Her sister ships are the *Jean Bart* and *Alger*. With the three heavy fighting tops on her fore mast and two on the main, and with her smoke-stacks very far forward she presents an unusual appearance. She has a protected deck.

THE RECENT THEFT OF CLOCKS.

HORIGUCHI YONESABURO was on Monday sentenced, in the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho, to major confinement for one year and 6 months' police supervision, for having stolen some pistols and clocks belonging to Messrs. Carl Rohde & Co., No. 70, Yokohama. Matsumoto Yoshitaro, who received the stolen articles, was sentenced to major confinement for 6 months and fined *yen* 10, with police supervision for 6 months.

THE U.S. CONSULAR SERVICE.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has issued an order under date of Sept. 20 placing all grades of the Consular Service with a compensation between $1,000 and $2,500 under a modified civil service, which provides for class but not competitive examinations. This order will affect a little more than one-half of all those engaged in the consular service of the United States.

THE WILLARD OPERA COMPANY.

THE Willard Opera Company proceeded to Bombay from Singapore where they will be amalgamated with two new companies brought out from London by Mr. Pemberton Willard, and after a season in that great seaport will be sub-divided into three companies—two touring India while the third detachment will make for the Far East.

PROMOTIONS AND HONOURS.

A LARGE number of civil and military officers were on Thursday decorated by the Emperor at the palace. Viscount Sano, Vice-Superintendent of the Red Cross Society of Japan, was promoted to the rank of Count, and Dr. Hashimoto Tsunatsune, President of the Red Cross Hospital; and Messrs. Hayashi, Japanese Minister to China; Suzuki, Vice-Minister of Communications; Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance; Suyematsu, Chief of the Legislative Bureau, and Kawata, President of the Bank of Japan to the rank of Baron. They also received decorations. Mr. Okoshi, Superintendent of the Yokohama Custom House, received a decoration of the Fifth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun.

KOBE CUSTOMS ACCOMMODATION.

MR. GERARD LOWTHER, Secretary of H.B.M. Legation, has been spending a few days in Kobe, together with Miss Lowther. He is combining pleasure with business—the business principally concerning the Customs accommodation at the Southern port.

A KOBE DISPUTE.

WE learn that a case will be heard in the American Court on Thursday about which there has already been a good deal of gossip locally,—the case, we mean, of R. T. Head *v.* D. B. Taylor. A good array of witnesses have been summoned in connection with the case, six of them being British subjects.—*Chronicle.*

AN AWKWARD PREDICAMENT.

H.M.S. *Redpole*, in Singapore, had a narrow escape of being stranded—for liquid supplies—for her consignment of wines and spirits brought out from home by the mail steamer *Mirzapore* was seized as contraband. On proper representations the cargo was released by order of the Magistrate.

THE "CATTERTHUN" DISASTER.

WE learn that on the 1st of October the Marine Board of New South Wales decided to suspend the certificate of Mr. Lanfear, the second officer of the steamer *Catterthun*, for six months, for altering the course of the vessel without the authority of the commander.

THE FRENCH MINISTRY.

ON Friday's *Official Gazette* states that a telegram dispatched by the Japanese Minister in France on the 29th ult., and received by the Foreign Department was to that effect that the Ribot Cabinet has resigned in connection with the Southern Railway affair

THE IMPERIAL BIRTHDAY BALL.

Invitations to the Imperial Birthday Ball have been issued by His Excellency the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The 3rd of November falls this year, on Sunday; but Marquis Saionji has not considered it necessary to take that fact into consideration. From a Japanese point of view, all days are alike, and it can not, of course, be reasonably contended that any ideas entertained by Christians with regard to the sacredness of a particular day should necessarily be respected by the Japanese in celebrating the birthday of their Sovereign. Englishmen and Americans, however, will assuredly be pained by the notion of a State Ball on the Sabbath, and the great majority of them will feel constrained to absent themselves from the festival on the 3rd proximo. The Germans, the French, the Italians, and other Europeans in general will not be deterred by such scruples, and there will, consequently, be a division of sentiment. We can not but regret, however, that the possibility of deferring the Ball until Monday was not entertainable, for, after all, not only does the spirit of true hospitality suggest that the sentiments of all the guests should be respected to the utmost, but the success of the entertainment also depends in some measure on the absence of every cause of umbrage. Were it a Ball given by Japanese solely for Japanese, no shadow of question could be raised, but when the Minister of Foreign Affairs is the host, and foreigners constitute a considerable element of the *invitès*, it is a pity that any obstacle to universal enjoyment should present itself.

THE BIRTHDAY BALL.

We are asked to intimate that in consequence of the critical condition of His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa, the State Ball for which invitations have been issued by His Excellency Marquis Saionji, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, on the Emperor's Birthday, will not take place.

KOREAN NEWS.

Some of the Japanese correspondents give a rumour, for the accuracy of which we cannot vouch, that before the *coup d'état* took place, the Queen was secretly maturing a political scheme involving the murder of no less than a hundred and twenty persons of the opposite faction. A list of the intended victims is said to have been drawn up. After the wholesale massacre of her opponents, it was her purpose, so the story runs, to reject Japan's friendly assistance and invoke that of Russia. The discovery of this scheme, though the most terrible part of it does not seem to have been at first known, led the Tai Wŏn-kun and his followers to take a sudden and decisive step to prevent the intended revolution from being carried out.

All letters from Söul agree in saying that the new Korean Government has thus far shown laudable moderation toward men of the fallen party. Not only have they not been persecuted, but efforts have been made to assure them of their perfect security and of the protection of the Authorities.

The intended assumption of the title of Emperor by the king of Korea has ended in a fiasco. The thing is of course ludicrous from a foreign point of view, but a certain correspondent points out that it assumes a very practical aspect in the eyes of the Korean people. Experience has accustomed them to attach a sense of dependency and inferiority to the title of King. They think that if their Sovereign is called a King, while the Sovereigns of China, Japan, and Russia are styled Emperors, it is because Korea is not a free and independent State. Hence when the news went forth that their Sovereign was to assume the name of Emperor, unwonted enthusiasm was excited among the people, who looked upon the new title as the emblem of their country's emergence from a state of dependency.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent mentions that the Korean Cabinet has decided upon the inauguration of a new system of calling the reign of each Sovereign by an era, *nengo*, after the manner followed in Japan. One of the latest telegrams in the same paper also announces that, from the 1st of January to come, the European calendar will be adopted in place of the lunar one now in use.

It is stated that the Government has under contemptation the issue of an Edict ordering the people to cut their hair in European fashion. The King and the Crown Prince will set the example, as soon as the suits of European dress now in preparation are ready for their royal use. Cho Gi-yen, the new Minister of War, is reported to be one of the most enthusiastic advocates of the projected Edict. He was present with the Japanese Army in Liaotung, and having become convinced of the importance of dressing the Korean troops in the same fashion as the Japanese, he returned home with schemes of reform in this respect, but, ere he could propose them to his colleagues, he was deprived of his position by the machinations of the Queen's favourites.

On the 16th inst., the Korean Minister of the Household issued a proclamation announcing the intended selection of a Consort for the king. According to a time honoured custom, the issue of this proclamation has the effect of prohibiting, for the time being, the marriage of all girls of and above thirteen years of age throughout the country. The Queen elect must be a maid, and in Korea early marriage being the prevailing custom, the choice will be practically limited to girls between thirteen and seventeen or eighteen, at most. Thirty or forty girls are to be nominated, and from among them will be first selected three, and on one of the three the final choice will fall.

Gyo In-chu, who was recently appointed Minister of Finance, is said to be in hiding somewhere. He refuses to make his appearance. It is believed that he has joined the monks at Tok-yu-san in Chollado. His predecessor, Chin Sokun, is also said to have entered the monastery of Kim-kang-san.

Concerning the situation of the new Korean Ministry, the *Mainichi Shimbun's* correspondent makes some interesting comments. It has hitherto been generally supposed that the new Cabinet called into existence by the recent *coup d'état* is as united and harmonious as any set of Korean politicians can well be. But the *Mainichi's* correspondent alleges that such is far from being the case. In the first place Kim Koshu, the Minister President, is said to be in a distinctly unenviable position. At the head of the Government in appearance, he is really as much under the control of the Court as when the Queen held sway, the only difference being that, instead of a smooth spoken and crafty woman, he has to deal with a fiery and masterful Prince. Kim has been supposed to have been privy to the *coup d'état*, and one of the principal actors in the drama. Privy he may have been, but a principal actor he certainly was not. The *Mainichi's* correspondent even goes so far as to say that he was a reluctant and unwilling participator. Hence he exercises no real influence in the conduct of affairs. The man that enjoys the largest share of the Tai Wŏn-kun's confidence at present is said to be Cho Giyen, Minister of War. He is reported to have been the principal actor in the recent drama. He it was, apparently, that first suggested to the Tai Wŏn-kun the importance of taking a decided step before the Mins should have completely re-established themselves. As to the Tai Wŏn-kun himself, his supposed ambition is to elevate his favourite grandson, Li Shun-yo, to the throne of Korea. In all political changes, the one aim uppermost in the aged Prince's mind is how best to promote the attainment of that long cherished object. He would not hesitate to sacrifice even his most valuable partisan on the altar of his ambition. Under these circumstances, the position of the present Kim Cabinet is considered extremely precarious.

While such is the state of affairs in Court and Cabinet circles, the *Mainichi's* correspondent observes that the Mins, whose power of combination is paralyzed by the terrible blow that they have sustained, are sure to collect their strength by-and-by, and commence intrigues for the recovery of power. Even without the Queen, they are still a formidable party, on account of their talent, number, and wealth. To render the situation still more gloomy, there are, besides the Mins, a knot of artful intriguers, that have good cause to wish ill to the present Cabinet and to the Tai Wŏn-kun. They are An Keiju, Li Kanyo, and some others—men that lost their offices upon the ex-Regent's recovery of power. From these circumstances, the correspondent infers that dark clouds are gathering on the political horizon, and that, one of these days, the public may anticipate storms even more disastrous than those that have perturbed the peninsula during recent years.

Another correspondent mentions that the leaders of the mob that caused some excitement recently in Chhol-wŏn, have been released from custody on the ground of insufficiency of evidence. Such a singular step on the part of the new Government invites comment, for it seems to indicate that these local disturbances were part of the political intrigue in Söul.

A letter from Fusan, published in the *Jiji Shimpo*, states that the Japanese residents who strongly opposed the opening of Mok-pho, are taking meansures to derive advantages from the new port, the opening of which they now not only acknowledge to be unavoidable, but are disposed to regard with high favour.

The same letter mentions that there is an increasing demand for Japanese cotton fabrics. Until very recently a prejudice existed among the Koreans against these goods, which had, consequently, to be sold as the produce of Koreans looms or mixed among Korean fabrics. But the superior quality of the Japanese manufacture has slowly come to be recognized by the Koreans until at present those with Japanese trade marks are specially sought after.

This writer incidentally mentions that the harvest of rice is unusually plentiful, and that the increased purchasing power of the people is already manifested in more than one direction.

FORMOSA NEWS.

Letters describing the march of the Imperial Guards from Chang-wha to Chia-i have just been published in Tokyo. In a former issue, we stated that the Guards left Chang-wha on the 6th instant, but that, we now find, was not correct. It was early on the morning of the 3rd instant that they moved out of Chang-wha. Their exact strength as they resumed their southward march is not given, but one of the correspondents states that the ranks had been thinned to about one half of their original number. Thus we shall not be wide of the mark if we put their number at 6,000, approximately. They marched in four columns; namely, the vanguard under Major-General Kawamura; the right column under Colonel Sakai; the left column under Colonel Naito; and the reserve under the immediate command of H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa. The march was attended with serious difficulties, the roads being execrable and many rivers having to be forded or bridged. The advance was interrupted at several places by bands of insurgents who had taken up positions offering more or less natural advantages. It would be tedious to follow the course of these skirmishes; they were of the same pattern—a defiant attitude on the part of the insurgents so long as the Japanese were at a distance, and a precipitate retreat so soon as the assailants came within close range. There were, however, one or two exceptions to this rule—notably on the upper stream of the Kobi, in the vicinity of Yung-lin-sien. Early on the morning of the 7th, the left column reached that place. The enemy had posted themselves at various strategical points on the left bank of the stream. They were easily dislodged from all places except a high entrenchment farthest up the stream, a position said to have been of exceptional strength. The glacis in front was palisaded at different places, while both banks were protected by dense and impenetrable jungles of bamboo. The Guards, in marching to the assault, had to expose themselves to the full fire of the enemy, but taking the utmost advantage of the scanty protection afforded by irregularities in the ground, they slowly though steadily approached the eminence from which the insurgents continued to pour down showers of bullets. Crawling up the slope and cutting though several palisades, they finally charged at the point of the bayonet and took the stronghold, after cutting down a number of the insurgents. The loss on the side of the assailants was five killed, and twelve wounded, of whom one died immediately afterwards. The garrison was three or four hundreds strong; they fled to Yung-hu-sien, or Toroku-mon, as it is more generally called.

The above mentioned place, Toroku-mon, is an important prefectural town. It was guarded by about 3,000 insurgents, but they seem to have been seized with panic as outpost after outpost was driven in by the Japanese. Without offering any resistance, they fled in great disorder toward Chia-i. Forty thousand rounds of ammunition, a large number of rifles, swords, and pennons, and other spoils fell into Japanese hands. Toroku-mon contains five or six hundred houses, and is a flourishing commercial town, the principal article of trade being camphor. This place had been occupied by a small party of Guards when Chang-wha was taken, more than fifty days previously. But being too far removed from the base, it was soon abandoned by the Japanese, whereupon a large number of Chinese regulars and volunteers poured in, committing their usual acts of licence and depredation, so that the town was soon deserted by the terrified inhabitants, of whom only 20 or 30 remained when the Japapese re-entered it on the 7th. At the office of the Prefectured Government, there was discovered the corpse of a Japanese coolie, frightfully mutilated.

Another instance of the barbarous cruelty of the insurgents may be noticed. On the 8th, a body of the Guards, belonging to the left column, passed the night at a place called Sharin-shi-sho, a few miles north of Chia-i. The village presented a scene of dreadful deso-

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lation, not a single inhabitant being found. Traces of pillage and wanton destruction were visible on every side. It was learned that the inhabitants, who were for the most part Christians, had incurred the displeasure of a certain rebel leader by advocating the wisdom of peaceful submission to Japanese rule. The offended officer surrounded the place with his troops, and setting fire to the church and houses, pillaged the town and massacred the miserable villagers without regard to sex or age.

At half-past eight on the morniug of the 9th, the head of the vanguard under Major-General Kawamura came in sight of the walled city of Chia-i, which, according to popular report, was garrisoned by nearly ten thousand insurgents, regulars and volunteers included. The troops under Major-General Kawamura stopped at a spot about 1,000 metres from the North Gate. Meanwhile, the other columns arrived in the vicinity, and after a short rest, a large number of ladders were constructed of bamboo for use in scaling the wall. The plan of assult was to attack from three sides—north, east, and west. The insurgents had some cannon and machine guns, which they worked with tolerable skill from the top of the wall at the North Gate. It was now half-past eleven in the morning. After bombarding the walls with mountain pieces for some time, the Guards approached the three gates almost simultaneously. The bamboo ladders were at once planted against the wall, but as they proved to be too short, had to be joined together, after which a party of non-commissioned officers and men climbed up, while their comrades in the rear kept up a sharp fire against the enemy on the walls. In this manner the escadade was successfully effected, and the black flags that had been floating over the walls were soon replaced by the ensign of the rising sun, amid resounding cheers for the Emperor and the Empire. The gates being strongly secured, they had to be blown open by explosives. About half an hour after noon the place was completely in possession of the Japanese. The insurgents fled through the South Gate, which had been purposely left unbesieged by the Japanese, directing their course to Tainan and Anping. They were pursued by a partly of cavalry for some distance south of Chia-i. The number of the enemy killed was over four hundred, and some five hundred were taken prisoners, while the casualties on the Japanese side were only eleven wounded. A considerable quantity of spoils fell into the victors' hands—cannon, machine guns, rifles, horses, ammunition, and so forth. The whole loss sustained by the Imperial Guards during their progress from Chang-wha to Chia-i, including the casualties of the latter place, was 14 killed and 54 wounded.

As to the troops that landed at Pau-tay-chi, the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent, writing from there under date of the 15th instant, alludes to the hard fighting that took place at Toshito, about five miles south of the above mentioned place, on the 12th. Two companies of foot stationed there under Major Okuma, were suddenly surrounded, at 9.50 a.m. on that day, by a force of insurgents aggregating not less than three thousand. Fortunately, the village was encircled by a sand embankment which proved of great service to the Japanese as a breast-work. After fighting for about six hours, the Japanese observed that the circle of insurgents was becoming more and more dense and drawing nearer and nearer. It was also found that the supply of ammunition had been nearly exhausted. Major Okuma then decided to have recourse to cold steel. The firing was ceased on one face until the enemy came within a suitable distance, when a company of the Japanese charged out with fixed bayonets on the north side, and soon made such have among the Chinese that they were thrown into confusion and fled southward to Oyakei. At the same moment, the rest of the insurgents were subjected to such a withering fire on the other faces of the embarkment, that they, too, took to their heels and retreated in the same direction. The enemy left on the field more than 400 dead, while the loss on the Japanese side was ten wounded. Next morning, the insurgents again made a show of investing the place, but the experience of the preceding day had deprived them of all stomach for fighting, and after exchanging a few shots, they retired.

The same correspondent mentions that, according to the report from the troops that landed at Tang-liao, a Chinese General Wu, who had been commanding the garrison at Tang-kang, sent two messengers to Lieutenant-General Baron Nogi on the 12th instant, offering to surrender at the head of 1,200 men. The Japanese commander is said to have answered in the sense that Wu should come unarmed to the Japanese camp with his men, before 3 p.m. on the 14th, on the understanding that the should be sent safely to China.

It has already been mentioned that General Wu, one of the insurgent leaders, asked to surrender on the 12th instant, and that he was told to come to the Japanese camp in person at the head of his troops by 3 p.m. on the 18th. From later correspondence, we learn that he did not make his appearance at the appointed date. Moreover, the insurgents that attacked a company of Japanese on the upper stream of the Tang-kang, inflicting a loss of ninety-four in killed and wounded, are known to have been his men. Thus his intimation of a desire to surrender was simply a ruse to gain time. The troops of the Second Division had another occasion to resent the treachery of the Black Flags. A squadron of cavalry, leaving Tang-kang on the 15th, advanced toward Fêng-shan. When nearing that place, they observed a white flag on the top of one of the gates. Concludiug that the insurgents were desirous of laying down their arms, the little party of Japanese approached the city, whereupon the flag was taken down and they were fired at.

Liu Yung-fu's letter's to Count Kabayama, proposing terms of surrender, and the reply to it by Viscount Takashima, have been published in the *Jiji*. The Black Flag leader's communication runs in the following strain :—

Governor-General KABAYAMA.

Sir,—On the 4th of July I received a letter from you, and on the 6th I forwarded to you a reply by way of Amoy. I wonder if it has reached your hand? When the war with your country was brought to a termination in April of the present year, all the people congratulated themselves on the return of peace. The treaty, however, contained a clause ceding the island of Formosa; and the people of this island, having long owed allegiance to the Pekin Court, objected to being transferred to your country. At that time some officials of my country came here secretly to appease the people, but the latter, being firmly resolved, elected me to the position of Superintendent of the defences of Formosa. I had not then received any orders from my Emperor about the withdrawal of troops, and consequently I had but to comply with the request of the people, my object in doing so being to protect them and not to derive advantages for myself in any way. Indeed, the sufferings of the people since the beginning of the war have been so great as to defy description by words. Desiring, therefore, for the sake of these distressed people, to hand over the island to your country, I hereby beg to offer two conditions, namely, first, that the inhabitants of Formosa, whatever their rank or condition, shall be entitled to considerate treatment from your country and be secured against all sorts of insults and severe penalties, and secondly, that myself and all those following my standard be treated with due respect and be sent back in safety to the mainland by the medium of the Viceroy of Chikiang or Kwantung, or the Superintendent of the Southern Sea. These two conditions seem to be necessary both for securing the welfare of the people and preventing the recurrence of hostilities. Should they be acceptable, I am ready at once to arrange the matter with you. I hope that you will favour me with an immediate reply.

The above letter was brought to the Pescadores by the British Consul. Viscount Takashima, commander of the Japanese Expedition in the South of Formosa, replied as follows in the name of the Governor-General :—

Acting on behalf of Count Kabayama, Governor-General of Formosa, I reply to you as follows: I have received to-day (the 11th) your letter sent by a British warship. I learn from it that you are desirous of a conditional surrender. When this island was incorporated into the territory of the Japanese Empire, as the result of the Shimonoseki Treaty, Governor-General Admiral Count Kabayama was good enough to point out to you the propriety and wisdom of laying down your arms. But you had the insolence to reject his well meant advice, and unlawfully to continue the occupation of the southern parts of Formosa, all the while causing the insurgents under your command to offer resistance to the Imperial forces and thus disturb the transquillity of the island. Now that the Imperial army is about to overwhelm you, you are presumptuous enough to ask for peace, and that, too, conditionally, as though a commander of one independent power were dealing with that of another. This surpasses any power of comprehension. If, repenting of your conduct, you really mean to offer surrender, the only course left open to you is to come to our camp and put yourself at our mercy. Let me tell you, once for all, that short of such a step on your part, neither letter nor messenger from you will hereafter be taken any notice of.

Liu Yung-fu subsequently addressed two letters to H.I.H. Prince Kirashirakawa, commander of the Imperial Guards, and another to Viscount Takashima. These letters were couched in language so insolent as to contrast ludicrously with the subsequent conduct of the Black Flag leader. The two epistles received no recongnition from the Japanese Generals.

A report from Lieut-General Baron Nogi states that the troops under him are in splendid health, not a single case of contagious disease of any kind having occurred among them.

A telegram from Major-General Terauchi, dated at Amoy on the 26th says that 5,153 of the insurgents have been safely transported to Kemoi (?) Island.

From further telegrams we learn that the Southern Army's Head-quarters entered Mao-chiang-wei on the 19th, Kanpia-chie on the 21st, and Tainan on the 22nd.

The movements of the Guard's Division from the19th to the 21st are given, but they present no feature of interest.

In the fight near Oyato (?) on the 18th inst, the Fifth Regiment of Infantry, a battery of artillery, and a squadron of cavalry, engaged a force of from 5,000 to 6,000 insurgents, breaking them into two parts, of which one fled toward Tainan and the other toward the sea. The Japanese had 3 killed and 15 wounded, the Chinese left 400 dead and 4 pieces of artillery on the field. Among the Japanese wounded were two Captains and 3 Lieutenants. On the following day another skirmish took place, the Japanese losing 2 killed and 5 wounded; the Chinese 60 killed. On the 20th an entrenched position at Chang-wan-chi had to be carried, H.I.H. Prince Sadanari led the reserves in person, and captured the position by an attack from the right flank. The enemy were about 5,000 strong, armed with Mauser repeating rifles. The Japanese had a Major and a Captain wounded, 2 privates killed, and 9 wounded; the Chinese had 204 killed.

It is stated that as the *Saikyo Maru* was cruising in Anping Bay on the 16th instant, she was struck by a shell from the forts at a range of about 6,000 metres, but no casualties resulted.

The following telegram from Governor-General Count Kabayama, is dated Taipeh, 5.30 p.m., 23rd, October :—

"The Second Division defeated a party of five or six hundred insurgents at Ji-chan-hang on the 20th inst., shooting down more than a hundred of them. On the same day, a foreign missionary, accompanied by a local convert, came to the camp of the Second Division, reporting that Liu Yung-fu had fled to China by a junk on the night of the 19th, and requesting the despatch of troops to Tainan, which had been deserted by the insurgents, for the maintenance of order and tranquillity. The Commander of the Division accordingly sent there a detachment under Major-General Yamaguchi. The detachment entered Tainan on the 21st admid the hearty welcome of the inhabitants.

"The former Fourth Mixed Brigade arrived at Chwan-tsz-tan on the 21st instant. Its right column, consisting of the Fifth Regiment of infantry (minus two companies) and a company of artillery, attacked the enemy, about 3,000 strong, in the vicinity of Chang-wan-chi, killed 1,100

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of them. The loss on the Japanese side was 8 killed, including Sub-Lieutenant Reizei, and 21 wounded.

"The Imperial Guards Division reached Chang-chun-chwang on the 21st.

"Vice-Governor-General Takashima, Prince Kitashirakawa, Commander of the Guards, and Baron Nogi, Commander of the Second Division, entered Tainan on the 22nd. The bulk of the army is now staying on the outskirts of the city, engaged in the perfection of their appointments. A detachment will hereafter be sent by ship to Hêngchun for the reduction of insurgents there. In spite of fever, bad roads, and difficulties of supply, both sections of the army of the southern expedition steadily pushed on, defeating the enemy all along the way, until they met together at Tainan on the 21st. With the occupation of that place, the work of the reduction of the southern part of Formosa has been nearly completed. The final report on the reduction of Southern Formosa shall be presented after I shall have visited Tainan and made a personal inspection of the state of things in that region."

The following from Governor-General Count Kabayama to Prince Komatsu, Chief of the General Staff, is dated Taipeh, afternoon, 24th Oct.:—

"Our fleet has received information that Liu Yung-fu made good his escape accompanied by his immediate followers on the night of the 19th. The sea off Anping having been closely watched by the fleet, it is presumable that they escaped by way of Kopiachang. Precaution was not neglected in that quarter, too, but additional warships have been sent there to search for the fugitives. Early on the morning of its 1st, the *Yoshino*, *Akitsushima*, *Naniwa*, and *Saiyen*, bombarded the forts at Anping and landed a marine party who took possession of two forts, at the same time 5,000 insurgents laying down their arms and surrendering. As there was not enough provision for these captives, they were sent, with the exception of the more important among them, to Amoy or its vicinity by the *Ryojun Maru*. The above has been reported by Vice-Admiral Arichi, Commander of the Fleet."

THE JAPAN SUGAR-REFINING COMPANY.

The principal promoters of the projected Japan Sugar-Refining Company (*Nippon Saito Kaisha*) held a meeting at the Sakai-u restaurant in Osaka on the 24th instant. Mr. Sano Tsuneki, formerly of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, read the report of the Investigation Committee, of which he was a member. The Committee recommended the establishment of the proposed company with a capital of 1,500,000 *yen*, divided into 30,000 shares of 50 *yen* each. As to the location of the factory, he advised the selection of the vicinity of Osaka, because by careful investigations they had found that its establishment in that region would save the company about 16,000 *yen* annually in current expenses as compared to its location in either Tokyo or Yokohama, and further because Osaka presented the best advantages for the sale of the produce of the refinery. However, the Committee suggested that in course of time it would be advisable to establish additional factories in the Kwanto and other suitable localities. With regard to the scope of the refinery proposed for location in Osaka, it should be capable of producing at first 12,000 tons per annum and twice that quantity after a number of years. Lastly, they recommended the sending of experts to Europe for the purpose of purchasing suitable machinery and plant. These suggestions of the Committee were adopted after some discussion. Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Yoshikawa Taijiro, Matsumoto Jutaro, Noda Kichibei, Abe Hikotaro, Sano Tsuneki, Motoyama Hikoichi, and Ogawa Zenkichi were elected as a Committee of Organization, and invested with the necessary powers for floating the concern.

THE ARRESTS AT UJINA.

The persons arrested, or to be arrested, in connection with the Korean affair—apart, of course, from officials—belong to various political parties. The following list shows the principal among these suspects:—

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL PARTY (*Kokken-to*).

Kunitomo Shigeakira. Originally editor of the *Nippon*.
Sato Keida. Member of the Kumamoto Prefectural Assembly.
Sawamura Masao. Son of the Manager of the 151st National Bank.
Mayeda Shunzo.
Ushijima Hideo. Member of the *Kango Shimpo's* staff.
Hirayama Iwahiko.
Katano Takeo. Member of the *Kanjo Shimpo's* staff.
Iyeiri Kakichi. Teacher in the School of Japanese Language.
Matsumura Rinki.
Kumabe Yonekichi. Member of the *Kanjo Shimpo's* staff.
Three others without any special occupation.

MEMBERS OF THE LIBERAL PARTY (*Jiyu-to*).

Four men without any special occupation.

MEMBER OF THE REFORM PARTY (*Kakushin-to*).

Shiba Shiro. A well-known politician.

NOT OPENLY CONNECTED WITH POLITICAL PARTIES.

Sasaki Sei. Correspondent of the *Choya Shimbun*.
Kikuchi Kenzo. Correspondent of the *Kokumin Shimbun*.
Sato Masayuki. Correspondent of the *Chuo Shimbun*.
Yoshida Tomokichi. Correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun*.
Yamada Ressei. Correspondent of the *Nippon Shimbun*.
Suzuki Junken. Priest of the Hong-wan Temple.
Tsukimari Mitsu. Member of the *Genyosha* (a *Soshi* Association) and elder brother of Kurushima Tsuneki, who threw the bomb at Count Okuma.
Two other members of the *Genyosha*.
One member of the *Tenyukyo* (a Soshi Association).
Okamoto Riunosuke. Military Adviser to the Korean Government.
Two employés of the Korean Government.

This is certainly a motley list. Among the 31 we find three members of the staff of the *Kanjo Shimpo*, and five correspondents of Tokyo journals, all of whom may reasonably be supposed to have been present—if they were present at the *émeute* in the capacity of reporters. Only four recognised *Soshi* appear upon the list. The National Party is most largely represented, having 13 names. This party has its head-quarters in Kiushu and its members are said to be all natives of that part of Japan. Why so many of them were in Söul we have no information.

Of course the chief interest of the arrests centres upon the officials that have been apprehended, or are to be apprehended. Lieut.-General Miura and Lieut.-Colonel Kususe Sachihiko are already in the hands of the police, and the same fate awaits Major Umayabara, the officers under his command, Mr. Sugimura Yei, Secretary of Legation, and the other officials that return with him.

AN IMPORTANT CORRECTION.

The following telegram, forwarded by Reuter, appeared in our columns on the 23rd ultimo:—

London, October 21.

Prince Lobanoff, at an interview with the German Emperor, said that Russia cannot tolerate the Japanese establishing themselves in Korea, where their presence would be a continual menance to both Russia and China.

This intelligence naturally caused some excitement in the East, not merely on account of its character, but also because of the circumstances under which Prince Lobanoff was said to have spoken. Several local journals commented on the news, drawing more or less serious inferences from it. We now learn, however, that according to official information received from Berlin, Prince Lobanoff, in his audience with the Emperor of Germany, did not make use of the language attributed to him by the above telegram. It is singular that Reuter should send such statements across the wires as this telegram and his message of the 26th ultimo.

THE PRISONERS IN THE KOREAN AFFAIR.

The circumstances relating to the arrest of the prisoners in the Korean affair have just been published. The first and principal batch of deportees arrived at Ujina on the afternoon of the 24th ultimo. During the voyage, they were under the escort of an officer of Gendarmes and a few non-commissioned officers and privates of Infantry, and they were put under arrest just as they were leaving the quarantine station at Ninoshima where they had undergone the usual medical inspection and disinfection. Hence, strongly guarded, they were conveyed by boat to the landing place at Ujina, and subsequently sent to the Local Court at Hiroshima. The escort consisted of twenty-five policemen, and the road between Ujina and Hiroshima was guarded by a strong police force. It was half-past eight in the evening before the party arrived at the Local Court, where their examination was at once commenced under Judge Yoshioka, assisted by Judge Taniyama. At half-past four the next morning the last prisoner was committed.

Mrs. Okamoto, wife of Mr. Okamoto Ryunosuke, her children and servants came back by the same transport with the prisoners. Though not one of the suspects, her baggage was detained by the police together with that of her husband's. Moreover she was cited, the following day, before the Local Court at Hiroshima as a witness.

Viscount Miura, Lieutenant-Colonel Kusunose, and a few others arrived at Ujina on the 26th. While they were resting in the waiting room of the quarantine station at Ninoshima, a writ of arrest was served upon Viscount Miura by a police sergeant, and upon Lieut.-Colonel Kusunose by Lieutenant Kasa; while the other non-official deportees were simultaneously apprehended in another apartment. Viscount Miura, and the non-official prisoners were conducted by carriages to the Local Court at Hiroshima, while Lieutenant-Colonel Kusunose was conveyed to the head-quarters of the gendarmes in the same place. The military officer was confined in one of the rooms at the Gendarmes' head-quarters, and Viscount Miura was placed in the common prison together with the other prisoners, each being assigned a separate room.

Mr. Miura Torataro, the Viscount's adopted son, and Mr. Mori Seiyemon, a cousin of Viscountess Miura, had proceeded to Hiroshima to welcome the returning Minister, little suspecting that he, too, was destined to be arrested. They were greatly surprised, therefore, when they saw the Viscount land at Ujina under the guard of a strong posse of constables. Subsequently, they were allowed to converse with him in the Local Court, when they received assurance that there was no cause of anxiety on his account. The Viscount's servants, six in all, including a maid, were also conducted to the Local Court, where after a brief examination as witnesses, they were set at liberty.

Viscount Miura, Mr. Okamoto, and other prisoners stand charged with murder and with assembling a mob for seditious purposes. Lieut.-Colonel Kusunose's preliminary examination is now being conducted by the Military Judges, Miyasaki and Inouye. It is reported that, should it be deemed necessary to arraign him before a court martial, Major-General Baron Oshima of the Fifth Division (Hiroshima) will be appointed the President.

There being so many prisoners, the conclusion of the preliminary examinations cannot be expected before about the 20th of this month.

ANOTHER DESCENT.

Mr. Harry Quilter's robust faith in the restoration of purity and sound morals to their old throne, must be rudely shaken when he views the latest departure made by the *St. James's Budget*. We must confess, for our own part, that we never expected to see the day when a series of pictures taken bodily from *Le Journal*

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Amusant would be reproduced in a leading English newspaper. Of course there are pictures and pictures in *Le Journal Amusant*. Many of its representations of French rustic and maritime life are not only full of wit, but also beyond all reproach on the score of modesty. It is not so, however, with pictures from the pencil of "Mars." In his productions ingenuity is exerted to its very limit for the purpose of imparting elements of pruriency and immodesty to subjects not in themselves absolutely improper, but capable of treatment that renders them conspicuously so. He revels in sea-side scenes where the foreground is occupied by ladies bathing, and he takes the utmost pains to devise costumes such as lend themselves best to his vicious purpose. It would be perfectly possible to pourtray a sea-beach and a party of bathers without suggesting anything beyond a pretty sense of innocent enjoyment. But that is not what "Mars" seeks to accomplish. His pictures owe their so-called "merit" entirely to features that no modest woman could look at without disgust. From these particular pages of *Le Journal Amusant* to the abominations that figure in *La Vie Parisienne* there is but a short interval, and when we find a journal like the *St. James's*—a journal admitted to all the best houses in England and read by English girls, of every age—reproducing three of *Le Journal Amusant's* least pardonable pages, we begin to think that our countrymen and countrywomen must have departed largely from the traditions and standards of better days. It was hoped that recent occurrences had stemmed the dirty tide, and that waters from purer founts would soon cleanse away society's temporary stains. But apparently the hope is not to be realized. The *Saturday Review* lends all the force of its satire to ridicule the advocates of regeneration, and the *St. James's Budget* goes for pictorial inspiration to the prurient pages of a pornographic Parisian publication.

COMPARATIVE TACTICS.

It is well to note certain features of military expeditions as managed by Western Powers, so that we may have "something to focus ourselves upon" when we undertake to criticise the methods of Oriental States. In the war between China and Japan the military authorities of the latter Power instituted a censorate to which correspondents of newspapers had to submit their letters before despatching them. That is done by all armies on campaign. General officers cannot afford to run the risk of having their plans and the disposition of their forces proclaimed to the world. But of course there are censorates and censorates. Moreover, there are always folks so ignorant and so prejudiced that the bare idea of a European or American correspondent's letters being scrutinized by an Oriental censor seems shocking to them. However, the thing is done, and sometimes it is done very thoroughly, as witness the following account—taken from the *Spectator*—of the officer commanding the French expeditionary forces in Madagascar:—

His first object was to make a reverse, however slight, impossible, and therefore he moved cautiously, tried and partly failed to utilise the rivers, constructed a road passable for artillery, used ox-waggons instead of mules, and at every step made new preparations to defend himself against any attack on his communications. No matter if disease broke out among men detained too long in the miasmatic jungles of the lowland; no matter if the European "engineers" were worn out wholesale by labour for which they are unfitted; no matter if the conscripts lost all heart at the slowness of the advance, nothing would be fatal to himself or his Government except a reverse or near prospect of one. All correspondents' letters, therefore, must be revised; all officers must be warned to be silent on "military details;" the very sick must be detained, lest they should create among the fathers of conscripts an "injurious impression" of the expedition. Communication with Paris must be limited to accounts of small successes and promises of immediate advance. So complete has been the secrecy observed that the very Government at home is believed to know nothing, and a Parisian caricaturist pictures the President of the Republic anxiously consulting a somnambulist as to what might be occurring on the road to the capital of Madagascar.

CONFLICTING CLAIMS.

Among telegrams published by us within the past few days, the following appeared:—

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

Pekin, October 16.

The Edict of the 29th of September, exacted by the British Minister exclusively, provided explicitly for the punishment of all the officials concerned in the riots. The second Edict, dated the 14th instant, is issued in fulfilment of the engagement thus made with Sir Nicholas O'Conor.

(From the "China Gazette.")

Pekin, October 15.

An Imperial Decree has been published in the *Pekin Gazette* stating that all the officials whose names were given to the Tsung-li Yamên on 30th August last by M. Gérard, the Minister for France, and who have been found guilty, after trial by competent courts, of complicity in the Szechuan Riots, have been degraded in accordance with M. Gérard's representations. Liu Ping-chang—ex-Viceroy—was the first name on the list.

These two messages convey totally different impressions. The first indicates that both of the Imperial Edicts punishing the officials of Szechuan were issued in consequence of representations made by the British Minister in Pekin. The second attributes the credit entirely to M. Gérard, the French Minister. On its face the latter statement bears the impress of extreme improbability, if not of absolute untruth. For it is obviously incredible that any action taken by the Chinese Emperor, in the nature of degrading or otherwise punishing high Chinese officials, could be openly attributed in an Imperial Edict to the interference of a Foreign Minister. Turning, now, to the Edict itself, we find it quite conclusive. Not the remotest reference is made to the French Minister. Neither is there any reference to the British Minister, for the matter of that. But since we know, beyond question, that Great Britain presented an ultimation requiring China to take certain steps, and since those steps were immediately afterwards taken by Imperial Edict, there is no room to doubt the relation of cause and effect. We are unwilling to discuss such matters. In the interests of civilization and the Treaties, it does not much matter whether France or England champion foreign privileges in China. But history ought to be accurately written. Here is the Edict, as published by the very journal in whose telegraphic columns it was said to have contained textual reference to the French representative's demands:—

In an edict published some time ago, we have ordered that the former Viceroy of Szechuan province, Liu Ping-chang and other officials for their neglect and mismanagement in failing to prevent rioting in the province and the destruction of Foreign missionary property be punished.

Now, according to the report of Lu Chuan-lin, the Viceroy, and of Kung-show, the Tartar-General of Cheng-tu, a careful investigation has been made into the riots and their causes, and twenty-three of the rioters, including Wang Jui-ting have been arrested and tried. The result of the examination was that six were proved to have taken a leading part in the riots, were at once executed, and seventeen others were punished in various other ways, some being sentenced to imprisonment and to the cangue, some bambooed and others transported, and it is hoped that these severe measures will be sufficient to prevent the recurrence of these deeds of violence in the future. The Viceroy reports that the following officials have been dealt with: Chow, the sub-prefect, and the Sheng, acting magistrate of the Dah-yi district: Shing Yuen-liang, acting magistrate of Mee-ning district; the district magistrate of Shing-tsin, and the district magistrate of Chuhsien. All these officials have been cashiered. An expectant Taotai named Chou and Huang Taoyuen, acting magistrate of Chengtu, are to be cashiered at once and turned over to the Board of Punishments. Other minor officials are to be similarly dealt with. There being so many foreign missions of various nations scattered over Szechuen, We command the Viceroy and his subordinates to use every endeavour to protect them and prevent the recurrence of similar disturbances in the future. The district officials are to post proclamations throughout the province impressing upon the people the necessity of living on terms of peace with their Christian neighbours. If these orders are carried out peace will be ensured over the whole Empire.

POLITICAL GOSSIP.

Various rumours are circulated in the capital about probable changes in the Cabinet, but they seem to be, for the most part, mere hypotheses not worthy of serious attention. Our readers may, however, be interested in a summary of these rumours as published by the *Nippon*, not because it suggests actualities, but because it indicates the trend of non-official opinion in Tokyo. It runs thus:—"A rumour that the Cabinet will resign in a body has been current during the past few days. It appears to be a conjecture based upon several circumstances; first, an idea that the Ministers of State ought to take such a step; secondly, the *Nichi Nichi's* strong advocacy of the theory of Ministerial responsibility; thirdly, the recent meeting of Marquis Ito and Count Okuma; fourthly, Marquis Yamagata's journey to Kyoto; and fifthly, the generally unsettled condition of political affairs. Nothing could be more erroneous than to suppose that what ought to happen will come to pass in the political world at the present moment. As to the *Nichi Nichi's* advocacy of Ministerial responsibility, it must be regarded merely as an ill-considered whim of the editor. From the Government's traditional policy, we may safely infer that it will not take any decisive step until the conclusion of the complication. It is nevertheless true that Marquis Ito has long been desirous of resigning his post, and he may perhaps think that the present is the best opportunity for the purpose without injury to his reputation. This supposition seems not improbable. We may mention a few other stories now current. It is stated, for example, that Marquis Yamagata's journey to Kyoto was for the purpose of conferring with Count Matsukata at the request of the Premier; that Marquis Saionji will resign, or has resigned; should joint resignation be decided upon, it will take place on the return of Count Inouye from Korea; that the Government is of opinion that its resignation at the present moment would awaken the distrust of Foreign Powers; that Marquis Ito has been heard to say that, under no circumstances will be resign until the Diet meets; and that Count Okuma has declared his willingness to enter the Cabinet should Count Kuroda take the post of Minister President."

Other journals publish hypothetical Cabinets likely to succeed the one now in power, but it is obvious that they are all talking in the air. The elements for forming an Administration being limited at present, it is not difficult to combine them in more or less probable ways, and that is about what the newsmongers in the capital are doing.

THE MILITARY PARTICIPATORS IN THE KOREAN "COUP D'ÉTÂT"

It is stated that Lieut.-Colonel Kususe and his subordinates are arraigned under the 84th Article of the Military Penal Code, which provides that, in the event of a number of soldiers' assembling for purposes prejudicial to public peace and good order, their leader shall be liable to major confinement for from 2 to 5 years, and the others, to major confinement for from 1 month to 1 year. Officers convicted of such conduct lose their commissions.

Major Umayabara, and those suspected of complicity in common with him—namely, 4 officers and 46 of inferior grades—will, it is stated, arrive in Japan in a few days, and be arrested immediately on landing.

Some people appear to have difficulty in understanding how Japanese subjects can be arraigned before Japanese tribunals and punished for taking part in a political *émeute* in Korea. The matter is very simple. An analogous case would be that of British subjects acting in a manner prejudicial to public peace and good order in Japan. They would, of course, be tried by a British court so long as Great Britain retains extraterritorial jurisdiction in this country.

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THE KOREAN AFFAIR AND THE OPPOSITION.

The *Chuo Gi-in Kai*, an association of members of the Diet belonging to the *Kaishin-to* and other Opposition parties, has just issued a manifesto on the subject of the Korean Affair. The document sets out with an allusion to the intimate political relations existing between Japan and Korea, and to the paramount importance of the latter's independence in the interests of the former. Its signatories are profoundly grieved and highly indignant at the disgraceful conduct of the members of the Legation and other Japanese in Sŏul in connection with "the barbarous *émeute* of the 8th instant, for which few parallels are to be found in the annals of the world." They heartily approve the Government's decision to show no mercy to the men that have injured their country's good name by associating themselves with such a savage incident. Should it be the Cabinet's idea, however, that the honour and dignity of the country will be amply vindicated by the punishment of Minister Miura and the others, the signatories of the manifesto will have to differ from the Government in the most emphatic manner. What happened at the time of the Otsu incident? Were not two Ministers of the Crown and a local Governor compelled to bear the responsibility? What measures, then, are essential to restoring the country's reputation when its representative has been concerned in the murder of the Queen of a neighbouring State, and when its troops have taken part in a treasonable *coup d'état*? Nothing short of the resignation of the whole Cabinet will answer the purpose. The Premier, Marquis Ito, is specially pointed to as the official most responsibile, since the direction of foreign affairs is really in his hands, and he has to answer for sending to Sŏul a Minister without the least diplomatic experience, and who has proved himself utterly incapable of discharging the duties of his important post.

CURRENT TOPICS.

Rumours are rife in the capital about probable changes in the Cabinet. A great deal of importance is attached to Marquis Yamagata's visit to Kyoto, it being generally believed, whether with or without reason, that the object of his journey is to confer with Count Matsukata on the subject of a new Ministry. The two statesmen have met at Kyoto, but it is not known what was the result of their consultation, or indeed whether their meeting had any political significance at all. Judging from precedent, the chief of the new Cabinet, supposing there is to be a change, is likely to be a statesmen of Satsuma extraction. There are at present three Satsuma men eligible for the post, namely, Marquis Saigo, Count Kuroda, and Count Matsukata. The first is believed to be positively averse to the idea of presiding over a Ministry under any circumstances, and particularly at the present juncture. The choice therefore lies practically between Count Kuroda and Matsukata. With either of these statesmen as Minister President and Count Okuma as Minister of Foreign Affairs, it would not be impossible to organize an exceedingly able Cabinet. Not that such programme is actually under contemplation, so far we know. We merely re-produce rumours.

It was supposed that the day had long since past for the re-appearance of Count Oki in the field of politics. But some people seem to think otherwise; for certain papers deem it worth while to insert a report of a meeting said to have recently taken place between that statesman and Count Goto, even adding a comment that these two are on the alert to take advantage of the first wind favourable for floating them once more into the haven of officialdom. Whatever may be Count Goto's chances, those of the ex-Minister of Education must be counted extremely slender.

Concerning the recent meeting between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* has a very misleading version. "A certain advocate of reconciliation between men in office and those out of it," says that journal, "took much pains to smoothe matters between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. Through the medium of this individual, the Premier asked for an interview with the Progressionist leader. The latter at first rejected the proposal on the ground of the political agitation in connection with the so-called Ministerial responsibility question, but subsequently went so far as to say that, if the Premier was really desirous of an interview, he should come to see him, as he was not in the habit of paying visits since the accident to his leg. The Marquis thereupon visited the Count at the latter's residence." The *Nichi Nichi* gives the lie direct to the *Kokumin*, and writes as follows:—"Count Okuma, on the expiration of the usual term of mourning for his mother, paid a visit to Marquis Ito, when the latter being not at home, no personal interview took place. The visit was subsequently returned by the Premier, when, Count Okuma being at home, the two friends had a conversation. The meeting was thus simply an exchange of courtesies, and had no political significance at all. Perhaps the followers of the Count may desire to suggest that it had, but political considerations never entered the minds of either the host or the guest. It is true that some individual once busied himself to effect a reconciliation between the two statesmen, but his efforts do not seem to have received serious consideration from either of them. The recent meeting was not the result of any exertions by a third party. Under such circumstances, nothing could be more untrue than to speak as though an offer of office had been made by the Marquis to the Progressionist leader."

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The revival of business prosperity is steadily going on. Wholesale dealers in Tokyo are said to have on their hands so many orders from provincial districts that they find difficulty in filling them. According to information obtained from the Nippon Tetsudo Kaisha, the quantity of merchandize carried over the company's lines during the month of September showed an enormous increase when compared with the returns for the same month last year. The rate of increase was 36 per cent. in dry goods, 44 per cent. in foot-gear, head-gear, and other things usually classed as *komamono*, 20 per cent. in imported liquors, 16 per cent in sugar, and 20 per cent in various agricultural produce, especially Chinese beans. On the other hand, there was a decrease in articles of necessity, such as salt, marine products and manures.

The Tokyo Woollen Cloth Manufacturing Company recently held an extraordinary general meeting at which it was decided that the capital, at present 350,000 *yen*, should be increased to 1,000,000 *yen*. Of the new fifty-*yen* shares 13,000, are to be taken by the present shareholders, only 400 being offered for general subscription.

The total capital invested in banks, railways, and various other companies, during the period from January 1st to October 8th of the present year, was 85,621,000 *yen*. This total was divided as follows:—14,265,000 *yen* in banks, 59,105,000 *yen* in railways, and 12,251,000 *yen* in various companies.

A combination is being formed among Japanese cotton-spinning companies for the rejection of the "wet cotton" imported by Chinese merchants. According to the computation of experts, nearly 800,000 *yen* is said to have been paid to the Chinese last year on account of the moisture with which they had dishonestly saturated their cotton. Mr. Suganuma Masatsune, manager of the Cotton Spinners Association at Osaka, recently came up to Tokyo specially for the purpose of arranging matters with the representatives of the factories in the Kwanto district. We hear that his efforts have been successful.

The sudden rise of Shanghai as a cotton-spinning centre attracts widespread attention in Japan. The *Jiji* calls attention to the fact, and observes that, while it has taken some years for Japan to bring up the number of her spindles to its present point, 800,000, Shanghai is shortly to have 300,000 spindles in full operation. As to Japanese schemes for establishing spinning factories in Shanghai, there are two, one in Tokyo and one in Osaka. The Tokyo project was originally on the basis of 20,000 spindles, but has since been increased to 30,000; while the Osaka company purposes to set up 50,000 spindles.

A project for establishing a commercial agency in Tokyo is making slow progress. A Committee appointed to carry on the necessary investigations has already submitted its report, which has to be considered at a general meeting of the promoters, so that we can not as yet predict whether the agency will become an accomplished fact.

The 14th half-yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Kyushu Tetsudo Kaisha was held in Moji on the 25th instant. The statement of accounts for half-year ending on the 30th of September last, was as follows:—

INCOME.	*Yen.*
Traffic receipts	501,649.200
Miscellaneous receipts	14,027.925
Special subsidy	84,200.000
Brought forward from last account.	15,824.619
Total	615,692.744
EXPENDITURE.	*Yen.*
Bussiness expenses	208,281.329
Balance	407,411.415
METHOD OF EMPLOYING THE PROFIT.	*Yen.*
Reserve fund	16,000.000
Fund for equalization of dividends	84,200.000
Rewards	13,000.000
Dividend (8 *o/o* per annum)	276,450.000
Carried over to the next account	17,761.435

After the passing of the accounts, Mr. Takahashi, President of the Company, addressed the meeting on the future prospects of the enterprise and on the construction of the remaining sections of its lines. He congratulated the shareholders on the splendid prospect lying before them. All the State and private lines, more than ten in number, that are to be constructed in the island of Kyushu within the next few years, will be connected with those of the company at different points, so that the shareholders may safely look forward to a state of ever increasing prosperity. As to the construction of the unfinished portions of the lines, he hoped that the work would be completed by June, 1898. After a short recess, an extraordinary general meeting was opened, at which it was decided that the Board of Directors should have power, at their discretion, to meet any demand for funds that might hereafter arise in connection with the new works of construction, by raising loans bearing interest at a rate of not more than 6 per cent. per annum, instead of by calls on the present shareholders.

There is a project in Tokyo for the establishment of a warehouse banking corporation, with a capital of 2,000,000 *yen*. The principal projector is Mr. Kitaoka Bumpei, and the warehouses are to be located in Minami Senju. Capitalists view the principle of the scheme with favour, but hesitate to join it, partly because the site selected for the warehouses is inconvenient, and partly because Mr. Kitaoka is suspected of having an exclusively selfish aim, the ground to be occupied by the warehouses being his property.

Mention has already been made of a scheme for the formation of a large steamship company by uniting the leading private ship-owners, such as Mr. Asano Soichiro, of Tokyo, Mr. Baba Michihiso, of Etchu, and Mr. Hamanaka Hachisaburo, of Osaka. It is believed that the difficulties connected with an equitable valuation of the ships owned by these different persons may perhaps prove an insurmountable obstacle to the success of the project.

The Chugoku Tetsudo Kaisha, which has just been organized with a capital of 5,000,000

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yen, is regarded as one of the most promising among the railway companies established in Japan. Its line is to connect Okayama with Yonago on the Sea of Japan. Rumour says that the company will be able to secure the services of Mr. Saito Shuichiro as its President. The association of the ex-Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce should bring success to any enterprise.

The next general meeting of the shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, advertised to take place at the end of November, is looked forward to with peculiar interest, for the company observes secrecy as to the manner in which the special income (1,350,000 *yen*) obtained from transports requisitioned by the Government is to be spent. It is rumoured that part of the sum will be divided among the shareholders as a special dividend, in addition to the ordinary dividend of 10 per cent. The rate of this special dividend is believed to be 20 per cent., so that the aggregate dividend for the year will be 30 per cent. The residue of the special income is expected to be set aside as a fund for the extension of the company's business operations. We fail to understand how these figures are arrrived at.

The Mexico Emigration Company, projected by Viscount Enomoto and others, will shortly be organized with a capital of 50,000 *yen*. Its organization is to be on a partnership basis. There are already more than thirty applicants for membership.

MR. KANO AND MISS ABBOTT.

According to the *Yorozu Choho*, Mr. Kano Chigoro, President of the Higher Normal School, has exposed Miss Abbott's methods. He is said to have examined her performances at the Kinki-kan on the 15th ult. and his explanation is that the secret of her apparently wonderful feats lies in the skilful application of more than ordinary strength of fingers and arms. Mr. Kano is represented as having demonstrated the correctness of his theory by experiments with some of his disciples in the art of *ju-jutsu*. A few examples are given by our contemporary. First, as to the holding up of a chair in defiance of attempts to pull it down, the feat is effected, according to Mr. Kano, by pressing the chair against the person attempting to draw it down, so that he is compelled to fall backward. Next, with regard to pushing the shoulders, the performer places her fingers upon the body of her assistant while the person attempting to push her forward is made to apply his force at the top of her shoulder, so that the two forces come into play in opposite directions along the same line, and thus neutralize each other. Keeping this in mind, Mr. Kano is reported to have pushed Miss Abbott, not at the top of her shoulder, but a little below it, whereupon she was easily forced forward. As to the increasing of bodily weight, that is done by pressing her fingers against the neck of her assistant and using her arm as a lever to resist the force applied to raise her upwards. Mr. Kano is said to have successfully accomplished these and other feats in the presence of a representative of the *Yorodzu*.

Mr. Kano, whom our readers are not likely to have heard much about, is not only well known in the field of education, but has also associated himself closely with the gymnastic science called *Ju-jutsu*, in which he enjoys the reputation of being thoroughly versed. Hence he is exceptionally competent to speak on such a subject as the above, and his remarks have doubtless been read with much interest by the Japanese public. As for his reasoning, however, we do not find it convincing. When Miss Abbott made her *début* in the West, her feats provoked much controversy, and certain men, very learned or very skilled, undertook to prove that the secret of her performances lay wholly in a clever application of muscle. But their arguments never convinced the public, nor do we think that Mr. Kano's will accomplish much more. The explanations that he gives appear insufficient, and are obviously partial. Consider the chair trick, for example. Miss Abbott raises a chair without grasping it and invites the strongest man in the audience to pull it down. At least half a dozen men make the attempt on every occasion, but none succeed. Mr. Kano asks us to believe that all these persons are befooled: that instead of pulling the chair out of Miss Abbott's hands, they support it with their own bodies and then vainly essay to drag it down. If any one that has witnessed the feat accepts that explanation, we shall be surprised. We have seen a man of medium strength literally suspend himself from the back legs of the chair without overcoming the resistance offered by the hands of the frail woman holding it. There could have been no question of resting the chair against his breast in that position. Besides, even though Mr. Kano's argument hold in the case of a chair, which might possibly lend itself to such a trick, how can it apply where a stick is held upright by Miss Abbott in defiance of the strength of four or five men attempting to lower it? Still more difficult to comprehend is his explanation of the feat in which the lady performer stands at arm's length from a pillar, resting the tips of her fingers against it, and resists the combined strength of eight or nine men endeavouring to push her forward. Mr. Kano, if we rightly comprehend his interpreter, is represented as saying that the strength exerted by the men pushing is neutralized by a force acting in the opposite direction along the same line. If that be so, it must be an equal force, and the question then arises, where does it come from. Is it put forth by Miss Abbott, or does it emanate, as Mr. Kano hints, from her assistant? Either hypothesis is untenable, with regard to a mere exertion of muscle. Besides, Miss Abbott's assistant takes no part whatever in this particular feat: he stands at some distance away. Then there is the specially noteworthy fact that when Miss Abbott applies lifting force, or strength of resistance, using as a *point d'appui* the hand of another person, the latter is not sensible of any pressure. Thus, when she raises a chair with six men heaped upon it, she applies her hands to the wooden back over the hands of one of the audience; and when she resists a push from eight men by standing with her finger tips touching a pillar, an outsider's hand is interposed between her fingers and the pillar. In each case alike the interposed hand is sensible of no pressure whatever. Can that be accounted for by reference to *Ju-jutsu*? And can any professor of *Ju-jutsu* tell us how a few mesmeric passes and an emphatic suggestion are capable of adding unlimited weight to the body of a child of eight or nine years? Mr. Kano alleges that Miss Abbott does not make her own body immovable, when she resists the lifting power of a strong man, but that she defeats his power by the skilful leverage of her arm. Are we to understand that such an explanation applies to the case of the children upon whom she operates, and that when four children form links in a ring of persons holding each other's hands, with Miss Abbott at the opposite side from the children, and when four men fail to lift the children in that position, some operation of arm leverage is the secret of the feat? Truly that theory makes too large a demand upon our credulity. It is very probable that Mr. Kano is imperfectly reported in the *Yorozu Choho*. Possibly he is really in a position to elucidate the mystery. But the explanations attributed to him leave us much in the dark as ever, and the foreign public would be greatly interested by amore detailed account. Our own inquiries go to show that Mr. Kano and his pupils succeeded in overcoming Miss Abbott's mysterious power, whatever it may be, by doing everything that they were requested not to do, and that the poor lady performer emerged from the ordeal with livid marks on her arms and back. Indeed from first to last the system used by her would-be exposers is said to have been little short of brutal; quite incompatible with the most elementary canons of courtesy. If this very curious performance is a mere trick, by all means let it be exposed. But since Miss Abbott offers herself freely for any fair test, let the test be applied fairly, and let there be no such disgraceful exhibitions as those that recently took place at the Kinki-kan. We do not pretend to speak as experts, but by the light of simple reasoning we find Mr. Kano's explanations quite as inexplicable as Miss Abbott's feats, and we experience only amusement at the delightful assurance of a Tokyo contemporary when it says:—"To think that this little lady should have travelled the world over and hoodwinked hundreds of thousands of people, only to be finally exposed by Japanese scientific intelligence.

THE BIRTHDAY BALL.

We have a word to say to "X.," as well as to others that have written on the subject of the Birthday Ball. "X." expresses "surprise" at our "strictures on the propriety of observing the 3rd proximo, irrespective of its falling on Sunday," and asks, "shall a National jubilee be postponed for a day to satisfy the idea of a handful of aliens?" We must assume that these words were hurriedly penned, without due regard to their accurate meaning. For we have never passed any "strictures on the propriety of observing the 3rd proximo," neither have we anywhere suggested the "postponement of a national jubilee to satisfy the idea of a handful of aliens." On the contrary, to guard against any such interpretation, we expressly wrote:—"From a Japanese point of view all days are alike, and it can not, of course, be reasonably contended that any ideas entertained by Christians with regard to the sacredness of a particular day, should necessarily be respected by the Japanese in celebrating the birthday of their Sovereign." It is strange that "X." should have ommitted these words of ours, while quoting the sentences immediately antecedent and consequent; that he should not have employed the usual means of denoting an omission, and that he should thus charge us with advancing the very claim explicitly disavowed in our note. We see just reason to complain of such treatment, but we let the matter pass, being persuaded of our correspondent's sincerity. We repeat, however, that no such extravagant idea ever entered our minds as that attributed to us by "X." We are not so extremely silly as to imagine that any nation should defer to the sentiments of "a handful of aliens" in celebrating the birthday of its Sovereign. Our point in simply this, that whereas all foreigners honoured by receiving an invitation to the State Ball on the 3rd proximo, naturally desire to attend, for the purpose of showing, first, their respect to the Emperor, and secondly, their appreciation of the courtesy extended to themselves, many will unfortunately be prevented from attending because the day is the Sabbath. It is further a pity that the hospitality of the Japanese should be marred by any *contretemps*, and from that point of view the Minister of Foreign Affairs would doubtless have been pleased to postpone the ball had such a step been possible. Evidently it was not possible, and we presume that neither "X." nor anyone else will object to our regretting the fact, or that our Japanese readers will misconstrue us as our correspondent has done.

PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA.

The news that H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa, Commander of the Guards, is seriously ill, has caused great anxiety in Tokyo. While the Prince was on his way to Tainan on the 18th instant, symptoms of malarial fever exhibited themselves. The latest report, dated Tainan, 24th ultimo, speaks of his condition as follows:—"His Imperial Highness's temperature rose yesterday at noon to 40.3° C., but began to fall from nine in the evening and descended to 39° this morning. Blood pressure has somewhat increased. Slight congestion is noticed in the bronchial tubes of the right lung. There is also congestion in the back part of both lungs. The number of inspirations is 24. No expectoration. Surgeon Colonel Taniguchi has now chief charge of the Imperial patient; but Surgeon-Major Saigo, who is expected to arrive to-morrow, will undertake the case."

THE TOKYO MERCHANTS & MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION.

The general meeting of the Tokyo Merchants and Manufacturers' Association was held at the Imperial Hotel on the 27th inst. Mr. Oku Saburo bei was in the Chair. There were present Messrs. Oye Taku, Masuda Takashi, Sonoda Kokichi, Watanabe Hiromoto, Tanaka Heihachi, Umeura Seiichi, and several others. Mr. Umeura read a report on the general condition of the Association during the past year, while financial matters during the same period were reported by Mr. Nakazawa Hikokichi. The next business was the consideration of a proposal for modifications in the rules of the Association. It was adopted after a short debate.

After the regular business was over, Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, one of the invited guests, addressed the meeting on the subject of the economical condition after the War. The speaker commenced with the remark that war and commerce are the two means by which nations gain their greatness and prosperity. His countrymen have proved themselves capable of maintaining their part with credit on the field of war, but they have yet to demonstrate their ability in the no less important sphere of commerce and industry, and the solution of the problem devolved upon the shoulders of the audience he had the honour of addressing. He then proceeded to consider the question whether the Japanese should go forth to all parts of the world like the English, or stay at home, like the French, and invite other peoples to come and trade with them. Mr. Kaneko tried to account for the peculiar characteristics of these European races. The French, he said, stayed at home, first, because they had been deprived of their colonial possessions by the English; secondly, because they were by nature more subject to home-sickness than the English; thirdly, because their country's geographical situation made it the centre of European activities; fourthly, because the climate being healthy and mild, foreigners were naturally attracted to their country; fifthly, because their country was fertile enough to produce all they wanted; sixthly, because their close attention to business enabled them to find profitable fields at home; and seventhly, because their skill and resourcefulness in industry made them the originators of fashion in Europe. The English, on the other hand, go forth to foreign countries, first because they have vast colonial possessions and enjoy supremacy on the sea; secondly, because they are by nature adventurous and delight in developing the resources of new countries; thirdly, because they have a peculiar aptitude for planting and maintaining colonies; fourthly, because their native islands being a little outside the highways of Europe, they have to go abroad in quest of fortune; fifthly, because their country is not extensive enough to produce the means of national sustenance; sixthly, because they are naturally better adapted for foreign than domestic business. Now to which class of these representative races do the Japanese belong? Mr. Kaneko had little hesitation in saying that his countrymen were more like the English than the French. Three centuries of seclusion have checked the naturally development of the seafaring and adventurous character of the Japanese; but a glance at the enterprising achievements of their forefathers in the latter part of the sixteenth and the beginning of the seventeenth centuries, is sufficient to show that they are not naturally deficient in the qualities essential for a seafaring and colonial career. The geographical position of the country is very like that of England, and this simple fact is fraught with far-reaching significance. Mr. Kaneko thus thought it beyond all doubt that his countrymen were destined to play a part like that of the English. He urged on his hearers the importance of directing both capital and energy to enterprises abroad, and thus avoiding the disastrous experience of Germany after the war of 1870-1. The speaker then went on to consider various practical measures necessary for the development of the country's foreign trade. He alluded to such subjects as the extension of steam routes; the insurance business; the exchange business; the establishment of branch-offices abroad; the despatch of commissioners abroad for the study of business conditions; the sending of apprentices to well-known business houses and manufactories in foreign countries; the improvement of the guild system, so that any large orders from abroad may be received and executed by a guild; the establishment of commercial expositions; the establishment of technological and commercial schools; the improvement of Chambers of Commerce, and so forth.

After dinner, Mr. Mochizuki Kotaro spoke on the subject of the future development of Japanese commerce and industry.

THE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE OF JAPAN.

The following letter on the above subject appears over the signature of Ernest W. Clement in *The Dial*, No. 221, a Chicago semi-monthly journal of literary criticism, discussion, and information :—

An interesting controversy is going on, in the columns of the literary magazines of Tokyo, on the question of the abolition of the Chinese idiographs in the written language. The weight of centuries of usage and of economy, through conciseness in the expression of ideas, is in favour of their retention. But they are so complex and so cumbrous, and require so much time for study in a curriculum tremendously overcowded, that they are felt to be a great drag upon popular education. And especially do they seem to be entirely unsuited for the new career for which Japan in evidently destined. There is a strong feeling among thinking men that the Japanese language and Japanese literature cannot adapt themselves to modern thought and attain the possibilities of modern civilization with such inconvenient and unpractical modes of expressing and communicating thought. It is argued, therefore, that a more simple and easy alphabet must be substituted for the present mixture of Japanese characters and Chinese ideographs, if Japan wishes to maintain communication with the world at large.

But the reformers are thus far unable to agree upon a substitute. Some urge the adoption of Roman letters; others are in favour of using only the Japanese *Kana;* "while yet others propose modifications of the *Kana* so as to meet requirements of transliterating foreign names." These last, who seem to be supported by a majority of the literary reformers, also recommend the mode of writing from left to right in the European fashion.

It is also proposed to make "radical changes in the grammer of the Japanese language," so as to recognize constructions that have lately been introduced through imitation of Western modes of thought. This proposal has, of course, "evoked a loud protest from the votaries of classical Japanese," but is "welcomed by the literary public in general."

These attempts to conform the Japanese language to the requirements of foreign intercourse are accompanied by an increased interest in the study of foreign languages. This extends, in the first places, to the Korean and the Chinese languages, and reaches, also, even in spite of political prejudices, to the Russian language and literature. "But the language whose status has been most extensively and permanently improved is English," the importance of which, "as a medium for conducting business transactions and international intercourse," is now more fully recongnized.

This same tendency to emphasize the necessity of "modernizing" is apparent in a recent address on "The Future of Japanese Literature," by Professor Tsubouchi, "one of Japan's foremost *literati*." He spoke along this line:—

"At the present time, unfortunately, there are no standard works in the realm of Japanese literary thought. Those works which foreigners read in a translated form, believing them to be the finest literary products of Japan, are without exception old classics, and have nothing in common with the trend of modern ideas. It is impossible to rest satisfied with this state of affairs; we cannot hope that Occidentals will ever rightly understand the Japanese people if they are to have nothing better than these antique and obsolete works as their standards. The encouragement of a national literature is thus at the present moment of prime importance. It is the only means which will serve to promote an intimacy with the Western world. We have now to produce a series of master-pieces that will show us in the true light—the progressive, invincible Japanese of the 19th century."

It will certainly be interesting and instructive for all scholars, especially for comparative philologists, to watch these attempts to reform a language and a literature that are not only of old standing, but that for at least two and a half centuries were crystallized. Even though radical reforms may not be accomplished, great changes will be made, have already been made, in both the language and the literature of Japan.

The controversy to which Mr. Clement alludes has been going on for years, and, as far as we are able to judge, has led to no satisfactory results. The cumbersomeness of the ideographs now in use compared to the signs employed in countries that can boast of an alphabet, is admitted on all sides. But it is a mistake to think that well educated Japanese are as deeply impressed with the inconvenience of the present system of writing as are foreign students of the Japanese language. The majority of western writers on this subject, while pretending to represent Japanese public opinion, unconsciously state the difficulties that they themselves have felt when commencing to study the language. The facility with which a Japanese lad acquires an extensive knowledge of Chinese characters and their meaning has often astonished us. May not this fact account for the indifference with which the leading Japanese of the present day regarded the subject of ideographic reform? They do not seriously agitate for a new system of symbols because they are not thoroughly conscious of any great inconvenience attaching to the system now in use. Mr. Clement says :—"There is a strong feeling among thinking men that the Japanese language and Japanese literature cannot adapt themselves to modern thought and attain the possibilities of modern civilisation with such inconvenient and unpractical modes of expressing and communicating thought." This observation furnishes an apt illustration of the remark we made above. Mr. Clement is expressing his own opinions; and not those of the Japanese. A somewhat extensive acquaintance with educated Japanese has led us to an opposite conclusion to that expressed by Mr. Clement. The difficulty of adaptation to which he alludes exists only in his imagination. We know of no philosophic, scientific, or political treatise of modern times that may not be rendered into Japanese with perfect ease and accuracy. We ourselves have repeatedly tested the capabilities of the Japanese language in the very particulars to which Mr. Clement alludes, and have discovered in it neither the inconvenience nor the unpracticality of which he complains. What Mr. Clement says about orthographical reform is somewhat misleading. His words are calculated to produce the impression that there exists an influential party in favour of a change. Here again in Mr. Clement's mind the wish is father to the thought. The men that "urge the adoption of Roman letters," and the "others that are in favour of using only the Japanese *Kana,*" are too insignificant and too few to effect a reform of the magnitude desired by Mr. Clement and his fellow-thinkers.

Mr. Clement cites a passage from Professor Tsubouchi's address in which the Professor is made to say that there are no modern Japanese books of a character calculated to convey to the foreign student a correct impression of the progress the nation has made. Nothing could be further removed from the truth. One has only to glance at the pages of any of the modern magazines devoted to literary criticism to see notices of scores of such books, many of which have been written by men of acknowledged scholarship and literary ability. To suppose that the Western student of modern Japanese has no other literary source of information than that furnished by works designated by Professor Tsubouchi "old classics," is so odd a notion that we cannot wonder that Mr. Clement took the trouble to transmit it to the city which has so lately figured as an emporium of the world's curiosities.

Over fifty members of the Tokyo Medical Society held a meeting on the 28th ult., and after a lengthy discussion decided that unless the Superintendent-General of the Metropolitan Police accepted the representation of the Medical Society and impartially punished the police surgeons said to have failed in distinguishing between cholera cases and maladies of a similar nature, they should advise the members of the City Assembly not to consent to the sanitary expenses.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA.

THE Ball that was to have been given at the Akasaka Detached Palace on Wednesday evening having been postponed, and the project of a State Ball on the Imperial Birthday abandoned, nominally in consequence of the condition of His Imperial Highness Prince KITASHIRAKAWA, the gravest fears began to be entertained by the public, on the 29th ultimo, as to the issue of the Prince's illness, and it is now pretty generally known that these fears were only too well founded. The etiquette of the Japanese Court does not permit that deaths in the Imperial Family should be officially announced until various preparations have been completed, and we may therefore assume that a delay similar to that which took place in proclaiming the demise of His Imperial Highness Prince ARISUGAWA and the little Prince MITSU, will occur in the present instance also. But as to the event itself, there remains, unhappily, no room for doubt. The Prince fell a victim to the terrible malarial fever of Formosa. The disease declared itself on the 18th Oct., His Imperial Highness being then with the Guards at Taiwan. At first, favourable intelligence was transmitted as to the progress of the malady, but whether a relapse took place, or whether dangerous symptoms were suddenly developed, the telegraphic bulletins quickly assumed a grave tone, and within ten days from the date of the seizure, the ominous word "*Kitoku*" was sent across the wires. In such cases *Kitoku* is to be interpreted as death, and when it subsequently became known that His Imperial Highness had been carried on board a man-of-war at Anping, and that the ship would proceed direct to Yokohama, without touching anywhere *en route*, men understood that the vessel's freight was a corpse. The deceased Prince was only in his 49th year, having been born on the 1st of April, 1847. At the age of 23 he proceeded to Europe, and devoted seven years to study, most of which time he spent in Germany, acquiring not only a sound knowledge of military strategy and tactics, but also a good acquaintance with the German language. Of medium stature, he possessed a handsome and highly intelligent face, and was noted for the genial courtesy of his address. All scientific subjects and everything connected with intellectual development, interested him keenly, and as the president or a member of various learned associations, he contributed materially to the cause of progress. He presided over the Second and Third Industrial Exhibitions, as well as over the Tokyo Geographical Society, the Japan Agricultural Society, and the Fine Arts Society, and in every case his zeal on behalf of those bodies helped sensibly to secure their success. Despite his scientific tastes, however, the Prince chose a military career, associating himself closely with the army and paying constant attention to his duties as a soldier. Passing through the various grades, he attained the rank of Lieut.-General and the command of the Fourth Division, from which he was transferred last year to the command of the Imperial Guards after the promotion of their previous commander, Field-Marshal H.I.H. Prince KOMATSU, to be Director of the General Staff. He went to Formosa with the Guards, and took an active part in the whole campaign, sharing with his men hardships that probably undermined his constitution and invited the malady to which he fell a victim. Thus the war with China has cost Japan the lives of two of her most illustrious Princes, for though the late H.I.H. Prince ARISUGAWA did not actually take the field, and therefore cannot be said to have contracted the fatal illness while campaigning, there can be no doubt that his residence at Hiroshima during the heat of summer, and his arduous duties as head of the Staff were indirectly responsible for his sickness. It will be regarded by the nation as a striking fact that Prince KITASHIRAKAWA, landing with the Imperial Guards on the north-east of Formosa, commanded them throughout the whole of their difficult advance southward, and that his corpse was put on board ship at Anping, the last objective point of the campaign. The Prince is succeeded by his son TSUNEHISA, born on the 26th of September, 1882. His untimely death just on the eve of his troops' return home will be profoundly mourned by the nation.

THE SECRET TREATY BETWEEN RUSSIA AND CHINA.

BARON REUTER sent us, on Monday, a piece of intelligence that certainly does not look worth the cost of wiring. It seems to have emanated from Hongkong, which fact alone suffices to discredit it, for, on the subject of a secret treaty between St. Petersburg and Pekin, it is inconceivable that Hongkong should have any monopoly or priority of information. Putting that aside, however, the alleged contents of the agreement appear inconsistent with any reasonable estimate of Russian statesmanship, as well as opposed to possibility. Russia is credited with a great variety of schemes of aggrandisement, and many hypotheses have been hazarded as to the reward that she expects to receive from China for contriving the restoration of the Liaotung Peninsula. We do not pretend to decipher the true from the false in all this catalogue of suppositions and suspicions, but we do feel pretty confident that if Russia contemplated concluding with the Chinese Government a treaty dealing with the future of Liaotung, above all a treaty securing to herself exclusive privileges of the kind indicated, she would wait until the negotiations between Japan and China were ended, and uutil the peninsula was finally restored to China's possession. The so-called "secret" covenant said to have been now concluded would put an immediate stop to the progress of the negotiations in which Mr. HAYASHI and Earl LI are to-day engaged, and would compel Japan to reconsider her engagement to restore Liaotung. Besides, we have to remember that Russia is not the only European Power directly concerned. Germany and France are acting with her, and to suppose that they are parties to the reported treaty involves us in a maze of speculations scarcely imaginable. Further, in times of peace Russian war-vessels can always go into Port Arther and anchor there. Hence it follows that if China conceded the right of anchorage at all times, the agreement must have direct reference to belligerent contingencies, and must consequently be construed as a distinct declaration of unfriendly purpose toward Great Britain. Russia is not in the least likely to invite such a declaration, nor is China to make it. In fine, the farcical character of the whole story is thoroughly established when we read that Russia has secured advantages outside the most-favoured-nation clause. China could not grant such advantages without openly flouting all the Western Powers. She is explicitly bound by her treaties not to favour any one State at the expense of the rest, and to do as she is alleged to have done would be to tear up the treaties, a performance pretty sure to be followed by the tearing up of herself. Reuter leads us to think that the Hongkong telegram has been regarded seriously by the London journals, and has provoked them into making a momentous declaration. We think that the London journals have too much discrimination to be so easily misled. A becoming tail to the canard is that the Foreign Office in London has no information on the subject. That is more than probable.

Viscountess Kono Kiku-ko, residing at Tamachi, Ushigome, Tokyo, succumbed to cholera on the 23rd ult. Her daughter, Lady Sada-ko, was attacked by the epidemic the following day, and is receiving medical treatment at the Hiro-o Hospital.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

SOMETHING LIKE A NATIONAL VERTIGO.

THE *Jiyu Shimbun* has procured for itself the distinction of being suspended in connection with the Korean affair. Its offence is that, for the purpose of combatting the theory that the Cabinet should be held responsible, it condoned the *coup d'état* of the 8th instant. We do not remember any previous instance of a newspaper suffering suspension because of utterances prompted by a desire to vindicate the Government. Indeed the principle generally suggesting suspension is directly opposed to such a measure, for the prejudice that journalistic utterances can do to public peace and good order consists in attacks upon constituted authority not in efforts to support it. Hence the *Jiyu's* punishment must be interpreted as an evidence of the Government absorbing desire to show themselves radically abhorrent of the affair of the 8th instant, its motive, its methods, and its incidents. The *Jiyu* being no longer a recognised organ of the Liberal Party, its suspension has no special political significance, and will be considered by the public purely on its merits. In the temper of the nation to-day, the Government's action will doubtless be approved, but to us it seems that something like a popular vertigo threatens Japan at the present moment. Men speak in bated breath of the occurrences in Söul on the 8th instant, and raise hands of horror when any mention is made of those concerned in them. Yet, if we put together the nefarious elements of the affair, only a brief catalogue results. Very shortly after Count INOUYE'S departure from Söul, an almost desperate situation confronted the advocates of administrative reform. The QUEEN, re-asserting her influence over the puppet KING, had recovered the political supremacy, and was using it not merely to fill the highest offices of State with relatives and partizans of her own, proved representatives of corruption and extortion in every form, but also to re-establish an administrative system embodying all the abuses that it had been the prime object of the reform party to abolish. What was to be done under such circumstances? An appeal to the KING would have been useless. HIS MAJESTY being completely under the control of his Consort, not only refrained from opposing her designs but even contributed openly to their furtherance. An appeal to the QUEEN would have been no less frivolous than mischievous, for while it might have precipitated her schemes, it certainly would not have checked them. What then was to be done? The "Independents"—that is to say, the advocates of progress—had to choose between two courses: they had either to surrender at discretion and sit with folded hands while the country drifted back into all the abuses and disgraces of former days; or they had to organize some forcible means of destroying the QUEEN'S influence and driving her creatures out of office. Suppose that, having selected the latter alternative, the Japanese Representative had placed himself in communication with the TAI WÖN-KUN, and had arranged a *coup d'état*, having for its purpose the restoration of the latter to power. Suppose further, that he had agreed to employ Japanese troops and police not merely for the sake of the military strength thus secured, but also to hold in control any unruly elements taking unbidden part in the affair. And suppose finally that the *coup* had been made openly, in daylight, and that it had resulted in the deposition of the QUEEN, the disgrace of the Min partizans, and the Kingdom's thorough committal to the programme of reform. We do not think that, under such circumstances, the world would have been greatly shocked. That Japan had resolved to carry things with a strong hand, would have been generally admitted, but since it is plain that without some recourse to the strong hand, Korean reform must remain a farce, there would have been obvious excuse for a *coup d'état*, though it might, and probably would, have involved serious complications. It results then, if these views be correct, that the radically reprehensible features of the affair, so far as concerned its conception, were, first, the choice of time; and secondly, the admission of the *Soshi* element. Armed entry into the Palace during the hours of night at once imparted a disreputable character to the performance, and from the moment that the participation of *Soshi* was allowed, no effective provision could be made against sanguinary incidents. It is difficult to conceive a Minister sufficiently devoid of prudence to take a leading part in a drama so ill-conceived, with actors so dangerous. But to choose a bad time and to employ questionable agents are errors of judgment, not criminal offences, and though the perpetrators of such errors must be held indirectly responsible for any resulting catastrophe, we must not, in estimating their guilt, allow our sense of proportion to be disturbed by sentiment. The QUEEN'S assassination was a shocking incident, but there is not the least warrant for supposing that anything of the kind entered into the original plan, or that the Japanese officials now under arrest were for a moment privy to it. The Government are undoubtedly placed in a most embarrassing position. They have to employ every available means of dissociating themselves from an affair not merely disreputable in itself, but also indicative of a policy that Japan can not afford to follow at present. We doubt whether such an extreme measure as the arraignment of Viscount MIURA before a Court of Law was necessary, but apart from the Government's procedure, it seems to us that the nation is in some danger of being carried away by a vertigo, and that the incidents of the 8th of October will not stand out from the pages of history in such shocking salience as many folks are now disposed to think.

SUSPENSION OF THE "NICHI NICHI SHIMBUN."

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* was suspended on Wednesday. We are not quite clear about its offence, but apparently its advocacy of Cabinet responsibility in connection with the Korean *coup d'état* has been deemed prejudicial to good order. There is always some difficulty in placing oneself at the Japanese point of view in politics: a special element of sentiment has to be appreciated. So far as we can gather from the writings of the journals, their idea in this matter is that the error of choosing an untrustworthy Representative like Viscount MIURA ought to recoil upon the heads of the Cabinet Ministers. But to us that doctrine bears the semblance of expiation rather than responsibility. And, indeed, we strongly suspect that the average Japanese fails to draw any clear line of demarkation between expiation and responsibility. In Europe or America no Government is held responsible for the acts of its agents unless it endorses them. That is a perfectly rational and simple principle. Numerous instances are on record of a Representative exceeding or misinterpreting his instructions, but in such cases his recall and the disavowal of his acts by the home Government, are held not alone to be fully satisfactory to the Court to which he was accredited, but also to relieve the accrediting Government of all responsibility. In these days, of "universal articulation" it is hard to conceive how such an incident as that of October the 8th could occur at the instance of a disciplined European or American Representative, unless his Government were a consenting party: the telegraph would direct and restrain him too effectually. But in the East, above all in Japan, men retain a good deal of the heroic independence that regards self-sacrifice as expiatory of any departure, however radical, from implicit obedience. Viscount MIURA took a course diametrically opposed to his instructions. He went to Söul with the well defined object of following implicitly the policy adopted by his distinguished predecessor. A leading feature of that policy was to contrive a coalition between the QUEEN'S partisans and the Independents. Experience had shown that every attempt to exclude the QUEEN from the field of politics was doomed to provoke secret intrigues, not only dangerous in themselves, but also exceedingly difficult to deal with, owing to the fact that the QUEEN'S influence over the feeble-

minded KING enabled her to work always under the latter's apparent sanction. Hence Count INOUYE'S resolve to recognise and authorise HER MAJESTY'S interference, depriving it of its pernicious and disturbing elements by converting it into an open factor of the administration and by identifying its interests with those of the party of progress. In the Count's master hand the threads of this complicated programme could be held without tangling, but they appear to have eluded Viscount MIURA'S weaker grasp. He saw no course except to eliminate the QUEEN or to surrender to her, and he chose the former, although he knew it to be a complete subversal of the policy mapped out by Count INOUYE, approved by the Japanese Government, and embodied in his own instructions. With his recall and the thorough disvowal of his acts, to say nothing of his indictment before a criminal court, the Japanese Cabinet's responsibility seems to us to be fully discharged. It is significant that at the time of Viscount MIURA'S appointment, not a single leading journal, whatever its political affinities, attempted to criticise the nomination. On the contrary, the whole press approved it unqualifiedly. If to choose him for such a post was an error, why did no voice of protest make itself heard? Little faith can be reposed in the sincerity of newspapers that laud a man's fitness for office at the moment of his appointment, and then charge his nominators with lack of discernment so soon as he blunders. There is neither reason nor justice in all this outcry. It is inspired either by party politics or by the idea of expiation. We are reminded of the Otsu incident and of its singular effect upon the fortunes of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The most specious casuist could not have traced any chain of responsibility from the Minister in Tokyo to the maniacal constable that raised his sword against the CZAREWITCH in Shiga. Yet the Minister lost his portfolio. There may have been, in that case, considerations not apparent to the public. But in the present instance the resignation of the Cabinet would so far exceed the needs of the situation as to invite ridcule. Japan must not sacrifice her dignity to save her reputation. She is not arraigned at any bar save that of public opinion, and if she disavows, as she has amply done, the acts committed by her people in Söul on the 8th of October, no further expiation is demanded of her. To admit in practice the theory advocated by the press of Tokyo, namely, that the Cabinet's tenure of office should depend upon the conduct of every Japanese Representative abroad, however, widely he depart from his instructions, would be to reduce the stability of Administration to a vanishing quantity. Is there anything that demands such an extreme measure at Japan's hands? Is there any danger that she is required to avert by imparting an extravagant and unprecedented principle into her system of government?

THE EVENTS OF 1870.

IF any of our readers possess files of the leading London journals for 1870, we invite them to turn to the *Spectator's* article on "The European Crisis," published on July 16th in that year. It is an article that has always remained fresh in our memory because of the curiously Delphian utterance with which it concludes:—"With France in the field, it is folly to predict defeat or even repulse; but if past history ever justifies prediction about the future, Germany will not be unmade, and the NAPOLEONS will be found to have wearied the patience of Heaven out." A more carefully prepared fence on which to sit, ready for a leap to whichever side ultimately glittered under the sun of victory, could scarcely have been constructed. That, however, is by the way. We mention it merely to explain why our mind reverts to the *Spectator's* article. It contains an exceptionally clear *exposé* of the reasons of the Franco-Prussian war —an *exposé* then regarded by Englishmen generally as strictly accurate, but now thrown under the shadow of a doubt. The London journal, after briefly cataloguing events that rendered it imperatively necessary for the Emperor of France to re-establish his prestige and divert the eyes of the French people from domestic politics to foreign fields, proceeded in this strain:—

Accident gave him a magnificent opportunity. Among many candidates for the Spanish throne, Marshal Prim had turned his eyes to the nearest magnate of the Braganzas, Leopold of Hohenzollern, had mentioned his idea so publicly that many weeks ago M. J. Lemoinne criticized it in the *Débats*, and had, when pressed by the ex-Queen's abdication, attempted to make his selection a reality. Aware, however, that the Empress Eugénie would move heaven and earth for the family whose subject she was born, he kept his negotiations secret, trusting that when the choice had been made the Emperor, who had only interdicted the Orleanists and the Republic, would tolerate a Catholic German of Portuguese connections. He offered the Crown to the Prince, therefore, through a secret agent; but the secret was betrayed by the seizure of a telegram *en route*, and Napoleon found his opportunity. His Ministry were irritated to find how stupid their Embassies had been. His Generals were irritated by the thought of an alliance which might threaten the Southern frontier. His people were irritated to find that Bismarck, Bismarck the betrayer, Bismarck the bogey, had for the twentieth time clutched a prize in the diplomatic game. At a hint the inspired journals raved of danger to France from the "aggressive ambition" of Prussia; the public, always thinking of Sadowa, responded eagerly; the army grew savage with excitement; the Legislative Chamber shook with enthusiastic cheers at the first mention of war, and as his first act the Emperor proposed an ultimatum to Berlin. Prince Leopold should not reign in Spain under penalty of war. It was believed at the Tuileries that this demand, if proffered with sufficient rudeness, with talk about hours, and fanfaronade about susceptibilities, would evoke a refusal; but the Tuileries had not understood the nature of Teutonic pride. The soldierlike old King who has made Germany, met all this arrogance with cold disdain, ordered his Press to ask what all the pother was about, declined at first to interfere with Spanish affairs one way or another, and finally, when convinced by the agitation of Europe that the menace was serious, refused to let Germans die for a remote dynastic interest of his own. As King he would do nothing, as head of the Hohenzollerns he would disapprove the candidature. Accordingly the candidature ended, Prince Anton, father of Leopold, withdrawing his son, while the Spanish Government announced that they had abandoned their intention of electing him. There seemed a chance of peace, and Napoleon, at the cost to Europe of a few score millions of movable property, had triumphed over Spain. This, however, was insufficient. Sadowa was not avenged because Serrano fled; there must be at least some open humiliation of Prussia: and accordingly France demanded that King William as King should pledge Prussia never to allow any member of her Royal family, however distant, to ascend the throne of Spain,—that is, should acknowledge that he had commenced and had failed in a gigantic intrigue. To make sure of repulse, the French Ambassador, M. Benedetti, received instructions which induced him to assail the King on the public promenade of Ems, with this demand, an affront which, even in the history of French diplomacy, always able, but so often arrogant, is almost without a parallel. It was met with haughty dignity, the King, looking steadily at M. Benedetti, ordered the aide-de-camp by his side to inform him that he declined to receive him, having no further communication to make,—and the Emperor had at last succeeded. He had aroused the German heart at last. It was, then, insult that he meant, to be accepted under penalty of war, and Germany stood up ready for the inevitable conflict. Cool, cynical Berlin, which believes in no one, Hohenzollerns and Providence included, no sooner heard of this incident than it rose storming for war, and before these words reach our readers the orders will have been issued which call into the field the army which won Sadowa.

Our readers will observe that in this account Comte BENEDETTI is represented as having adopted the extraordinarily unceremonious step of presenting the Emperor NAPOLEON'S vexatious demand direct to the King of PRUSSIA on the public promenade of Ems, and the KING is shown as treating the insult in a kingly manner. But it appears that such a story was not destined to pass unchallenged into the pages of history. M. BENEDETTI himself now comes forward to contradict it. He has in the press a volume on his Ems mission, concerning which the Paris correspondent of *The Times* writes as follows:—

It is well known that the Franco-German war broke out because Prince Bismarck, by altering the telegram sent to him from Ems by the King of Prussia, left the impression that M. Benedetti had been insulted by the King of Prussia. It was known, and Prince Bismarck himself has since confessed it, that no such insult occurred. M. Benedetti has always protested against any such thing, and he has declared to me personally that the King of Prussia never treated him save with the utmost courtesy, adding:—"If the King did not wish to return to our conversation at the moment of leaving Ems, the precise reason was that he might not be compelled to reply to demands which he held to be offensive by a refusal which would have brought about a rupture." The book which he is publishing explains this phrase.

The King had declared to him in the morning that he expected the renunciation of the Hohenzollern candidature, that he unconditionally approved it, and that he would communicate it as soon as he had it in his hands. But meanwhile the Prussian Ambassador to Paris communicated a conversation with the Duc de Grammont, the upshot of which seemed to be a desire to impose upon the King of Prussia the duty of writing something like a letter of excuse to the Emperor. Whereupon King William, while maintaining his promised adhesion to the renunciation of the Hohenzollern candidature, no longer desired to meet M. Benedetti, whom he supposed to be authorized to transmit to him the fresh demands of France. He did not wish to be exposed to an offensive communication on the part of France, or rather of the Duc de Grammont.

The enormous difference between the pretended insult of which the French Ambassador was supposed to have been the object and the dread of himself being exposed to an insult, must be evident to all. Owing, therefore, to the misrepresentations of Prince Bismarck, two Sovereigns who did not wish to fight, two nations who had no desire for war, entered upon the most terrible of struggles. Those two nations to-day, having become enemies, trouble by their irreconcilable hatred the peace of the world. It must not be forgotten that if Prince Bismarck, in speaking of France, could one day say that he preferred to be feared rather than to be loved, it may be said to-day that Germany here is no longer feared, but no more is she the object

of affection. What excuse has Prince Bismarck had so far? That of success, the success which von Roon and von Moltke prepared. But if, owing to some unexpected circumstance, owing to one of those chances of battle that surprise the cleverest tacticians, the fortune of war had turned against Germany, the name of Bismarck would have been doubly execrated. This is a conclusion which should not be forgotten by those ambitious persons who warp the consciences of peoples.

But, on the other hand, we must not be unjust. Napoleon, his health already undermined and himself doomed to a speedy end, had no will left. Unfortunately there was an ambitious, ignorant, and powerful coterie, which believed blindly in victory and dreamed only of transferring the power to the Prince Imperial under a prolonged Regency, when all their unbridled ambitions might be satisfied. The coterie detested the Liberal Empire and hoped by victory to bring back the old autocratic Empire by the appointment of youthful dignitaries to all high offices of State. It was this party that seized greedily upon the falsified telegram. They fought tooth and nail against M. Emile Ollivier and his Liberalism, against the relative liberty recovered by the country, and the old *entourage* of the Emperor that wearied everybody. Thus it was that this horrible war was rendered possible between two Sovereigns and two nations to whom it was equally distasteful. On the one hand were men of unwitting, ignorant, ambitions; on the other, a man of utterly unscrupulous ambition, upon whom his young pupil and master has so brusquely and so cruelly avenged the conscience of humanity

It is never prudent to take M. BLOWITZ *au pied de la lettre*. His writings are all pervaded by a subjective element. Let us add, therefore, what M. BARTHÉLEMY SAINT-HILAIRE says with reference to Count BENEDETTI'S book:—

What is this talk about a forged telegram? Were not the very terms of the Convention which M. Benedetti presented to the King of Prussia enough, as he reports them, to turn the Sovereign against us? To ask Prussia, victorious Prussia, after Sadowa to renounce for ever all claims to Spain and thus preclude in advance any possible action in a future of which she knew nothing—was this reasonable or prudent? Was it not to proclaim that a war was desired, even sought for? Prussia would have undoubtedly left us in peace, but the Emperor and the Empress were too much bent upon making this dynastic campaign. Did not Napoleon III., when he was still merely Prince Bonaparte, declare that his life had but one aim—namely, to take vengeance upon Germany and England for the check of Waterloo and of Trafalgar? All that ended in Sedan, and in the breaking of that understanding which was so necessary between the three nations which represent in Europe real civilization. No. Let no one try to take us in. The inspirer of the war, the only person to blame, is the Emperor himself.

Here we have the broad view that can scarcely fail to be accepted by the public. The EMPEROR of the French wanted to force a quarrel upon Prussia, and he succeeded. But though the offence was bound to come, we can not forget the anathema, "woe to him by whom the offence cometh." Was Prince BISMARCK guilty of the act charged against him, and are we to find in the fact a prominent, if not the chief, reason for the disfavour into which he has fallen with the present Sovereign of Germany? M. BARTHÉLEMY SAINT-HILAIRE passes over in complete silence the assertion of M. BENEDETTI that from first to last he was treated with marked courtesy by King WILLIAM, and that the reported insult was never offered. Moreover, according to the *Spectator's* account, and according to the belief everywhere entertained up to the present, the first insult came from M. BENEDETTI, who, acting under instruction, chose a markedly unsuitable place and time to prefer a monstrous demand. We must await the production of fuller evidence on each side to elucidate this most interesting page of modern history.

ORIGIN OF THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE AND RELIGION.

PROF. B. H. CHAMBERLAIN'S late inquiries into Loochooan show that a dialect of the Japanese is spoken in Loochoo. From this fact we learn that that archipelago was peopled from Japan. The direction of migration has been from north to south. From this we derive fresh confirmation of the opinion that the Japanese came from the mainland of Asia, as on other grounds is the common belief. They reached their islands from the Asiatic continent, and when they came they brought with them to their new home the traditions, customs, and religious belief of their former abode. This being the origin of the Japanese, their traditions and religious belief should be compared with those of nations on the mainland. The more so because after the main body of the emigrants left the mainland, travelling doctors, rain makers, fortune tellers, merchants, religious teachers, would occasionally arrive. Such visitors would proceed to Japan at any time from a period quite four thousand years ago till the present day.

When written tradition fails us, we judge of the Japanese by anthropology, language, and oral tradition. Judged by these tests, including shape of hands and feet, colour of hair, skin, and eyes, with other particulars, they belong to the continent. Their religious traditions are partly of Chinese origin and partly derived from other sources. It is not to be forgotten that the presentation of horses to the sun and the tell-tale name AMATERASU (MITHRAS)[1] point to the early introduction of as much of the Persian religion as travelling *magi* in early times were likely to take with them. Neither in VIRGIL nor in HOMER is there any allusion to the worship of MITHRAS. This form of worship was not known in the early days of Greece and Rome. HESIOD says nothing of it. At the time of our LORD'S birth we have a clue to the date when the *magi* were travellers. In the Gospel of MATTHEW some of the *magi* travelled to Jerusalem to seek the new born king of the Jews. The worship of MITHRAS spread in the empire from about that time with the Chaldean astrology, medicine, and, divination. The Buddhists took with them to Japan the astrological art, and, as we must suppose, the worship of MITHRAS. The Shingon or Mantra sect taught the Mandala or circle, divisible into two parts, the Diamond element, and the Fœtus element. They had what is called the secret teaching or *mits kyo*. This sect spread itself in Japan in the ninth century. If I am right in this view, that the worship of AMATERASU is due in part to the influence of the Shingon teaching on the Shinto priests, it would be in the ninth century that the worship of the Sun Goddess spread in Japan. I found the name in books belonging to a Shingon temple at Unzen. BUNYU NANJIO tells us it was in the ninth century that the Shingon sect was introduced to Japan. The worship of MITHRAS in the Shinto form of it may have gone to Japan therefore at any date after the Christian era, and it was greatly promoted in the ninth century.

The Japanese vocabulary, like that of all languages, is a large collection of borrowed names of ideas, a long succession of loans in fact. The Japanese borrowed an enormous mass of words from China a thousand years ago. If we take the words existing before that period and compare them with the vocabularies of the mainland races, we find they are the same, and that there is nothing original in the language except the modern upgrowth of grammar and a certain number of derived meanings of roots. I open HEPBURN at page 319. The eye falls on *mikake*, *mikata*, *mikabashi*, *mikaye*. *Mi* is *miru* see, *me* eye. The Mongol has *nidun*, eye, Korean *nun*. The Korean has *pol* to see. *Mikata*, friend, is from *kata*, side. This with *kabashi*, exchange, *kaye*, back, return, are all easily identified on the continent.

The two languages spoken in the islands of Japan and the peninsula of Korea are, it may be shown, very closely connected, and though this appears less in the vocabularies than in the grammars, there is no lack of evidence in either. ASTON'S[2] "Comparative Study of Japanese and Korean" will be found most useful by the student. The examples he gives of identity in words are quite numerous (more than a hundred.) With initial *h*, which corresponds to *b*, *p*, *j* in mainland languages, he has *hato* "pigeon" K. *pitaikè*; *haru* "to paste," K. *pallil*; *haji* "shame" K. *peus*; *harafu* "to clear off, sell," K. *peal*; *ha*, distinctive particle, conjunctive particle affixed to verbs, and to *wo*, K. *pa*, "that which;" *heso* or *hozo* "navel," *hara* "belly" K. *pe*; *ifu* "to speak" K. *ip*

[1] Mithras or Mitra was worshipped far and wide in Europe under the Roman Emperors.

[2] Mr. Aston has, in my judgment, unwisely retreated from the position he held when he wrote this paper, 1879. He now, writing from Seaton, Devonshire, in March of this year (*Japan Mail* of May) says he has ceased to hold that Japanese is in connection with Aryan languages or with the languages of the mainland, if I understand him rightly. Twenty years ago he proved the connection satisfactorily. He lately contributed a brief article on Korean writing to the Asiatic Society's journal. Here he does not allude to comparison in languages in any form. I infer that his mind has not for a long time been directed to the question of genetic relationship in languages of the sort here referred to. Perhaps, he only denies Aryan relationship. If so, I observe that a negative is very difficult to prove, and that the public would like to know what reasons he has for this view. Mr. Aston, it is true, used the word "conjecture" in regard to the connection of Japanese with Aryan languages. The examples he gave are facts which prove the connection. He ventured the suggestion that the Latin *mare* may be the same word with *midzu* "water." My view is that we must deal with the fact that the words are identical and modify our philology in accordance with it.

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"mouth;" *hachi* "bee" K. *pul; hoshi*, "star" K. *pyul*; *hoshiki, hoshigaru*, "to wish, desirous," *horu, hossuru*, "wish" K. *pil, pala* "to pray, request;" *hashi*, "beak of a bird," K. *puli; hiji*, "arm," K. *pal; hiza* "knee" K. *pal*, "foot;" *hajimete* "beginning" K. *pirosam* "for the first time," *pirotta*, "begin;" *hagu* "to strip off" K. *pahil* "to pluck out."

This is a very good proportion of cognate words for only one initial letter. It is possible to obtain specimens of words with either of the initials in the same manner. This shows that it is a mistake to regard the Korean and Japanese vocabularies as unlike. Take, for example, words beginning with *m. moto*, "bottom" *mis*, "bottom;" *masani* "exactly" *machhil*, "to hit;" *mura* "village" *muri* "flock;" *muragaru*, "assemble" K. *muri* "assemblage;" *mi* "body." "I," "ego," K. *mom* "body." The force of the argument for identity is very strong because the grammar is allowed to be much the same in the two languages.

But let the reader take note that if he once admits the identity of the Korean and Japanese vocabularies, he will find it difficult to keep his mind away from the concession that Aryan words are also the same. For instance, *moto* "foundation" is *botton, boden*. The Chinese comes in too as a witness here, 本 *pên* is *pun* in old Chinese. This is the Manchu *fulche* root, Manchu, *bade* "place," Mongol, *bariho*, "hold," *bato* "firm." The word *firm* in Latin comes from this as a root. In SKEAT the root is not given. FICK, a great authority, says bottom, abyss, fundus, profound, may be referred to a root *bhudno, boden*. G. CURTIUS traces abyss to *βάθυς*, as also *βυθός*. The meaning of the root in Chinese and Japanese tells us that basis cannot be referred to *βα* "to go," as CURTIUS refers it, but belongs to the same root with *moto* in Japanese, *bato* "firm" in Mongol, Eng. "bottom." In SKEAT we read that the root of basis is *βα* "to go," and the original root is *ga* Under the light of Chinese and Japanese philology this derivation is quite impossible as it seems to me. We are relieved from any need for it by looking for the roots in languages further east.

It is the same with all the Aryan roots. They are all here and can be found by every one that possesses ordinarily good philological training. There is nothing fanciful in this statement. Take *hashiru*, "to flow, fly, and float." In Japan *afureru* is "flood" and the same with a *bure* "overflow." *Bur* is the Japanese root of a *bure* "flood, overflow." In float, flow, fly, the root is *fol* from *pot*, and this is the Japanese *bur*. The philological process here is perfectly safe and defensible, as can be shown by taking any other example. Let it be asked what is build in Japanese. The answer is *fushin suru*, as in *ye two fushin suru*, to build a house. F is *b*. sh is *l*. The Aryan philologists derive it from *bhu* "to be." We can test this etymology. We have the word *to be* in the Tartar languages very fully developed. Among the derivatives of *bu* "to be" in Mongol is *bolba soragol ho* "build," "create." Also *buto hu* is "to complete." Here is the root, and it becomes evident that the word build is derived from *bhu* "to be." It is the same thing with other words. The proof is complete. The Japanese vocabulary is really the same as our own and students of the language will find very great advantage in adopting this theory as a working hypothesis.

JOSEPH EDKINS.

NOTE 1.—*Mori* "guard" is the Korean *pol*, "gage," surety 保 *pau*, "to guard." Such an identification supports the statement that J. *miru* "see" is K. *pol* "see."

NOTE 2.—In every example of real identity it is possible to find corroboration in other words. Some one might object to *mom* which Mr. Aston identified with *mi*. But it may pass, because repetition of the initial is a common phenomenon. *Beye* (for *bede*) in Manchu and Mongol is "body." This is certainly the Japanese *mi* "body" and just as certainly it is our own body and our own reflexive pronoun me. These are the facts which nature presents. They are accounted for 1. by the early nomad life of owners, ancestors, 2. by the indestructibility of words, 3. by the tendency to borrow names of ideas, 4. by the remarkable mixture of races in the Indo-European family.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions their may choose to draw therefrom.]

"SECULARIAN."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I certainly had no thought of reflecting on the Editor in supposing that the two correspondents from Kobe were in reality only one person. In so far as the supposition may seem to have this bearing I hasten to offer my apology. Nor have I the least desire to be correct in so thinking. A very simple and speedy way to set me right in this matter is for the Editor to send me the names and addresses of Messrs. "Earnest Inquirer," and "Secularian," not for public print but for my own assurance that I was mistaken, since the Editor has not specifically said these are two correspondents. It seems to me this is but fair, especially since I, whom they oppose, have made no effort at concealment.

Further, it seems to me the Editor does not speak with a due degree of equity when he says my opponents show prudence in withholding their names to avoid the "danger" of "opprobrium." Now in all this correspondence I ask for the citation of a single sentence from any of the letters that shows discourtesy, unless it be the one quoted in yesterday's *Mail*. And this can only be discourteous in being untrue, which when shown I shall apologize for. If there has been any "danger" of "opprobrium" from my pen thus far, it has arisen from the fact that my critics did not sign their names, which points to the wisdom of each writing over his true signature.

As to avoiding personalities, I hope the Editor is not labouring under the impression that I hold any ill-will against these gentlemen, or any one else as for that matter. Indeed, I should like to make this question so specially personal with these gentlemen as to be able to sit down with them by their own firesides with the open Bible and talk face to face on this most important theme. And if they are really in earnest and will invite me to do so, I will go all the way to Kobe to have this privilege.

I remain, most faithfully yours,

J. M. McCALEB.

12, Tsukiji, Tokyo, Oct. 25th, 1895.

[If our correspondent is not satisfied with our assurance, he must remain dissatisfied. We have no inclination to offer proofs in support of an assertion that we are in a position to make with absolute certainty, neither have we any right to offer the proofs required.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE IMPERIAL BIRTHDAY BALL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—With much surprise I read in your issue of the 26th inst. your strictures on the propriety of observing the 3rd prox. irrespective of its falling on Sunday because of the religious scruples of English and American sentiment. You say: "Invitations to the Imperial Birthday Ball have been issued by His Excellency the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. The 3rd of November falls this year on Sunday; but Marquis Saionji has not considered it necessary to take that fact into consideration. Englishmen and Americans, however, will assuredly be pained by the notion of a State Ball on the Sabbath, and the great majority of them will feel constrained to absent themselves from the festival on the 3rd prox." If such be the case what matters it? Shall a National jubilee be postponed for a day to satisfy the idea of a handful of aliens, although they may be English or American? The sentiment of Englishmen and Americans in some cases, where their religious professions protrude themselves conspicuously, may refrain from enjoying the ball to which they may have been invited. I desire to make this an occasion to hold up the mirror of consistency to the English and American professors of Christianity who are resident in Yokohama. If they cannot dance on Sunday why is it that they desecrate the Sabbath, every week in the year if their monetary interests are involved? There is not an English or American commercial or shipping concern in Yokohama that does not utilize Sunday for the lading and unlading of ships, purchasing the opportunity so to do from the Customs authorities. A grievous howl would be heard from them did the Government forbid the entering and exporting of foreign merchandise on Sunday. It would be claimed that one of the rights under the treaty stipulations, enjoyable by foreigners, was denied them if the Custom House officials were not on hand to facilitate their commercial transactions. The profession that the Sabbath is a day sacred to the worship of God is profession only in Japan. No ship Captain of either English or American nationality arriving in Yokohama would dare to abstain from working his ship on Sunday; agents and owners expect it of them. There is no demand to amplify on this matter. The community that can condone the desecration of the Sabbath in the interests of money profits cannot with very good grace take exception to innocent recreations appertaining to the Imperial Brithday Ball. If His Excellency Marquis Saionji thought of the matter at all he sized up the situation correctly: with the most of us Sunday is as other days, no better nor worse, being good for psalm singing or dancing according to preference.

Yours truly,

X.

October 28th, 1895.

"NOTES ON HABITUAL MISTAKES MADE AND COMMON DIFFICULTIES MET WITH IN SPEAKING ENGLISH."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I am so conscious of many imperfections in the above named book (especially in the first thirty pages, which were hurriedly printed for immediate use), and so grateful for many valuable suggestions in a review of the book in the *Japan Weekly Mail* of the 19th inst., that it is somewhat ungracious to take exception to two of the criticisms of the kindly reviewer.

First of all I would acknowledge that the calling of my attention to "*mistakes*, the incorrectness of which is obvious" gave me that same feeling of amused mortification caused sometimes by absurd expressions of my pupils. Even one who essays to teach English is conscious of many infelicities of style, crudities of expression, and even gross errors in his writing and speaking, and it is but little excuse to say that in the expression of his thoughts he is hampered by the haunting fear that his meaning will be either misconstrued, or not understood at all. The viciousness of sacrificing good English in the desire to be understood is made plain when the vice appears in an exaggerated form in a Japanese speaking impossible Japanese to an unhappy foreigner.

The notes on the use of the present perfect tense, and on the use of articles, are incomplete, and the matter should be, as suggested by the reviewer, considered in the light of an examination of the differences of the two languages. It is difficult to write in such a way as to please teachers and, at the same time, to instruct students whose working knowledge of English is small and whose stock of patience is less.

The reviewer objects to my practice of spelling the verb *practice*—for there *is* such a verb—in the same way that I spell the noun of the same pronunciation. In this connection I am reminded of a question put to me by a boy born in China of English parents. "Do you speak American?" he asked. I had to confess that I did speak that

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tongue, for, though I had the goodly heritage to be born in London itself, I lost all by having to learn my use of language chiefly in the United States. "I don't," the little Englishman rejoined. "I speak only English and Chinese."

In speaking this "American" Webster is allowed to be a good authority, and—somewhat oddly—his dictionary is the one perhaps most used in Japan as authority in disputed points. Webster gives the preference to the spelling *practice*, and the Century Dictionary allows that spelling of the verb. There are enough anomalies in the spelling of English without insisting on the preservation of one from which Japanese students may be delivered.

The reviewer doubts my theoretical cognizance of the difference in the use of the relatives *which* and *that*, though he is assured that my practice is wrong. He finds fault, for instance, with the expression "*Across* is a preposition *which* is often misused." My practice and my theory must stand or fall together, because, in Art. 99, in treating of the use of *which* and *that* I give a quotation from the Century Dictionary which, together with some parts omitted in the book, is as follows:—

"Some recent authorities teach that only *that* should be used when the relative clause is limiting or defining: as, the man *that* runs fastest wins the race; but *who* or *which* when it is descriptive or cōordinating: as, this man, *who* ran fastest, won the race; but, though present usage is perhaps tending in the direction of such a distinction, it neither has been nor is a rule of English speech, nor is it likely to become one, especially on account of the impossibility of setting *that* after a preposition; for to turn all relative clauses into the form 'the house *that* Jack lived in (instead of 'the house *in which* Jack lived') would be intolerable. In good punctuation the defining relative is distinguished (as in the examples above), by never taking a comma before it, whether it be *who* or *which* or *that*."

Now, if good authorities allow that the relatives in question may, except in one case, be used interchangeably, and if, as the reviewer asserts, many people do thus use them interchangeably, why should we put a yoke upon the neck of the Japanese which we ourselves are not able to bear?

I am, Sir, yours truly,

FRANK MULLER.

Etajima, October 24th, 1895.

COLONEL COCKERELL ON MISSIONS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Being away on a tour round my district, I did not get reading your issues of this month till yesterday. But as I see that in your issue of October 2nd, you have inserted an article by Col. Cockerill published in the *New York Herald*, and do not see any subsequent answer from Rev. J. Batchelor, I feel it due to him (Mr. B.) to correct the mis-statement regarding my own district and work. All other false ideas contained in the letter I leave for others, if desirous, to answer. In the aforenamed article three mistakes are made in regard to me and my work: viz. (1) A title has been given me to which I have no claim, being only the "Rev. D. Marshall Lang." (2) I have only about 7 baptized Ainu under my ministration, the large number stated being under that of Rev. J. Batchelor. Would that I had as many! Then (3) The one "graduate" from the Hokkaido Industrial School is now working under Rev. J. Batchelor, while I have a scholar of the school to help in the Ainu Schools in my (Kushiro) district, who teaches 3 months, then returns to the school for his course, and I have others in succession on similar terms. Such are the mis-statements. Begging your indulgence for thus encroaching on your space.

I remain, yours faithfully,

D. MARSHALL LANG.

Hakodate, October 26th, 1895.

N.B.—If the Colonel would make as public a short sketch of the history of "Yezo" during the 20 years missionary work has been started there, I think he would find that the work on the whole has not been so very "slow and somewhat discouraging." And perhaps if he included the present number of Ainu baptized he might find his number somewhat short of facts.

THE GERMAN BAZAAR.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—We beg leave, by you kind permission, to thank, through your columns, the many friends that have patronized the bazaar of the German Mission in Tokyo. In this connexion we would thank their Highnesses the Princesses Iwakura and Konoye, the Marquises Nabeshima and Ito, the Countesses Tsugaru and Toda, and the Viscountess Hijikata, as well as the many other Japanese and foreign ladies and gentlemen that have honoured the occasion by their presence or were represented by proxy. It gives us satisfaction to state that the German community of Tokyo was fully, the English and American community largely, represented. The result was in consequence highly gratifying. The sum of 800 *yen* was secured for the purposes of the bazaar, and we take delight in thanking once more, on behalf of the mission, all those that have contributed to this satisfactory result.

Yours sincerely,

KAETHE CHRISTLIEB.

Tokyo, October 30th, 1895.

A CORRECT MISTAKE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—If the critic of Mr. Muller's little book on "Mistakes in Speaking English" will refer either to the International or to the Century dictionary, he will find that there is such a verb in English as "to practice." Mr. Muller is in the company of Landor, Pope, Macaulay, Milton, and Shakspeare.

S.

Saga, October 23rd, 1895.

CHINESE CHARACTERS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Please allow me a few more remarks on the subject of "Chinese Characters" in reply to the letter published on the 10th inst.

I see that the author still persists in his endeavours to prove that his *on* are better than mine. The case is as follows. In my first letter I gave 18 examples in which his *on* are different from the *on* in common use. In all these examples (with the sole exception of 差) he had omitted the principal *on* in favour of another form which is seldom or never used, which if it had been given together with the usual *on* I would have said nothing against, but when given exclusively as the only *on* in use must be pronounced to be erroneous. Now, instead of acknowledging his error, he attempted in his first letter to prove 12 of his *on* to be the better forms, nay even in some cases to be the only forms in use, whereas in the case of the remaining 6 examples he gave his acquiescence as usual by simply passing them with silence. Thereupon I refuted his arguments by referring him in my second letter to the Dictionary of Gubbins, which contains only *on* in actual common use, and which I found in every and each point to be on my side, also in those cases where I did not make special reference to it. An *on* which is not to be found in that Dictionary may for all practical purposes be supposed to be, if not altogether unusual, at least of very rare occurrence. He has now, in his second letter, produced a few examples for each of those 12 questionable *on*. But what is to be proved by that? Is it to be a proof that the *on* he gives in his book are the better ones, especially better than the *on* in the Dictionary of Gubbins? That he was right in omitting the latter which form numerous compounds in general daily use, and giving instead of them his *on* for which he, evidently after long researches, at last succeeded to bring forth a few examples, the most part of which is of rare occurrence; the very pronunciation of which as given by the author appears sometimes doubtful, 拐帶 for instance as already mentioned being read in Gubbins *gaitai* and not *kaitai*, 拐騙 being read by all Japanese I consulted *gaihen*, not *kaihen*, but as a rule not pronounced after its *on* at all, but read *katari?* I heard also 旁午 and 旁睞 pronounced by them not *hōgai* and *hōrai*, but *bōgai* and *bōrai*, as they are also pronounced in the Dictionary of Gubbins; 曩昔 and 曩者 every Japanese will read *jōseki* and *jōsha*; his very first example 差殊 is read in the *Daizōhokango* (大增補漢語), one of his authorities, not *shishu*, but *sashu* (page, or rather leaf 138); 牀蓐 is, according to Gubbins, not *shōjoku*, but *jōjoku*; in 竄匿 the first character is pronounced, in Gubbins as well as in the Daizōhokango, *zan*, not *san*; 播棄 is according to both authorities (Gubb. p. 167, Daizōhokango p. 180) *hanki*, not *haki*. But it is scarcely worth while to examine these examples further; even supposed, but not granted, for argument's sake that their pronunciation and frequency of occurrence were all that the author could wish, would he be excused for having *omitted* the other *on* which are of so incomparably much greater importance? There is no course left for him but either to acknowledge his error, or to declare openly that he omitted all these *on* purposely—perhaps as "purposely" as he made no attempt to distinguish between *Kanon* and *Goon*, perhaps also for the same excellent reason that to give these *on* was "beyond the scope of the book."

He also states again that 卍 is said by Williams to be a Chinese character. I should like to know how that can be, seeing that Williams gives as his opinion on the origin of 卍 the passages quoted in my second letter. I know very well that 卍 occurs in Buddhistic works in China, but to maintain that it is a Chinese character is very much the same as if one would pronounce ? or ! to be of Japanese origin, because in certain recent prints they are used in the sence of the particles *ka* resp. *yo*.

When the author does me the honour to quote passages from my letters, he ought not to omit essential portions of them, as he does in the case of 渠. Of this character I have said that "*in its present form* it more naturally belongs to 木, *like* 染 *and* 梁." To omit the italicized words "in its present form" is to alter the whole meaning of my remark. As Williams says, this character "was formerly composed of 水, water, and an old form of 矩, a rule." This circumstance, and this circumstance only, explains why 水 resp. 氵 is now given as its Radical, which could never have been done had its form always been the form now used. No exception whatever can therefore be taken at my remark that *in its present form* 渠 belongs more naturally to 木 than to 氵, like 染 and 梁. Again, why did he quote my sentence "But setting apart this suggestion *which scarcely can be called an 'unreasonable' one*, I do not find fault with the list in question" without the italicized portion? His statement was: "He finds fault unreasonably with my selection of *nanori*." I protested against the expression "unreasonably," and besides employed the phrase "find fault," which I also might have given in quotation marks, deliberately, as it was my intention to make it understood that there was no question of "fault finding," but only of stating a defect which must strike every one who peruses the list. But although I emphasized that I did not find fault with it, I was very far from "admitting" its "serviceability." I only said that I thought the list contained most of the characters occurring in *nanori*, and even this was perhaps more than I ought to have admitted, seeing that his list contains only 254 characters all told, whereas another list before me, the 增補名乘字引, contains about 2,600 different characters used in *nanori*. As to the question of serviceability it was not touched at all, but if I am to give my opinion on that point, I think that to be serviceable the list ought to give not its 201 *nanori*, but its 254 characters arranged after the alphabetical order of their *yomi*, so as to avoid the numerous useless repetitions of the same characters, and to show at a glance which *yomi* resp. characters are in the list and which not. Again, I have not once made the pretension to go back to "original" forms. I ask him where I have "produced arguments about 'original' forms," or where I have spoken of "original" forms at all. I have spoken of "principal" and "secondary" forms only—"principal" and "secondary" as to Japan—and not of "original" forms. On the contrary it was he who went back to the original Chinese of Williams to prove that his forms, and in one instance even that his pronunciation of a character, were right.

There are in his letter a few more passages which I cannot leave unnoticed. He says my admissions "might have been a little more candid." In reply I would ask him where *his* admissions are to be found, so that I might learn in what terms candid admissions must be couched. My want of candour is found in the circumstance that I have pronounced 笊 to be "better than 笟," instead of "the only correct form, 笟 being another character with a totally different meaning." He ought to know that 笟, when used in *Japan*, is used as a secondary synonymous form of 笊, *zaru*; the wording of my admission consequently was quite correct. As to candour, he must be well aware that in *all* cases where I had to make an admission, I have made it, whereas I could so far not obtain so much as a single acknowledgement of the author's errors except his numerous "and so on's," which in his first letter are synonymous with as many "the other objections are undisputable even for me." Perhaps it is more candid to make no admissions at all and to pass with silence all points where an opponent is right. There are exactly 60 errors and omissions pointed out by me in my first letter of which he preferred to say *not a single word*—always except "and so on." And yet he

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now comes forth and says that I ought to have been "more candid." Another admission I have made, as he says, "only in a footnote." It then seems that there is something objectionable in such admissions, but I fail to understand what it may be. Again he remarks about the misprint 汻 for 汙 that "misprints on the part of such a captious critic are inexcusable, especially when the result is that one character is transformed into another of entirely different meaning." The latter part of this charge is somewhat obscure, misprints generally occurring not in characters with similar meanings, but with similar forms. I am very sorry that misprints on my part should be "inexcusable." As to the expression "captious" I will say nothing. His own letters are by no means free from inaccuracies and misprints. In his first letter one reads "*Sansuisha* 撒水者 *Misumaki-guruma*, or water cart," which I then left unnoticed as a mere slip of his pen and would also leave unnoticed now, had I not been taught by him that such things on the part of "captious critics" are "inexcusable." He has either made the error of writing 者 instead of 車, or, if he meant to write 者, then his translation *kuruma*, *cart*, is erroneous. Then there was his confounding of 卍 with 卐, 葬 with 葢, 呌 with 叫, 獘 with 弊 and 棊 with 碁. Not is his second letter free from inaccuracies. 惘 and 帳 are misprints for 惆 and 悵. In 旁睞 the second character is a misprint for 脥. Two lines farther he speaks of *four* characters instead of *three*. He once again confounds 卍 and 卐, for he makes me say that "卐 is the *swastika*," whereas I have declared 卍—*not* 卐—to be the *swastika*, and 卐 to be the *sauwastika*—*not* the *swastika*. All these errors and inaccuracies, to quote his own words, "a little more care might have prevented."

Referring to his statement "旁 is *hō*, *bō* is used, but some dictionaries only give *hō*" I had ventured to say that "then some dictionaries are wrong," which remark evidently mispleases him. But why should only dictionaries be exempted from the liability to omissions, misprints, and other errors? He before others ought to know better. As to the bringing out of "standard dictionaries," I think, after mature reflection, I had better leave it to others who may already have given proofs of their being qualified for such undertakings by previous publication.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

P. EHMANN.

Tokyo, October 15th, 1895.

THE LU-CHU ISLANDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JAPAN MAIL.

SIR,—Your review in last week's *Japan Mail* of Mr. Chamberlain's *brochure* on the Luchu Islands was full of interest. Now that Formosa has been added to the Japanese Empire, the Luchu Islands, forming, as they do, stepping stones between Kiushiu and Formosa, will grow in importance and will attract more attention than they have heretofore. In order that your readers may have the benefit of a very interesting and instructive article on these islands, I enclose a clipping from an American Missionary magazine written by one of the best known missionaries in Japan, who is an exceptionally fluent Japanese speaker, and who visits those islands frequently in the interest of Christian mission work. The article is not only interesting as to general information about the islands; but the "open door" and "ready fields" for Christian thought and truth which Dr. Correll speaks of will fully answer your question about the "completely deaf ear to the tenets of the Nazarene," that seems to be manifest among the people. I hope you can find space for this article.

I would like, too, to state here, by way of parenthesis, that the hundreds of missionary periodicals published in Christian lands contain a vast amount of reliable information obtained first hand by missionaries who travel and preach in the nooks and corners of these eastern countries. And this information never meets the eye of the average layman, but if it could be published in the secular papers it would open the eyes of many people who know little of Christian mission work except what they get from the over-and-over-hashed tattle-prattle of ignorant but assuming critics, such as are met with on steamers and elsewhere.

Yours truly, W. P. TURNER.

Kobe, Oct. 7th, 1895.

THE LIU KIU (LOO CHOO) ISLANDS.

(BY REV. IRVIN H. CORRELL, NAGASAKI, JAPAN.)

As the Spirit opened the eyes of the prophet of old, so that he could look into the future, he cries out in the Holy One, "Surely the isles shall wait for me." How rapidly indeed are the islands of the sea becoming the habitation of our God! The group formerly known as the Loo Choo Islands, but now commonly known as the Liu Kiu Islands, lie southwest of the Japan group proper, and have had rather an interesting history. Situated between China and Japan, the people were brought more or less under the influence of each of these nations. It was undoubtedly the desire of the government to perpetuate an independent monarchy, but on the one hand was China asserting its supremacy, and on the other hand was Japan paying occasional visits and demanding allegiance, so that in the face of these two formidable powers this weak kingdom did not feel able to assert its absolute independence, and concluded that the wisest course to take was to try to please both parties. About fifteen years ago, however, the matter having been amicably settled with China, the Japanese government took the islands under its control, organizing them into a prefecture, and calling it Okinawa *ken*. There are at present 38 islands included in the *ken*, but there were quite a number more belonging to the original kingdom. The island of Oshima, situated about midway between Kiushiu and the main island of the Okinawa group, together with a number of smaller ones in that vicinity, originally belonged to the Loo Choo group. "Oshima" means Great Island The Daimyo of Satsuma, the most southern province of Kiushiu, who was very powerful in his time, attached this island, together with the immediate surrounding ones, to his domains several hundred years ago, and the king of the Loo Choos could do no other than submit.

The influence of both China and Japan is plainly visible in the customs of the people, but there is undoubtedly a preponderance of Japanese customs. The language seems to have little resemblance to either. They have no written language of their own; the Chinese language was introduced some centuries ago, but is read by only a few of the upper classes. With this also came the teachings of Confucius, which made more or less impression on the life of the nation; practically, however, the people may be said to be without a religion, but they are not without objects of worship. Confucianism gave them ancestral worship, but aside from this the superstitious worship of a god called Yuda has a much wider influence over the masses of the people All suffering or trouble of whatever kind is supposed to be the result of his displeasure, and his priests or priestesses are called upon to inquire what will appease his wrath. The most absurd things are frequently ordered to be done under these circumstances as absolute necessities for salvation from the overhanging troubles. Until a few years ago Confucianism was the only system of religion, if indeed we may call it such, that has had any representation in the country; so that it has had abundant opportunity here to show its power to purify a people and make them morally strong. If we may then take this people as an example of its effectiveness as a religion or ethical teaching in elevating a people and making real men out of a corrupt humanity, we are obliged to say that it has been weighed in the balances and has been found wanting. It would be difficult, I presume, to find a more foul and loathsome mass of moral corruption anywhere amongst a people who make any pretentions to be civilized than is to be found here, and the worst cesspools are where the power of this system ought to have been most plainly manifested. Corrupt morals of the deepest dye are easily detected all over the islands, but there are not to be found elsewhere the organized evil that is established in Shuri, the old capital, and in Naha, the chief seaport, only two miles from the capital. It is said that in Naha, with a population of about 40,000, there are 3,000 legalized prostitutes, and there is scarcely a young man to be found who does not frequent houses of ill fame Truly, a religion that cannot do more than this for the elevation of a degraded humanity has no claim on our confidence or respect.

Since the islands have been attached to Japan much has been done for the education of the young people About 100 public schools have been established, and about 13,000 children and youths are in attendance. A special Girls' School was opened in Shuri, and has an attendance of aboot 120 students. A Normal School and an Academy have also been established there and are quite well patronized. The plan of the government is to prepare the young men here as soon as possible to become the teachers of their own people. The Japanese language is the one taught in the schools, and childern are discouraged from using the native tongue, so that any one able to speak the Japanese language can find on any of the islands quite a number who are able to understand his speech. Formerly each island of any size had its own dialect, but it is the purpose of the government to unify the language. The people seem tb appreciate the efforts of the government in the line of education. In one of the islands which the writer has just visited there has been considerable trouble in collecting the taxes from the people because they were feeling them to be very burdensome, but when told that these taxes were necessary for keeping up the schools, etc, they willingly submitted, saying that if the taxes they were paying were to be used for such purposes they were ready to pay them. The teachers report the students not only as studious, but also as quite capable, so that the future along these lines seems hopeful for them. In view of these facts, however, the call for Christian work to be done amongst them is all the more imperative.

The monarchial form of goverment which existed formerly was quite similar to the old form of Japanese government, excepting that there was no Shogun at the head. There were officials known as Anzo, who corresponded somewhat to the Daimyos of the old feudal form. These had their retainers, who held the rank of Samurai under that government and have been recognized as such under the present *régime*. They regard themselves as the gentry of the land, and are exceedingly proud. By a special appropriation made them by the government they have been able to live without doing anything fot their support, but this appropriation is about exhausted in the majority of cases and the question of what they are to do for a livelihood is staring them in the face. They feel it entirely beneath their rank and dignity to engage in manual labour, and they know nothing at all of business life, so that nine out of ten, if not ninety-nine of a hundred, would completely fail if they undertook any business enterprise. It really is quite a serious question what is to become of them. There are large tracts of very fertile land still uncultivated on all the main islands. The climate is delightful, the average temperature is about 70° Fah., and nowhere does it rise in the hottest weather higher than 100 degrees. The present method of cultivation is very primitive and imperfect indeed. So little effort is required to produce what the people feel they need to sustain life that they simply scratch around in the ground a little, plant their seed, and in due time the crop they require is forthcoming. The chief article of food is the sweet potato. Various tropical fruits, such as the banana, cocoanut, etc., can be produced, and during recent years an excellent quality of tobacco has been cultivated. The soil and climate are exceedingly well adapted to the production of sugar cane, but up to the present nothing but a very dark kind of sugar has been made. There is not the slightest reason why any of the people should be in want temporally. There is ample room for more than double the present population. According to the most reliable information attainable the population is estimated at 400,000. About 120 years ago a tidal wave swept across one of the islands, and is said to have carried with it about 10,000 people; the number of inhabitants was thus greatly decreased, and various diseases decreased the population still more, so that the number was reduced from about 35,000 to a little over 10,000. In some parts of the islands the population is increasing, but in others it is decreasing, so that the only hope of properly developing these islands is by the introduction of new blood, and we may add, a new life. The Japanese people have, therefore, an interesting problem before them, and we can but wait and see how they will solve it. There are extensive fields of excellent coal, which as yet have scarcely been touched. The islands are all of coral formation, so that the mineral resources will possibly not be very great.

The natives seem to have little or no thought of the sacredness of the marriage relation. A man takes a woman to live with him as long as she does his bidding, but if in any respect she does not prove to be what he expected or desired, he sends her back to her former home and seeks another. The care they take of the dead is, however, a matter of great interest. On approaching the main island one is attracted by the numerous white buildings, as they appear to be, which dot the hill side. On inquiring about the same he is, however, surprised to be informed that these are the dwellings of the dead. Truly they are whitened sepulchres. Similar to the custom prevailing amongst the ancient Jews, these tombs are found along the hillside and are frequently hewn out of the rock. There is quite a large excavation made in the side of the hill, and a substantial building, usually of stone, is erected over the front or in front of it. Some of these tombs cost considerably more than the houses in which the people live. They really are good-sized houses, as houses are built in this country. Some of the rooms thus formed are as much as 22 x 25 feet; indeed this may perhaps be said to be the average size. The entrance is about 2½ x 3½ feet in size; the inside is arranged in ledges or shelves. When a member of a family dies he is placed in a coffin, simply a square box, and put into the tomb. The entrance is then tightly sealed and the corpse remains in the tomb undisturbed until all the flesh has decayed. The government compels them to leave the tomb closed for seven years. At the expiration of this time the bones are carefully washed and put in an urn, which is then put upon one of the ledges in the tomb, to remain there until the end of time. Thus generation after generation of the one family are kept in this one tomb. The most conspicuous ceremony at the funeral service is the weeping and the wailing. It may seem somewhat strange to speak of this as a ceremony, but this is all that it can be called. In fact this begins immediately after death, and is kept up at intervals until the corpse is interred. The weeping women are very prominent characters in this performance. Their heads and faces are covered with a garment made of the bark of the banana tree. For seven days after the burial the tomb is daily visited by the mourners, and after that every seventh day for seven weeks. It is impossible to witness these ceremonies without having at least the suggestion of some possible connection with God's ancient people present itself to the mind.

The fact that these people are to-day without any system of religion appeals very strongly to us, and is a very loud call to the followers of Christ to give them the gospel. It is exceedlngly difficult to learn anything about their past history. They also, like their neighbours on the northeast, claim to have have a heavenly origin. Perhaps it may be possible to learn more of their past history in future years, but up to the present the information that has been gathered is very meagre indeed. About forty years ago an effort was made to evangelize these people. Dr. Betleheim, a German by birth, was sent out by the Church Missionary Society, and resided in Naha for about five years. He had great difficulty in securing a landing, and greater difficulty still in gaining permission to remain in the country. During the time that he spent in the country he was subjected to many humiliations. Judging from his letters he was very deeply interested in the people, and his one absorbing desire was to bring them to Christ. For this he laboured and seemed ready to give his life. The King was, however, opposed to the introduction of this new religion into his realm and determined to prohibit it, although he did not do so openly. After a time Dr. Betleheim was informed that the king considered it dangerous for him to live in his country without being well guarded, and consequently he provided guards for him. These were intended, however, rather to protect the people from the attacks of Dr. Bettleheim's Christian doctrines than to protect him from any attacks that the people might make on him. During the latter part of his stay here the people seemed to avoid coming in contact with him in way any whatever. When he went out into the street they would secrete themselves in their houses and refuse to have anything what ever to do with him. At that time there were at least two Romish priests here also. There is no trace of the work of either of these missionaries to be found now. Great changes, have, however, taken place. The writer has been permitted to proclaim the blessed message of salvation through Christ in three of the main islands. The officers of the government now in power have shown great kindness and every needed attention everywhere. The door is open and the field ready for the sower and reaper to follow soon after. The Methodist Episcopal Church

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commenced work here in the latter part of 1891, the Baptist Church about the same time, and the Church of England very soon after. These three denominations are now working here, and although as yet there have been no great results, the workers know that the Lord is with them and they have sufficient encouragement at this early day to lead them to expect to gather some of the fruit of their labour in the near future.

LETTERS FROM FORMOSA.

(From our Special Correspondent with the Japanese Army.)

Takow, October 16th.

To describe the capture of Takow, I will anticipate the arrival of the Japanese and describe the state of affairs while the Chinese were in possession.

During the early days of the Republic, about 5,000 Chinese soldiers were stationed at Takow, most of them being Liu Yung-fu's redoubtable "Black Flags" under the command of his adopted son. But as the Japanese were slowly and surely approaching southward, General Liu seems to have felt that it would be impossible to withstand an attack made by them on Takow, for we find him gradually withdrawing his troops, and on the arrival of the Japanese Fleet, only about 500 Chinese soldiers were left to man the forts. It is said that a telegram was sent by General Liu at Anping to his son, ordering him to hoist the white flag, not apparently with the idea of treating with the Japanese, but as a *ruse de guerre* to cover his men's retreat. On the 14th inst. it is stated that another telegram was received from the same source ordering the Commandant to haul down the white flag, and when the Japanese were in range to fire a few shots and then retreat and reinforce the main body of troops at Tainan and Anping.

The residents at Takow speak highly of the discipline preserved among the Chinese troops by General Liu, for in no instance has there been any cause for complaint. However, for the past three months the soldiers have only been paid with General Liu's paper notes, which became absolutely worthless some three weeks ago, thus causing so much dissatisfaction amongst the soldiers as to amount to a mutiny.

On the 12th inst. three Japanese men-of-war appeared off the fort, and H.M.S. *Tweed*, Lieut. Ward commanding, conveyed the British Residents to a safe position outside, as it was expected that the attack would be made at once. However, on Lieut. Commander Ward's boarding the Japanese Flagship (*Yoshino*) he was informed that no bombardment would take place that day, but the Admiral requested that all foreign residents would leave Takow by 7 o'clock the next morning. Accordingly, H.M.S. *Tweed* embarked all the foreign residents, and proceeded, accompanied by the British tug boats *Siu Tai Wan* and *Takow*, to a safe position to the northward of Ape's Hill. At 7 a.m., true to time, the Japanese opened fire on the Takow forts at a range of, I have should say, 6,000 yards. For the first half hour the forts responded, but after that their guns were silent and it was evident that Liu's soldiers were carrying out their preconcerted plans, evacuating the forts and retreating inland. Altogether I should say the forts fired 24 rounds, the best shot being from the 8 inch B.L. Armstrong gun in Ape's Hill Fort, which struck the water about 500 yards from the *Naniwa Kan* at 2.15.

The Japanese Fleet, consisting of seven ships including the *Tsi-yuen*, the Armstrong cruiser captured from the Chinese at Port Arthur, neared the shore to the southward of Saracen's Head, and at two p.m. 25 boats manned and armed were seen proceeding in parallel lines to the beach, steering for that portion immediately under Saracen's Head Fort. At half-past two the foremost boat's bow touched the beach, and five minutes afterwards the Japanese sailors were in possession of the Fort without meeting any resistance whatever, the Japanese ensign being hoisted at the Flagstaff. But now a more difficult task had to be performed, namely the taking of Ape's Hill Fort, and with any other nation than the Chinese this would have been extremely difficult. But here, as before, there was no resistance, and the Japanese flag was floating proudly from the fort flagstaff at 4 p.m.

Takow was then in full possession of the Japanese. The loss of life amounted to 4 men on the Chinese side, two being killed in Kiow village, and two in Ape's Hill Fort. It is hardly necessary to state that the casualties on the Japanese side were *nil*. The damage done to Foreign property by the bombardment was infinitessimal, and a British Naval officer who has seen more than one bombardment, and whose opinion must therefore carry some weight, stated he was surprised to see so little damage to the houses on shore. I may say that he further stated that he thought it arose from the Japanese Admiral's consideration. As soon as the Japanese flag was hoisted on Ape's Hill Fort the Japanese Admiral courteously informed Lieutenant-Commander Ward that he was at liberty to proceed once more into the inner harbour and land the foreign residents: which he accordingly did. H.M.S. *Tweed* is now moored in the inner harbour and the foreign residents are once more installed in their houses, and apparently very glad to exchange the Black Flag *régime* for that of the Japanese. It may be of interest to state the names of the Japanese warships actually engaged in the bombardment. I accordingly append a list. *Yoshino*, bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral Arichi; *Naniwa*, *Akitsushima*, *Lai Yuen*, *Yamato*, *Yaeyama*, *Hiyei*, and two transports, one of which (*Saikio Maru*) the Japanese Admiral kindly placed at the disposal of the Foreign Residents. From information that I have received, I may state the Japanese fleet kept up a heavy fire for seven hours. The very long range adopted by the Japanese will probably account for this. The Second Division of the Imperial Japanese Army is now about three miles inland of Takow under the command of Lieut.-General Baron Nogi, and I think that Anping will be shortly occupied by the Japanese troops.

Takow, October 18th, 1895.

At four p.m. on October 3rd the *Kyoto Maru*, steamed out of Kelung Harbour for the Pescadores with General Baron Nogi and his staff, two companies of soldiers, and a few civil attachés, two or three Japanese correspondents, and myself. The trip was exceedingly pleasant, and we arrived at the Pescadores about 1.30 p.m. The *Kyoto Maru* is one of the smaller transports engaged in the service, her close and crowded quarters being thoroughly uncomfortable; and I was greatly surprised to find the General and his Staff placed on such a ship when some of the more luxurious steamers made the trip with empty cabins. On arrival at the Pescadores we found several transports and men-of-war already anchored in harbour, and for the next four days others arrived, until nearly 50 ships were assembled there, including the *Sai Yen* which was formerly the *Tsi-yuen* belonging to the Chinese. This cruiser looked spick and span, and will undoubtedly give a good account for herself if the Anping forts allow her the opportunity.

On the 8th I changed to the transport *Satsuma Maru*, as I thought the trip would be more pleasant by joining my old friends the foreign officers of the vessel. Early in the morning of the 10th the northern expedition, conveyed in about 28 ships, departed from the Pescadores for the landing place at Pawtay-chui, which is between 23 and 26 miles north of Anping. General Takashima is in command, and several of the higher civil authorities from the capital city Tai-peh-fu accompanied him. His force consisted of one division and one mixed brigade. At 2.45 in the afternoon our expedition steamed out of harbour for Pong Liao, about 24 miles south of Takow, arriving near the landing place at daylight. The men-of-war that accompanied us at once landed marines in boats having quick-firing guns mounted in their bows. No Chinese soldiers were seen, however, and the Japanese Naval Flag was soon flying from a mound near by. The soldiers from the transports were then landed, and in about two hours the whole fighting force of the expedition, consisting of about 8,000 men and 2,500 horses, was in readiness to take the field. A wharf had been quickly built, and the coolies, to the number of about 5,000, were soon bustling about unloading the supplies from the transports with remarkable celerity and without mishap. Three steam launches, 72 Japanese sampans, and 10 big cargo-boats were the means used of transporting men and stores from steamer to land. No one who witnessed the landing of this expedition could ever accuse the Japanese of being slow. The men-of-war cruised along the coast a short distance ahead of the army on shore, and the few scattered bands of soldiers that came in sight were quickly dispersed by an occasional shell from their guns. Two companies were sent at once to the South, where some Chinese soldiers were found, and after exchanging a few shots, the latter retreated in the direction of Ka-tong-ha (Ka-to-kiaku). Two companies of infantry were also sent along the beach road, but finding none of the enemy in that direction they marched towards Katong-ha, a small village surrounded by a low stone wall loop-holed for rifle fire. Several cannon mounted behind the wall converted the place into quite a formidable stronghold, and, after the Japanese had surrounded the village, the stubborn resistance made by the Chinese showed that the latter intended to take full advantage of their position. A pond of water, which nearly surrounded the village, greatly hindered the Japanese in attacking at close range, the enemy being so well protected that it was only a waste of ammunition to continue the fusillade at a distance. Several charges, however, were made by the Japanese, but at such a cost that it was finally decided to resort to other methods. At length a battalion-commander and one company, succeeded in gaining an entrance through one of the gates through not without some loss, and set fire to some of the houses. A strong wind blowing in the right direction carried the flames quickly towards the Chinese, who, for the first time in the Formosa war, showed true bravery in defending their position. As the flames crept nearer, with the Japanese guarding the only exit, but one course was open to the enemy, namely to come out into the open field and face the Japanese, and although the beleagured in the village out-numbered their assailants by two to one, the outlook for the Chinese was not a rosy one. It was a fearful scene. The cracking of the bamboo, the falling houses, the awful roaring of the fire as it swept nearer and nearer to the horror stricken braves now augmented by the more cowardly crowd driven out of the houses in which they had sought shelter. The cries of the Chinese could be heard above the uproar, and the poor wretches crouched closer and closer to the stone wall taking advantage of pits or trees and bushes already smouldering, to protect them from the stifling heat of the conflagration. At last the crisis was reached, and, with a yell of terror, they threw themselves over the wall and made a mad rush for the scrub and jungle in the north. Many fell by the way but the majority made good their escape.

This affair was serious for the Japanese, who lost 77 men, 16 killed and 61 wounded, including 3 officers, by far the greatest loss yet sustained by them in Formosa. Seventy bodies of Chinese were found, and probably a few others were consumed by the flames. Twelve cannon, several rifles, and some ammunition were captured by the Japanese.

The Chinese taking part in this engagement were not entirely Black Flags, but the force was composed mostly of native levies. Their courage contrasts greatly with the cowardice of the Black Flags who, as will be seen hereafter, are solely responsible for the fiasco of the engagement at Takow a few days later.

For the benefit of those imaginative writers who take special delight in giving publication to thrilling descriptions of blood-thirsty atrocities, I may here mention that the inhabitants of this village had all retreated to the hills as the Japanese approached, and only fighting men fell at the hands of the attacking troops. The only misfortune in this case was that of the Chinese soldiers being so ignorant of even the most common usages of modern warfare. Even a slight knowledge and some confidence in the humanity of the Japanese would have probably led to a surrender and thus have saved many lives and much property.

One company of infantry was quartered near the village the night following and in the afternoon of the next day a skirmish occurred with a few Chinese, but they retreated with but slight loss. Perhaps the greatest enemy of the Japanese, and the one that succeeds in creating considerable excitement and some terror, is the water buffalo. It is extremely amusing to see the scramble to get out of the way of these anti-foreign beasts. I myself have been driven with considerable speed, usually in the direction of the nearest tree, several times.

While walking along the beach late one afternoon I saw a headless corpse which had been washed up by the tide. I understood later that it was body of a Chinaman who had pointed a revolver at a gendarme, and who, proving himself an extremely dangerous character, had been beheaded. The next morning I again passed the place and the naked corpse was still lying on the sand in the sweltering sun. Troops and officers were passing by in constant succession, but it seemed to be no one's business to bury or cremate this body, now beginning to fill the air with its poisonous fumes. It was attended too later on, but why the body should have been thrown into the water and not disposed of at once is unaccountable.

October 12th.—In order to reach Tang-kang the main army was obliged to cross two rivers of considerable size. Pontoon bridges had been constructed. The Formosan bamboo catamaran, which consists of from eight to twelve bamboos placed side by side braced by cross-bars and all securely lashed, fortunately has such shape and size that a number of them can easily be covered into a most satisfactory bridge by merely connecting them side by side, and protecting the bamboo by laying a path-way of boards, covered with straw, across them as they reach from bank to bank. With two bridges thus constructed the whole army, including heavily laden pack-horses, passed over in safety, and

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were camped in the city of Tang-kang for the night. Their entrance met with no opposition, the Chinese troops having deserted the place long before the arrival of the Japanese. Tang-kang has a population of about 20,000 Chinese, and is the most flourishing city south of Takow. With a good harbour, open for junks only, much rice and sugar is exported. The Chinese force formerly consisted of 1,000 men divided into two camps.

October 13th.—A Chinese General sent to General Nogi an offer of unconditional surrender. It is thought these were the troops formerly at Tang-kang, with perhaps the addition of the other camp, the occupants of which had probably joined them from the South. General Nogi accepted the offer and waited, delaying his troops all day of the 14th, but no peace-seeking Chinese appeared.

October 14th.—A troop of cavalry reconnoitering to the North reached the big walled city of Pi-than (Ho-zan) and were agreeably surprised to see white flags floating from the houses, and a large white flag over the city gate. On attempting to enter, however, they found the gates closed. So they scaled the wall, but were astonished at being greeted with a vigorous fusilade from several sections of the city. They thereupon beat a hasty retreat pursued by about 200 Chinese soldiers. On the same day a company of infantry, while on its way to Cho-ho-sui, met the enemy before reaching that village, and our men were so outnumbered that they were easily surrounded. It seemed probable at the outset that the engagement would prove fatal to the Japanese, but "olo custom" prevailed, and a few vollies from the Japanese rifles sent the enemy scampering away! It was thought this Chinese force was the same that made the offer of surrender on the 13th.

October 13th.—One company of infantry was sent to attack Takow, but upon arriving the flag of the Japanese Navy was already flying from the forts, so they started out to return to the main army. After going a few miles to the east they came to a large walled city whose inhabitants resisted them, and after some fighting the Chinese retreated and the Japanese entered the city triumphant. To their surprise they found they had captured the city of Pi-than (Ho-zan), the very place the main army was preparing to attack, and where they anticipated considerable trouble.

On the 16th the Army and Head-quarters advanced to Pi-than (Ho-zan) encamping north of the city, where they are stationed at the present. The Army moves early to-morrow morning and the attack on Anping and Tainan-fu will no doubt take place on the 23rd or 24th.

The latest news from Anping just received is that a riot nearly occurred at Tainan-fu between the Black Flags and the merchants, the latter refusing to supply rice in exchange for Liu Yung-fu's paper notes.

*THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE RAILWAY SYSTEM IN JAPAN.**

By Francis H. Trevithick, Esq., M.I.C.E., etc.

The Empire of Japan consists of a number of islands, extending from north-east to south-west about 1,250 miles; and its breadth varies from 75 to 150 miles. The name of the main island is Houshiu. It occupies the central position, with Shikoku to the south, Kiushu to the west; and the Hokkaido to the north. Railways have been constructed in these four Islands, and extensions are being carried out, and are under consideration.

The country is hardly suitable for an extended railway system. It is volcanic and hilly, the centre being occupied by ridges whose peaks attain heights of from 7,000 to 10,000 feet, and whose spurs extend to the coast. The celebrated mountain of Fuji, an extinct or dormant volcano, is a cone of 12,365 feet in height, in an almost isolated position near the coast. Rivers are numerous, but not of great length. They are generally subject to violent flood either in early summer from melting of snow on the mountains, or in autumn from general heavy rains. In many places the beds of the rivers are above the level of the surrounding country, and the breaking of the banks in flood-time occasions great destruction of property and ruin of agricultural land by deposit of sand and gravel.

The climate varies as regards the Winter, only slight falls of snow occurring south of the central mountains, while on the north-west a fall of eight feet may not be considered uncommon, and in consequence every year the train service there suffers serious interruption from a snow blocked roads in spite of the large sum annually expended in endeavouring to keep the lines open. In all districts the summer is hot.

It was not until the year 1869 that a proposal to construct railways was approved of by the Emperor, and a plan prepared for carrying out the scheme. Railways met, however, with such strenuous opposition from the large party which always endeavoured to impede any progress towards Western civilization, as well as with other difficulties of a nature similiar to those which retarded the introduction of railways into England, and other countries, that it was only in the year 1870, that, thanks mainly to the persistent and enlightened efforts of Mr. (now Marquis) Ito, at that time Assistant Vice-Minister, and of Mr. (now Count) Okuma, then Vice-Minister of the Home and Finance Departments, this great step towards the opening up and development of the country was eventually started.

It was decided to make a trunk line from Tokyo to Kyoto, the new and old capitals of the Empire, by the Nakasendo route, and thence to Osaka and Kobe, with branches to Yokohama and Tsuruga, and to complete the whole in from three to five years.

The work on the line between Tokyo and Yokohama was begun in April, 1870, and that between Kobe and Osaka in November of the same year. The section between Osaka and Kyoto was commenced in December, 1873, and completed in February, 1877, when His Majesty opened the line between Kyoto and Kobe. As the times did not favour further extension, several years were spent in simply maintaining the 40 or 50 miles of open lines, and while the railways were thus circumstanced disturbances occurred at Kumamoto and Hagi, followed by the Formosan Expedition, and the Satsuma Rebellion. During this interval the Government being fully occupied in dealing with these momentous matters, were not able to give attention to railways. As for the people, they were yet not in a position to form an opinion as to their advantage or otherwise, so to wait anxiously was the only thing the railway authorities could do.

In April, 1878, the Government decided upon the extension of the line from Kyoto to Otsu, and when this was about completed it sanctioned the proposal for the construction of the Tsuruga line in October, 1879. In April, 1882, the Government approved the scheme of extending the Tsuruga line from Nagahama to Sekigahara, upon the completion of which, it further sanctioned in August, 1883, another extension from the latter town to Ogaki. From this it may be noted that the revival of railway extension began in 1878, but by no means to any active extent, as may be judged by the fact that some 5 or 6 years were spent in making less than 50 miles of railway. At the close of 1883 the construction of the Nakasendo Railway was decided on, and the following remarks as to why the Trunk Line between Tokyo and Kyoto was altered from the Nakasendo to the Tokaido may be of interest.

In 1870, when the construction of railway lines was first contemplated by the Government and a general plan of the future railway system was decided on, it was determined that a trunk line should run between Tokyo and Kyoto by the Nakasendo; but considering the requirements of the times and discriminating as to the proper order of carrying out the work, it was resolved first to commence operations on the Tokyo-Yokohama, and Kobe-Osaka sections, the latter being subsequently extended as far as Kyoto and afterwards to Otsu. Later on a line was laid between Tsuruga and Ogaki. About the close of 1883, the Bonds for the Nakasendo Railway Line were placed on the market. Next year, work was commenced, on the one hand, between Ogaki and Nagoya, and, on the other, between Takasaki and Yokogawa. But in order to reach the middle sections of the Nakasendo, the difficult pass of Usui had to be cut through in the east, while in the west the large rivers of Ibi, Nagara, and Kiso had to be spanned, and great difficulties were met in transporting necessary materials. Apprehending therefore much waste of time in procuring those materials, it was found necessary, for the purpose of facilitating transportation to construct in the east a line from the port of Naoetsu to Ueda in the Province of Shinano, and in the west one from Taketoyo to Nagoya in the Province of Owari. Not only was the laying of these lines a necessary step for the carrying on of work in the middle portion of the Nakasendo, but they were in themselves valuable for the purpose of facilitating trade in the respective localities. Accordingly, the proposal for the building of these lines was submitted to the Government, and an order for the construction of the Naoetsu line was obtained in March, 1885, while sanction for the Taketoyo line was obtained in June the same year. These lines were at once commenced. In the course of the following year, when a working survey of the middle portions of the Nakasendo had been completed and a general plan of the route considered, it was discovered not only that there were serious obstacles requiring an enormous expenditure of money, but that the speed of the trains would have to be reduced so much as to greatly enhance the working expenses, and that consequently the line when constructed would not fulfil the practical purposes of a railroad. It was, therefore, concluded that it would be better to run the line along the Tokaido, thus connecting the Tokyo-Yokohama line with the Nagoya line. The matter was fully reported to the Government, and in July of the same year instructions were received to the effect that operations on the central portions of the Nakasendo road should be discontinued and that a line should be constructed along the Tokaido. Work on the new line was commenced in the end of the same year, 1886. In January, 1888, instructions were also issued for the construction of a line connecting Otsu with Nagahama along the eastern shore of Lake Biwa, and operations on that line also were at once begun.

According to calculations made at the time when the construction of the Nakasendo trunk line was decided upon, the distance between Takasaki and Ogaki was estimated at 220 miles, the cost being set down at Yen 20,000,000. The total amount to be actually transmitted to this Department after the issue of the Nakasendo Loan was fixed at Yen 18,220,000, which was the sum to be realised by the issue of the loan. From this amount Yen 458,000 was to be set aside as an auxiliary fund for the construction of the line between Tsuruga and Ogaki. Consequently the amount that remained for employment on the Tokaido line between Yokohama and Ogaki (including the Taketoyo line) and on the Takasaki Naoyetsu line, was represented by about Yen 17,760,000. The length of lines that has been laid with this amount of money is 368 miles in all. Comparing this length with the 220 miles of the Nakasendo, an increased mileage of 60 per cent. is arrived at. Comparing the actual cost with the original estimated sum of Yen 20,000,000, we find a decrease of nearly 13 per cent.

If to this we add the 48 miles of the Kobo line (which runs along the eastern shore of Lake Biwa), the total distance of lines constructed reaches 416 miles, which is an increase of 95 per cent. over the originally projected distance of 220 miles. The total cost will be represented by about Yen 18,000,000 a decrease of 10 per cent. as compared with the estimated cost, Yen 20,000,000.

Besides the lines thus far alluded to, there remains the Yokosuka line, with a total length of 11 miles. Adding its length to the above mentioned figures, we get a total of 427 miles. The cost of this line was Yen 450,000, which, when added to the above mentioned amount of Yen 18,000,000, raises the total to Yen 18,450,000.

From the year 1884 a turn took place and a period of activity set in. Several hundred miles were constructed within three or four years, and the final consummation of the programme originally laid down was accomplished in the year 1890, the trunk line, together with all the branches, amounting then to the total length of 540 miles. That 20 years were spent in completing this work does not indicate great speed in construction, but it will probably be seen that this tardiness was in consequence of the times, and that it was unavoidable.

In a word, the three years from 1870 to 1873 were a period of activity. The Tokyo-Yokohama Section was begun in April, 1870, and completed September, 1872; a distance of 18 miles. The Kobe-Osaka Section was commenced in November, 1870, the extension to Kyoto was taken in hand in December, 1873, and it was opened in February, 1877, by the Emperor; a distance of 47 miles and a further extension to Otsu was completed September, 1879, making this line 58 miles. From 1874 to 1877 was one of extreme dullness, ending finally in a complete standstill. In 1879 affairs improved a little. The construction of the Tsuruga-Ogaki Section was begun in May, 1880, and completed in July, 1884, a distance of 49 miles. In 1884 the sudden change set in favouring activity and speedy progress, and this has continued, although since 1890 the Government Railways have not increased in mileage. The Takasaki-Naoetsu Section (Usui-toge excepted) was commenced in October, 1884, and completed in December, 1888, a distance of 110 miles. The Yokohama-Ogaki Section of 258 miles was constructed between August, 1885, and April, 1889; Ofuna-Yokosuka Section of 10 miles, commenced in January, 1888, and completed July, 1889. The Otsu-Nagahama Section of 48 miles, commenced

* Abstracted from a paper read before the Asiatic Society of Japan, 12th April, 1894.

DIGITIZED BY INTERNET ARCHIVE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

in February, 1888, completed July, 1889. And the last Section of the Government Lines, connecting Karuizawa Station with Yokogawa Station over the Usui-toge on the Abt Railway System, was begun in March, 1891, and opened to the public April 1st, 1893, having a distance of 7 miles. Total length of open lines being 558 miles. This completes an outline of the Government Railways, and now the Private Railways must be considered.

A short mineral railway was constructed in Iwate Ken to supply fuel and iron-ore to the puddling furnaces, built at Kama-ishi. The line was made in 1879, and the gauge, 2 feet 9 inches, laid for the most part with flat-footed rails weighing 85 lbs. to the yard, spiked to cross-sleepers, and with fished joints. The gardients were heavy, the ruling gradient being an incline of 1 in 31 for two miles, on which were curves of five chains (330 feet) radius. Three engines were manufactured by Messrs. Sharp, Stewart, & Co. in England, with four-wheels coupled saddle tanks, having a wheel-base of 5 ft. 9 inches; the diameter of the wheels 2 ft. 6 inches; the cylinders 1 ft. 6 inches stroke, and 1 ft. diameter, and having a working pressure of 150 lbs. to the square inch. The weight of each engine fully loaded with coal and water amounted to 18 tons 15 cwt. As the mines proved a failure, the railway ceased working, and the rails and engines are now used on the Hankai Railway (Osaka to Sakai). The Hokkaido Railway runs from Temaya (Otaru) to Sapporo and Poronai.

A few years back, the Government being willing to sell the coal mines in the Poronai District of the Hokkaido, also the railway, a company was formed and bought from the Government the mines and railway, and it is now known as the Tanko Railway, and is one of the private lines having a mileage of 20 4¼ miles.

The first charter to a private company was issued in November, 1881 (11th month of the 14th year of Meiji), and it was called the Nippon Railway Company, and in accordance with the conditions agreed upon, the Railway Bureau was entrusted with the work of construction. This accounts for the remark, "a time of greater activity," though still, so far as Government railways were concerned, the advance was slow. The Railway Bureau having constructed the line to Mayebashi and Aomori, besides branches, the conditions agreed upon in 1881 were finally cancelled, and the Nippon Railway Company took over the whole control of the management, and of further extensions, also such officials who although working for the Company were on the books of the Railway Bureau, had either to resign, or return to the Government Railways. This change took place on the 1st April, 1892.

In connection with this first Railway Charter, it is well to note a circumstance concerning which there appears to be some misapprehension. It may be generally supposed that the roads of the Japan Railway Company were surveyed and built by the Company itself, whereas the truth is that until these lines were ready for traffic, the Company had nothing to do with them beyond furnishing funds. The whole work was carried out by the Railway Bureau. The position of the Japan Railway Company was indeed a very happy one. It received from the Government the right to construct and own railways in certain populous districts; it received also a guarantee of 8 per cent. upon all its subscribed capital; and finally, the whole trouble and responsibility of surveying and constructing the lines was assumed by the Railway Bureau, the Company stepping in and undertaking the management when everything had been completed. The days are past when associations of capitalists can hope to obtain such privileges. The Japan Railway Company was, in a sense, the pioneer of private railway enterprise in this country, and it reaped a reward that looks large by the light of existing conditions. The charter of the Nippon Railway Company is for 99 years; although the guarantee of 8 per cent. on the capital by the Government is for 15 years only.

As might be expected, after the generous terms granted by the Government to the Nippon Railway Company the spirit of railway enterprise grew quickly with the people. Public opinion was soon in favour of the promotion of railways by private companies, and companies sprang into existence throughout the country. It may be said that by 1887 that the spirit of railway enterprise had become almost a mania; 17 projects had by this time received sanction in accordance with the Government regulations; with a total length of about 1,375 miles, and a proposed capital of nearly 50,000,000 *yen*. By the end of March, 1893, the length of private railway companies then in operation was 1,319 miles 36 chains; that of Private Railways either under construction or for which surveys had been made and charters granted, and hence possessing the right of construction, was 611 miles 6 chains, making a grand total of 1,930 miles 42 chains.

The mileage of all the Railways in operation on the 31st March, 1893, was 1,877 miles, 5 chains; of which 1,319 miles 36 chains belonged to Private Railways, and 557 miles 49 chains to the Government.

The advantageous terms granted to the Nippon Railway Company were not granted to the other Companies; although in other ways help was given, in some cases a certain sum of money being given for every mile of line opened, besides other official support.

It may here not be out of place to make some remarks in reference to a few points of importance bearing on railway construction. These apply more or less to both the Private Railway Companies and to the Government Railway.

In the construction of railways a very large amount of capital is required, and many difficulties must be contended with. Even after a line has been completed the work of carrying it on is no easy one. It is therefore imperatively necessary that projectors of railways should make themselves acquainted at the outset with the nature of the operations which will be called for, should properly understand the obstacles with which they have to contend; and satisfy themselves as to the amount of the proceeds likely to result. As a matter of fact, however, most of those who initiate railway enterprise in this country seem to think that they have made an ample estimate of the cost of construction when they reckon with an expenditure of thirty to forty thousand *yen* per mile, without taking into account the nature of the locality through which their railway is to run; that they sufficiently provide for the cost of carrying on their road if they set apart half of their revenue for the purpose, no matter how much or how little that may be; and that industrial and other advantages must at once follow upon the opening of a line.

The Government has formed a Railway Committee of twenty-one members. These members represent the different departments of the Government, and special members representing other interests. When the committee is sitting it meets at the Teishinsho (Department of Communications), and all applications, plans, etc., for an extension of the present railway system, Government or Private, or for a new charter for new railways, are considered by this committee, and reported on to the Government.

The standard gauge is 3 feet 6 inches; and no doubt this decision was greatly influenced by the discussion at the time taking place in England and India on the relative advantages of building all future railways in India on the metre gauge. The arguments then adduced in favour of the building of all future railways in India on the metre gauge, on the ground of economy, both in construction and working, and also the arguments in opposition to the introduction into that country of the break of gauge, were such that on 14th January, 1873, at which date 5576¼ miles of railway of the 5 feet 6 inches gauge were in existence, the Indian Government determined to adopt the metre gauge, for the Rajputana-Malwa State Railway. The present railways in India may be thus classified by gauges on the open lines on 31st March, 1892; 10,103¾ miles of 5 feet 6 inches 7,171¾ mile of metre gauge; 288½ miles special gauge; making 17,564 total mileage. This shows in 20 years that the Indian Railways increased 4,527½ miles of 5 feet 6 inches gauge to 7,171¾ miles of metre gauge.

The policy of making provisions for doubling the lines at dates admittedly before the traffic rendered the laying of a double line of way necessary was discussed in Japan during 1873; at the same time also the question of the alteration of the gauge from 3 feet 6 inches, to 4 feet 8½ inches was fully considered.

By many it is regretted that the change of policy in Railway Construction discussed in 1873 was not adopted; and that the embankments, cuttings, tunnels, culverts, and piers for the bridge (excepting only the girders) for a double line was not adopted, as it is manifest that they can better, more economically, and more conveniently, be arranged during the construction of the line than at any subsequent period; and it is thought that this would have gone far to outweigh any loss of interest on the unproductive capital which would have been thus entailed. An argument in opposition is that Japan was not then in a position to find the necessary capital. Consequently the policy of Japan and India has been similar; India, with over 7,000 miles of metre gauge, has hardly a mile laid with double line; and no preparation made for doubling the lines.

The alteration of the gauge from 3 feet 6 inches to 4 feet 8½ inches (when there was not 40 miles of line laid), might have been feasible in 1873, but not having been then altered, it is too late now that there are over 2,000 miles of line laid, and for people to talk seriously about an alteration of gauge at the present time is foolish, besides showing their ignorance of the nature of the work involved.

If the expenditure required for altering the gauge was used in doubling the present line, it would then carry a larger traffic, and at a quicker speed, than a single line of the 4 feet 8½ inches gauge or even the 7 feet gauge, as is known to those who have travelled over a single line of the latter gauge.

If 200 miles of the line between Tokyo and Kobe was doubled and proper discretion used in the parts doubled, there should be no reason why through trains should not make the run at average 25 miles per hour between two places including stoppages.

Another point is the rolling stock not being as large as the 4 feet 8½ inches gauge. There are engines running on this line weighing 45½ tons on the banks, and 40 tons on the level lines. The large carriages weigh 15 tons; the small carriages between 5 and 7 tons. The goods waggons have a carrying capacity of 15 tons, although supposed to carry 10 and 7 tons; these weights and sizes are equal to the ordinary rolling stock of the wider gauge; the lines are able to carry all the traffic and goods required; and it is capable of carrying much more, if the rolling stock is increased, and if the principal lines have a double track. The principle underlying all questions of gauge is, that a machine is comparatively speaking economical only when working at its full power. The best gauge for any particular railway is, therefore, merely a question of the amount and description of traffic that will probably come on the line, not on the cost of the construction, but on the cost of working, including the interest on the capital expended.

The great earthquake which occurred on the morning of the 28th October, 1891, has caused the railway engineers to consider the effect of earthquakes whon making their plans for bridges and other structures.

The Tokyo-Kobe Railway suffered greatly from this tremendous earthquake, on the section between Hamamatsu and Maibara (Hamamatsu 167 miles 56 chains, and Maibara 284 miles 32 chains from Tokyo). The railway embankmonts within this district sank at 45 different places, and some of the greater depressions measured over 13 feet in depth. The ground was cracked at innumerable places, and the rails were shaken out of position to the extent of being forced at many places to assume a serpentine shape. Sixty-three bridges, including the large bridges over the Kiso with nine spans of 200 feet; the Nagara with five spans of 200 feet and four spans of 100 feet, and the Ibi with five spans of 200 feet; and the wing walls of 41 culverts were wrecked. The abutments of many of these bridges were split right through, and in some cases the piers were demolished and the upper-structure overthrown into the rivers. The buildings at all the intervening stations suffered to a greater or less extent; some were totally crushed, others were left in inclining position, and none escaped scathless. Indeed, the destruction wrought by this earthquake particularly between Atsuta and Ogaki, was so appalling as to be indescribable.

The traffic between Hamamatsu and Maibara having been brought, on this account, to a sudden standstill, no time was lost in making the necessary distribution of the staff, and the work of rendering the railway serviceable by repairing the damages, both to the road and the bridges, was vigorously proceeded with. Rough buildings were put up to serve for the time being the purposes of those which were destroyed, and such portions of the line as had been sufficiently repaired to admit of the resumption of traffic were opened at short intervals as the work progressed. However, the speedy resumption of traffic over the portion of the line between the Kiso and the Ibi rivers was not possible, for both of the important bridges spanning these wide rivers, as well as other large bridges situated in the interval, had sustained damages which precluded their expeditious restoration. Before the work of repairing or reconstruction proper could be taken in hand, the actual nature of the injuries sustained had to be ascertained by removing the enormous piles of brick forming the piers and abutments, and while this preliminary work was going on, the weighty superstructures had to be kept in position by means of temporary supports. In the case of the Nagara river bridge, the cast iron piles upon which the girders rested were demolished, and their entire reconstruction was unavoidable. Brick piers over well foundations of the same material were adopted to replace the broken piles. The positions of the

Note:—Those interested in this controversy should read Paper No. 2324 of the Institution of Civil Engineers, 22nd March, 1887: India Railways: The Broad and the Narrow Gauge Systems Contrasted.

piers had to be shifted, which necessitated the provision of an additional span of 60 feet girder. When the erection of the new piers was completed, the 200 feet girders, which had been overthrown into the river had to be restored in position on them. It has been found that in carrying out reconstruction works of this kind, the difficulties to be surmounted amount to as much again as those usually met in the undertaking of new works. However, taking the different works as a whole, it may be said to have been finished within the space of five months, that is the repairs of the earthquake damages. The traffic on the section between the Kiso river and Gifu station was opened on the 12th March, 1892, and the reconstruction of the Nagara river bridge which had been pushed forward with the utmost rapidity, was completed on the 30th of the same month. As the rebuilding of the Stations at Nagoya and Kiyosu was the only work remaining unfinished at that date, the resumption of through traffic between Tokyo and Kobe was commenced on the 16th of April.

The Taketoyo and the Tsuruga lines likewise suffered from the effects of the earthquake; embankments crumbled down, and bridges, culverts, wing-walls, and the station and other buildings were injured more or less. The traffic on the Taketoyo line was suspended. The necessary repairs were conducted with all possible speed, and the line was in a condition to be reopened by the 21st of December.

The principal works done may be summarized as follows:—Earthworks for the repairing of embankments, 15,730 tsubo; masonry for repairing stone walls, over 1,000 tsubo; sods laid on embankments, 2,590 tsubo; temporary railway lines laid, 28 chains 30 links; bridges of all sizes, the piers and abutments of which were reconstructed, 35; wing-walls of bridges and culverts repaired, 207; culverts reconstructed, 5; buildings reconstructed or repaired, 34; with the aggregate area of 2,262 tsubo.

It was on October 28th, 1891, at 6h. 37′ 11″ in the morning when the first shock of the great earthquake was experienced, that being far and away worse than any of the many which succeeded it. It brought down the heavy tiled roofs and stone laden thatches, and in a moment buried thousands of living people beneath them, and then fires broke out amongst the ruins. At Nagoya, Kasamatsu, Gifu, Ogaki, and other towns near to the railway, suffered severely. A train had only a few minutes previously crossed the Nagara bridge and at the time of the earthquake was at Gifu station. The statistical account of damage in the six provinces through which the railway runs and coming under the five Prefectures of Gifu, Aichi, Fukui, Miye, and Shiga, is as follows:—

Provinces.	Wounded.	Killed.	Buildings entirely destroyed.	Buildings half destroyed.	Burnt.	Shattered and Burnt.
Mino	12,311	4,889	114,616	30,994	249	5,934
Owari	4,877	2,357	80,845	43,845	196	—
Mikawa	49	13	1,020	1,464	—	—
Echizen	98	12	1,080	1,118	—	—
Omi	47	6	153	366	—	—
Miye	11	2	223	439	—	—
Total	17,393	7,279	197,530	78,296	445	5,934

The principal casualties in connection with the traffic is due to floods; and yearly through communication is stopped for a time on most of the railways. The Sanyo Railway has been the most unfortunate, then the Kansai-Nagoetsu Line, the Nippon Railway, and the Tokaido Railway. Allowing for the nature of the country, and the heavy rain storms, yet if the engineers had used more care in considering the effect of floods in the district through which the railway was to run and then provided ample room for the flood water to pass through the culverts and bridges, the annoyance to passengers and the expense to the railway companies would have been much less.

The railway fund granted by the Government from the first establishment of railways (March, 1870) up to the close of March, 1893, amounted to *yen* 37,563,836. The total length of open lines, miles 551. The average cost per mile, *yen* 60,667. This does not include the Usui Mountain Railway, as it was not in operation. The cost of this line is about *yen* 2,000,000, the distance 7 miles. so the average cost per mile is *yen* 285,714.

The following statement shows the area, population, and coast line of the four islands which have railways:—

Division.	Circumference. Ri.	Area. Sq. Ri.	Population.	Per Sq. Ri.
Honshiu	2,475.46	14,571.12	30,715,265	2,108
Shikoku	675.81	1,180.67	2,879,260	2,440
Kyushiu	1,846.86	2,617.54	5,755,958	2,199
Yezo	628.51	5,061.90	293,461	48
Total of Japan	7,029.11	24,794.39	40,453,461	1,632

Note.—1 *ri*=2.44 English Miles.

In accordance with the provisions of Law No. 4 for the Construction of Railways promulgated in June, 1892, and the authority given under the Minister of State for Home Affairs' Order No. 434, relative to the Expenditures for the prosecution of surveys of railway lines throughout the Empire, a Board for the Investigation of Railway Routes was established in the Railway Department. Under the supervision of this Board, the surveys and examinations of the different lines of railway to be laid within the first construction period specified in clause No. 7 of the Law for the Construction of Railways, were begun in the early part of August, 1892. The field work was brought to an end in December. The compilation of drawings and statistics was then proceeded with, and a complete report of the results of the surveys and of the investigations of 1882½ miles was drawn up last February. Of these lines the construction of the Tsuruga to Toyama (123¾ miles), and the Fukushima to Awomori (298¼ miles) has been commenced.

The total mileage of railways in operation at the end of March, 1895, was 2,130 miles; that of lines under construction or projected was 1,042 miles 57 chains, and the number of railway companies was 29. The following table shows the names, capital, total mileage, and mileage open to traffic of the various lines in actual operation, State railways being excluded:—

Name of Railway.	Capital Yen.	Total Miles.	Lines opened for Traffic Miles.
Nippon Tetsudo	30,000,000	799-66	596-66
Sanyo Tetsudo	13,000,000	307-47	191-46
Kyushu Tetsudo	11,000,000	271-01	161-05
Chikuho Tetsudo	3,700,000	38-47	30-47
Sanuki Tetsudo	330,000	10-15	10-15
Kobu Tetsudo	1,350,000	27-17	27-17
Kansai Tetsudo	6,500,000	114-22	66-53
Osaka Tetsudo	3,000,000	45-25	38-48
Hokkaido Tanko do.	6,500,000	204-71	204-71
Ryomo Tetsudo	1,500,000	52-17	52-17
Hankai Tetsudo	400,000	6-13	6-13
Iyo Tetsudo	175,200	13-02	10-19
Settsu Tetsudo	240,000	8-35	8-35
Kushiro Tetsudo	200,000	26-67	26-67
Sano Tetsudo	145,000	9-60	9-60
Sangu Tetsudo	1,100,000	23-58	23-58
Sobu Tetsudo	1,200,000	31-40	31-40
Hoshu Tetsudo	2,000,000	43-65	—
Nan-wa Tetsudo	500,000	16-40	—
Kawagoye Tetsudo	300,000	18-40	18-40
Aoume Tetsudo	100,000	13-07	11-40
Hantan Tetsudo	1,000,000	30-57	23-00
Nara Tetsudo	1,000,000	25-53	—
Boso Tetsudo	350,000	11-75	—
Ota Tetsudo	170,000	12-18	—
Nanyo Tetsudo	95,000	6-57	—
Dogo Tetsudo	38,000	3-07	—
Naniwa Tetsudo	250,000	8-13	—
Hatsuse Tetsudo	500,000	12-17	—
Total	86,643,200	2,193-12	1,549-39

With regard to State Railways, at the end of March, 1895, the figures were as follow:—

Name.	Capital Yen.	Total Mileage Miles-ch.	Lines opened for Traffic Miles-ch.
Tokaido and Naoyetsu	38,103,252	557-49	557-49
Fukushima-Awomori Owu Section	12,686,126	298-26	23-20
Tsuruga-Toyama Hokuriku Section	5,764,954	123-58	—
Total	56,554,332	979-33	580-69

The grand totals for both Private and State Lines are as follow:—

	Capital Yen.	Total Mileage.	Miles open for Traffic.
Private Lines	86,643,200	2,193-12	1,549-39
State Lines	56,554,332	979-33	580-69
Total	143,197,532	3,172-45	2130-08

Note:—A tsubo is 6 feet cube, 8 cube yards; or 6 feet square. The expenditures on account of repairing the damage to railway property caused by this great earthquake represents the large sum of Yen 472,016; from which inference may be made of the extensiveness of the damage wrought. To this must be added the loss of revenue caused by the through traffic being suspended during five months.

"Virginia," writing in *Black and White* in the column devoted to "The Diary of a Daughter of Eve," says:—I stayed to dine with Julia and was delighted to note an unusual amount of flavour about her soup and sauces, and while congratulating her upon my approval of her presumably new cook, I learnt that it was Liebig who deserved my commendation. The despot who rules her kitchen has been pleased to recognise the virtues of the Liebig Company's Extract of Beef, has, indeed, taken to it with enthusiasm. She does not, of course, confess the secrets of her prison house, but when Julia pays her diurnal visits downstairs she observes the tell-tale jars with their unmistakable blue signatures across the labels.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge.

FRIDAY, October 25th, 1895.

J. BIEBER AND BRO. VERSUS THE CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

This was a claim for $1,079.28, damages alleged to be sustained by plaintiffs at the hands of the China Navigation Co., Ltd., in respect of a shipment of leather on the *Taiyuan*.

Mr. G. H. Scidmore appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. A. B. Walford represented the defendants.

Mr. Scidmore said this was a claim for $1,079.28, damage done to some rolls of leather shipped from Sydney, Australia, to Yokohama, Japan, on defendants' steamer, the *Taiyuan*. He would read the petition if his Honour wished.

His Honour said he had read the petition and answer in the case.

Mr. Scidmore—Then the only question at issue between us is the origin of the damage.

His Honour—Does the defendant admit the damage?

Mr. Walford—We admit that it is damaged leather, but it was manufacturer's damage, and not damage done after the leather was shipped.

Mr. Scidmore—And we say that the damage was done after the leather was shipped. I propose to call my witnesses.

Mr. Walford—I have no idea of the nature of plaintiffs' case; unless it is opened we do not know what case we have to meet.

Mr. Scidmore—My case is that we shipped the goods in good order and condition, and that they were landed here not in good order and condition—that is the *prima facie* case. We claim that the damage to the leather was done after the leather was shipped.

His Honour—Have you no authority at the moment to refer me to.

Mr. Scidmore—My first authority is to be found in Carver's Carriage by Sea, section 73, page 83, 2nd edition:—"The general statement in the bill of lading that the goods have been shipped 'in good order and condition' amounts to an admission by the shipowner that so far as he and his agents had the opportunity of judging, the goods were so shipped." I will now call witnesses.

Maurice Bieber, who took the oath in accordance with the practice of the Jewish religion, said—I am manager of the plaintiff's firm. We do an import and export business. We have dealt in sole leather for about seven years. I produce the bill of lading for the goods mentioned in the bill of lading. The steamer arrived here between the 22nd and 23rd April, of this year. On the 24th April I went down to the Customs hatoba to see if any goods were landed. I found a part of them on the hatoba, badly damaged—the sole leather. In the shed there were about 30 rolls of the leather, and some of the rest was in Mr. Weston's godown. The sole leather was more or less badly damaged. The leather looked black, as if it had been scorched. I noticed no other damage at the moment. I went at once to the agents,' Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, office, and saw Mr. W. J. Robinson. I told him that the leather had been damaged and arranged with him to go next day at 9.15 to examine it. He told me to send the complaint in writing, and I did so.

Mr. Scidmore I have copies of the documents which passed, which I put in.

Witness continuing—I went next day with Mr. Robinson to the godown at the hatoba, and we examined it. One roll was opened, and we found the interior covered with coat dust, also badly stained. We put our hands on it, and they were blackened with the dust. Mr. Robinson examined the interior of the roll with me, and after he had seen it, he said he would write to the captain and inquire where the leather had been stowed. Later in the day I went to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire's and Mr. Robinson said that the Captain had replied that the leather had been stowed in the silk room. He then said: "Mr. Bieber, you imagine you have a big claim, you had better go down and examine the leather again." I told him if he gave it to me in writing I would do so. This he did. [Document read.] After receiving this I took the Japanese purchaser, who had contracted for the leather, to see it. We opened two or three rolls of the leather, and I asked at what price he would take the leather over. He said at about $35 per picul. I then went again to the steamer's agents, and asked if they admitted a claim for damage. Mr. Robinson said: "Yes, we admit a claim for damage of coal-dust, but you must make it very light." I told him that the damage was pretty heavy, and would be over $700. This was before the official survey was made. He said:—"If you open your mouth so wide, we shall have to get some one to go through the leather

thoroughly." He told me that I need not be present when the examination was going on, but I made it my business to be present on the 27th April. I there met Mr. Dodds, Mr. Robinson, and Mr. Stone, of No. 28. This was at Messrs. Weston's godown, at the *hatoba*. Ten rolls were taken out of the godown for examination. Mr. Stone asked for a bucket of water and a rag to wash the leather. He tried to wash the coal-dust off, but it left dark stains after washing. Mr. Dodds then came to me and said that as there was no convenience at the *hatoba*, would I remove the leather to my godown. Every roll—there are ten hides in a roll—had to be opened and each hide examined. I remarked to Mr. Stone, "the leather is badly damaged." He said: "Yes, it is badly damaged." Mr. Dodds also remarked: "If the leather had had coverings, it would not have been so badly damaged." It is not usual to cover this kind of leather. During the past seven years, sole leather shipped to me has come in good condition and has never been covered. I have imported leather, as samples, from Australia, once previous to this. It was picked flat, but there was no outside covering. Two consignments came after this from Australia, but I have not had the handling of it. After this conversation all the business went on by correspondence. A survey was afterwards made, by subsequent agreement, in my own godown by Mr. Stone and Mr. Lubowsky. Their survey was made on May 2nd. Mr. Stone said he could not tell the exact state of the damage unless the leather was analyzed, so he cut off a piece of the stained leather and another piece which was covered by coal-dust. Mr. Schedel was to conduct the analysis. Mr. Schedel came and looked at the leather in the godown, and then made a report that he could not find what had caused the damage. I made a claim for $1,544.90, and on the 11th May, Messrs. Butterfield and Swire wrote, enclosing the surveyer's report, and repudiating liability in regard to my claim. I myself then took a piece of the leather to the Imperial Hygienic Laboratory in Yokohama for analysis. They asked me to bring a whole side, so as to have good and bad leather to compare. They later sent in their report. Mr. Lubowski estimated the damage to the leather at 50 per cent. Mr. Lubowski is a tanner.

Mr. Walford said that this was not evidence.

Mr. Scidmore said that Mr. Lubowski was a practical man, and his appearance was very necessary to plaintiffs' case. He was too ill to appear that day.

His Honour—I cannot take this witnesses' evidence for a statement of what Mr. Lubowski said at this point.

Witness continuing—It was as the result of Mr. Lubowski's report that I made my claim. I had an offer of $30 a picul for the leather. I informed the defendants of this, and they said I might do what I liked with the leather as they had no concern with it—they repudiated all liability. These letters passed on June 4th, 1895. The market value of sound leather was assessed by my surveyor, Mr. Lubowski, at $46 per picul: Mr. Stone also remarked that this was the market price of such leather. The difference is $16 per picul, and $15 cut of the claim of $1,064.28 is for short delivery—this was for pieces cut from the leather and stolen on board ship. Mr. Robinson stated that defendants would pay this shortage. The outward appearance of the leather as delivered was very different to ordinary good leather; it looked as if it had been laying in the gutters, and appeared damaged to an extent of 40 or 50 per cent. The roll of leather in court is a fair sample of what was delivered; sound leather would be light brown colour, while this looks dirty.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford—I am a partner in the firm as well as manager, my brother is the other partner. The leather was contracted to be sold to the Sakura-gumi, the contract being made in December last for 100 rolls. I sent to Australia and ordered a hundred rolls—1,000 sides. The leather arrived in three different shipments, this being the first. The Sakura-gumi refused this shipment; they also refused the other two. I can not say whether the other two shipments were all damaged in the same way. Some were damaged in a similar way certainly, but 20 or 30 rolls were delivered in good order. The third shipment was all damaged. I sold the leather to Yuroziya on June 3rd. I sold them 45 rolls, and one roll was kept back by him for me. The roll in Court I obtained yesterday from Yuroziya. I am not acquainted with the leather business, and cannot say what damage can be done by coal-dust. I saw that the coal-dust left stains when the leather was washed. The Hygienic Laboratory made no mention of coal-dust in their report. The damage done to the leather was something of the same nature as the stains which appear on the hide now shown me—[a skin purchased of Yuroziya by defendants from the same shipment]. There was more or less damage on every hide. I do not remember whether the leather was landed dry or not.

This concluded Mr. Bieber's examination by Counsel.

Kamiyama Masuo, cautioned, deposed—I am an analyst in the Hygienic Laboratory of Yokohama, I remember making an examination of some leather for Messrs. Bieber and Brother. I identify my report upon the leather now shown to the Court, and also its English translation.

Mr. Walford objected to the papers being put in. After reading the report he could not understand the document. If the plaintiffs wished to prove that the staining was due to iron tannid; defendants quite agreed with them.

Mr. Scidmore said he relied on the last paragraph in which the report stated that the stains were largely due to water.

Witness, continuing—I cannot say for certain whether the iron-salt, which produced tannid of iron, was caused by ordinary fresh water or by salt water, but there are considerably more traces of salt water—more constituents or elements of salt water.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford—The leather brought to me to analyze had black stains upon it. The leather now shown me bears similiar stains, both darker and lighter. Those stains in my opinion are caused by tannid of iron.

Mr. Walford (to Mr. Scidmore)—Do you admit that tannid of iron is produced by the tannin in the leather coming in contact with iron in solution?

Mr. Scidmore—I am not prepared to admit anything having such a scientific look about it.—(Laughter.) Perhaps the witness could tell us.

The Witness—Yes, that is so.

Mr. Walford—And your Honour doubtless has it that iron in solution must necessarily be moist.—(Laughter.)

Mr. Scidmore said that he had one other witness to call, Mr. Lubowski. Unfortunately he was ill, and it was not known when he might be able to appear. Still in this witness's absence, he (Mr. Scidmore) had no objection to the other side going on with their case.

Mr. Walford said he could not very well open his case until the other side had finished.

His Honour—Perhaps Mr. Scidmore could tell us what he proposes to prove through Mr. Lubowski's evidence.

Mr. Scidmore—Mr. Lubowski is a practical tanner, and he can prove that the stains on the leather could not arise during the process of tanning. Indeed, his testimony will prove that exactly the opposite was the case.

Mr. Walford—I cannot very well open my case until the other side have closed theirs, but if they have no objection to my calling the ship's witnesses—the ship being now in port—I should be glad to do so, and so save time. But I cannot open my case now.

His Honour—Quite so. The other side are willing to allow you to call the ship's witnesses without opening your case, I understand.

Mr. Scidmore—Perfectly.

The Court then adjourned till 2 o'clock.

Upon resuming,

Mr. Walford asked that plaintiffs should pay the costs of the adjournment. He should require at least five day's notice in which to call together his witnesses.

His Honour—That notice will no doubt be given you.

Mr. Scidmore said that he had no objection to defendants' calling all their witnesses before they opened their case.

Mr. Walford—But we have a strong objection to doing anything of the kind.

His Honour—I think we will proceed.

William Hugh Spark, sworn, deposed—I am a ship's officer in the employ of the China Steam Navigation Company. I was second officer of the *Taiyuan* on the voyage in question. In March, 1895, I remember 45 rolls of leather being shipped at Sydney for Yokohama. There was no other leather on board for Yokohama that voyage. It was my duty to tally it on board. I did so and passed it without remark. It was upon the signature of the Chief Officer upon my signature that the bill of lading was signed. I signed one part of the shipping order, and the Chief Officer signed the other. The rolls were unprotected. They did not appear to me to be damaged in and way. I should look out for any wet, or if the package was not securely made up. I have no experience of leather, and should take no notice of the colour of the leather to make a note of it. I noticed merely that the rolls were a dull brown. They were quite dry on the outside. I did not open any of the rolls. The roll in Court does not look any different to others I have seen. I do not notice whether it has been damaged or not. If it was offered to me for shipment I should make no note about it on the shipping order. These forty-five rolls of leather were stowed on the fore side of the No. 4 'tween decks hatch across the ship, on top of other dry cargo—bags of bones, glue-pieces, sinews, bales of dry fungus. Four of the rolls were on the bottom tier on the top of dunnage, with other leather above them. There were about three and four inches of dunnage, and mats on top of them. There are two decks to the ship, and the leather was stowed as high as possible. [A plan of the ship was here handed up to the Bench.] There was nothing on top of the leather. The rolls were from 20 to 25 feet away from No. 3 hatch. There was no liquid cargo in the 'tween decks. At no time during the voyage between Sydney and Yokohama was there any liqnid cargo stowed there. The voyage began in March. The 'tween decks were perfectly dry the whole voyage. Some of the leather was moved in Hongkong; it showed no sign of being damaged, and was perfectly dry. I can't say how much was moved: it may have been 20 rolls. It was moved to No. 3, in the silk locker—the silk-room. This was also a perfectly dry place, and the leather remained there until the ship arrived in Yokohama. The rest of the leather remained where it had been originally stowed. The whole cargo in the 'tween decks was dry, the voyage being very fine up. I don't think it possible for liquid or any wet to have got into the 'tween decks. No leakage from any hold could get there, as it is above them all. The leather was discharged in Yokohama in the same condition as first received. It still looked dry.

Cross-examined by Mr. Scidmore—Tea had been stowed in the 'tween decks on the voyage before. The hatch was closed at Sydney and not opened again until reaching Hongkong. At Hongkong it remained open while we were working cargo, about three days. We had fine weather in Hongkong, and there was no rain so far as I remember. There are no steam pipes running through the 'tween decks. There are two water-pipes on the fore side of No. 3. I understand the term "good order and condition" to mean when there is no wet or no broken cases. That is all.

To His Honour—If there had been rain in Hongkong while we were working cargo, it could not have reached the leather.

Donald E. MacKenzie, sworn, deposed—I am the first officer of the *Taiyuan*, and was on her during the voyage in question. As chief officer I have the general superintendence of the stowage of cargo. I remember the leather coming aboard at Sydney. It was stowed in the 'tween decks forward of No. 4 hatch. The rest of the cargo there was fungus, glue-pieces, sinews, bones, hoofs. Between Melbourne and Sydney the 'tween decks were empty. There was no liquid cargo of any description at any time of the voyage. None of the cargo at any time showed signs of having been in contact with liquid. None of my cargo delivery receipts were signed damaged—all was delivered in good order. It was not possible for any liquid to get at the leather. At Hongkong I directed the Second Officer to remove some of the leather into the silk-room; that was the only change made. I saw the leather landed at Yokohama, a few edges were cut, small pieces being taken out.

Mr. Walford—A claim has been made for that, I think.

Mr. Scidmore—Yes.

Witness continuing—The leather might have had some ocal-dust upon it, but it was still perfectly dry; but I did not inspect it.

Cross-exaimed—In discharging coal from the lower-hold, coal-dust many have floated through to the leather. The fungus I have mentioned, is very light and dry. I think it is the inside pith of a tree. I should accept and pass the leather now in Court, as a roll of leather in good order and condition.

Re-examination—When the coal was being discharged, the cargo was protected by screens of tarpaulin.

To the Bench—Fresh water pipes lead down to the tanks through the 'tween decks. The two tanks are in the fore part of No. 3 'tween decks. They were about 30 or 35 feet away from the leather.

Mr. Walford—That is all the evidence I propose to bring now. I will ask that plaintiffs bear the ordinary costs of the adjournment.

His Honour—But the case would never have been finished to-day even if the other side had its witness here.

Mr. Walford—No, but there are certain costs connected with the adjournment which should be borne by plaintiffs.

His Honour—What are these witnesses of yours, Japanese?

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Mr. Walford—Some are foreigners, others are Japanese.

His Honour—Some arrangement perhaps can be made in the matter.

Mr. Scidmore thought it was premature to talk of costs. He should want to be heard on the point at any rate. It was no fault of the plaintiff that his witness was not here that day, rather it might be called "an act of God" which had prevented his production. The plaintiff had done all that could be expected of him.

His Honour thought that Mr. Walford would have ample notice given him when the witness had recovered health sufficient to be present in Court.

Mr. Scidmore said that the other side should remember that plaintiffs were ready to bring the case to trial months ago, it was at the request of defendants that the matter came up at this late day.

His Honour pointed out that he would require more detailed particulars regarding the costs from the defendants' before he could make an order for costs. The Court could not make a general, vague order as to costs. The case would not have gone beyond its present stage, and he had not proposed to sit again till Monday, so the witnesses would have had to go away and come together again next week. He did not see at the moment what right the defendant had to ask for the costs of the adjournment. Had the case stopped earlier in the day it would have been different.

Mr. Walford asked permission to recall the last witness.

His Honour consented, and,

Witness, in answer to a question from Mr. Walford, said—At no time has any liquid cargo been put in the silk room: the room is perfectly dry.

To Mr. Scidmore—The silk-room is located on the starboard side, forward end, of No. 3 hatch 'tween decks.

His Honour—The hearing of the case is now adjourned till Monday week, November 4th at 10.30 a.m.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, October 26.

A telegram to *The Times* from Hongkong says that Russia has concluded a treaty with China, securing to the former Power the right of anchorning her fleet in Port Arthur, together with other advantages outside the most-favoured-nation clause. The papers regard the news as of very great gravity, and declare that if it is true Great Britain is bound to intervene. The Foreign Office is without information on the subject.

London, October 27.

China pays to the Japanese, on the 8th of November next, thirty million taels for the evacuation of the Liaotung Peninsula.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, October 28.

Her Majesty's ship *Porpoise* has arrived here from Petropaulovsky and leaves to-morrow for Yokohama.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, October 14.

The taking of Antananarivo was a warm affair. Six columns were ready for the assault when the Queen parleyed. Six Frenchmen were killed and fifty wounded.

The town of Farafata, near Tamatave, was taken on Thursday.

The Czar has congratulated France.

Paris, October 15.

France is about to establish several more consulates in the South of China.

Paris, October 16.

A man fired a revolver at M. Resseguier, manager of the Carmeaux glassworks. The would-be murderer escaped.

Paris, October 17.

Guilhen, a newsvendor, the perpetrator of the Carmeau outrage, has been arrested.

Paris, October 16.

The Ministers are considering the project for the creation of a colonial army.

(FROM THE "DAILY PRESS.")

London, October 22.

Lord Salisbury succeeds Lord Dufferin (resigned) as Warden of the Cinque Ports.

The Committee on the French Budget has rejected the extra credits for new warships.

(FROM THE "SIAM OBSERVER.")

London, October 6.

The foreign delegates constituting the Commission to inquire into the alleged massacre in Armenia have reported that the atrocities were grossly exaggerated and the whole position overstated.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Miyazaki, October 28.

At strong earthquake shock was felt here at 9 o'clock last night.

Kyoto, October 28.

Viscount Torio reached here yesterday; and Count Matsukata proceeded to Mikage to-day.

Niigata, October 28.

Twenty-one cases of cholera have suddenly been reported in this town, and there are signs of further spread.

Sōul, October 28.

Li Shun-yo proceeds to-day to pay a farewell visit to the Tai Wōn-Kun at Kong-dok-i, and will go down to Ninsen to-morrow, whence he departs for Japan.

Major Umaya, Commander of the Japanese guards in Sōul, and three other officers left here for home to-day. Prior to their departure they paid their respects to the King, who spoke to them in a very cordial manner, and gave them gifts of money in recognition of services rendered by them. The Japanese officers refused to receive the gifts.

The King has granted *yen* 1,000 to Mr. Ishizuka, a Japanese adviser to the Korean Cabinet, who has been ordered to return home by the Japanese Government.

Shimonoseki, Oct. 28.

Count Inouye, the Korean Ambassador and the ex-Korean Minister to Japan and their suites arrived here by the *Yokohama Maru* this morning. Count Inouye disembarked, and put up at the Daikichi Hotel. The *Yokohama* leaves here at three o'clock this afternoon.

The captured Chinese torpedo-catcher *Fukurio* arrived here from Kure yesterday, and left for Sasebo this morning.

Nagasaki, October 28.

A Shanghai correspondent, writing under date 26th instant, says that Messrs. Shimura, Secretary, and Ariga, Councillor of the Agricultural and Commercial Department, and over thirty Japanese deputies dispatched to inspect the newly opened ports, left there for Soochow on the 25th inst.

The Kucheng Commission return to Foochow on the 27th inst. Further examinations will be carried on at Foochow.

It is stated that the Mahommedan rebellion was created through an endeavour to erect a temple to the late General Tsa, who was killed at Phyōng-yang, being checked by Chang Tsi-tung.

Kagoshima, October 28.

The French flagship *Bayard* left here for Yokohama at 2 p.m. to-day.

Nagasaki, October 29.

The British flagship *Centurion* left for Amoy, and the French gunboat *Lutin* proceeded to Tientsin yesterday.

Miyazaki, October 29.

A violent earthquake was left here at 1.10 p.m. to-day.

Hakodate, October 29.

A strong shock of earthquake was experienced here at 10.10 a.m. to-day.

Fusan, Oct. 29.

The *Asahi Maru* with Prince Wi-hwa, left here for Japan at 9 o'clock this morning.

Sōul, Oct. 29.

The Korean Government will send down the Vice-Minister of Home Affairs to Ninsen to receive Count Inouye.

Hiroshima, Oct. 29.

The *Suminoye Maru* is reported to have left Ninsen on the 27th inst. with some Japanese deportees.

Messrs. Sugimura, Secretary, and Horiguchi, an attaché of the Japanese Legation; Police Inspector Hagiwara, Major Umaya, Comander of the Japanese Guard in Sōul, and a few non-official deportees are on board the *Suminoye*, which is expected to arrived at Ujina to-night or to-morrow morning.

Sōul, Oct. 29.

The Government has decided to shortly issue a notification permitting all Korean subjects to cut their hair.

Accepting the proposal of the younger military officers, the Korean Government has resolved to adopt a strong foreign policy.

Sōul, October 29.

Suzuki Shigemoto and one other Japanese resident were to-day ordered to leave Korea.

Shimonoseki, October 30.

The *Asahi Maru* arrived to-day with Prince Wi-hwa and his suite. She hoisted the Korean flag.

Prince Wi-hwa disembarked at 11 a.m., and put up at the Shunpo-ro. The Prince cut his hair while on board, and also changed to European dress. One finds it difficult to distinguish him from a Japanese.

Two Japanese deportees, named Adachi Kenzo and Shibuya Katoji, who arrived by the *Asahi*, were arrested, and taken to the police office. They will be sent to Hiroshima to-morrow.

Prince Wi-hwa embarked on board the *Asahi* at 2.20 p.m., and started for Kobe shortly after.

The *Chow Chow Foo* floated into deep water yesterday.

Hiroshima, Oct. 30.

The *Suminoye Maru* arrived at the Nishima Quarantine Station at 10.30 a.m. to-day. The quarantine officials and water police at once proceed to the steamer, and a number of passengers were examined. The process of disinfection was effected, after which arrests were made. The persons arrested are:—Messrs. Sugiura, Secretary, and Horiguchi, probationer in the Japanese Legation, Police Inspector Ogiwara, seven police constables, and Takahashi Seiji, a Niigata resident.

Mr. Ishizuka, a Japanese adviser to the Korean Government, arrived by the *Suminoye*.

Major Umayabara and other deportees will arrive here to-morrow by the *Echigo Maru*.

Sōul, October 30.

The departure of Li Shun-yo, the grandson of the Tai Wōn-kun, on a foreign tour has been postponed owing to the objection of the Foreign Representatives.

Rumour is afloat to the effect that Ming Ei-chun is hiding in the capital.

Pekin, Oct. 30.

The second meeting of the commissioners of Japan and China appointed to negotiate upon the return of the Liaotung peninsula took place yesterday. The negotiations have made great progress, and will be concluded at the next menting.

Osaka, Oct. 31.

Messrs. Ishii, ex-Governor of Wakayama; Kawabara, a big capitalist in Osaka; Sawada, of Hyogo, and others have agreed to construct docks at Osaki, Amabe-gun, Wakayama Prefecture, with a capital of *yen* 500,000.

Ninsen, Oct. 30.

Count Inouye, Mr. Nagasaki, Private Secretary of the Minister of the Imperial Household; M. Inouye, Secretary of the Foreign Department, and the Korean Ambassador arrived here to-day by the *Yokohama Maru*.

Sōul, Oct. 31.

Count Inouye and party reached here last night.

Un Han-zen, Commander of the Second Battalion of the *Kunren-tai* has been removed to the reserve.

Kobe, Oct. 31.

Prince Wi-hwa arrived here this afternoon. He will leave for Tokyo to-morrow.

Shimonoseki, Oct. 31.

A Nagasaki telegram states that the Japanese men-of-war are assembling there, and various rumours are circulated as to the cause of their arrival.

Söul, Oct. 31.

The *Kunreitai* has been disbanded, and the newly organized army is divided into two divisions, are being called the *Shinyei*, and the other *Chinyei*. The former consists of two battalions, and guards the Palace. The *Chinyei* is to be stationed at Phyong-yang and Chon-ju.

Mr. Hashimoto Yasumaru, a Japanese interpreter in the War Department, has been ordered to leave Korea.

Kobe, Nov. 1.

Prince Wi-hwa left here for Tokyo by train last night.

Hiroshima, Oct. 31.

Mr. Ishizuka, a Japanese adviser to the Korean Government, was to-day examined in the Local Court as a witness in connection with the disturbance in the Korean capital.

Hiroshima, Nov. 1.

Major Umaya, and Captains Ishimori, Takamatsu, Fujito, Murai, and Maki arrived at the Nishima Quarantine Station last night by the *Echigo Maru*. Gendarmes proceeded there this morning, and brought them to Ujina, whence they were at once conveyed to the gendarmery office in this town.

Japanese now under arrest in connection with the Korean affair include 8 military officers and 44 civil officials and private persons.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 200.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Q B 3	1—R takes Q
2—R to K 3 ch.	2—K to Q 5
3—Kt to K B 5, mate	
	if 2—K to B 5
3—Kt to Q 5, mate	
	1—K to Q 5
2—Q to Q 2 ch.	2—R takes Q
3—B to B 6, mate	
	if 2—K to K 4
3—Q to Q 6, mate	
	1—R to K 5
2—Q to Q 5 ch.	2—K to B 5
3—Q to B 5, mate	
	1—R elsewhere
2—Q to K 6 ch.	2—Anything
3—Q or R, mate.	

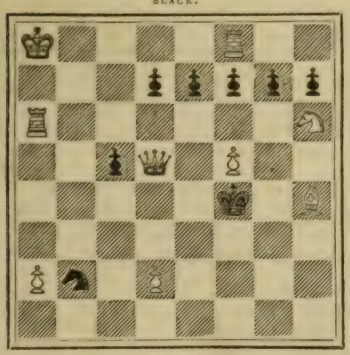
with other obvious variations.

Correct answers from Shogi, W.H.S., Digamma, Kr., E. J. King, and J.D.

Problem No. 202.

By Valentin Marin.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Hastings Congress.

Game No. 378.

RUY LOPEZ (BERLIN DEFENCE).

WHITE. Lasker.	BLACK. Walbrodt.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles	4—B to K 2
5—Kt to B 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Kt takes P	7—B to Q 2
8—K Kt to K 2 (a)	8—Castles
9—Kt to Kt 3	9—Kt to K 4
10—B takes B	10—Q takes B
11—P to Kt 3	11—Q R to Q sq.
12—B to Kt 2	12—Kt to B 3
13—Kt to B 5	13—Q to K 2
14—R to K sq.	14—Kt to K 4
15—P to K B 4	15—Kt to Kt 3
16—Kt to Q 5	16—P to B 3
17—Kt (B 5) takes B ch.	17—Kt takes Kt
18—P to B 5	18—Kt takes B P
19—Kt takes Kt (b)	19—P takes Kt
20—P takes Kt	20—Q takes B P
21—R to K B sq.	21—Q to K 5
22—B takes P	22—Q R to K sq.
23—R to B 3	23—P to K R 4
24—R to Kt 3 ch. and White wins.	

(a) An innovation. Q Kt to K 2 has hitherto been usual.
(b) It matters little. The alternative is Q to K 2; and then White easily wins by Kt takes Kt ch., &c. In this game and in the next the effective simplicity of Lasker's play is remarkable.

Game No. 379.

EVANS GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Pollock.	BLACK. Lasker.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B to Kt 3
5—P to B 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q R 4	6—P to Q R 3
7—P to R 5	7—B to R 2
8—P to Kt 5	8—P takes P
9—B takes P	9—Kt to B 3
10—P to R 6	10—Castles
11—P to Q 3	11—Kt to K 2
12—P takes P	12—B takes P
13—Kt to R 3 (a)	13—P to Q 4 (b)
14—Castles	14—Kt to Kt 3
15—P takes P	15—Kt takes P
16—Q to K sq.	16—Q to B 3
17—B to K Kt 5	17—Q to B 4
18—Kt to B 2	18—Kt takes Q B P(c)
19—R takes B	19—B takes Kt
20—Kt to K 3	20—Q takes B
21—R takes R	21—R takes R
22—Q takes Kt	22—Kt to B 5
23—R to R sq. (d)	23—Kt to Kt 7 ch.

Black wins.

(a) Castling was desirable, but it is not feasible at once on account of the reply B takes P ch. followed by R takes R.
(b) From this point the game is all in Black's hands.
(c) Very fine, and obvious enough when the plan is disclosed.
(d) Of course a blunder, but there is no good move left for White.

Game No. 380.

Mr. Lasker's treatment of a French Defence is of interest in the following game, Round XI. :—

WHITE. Lasker.	BLACK. Gunsberg.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—P to K 5	4—K Kt to Q 2
5—P to K B 4	5—P to Q B 4
6—P takes P	6—B takes P
7—Q to K Kt 4	7—Castles
8—B to Q 3	8—P to K B 4
9—Q to K R 3	9—Kt to Q B 3
10—P to K Kt 4	10—Q to K 2
11—P takes P	11—Kt to Kt 5
12—Kt to B 3	12—P takes P
13—P to Q R 3	13—Kt takes B ch.
14—P takes Kt	14—Kt to B 3
15—Q to Kt 2	15—P to Q 5
16—Kt to K 2	16—Kt to K R 4
17—K R to Kt sq.	17—P to Q R 4
18—Q to R 3	18—Q to K sq.
19—R to Kt 5	19—P to K R 3
20—R takes Kt	20—Q to Kt 3
21—B to Q 2	21—B to Q 2
22—K to B 2	22—B to K sq.
23—R to R 4	23—B to K 2
24—R to K Kt sq.	24—B takes R ch.
25—Q takes B	25—Q to Q R 3
26—Kt (B 3) takes P	26—K to R 2
27—B to Q R 3	27—Q takes Q P
28—Kt to K 6	28—R to K Kt sq.
29—Kt to Kt 5 ch.	29—K to Kt 3
30—P to K 6	30—P to K R 4
31—Kt to B 7 dis. ch. and White wins (a).	

(a) The game is a pretty one, especially towards the close. It must be confessed, however, that White is assisted a little by his opponent, who plays below his proper form. Black's moves—10—Q to K 2, 15—P to Q 5 (shutting out the action of his bishop and so allowing R to K Kt sq., &c., later), and 16—Kt to K R 4, were not quite up to tournament form. At move 29—K to Kt 3 is forced, for otherwise White wins by P to K 6, threatening Q takes R P mate.

Game No. 381.

A defeat of Herr Lasker by Bardeleben :—

WHITE. Bardeleben.	BLACK. Lasker.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to B 4	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 3	5—Castles
6—Kt to B 3	6—P to Q Kt 3
7—B to Q 3	7—P to B 4
8—Q P takes P	8—Kt P takes P
9—Castles	9—Kt to B 3
10—P takes P	10—P takes P
11—R to B sq.	11—B to K 3
12—Kt to K 2	12—Q to Kt 3
13—Kt to K 5	13—Kt takes Kt
14—B takes Kt	14—Kt to Kt 5
15—B to B 3	15—Q to Q 3
16—P to K Kt 3	16—B to Q 2
17—Kt to B 4	17—Q to K R 3
18—P to K R 3	18—Kt to B 3
19—B takes Kt	19—B takes B
20—Kt takes P	20—B takes R P
21—Kt takes B ch.	21—Q takes Kt
22—Q to R 5	22—Q to K R 3
23—Q takes Q	23—P takes Q
24—K R to Q sq.	24—Q R to B sq.
25—R to B 3	25—K R to Q sq.
26—K R to Q B sq.	26—R to B 3
27—B to K 4	27—R to R 3
28—R takes P	28—R takes P
29—R to Q Kt 5	29—B to K 3
30—R to B 7	30—P to Q R 4
31—B to B 5	31—R to R 8 ch.
32—K to Kt 2	32—B to R 7
33—P to Kt 3	33—P to R 5
34—P takes P	34—R to Q 7
35—P to R 5	35—P to R 4
36—P to R 6	36—B to Q 4 ch.
37—P to K 4	37—R (R 8) to R 7
38—K to B 3	38—R to R 6 ch.
39—K to B 4	39—R takes P
40—K to K 5	40—B takes P
41—B takes B	41—R takes R P
42—K to Q 4	42—R to R 3
43—K to K 3	43—R to B 8
44—K to K 2	44—R (B 8) to B 3
45—R to B 8 ch.	45—K to Kt 2
46—R to Kt 5 ch.	46—R (R 3) to Kt 3
47—B takes R and White wins.	

Game No. 382.

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. Blackburne.	BLACK. Mason.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to B 3	5—B to R 4
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—P takes P
8—P to K 5	8—P to Q 4
9—P takes P e p	9—Q takes P
10—Q to Kt 3	10—B to K 3
11—B takes B	11—P takes B
12—R to Q sq.	12—Q to Kt 5
13—Q takes P ch.	13—Q to K 2
14—Q to Kt 3	14—P to B 7
15—Q takes B P	15—R to Q sq.
16—Q Kt to Q 2	16—Q to B 2
17—B to R 3	17—B takes Kt
18—R takes B	18—R takes R
19—Q takes R	19—K Kt to K 2
20—R to K sq.	20—Castles
21—Kt to Kt 5	21—Q to B 3
22—Kt to K 6	22—R to B 2
23—P to K R 3	23—P to K R 3
24—Kt takes B P	24—Kt to Kt 3
25—R to K 8 ch.	25—K to R 2
26—Kt to K 6	26—Q to B 4
27—P to B 3	27—Q Kt to K 4
28—Q to K 2	28—R to B 3
29—Kt to B 5	29—R to B 3
30—Kt to K 4	30—Kt to B 5
31—Q to K 3	31—Q to Kt 3
32—Q takes Kt	32—Q takes R
33—Kt to Q 6	33—Kt to Kt 3
34—Q to Q 2	34—Q to K 4
35—Kt to K 4	35—Q to Q Kt 4
36—B to Kt 2	36—R to B 2
37—K to R 2	37—R to Q 2
38—Q to B sq.	38—Q to K 7
39—B to B 3	39—Kt to R 5
40—Q to Kt 2	40—Kt takes P ch.
41—K to Kt 3	41—Q takes Kt
42—P takes Kt	42—Q to Kt 3 ch.
43—K to R 2	43—R to Q 8
44—Q to K B 2	44—Q to Q Kt 8
45—B to Kt 4	45—R to K B 8
46—Q to R 4	46—Q to B 7 ch.
47—K to Kt 3	47—R to Kt 8 ch.
48—Resigns.	

Game No. 383.

TWO KNIGHTS DEFENCE.

WHITE. Schiffers.	BLACK. Tschigorin.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—Kt to B 3
4—P to Q 4	4—P takes P

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5—Castles	5—Kt takes P
6—R to K sq.	6—P to Q 4
7—B takes P	7—Q takes B
8—Kt to B 3	8—Q to Q sq.
9—R takes Kt ch.	9—B to K 3
10—Kt takes P	10—K takes Kt
11—R takes Kt	11—Q to B sq.
12—B to Kt 5	12—P to B 3
13—Q to K 2	13—B to B 4
14—Q to Kt 5 ch.	14—P to B 3
15—Q takes B	15—P takes B
16—R to K sq.	16—P to Q Kt 3
17—Q to K 5	17—K to B 2
18—Kt to K 4	18—Q R to Kt sq.
19—Kt takes P ch.	19—K to Kt 3
20—Kt takes B and White wins.	

It will be seen that Tschigorin is caught in a variation of the two knights, with which he should, presumably, be familiar. White gets too speedy and forcible attacking chances, especially after P to Q 4 by Black, and every blow tells.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 3rd.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 5th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 3rd.‡
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 7th.§
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 8th.‖
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 25th.
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Nov. 27th.

* *City of Rio de Janeiro* left Nagasaki on October 30th. † *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 22nd. ‡ *Ancona* left Kobe on November 2nd. § *Empress of China* left Hongkong on October 30th. ‖ *Yarra* (with French mail) left Hongkong on October 30th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 5th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, Nov. 6th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Nov. 8th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 9th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 9th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 16th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 16th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 25th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 29th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, 26th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, F. J. Brown, 26th October,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Herman Vede Farlsberg, Norwegian steamer, 1,683, Reimers, 27th October,—Vancouver, B.C., Lumber.—Captain.

Olive Branch, British steamer, 1,766, H. Schell, 27th October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 27th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, T. Yasumo, 27th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, O. P. Marshall, 28th October,—Vancouver, B.C., 14th October, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 28th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, G. G. Trask, 28th October,—San Francisco 12th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 28th October,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, P. Wettin, 28th October,—Hongkong 23rd October, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,783, Morgan, 29th October,—Kobe 28th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 29th October,—Yokkaichi 28th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 30th October,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Arctic, British schooner, 40, J. B. Brown, 30th October,—North Pacific, 130 Skins.—Captain.

Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Chouneur, 30th October,—Nagasaki.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Phentie, 31st October,—Kobe 30th October, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Isly (10), French cruiser, Captain Rivet, 31st October,—Nagasaki 28th October.

Teviotdale, British steamer, 2,240, Gordon, 31st October,—Rangoon viâ Kobe, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tritos, German steamer, 1,085, Desler, 31st October,—Moji, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Yanariva, British steamer, 2,154, Weston, 31st October,—Vancouver, B.C., General.—Frazar & Co.

Musashi Kan (9), Japanese corvette, Captain T. Ito, 31st October,—Shinagawa, 31st October.

Auretta, British steamer, 1,729, Henderson, 1st November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain C. L. Burr, 1st November,—Hakodate.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 1st November,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Pamiat Azova (14), Russian cruiser, Captain Schoukhuine, 1st November,—Hakodate.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, R. Forsyth, 2nd November,—Otaru, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Chiyoda Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, 26th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, Hamada, 26th October,—Jinsen viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bonnington, British steamer, 1,976, Leighton, 26th October,—Otaru, Ballast.—Japanese.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 26th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aglaia, German steamer, 1,666, Madsen, 27th October,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. St. G. Lindsay, 27th October,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 27th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghasee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 27th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengyle, British steamer, 2,244, McGilvray, 27th October,—New York viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Taiyuan, British steamer, 1,459, R. Nelson, 27th October,—Australia viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 28th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, 28th October,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgic, British steamer, 2,695, W. H. Walker, 29th October,—Hongkong, General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Shanghai, British steamer, 1,672, J. Cowie, 29th October,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tateyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,560, Hirakata, 29th October,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Herman Vede Farlsberg, Norwegian steamer, 1,683, Reimers, 30th October,—Natal, S. Africa, Lumber.—Order.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,053, F. J. Brown, 30th October,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 30th October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 30th October,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, G. G. Trask, 30th October,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 31st October,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, P. Wettin, 1st November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 1st November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yanariva, British steamer, 2,154, Weston, 1st November,—Hongkong, General.—Frazar & Co.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,783, Morgan, 2nd November,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Oswald, British steamer, 1,781, Attree, 2nd November,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Salazie, French steamer, 4,016, A. Paul, 2nd November,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 2,283, Jackson, 2nd November,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India,* from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. L. D. Ahl, Mrs. Ahl, Miss Allen, Mr. C. C. Barrie, Mr. I. T. Cassils, Rev. D. F. Curtin, Mr. and Mrs. Dangerfield, Rev. J. J. Dellon, Mr. W. Dickinson, Rev. J. D. Donnelly, Miss Dow, Mr. John Duer, Mr. A. A. Earle, Mr. J. S. Colton-Fox, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Fitton, Mr. F. Fujioka, Rev. Mr. Fulton, Rev. F. D. Gamwell, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Grant, Rev. and Mrs. P. F. Gilman and 2 children, Colonel Gilman, Miss Greeley, Miss Helena Greeley, Mr. S. Haywood, Mr. C. Hanbury, Mr. Eugene Higgins, Mr. W. G. Hockridge, Mr. and Mrs. J. Rossiter Hoyle, Mr. T. Hiraoka, Mr. and Mrs. James F. How, Mr. Louis How, Captain Kato, Mr. W. Kanda, Mr. B. Kaufmann, Mrs. King, Captain Kingsmill, Mr. Koo Kan, Lieut. Lamb, Rev. P. H. Leronett, Mr. I. Lewis, Mr. H. Lewis, Miss Linan, Miss Leonberger, Rev. and Mrs. Mackay, Miss M. H. Mackay, Miss Mackay, Mr. G. W. Mackay, Rev. P. H. McDermott, Miss McIntosh, Dr. Jas. Menzies, Rev. C. W. Mosse, Count Mita, Mr. J. Murata, Mr. Oakley, Rev. Mr. Omelvena, Intedant Panaka, Mr. A. L. Pancard, Mr. and Mrs. John F. Perry, Mrs. Pollock, Mr. J. H. Pomery, Miss Pomery, Mr. C. M. Robinson, Mr. J. P. Sears, Miss Scott, Mr. J. D. Spaulding, Rev. and Mrs. Speicher, Miss A. E. Steere, Mr. W. Stephen, Mr. W. Tatley, Miss Tatley, Mr. C. A. Taylor, Mr. Cyrus Thompson, Mr. W. A. Thompson, Mr. T. C. Thompson, Mrs. A. Turrell, Mrs. M. Turrell, Captain Tresidder, C.M.G., Mr. H. Whistler, and Mr. W. H. Wood and servant in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Peking,* from San Francisco:—Mr. and Mrs. H. D. McIlhaith, Commander W. W. Reisinger, Lieut. Herbert Winslow, Captain and Mrs. A. E. Piorkowski and infant, Mrs. Judge Putnam, Mr. John R. Putnam, Mr. J. B. Vitt, Mr. H. S. Wheeler, Mr. Israel Putnam, Miss Cummings, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Boscawen, Miss Henrietta Taylor, Miss Alice Coats, Mr. F. J. Martin, Mr. W. Samioloff, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Ingram and child, and Mr. Min Young Chan in cabin. For Nagasaki:—Rev. and Mrs. C. O. Gill and Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Fenn and infant in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern,* from Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. Francis, Mr. R. D. Carson, Mr. J. C. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Franck, Miss Waring, Mr. Ernst Behr, Mr. Lotzmann, and Mr. Long Tong Fong in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Coptic,* for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Mr. B. Alabysheff, Mr. G. E. Boardman, Rev. and Mrs. C. A. Clark, 3 children and nurse, Mr. A. A. Fulton, 4 children and infant, Rev. H. L. Gray, Rev. S. H. Gulick, Miss Augusta Malas Zickwolff, Mrs. R. P. Myers, Mrs. McCully-Higgins, Dr. Iga Mori, Mr. K. Minasei, Mr. M. Marians, Mr. S. H. Mears, Mr. T. McElroy, Mr. J. H. Moore, Mr. O. H. P. Noyes, Mr. O. A. Poole, Mr. A. H. Rand, Mr. A. H. Rennie, Mr. Neil Sinclair, Mr. E. A. Schoyer, Mr. James Stanes, Major-General and Mrs. D. T. Subotitch, Mr. and Mrs. Shinnamura, infant and servant, Colonel Bryce Thomas, and Mr. W. A. Wilson in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India,* for Hongkong viâ ports:—Hon. Mrs. Duncombe, Miss Mary Meyer, Mr. M. S. Clark, Miss Corsellis, Surgeon-Captain Borrowdale, Mr. E. A. Stanton, Miss Uniacke, Miss A. Bögal, Rt. Rev. Bishop and Mrs. Bickersteth, Miss C. De Auben, Rev. C. T. Warren, Major and Mrs. Noel and child, Mr. G. W. Millward, Mrs. Wylie and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. C. Young, Mr. H. R. Burke, Mr. G. A. Steinway, Mr. H. T. Terry, Mrs. Patton and child, Mrs. Geo. Sale, Miss A. L. Sale, Miss Loureiro, Mr. and Mrs. Tuska, Comte H. de Coudenhove, Comtesse H. de Coudenhove, Mr. Chunk Hin and 2 children; Mrs. Chunk Hin and 2 infants, Miss Thomas, Master Kirby, Mr. Jang Yu Peng and 2 children, Mr. Yu Hung and infant, Mr. C. F. R. Allen, Mr. N. B. Wyse, Mr. H. P. Parkes, Rev. W. T. Austen, Mr. A. Matsura, Rev. J. S. Wallace, and Mr. and Mrs. Ross Thompson in cabin; Mr. Mow Cheong and Mr. S. Chikita in second class, and Messrs. Jim Wing, A. S. Mahomed, Kim Fui and infant, Ah Man, Ai Chong, and 2 passengers in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern,* for Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. Paul Büller, A. Fischer, B. Asakura, A. Hayashi, S. Miwa, T. Yamada, N. Isobe, and Wan Hing in cabin; Mrs. Ah Loy and family in second class; 4 Europeans in third class, and 6 Chinese and 2 Indians on deck.

Per French steamer *Salazie,* for Shanghai viâ ports:—Comte de Bylandt, Messrs. S. Kajima, F. L. Baker, K. Ogura, Fleury, Davise, Bertrand, H. P. Wadman, G. Gaily, Ungeren, Mayeda, T.

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Ogawa, G. Prahn, Geo. Sale, Wm. C. and Fr. Retz, A. Milne, S. Ogawa, E. N. George, R. Menju, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Umbstatte, Mr. and Mrs. Brenan Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Wickham, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Bain and daughter, Mrs. J. R. Putnam, Mrs. R. G. Denig, Mrs. Hamilton, Miss Mackay, Miss A. E. Parkes, Mr. J. Mackenzie, Mr. H. Adams, Commander W. W. Reisinger, Lieut. H. Winslow, Messrs. G. R. and J. Putnam, W. Carhill, and V. H. Saal in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu :—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	ST. PAUL.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	756	1,070	—	—	—	—	1,826
Hyogo.....	593	—	—	—	—	—	593
Yokohama.	3,085	508	441	478	63	131	4,706
Hongkong.	1,058	—	—	—	—	—	1,058
Total ...	5,492	1,578	441	478	63	131	8,183

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	439	—	439
Yokohama	715	—	715
Total	1,154	—	1,154

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 72 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 217 bales.

Per French steamer *Salazie*, for Shanghai viâ ports :—Raw Silk for Europe, 460 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 157 bales.

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Peking*, Captain Trask, reports :—Left San Francisco the 12th October at 9.26 p.m.; had moderate variable winds to 180° meridian, which was crossed on the 21st; thence to port moderate variable winds, sea, and swell.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No change of any importance. Dealers appear to be pretty well stocked for the present, and the political uneasiness as to affairs on the mainland seems to cast a shadow over trade.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.70 to 2.35
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.50 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches..	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.40
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.12½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ...	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.10 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb.	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Some business passing, but the trade does not respond heartily to the increased home-cost. Yet they must have the Goods sooner or later, and if holders are firm they will get their prices.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.75
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.75 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.65 to 1.70

KEROSENE.

Situation remains as last advised. Prices surely are low enough when the best brands of American Oil can be bought retail at 2 *yen* per case of 10 gallons.

American	$1.90 to 1.95
Russian	1.85 to 1.90
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Much as last reported. Dealers have been busy taking delivery of recent purchases. White—Steady market with firm tone.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.40 to 4.75
Brown Daitong (New)	3.70 to 3.75
Brown Canton	3.65 to 4.30
White Java and Penang	6.50 to 6.60
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Market keeps quiet, dealers receding very slowly. Probably a fresh move downward in price would bring about an increase of trade.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom. —
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	$940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	Nom. 930 to 940
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	880 to 900
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	860 to 870
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	850
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Nothing new, but the tendency is downwards and lower quotations must come. Dealers have held on well to their Pierced Cocoons; but they cannot keep them for ever, neither can all the production be used in Japan.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

No change. Some little trade at quotations and the tail-end of the season drags its slow length along.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has fluctuated slightly, the general tendency being upward.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/2¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/3
On Paris—Bank sight	2.78
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.84
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅝% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅜% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight.	73
On India—Bank sight	192½
— Private 30 days' sight	195
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	53⅜
— Private 30 days' sight..	54⅜
— — 4 months' sight	55¼
On Germany—Bank sight	2.24
— Private 4 months' sight	2.29
Bar Silver (London)	30 15/16 @ 31

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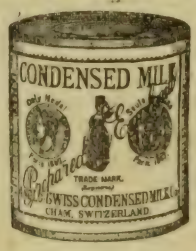

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 9TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

On 9th inst., at 261, Bluff, the wife of A. H. DAHE of a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Directors of the Yokohama Rice Exchange have resigned in a body.

THE Yokohama Literary Society have revised their bye-laws and regulations in accordance with resolutions passed at the general business meeting.

Two Formosan aborigines arrived at Yokosuka by the *Saikio Maru*.

VISCOUNT YONETSU MASATOSHI, a member of the House of Peers, died on the 30th of November.

THE expenditure for the State funeral of the late Prince Kitashirakawa is estimated at *yen* 25,000.

THE Tsuchiura-Tomobe Section of the Japan Railway Co. was opened for traffic on the 4th inst.

THE Japanese troops are about to be recalled from Formosa, Manchuria, Liaotung, and Korea.

PRINCE WI-HWA, of Korea, arrived in the capital on the 1st inst. He was attired in foreign costume.

H.I.H. PRINCE KWACHO was decorated with the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Rising Sun on the 3rd inst.

UP to the 31st of last month there had been 55,611 cases of cholera and 38,829 deaths throughout the empire.

SEVERAL foreigners in the employ of the Japanese Government received high decorations on the Emperor's Birthday.

SUNDAY was a very wet day and the celebrations in honour of the Emperor's birthday were restricted to indoor festivities.

THE body of the late Prince Kitashirakawa arrived in the capital on the 4th inst.; the funeral takes place on Monday next.

WINTER has set in in Hokkaido, snow having fallen at Sapporo, Nemuro, and Hakodate. Snow has fallen at Sōul and Ninsen, Korea.

THE Miye residents propose to establish a navigation school. Some representatives have reached the capital to petition for Government aid.

THE last sailing race of the year took place on Saturday among the *sendo* employed on the yachts of the Y.S.C. The sport was very poor.

THE Chinese Consulate in Yokohama is being repaired. Meanwhile Mr. Tau So-rin, the Chinese Consul, is transacting business at the Chukwa Kwai-kwan.

AN exhibition of South Australian products has been on view in the Chamber of Commerce, Tokyo, during the week, and has attracted considerable attention.

AT a meeting of the subscribers to the Yokohama General Hospital it was decided to continue the arrangements with Dr. Mécre for another year.

THE Tokyo Water-works Committee have sent in their resignation in a body in connection with the scandal relative to the iron pipes supplied by the Japan Cast Iron Foundry.

THE *Nippon* was suspended on the 2nd inst., and the *Chuo Shimbun* the following day. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* was released from suspention on the 4th inst.

THE Okwa-gumi have secured the contract for the supply of a submarine cable to the length of 594 nautical miles, to be laid between Japan and Formosa, at £65,980.

COUNT INOUYE has been received by the King of Korea, and doubt and suspicion as to the part played by Japan in the late *émeute* are said to be completely allayed.

SHORTLY after 9 o'clock on the night of the 23rd u.t. over a thousand small birds gathered around the lighthouse at Yajiri, Mutsu province. They flew against the lantern, and a large number were killed. At 11.10 some sea-gulls collided with the lighthouse and the glass was cracked.

THE Kyoto residents are contemplating the erection of a grand *Daibutsu* at an estimated cost of *yen* 600,000, to commemorate the signal victories of Japan in the late war.

FROM March to the middle of October last, 92 applications were made to the Government for permission to construct private railways, the total amount of capital being *yen* 148,594,390.

THE Sanyo and Kiushu Railway Companies propose, it is said, to offer prizes for the best essays on the most practical scheme for bridging the Shimonoseki Strait, the amount of the prizes being *yen* 10,000.

THE Budget for the next fiscal year and the Estimates for the extension of the country's military defence, are said to have been discussed and decided at a meeting of the Cabinet held on the 5th inst.

THE entertainments given in the Public Hall, Yokohama, by the "Incogniti"—amateurs from Kobe—were very delightful, and the proceeds were devoted to the funds of the charities in both ports.

IT is stated that the Presidents of both Houses of the Imperial Diet will be decorated with the Second Class of the Order of Merit in recognition of their services during the special session of the Diet at Hiroshima.

REUTER telegraphs—The Russian Embassy in London positively denies the statement by *The Times* correspondent in Hongkong with regard to the Port Arthur Treaty as wired on 26th October. The Turks have killed one hundred and fifty Armenians at Baiburt in Armenia. H.R.H. the Princess Maud of Wales is betrothed to her first cousin Prince Charles, second son of the Crown Prince of Denmark. Another Russian cruiser has left Odessa with a contingent of sailors, ammunition, and war material for the Russian fleet in the Pacific. At a Cabinet Council held in London on November 5th, it was decided that all Embassies should be separately urged to demand from the Port immediate measures to terminate the anarchy so hurtful to Christians of all nations; otherwise they must in concert adopt the necessary measures.

THERE is not much to be said about the Import trade. There is a sign of slackness on the part of buyers for the interior, attributed to less enquiry, on account of the harvesting operations which are now occupying the attention a large portion of the agricultural population. Nevertheless, there is still some enquiry for Yarns and Grey Shirtings, though other lines are decidedly quiet. Buyers of Metals are almost dumb, and appear to be fully supplied for the time being. In the Kerosene trade, Importers seem to have made a stand against any further reduction in price, and this attitude has induced buyers to come on to a certain extent, with the prospect that operations of some magnitude appear to be near at hand. In the Silk trade, prices were reduced to a point that enabled a couple of firms to go into the market for a big deal, but this is all that has been done, and matters have again assumed a quiet aspect, with 16,000 piculs on the market and arrivals coming in. In the Waste business, holders have been inclined to be current, and dealing resulted: quotations working in favour of buyers. Prices are unchanged for what Tea remains on offer, but the stock is small. A new feature in the trade is the shipment to Singapore of a few hundred piculs by Chinese. Exchange has been fairly steady, and rates appear to be firm.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The atmosphere in the political world is full of rumours. There is an impression that the favourite hobby of the *Jiji Shimpo*, namely the union of the statesmen of the elder generation to tide over the present crisis in national history, has now a fair chance of being realized. What lends an appearance of plausibility to this supposition is that recent meeting between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma, as well as the visits that the latter recently received from Counts Goto and Oki, the return of Count Matsukata to the capital, the meetings between the latter and the Premier, and some other circumstances. Whether a coalition Cabinet will be possible or not, it seems to be taken for granted that a political change of some sort is to take place before the assembling of the next session of the Diet.

* * *

The death of H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa has caused profound grief throughout the country. The death of an Imperial Prince is, under all circumstances, a matter of national mourning, but the feelings of the people have been specially touched by the case of Prince Kitashirakawa, who, it is well known, despite the official announcement, breathed his last in Formosa just after the island had been brought under subjection chiefly through the heroic exertions of the Prince. The language employed by the press reflects the nation's deep sentiment of grief.

* * *

Next to the death of the Commander of the Imperial Guards, the fraud connected with the supply of iron pipes to the Tokyo Water-works has attracted wide attention. The case is under legal investigation, but the public is not disposed to give the benefit of a doubt to the accused. Indeed, there seems to be little room for doubt. Hamano and the other prisoners are of course denounced in the strongest language. But still more vehement are the terms in which the municipal authorities, especially those immediately connected with the Water-works, are criticised for negligence of duty. The Board of Aldermen are particularly censured, since they always showed a tendency to be partial to the Iron Foundry Company. Had they strictly carried out the original contract, the company would have long since ceased to exist and the City would have been saved from the fraud and all its disagreeable consequences. The *Nichi Nichi*, the *Jiji*, and other leading journals go a step further, and blame the Municipal Council, as they blamed it at the time, for suffering silly sentiment to interfere with a matter of practical business. Had the Council followed the wise advice of these level-headed papers and relied solely upon imported pipes, the City would have been saved the present scandal, as well as a delay of some three years in the completion of the Water-works. These journals do not maintain that iron pipes of good quality cannot be made in Japan, but they deny that there can be any second opinion as to the folly of relying upon a foundry that had yet to be established. At the time when the question came up for debate there was a strong popular movement toward asserting national independence. Influenced by a mistaken notion of patriotism, no less than by a fear of *soshi*, and by baser motives, the Municipal Council consented to grant very advantageous terms to the Chutesu Kaisha. Perhaps the present example will be productive of good as a standing warning to persons still only too prone to carry patriotic sentiment into the field of practical business. The *Nichi Nichi* also calls the attention of the citizens of Tokyo to the importance of exercising judgment in the election of the members of the Municipal Council.

* * *

The Korean question continues to be discussed. As to the legality of the Government called into existence in Söul by the *coup d'état* of the 8th ultimo, the *Nichi Nichi*, as already stated, has expressed doubt about the wisdom of recognizing it. But all other papers seem agreed in failing to discover any reason whatever for such a question being raised by foreign countries, especially Japan. The *Jiji Shimpo*, writing on this topic, states that it, too, was at first inclined to regard the King as a sort of prisoner, and consequently to doubt the legality of the new Government. But very detailed correspondence received from a learned Korean belonging to neither of the contending parties and therefore worthy of being listened to, is said to have removed every scruple from our contemporary's mind. That the King should entrust the Government of the country to a set of statesmen connected directly or indirectly with the murder of his Queen, must seem very strange to Japanese and other foreigners. But careful consideration of the peculiar state of affairs in Korea puts another complexion on the matter. The simple truth is, says our contemporary, that the King, though doubtless regretting the sad fate of his consort, is satisfied with the changes effected by the *coup d'état*. His Majesty is said to be now paying more genuine attention to State affairs than he has ever done before. The struggle between his family and that of his consort was of long duration, and had reached its culminating point when the *émeute* of October the 8th took place. There was then reason to fear for the safety of the King himself, and from a Korean point of view the removal of the Queen from the field of politics, and even from the world, probably appeared to be the only means of saving the Royal dynasty. Under such circumstances, the *coup d'état* did not cause any surprise to the Korean nation at large, and for the rest, the new Government is conducting the affairs of the State in a sober and conscientious manner. In short, the country is satisfied with the change accomplished, and things are going on as though nothing unnatural had taken place. Under such circumstances, the *Jiji* sees no reason why the present Söul Government should not be recognized by foreign Powers.

* * *

Concerning the rumoured withdrawal of troops from Korea, the *Mainichi Shimbun* strongly opposes such a step. Japan, says our contemporary, has a well recognized right to station her troops in the peninsula. When, by the Convention of Tientsin, she agreed with China for the sending of troops to Korea in case of emergency, no foreign Power objected to the compact. This shows that the Powers recognized the peculiarity of the relationship between Japan and Korea. The Tientsin Convention has ceased to be binding on either party, but that fact in no way affects the tacit recognition that Western Powers have given to Japan's right to send troops to the peninsula. As to their continued presence there, it is absolutely necessitated by the unsettled state of the country, a fact acknowledged by all Koreans. Concerning the share that a part of the troops stationed in Söul played in the recent *émeute*, the responsibility is said by the *Mainichi* to rest entirely upon the principal functionary under whose instructions they acted. At all events, whatever may have been the nature of their conduct, it can not affect the question of the necessity of their presence at present in Korea.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* strongly urges the Government to prohibit the use of opium in Formosa, now that the whole island has been brought under the rule of the Governor-General. Our contemporary urges this step with all the more earnestness because it is reported that some of the Japanese coolies have acquired the vicious habit. It may be remarked, by way of objection, that the prohibition of the evil practice would lead to such an exodus of the original population as to cause serious inconvenience in the future development of the island. In the *Jiji's* opinion, such an exodus is exactly what should be desired by the Japanese, since it would create a better chance for the immigration of the surplus population of Japan. It may be added that the measure so strongly urged by the *Jiji* and other journals in Tokyo has just been taken by the Governor-General of Formosa, who has prohibited the use of opium under heavy penalties.

* * *

The *Kokumin Shimbun* deserves all praise for devoting much attention to the educational question. In a recent issue, it deplores the fact that very few men of ability and worth are tempted to teach in the primary schools. When, by some accident, a young man of talent accepts the position of a teacher, it is inevitably for the purpose of maintaining himself until he succeeds in obtaining a better place elsewhere. The majority of the primary-school teachers are young men preparing themselves by private study for the bar, the bench, or literature. It is, consequently, very rare to find teachers engage in the profession for above five years. How can good teachers be induced to remain at their posts for a reasonably long period of time? The *Kokumin* answers by suggesting first, that the selection and appointment of teachers should be left to the discretion of the local Communes; secondly, that the teachers should be independent of the vexatious interference of the District and Local authorities; thirdly, that the salary of the teachers should be increased to twice or thrice the present rate and defrayed out of the national taxes; and fourthly and lastly, that a system of ample pensions should be established for deserving teachers.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FLOWERS IN TOKYO.

Tokyo is undoubtedly a great place for flowers: the plums of Kameido, the cherries of Uyeno and Koganei, the azaleas of Okubo, and the morning-glories of Iriya being deservedly famous. There has, however, been hitherto a drawback in so far as flowers "in foreign style" are concerned: the difficulty of obtaining cut flowers, bouquets and boutonières, at any season of the year. The Botanical Gardens, it is true, have been in the habit of selling cut-flowers from the local hot-houses—very few in number—but the distance is so great from the central portion of the city that few people seem to know much about the Gardens, beautifully kept though they are. Moreover, the making of bouquets, etc., in foreign style, has hitherto not been practised by the otherwise well-drilled gardeners. A correspondent now informs us that a one-time member of the Yokohama Gardeners' Association has set up as a florist in foreign style in a very picturesque portion of the city—the little park to the right of Kudanzaka, opposite the French Legation. The whole place is redolent with perfume as a rule, nearly all the potted plants—including such old friends as mignonette, heliotrope, white violet, and roses in profusion—being kept in the open air, except in severe weather.

* * *

According to recent reports, the chrysanthemums at Dango-zaka are to be finer this year than ever before, nearly all the famous scenes of the late war being florally depicted. The pick of the lot will be, it is affirmed, a scene from the bombardment of Weihaiwei. As for the chrysanthemums themselves, the plants are decidedly backward in their growth, and a few of the rarer varieties have proved altogether failures. Still there will be a bewildering variety of shape and hue, and odorous blooms in the gardens by the middle of the present month.

* * *

At the foot of Dango-zaka there is—or was until quite recently—a little exhibition very well worth a visit. In huge wooden tubs were rockeries of various kinds of moss, so deftly arranged as to resemble real hills and mountains, tiny pines, microscopic bamboos, and other dwarfed plants being placed here and there to make the illusion still more complete. On the hill-sides were huts or chalets made of porcelain, or groups of peasants, travellers, and soldiers. Some war-scenes were simply perfect in detail so skilfully had all been planned and carried out. One of the very finest bits was the coast

near Okitsu, with a miniature train emerging from a tunnel, and fishing-boats in the bay; while a village nestled among the "woods"—composed of scores of artificially dwarfed trees—on the "mountain-side." It was indescribably pleasing, taken as a whole, and absolutely faithful to the original. The "Storming of Port Arthur" was another excellent and lively bit, and very life-like, though not more than two feet square over all. Altogether it was a marvellous exhibition of patient and artistic skill.

TSUKIJI LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

THE Tsukiji Literary and Musical Society has entered upon another season of activity. The first meeting was held at Prof. and Mrs. Gardiner's, 40, Tsukiji, on Monday evening, October 14th. The election of the officers resulted as follows:—President, Professor M. N. Wyckoff, Vice-President, Rev. T. S. Tyng; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. A. Florence Smith; Literary Committee, Mr. E. W. Clement, Miss Dawson, and Rev. T. S. Tyng; Music Committee, Miss Thomas, Mrs. Tyng, and Miss Hunt. The programme that evening was of a miscellaneous and somewhat extemporaneous nature. The second meeting was held at the same place on Monday evening, Oct. 28th, and was devoted to James Russell Lowell. Prof. Gardiner read portions of Underwood's sketch entitled "The Poet and the Man," and musical selections, vocal and instrumental piano and violin, were interspersed. So much interest was aroused in the subject of the study that it was decided to continue it for two or three more evenings. The next meeting will be held with the Rev. and Mrs. Tyng, 29, Tsukiji, on Monday evening, November 11th, when a varied programme on Lowell, together with music, will be presented.

MR. BREARLY AS A LONDON LECTURER.

AT the Camera Club on Sept. 26th, under the presidency of Mr. Davison, a very interesting lecture on scenes and incidents of the Chino-Japanese war was given by Mr. D. S. Brearly. A series of views were thrown upon the screen, some of them coloured photographs, others drawings of war scenes made on the spot by Japanese "lightning artists." The Japanese "lightning artist," observes a London contemporary, maintains the traditions of Japanese art. Laughter greeted many of the views, especially those of single combats and naval engagements, which were treated with a naïveté and originality wholly Japanese. Nothing more curious can be imagined than the efforts made by the "lightning arist" to depict modern uniforms, modern ironclads, and modern siege guns. Thrown, enlarged, on the screen, the quaint grotesqueness of some of the scenes proved quite irresistible, and moved the club to hearty merriment. Portraits of the Emperor of Japan and of the Generals and Ministers whose names have been so much before the world of late, the temples of Nikko, Shinto and Buddhist priests—the whole of the social life of Japan and Korea, ancient and modern, passed through the lantern in quick succession, and were explained in a running comment by the lecturer.

"THE INDEPENDENCE OF KOREA."

IN the highest or graduating class of a well-known metropolitan school, the "Independence of Korea" was recently given as a subject for an English composition, with the condition that the composition should be written in conversational style, the supposed speakers being an Englishman, a Russian, a Japanese, and a Chinaman. The following essay was adjudged the best. We quote it as well exemplifying the present feeling on the subject, and because it set forth the views of a large portion of students in particular. The essay is given without change, except in the case of one or two slight grammatical errors:—

JAPANESE:—"What is your opinion concerning Korean independence?"

CHINESE:—"Of course, Korea is one of China's vassal States. Although Li Hung-chang was, at Shimmonoseki, recently obliged to recognize the independence of Korea, yet in reality it is *not* independent. It has paid us annual tribute for the last two thousand years. To a great extent it is nothing more than a Chinese colony, so it is quite natural that the people of Korea should wish to be under our protection. Moreover, the manners and customs of the country strongly resemble our own. Therefore I believe that, sooner or later, Korea must be incorporated with China.

RUSSIAN:—"From my point of view, Korea is in a state of anarchy. The statesmen of that country think only of themselves; they have no real sentiment of patriotism. They are jealous, greedy, and bellicose, yet on many occasions have shown great timidity. They have no political principles worthy of the name. The people are very ignorant, superstitious, negligent, and stupid. In a word, they do not possess the capacity of forming a nation. Gentlemen, I think we had better divide the country up amongst ourselves, just as some of us did with Poland once upon a time."

ENGLISHMAN:—"That would be profitable to you perhaps, but certainly not to the advantage of Great Britain. At any rate, I doubt the possibility of Korea's remaining independent. In my opinion the best way to manage the Peninsula would be to bring it under the joint protection of the Great Powers. Or, in other words, the plenipotentiaries of the Great Powers should hold a congress to decide upon the difficult questions connected with Korea."

JAPANESE:—"My opinion is quite different from any of yours. I do not think that Korean independence is impossible. The corruption of the nation is chiefly the result of its ignorance. If we guide it to the best way, it will be able to gradually improve. Thirty years ago the state of my own country was quite similar to the present condition of Korea. At that time we had no idea of representative government; we knew very little about science and art; we had neither telegraphs nor railroads. The foreign ambassadors were threateningly asking for indemnities, while a civil insurrection arose in our very midst. After adopting western civilization, we became the representative government you now know. I think, therefore, that it is quite possible to bring affairs in Korea into order in a few years from now. I tell you, gentlemen, Korea has had intimate relations with Japan and China since ancient times, and these three are the only really independent states in Eastern Asia. Let Japan, China, and Korea manage the question themselves, and don't you Westerners interfere."

ENGLISHMAN:—"But if we put Korea in this way in your hands, what do you intend doing?

JAPANESE:—"Our plan is to put railroads in the country; to increase the strength of the army; to put an end to the financial disorder; to cause Korea's commerce and industries to flourish; to make her abandon the old abuses; and to advocate the adoption of Western civilization."

CHINESE:—"Oh no! not the last! The adoption of Western ideas is not true civilization. That would be a retrogressive step, for it would do injury to the good old customs."

RUSSIAN:—"I differ from the views of our Japanese friend. To increase the strength of Korea's army would be an insult to her neighbours. Besides, Korea is too poor to keep up an army. If she really wants some soldiers my country will lend her a few regiments, for we have more soldiers than we know what to do with. Nor do I see any necessity for railroads, for my country is about to extend the Siberian railway to the southern coast of China."

JAPANESE:—"Oh, what's the use of your talking that way? We shall after all do what we think right and proper."

NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL GUARDS.

MARSHAL COUNT NOZU was to-day appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Guards in succession to the late H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa.

THE JUGGERNAUT OF KYOTO.

THE visitor to Kyoto, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, who takes a ride on the electric tram car or a walk in the immediate neighbourhood of its lines, can appreciate the sentiment of the poet who tells us that life is as a spider's thread. One is impelled to reflect upon life assurance policies, wills, and other business matters which call for attention before the thread is finally snapped, for the thought comes to every man who rides on a Kyoto car for the first time that he is riding to his doom. When, however, after being successfully extricated from a collision or two on the way, the car at length brings its human freight safely to the end of the journey, he breathes freely once more. Frequently a short par. gets into the papers of miraculous escapes. Last week the shaft of a jinrikisha was smashed by the car at a level crossing, but the jinrikisha-man escaped unhurt. Again, on a later day, an old woman was knocked down by one of the cars and injured. Scarcely a day seems to pass without a more or less serious accident.

METALS.

MESSRS. S. W. ROYSE & Co. in their report dated September 28th, say:—Prices of Pig Iron advanced strongly during the first half of this month, and then suffered a considerable fall, the reason assigned being the fear of a strike in the shipbuilding trade. A recovery is, however, now taking place, and the trade appears to be in a good position. Manufacturers are well supplied with orders for some time ahead. Shipments of Pig Iron from both Scotland and Middlesbrough are satisfactory during this month, and the total shipments during 1895 show a considerable improvement upon those for the corresponding period of 1894. Prices of Pig Iron are to-day about 2s. 6d. higher than they were two months ago. The improvement in the finished Iron and Steel trade is well maintained. Copper and Tin have only fluctuated slightly during this month, and are at present steady, to-day's figures being within a few shillings of those current a month ago. Spelter is practically unchanged during the month, and Lead is just a shade easier.

BANGKOK ITEMS.

A CHINAMAN was killed in a Secret Society row in Bangkok on the 5th October. Several men were injured. A party of armed Siamese marines quelled the riot, which was the most serious that has occurred in Bangkok since 1889. A curious accident to a cook in Bangkok is reported by the *Siam Free Press*. While plucking snipe over an aperture in the kitchen floor his hand was suddenly seized by a snake from beneath and badly bitten. Remedies were at once applied by the cook's employer, and beyond a slight swelling and little pain he appears none the worse for his experience. It is supposed that the snake, probably a python, struck at the bird, and so bit the cook in the attempt to get the snipe. H.M.S. *Mercury* arrived at Bangkok on the 8th October. On the 10th a cricket match was played with a home team. The *Mercury* made 30 in their first innings and 28 in their second. The Bangkok team scored 128 in one innings.

SHANGHAI RACES.

WET weather predominated during the Shanghai race-days, only the last being favoured, in the afternoon, with sunshine. Mr. Kanuck got 5 firsts, 5 seconds, and one third places; Mr. Ring 5 first, 2 second, and 6 thirds; Mr. Henry Morriss, 3 first, 3 second, and 2 thirds; Mr. Ruby 2 firsts; and the other nine races were each won by different stables. Mr. John Peel only secured a couple of second places and a third. Mr. C. R. Burkill was the most successful jockey, landing 8 firsts, 4 seconds, and a third place: Mr. A. W. Burkill, Mr. Meyerink, and Mr. Midwood won four races each, Mr. Read, and Mr. Pike two each; Mr. Dallas, Mr. Crawford, and Mr. Kladt one each. The amount of money that changed hands were something tremendous, in comparison to the modest amounts which pass in Yokohama. Through the Totalisator there passed during the three days, $41,210; through the Pari-Mutuel, $34,930; through the Club Concordia Sweeps, $34,140—$110,280.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN JESSELSEN.

MANY people in Kobe as well as in Nagasaki, remarks the *Kobe Chronicle*, will deeply regret to hear of the death of Captain Jesselsen, late of the steamer *Ingo*, the sad event taking place somewhat suddenly on the *Hohenzollen*, during the last voyage of the steamer up to Yokohama. It will be remembered that some time, in the early part of this year, Captain Jesselsen was so unfortunate as to be overcome by charcoal fumes while sleeping in the cabin of his vessel, then at Osaka. He was quite unconscious when taken out, and though he was eventually brought round and after a few days appeared restored to his usual health, the shock then experienced appears to have told upon him, as he has been ailing more or less throughout the summer,

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

He gave up command of the steamer and took a trip down to Hongkong with the hope that the change would benefit his health, and was on his way back to Yokohama to consult a medical man when his illness took a turn for the worse, resulting fatally before the vessel reached its destination. He leaves behind him a widow and three children—the two boys being in a Tokyo school and the girl a pupil at Mrs. Rowe's school in Kobe. Captain Jesselsen has been many years running on the Japanese and Chinese coasts, and was extremely popular with all who knew him. For years he ran between Nagasaki and Shanghai with coal, having in one year made a record of 54 trips between the two ports. Very great sympathy will be felt with Mrs. Jesselsen at the sad loss she has sustained.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

M. ROUSSEAU, Governor-General of French Indo-China, left Haiphong on the 13th ult. for France, to give the Government the benefit of his advice and assistance in connection with the Indo-China budget and the proposed loan. A Havas telegram contradicts the report that he will not return to Tonkin. From the Tonkin papers we learn that an agreement has been arrived at between France and China by which French troops pursuing piratical bands in Tonkin are to be allowed to cross the frontier and co-operate with the Chinese forces in effecting the destruction of the bands. The zone within which the French are to be allowed to operate is to be marked out by a mixed commission of French and Chinese officers, and the commission was expected to commence its work in a few days after the date of the latest papers received. Our contemporaries are of opinion that piracy on a large scale will now be suppressed, and the concession made by China, coupled with the deliverance of the Lyaudet family by General Sou, is taken as a proof that China is now sincerely desirous that tranquillity should be established in the frontier regions.

"FAIR JAPAN."

Two dainty booklets have been issued by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh in time for the homegoing Christmas mail, bearing the above title. The verses sparkle with genial humour, both in the optimistic and the pessimistic sense,—for the one represents the poet on first landing in Japan, which he apostrophises—

> Oh! sweet it is to dwell with thee;
> Land of the Rising Sun—

and the other tells of his speedy departure from the country having learned that it is a land

> Where noisome odours fill the air
> And float on every breeze.

Mr. Ogawa has produced some charming collotypes from the negatives of Mr. O. A. Poole, which have more than ordinary artistic merits to recommend them. Altogether the booklets are very beautiful souvenirs to send to friends across the seas at the season of the year when such gifts are most appreciated.

THE ARREST OF MR. KIKUCHI.

AMONG the many arrests made in connection with the lamentable tragedy in Söul, none has caused more astonishment in the newspaper world than that of Mr. Kikuchi, correspondent of the *Kokumin Shimbun*. He is described as being a young man of 24, a fluent writer, and ardent patriot, without the least tendency to *sōshi* ideas. Mr. Kikuchi has enjoyed the benefits of a really thorough education, and bears the high reputation of a blameless life hitherto; so strong hopes are entertained that he may prove innocent of the dreadful crime of complicity with which he is accused. We learn that the *Kokumin* people are doing everything in their power to make their correspondent's incarceration as light as possible. Special messengers are about leaving Tokyo with gifts of food and money for the prisoner, and no stone will be left unturned to secure his acquittal.

JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA, which, however, extends through to Port Darwin on the north coast, has sent a Government Commissioner, the Hon. J. Langdon Parsons—to Japan to inquire into the possibilities of extending trade between the two countries. He has brought with him trial shipments of South Australian products, samples of which will be on view at the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce from Tuesday to Saturday this week from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Japanese and Foreign Merchants are invited to inspect what South Australia can supply, and furnish particulars of what Japan can export to South Australia. We hope the mission of the Commissioner will be successful.

HAMANO SHIGERU.

GREAT commotion was noticeable on Saturday, the 2nd instant, in the rooms of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, this being the immediate consequence of the arrest of Mr. Hamano Shigeru and his colleagues of the Chutetsu Kaisha; for Mr. Hamano is one of the most daring and successful speculators in Japan, and holds thousands of shares in the largest concerns. As a manipulator of the share market, he is popularly believed to have no equal. There was therefore a marked downward tendency in the early morning, which grew almost to a small panic before business hours were over. The instability of everything but gilt-edged stocks was proved beyond dispute, and fears are entertained that this week will see a still greater fall. The opinion was loudly expressed, at the same time, that Mr. Hamano, although most probably guilty of the grave charges preferred against him, was only the victim of the unscrupulous clique that have been for months past doing all in their power to ruin the Chutetsu Kaisha—a set of men, members of the concern, who are rumoured to stop at nothing if they may in any way enrich themselves. At all events, the affair is now assuming such proportions that nothing but a very thorough sifting of the facts in the case will satisfy the public. Outside the precincts of the various exchanges, strange to say, Mr Hamano is not given the benefit of any doubt. The general public are firm in their belief that he and he only is the arch-conspirator.

AMERICAN NAVAL OFFICERS' WORK.

THE *Army and Navy Journal* (U.S.A.) says:—We are glad to know that some of our Naval Officers do good work in addition to their routine service. Surgeon F. B. Stephenson, U.S.N., has lately finished translations from several Russian publications about the gipsy moth, for the State Board of Agriculture of Massachusetts. During a recent cruise on the Asiatic Station, Dr. Stephenson made use of his opportunities to advantage in gaining a practical knowledge of the language of this nation—so rapidly growing in strength and influence.—Dr. Stephenson is also a member of the Société d'anthropologie de Paris, and of the Asiatic Society of Japan, Tokyo.

H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA.

THE body of the late Prince Kitashirakawa, Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Body Guards, arrived at Yokosuka on the 4th inst. at 7.40 a.m. by the *Saikyo Maru*, which was escorted by the *Yoshino Kan*. The bier was disembarked at night, and placed on a special train, which conveyed it to Shimbashi, where it arrived at 12.45 this morning. On the 3rd inst. H.I.H. Princess Kitashirakawa, and her children; Prince and Princess Komatsu (junior); and Count Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, who was specially dispatched as a Messenger from the Emperor, proceeded to Yokosuka, and on the 4th inst. H.I.H. Komatsu (senior), Baron Takasaki, Mr. Sannomiya, and a few military officers also went down to the naval port.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

THE following Notice to Mariners, referring to the rock on the north side of channel inside the Lyeemoon, in the Canton District of the China Sea, has been issued from the Coast Inspector's Office of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs:—Notice is hereby given of the discovery of a rock, covered only 9 feet at low water of spring tides, which is situated about 750 yards north-west of the N.W. point of the northern or Chinese shore of the Lyeemoon (British Admiralty Chart No. 1,466. This obstruction is the shoalest part of a patch of rocky pinnacles within a radius from it of about 200 feet, and with varying depth over them of from 3 to 8 fathoms. Vessels should not pass between this obstruction and the mainland to the north-eastward.

ALLEGED RUDENESS BY A FOREIGNER.

THE *Kokkai* publishes a somewhat mysterious paragraph to the effect that a certain foreigner pushed a Japanese lady violently out of the way during the performance of the *Miyako Odori* at Kyoto. A Mr. E. R. Burton, or Barton, an Englishman, is mentioned as having witnessed and reported the act of rudeness, and the *Kokkai* concludes its paragraph with these words:—"Foreigners that complain of Japanese men's treating foreign ladies discourteously, had better remember this incident well." We should be pleased to know what the *Kokkai* means by such an ominous utterance. The Tokyo journal seems to us to have been betrayed into an exhibition of childish and unreasoning petulance. It surely can not imagine that rudeness to a Japanese lady on the part of a foreigner would ever be condoned by his countrymen. If anything of the kind occurred during the recent festivities in Kyoto, it must have been under very exceptional circumstances, and its condemnation by all respectable foreigners goes without saying. To tell the truth, in so far as the polite treatment of ladies by gentlemen is concerned, the Japanese have everything to learn from Europeans and Americans, and nothing to teach them. Some people hold, indeed, that the treatment of women in the West is altogether extravagant, and that Oriental customs are, in that respect, much more rational than Occidental. We say nothing as to that, but we do say that, if the mere question of courteous and considerate treatment be under consideration, the advantage is all on the foreign side. Does it ever occur to a Japanese gentleman—we speak of ordinary folks—to make way for a lady at a railway wicket; or to offer her his seat in a tram-car or train; or to open or shut a window for her; or to consult her convenience before lighting a cigar in a railway carriage; or to perform for her any of the thousand little services that an educated foreigner delights to render to women of any nation and every social status? Instead of penning inflammatory paragraphs designed to suggest that Japanese ladies are rudely treated by foreigners, and to incite a spirit of retaliation upon the Japanese side, the *Kokkai*, did it desire to be just, should point out that Japanese women of all classes receive at the hands of foreigners far more polite and deferential treatment than they receive at the hands of their own countrymen, and that if an instance of rudeness occurred in Kyoto, it must be regarded as a most rare exception to an admirable and, on the whole, sedulously observed rule.

COLONEL BARROW OF HONGKONG.

ON the eve of Colonel Barrow's departure from Hongkong a testimonial was presented to him in public meeting, as a mark of esteem. Colonel Barrow was first Commandant of the specially raised Hongkong Regiment, and the presentation took the form of two pieces of plate, one for the Colonel, the other for the Mess of the Regiment, and an illuminated address. Part of the address ran as follows:—"Sir,—When Her Majesty's Government decided upon the addition to the Garrison of Hongkong of a native Indian Regiment, to be permanently stationed here, you were specially selected by the Military Authorities for the responsible duty of raising that Regiment and, as its first Commandant, of giving it such an organisation and bringing it under such discipline that it should be worthy to take its place in the field, or, in the camp, with the bravest and best of Her Majesty's Regiments. Your great military experience, your tact and skill in the management of men, and your extensive knowledge of the native races and languages of India have enabled you, with the valuable assist-

ance of the Officers associated with you, to perform the task imposed upon you with very great success, and, to-day, the Hongkong Regiment is as fine a body of men and as soldierly as any officer need wish to command, or any General desire to see in his division or brigade.'

A RUMOUR FROM CANTON.

THE correspondent of the *China Mail* who resides in Canton, sent the following communication to that journal on the 23rd of October:—A report has reached me that a scheme is being got up for the capture of Canton. It is said that several thousand men from Wai Chau and Chiu Chau have the business in hand, but it is not known who are the leaders. A prominent official appealed to the Centry in the Western suburbs to aid in defending the city, and there is no doubt a lively stir in officialdom just at this time. The officer who appealed to the Centry was formerly a police officer on Shameen, and it was he who gave the information as reported.

LETTERS TO NEWSPAPERS.

THE British public, observes a contemporary, seems to have been seized with a letter-writing mania, or is it that while news is scarce, Editors disclose to the world a fact of which they are made conscious all the year round? "A Constant Reader" of *The Times*, writing on the 17th Sept., says.—"Under the heading of 'Journalistic Hospitality,' you published last November a letter calling attention to a record which had just been established through the appearance of 48 letters on 35 different subjects in a single issue of *The Times*. May I point out that you have now broken your own record, as *The Times* of to-day contains 52 letters on 35 different subjects?"

THE "WIELAND."

ALL other efforts to extinguish the fire on board the German steamer *Wieland* at Singapore having proved unavailing, she was scuttled on the 20th ult. Her repairs will cost an enormous sum of money. It may be remembered that she got ashore on the Brothers some months ago, and had to be repaired at Shanghai at a cost of $8,000. The owner of the *Wieland* went down to Singapore by the *Karlsruhe* from Hongkong. About 1,500 tons of cargo have been taken out of her, sugar and hemp, which has been safely stowed away in godowns.

THE RECREATION OF VISCOUNT ENOMOTO.

AN interesting volume could be written on the recreation of great men, says the *Kobe Chronicle*, and the book could be well illustrated with the caricatures which vividly convey the intelligence to the world. Viscount Enomoto, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, a vernacular journal tells us, has bought a loom invented by a Japanese, and he refuses all visitors save those on official business, so that the great art and industry of weaving may not suffer by the interference of polite wasters of time.

CRICKET AT KOBE.

ON Saturday afternoon a game of Cricket was played in Kobe between teams armed respectively with bats and broomsticks. The latter had much the best of the encounter. The Bats went first to the wicket and scored 61, 12 of which were extras, for eight wickets—W. Braess 11 and Hellyer 12 were the only double-figure innings. Tate took five wickets. The Broomsticks made 91 for three wickets, Lucas knocking up 32, including 9 threes, and Duff not out 22. Tate playing a second innings as a substitute made 19, not out.

THE U.S.S. "CONCORD" ASHORE.

THE U.S.S. *Concord*, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, went ashore on Josshouse Spit when going down river on the morning of October 31st, while in company of the *Monocacy*. The *Monocacy* tried in vain to tow her off at high water; but, as was expected, the *Concord* floated the following tide when there was more water, and proceeded to Woosung.

THE ATTEMPTED INSURRECTION AT CANTON.

ACCORDING to the Hongkong papers, some five or six hundred coolies were induced to leave Hongkong to take part in the uprising at Canton, by offers of good pay and clothing. The *Powan* also took up to Canton, unknown to her owners, a large number of revolvers and some ammunition, all neatly packed in five casks of cement. The arms were seized at Canton, and this apparently upset the arrangements of the rebels, and the coolies refused to go further in the matter. For a time the Canton magistracy were greatly alarmed.

AN ENGINEERING TRIUMPH.

THE new bridge over the Danube at Tchernavoda, in Roumania, which has been built at a cost of 34,000,000 francs (£1,360,000), was formally opened on the 26th September with great ceremony by the King of Roumania. The bridge with its approaches is 3,628 metres (nearly 4,000 yards) in length, and the highest point above the level of the river is 30 metres (about 95 ft.). The structure is regarded as one of the engineering triumphs of the century.

THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

THE rain poured down incessantly in Yokohama on Sunday, completely putting a stop to the attempt at decorations started the previous evening. At noon-day a salute was fired by the war-ships in harbour, which include the *Aurora* (Austrian), *Bayard*, *Isly*, *Lion* (French), *Pamiat Azov*, *Bobr* (Russian), *Porpoise* (British), and *Musashi Kan* (Japanese).

THE "KUNGPAI" DISASTER.

IN addition to the body of the late Captain Soden of the *Kungpai*, those of Mr. Ljungloff, the chief officer, and Master Eben Clements have been recovered from the wreck. Captain Soden's body arrived in Shanghai by the *Fungshun* on the 1st November.

DISTRESSING OCCURRENCE.

ABOUT eight o'clock last evening a woman named Toki, a servant of a fore gner living on the Bluff, accidentally shot herself through the head, with fatal results.

SIR N. R. O'CONOR.

SIR NICHOLAS R. O'CONOR left Pekin on Nov. 2nd for Shanghai *en route* for Europe.

THE following are the Raw Silk shippers per O. R. & N. Co.'s steamer *Mount Lebanon* for New York:—

Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co.....	50 Bales.
Messrs. Robison & Co.	20 Bales.
Total	70 Bales.

THE ELECTRIC GIRL.

We read in the *Yorodzu Choho* that the exposure of Miss Abbott's secret by the scientific experts of Tokyo has destroyed her chances of a successful exhibition in Osaka. She was on the point of concluding an agreement to visit the latter city when Professor Kano and Dr. Marumo took her in hand, and showed—so says the *Choho*—that a skilful application of muscle was her whole accomplishment. Thereat the Osaka enterprise had to be abandoned. What is it, we wonder, that has satisfied Japanese intelligence with regard to Miss Abbott. If the explanations given in the columns of the *Choho* and the *Hochi* are sufficient to convince any thinking person, his moral calibre must be of a special type.

THE IMPERIAL GARDEN PARTY.

It does not appear to be certain that the Imperial Garden Party will not take place this year, though the general impression is in that sense. Presumably the official announcement of His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa's death will be made to-day (4th), and so far as we can gather, the period of Court mourning will be only a week, thus ending on the 10th. Under any circumstances, the Garden Party would not have taken place before the 9th, and so far as the chrysanthemums are concerned, the 15th would not be too late. For the moment, therefore, nothing definite can be asserted.

THE QUEEN OF KOREA.

Much interest attaches to everything connected with the imfortunate lady, lately known as Queen of Korea. The following account of a first visit to Her Majesty, made by Dr. Annie E. Bunker, appears in the *Korean Repository* for October:—

During the visit of Mrs. H. G. Underwood and myself to Her Majesty on the 14th. of September, we saw the Queen Dowager and she gave us each a handsome gold-embroidered *chumoney* or purse. Our visit to Her Royal Highness was in the same place where some years ago I went to see the Queen. Many changes have come since then and the Queen now lives in a new building, beautifully lighted with electricity, in another part of the grounds.

It is just nine years ago this fall since I was first, in company with Dr. H. N. Allen, the King's physician, called to visit Her Majesty the Queen. She had been ill for some time and they had sent to Dr Allen for medicines. As there was no improvement in her condition the Doctor assured them that, in order to treat Her Majesty properly, she must be examined, and so the writer was called.

It was a lovely autumn day, when in the early afternoon, we started for the Palace in our sedan chairs, with our *keysos* (soldiers) running ahead and clearing the way. My heart was thumping vigorously, and I wondered how I would be received, half fearing the ordeal.

On our arrival at the outer side-gate of the palace wall, we had to get out of our chairs and walk quite a distance, about a quarter of a mile, I should judge, to the Reception Hall. As we neared the place we were met by Prince Min Young Ik whom I had met, and who, having travelled much, knew something of the customs of foreigners.

He showed us some of the beauties of the palace grounds and after our walk around the artificial lake, he escorted us to the waiting-room and there had us served with foreign food, Korean fruit, and nuts.

Soon a messenger dressed in court costume came for me and, Prince Min accompanying me, we started for the Audience Hall. We first crossed a large open court, which I noticed had large potted plants around three sides of it but not a spear of grass growing in it anywhere. Ascending a flight of broad stone steps, crossing the narrow verandah and stepping over a high door sill, I found that we were at one end of a long, wide hall, the floors of which were covered with the soft, beautiful, figured Korean matting which is such a fine article and so hard to obtain. At the farther end of the hall I saw a large number of Koreans, men, women, and young girls. I made my three bows as I advanced and then found myself in front of the company among whom I soon singled out Her Majesty, and for the rest of that visit I had eyes for no one but her. In later visits I learned to distinguish the gentlemen from the eunuchs, and also the ladies-in-waiting by their peculiar head-gear and their fine skirts of silk gauze. The immense chignons worn by these ladies are objects of wonder, not only as to size but also as to how the intricate windings and braidings of the glossy strands is accomplished. One evening while witnessing some of the delightful and peculiar posture-dancing done by the dancing girls at the palace, I asked one of them if her chignon was not heavy—"Oh, said she, it is very heavy and makes my head ache." These head dressings vary in shape; sometimes they are long and narrow and then again they have large lateral loops.

The Queen, beautifully dressed in silk gauze skirts, with strings of pearls in her raven locks, a lady, short of stature, with white skin, black eyes and black hair, greeted me most pleasantly. She had on no enormous head-dress, but only her own glistening locks twisted in a most becoming knot low down on her neck. She wears on the top of her forehead her Korean insignia of rank. All the ladies of the nobility wear a similiar decoration, but of inferior quality and workmanship. To me the face of the Queen, especially when she smiles, is full of beauty. She is a superior woman and she impressed one as having a strong will and great force of character, with much kindliness of heart. I have always received the kindest words and treatment from her and I have much admiration and great respect for her. After first asking if I were well, how old I was, how my parents were, if I had brothers and sisters, and how they were, she proceeded to tell me that they had been told by Dr. Allen of my arrival in Korea: that she was much pleased at my coming and hoped I would like the country. All of this conversation was carried on through an interpreter who stood, with his body bent double, back of a door where he could hear but not see.

Prince Min, who had been standing by, now had a chair brought for me and I noticed that back of her Majesty there was a foreign couch. The Queen telling me to be seated, sat down on this couch and then came the medical part of the interview.

I had noticed that two gentlemen had seated themselves when the Queen sat and when I got up to leave, they with Her Majesty rose and returned my bows.

Prince Min conducted me back to the waiting-room and there I waited for Dr. Allen who was having an audience with His Majesty. When he returned I learned from him that both the King and Crown Prince had been present during my interview. I was very glad that I had not known who the gentlemen were, for I fear my composure would not have been even such as it was. After being served with more food and fruit we were each given a certain number of soldiers to accompany us home and and also, as it was dark, lantern bearers. The sight of the Korean lantern with its outer covering of red and green silk gauze is very picturesque, and as we passed many a dusky head peeped out through opened doors and windows to see what it all meant. The empty dark streets with the dark low houses on either side, the lantern bearers of the Doctor's chair and of mine with the attendant soldiers carrying their rifles made a picture at once interesting and unique. In recent visits we are permitted to go through the large front gate into the grounds and right up to the waiting room door. Upon arriving here tea, coffee, and fruit are served and then we are called in to Her Majesty, who receives us in one of the smaller private appartments. The King and Crown Prince are always present. After the interview we are permitted to proceed home immediately.

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KOREAN NEWS.

Concerning the ill-advised attempt to give the title of Emperor to the King of Korea, it is stated that, despite protests from the Ministers of Russia, France, and the United States, the Korean Cabinet were resolved to carry out the measure, when the ex-Japanese Minister, Viscount Miura, on the occasion of his farewell visit to the Cabinet on the 19th ultimo, recommended, among other things, that the assumption of the title be postponed. His advice was adopted, the period of postponement being three months. But soon after his departure from Söul, the advocates of the measure again began to agitate for its immediate execution, and their success was such that the date was fixed for the 26th ultimo, extensive preparations being commenced for the celebration of the occasion in a fitting manner. Then again a strong remonstrance from the foreign Representatives compelled the Korean Ministry to bow to the inevitable. In order to save face, however, the ceremony was performed, so far as concerned the presentation of the Imperial title, but the king, in conformity with a preconcerted plan, graciously declined the honour on the ground of his own unworthiness.

The Korean Government's financial position is said to be desperate. The Minister President recently issued a notification to the different Departments of State, urging the utmost economy and the dismissal of all superfluous officials. In some Departments, it is believed that the official staff might be reduced to one half of the present number without causing any inconvenience. To ensure the payment of the land tax a stringent law was recently promulgated for the punishment of proprietors attempting to elude by dishonest means their obligations in that respect. To enforce the law, a number of revenue inspectors were appointed.

The number of Chinese merchants in Söul is reported to be steadily increasing. They are said to be slowly but surely re-gaining their former commanding position. The Japanese settlement, on the other hand, shows signs of gradual decadence, a number of shops in the neighbourhood of the South Gate having been recently closed.

The report of the grant to an American firm of the privilege to work some mines in An-san in Phyöng-an-do, was recently denied, but the *Chuo Shimbun's* correspondent states that it is true. It was originally alleged that the contract had been secretly concluded by the Court without any reference to the Cabinet. But the latest story is that the agreement was signed by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

With the return to Japan of Messrs. Hoshi Toru, Saito Shuichiro, Okamoto Ryunosuke, Ishizuka Eizo, and a few others, there remain only a few Japanese in the service of the Korean Government. They are Police Inspector Takehisa, Adviser to the Police Board; Mr. Niwo, Adviser to the Finance Department; Mr. Yamada, Adviser to the Postal Bureau; and Dr. Sewaki, Honorary Sanitary Adviser to the Home Office. Mr. Takehisa is expected to return home in a short time.

The growing of ginseng has hitherto been a State monopoly. But the Korean Government is said to have abandoned the privilege, as its maintenance has not proved sufficiently lucrative. In future, private persons will be free to grow any quantity of the root, provided that they pay the prescribed duty. It is believed that this method will be more profitable to the State than the monopoly system.

The *Mezamashi Shimbun's* Ninsen correspondent states that a certain Russian, lately living in the Palace in Söul in the character of a building contractor, was discovered to be a spy. He is said to have left Ninsen on board a Russian man-of-war. His name, so far as we can gather from its transliterated form seems to be Sabachin.

The Japanese colony at Ninsen is stated to be in a very prosperons condition, the population having already reached five thousand. It is thus nearly as large as the settlement at Fusan. The construction of new houses is going on at various places. Some of the residents contemplate establishing an electric light company, with a capital of 20,000 *yen*. A license is said to have been already obtained from the Consul. The formal organization of the company will take place on the return of Mr. Nishiwaki, Manager of the branch office of the First National Bank, who is now absent in Japan.

Every steamer arriving from Japan used to bring from thirty to fifty new comers to Korea. But since the issue of the recent Imperial Ordinance restricting the passage of Japanese subjects to the peninsula, the number of new arrivals is said to have decreased to only three or four per steamer.

FORMOSA NEWS.

Fang-liao has hitherto been mentioned as the landing place of the half of the Second Division under the command of Lieutenant-General Baron Nogi. But according to the latest letters from correspondents accompanying the expedition, the place where the debarkation actually took place is called Banshirin, a little over half a mile north of Fang-liao. The bay is open to the south, while to the north it is surrounded by a lofty range of mountains, which constituted an effectual barrier against strong gales blowing from the north-east.

A little before dawn on the morning of the 11th ultimo, the transports, headed by the *Yayeyama Kan*, dropped anchor in the smooth waters of the bay. The *Yayeyama* at once landed a party of marines, who took possession of the village on shore without encountering any opposition and prepared the place for the reception of the troops. A company of infantry, the first among the troops of the expedition to land, came on shore at 7.50 a.m., and were at once ordered to proceed along the coast in the direction of Tang-kang. Half an hour later, two more companies were landed; one being instructed to take the route along the shore toward Fang-liao, while the other was despatched in the direction of Katongha, a small village two miles and a half inland to the north, which was a strategical point of great value. Thus secured on all sides against surprise by the enemy, the work of debarkation went on rapidly and without any hitch, so that all the troops, coolies, horses, and other accompaniments of the expedition, with the exception of a part of the provisions to be afterward discharged at Tang-kang and Takow, had been got ashore by six in the evening.

The Company that proceeded to Fang-liao found it already deserted by the enemy, about five hundred of whom had been stationed there. They had fallen back upon Katongha, where they made a desperate stand. The company that marched northward along the seashore, met a few hundreds of the Black Flags and volunteers, including some women, who were put to flight without much difficulty, part flying to Katongha. The garrison at the latter place, thus receiving a fresh addition, was swelled into a strong body of troops, more than a thousand in all. Protected by double lines of walls encircling the village and by a moat of considerable width that ran almost completely round the place, the garrison made a sturdy stand. The engagement that took place here need not be reproduced, as it has already been described by our own special correspondent. Mention may, however, be made of the heroic conduct of an extremely young officer. Among the parties that gallantly charged the insurgents, the one that showed the most dogged courage was led by Sub-Lieutenant Maruyama, a youth of twenty who had graduated at the Military College in March last. Wading through the muddy moat, he was the first to climb the wall, when just as he placed his foot on the top, he was shot through the left side of his stomach. Undaunted by the wound, he brandished his sword and called his men to come on, when another bullet pierced his abdomen. He fell from the wall, but was attempting instantly to rise, when a fragment of a shell fired by the insurgents carried off his right hand. He died the following day. Of the six non-commissioned officers under him, five were wounded.

The bombardment of Takow has also been described by our own correspondent. We may refer to some papers found by the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent at one of the forts there. The first was a letter addressed by Liu Yung-fu to his son, who had command of the troops at Takow. The Black Flag leader informed his son that the proposal of surrender sent to the Japanese was simply a device to gain time. "The Japanese army," continued the curious epistle, "has become irresolute and wavering upon hearing of our proposal for capitulation. Taking advantage of this state of things, it may be expected that the English and French fleets will come and sink the Japanese ships and kill the proud Japanese General. In that case, I have no doubt that it will be easy to accomplish the establishment of a Republic in this island. You will, therefore, do well to put forth your utmost exertions in the defence of your post. Whether his proposed surrender was really a ruse to gain time, or whether his proposition having been rejected, be hastened to explain away his conduct by disavowing any real desire to surrender, it is impossible to say. The insolent language in which his letters to the Japanese commanders were couched, seems to favour the idea that the thing was a ruse, but if so, it was a device to gain time not for completing military preparations but for effecting his escape.

A proclamation posted in the barracks at Takow enumerated the acts that would be punished with death. They were (1) cowardly flight before the enemy; (2) feigning sickness on the field of battle; (3) disobedience to the commands of officers on the field of battle; (4) all mutinous disturbances; (5) violation of women; (6) desertion; (7) divulging of military secrets; (8) theft of private property; (9) assault resulting in death; and (10) selling implements of war and stealing generally.

Concerning the progress of the Brigade that landed at Pau-tay-chi, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* correspondent writes under date of the 19th ultimo, from a nameless village a little over twenty miles from Tainan. The detachment, that marched along the seashore, to which the correspondent was attached, is said to have been obliged to fight its way against very obstinate foes, especially on the 18th. A powerful body of insurgents, including an artillery corps, had been reported to be gathering in the vicinity of Oyato, and the above mentioned detachment under Colonel Sasaki proceeded to attack them on the morning of the 18th. As the correspondent does not attempt to give any idea of the topography of the battlefield, it is difficult to follow his descriptions of the fighting that ensued for twelve hours, from sunrise to sunset. That it was a pretty hard contest at some points, may be gathered from the fact that hand to hand encounters took place in the course of the day. In one of these, all the officers of the company were wounded. Sub-Lieutenant Unoki had his head gashed; while Sub-Lieutenant Kamada, fighting with several insurgents, had one of his ears nearly cut off. It is related that he tore off the ear and putting it into his pocket, rushed upon his assailants. Toward sunset, the field was cleared of the enemy, about 400 of whom had been cut down or shot. The total loss on the Japanese side was 2 killed and 20 wounded.

According to a telegram received by the Government on the 3rd instant, Governor-General Count Kabayama and suite entered Tainan on the 26th ultimo, receiving an enthusiastic welcome from the people all along the way. Not a single house is said to have been injured in the foreign settlement of Tainan and Anping. A few foreigners and some Chinese fled to Amoy together with Liu Yung-fu, but the rest of the people were peacefully engaged in their respective occupations. In consequence of the long interruption of communication with other places, the people in Tainan and its vicinity were suffering from scarcity of food. There was a project among them to petition for the sale of rice stowed in the Government granaries. The Custom-houses at Anping and Takow

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are open every day, and considerable income is obtained from that source. Civil administration offices have already been opened at Tainan, Anping, and Feng-shan. The message concluded by saying that things were in a very satisfactory condition.

It is reported that the Governor-General will probably return to Tokyo with the last batch of the Imperial Guards. There was an understanding between him and the Cabinet Ministers when he first left for the South, that after the subjugation of the insurgents, he should return home. But as yet no official report of his return has been received in Tokyo. The first batch of the Imperial Guards are expected to embark for home at Anping between the 7th and 10th inst., and the whole Division will be in Tokyo by the end of the month.

On the morning of the 22nd ultimo, the Japanese troops formed a ring round Tainan, exactly as had been planned at the outset. The correspondents say that the report of Liu Yung-fu's escape caused universal disappointment among the troops, and in marching toward the southern capital of the island it was easy to perceive that they moved comparatively listlessly.

When Major-General Yamaguchi's corps entered Tainan, the citizens came into the streets and burned incense. Each had a piece of paper on his breast, with an inscription intimating that he was a good and loyal subject of Japan. Baron Yamaguchi, who is distinguished for magnanimous chivalry, set the example to his troops of treating the inhabitants with indulgence and consideration. But as had been the case at all other places, the gentleness of the Japanese soldiery was soon mistaken for weakness, and the citizens became insolent to the troops. A large number of the Chinese houses in the city were marked as the property of certain English merchants. But this artifice was too crude to impose upon the Japanese, who, taught by the experience at Yingkow, made a searching inquiry and soon exposed the fraud.

The head-quarters of the Army would have been established in the Government Buildings, but the latter being in a state of great confusion, the house of a rich merchant, named Li, was requisitioned for the purpose. The establishment is described as large and extremely elegant, one of the correspondents declaring that the furniture and every other appointment are the best he has thus far seen in his travels during the late war in Manchuria and afterwards in Formosa. It is the same mansion that was used by the Black Flag leader as his head-quarters.

As to the mode in which Liu Yung-fu escaped to the continent, various rumours are current in Tainan. Some assert that he crossed the sea in a junk; others that he took passage on a British ship; and yet others that, leaving originally by a junk, he was picked up by a Chinese official steamer, one of two sent by the Viceroy of Fukien to carry him off.

MR. KANO AND THE "LITTLE ELECTRIC MAGNET."

On the strength of information obtained from Miss Abbott's manager, we stated, in our issue of yesterday, that Professor Kano employed unnecessary roughness in endeavouring to test the character of Miss Abbott's feats, and had persistently refused to comply with the conditions laid down by the performer. But it appears now that Miss Abbott's manager is somewhat confused as to the identity of the Japanese that have been "investighting" on the stage in the Kinki-kan. It may be, therefore, that we owe Mr. Kano an apology, so far as concerns the question of roughness or irregularity. But his statements, as published in the *Yorodzu Choho*, remain, and it was to these that we chiefly addressed ourselves. If Mr. Kano can prove his case, his demonstration will be received with much interest.

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is but natural that the rumour of frequent meetings between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma should atract widespread attention in political circles—Tuesdays's *Nichi Nichi* has the following note.—"Marquis Ito visited Count Okuma again on the 27th ultimo, to view the horticultural exposition held in the host's garden. After a walk through the garden, he was entertained at dinner by the Count, the only other guest present being Marquis Nabeshima, the former feudal lord of the host. No political significance seems to attach to the meeting. It may, however, be stated that the Count seemed extremely pleased to converse with his old friend the Premier."

The *Kokkai* of the same day contains the following characteristic note:—"According to a report of the political meteorological observatory, a big star was observed, on the night of the 3rd instant, to traverse the firmament from Takanawa to Waseda, where it danced about with another large star, as though they were two human beings met to hold a close conference." It is not necessary to explain the meaning of this allegorical note, Takanawa and Waseda being the places where Marquis Ito and Count Okuma respectively reside.

The delegates of the Opposition parties are waiting upon the Ministers of State to ascertain their views about the Korean question. Thus far these politicians have refrained from resorting to open agitation. Their idea seems to be that their object, to wit, the resignation of the Cabinet, may be more smoothly effected by personal interviews with the Ministers than by an appeal to public opinion. They have not yet been able to see the Premier. In reply to to their note seeking an interview with him, the Marquis sent them word that he should be very glad to see them at five o'clock on the afternoon of the 3rd instant. Being, however, unable to wait on him that day, they called at his house the following morning, when, the Premier not being at home, they left word that they should call again at a certain date. The delegates that sought to speak with the Premier were Messrs. Haseba Junko, Taguchi Ukichi, Inukai Ki, Minoura Katsundo, and Ohigashi Gitetsu, all members of the House of Representatives. Should the result of their interview with Marquis Ito be unsatisfactory to them, they intend, it is said, to carry their demand for the Cabinet's resignation to the bar of public opinion.

The *Kokkai* states that Viscount Tani has of late twice visited Marquis Ito and offered him some advice in connection with a certain political affair. Our contemporary opines that the advice must have related to the desirability of the Cabinet's resignation, so that the Korean problem may be dealt with by their successors on a new and more advantageous basis.

Count Okuma now attracts a great deal of public attention. We are informed that he was recently visited by Count Goto and Oki. Nothing is known about the nature of the conversation that took place between the host and the guests. Count Okuma, however, is reported to have declared that the call was simply one of courtesy, and it is said that the conversation turned on horticulture and various social topics.

Another circumstance much talked of is the return of Count Matsukata to the Capital. He is regarded with keen interest because, in the event of a reorganization of the Government—whenever such an occurrence takes place—he is certain to obtain a prominent position. Among the Satsuma men, he is considered the most likely candidate for the post of Minister President. Further interest is imparted to his movements at the present moment by the very general notion that he is on intimate terms with Count Okuma. People go so far as to say that, when he resigned his office of Finance Minister, he acted at the instigation of the leader of the Progressionists. Whatever may be the exact degree of intimacy between the two Counts, it seems partly certain that their relations are not such as to preclude the possibility of cöoperation. We do not say that the ex-Minister of Finance's return to the Capital is connected with any political question. Neither do we intend to hint that Count Okuma is desirous of cöoperating with him. Our meaning is simply that there is no apparent obstacle to a political union between the two statesmen.

While men are turning more and more attention to Count Okuma and his doings, there is also a rumour of Count Itagaki's either entering the Cabinet or receiving the appointment of a Privy Councillor. The Radical leader's nomination to a Ministerial post would, in the estimate of the public in general, be less surprising than the return of Count Okuma to power. But, so far as we know, there seems to be no foundation for anticipating either event, at any rate immediately. As to the rumour of Count Itagaki's probable appointment to a Privy Councillorship, the *Kokkai* has the following:—It is reported that Count Itagaki will probably be appointed a Privy Councillor. When Marquis Ito's first visit to Count Okuma took place, and it began to be said that the Progressionist leader would enter the Cabinet, Mr. Kono Hironaka repeatedly visited Baron Ito Miyoji. This is a fact beyond doubt. On the occasion of one of these visits, Mr. Kono is believed to have told the Baron that, should circumstances make it impossible to appoint Count Itagaki either to a Ministerial post or to that of President of the Privy Council, an ordinary Privy Councillorship would suffice. To this the Secretary-General of the Cabinet is reported to have answered that, if such were the case, he would see what could be done. Some time has elapsed since then, and it is believed in certain quarters that the appointment will take place one of these days. But according to our information there is strong opposition in official circles to his appointment, so that the event is at best very uncertain."

The journalistic world of Tokyo is promised the addition of a new magazine, called *Toyô Keizai Shimpo* (Oriental Economic Intelligence). It is to be published three times a month, together with a monthly supplement of trade returns. The editor will be Mr. Machida Chuji, formerly on the staff of the *Choya Shimbun*, a writer well known in the field of journalism. It is stated that he will have the assistance of such men as Messrs. Oishi Masami, Komuchi Tomotsune, Suyenobe Michinari, Amano Tameyuki, Hirota Kenjiro, Kure Bunso, and Kimura Seishiro.

The impression gathers strength that a political change of some magnitude is impending. It will take the form, according to general belief, of the organization of a Coalition Cabinet comprising statesmen of the elder generation. The *Tokyo Asahi* writes on this subject as follows:—"The leaders of the Constitutional Reform, Progressionist, and other parties, are endeavouring to carry out their purpose by discussing the question of responsibility directly with the Ministers of State. Should this stratagem fail, they seem resolved to make an appeal to the nation. The conduct of these politicians, however, being in accordance with the common rule of party tactics, need cause no surprise. But the visits recently paid by various statesmen to Count Okuma belong to a different category, and may justly be taken as indicative of an impending change of some sort in the political world. From their mutual relations, in the past, it would seem very improbable that these statesmen should join hands. But a certain personage, deeming it lamentable that petty personal feuds and struggles should mar the present important crisis in the expansion of the Empire, has worked hard to bring about a reconciliation between the different statesmen. He began by converting certain business men to his way of thinking, and then, working in a very circuitous but skilful manner, he extended his campaign to the leading statesmen. The result was a meeting between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma. More recently, Count Oki was induced to act as a mediator between

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Count Okuma and Count Goto, and the latter paid a visit to the former at his residence. Count Matsukata, too, has come back to the Capital. His ostensible object is to be present at the marriage of his son, but rumour asserts that he, too, is connected with the meditated political re-arrangement. Possibly the rumour is well founded. Count Itagaki, also, is reported to be about to be appointed to a Ministerial post. From these indications, the public infers that a *Koshin Naikaku* is on the point of organization. We do not vouch for the correctness of the inference, but it is certainly worth while to notice these rumours for what they may be worth."

The *Nichi Nichi* has the following significant note on the situation:—"We are informed that the recent meeting between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma had no political meaning and that the conversation turned on social and personal subjects only. Inquiries about the matter have elicited these facts:—Count Okuma, through the medium of a certain person, informed Marquis Ito of his wish for an opportunity to converse with the latter, and pleading his physical infirmity, begged the Premier to be so kind as to pay him a visit. Marquis Ito willingly complied with the request, and a few days afterwards the meeting took place. The Premier was entertained at dinner by the Count and Countess, and the conversation ran pleasantly on their past experiences. The following day, Countess Okuma called at the Premier's residence and left her husband's card. It was rumoured that Marquis Ito had promised to be present at Count Okuma's garden party on the 10th ultimo. But that was not true, for as a matter of fact he was not invited to it. However, the horticultural exposition held in the Count's garden on the 27th, was visited by Marquis Ito. The conversation that he afterwards had on that occasion with Count Okuma is known to Marquis Nabeshima alone, for when the Premier arrived, all the other visitors had already left, and the former feudal chief of Saga was the only person present at the meeting. Much importance is attached to the absence of other witnesses, and in political circles the conference is regarded as a political event. On the evening of the 3rd instant, Counts Goto and Oki visited Count Okuma, the conversation lasting for several hours. Concerning this meeting, some persons say that its object was to consult about a plan for taking converted measures on the question of Ministerial responsibility; while others think differently. Yesterday (6th), Marquis Ito visited Count Matsukata, who had returned to Tokyo on the preceding day. From these circumstances, it has begun to be rumoured that the formation of a "Cabinet of all the Talents" is under contemplation. It is not likely that such a project is on the *tapis*, for a *Koshin Naikaku* may take three months to organize, but would not require as many days to fall to the ground. The thing is ridiculous." The *Nichi Nichi*, as our readers perceive, is very confident.

THE NEW FRENCH CABINET.

But little further news has been received as to the composition of the new French Cabinet. We know only that M. Bourgeois is President of the Council, Mr. Doumer, Minister of Finance, and M. Bertholet, Minister of Foreign Affairs. We are not in a position to speak of the latter's qualifications for the important office to which he has been appointed, or of his proclivities, but the general opinion is that he can not be expected to make a very brilliant successor to M. Hanotaux.

THE INDEMNITY.

A telegram from Mr. Kato, Japanese Representative in London, says that the first instalment of the Chinese indemnity was duly paid over by the Chinese Minister on the forenoon of the 31st ultimo, and lodged in the Bank of England to the credit of the Japanese Government. The amount of the instalment was £8,225'245 1s. 10½d.

THE LIAOTUNG QUESTION.

The telegram received on the 31st ultimo direct from Pekin to the effect that the second meeting of the Plenipotentiaries charged with the conduct of the Liaotung negotiation had taken place on the 30th ultimo, and that everything was expected to be settled satisfactorily at the next meeting, may be taken as finally confirming the news forwarded *via* London, in the same sense. We may conclude, therefore, that the Chinese Government have agreed to pay an indemnity of 30 million taels for the restoration of the Peninsula, and it is also fair to infer that some guarantee is given by China as to the future of the territory. With regard to the latter point, however, we can speak from conjecture only. The indemnity will doubtless be paid immediately, it being in the interest of all parties that this affair should be terminated as quickly as possible. Japan wants to withdraw her troops before winter sets in, and the three European Powers, are, of course, anxious to see their work achieved rapidly. China can pay the thirty million taels at once. Her Franco-Russian loan amounts to a hundred million taels, and the sum handed to Japan on the 31st ultimo, as the first installment of the war indemnity, being only fifty million taels, there remain fifty millions out of which the Liaotung re-purchase money can be defrayed. The Liaotung question having thus been disposed of, Korean affairs remain the one dark spot upon the horizon of the Far East.

SUSPENSIONS OF NEWSPAPERS.

The *Nippon* was suspended on the 2nd, and the *Chuo* on the 3rd instant, both on the ground of having published matter prejudicial to public peace and order. The *Nippon's* offence consisted in an editorial article severely criticizing the Government on account of the honours distributed in recognition of war services. The Ministers of State were accused of arrogating to themselves all the credit of the recent triumphs and basking in the favour of the Emperor, while the people were commanded to toil harder and pay more to the Treasury. "To speak more plainly," wrote this extremely violent journal, "the people were told that, since the result of the war had not been good they must labour and die, while the Ministers were entitled to be honoured with patents of nobility and decorations. What impression ought to be gathered by the people under the circumstances? Here is a stage on which are acting a troupe of players, all of merely medium stature. But some of them are singled out, extolled as great men, and covered with titles of nobility and other marks of honour. In this way, a special class is formed, disturbing the natural equality of the people. What should be the feeling of the people under these circumstances?" The *Nippon* also made ominous allusions to the reasons why, in spite of their conspicuous loyalty to the Imperial House, the Japanese people endured the rule of the usurping Shoguns for seven hundred years. It did not state the reasons, but left its readers to infer that the intolerable tyranny and despotism of the Imperial Court had forced its loyal subjects to acquiesce in the illegal yet milder administration of military usurpers, who allowed more freedom to the people and provided better protection for life and property. The love of freedom and equality being the most natural and powerful sentiment of the human mind, the Ministers were reminded that a limit would be reached if they over-taxed the patience and loyalty of the people.

The *Chuo's* suspension must have been caused by an article on Viscount Miura, in which, under the *nom-de-plume* of a fortune-teller, the writer tried to justify the recent tragedy in Sŏul. Had not the Queen been removed in the nick of time, her conspiracy with the Northern Power, said the writer, would have brought a worse calamity upon Korea. There was no doubt, he added, that all necessary preparations had been completed by Russia for a *coup d'état*, when the catastrophe was averted by a counter movement on the part of the Japanese and the Koreans friendly to them. Consequently the murder of the ambitious Queen was held up as an achievement for which Japan ought to be grateful.

PEKIN NEWS.

The first topic mentioned in the latest letter from Japanese correspondents in Pekin, is the negotiation between Earl Li and Baron Hayashi with reference to the evacuation of Liaotung. Communications on this subject were first made to the Tsung-li Yamên on the morning of the 14th ultimo. In the afternoon of the same day, Earl Li called at the French Legation where he had a short conference with M. Gérard. He then proceeded to the German Legation, and leaving his card there, hastened to the Russian Legation, where he conversed with Count Cassini for an hour. Late in the afternoon of the following day, the Tsung-li Yamên replied to Baron Hayashi intimating the appointment of Li Hung-chang as China's sole Plenipotentiary to negotiate the Liaotung question. At the time these letters were written—the 8th ultimo or thereabouts—it was generally believed that the matter would be easily settled in two or three conferences between the Plenipotentiaries.

As to the new Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, the *Jiji's* correspondent states that the negotiations will not be brought to a conclusion in the course of the present year, but that the Spring will probably be somewhat advanced before signatures are affixed, there being various difficult points to settle.

With regard to Earl Li's political position, the same correspondent remarks that all sorts of contradictory rumours and theories are circulated; the latest story is very favourable to the great statesman. At present Minister Wong is apparently master of the situation, there being none among his colleagues that dares to contradict him. But his helplessness in dealing with foreign affairs is apparent to all, and he himself is aware of it; whereas the impossibility of dispensing with the services of Earl Li becomes daily more manifest to the Advisers of the Emperor. Under these circumstances, the ex-Viceroy's influence is said to be slowly but steadily reviving.

Official reports from the different Viceroys to the Throne are said to contain important news about the measures that are being taken for the improvement and increase of the troops in the provinces. General Chang Shun of Ki-rin speaks in high terms of the promising results of the instructions given to the Artillery Corps under him by three cadets that he some time ago took into his service. These cadets received their training from instructors employed by Li Hung-chang.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent received, one evening, a visit from a certain Chinese official. When the conversation turned on the recent war, the mandarin volubly lamented the miseries caused to his countrymen by the war, particularly the hard lot of the official class who had been commanded to contribute thirty per cent. of their salaries toward the redemption of the loans contracted for the payment of the indemnity to Japan.

THE LIAOTUNG NEGOTIATION.

A telegram dated from Pekin, at 6 p.m. on the 4th instant, says that the negotiations for the rendition of the Liaotung Peninsula were brought to a successful conclusion on that day, Japan's proposals having been accepted without alteration. It was expected that the signatures of the Plenipotentiaries would be appended in two or three days. This news has been forestalled, for our readers have been for some days in possession of the fact that although the negotiations had not yet terminated, their conclusion without hitch was certain. With the exception of the condition that China agrees to pay to Japan on account of the Peninsula an indemnity of thirty million taels, the terms of the agreement are not published.

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A GREAT FRAUD DISCOVERED.

A great fraud has been discovered in connection with the supply of iron pipes by the Japan Iron Foundry for the Water-works of Tokyo. The President of the Company, Mr. Hamano Shigeru, M.P., who has made his name and fortune by successful speculations on the Rice Exchange, and several others concerned in the fraud, were arrested during the night of the 30th ultimo. Recently, the Board of Aldermen received several anonymous letters, calling their attention to fraudulent practices by the company, but these epistles being naturally regarded with suspicion, no notice was taken of them. A few days previously to the above mentioned arrests, however, a mechanic in the service of the company sought audience with the Aldermen, and his request being granted, he laid before them an astonishing tale about the dishonesty of Hamano and others. The man's statements seemed to have a basis of fact. Measures were at once taken to inquire into the matter, when it was found that the story was only too true. According to what we gather from accounts in the vernacular press, the fraud appears to have been carried out in the following manner:—The process of testing the capability of the pipes to bear the required degree of hydraulic pressure has always been conducted by official experts, acting on behalf of the Municipalty, and the examination has been made in the factory itself. The numbers on the pipes successfully passing the test were registered by the official experts, and on their subsequent delivery at the Water-works Office, they were identified by means of these numbers. This process was faithfully carried out by the company until about May last. By that time the rejected pipes had amounted to a large number, and as the finances of the company were steadily going from bad to worse, Hamano and others yielded to the temptation of making fraudulent use of the rejected pipes. For that purpose, they caused the numbers on the pipes that had successfully passed the test to be filed off, and fastened on the rejected pipes by means of lead, in such manner as to elude detection unless under very close examination. The good pipes from which the numbers had thus been filed off, had different numbers put on them, and were again presented for the official test, as new articles. In this manner quantities of unqualified pipes were delivered since May last. There is no exact knowledge of the number of defective pipes thus supplied, but it is supposed that about one-fourth of 3,100 tons—the quantity supplied since May—represents the defective portion. What makes the matter worse is that a large number of these pipes have already been used on the trunk line between the reservoirs at Yodobashi and Hongo. They must be taken up and re-examined, which, besides involving considerable expense, will seriously retard the progress of the work. By this time the Municipality of Tokyo must bitterly regret that they adopted the romantic course of attempting to artificially foster a home industry, instead of obeying business principles, and getting the pipes from abroad, when all these difficulties would have been avoided. For our own part, we do not think that they had any right to make such experiments. The health of a million citizens depends, in great measure, upon the purity of their water supply, and in arranging for the construction of the works, no factor of uncertainty or possible delay should have been admitted by the City Council.

Since writing the above, we learn that, after the arrest of Hamano and others on the night of the 30th ult., circumstances came to light indicating that the assistant official experts, charged with the duty of testing the quality of the pipes, were concerned in the fraud. They were at once deprived of official rank and placed under arrest. Their names are Mikawa Debuto, Sano Kisaburo, and Takata Wataro. The work of testing the pipes was under the general superintendence of Mr. Kawakami Shinzaburo, an official expert of the Municipal Government, but practically it was entrusted to these assistants, Mr. Kawakami visiting the foundry occasionally only. One of the mechanics in the employ of the company is said to have committed suicide immediately after the apprehension of Hamano and others.

As to the amount of loss inflicted upon the Municipality, it is as yet too early to make any accurate estimate. But from what has already been ascertained, it is computed that the damage will not be less than 50,000 *yen*, including the cost of digging up the pipes already laid and re-examining them. In connection with this loss, the Municipality is taking steps to institute a civil case. The property of the Company and that of Hamano have been attached. Besides the damages that will directly fall on it by its fraudulent practices, the Company has to pay an indemnity of 50,000 *yen* for breach of contract. This, therefore, will be the end of that ill-fated concern.

As to administrative responsibility in connection with the incident, an animated debate is expected at the next sitting of the Municipal Council. The city's administrative affairs in general are in the hands of the Board of Aldermen; but in the case of the Water-works, the action of the Board having been deemed perfunctory, the superintendence of the Works was entrusted to a Special Committee. Thus the responsibility appears to attach to this Committee, but there will doubtless be technical points sufficient to provoke lively discussion.

THE RETURN OF THE JAPANESE TROOPS.

It is expected that the Imperial Guards will return to Japan before the end of this month, and the Liaotung question having been satisfactorily settled, the troops in Manchuria will also be carried home without delay. The Government further intends, we believe, to remove, at an early date, the remaining forces now stationed in Korea, so that the transports available for service will be kept very busy within the next few weeks. There is no conceivable reason why Japan should keep troops in Korea—over and above a strong Legation guard at any rate—for tranquillity having been restored in the peninsula, the protection of the telegraph lines and other duties now devolving upon the Japanese soldiers may safely be left to the Korean Authorities. If Japan contemplated pursuing her reform programme in the peninsula by force, if necessary, there would be reason for the presence of her troops there, but since she has definitely abandoned that notion, if, indeed, she ever entertained it, the sooner she removes all ground for suspecting the integrity of her purpose, the better for the peace of the East. We have not, for our own part, the smallest faith in the prospects of Korean reform, unless some Power take the matter in hand firmly and resolutely, but whether Japan should be that Power, is another question. At all events, the preservation of the peninsula against foreign occupation being her prime object, there is no reason why she should spend blood and treasure, and invite serious complications by striving for ends that lie beyond the range of that object.

VISCOUNT MIURA.

The *N.-C. Daily News* vindicating the accuracy of its marvellous Korean correspondent, says with reference to the latter's account of the *coup d'état* in Söul:—"Our correspondent did not go far enough; he did not venture to say, though it now appears to be admitted on all hands, that the murder of the Queen of Korea was actually planned and carried out by the Japanese Minister." We can assure our Shanghai contemporary that if the phrase "on all hands" is intended to include Japan, the statement is as false as it well could be. No one in Japan, so far as we have been able to gather, believes that Viscount Miura was in any way privy to the murder. The general idea is that this dreadful incident was never contemplated by the Japanese Minister or by any other Japanese official connected with the *coup d'état*

HIS IMPERIAL HIGHNESS PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA.

The Official announcement of His Imperial Highness Lieut.-General Prince Kitashirakawa's death was made on the 5th inst., the time given being 7.15 a.m. on that day. The special train from Yokosuka carrying the Prince's body was to have reached Tokyo at 12.45 a.m. but did not get in until 1.10 a.m. Her Imperial Highness Princess Tomiko, widow of the deceased, his two sons, Princes Tsunehisa and Narihisa, and his daughter, Princess Takeko, His Imperial Highness Prince Komatsu, and His Excellency Viscount Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, proceeded to Yokosuka to meet the body and accompanied it to Tokyo. At Shimbashi the train was met by Viscount Ayanokoji, Viscount Kagawa, Viscount Takatsuji, and Viscount Tachibana, representatives of Their Imperial Majesties the Emperor, the Empress, the Empress Dowager, and the Prince Imperial, respectively; by representatives of the Nobility, by the Ministers of State, and other high officials, numbering in all several hundreds. The Prince's body was carried on a couch of pure white pine, about ten feet long, covered with golden brocade. It was accompanied by Major Samoto, Chief of Staff of the Imperial Guards, who had come with the remains from Formosa, and a company of the Guards were drawn up at the Shimbashi terminus. The couch was at once carried by the Guards into the official residence of the Minister of State for the Navy. The funeral is fixed for the 10th instant, and the Court mourning will be for 3 days, commencing from the 5th. The mourning will therefore conclude on the 7th. During its continuance all dancing, musical, and theatrical performances will be interdicted throughout the Empire. The restriction will hold good in Tokyo on the day of the funeral also. An Imperial Ordinance in the above sense has been issued.

DECORATIONS TO FOREIGNERS.

The *Official Gazette* of the 5th instant announces that His Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to confer the following decorations:—

Mr. H. W. Denison, Legal Adviser to the Foreign Office, the First Class of the Sacred Treasure.

Mr. D. W. Stevens, Foreign Secretary of the Foreign Office, the Second Class of the Sacred Treasure.

Mr. J. F. Bandinel, Acting Japanese Consul at Newchwang, the Fourth Class of the Sacred Treasure.

Mr. W. H. Stone, Foreign Secretary of the Department of Communications, the Second Class of the Sacred Treasure.

Mr. J. Henningsen, General Manager of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, the Second Class of the Sacred Treasure.

Mr. C. C. Sonne, Engineer and Electrician of the Great Northern Telegraph Company, Fifth Class of the Sacred Treasure.

Mr. E. Suenson, Commanding the Cable steamer *Store Nordiska*, Fifth Class of the Sacred Treasure.

We offer these gentlemen our congratulations upon their well-earned distinctions. Mr. Denison's eminent services are worthy of any honours that the Japanese Government has to bestow upon him. He now enjoys the distinction of being one of the two only foreign employés of Japan decorated with the First Class of a Japanese Order, M. Boissonade de Fontarabie being the other. Mr. D. W. Stevens, Foreign Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Washington, is one of this empire's ablest servants, and it is well known that he distinguished himself enimently in connection with Treaty Revision. Mr. W. H. Stone, Foreign Secretary of the Department of Communications, did work of the highest class during the war, and was ably assisted by Messrs. Henningsen, Sonne, and Suenson. The three last named are Danes, Messrs. Denison and Stevens are Americans, and Mr. Stone is a British subject.

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A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE ADMIRAL TING.

Mr. Ooka Tsutomu, a writer on the staff of the *Chuo Shimbun*, has just published a handsome album containing facsimile reproductions of the late Admiral Ting's letters to Vice-Admiral Ito in connection with the surrender at Weihaiwei, and to the late General Tsoy, who had the command of the Chinese army on shore at the same place, and who killed himself at Liukuntau after the fall of the forts on the mainland. Besides these letters, the album contains a preface by Vice-Admiral Viscount Ito, a short but extremely well written sketch, and a very good portrait of the great Chinese Admiral.

Viscount Ito pays the following tribute to the memory of his honoured adversary :—"It is scarcely necessary for me to bear witness to the fact that intense solicitude for the lives and safety of the men under his charge was the sole motive that prompted the late Admiral Ting to surrender. The noble spirit of humanity and chivalry displayed by him moves our hearts and commands our most profound admiration. What a contrast to the cowardly and execrable conduct of his friend, Tsoy! A perusal of the letters preserved in the present volume, enables us to gather some idea of the attention to details and sound judgment that characterized the man, and did not desert him even in the hour of his tragic end. In him, indeed, we find some qualities akin to those of the great soldiers of former ages."

Mr. Ooka speaks of the Admiral in the following strain :—"He was a lively and intelligent man, distinguished alike for forethought and decision. He had the rare art of endearing himself to, and thoroughly controlling, the men under his charge. A touching and characteristic story is told about him. When our torpedo boats attacked the Chinese warships at Wei-hai-wei, No. 8 had the misfortune to founder, and the dead bodies of a few of its crew were picked up at Liukuntau. Admiral Ting ordered the corpses to be buried on the island with due attention, remarking that, although they were his enemies, their loyalty to their Emperor deserved honourable treatment at his hands. Death is easy to attain ; it is within the reach of every person of the meanest sort. But to die an honourable death like a true man, is not to be expected from an ordinary mortal. The last days of Admiral Ting well became the true soldier that he was." Then alluding to the very sympathetic Edict issued by the Chinese Emperor on the occasion of the death of the cowardly General Tsoy, Mr. Ooka concludes as follows :—"Such Imperial praise was bestowed on a man like Tsoy, while in the case of Admiral Ting, nôt only was praise withheld, but high displeasure was proclaimed against him even after his heroic death! Who can reflect on these things without being moved to tears of sympathy for the unfortunate soldier?"

It is, indeed, a significant commentary on the most signal event of the late war that the memory of the greatest Chinese hero should be more cherished in Japan than in the country for which he sacrificed his life.

THE TOKYO IRON FOUNDRY CASE.

The Tokyo Municipal Council met on the 4th instant, to consider the question of instituting a civil suit against the Tokyo Iron Foundry Company. Mr. Kusumoto, M.P., President, was in the chair. A stormy debate ensued, the principal speakers being Messrs. Kojima Kanzo, Koizuka Ryu, M.P., Sakuma Teiichi, and a few others. Governor Miura, as Mayor of the City, briefly explained the circumstances that had led to the convocation of the meeting ; and the origin and progress of the fraud were more fully reported by Mr. Suyeyoshi Tadaharu, M.P., a member of the Waterworks Standing Committee. According to his statement, the Committee received anonymons letters on the 27th of August and the 4th of September, alleging certain dishonest practices on the part of the Iron Foundry Company. The Committee immediately brought the matter to the notice of the Board of Aldermen, who did not attach any importance to these documents and declared that, as the pipes were all subjected to a rigid system of testing, it was absolutely impossible that any fraud should be practised by the Company. Thereupon, vehement attacks were made upon the neglect of duty by the Board of Aldermen and the Mayors. The proposal for the institution of a civil suit against the Company was voted unanimously. A Committee of ten members was then elected to investigate the conduct of the Board of Aldermen and the Waterworks Standing Committee. The voting resulted in the election of Messrs. Kojima Kango, Koizuka Ryu, Sakuma Teiichi, Hasegawa Tai, Yoshino Seikei, and so forth. It was also decided to confiscate the security held in custody for the Company.

The *Jiji Shimpo* states that a similar fraud on the part of the Company was detected some time ago by the official experts charged with the duty of testing the pipes. On that occasion, an apology was made by the Company, the whole blame being laid on a certain employé in its service ; and the experts did not think it necessary to report the matter to their superiors. These experts, as already stated, are now under arrest, as it has been discovered that they were subsequently concerned in the fraud.

The case has created a certain amount of excitement among frequenters of the Rice and Stock Exchanges in Tokyo. Hamano, the principal prisoner, is one of the most daring speculators in rice ; while Mr. Amenomiya Keijiro, who is one of the largest shareholders of the Company, is equally well known as a speculators in stocks. Great fears are entertained that the progress of the case may involve him too. It is, further, vaguely reported that some well known persons in Tokyo may also be compromised. Indeed, all sorts of rumours are circulated.

THE HORSE-BREEDING INVESTIGATION COUNCIL.

The Horse Breeding Investigation Council's first session came to a close on the 29th ultimo. The following items were decided during the session :—

First.—The standards to be aimed at should be as follow :

A.—Riding Horses—height, from 4 *shaku* 8 *sun* to 5 *shaku* ; and weight, from 90 to 110 *kwamme*.

B.—Horses for Draught—height, from 4 *shaku* 8 *sun* to 5 *shaku* 2 *sun* ; and weight, from 100 o 130 *kwamme*.

C.—Pack Horses—height, from 4 *shaku* 5 *sun* to 4 *shaku* 7 *sun* ; and weight, from 70 to 100 *kwamme*.

Secondly—From two to four breeding pastures should be established in the O-u district and in Kyushu. Breeding stations should be established at from ten to twenty places in various parts of the country. Branch stations should be temporarily established at convenient places during the season of crossing.

Thirdly.—Breeding horses should be selected from among the pure Japanese, the half-bred, and the Arabian races, with a view to the production of a race specially suited to the requirements of the country. English pure blooded horses and American trotters should also be imported to meet special demands.

Fourthly.—Regulations for the inspection of breeding horses should be enacted.

Fifthly.—For the encouragement of the breeding business, competitive expositions should be frequently held and rewards given to deserving breeders by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.

Besides the above mentioned items, the Council had been asked to express its views on the subject of organizing horse-breeders guilds. But the discussion of this question was reserved to a future session, as the investigations of a special committee entrusted with the duty of collecting information had not yet been brought to a conclusion.

THE LATE PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, in a powerfully written article, urges that in the case of His Imperial Highness the late Prince Kitashirakawa, no reason whatever exists for observing the custom of deferring the official intimation of death until the body has reached the Palace of the deceased. In time of war, when the death of a member of the Imperial House, holding high rank in the Army and Navy, might affect the spirit of the military or the nation, it may be wise that the official announcement should represent such an one as dying quietly in his own residence. That was done in the case of H.I.H. the late Prince Arisugawa, who contracted his fatal malady at Hiroshima, died at Suma in Banshu, and was officially represented as having expired in his Tokyo Palace, the intimation being delayed until the body had been carried to the capital. A similar course is evidently contemplated with regard to H.I.H. Lieut.-General Prince Kitashirakawa, who died on the 26th ultimo in Formosa, but remains officially alive until to-day (14th instant), when the corpse is to be carried from Yokosuka to Tokyo by train. The suppression of the rebellion in Formosa having been completed, there can be no objection whatever to publicly announcing the truth about His Imperial Highness' death. On the contrary, the fact that he expired in the active discharge of arduous military duties and after months of active service in the field, is an honour to himself as well as to his country, and should be faithfully recorded in the pages of history. Therefore, the *Jiji Shimpo*, defying all official reticence, publishes in large capitals the fact that His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa died on campaign in Formosa on the 26th of October.

His Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to confer on the late Prince the Grand Collar of the Chrysanthemum and other distinctions.

LETTER FROM FORMOSA.

(From our Special Correspondent with the Japanese Army.)

Anping Oct. 21st, 1895.

The van of General Nogi's Army advanced to within a few miles of Anping last evening without encountering any enemy on the way. It is a mystery how the Chinese troops retreated so quickly. The Admiral then decided to land a force of marines in the morning from the four men-of-war that were already near the port. At 5 a.m. the *Naniwa*, *Akitsushima*, and *Yoshino* took a circular course which brought them very close to the fort, but the Black Flags did not fire upon them. The landing force were then assembled and approached the shore, but were fired upon from the fort, which they answered with the small quick-firing guns mounted in the bows of their boats. The *Naniwa* and *Saiyen* then approached and fired a few shots, which silenced the Chinese forts, the Black Flags all retreating towards Tiananfoo.

The foreign residents were on board an English gunboat, and their property is undamaged. One German and two English men-of-war witnessed the landing, and at 9 a.m. the English gunboat *Tweed* arrived from Takow. General Nogi's main army arrived to-day and Tainanfoo was occupied. It was the intention to make the attack on Anping and Tainanfoo on the 23rd, but as the Chinese would not fire on the Japanese men-of-war when they approached this morning, the latter were forced to take charge. Thus it was that the brave (?) Black Flags fought, "Resisting to the last."

Five thousand Black Flags, who had been without food for 24 hours, have surrendered, and the great problem now is how to feed them. They will be sent across to the mainland as soon as possible. The only loss of life today was four Chinese.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

JAPANESE SHIPPING BEFORE AND AFTER THE WAR.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes full and valuable statistics on the above subject, prepared by Mr. Tanaka, the Vice-President of an Osaka Shipbuilding Company, of which the following is a translation :—

To meet the demand caused by the war Japan's merchant fleet was increased by 87 vessels, with a tonnage of 132,963, between June 30th, 1894, and June 30th, 1895. This was an increase of 67 per cent. on the total number of ships in use before the war. The rate of increase prior to the year 1894 was 12 per cent. per annum. At the close of 1886 Japan possessed 227 ships, with a tonnage of 92,398. In December, 1893, her fleet had increased to 400 vessels the tonnage to 169,485. The subjoined table gives a minute account of the number, size, and weight of the ships in use before and after the war :—

TABLE I.

Class of ship.	May 31st, 1894. No. of ships.	Total tonnage.	June 30th, 1894. No. of ships.	Total tonnage.	Increase. No. of ships.	Total tonnage.
Under 100 tons	227	21,620.40	255	24,304.67	28	2,684.27
Over 100 & under 500 tons	92	31,180.09	100	33,031.34	8	1,851.25
Over 500 & under 1,000 tons	37	24,608.16	40	26,864.57	3	2,255.91
Over 1,000 and under 2,000	43	60,688.45	53	77,836.46	10	17,147.01
Over 2,000 & under 3,000 tons	14	34,932.72	41	102,753.60	27	67,820.88
Over 3,000 tons	3	9,629.30	14	49,833.53	12	40,204.23
Total	416	181,659.62	503	324,623.17	87	132,963.55

TABLE II.

This table shows the increase of ships during seven years before the war :—

Class of ship.	Dec. 31st, 1886. No. of ships.	Total tonnage.	Dec. 31st, 1883. No. of ships.	Total tonnage.	Increase. No. of ships.	Total tonnage.
Under 200 tons	136	13,381 00	220	21,020.00	84	7,639.00
Over 200 & under 500 tons—	43	13,566.00	88	28,684.45	46	15,118.45
Over 500 & under 1,000 tons	19	13,660.00	36	24,032.85	17	10,372.85
Over 1,000 tons & under 2,000 tons	20	28,243 00	43	61,975.43	23	33,832.13
Over 2,000 tons & under 3,000 tons	10	23,648.00	11	27,184.04	1	3,536.04
Over 3,000 tons	—	—	2	6,588.05	2	6,588.05
Total	227	92,398.00	400	169,485.72	173	77,087.72

From the first of these tables it appears that the large increase of ships caused by the war was confined to vessels of over 2,000 tons. Table II. shows that Japan's normal demand is for vessels ranging from 200 to 1,000 tons. While there is need of these vessels increasing at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum, since the commencement of the war the rate has been reduced to 8 and 9 per cent. per annum. It is only ships ranging between 1,000 and 2,000 tons that show an increase of 22 per cent. Japan's need of a large supply of small vessels has been increased by the war. In many of the bays where merchant vessels will be required to go in both China and Formosa the water is shallow and will only accommodate vessels of light draught. The war has saddled her with a large number of big ships and the great question to be settled now is what to do with these vessels. The number of vessels of 2,000 tons purchased since June, 1894, is 40, with a tonnage of 112,390. Most of these ships are over 20 years old. Only 15 of the number are supplied with new machinery. It is evident that these vessels are not good enough to be used for the opening of new lines of transport and traffic and are more in number than are required for the home coasting trade. The number of ships of over 200 tons whose age is over 20 years is 14, with a tonnage of 37,410. Those ranging between 500 tons and 2,000 that have reached that age number 30, with a tonnage of 30,636. Even if some of the worst of these vessels were laid up or taken to pieces and their machinery and fittings used for other ships the remaining number would exceed the requirements of the nation. It will be a source of deep regret if the fact of our possessing a larger number of big ships than are required should be a means of interfering with the building of small vessels, in response to the ever growing demand, proofs of the existence of which have been furnished in this paper.

NEW SOUTH WALES AND JAPAN.

The debate that took place in the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, on the 11th of September, with reference to the advisability of that Colony's entering into treaty relations with Japan, showed that the Government of the Colony has no very clear notion of the problem it was asked to consider. On the 28th of August the following question had been asked in the House :—

What action has been taken by the Government in respect to the commercial treaty entered into between Great Britain and Japan last year establishing reciprocal trade relations between the countries named and their dependencies and possessions?

To this question the Colonial Secretary replied :—

This treaty was entered into on the 16th July, 1894, and contains a provision to the effect that certain colonies named, New South Wales being one, could come within the operation of the treaty upon notice given within two years from the date of exchange of ratifications. This Government does not propose to take any steps to bring New South Wales within the operation of the treaty. I may point out that those countries joining in the treaty with Japan engage that the Japanese shall have full liberty to enter, travel, or reside therein.

Nothing could have been clearer than that, at the time of giving the above answer, the Government of New South Wales had made up its mind not to bring the Colony within the scope of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty. But the members of the Legislative Assembly were not satisfied with that off-hand method of disposing of the matter. On the 11th of September, the Hon. A. Brown moved the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing the commercial treaty with Japan, and in the course of the ensuing debate, the Government seems to have seen the necessity of changing front, for the Colonial Secretary stated that the matter was still under consideration. His short speech is worth quoting :—

In the hope that what little I have to say will prevent any further time being taken upon this subject, I take an early opportunity of answering the hon. member, Mr. A. Brown. I may tell him at once that no decision has been conveyed either to the English Government, or to Japanese Government, that the matter has been and is still under consideration ; and I am afraid some little time yet will have to be occupied in considering it in the most careful manner. The hon. member is quite right when he says that this is the first time that what you may call a question of foreign policy, has ever been brought before the colonial governments. He is also quite right in saying that it bristles with advantages ; but, on the other hand, there are some very dangerous clauses in it. If we once enter into this treaty, we shall be compelled to stick to it. What we are endeavouring to do is to so manage matters that we shall get the benefit without the disadvantages. I can only say that as soon as anything is done definitely by this colony it will be communicated to the House. So far as the Cabinet is concerned, I can give the same answer as the Colonial Secretary gave in the other House, and that is that at present we cannot see our way to accept this treaty exactly as it stands : but nothing absolutely definite has been done. It is a matter which requires the greatest possible care. Once agree to admit the Japanese as they please, and we shall have them doing as was done in Honolulu. There are more Japanese residents there than white people. These people do not go there as emigrants, but they are brought down in shiploads as slaves. One of the greatest objectors to the sending away of these people in hordes like this is the Emperor of Japan himself. The communications which the Queensland Government had with the Emperor of Japan show that the Japanese Government have expressly stated that they have no wish to see their people leave their own country, and come here in mobs, as they have been doing in regard to Fiji and Honolulu. Hon. members must see that it would not be at all politic for me to give forth to the whole world what consideration we are giving to the different parts of this treaty. What we are endeavouring to do is to get as much good from it as we can, to eliminate from it the clauses known to be objectionable, and to obtain all the advantages without the evils. The hon. member, Mr. A. Brown, may accept assurance that nothing has been definitely done, either with the British Government or the Japanese Government. No definite conclusion has been arrived at. I can only repeat that we cannot see our way to accept the treaty word for word as it at present stands. That is the answer given by the Colonial Secretary; and it is the explanation given by me to-night. The moment anything is done, it will within a few hours be communicated to the House, and nothing will be kept back.

Mr. Want's ideas about Japanese emigration to Hawaii require a great deal of correction. He entertains the extraordinary notion that the Japanese proceeding to Hawaii under contract are slaves, and that the Emperor of Japan himself is "one of the greatest objectors to this sending away of his people in hordes." But in point of fact the so-called "slaves" are men that eagerly seek the employment offered to them in Hawaii, where they live comfortably, are not over-worked, and save large sums of money; while, so far from the Emperor's being opposed to the business, it was inaugurated with the consent of His Majesty's Government, and all the affairs of the emigrants are strictly regulated by a convention between Japan and Hawaii.

THE PRISONERS IN THE KOREAN CASE.

As already reported by telegraph, Secretary Sugimura, Consular Attaché Horiguchi, Police Sergeant Hagiwara, and seven constables, who arrived at Ujina on the 20th ult., were arrested in the same manner as the preceding batches of deportees had been. One of the constables, Watanabe Takajiro, is said to speak Korean as well as a native. His wife is a Korean, by whom he has a little boy. Watanabe being a favourite of the Tai Wōn-kun, the latter stood god-father to his son.

The examination of the prisoners is daily going on at the Local Court in Hiroshima. The number of accused has increased to nearly fifty. It was at first reported that they were not allowed to receive any visitors, but that proves to have been a mistake : they are permitted to see any visitor provided that, in doing do, they observe the regulations. It was not the officials that prohibited the admission of visitors : the prisoners themselves declined to meet any one.

As to Viscount Miura and a few others, it is stated that they will be admitted to bail. In prison, the Viscount is said to devote his time to religions meditation according to the orthodox formulæ of the *Zen* sect, of which he is a fervent disciple.

With regard to the military prisoners, their number has been increased to eight in all by the arrival of Major Umayabara and officers under him, namely five Captains and a Lieutenant.

CHINA'S PAYMENTS.

On the 31st ultimo, Japan received from China a sum in sterling equivalent to 74,152,444 *yen*, at the present rate of exchange. In addition, she is to receive, almost immediately, another sum of thirty million taels, or *yen* 44,491,466 —at the same rate of exchange—on account of the Liaotung Peninsula. Thus she will have standing to her credit in the Bank of England a total amount of 118,643,910 *yen*. We know nothing as yet with regard to the disposal of this money, whether it will be brought to Japan in the form of specie, or kept in London to meet engagements arising out of the war or connected with the proposed increase of the national armament. It has been stated, we observe, that the question of exchange assumes much importance in such a conjuncture, since a difference of a half-penny in the sterling value of the *yen* involves a sum of over two million *yen*. But of course that is misleading. The price of the *yen* could not have anything to do with the matter unless the money were to be passed through the ordinary channels of tradal transit, which is obviously impossible. The gold price of silver, however, may prove of great importance. For, what China was required to pay—adding the Liaotung money—was 46,065,600,000 grains of pure silver, and that amount, being converted into sterling at the present market rate, produces £13,160,392, approximately. But if, when the Government decides to ship the specie for the East, gold be found to have appreciated to the figure at which it stood two months ago, the quantity of silver obtained by selling the sterling will be very much greater than the quantity received from China. Thus, if gold were to appreciate to the point at which the silver *yen* represents 2s. 1½d., and if Japan could sell her 13½ million sovereigns at that price, her gain would be 2,500 million grains of silver, approximately. These are mere conjectures, but they serve to demonstrate the difficult character of the financial problem that Japan's statesmen have now to consider in handling the indemnity. The Cabinet in Tokyo is in the position to make a huge speculation, with results of considerable moment to the country. The price of a battle-ship may be very easily lost or won over the business.

INTERNET ARCHIVE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CHINESE NEWS.

The celebrated Wū Ta-cheng, another of Earl Li's *protégés*, has become an object of Imperial displeasure. He has been deprived of his post as Governor of Hunan, and ordered to betake himself to his provincial home, without proceeding to Pekin to await a new appointment. Wu's silly bombast when he assumed command of the troops at Old Newchang, and his subsequent paltry performances, justify this measure.

An excellent story comes from Pekin. A leading member of the Tsung-li Yamên, evidently the great Wong, who is said to owe his position to his anti-foreign proclivities, found, on assuming office, that it was one thing to abuse the foreigner verbally and another to deal with him practically. Sir Nicholas O'Conor proved specially disturbing, for he actually pounded the table under the serene Mandarin's nose. The latter complained to London about this sledge-hammer diplomacy, whereupon the Marquis of Salisbury replied that Wong had better attend to Sir Nicholas, or he, the Marquis, would come out and do the table-pounding himself.

Touching the dispute about the "power behind the throne" that procured the degradation of the ex-Viceroy of Szechuan and his perpetual removal from office, we find the following in the *North China Daily News*' Pekin correspondence:—

What are the real facts of the case? The Tsung-li Yamên positively refused to degrade Liu Ping-chang. The ultimatum was tabled before the whole Yamên in presence of the two Princes, the ex-Viceroy Li, and Ministers on Thursday, the 26th of September. The conference lasted several hours. They were given four days in which to declare their mind, and fourteen days within which the edict should be issued, failing which the case would be placed in the hands of the British Admiral. On Sunday evening, 29th September, just on the expiry of the fourth day, the edict was issued, and the government felt that its terms would certainly be satisfactory to the British people and British Minister. This is the whole affair and the dates of the ultimatum and the appearance of the edict should clear up this dispute. France's action, it is rumoured, consisted in agreeing to the Viceroy being punished but leaving it to the Chinese government to decide the nature of that punishment. But the British Minister surely had the right not only to demand a punishment but a proper punishment, and indicate a punishment that should be inflicted so as to satisfy the claims of Great Britain. The second edict punishing the Szechuan officials under the Viceroy implicated in the riots is expected to be issued this week. When the American Commission, which has already started, reaches Szechuan, say some two months hence, they will find the whole question settled and the guilty officials punished and dismissed from office. There will be nothing left for them to do. The British Minister has insisted upon the indemnity being levied upon the province and not paid out of the Maritime Customs or by the Empire as a whole. To this the Yamên has agreed. It might naturally be expected that this is exactly what the Chinese themselves would do. It goes therefore without saying the chances are that Liu Ping-chang will have himself the piper to pay.

It is explained that the recent discussion about the weight of the tael for the purposes of the Chinese indemnity, involved a very considerable issue. Two definitions of the weight are given, one in Williams' *Commercial Guide*, where the tael is set down as 579.84 grains of silver; the other in the tables of the Imperial Customs, where the weight is 575.82 grains. A difference of one grain per tael means a difference of nearly 500,000 *yen* in the total of the indemnity. Japan finally agreed to abide by the Customs figure, an apparently just decision.

News reached Nanking on the 28th of October that another anti-missionary riot had taken place in the south of Kiangsi, and that wholesale destruction of foreign property had resulted as well as the wounding of one Roman Catholic priest. Whether American property was included in the work of destruction is not known, but such is not unlikely to have been the case, as the Methodist and Episcopal churches have missions there.

It appears that among the newly issued Hunan publications, said to be so violent in their anti-foreign tone, one bears the name of Wang Chi-chun, who was sent as special ambassador to Russia last year. This particular book can not be fairly described as unlawful. In its thirteen chapters the last only contains anything objectionable, and its worst accusations are not such as would warrant official interference. When we remember the kind of literature inspired at one time in the West by religious bigotry, we have no right to be surprised at the lucubrations of certain Chinese conservatives.

The ordeal that has to be endured by a Chinese expectant official summoned to kneel before the Dragon Throne, is a severe test of physical strength. A distance of nearly two miles has to be traversed on foot, from the outer city to the Palace precincts, and then comes a long wait in the small hours of the morning. It is believed that in the case of Yu Chih-kai, who was lately summoned from Hunan to Pekin, nominally to receive one of the highest provincial posts in the empire, the effects of this ordeal were so severe as to create an impression of almost complete physical incapacity, and instead of being nominated a Viceroy or a Governor-General, as was expected, Yu received the comparatively insignificant post of Provincial Treasurer of Kuang-si.

It is complained that the proclamation issued by the Emperor of China with regard to the Kucheng massacre is mischievously inadequate. The document sets forth, with almost brutal frankness, the facts of the massacre—thus publishing far and wide what would otherwise have remained unknown to many provincials—and then applies to the terrible crime terms such as would be used with reference to any ordinary violation of the law.

It is stated that the chief factor operating to develop the Mohammedan rebellion in Kangsu and Shensi, was the publication of an official proclamation which the Mohammedans interpreted as announcing their general extermination. Naturally they rushed to arms *en masse*, and their suspicions remained unallayed though the proclamation was subsequently explained to refer to insurgents only. The difficulty experienced by the authorities in quelling the rebellion is attributable in part to the demoralization caused among the people by the last Mohammedan rising. They retain such terrified recollections of that time that the apparition of a dozen armed Mohammedans is sufficient to scare a regiment of local militia. When the first rumours of a Mohammedan uprising began to spread abroad last spring, the whole province of Shensi stampeded, everybody thinking only of reaching a walled city, a fortified village, or a mountain top.

Another account of the origin of the Mohammedan rebellion is the following, which appears in the columns of the *China Gazette*, and is from the pen of a member of the China Inland Mission, stationed in Sinning-fu:—

While all the world has been gazing on the conflict between China and Japan, we in this far-off north-western city, 2,000 odd miles in the interior of this vast country, have been entirely ignorant of the whole affair save what we have got from friends in England. The only bit of life manifested here was last December, when several raw recruits were being enlisted and drafted to the seat of war. Scarcely had they got away when news was brought that a quarrel had arisen between two sects of Mahammedans—the old and the new religious sects, the latter being called Sahlahs—at Hsuin-hua-ting, three-and-a-half days' journey from Siming (eighty English miles) and a place under the prefect of this city. Major Hang apparently succeeded in procuring peace. A month later, however, the Taotai of Siming was summoned to Lanchau by the Governor-General, and despatched to Hsuin-hua-ting to settle the dispute. Unfortunately for himself and all his own circuit, he made a great blunder—he seized one of the chiefs and put him to death along with three or four other Sahlahs. This heaped fuel upon the smouldering of an old fire of years' standing (when their great chief was taken by the Chinese and put to death), and they immediately rose up in rebellion and surrounded the city of Hsuin-hua-ting, imprisoning the Taotai and a general of Hocheo. When the first news came of the rebellion the people in Sining and villages round were filled with dismay, and when it was reported that the Chinese soldiers under Major Hang had been defeated all sorts of wild rumours were afloat and the greatest excitement prevailed. The facts appeared to be as follows:—A Mohammedan, of the Whitecap sect, was in league with the Sahlahs while he was supposed to be helping the Chinese. Knowing well the Sahlah district, he offered himself to Major Hang to be his guide, to help him over the Yellow River, and lead him to one of the villages where, he said, the people were willing to submit. Major Hang accepted the offer. The Mahommedan assisted the soldiers over the treacherous Yellow River, and marched them along the banks. Suddenly they were pounced upon by the Sahlahs, who had been lurking in both the valleys and at a given time advanced upon their foes, who had been led into this trap by their supposed Mahommedan friend, and were wholly unprepared for the attack. A desperate fight ensued; seventy-four Chinese soldiers were killed and many others wounded. Some were persuaded to give up their rifles on condition that they would be let go; but no sooner had the Sahlahs received the weapons than they discharged their contents into the bosom of the giver.

The news of the disaster reaching the Governor-General he at once sent out proclamations to the different cities under his jurisdiction, which seemed to make matters worse instead of better. The purport of the proclamation was that all the Sahlahs (20,000) should be slain, without mercy, no submission to be accepted. Whether the officials found out for themselves, or whether they were warned by others of the danger of such a severe proclamation, I cannot tell, but two days later a fresh proclamation was issued in much milder terms—saying that there were good and bad Sahlahs, and that a distinction would be made between them, exhorting the people, both Chinese and Mahommedans, to pursue their daily work and not to listen to idle rumours, also warning all against spreading false reports under pain of punishment.

Several other proclamations were issued in mild terms, but they could not stem the torrent already flowing from the first proclamation. Soon after the first disaster soldiers were telegraphed for from Liang-chau and Kan-chau, and about 2,900 have passed though this city on their way. Many others have been sent by way of Lan-chau and Hocheo. Thibetan soldiers have been called into active service with the promise of the land of the Sahlahs if they should succeed in exterminating them. A reward has been offered of five taels for every dead Sahlah, and ten taels for every living one brought to ther officers. A general rebellion is expected any day.

The *N.-C. Daily News* of the 20th ult., says:—Mr. Robert Fergusson died yesterday, after a long and wearying illness, to the deep regret of a very large circle of friends and acquaintances. Mr. Fergusson came to China some twenty years ago as Manager of the Chartered Mercantile Bank, and after some time left the Bank to become a bill and bullion broker. He was widely known and universally liked, he and his family, for whom the deepest sympathy is felt, being most popular in our society.

The following letter from Mr. Francis Bertie has been received in Shanghai by Mr. R. M. Campbell, the Chairman of the Public Meeting of the 5th of August last:—Foreign Office, 18th September, 1895,—Sir,—Your letter of the 9th ult., reporting the proceedings at the meeting of the community of Shanghai with regard to the massacre and outrages at Kutien and Szechuan has been received by the Marquis of Salisbury, and I am directed by His Lordship to say that the points raised therein are receiving the special attention of Her Majesty's Government.

The Viceroy Chang Chi-tung, of Nanking, seems to be the head and front of progressive impulse in China at present. He is said to have recently granted permission to a number of native syndicates to establish cotton weaving and spinning mills, silk filatures, a railway between Shanghai and Soochow, and from the latter place to Chinkiang, three steam launch companies to run between Shanghai, Soochow, and Hangchow, and way stations, and another company with larger steamers to run between Nanking and islands in the Yangtze and from Shanghai to islands on the Chêkiang coast, *i.e.*, the Chusan Archipelago. The latest permission granted is to build silk weaving mills to make the celebrated Nanking satin and silk-velvets. A number of skilled workmen from foreign countries will probably have to be engaged to teach the natives. The permission

of the Throne is reported to have been already obtained by the Viceroy for all the above.

A peculiarly daring robbery is reported from Kiang-yin. A band of thieves, supposed to be Canton soldiers from the opposite side of the river, took possession of the main street of the city at dusk in the evening, and quietly helped themselves to all the cash in one of the largest banks. They numbered about fifty, but not one of them was captured.

Shanghai is now distributing throughout China finely printed books containing the wildest falsehoods about the doings of the chief of the Black Flags. One of these veracious works alleges that the redoubtable Liu caused the propellers of the Japanese fleet to be fastened with wire, and having thus rendered the ships immovable, sent down on them a flotilla of fire-rafts and riddled them with cannon, so that 20 war-ships and 20,000 men perished by fire or water, several war-vessels of other nationalities also being accidentally injured. It is feared that if the circulation of such falsehoods continues, the Chinese may be excited to violence against foreigners, for their geographical education is not accurate enough to distinguish one outside nation from another.

Among the second batch of condemned criminals—14 in number—executed on the morning of the 21st of October at Kucheng, for complicity in the massacre of Christians, was Ming Cheong-chik, one of the principal ringleaders. It is related that, while awaiting the death blow, this man's face was wreathed in smiles, and that his last words were to wish the Chinese Magistrate and the foreign Consuls quick promotion.

At the suggestion of the Japanese Representative in Pekin, a class for the study of the Japanese language has been established in the Tungwen-kuan, or college for the study of foreign languages.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PRODUCTS IN JAPAN.

The exhibition of South Australian Products now open at the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce is attracting the attention it deserves, especially from the mercantile community of the capital. The Hon. John Langdon Parsons is in charge of the exhibits, having been sent by the South Australian Government as a Commissioner to Japan, China, and the Phillipines, with a roving mission of enquiry, having for object the possibility of establishing or extending commercial relations between these countries and South Australia. One of the most notable features of the exhibition is its conciseness, only those articles that Japan, in particular, may find of value and use, being included. Many of the exhibits are accompanied by photographs of the place of production, and in the case of fleeces and hides, the aid of the photographic camera has always been sought to bring vividly to the mind the animal from which the fleece or hide is obtained. The South-down fleeces from the flocks of the Hon. J. H. Angas, Hill River, S.A., are very noticeable both for weight and fineness of texture. Photographs and stock-books are also shown of Hereford and Shorthorn cattle bred on the same estate. These animals were imported into Australia at an enormous original expense, but now a time has arrived when South Australia can afford to send drafts from her stocks for breeding purposes to Japan. The breeding of Herefords should pay in this country: their keep would not demand much more than do the dwarfish specimens of the bovine species now raised in Japan. The Hereford and Shorthorn breeds run to almost a ton apiece, while their hides are very superior. A very extensive assortment of South Australian wines—port, claret, hock, etc.—brandies, and cordials are on show, and these have received commendation from several foreign tasters for bouquet and good body. Flour, biscuits, raisins, preserved fruits, canned meats and fruits, jams, honey, olive oil, soap, tallow, etc., are all on exhibition and present a very favourable appearance. Of course an exhibition of Australian products without Eucalyptus oil and other extracts from the valuable tree, would not be complete: the specimens shown by Mr. Parsons are of high quality and could be laid down here at remunerative rates. A novelty, at least to those unfamiliar with the recent development of Australia, is the show of ostrich feathers and eggs. The birds were originally imported from South Africa, and have thrived wonderfully in the Australian colony. The specimens of feathers shown are very prepossessing, both in their rough and in their cured and dressed stages. Altogether the exhibition is well worthy a visit whether one is interested in commercial matters or not. The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce is reached from Shimbashi in three minutes by *jinrikisha*, being situated near the Teishinsho buildings in Kobikicho.

WOOD-BLOCKS IN JAPAN AND EUROPE.

The expense involved in illustrating a book used to be terribly deterrent to European publishers. If we go back far enough in the history of literature, we find not infrequent cases of the same wood-blocks being used over and over again in the same volume to represent different events, scenes, and persons. In a paragraph recently contributed to *Notes and Queries*, it is stated that some of the cuts in "Vitas Patrum" (by Wynkyn de Worde, 1495) occur six or eight times, and are about as grotesque as illustrations could well be. Another economical device was to divide blocks into two parts, and combine the halves of different blocks. Ninety pictures could thus be produced with ten blocks. "Examples of these mixed blocks may be seen in the Strasburg 'Horace' and 'Terence,' printed about 1490. In the beautiful edition of Tyndale's New Testament, printed by Fugge, in 1552, there are many of these divided and mixed blocks, which are shuffled about in the most ingenious manner." The Japanese, on the other hand, were as extravagant in this respect as Europeans were economical. Take, for example, the well known, but now-out-of-print, novel "Inaka Genji." There are 76 volumes, each containing ten pictorial pages of letter press, a page of coloured illustrations, and two decorative initial pages, of which one is chromoxylo-graphic. Thus in the whole book there are 836 woodcuts and 152 chromoxylographs. Greater luxury of illustration could scarcely be attained. Indeed, the Japanese novel of pre-Restoration days—we refer to the *Kusazoshi*—was unique; a veritable work of art. Nothing comparable in the same line existed anywhere else in the world. It must be confessed, however, that the illustrations are marred by wearisome sameness. Figures variously grouped constitute the iterated and re-iterated subject.

KUMAMOTO RESIDENTS v. THE MINISTER OF FINANCE.

Some time ago a retainer of an ex-*daimyo* of Kumamoto brought an action against the Minister of Finance to recover certain damages and won his case. This, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, from which we draw our information, has led the residents of the town of Kumamoto and 285 adjacent villages to take legal proceedings against the same Minister for the recovery of the sum of *yen* 109,053.53, which they allege has been owing to them by the Government for many years past. We have already published intelligence as to this case, but its particulars are worth recording. In the days when Kumamoto was governed by a *daimyo*, the land known as 鄉 *gō*, or *sato*, situated between the villages and towns of the province, was under the control of the local residents. In order to develop the resources of this land, the residents formed themselves into an association, collected a large sum of money, expended it in improving the district and reclaiming land on the sea-shore, and purchased a very large quantity of rice to be held in reserve in case of need. Then, in the year 1869, the change of government took place. One of the effects of this change was the curtailment of the rights and privileges of the Association to such an extent that at first there seemed to be no other course open to it but to dissolve, dispose of its property, and divide the proceeds among the members. But on second thoughts and after considerable consultation they decided that neither their dissolution nor the sale of the rice was absolutely necessary, so long as the new government was assured that they thoroughly recognised, and bowed to the authority of, the officials placed over them. So they decided to hold on to the property and await the course of events. One of the results of the Saga rebellion was an extremely arbitrary act on the part of a Kumamoto prefect, Yasuoka, by name. Being of opinion that to allow a private corporation to hold such a large amount of property might at any time prove a source of danger to the Government, he seized the company's rice, together with other of their possessions, after the manner of those despotic times, sold the whole for the sum of *yen* 109,053.35, and forwarded the money to the Minister of Finance. Though astounded at the unscrupulousness of their Prefect, the company was at a loss how to proceed against him. Shortly afterwards the whole prefecture was convulsed by the Saigo rebellion, and the losses of the company were forgotten in the excitement of the events that followed. It is not unlikely that these losses would have remained unknown to the modern world had it not happened that the retainer, to whom allusion has been made above, brought a similar suit before the law courts and was successful in winning it. The plea of the Kumamoto peasants and townsmen is of no little interest. If the trial goes against the Minister of the Finance, the *Jiji* is of opinion that it will be the signal for the institution of legal proceedings against other officials who in the old despotic days seized private property in an unlawful manner. But surely there is in Japanese law a limit to the time within which legal action for the recovery of money must be taken. The case was set down for hearing on the 28th ult. So we shall soon learn whether the plea of the plaintiffs is allowed or not.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

We observe that Mr. E. Jerome Dyer is working hard to induce the colony of Victoria to enter into treaty relations with Japan. In the *Evening News* of Melbourne, of Sept. 20th, the following note appears:—

Mr. E. Jerome Dyer, who recently visited Japan and other Eastern countries, read an interesting paper before the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, advocating signing the new treaty between England and Japan as a means of developing trade with the latter nation.

A very interesting discussion ensued, the members of the Chamber generally favouring the views advocated by Mr. Dyer.

The following resolution was eventually carried:—"That the thanks of this meeting be tendered to Mr. Dyer for his interesting paper, and that the subject be referred to the Council of the Chamber with a recommendation to give the matter favourable consideration."

The other Australian colonies, Queensland excepted, seem disposed to refuse to become parties to the Treaty, and there can be no doubt that the Labour Party in Victoria will offer strong opposition, but Mr. Dyer is sanguine of success, and he certainly seems to have made a good beginning.

COUNT MUTSU.

Count Mutsu continues to recuperate at his Oiso villa. His Excellency's health has greatly improved of late, though of its complete restoration no very strong hopes are held out. The Count's last attempt to resume his duties at the Foreign Office in Tokyo tried him so severely that he will probably refrain from repeating the venture, and will remain at Oiso until the spring, when his return to Tokyo may be looked for. He occupies himself at present chiefly with literary pursuits.

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JAPAN IN KOREA.

IT has been publicly known for many months that the Japanese troops would be sooner or later withdrawn from Korea. Nobody ever imagined, we presume, that Japan intended to keep them there permanently. Such procedure would have amounted to military occupation of the peninsula, which is precisely what this empire, from first to last, has emphatically disavowed any intention of attempting. So long as Korea remained the field of fighting between Japan and China, each Power naturally despatched forces thither, and even after the Chinese army had been driven across the Yalu, the peninsula continuing to be Japan's basis of operations, it was essential that she should preserve her lines of communication thence into Manchuria. Our readers doubtless remember how much trouble the maintenance of those lines entailed; what repeated attacks were made by Korean insurgents upon Japanese commissariat stations, and how often the telegraph wires were cut by the Tonghaks. They also remember that the Japanese engineers set themselves, at an early date, to lay a line of telegraph from Wiju, *viâ* Tatung and Takushan, along the north and east coasts of the Yellow Sea, and that this line constituted the sole means of telegraphic communication between Japan and her military outposts in Manchuria and the Liaotung Peninsula. If Japan had retained possession of the territory originally ceded to her by the Shimonoseki Treaty—that is to say, the portion of Manchuria lying south of a line drawn from the Yalu *viâ* Chiulieng and Fenghwan to Haicheng and Yingkow, including the Liaotung Peninsula—it is within the range of possibility that she might have found it necessary to organize special arrangements for securing the safety and control of the line of telegraph passing through Korea from Wiju to Fusan, since, pending the laying of a submarine cable from Talien to some point in her own territory, she must have depended solely upon that line for keeping touch with her forces in Manchuria. But she would naturally have made every effort to have the task of guarding and conserving the line performed by Korea, and even had she been compelled to keep a force of constables or gendarmes in the peninsula for the protection of the telegraphs, their presence there for that definite purpose would not have partaken, in any sense, of the character of a military occupation. These simple considerations make it plain that when the Japanese Government consented, at the instance of Germany, Russia, and France, to restore the Liaotung Peninsula to China, the withdrawal of the troops from Korea became an inevitable consequence. In short, so soon as Japan ceases to hold any part of Manchuria, it would be entirely useless for her to maintain a military force in Korea. There would be nothing for the soldiers to do there. Hence, as we stated briefly in our issue of the 4th instant, the recall of the troops from Korea may be looked for within the next three months; that is to say, in the immediate sequel of the return of their comrades from Manchuria.

We make this very obvious explanation because most singular and extravagant theories have been propounded by the local foreign press with regard to the military evacuation of Korea by Japan. It is inferred, in the first place, that Russian menaces have forced Japan to take this step; that the Cabinet in Tokyo had to choose between withdrawing the troops from Korea and fighting Russia. Nothing could be farther from the truth. We are in a position to assert that the Russian Government have not subjected Japan to any pressure of the nature suggested; that there has been no question whatever between the two Powers involving such issues; that the withdrawal of the troops from Korea is in no sense the result of Russian threats, and that when the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula removed the necessity of maintaining overland lines of communication with Manchuria, the return of the Japanese forces from Korea would have been a natural consequence though no such Power as Russia had existed. It is strongly to be deprecated that foreign local journalists, writing under the guidance of their own sensational conjectures, ventilate canards calculated to rouse the Japanese people to unjust passion against their own statesmen for subjecting the country to imaginary humiliation, and against Russia for adopting an attitude of menace and dictation absolutely foreign to the methods she has really pursued. Another extraordinary deduction drawn from the return of the troops is that Japan has abandoned her project of introducing reforms into Korea. Journalists writing in that sense evidently labour under the impression that the reform programme was to be pushed by force; that, in short, Japan was to arrogate the position of a military dictator in the peninsula, and that, in recalling her troops, she effaces herself completely. The mere statement of such a proposition is sufficient to expose its fallacy. The presence of a Japanese military force in the peninsular Kingdom was never at any time regarded as an essential factor in the introduction of administrative reforms, and the withdrawal of the force is consequently open to no such construction as has been journalistically placed upon it. There may be reason to doubt the possibility of pushing Korea into the path of progress without employing coercive measures, but coercion does not enter into Japan's programme. Her troops in the peninsula were part of the military system hinging upon the possession of south-western Manchuria, and with the abandonment of the latter, their continued presence in Korea loss all *raison d'être*.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

IT is probable that the average public's idea of a great man differs essentially from the reality. Nor need we wonder that such should be the case, for the tests by which the world recognises greatness are the resultants of many forces not separately recognisable except by a scrutiny possible to intimates only. Yet these forces constitute the true elements of the man's character, and if we are to estimate him justly, we must be able to analyse them separately, instead of considering their synthetic action only. Take the case of Lord SALISBURY, for example, a statesman now much *en evidence*. Most Englishmen's conception of him is that he possesses great breadth of view, clear insight, and sagacious courage, and that, in dealing with the many problems that come up for solution at the Foreign Office in Downing Street, he gives attention to their general outlines only, not wearying himself with trifles or allowing his judgment to be obscured by details; a man, in short, that works *en bloc*, and is essentially massive rather than minute. Yet, in point of fact, Lord SALISBURY owes much of his success to his extraordinary mastery of details. The experience of a diplomat not unknown to our readers will illustrate this. It is the custom in the British Diplomatic Service for senior members of Legations and Embassies, on returning from service abroad, to wait upon the Foreign Secretary, who derives from their personal reminiscences information more or less valuable according to the questioner's skill and the questioned's powers of observation and narration. An official returning to London from St. Petersburg, some years ago, conformed with this custom, the more readily in that he possessed, as he thought, a quantity of useful information about the "back-stairs" politics of the Russian capital. But he soon discovered, in conversation with Lord SALISBURY, that the Marquis knew a great deal more about these obscure details than he did himself, and he left the Foreign Office in a state of unbounded astonishment that a Minister charged with the conduct of a world-wide empire's foreign affairs should possess such a grasp of comparatively insignificant minutiæ. The truth is that no man can rise to real greatness without being thorough, and thoroughness is only another name for mastery of details. Superficial observers of the present German EMPEROR'S career might not be disposed to credit him with that quality. An idea has become disseminated that the KAISER is something of a *poseur*, and that he trusts rather to effect than to effective-

ness. The conception seems to have a measure of reason. HIS MAJESTY appears to possess the dramatic instinct, and standing on such a stage as he occupies, there is a strong temptation to strike attitudes. Then, too, he is evidently gifted with oratorical powers, and what is more, he evidently recognises the gift. Now rhetorical and dramatic displays are not usually associated with high statesmanship, and perhaps for that reason the roughly judging public are not disposed to take the EMPEROR very seriously. Even among the German themselves, eminently a sober, practical race, content to work for general results rather than for individual profit or fame, a sentiment of uncertainty exists as to the soundness of the hands that now hold the helm of State. Hence it is that special interest attaches to the recently published interview between Lord LONSDALE and a representative of the Berlin *Tageblatt*. Lord LONSDALE'S description of the EMPEROR is, in some important respects, precisely what folks in general would not have expected. This Sovereign, hitherto regarded as delighting to startle the world by meteoric comings and goings, spectacular displays and sensational harangues, is described by his host and guest as a man who, under a brilliant exterior, conceals one of the most painstaking, labour-loving minds that ever grappled with problems of statecraft. By unremitting study he has familiarized himself with details such as one imagines to be the exclusive property of specialists. From the price of a soldier's socks to the idiosyncracies of a great painter or sculptor; from the calibre and rifling of a new piece of ordnance to the carrying capacity and trading route of an insignificant merchantman, he seems to know everything. That means thoroughness, and thoroughness is never associated with caprice or hysteria. WILLIAM the SECOND appears to be the exact antithesis of NAPOLEON the THIRD in bases of character, though in superficials there is a certain resemblance between the two monarchs. Still a young man, holding the sceptre of a splendid empire, and called upon to direct issues of immense importance not to his own countrymen alone but to the whole of civilized humanity, there seems to be no reason why this already striking figure should not ultimately stand out from the pages of history among the greatest rulers of all time.

In connection with the action for damage brought by the Governor of Tokyo against Mr. Hamano, President of the Japan Cast Iron Foundry Co. the entire property of the company has been attached, and work suspended. The company is now in a critical condition. The shareholders will hold a general meeting on the 11th inst. to discuss the best method of settling the difficulty. Some shareholders propose instituting legal proceedings against Mr. Hamano with a view to obtaining recompense for damage sustained by the company through the illegalities of their late President.

THE CLIMATIC CONDITIONS OF THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

THE Trans-Siberian Railway has such an important bearing upon the future of the Far East that all facts relating to its prospects will be read with interest. In that belief we now publish a study of the climatic conditions of the line. It has been compiled for this journal from a monograph now in course of preparation by Dr. WALDO, the author of Modern Metereology.

With regard to the moving of troops along the Trans-Siberian railway, the most important question is the amount of hindrance to be expected from snow. The rainfall throughout the whole route is small. From the eastern terminus to longitude 115° in the Amur region, the annual precipitation is from 12 to 16 inches, and West of Lake Baikal it is a little below 12 inches. Along the Amur valley to the East of this there is an increase to over 20 inches at Vladivostock. In northern Korea the precipitation is 24 inches, at the entreme south it is 34 inches. From a certain time in the autumn till a certain time in the spring the precipitation falls as snow. In the three winter months, in the region to the west of Lake Baikal about 2·5 inches of precipitation falls. (The amount is estimated in its water equivalent by melting the snow.)

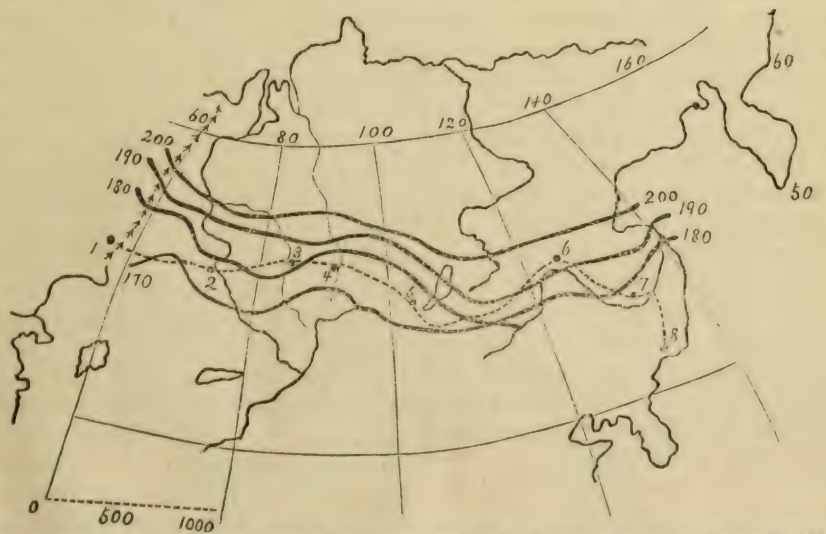
For the greater part of the region to the East of Lake Baikal the winter precipitation is only ·5 inch. In the spring the precipitation is between two inches and 2·5 inches from the Western end to about longitude 95°. Then it decreases to less than ·8 inch just east of Lake Baikal and on the Upper Amur River. Then from long. 113° to the Eastward there is at first a rapid increase to 2·5 inches, and then a very slow increase from the Middle Amur to 3·2 inches at Vladivostock. In the autumn there is about 3·2 inches precipitation along the entire route to Lake Baikal, where it decreases to 2 inches on the Upper Amur, increasing again to 5 inches on the Lower Amur and at Vladivostock. Assuming that half the precipitation in the autumn and spring months is in the form of snow, the following average amounts of water fall in the form of snow :—

	Water in form of Snow.	Inches of Snow.
Western terminus	1·5	7·5
Omsk, 75° longitude	1·3	6·5
Tomsk, 85° longitude	1·5	7·5
Irkutkst (near southern end of Lake Baikal)	1·5	7·5
Upper Amur	0·5	2·5
Middle Amur	1·0	5
Lower Amur	1·4	7
Vladivostock	1·5	7·5
Northern Korea	1·5	7·5
Southern Korea	4·7	23·5

With regard to the depth of snow, an estimate is difficult to make, for the density of snow varies from almost that of ice, when it is closely packed, to about one-fiftieth when it is in a very fluffy condition. Usually the snow accumulates all through the winter in Siberia, but when older and covered with new snow it packs very solidly. Assuming the average density to be one-fifth, the estimate in the above table is made. This of course does not take into account the amount of drifted snow, but from the observations of travellers there does not seem to be much tendency of the snow to accumulate locally in very great depths. In the year 1890-91, the actual depth of the snow at Lake Baikal was about 7 inches, and in the Amur region 6 inches. Hence the conclusion is reached that there is not very much difficulty to be apprehended from snow as an obstacle on the Trans-Siberian Railway.

With regard to the Summer Rainfall it is as follows :—

	Inches.
Northern Korea	12·16
Vladivostock	8
Middle Amur	12
Lake Baikal	8
Tomsk	7
Western Terminus to Tomsk	6·3



The heavily dotted line shows the route of the Trans-Siberian Railroad from the foot of the Ural Mountains, longitude 60, to Vladivostock: 1, Western Terminus; 2, Omsk; 3, Tomsk; 4, Krasnojarsk; 5, Irkutsk (near Lake Baikal); 6 is the Middle Amur River; 7, Chabarawka; 8, Vladivostock.

The heavy lines show the regions along which the average daily temperature remains below 32 F. for 170, 180, 190, and 200 days.

The line of 150 days passes in the neighbourhood of Vladivostock, and the line of 100 through Northern Korea. The lines of equal ten day periods lie nearer the coast than in the interior.

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The total rainfall is small, but equally distributed, and is so far promising for agriculture. The following table gives the humidity :—

	Annual.	Aut'n.	Winter.	Spring.	Sum'r.
Western Route	75	82	85	70	70
Lake Baikal	—	70	—	60	70
Eastern part from Lake Baikal	70	72	75	65	80

Velocity of Wind.	Per hour, miles.	Summer.
Korea	9	7 to 9
Vladivostock in immediate neighbourhood	13	11
Middle Amur	2	4
Upper Amur	?	4
Lake Baikal	?	4·5
Western Terminus	9	9

Thus there is a great contrast between the high wind velocities at the centre of the American continent and the low wind velocities of the Asiatic continent. There are violent windstorms, but they are relatively infrequent. The lowness of the wind velocity is favourable for the retention of the water in the ground, as with the rapidly of the wind evaporation increases rapidly. At the western terminus the average temperature is in Fahr. :—

	January.	July.
Western terminus	+ 3	68
Long. 75	— 4	68
To South-west of Lake Baikal :—		
Middle Amur, 124° long.	—22	72
Increasing to :—		
Vladivostock	+ 3	68
Yellow Sea	+14 (water temp.)	77
Southern Korea	+32	—

The extreme maximum temperatures are from 91 to 98 along the whole route. The average extreme minimum temperatures are :—

Southern extremity of Ural Mountains (regular decrease to)	—31
Tomsk, long. 85° (extreme minimum)	—58
Lake Baikal, rise to South end, long. 104° (descending)	?
Highest northing of Amur River (continuing to about 126° long. whence rapid rise to)	—53
Vladivostock	— 4

The minimum temperature at the head of the Yellow Sea is 45° F. or 43° F. Hence a terminus on this sea would not be of much advantage. But the long route in the very cold Middle Amur region would be avoided, and there would be a gradual though very slow lessening of the minima from Lake Baikal to the Pacific coast. If the railroad runs into the Korean Peninsula the minimum temperature would be 21° to 14° Fahr. The average annual range of temperature from max. to min., along most of the route is from 110° to 125° F., but in the region to the West of Lake Baikal it has been as much as 160°. At Vladivostock the range is 90°; in South Korea 70°. A very important question is of course the duration of the period for which the waters, both ocean and inland, remain closed for navigation. These can be collected from the following table :—

Western Terminus	Oct. 23 ice begins	April 20 ice melts. April 22 ice breaks up.
Omsk, long. 75°	Oct. 18 ice begins. Nov. 6 ice permanent.	
Tomsk, long. 98°	Oct. 15 begins. Nov. 20 permanent.	April 16 breaks up.
Lake Baikal, long. 124°	Oct. 20 begins. Nov. 2 permanent.	April 20 breaks up. April 26 breaks up.
Upper Amur	Oct. 8 begins. Oct. 30 permanent.	April 23 breaks up. May 5 in long. 124° breaks up (greatest northing of Amur river).
Vladivostock	Nov. 2 begins. Dec. 2 permanent.	April 1 breaks up. April 20 breaks up.

The duration of winter is the number of days the temperature is below freezing :—

	Ice covers water.	Temp. below freezing
Western terminus	160	173
Tomsk, long 85°	180	185
Lake Baikal	160	175
Highest Northing of Amur River	185	194
Chabarowka	160	170
Vladivostock	143	150
Northern Yellow Sea	120	130
Southern Korea	90?	100?

A DISGRACEFUL DEVICE.

WE have received from a Japanese correspondent a translation of a "memorandum" purporting to have been "presented by prominent members of the House of Representatives to the Ministers of State and Privy Councillors." Our correspondent observes that "vernacular newspapers refrain from publishing the memorandum for a reason not very difficult to guess," and at the same time has the impertinence to ask us to insert the document in our columns. The "reason not very difficult to guess" is the fear of suspension. Vernacular newspapers can easily foresee the danger to themselves of giving publicity to such memorials, and they consequently refrain from printing them. Does our correspondent imagine that, under these circumstances, a foreign journal published in Japan will lend itself to promote his illegal purposes, or that it has the smallest moral right to do so? If the Government of this empire consider that a certain restraint must be imposed upon the press, in the interests of public peace and good order, foreign journals published in the settlements are under a plain moral obligation to respect that opinion, and not to defy it merely because they enjoy a peculiar measure of liberty. Were there question of discussing the privileges possessed by foreigners under the treaties, or any other matter directly concerning the European or American residents, the foreign local newspapers would be entitled to use the full freedom secured to them under extraterritorial jurisdiction. But where there is question solely of a matter of Japanese domestic politics, nothing can justify a foreign newspaper in lending its columns for the ventilation of anti-Government manifestoes such as the vernacular journals are restrained by law from publishing. We emphatically decline to be guilty of any such abuse of the liberty we enjoy. Neither can we easily persuade ourselves that the course adopted by our correspondent possesses the sanction of the "prominent members of the House of Representatives" supposed to have signed the "memorandum." Does he seriously expect, or intend, us to believe that leading men among his country's legislators, finding their indictment of the Government so strong as to be debarred by law from publication in Japanese journals, have had recourse to journals of a foreign country? And if the signatories of the document did not sanction such a discreditable step, are we to understand that our correspondent took it solely on his own authority? At any rate, we assure him that the foreign local press is not as exploitable as he seems to think. Another point, too, is noteworthy. It has been a frequent habit on the part of the organs of the "Opposition" to complain of the Government's want of courage in suffering local foreign newspapers to transgress the limits imposed upon the pens of Japanese journalists. Yet now we have leading members of the Opposition, "prominent" legislators, endeavouring to betray the foreign local press into the very abuse that they are so ready to denounce when it is not perpetrated in their own interests. Our correspondent is mistaken if he expects us to become a party to such practices, or if he hopes to put our columns to such uses. If no higher sense of responsibility restrained us, we should at least be careful not to bring odium upon foreigners by openly defying the restraints that our Japanese contemporaries are obliged to observe.

"TRILBY."

WE should all like to believe in the possibility of TRILBY if only because our hatred for SVENGALI might then be nursed with less sense of the ridiculous. Well, it is a comfort to learn that scientific men, having recently devoted attention to this subject, agree that vocalism developed, like TRILBY'S, under the influence of hypnotism, is quite within the range of possibilities. Experiments have shown that hypnotism can produce wonderful exaltation or development of faculty. It can not create, however. The faculty must be there normally, in however rudimentary a form. TRILBY had the organs of vocalization—splendid organs, too—and the rudiments of an ear. Under the training and "suggestive" prompting of SVENGALI, she developed both ear and voice. In all probability DU MAURIER had instructed himself on this point before he made the chief interest of his remarkable work centre on such a curious hypnotic phenomenon. Great artists, whether of the pen or of the pencil, never take anything on trust. DICKENS travelled seventy miles to find the waggon-driver whom he desired to depict in connection with the younger MARTIN'S journey from PECKSNIFF'S to London, and devoted weeks to searching up scientific authorities for the spontaneous combustion of the rag-merchant in Cursitor Court. DU MAURIER might easily have satisfied himself that the Svengalization of the sweet sitter for "*l'ensemble*" did not encroach upon the domain of the supernatural. Dreaming in natural sleep is the every-day form of hypnotism, and in a dream CONDORCET discovered the conclusive steps of a mathematical calculation that had long baffled his waking genius, and COLERIDGE com-

posed "Kubla-Khan." CHARCOT'S "Clinique" as we read in the *Alienist and Neurologist*, describes the case of MARIE H., an inmate of the Saltpetriére, who in her normal state did not know how to read or write and could only do coarse sewing, but who, in the "vigilambulic" condition could read, write, cipher, crochet, and embroider. LADAME also tells of a lady who, in the second, or hypnotised, state, not only was free from many distressing symptoms that tormented her under ordinary circumstances, but could invariably win at a game otherwise certainly lost by her. Still closer to TRILBY comes a patient of Bonamaison Hospital, also spoken of in CHARCOT'S "Clinique." Hypnotised, she could do "the finest needle-work and embroidery with a dexterity utterly foreign to her normal condition;" could remember multitudes of facts ordinarily forgotten, and could "sing an English ditty learned in her childhood, of which she did not know the first word in her normal state." Thus the double personality of TRILBY may be accepted as a possibility. Many of our readers will doubtless share the lively satisfaction that we ourselves frankly confess to feeling at the knowledge that LITTLE BILLEE, the sweet, tender PHRYNE of the Rue des Pousse-Cailloux, TAFFY, the LAIRD, and all the other inmates of that delightful gallery, may be taken without the large grain of salt that deprives so many nectarian romances of their sweetness. Is it not conceivable that Miss ABBOTT'S wonderful feats, too, have something to do with the exaltation of faculty observed in the state of vigilambulism?

THE DOCTRINE of IMMORTALITY.

(COMMUNICATED.)

MR. STEAD, in a recent number of his *Borderland*, publishes a *résumé* of the controversy recently carried on in the United States on the question of the intrinsic immortality of man. Mr. STEAD'S essay furnishes the *Spectator* with an excuse for reiterating its own peculiar views on the subject of immortality. In many particulars that we could name the *Spectator* has considerably modified its views within the past fifteen years, but on the subject of a future life, the paper in consequence, no doubt, of the known sympathies and leanings of the chief editor, still champions the cause of the Christians that believe in conditional immortality, among whom Mr. GLADSTONE may perhaps be reckoned. According to this view, man is not naturally, by virtue of his creation, an immortal being. Though originally designed for immortality, his attainment of it was contingent on his obedience and was forfeited at the Fall. So that immortality can now only be obtained as a gift, through CHRIST'S redemption, and will only be attained by the saved. All not included in this category are subject to annihilation. It may be of interest to our readers to know that this doctrine received some twelve years ago the support of, and was publicly professed by, some of England's leading scientists. Professor J. C. ADAMS, the great astronomer, Professor G. G. STOKES, the great mathematician, Professors T. G. BONNEY and T. G. TAIT, and Dr. ARCHIBALL GEIKIE, in conjunction with such men as Dr. PEROWNE, then Dean of Peterborough, Dr. SWAINSON, then Master of Christ's College, and Lady Margaret, Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge; and the late Professor HENRY SMITH of Oxford, all allowed it to be publicly and repeatedly stated that they had discarded the ordinary orthodox doctrine of inherent immortality and eternal punishment in favour of the view that the *Spectator* has steadily maintained for a decade and a half. We are not in a position to say how far the opinions of such of the above-named eminent men as are living may have altered in the past ten years. The difficulties attached to the doctrine of conditional immortality are so enormous that we can hardly suppose that this special view did more than afford a temporary resting-place to minds destined to reach a higher plane of philosophic thought and belief. It is hardly conceivable that the advocates of this view can ever have clearly defined to themselves the consequences it involves. To say that men are to be saved from extinction only by believing in the doctrine of the Atonement, as explained by Church authorities, is to assert that all the moral magnets of antiquity and all the good men of modern times who with the greatest sincerity and seriousness reject the doctrine or live and die in entire ignorance of its nature, are, as a punishment or the result of fate, doomed to annihilation. For an organ like the *Spectator* which aims to be abreast, if not ahead, of the age to adhere to such a narrow-minded and thoroughly illogical position as that maintained by the preachers of conditional immortality is an anomaly that can be explained only by the fact that the polished writer who for so many years has been its chief editor has reached an age when men are usually incapable of undergoing mental transformations or development on new lines.

The old doctrine, elaborated by the Pythagoreans, adopted and remodelled by the Greeks, received with modifications by the Christian Church, and subsequently so amalgamated with Biblical teaching as to appear to all but the discerning few to be based on what is known as the Christian revelation, taught that the souls of all men are inherently immortal. With the Pythagoreans, certain Greek writers and orthodox Buddhists, the future existence of the soul and its pre-existence are doctrines of equal weight and importance. To those that believe in personal and individual immortality, that is, in a continuance of the conscious *ego* of this world in the life to come, the doctrine of metempsychosis in attended with insurmountable difficulty. In considering that doctrine they argue thus: If in this life we have no recollection of anything that has happened in a previous existence, it is but logical to suppose that in a future life we shall have no recollection of our experience in this, and hence that to us the chief bliss of future existence—the continuity of the same conscious *ego* will be unattainable. For this and some other reasons which we cannot discuss now, the Christian Church rejected half of the Pythagorean and Greek doctrine and embodied the other half in its teaching. So that the exact position maintained by the Church has been that immortal souls are either begotten, created, or supplied at birth. Few people have the curiosity to inquire into the process of endowment. But such an inquiry is essential when it is important to test the logical basis of belief. Two theories are possible. One is that souls are supernaturally supplied to the bodies that stand in need of them. The idea being that a large stock is always held in readiness for emergencies, a kind of contingent fund of immortal souls; the other that the immortal soul awaits the beck and call of the parents of children, that is, that all children in whatever manner begotten inherit immortality. The latter theory, despite the monstrosity of its consequences, is held by most of those who have paid any attention to the subject. It was this theory combined with other philosophic considerations that led that logical divine of the seventeenth century, Bishop BUTLER, to maintain that immortality is not to be denied to animals. Consistently with the great doctrine of analogy which he elaborated with such logical acumen, he maintained that beings whose cause of birth and manner of birth bore an exact resemblance should alike be regarded as endowed with a nature capable of surviving death. But the Bishop has never had many followers. Though the huntsman has often contemplated with delight the prospect of mustering his favourite hounds in another world, the notion of the eternal perpetuation of the canine species has come as a shock to most of the sober-minded church-goers who look forward to the perpetual Sabbath exercises of the heaven of their thoughts. Though the theory of an ordinary animal origin of immortal souls is held by the majority of Protestant Christians at the present day, we must not forget that the other theory is not without it supporters. In his Ode on Immortality, WORDSWORTH was expressing the views of a large number of Christian believers when he wrote:—

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Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting:
The souls that rises with us, our life's Star,
Hath elsewhere had its setting
And cometh from afar;
Not in entire forgetfulness,
And not in utter nakedness,
But trailing clouds of glory do we come from God.

To men whose minds are accustomed to the idea of constant supernatural interference with the laws of nature, the idea of souls being supplied to bodies as they are born presents no great difficulty. Once admit that miracles have taken place and may take place at any time, and it becomes only a question of a little more or less of the supernatural element being allowed to exist. The view of the Christian Church, then, briefly stated, is that all men are naturally and inherently immortal: that the wicked are doomed to future punishment, of a limited duration and as a probation, say some, of endless duration, say others. Among those consigned to perdition are to be reckoned all rejectors of orthodox teaching, all deniers of miracles, all men of the HUXLEY and SPENCER type, despite their sincerity. For the devout Christian above endless future bliss is reserved. Such men as MARCUS AURELIUS, SOCRATES, CONFUCIUS, SHAKA MUNI, and MAHOMET, notwithstanding all the good they accomplished, are not, according to this theory, worthy of ranking with the followers of CHRIST.

We have given the view of the *Spectator* and the thinkers it represents and the view of the Christian Church on the subject of immortality, and it is but fair to all parties that we should give the opinion of that large class of thinkers to whom the doctrines of PLATO and of modern Christian divines seem alike untenable and unsatisfactory. When discussing the ordinary philosophical argument in favour of immortality, the *Spectator* makes an admission that is worth quoting. "The separability of the soul and body," says the London journal, "only shows that they are not identical either in durability or in anything else. But to show that one survives the other no more proves that the survivor is immortal than the survival of a mother or son shows that that mother or son is immortal. We do not argue that because the body sometimes appears to survive the mind, the body will never die, and we must not therefore argue that because the the mind survives the body the mind will never die." This is equivalent to admitting that what is called the logical proof of immortality will not bear examination. All candid minds, however, desirous of defending the belief in immortality are wont to confess that it has no strictly logical basis. EMERSON, in his Essay on "Immortality" writes:—"We cannot prove our faith by syllogisms. The argument refuses to form in the mind. A conclusion, an inference, a grand augury is ever hovering; but attempt to ground it, and the *reasons are all vanishing and inadequate.*"* Again, "There is a drawback to the value of all statements of the doctrine; and I think that one abstains from writing or printing on the immortality of the soul, because when he comes to the end of his statement, *the hungry eyes that run through it will close disappointed.*" . . . . "It is not my duty to prove to myself the immortality of the soul. *That knowledge is hidden very cunningly.*" GŒTHE confesses that he is conscious of the same difficulty. "It is to a thinking being," says he, "quite impossible to think himself not existent, ceasing to think and live; so far does every one carry in himself the proof of immortality, and quite spontaneously. But so soon as the man will be objective, and go out of himself, so soon as he dogmatically will grasp a personal duration to bolster up in cockney fashion that inward assurance, *he is lost in contradiction.*" These are important admissions for men to make who are earnest believers in the inherent immortality of the soul. It is equivalent to saying the belief in immortality rests on feeling, intuition, instinct, aspiration, or desire, but not on reason. When we examine the writings of poetic geniuses of the type of GŒTHE and EMERSON, of philosophic mysteries such as HEGEL and MAX MULLER, or of the greatest modern Comtist, FREDERIC HARRISON, we find that they all believe in some kind of immortality. But in no case is anything like a strictly rational defence of the doctrine attempted. So that it is hardly to be wondered at that there should exist throughout Europe and America a large class of writers who boldly assert that nothing whatever can he known about the future destiny of the soul, but that the probabilities and that best of all guides, the analogy of nature, point to disintegration and dissolution. All who have thoroughly studied the doctrine of evolution are well aware that mind can only be scientifically discussed as joined to matter. We can conceive of disembodied spirits existing, but no proof of their existence ever has been given and ever can be given, say the school of thinkers whose views we are now giving. Where decisive proof is wanting probability is our only guide. In the matter under consideration the probability of final extinction at death amounts in some minds to a kind of certainty; not absolute certainty, perhaps, but certainty sufficiently powerful to make even a faint hope of a future existence an impossibility. To minds of the class to which we refer the very notion of the eternal perpetuity of every human being that has appeared on the world's stage is too absurd to be discussed seriously. Nature goes on producing more and more perfect types, but she never resuscitates the half-developed organisms that have fulfilled their office and passed into oblivion. She respects the race, but cares not for the individual. Why should any particular individual continue to exist when his place can be filled by men of equal if not greater capacity? The manner of our birth, the whole relationship of body and mind, the constitution of nature and the relentlessness of the fate to which we are all subject, point unmistakeably to annihilation as the climax of our earthly existence. To find men of extraordinary talent like EMERSON resting the doctrine of a future existence on the soul's aspirations, and longings, saying we shall live for ever because we wish to live for ever, appears to the sober agnostic as quite pathetic. Not so do men argue when attempting to solve other difficulties or to predict the course of ordinary events. A man's desires and longings count for little when he comes into contact with the stern realities of everyday life. To base a forecast of events on the wishes of theindividuals whose actions determine their course would be considered the height of folly when discussing ordinary human affairs. And yet this is the method followed by the majority of the modern defenders of the doctrine of immortality. It is hardly possible to imagine anything more feeble and childish than some of the arguments advanced by EMERSON and GOETHE. To quote one instance only. "To me," said GOETHE, "the eternal existence of my soul is proved from my idea of activity. If I work incessantly till my death, nature is bound to give me another form of existence when the present can no longer sustain my spirit." This is equivalent to saying that nature is under an obligation to comply with our wishes. Does her method of treating human beings in this life furnish a tittle of evidence to show that consideration for man's feelings is even allowed to interfere with the rigid working of her laws? What a hopeless confusion of ideas is revealed by the sentence quoted above. The eternal existence of an object—the soul—is asserted to be proved by a subjective motion, not even having reference to a distinctively mental attribute, but to *activity*, which is more physical than mental. The argument runs thus:—I like to be active. Death will interfere with this activity. Hence nature is bound to provide me with a *new* and *endless* form of existence in which my love of activity may be gratified. Poets are, as a class, said to be very illogical, but in this instance GOETHE seems to have reached the *ne plus ultra* of incoherency.

In his treatise on Logic when, discussing the philosophy of error, JOHN STUART MILL enunciates principles which account for the wide-spread belief in the immortality of the soul. "The sources of erroneous opinions are twofold," say MILL," "moral and intellectual. The moral may be classed under two general heads: Indifference to the attainment of truth, and bias; of which

* The italics are ours.

last the most common case is that in which we are biassed by our wishes. . . . . The natural or acquired partialities of mankind are continually throwing up philosophical theories, the sole recommendation of which consists in the premises they afford for proving cherished doctrines, or justifying favourite feelings: and when any one of these theories has been so discredited as no longer to serve the purpose, another is always ready to take its place. This propensity, when exercised in favour of any widely-spread persuasion or sentiment, is often decorated with complimentary epithets; and the contrary habit of keeping the judgment in complete subordination to evidence, is stigmatised by various hard names, as scepticism, immorality, coldness, hard-heartedness, and similar expressions according to the nature of the case. But though the opinions of the generality of mankind, when not dependent on mere habit and inculcation, have their root much more in the inclination, than in the intellect, it is a necessary condition to the triumph of the moral bias that it should first pervert the understanding. Every erroneous inference, though originating in moral causes, involves the intellectual operation of admitting insufficient evidence as sufficient, and whoever was on his guard against all kinds of inconclusive evidence which can be mistaken for conclusive, would be in no danger of being led into error even by the strongest bias. *There are minds so strongly fortified on the intellectual side, that they could not blind themselves to the light of truth, however really desirous of doing so; they could not with all the inclination in the world, pass off upon themselves bad arguments for good ones.** If the sophistry of the intellect could be rendered impossible, that of the feelings, having no instrument to work with, would be powerless."

Our reason for giving the above passage in full is that it furnishes an exhaustive explanation of the attitude assumed by the various controversialists and theorists whose views on the question of immortalists we have stated in these articles. That individual and conscious existence after death is desired by the large majority of mankind is an undoubted fact. In the existence of this desire lies the danger of inconclusive evidence being accepted as conclusive, of the intellect becoming the slave of bias. It is only those who by the most careful and rigid mental discipline have accustomed themselves to regard with suspicion and mistrust any opinion *solely* based on emotion, that can estimate the value of the hackneyed arguments in favour of immortality at their true worth. The motto of such men is not that of ANSELM, *Crede ut intelligas*, but that proved saying of ABELARD, *Intellige ut credas*. All that can be known bearing on the future of the humans oul points to annihilation, and this being so, no amount of intellectual sophistry, no ardency of feeling or desire can induce them to believe in the doctrine of the immortality of the soul.

There is one other opinion on the subject of immortality, which perhaps ought to be mentioned if only to be dismissed as not worth serious discussion. We are told by some that the only immortality they expect and desire is to be remembered by their friends; and, further, that it gives them satisfaction to know that none of the component elements of their being will be lost; their thoughts will live in the minds of posterity and the gases to which their bodies will be reduced will be utilised by nature in the formation of new organisms. To whatever comfort can be derived from such knowledge the refugees who have resorted to this sole remaining fortress of immortality are most welcome. Their view is so extremely moderate and their position impregnable that they may be said to have no enemies. It would, however, be an entire misuse of terms to speak of this class of men as believers in immortality. The only immortality that anybody really cares anything about is a state of conscious individual future existence—a state which will be a continuation of our present existence under happier auspices and conditions. As regards posthumous reputation, when we see how little real satisfaction, according to the published confessions of some of our greatest men, is to be derived from the highest earthly fame, we cannot imagine that it has ever had much attraction for any but the vainest of men.

* The italics are ours.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions their may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE SUNDAY QUESTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—When I read in your paper the other day a short article referring to the Imperial Birthday Ball of this year, which falls on Sunday, I wished very much to take the opportunity to write you a note, expressing my thought on the Sabbath question from a more serious point of view. Yesterday I noticed that you had a correspondent, who thought Sunday was "no better nor worse" than other days. The appearance of your reply to his correspondence in to-day's issue increased my desire greatly to express my own view, and now I steal a little time to write you a few lines which I leave under your discretion to print or not. As you know, we keep our Sundays entirely different from, and even opposite to, the manner, English and Americans are used to observe. To go directly to the point. Which is the better way—to make Sundays recreation days or do-nothing days, that is, do nothing except worshipping and meditating? Should we, as Christians, keep our Sabbath, just because our predecessors did keep it whether it was on Sunday or Saturday? It is not necessary now to enter into the question whether Sunday was the real Sabbath or Saturday. Keeping Sabbath can by no means be considered as a part of religion; it is merely a remnant of custom of the ancient religious people whose economic resources were more abundant compared with the circumstances they lived in. Now-a-days social stress is too great; the whole of one day out of every seven is too valuable to be spent in worshipping and meditation. Men work every day, all they are worth: the great majority of them not being able to get time to recreate themselves. On Sundays, if they are Christian, they can not openly recreate themselves for fear of their traditional prejudice on the ground of religious bigotry. The point has been observed by some thinkers on social sciences. Japan, before conforming to Christianity, imported Sundays and turned them into pure recreation days. They are now observed in all the departments, as much as possible, of the government, virtually in all the educational institutions, public as well as private, and in banks and other principal industrial corporations. It is a pity, however, that the holiday does not include all the working men. The present state is, at any rate, a phase of progress in its right course—a phase, by no means very laudable, for those who enjoy the holiday are limited practically to higher classes of office-workers. We have still a hopeful future, as the Japanese public is now more or less aware of its necessity and advantages among the lower labourers. Sundays, as recreation days, would be, no doubt, a salvation to the hard working labourers. There may be raised a question, in the country, about decrease of national productivity, for at present the labourers have hardly any holidays. Reply to this objection can not readily be given in definite figures. But it seems to have been already acknowledged that a twelve-hour day is more productive than a fourteen-hour day. Eight-hour days are even insisted on to be more productive than ten-hour days. It seems, then, that to take it for granted that a six-day week is more productive than a seven-day week, is not an over hasty conclusion. We may take into consideration, moreover, what kind of man is likely to work more days in health during his life, a man who works continually on all seven days of the week or another who works only on six, resting or recreating himself on the seventh? Suffice it to be said, that one recreation day out of every seven will surely relieve a large portion of hardship men now have to suffer. If a mere resting from work on the Sabbath does much to relieve them of hardship, free recreation on that day will do by far more. This system is now in the right course of progress in Japan, without that strong prejudice of religious bigotry as in England and America. To assist in the course of this progress is to promote human welfare. Throwing a useless nonsensical objection in its way is no less than running against the progress of social happiness. Religion, I think, does not exist for its own sake,—it is for humanity's sake that it has its utility and the foundation of its existence in society. It is merely nonsense to say that Sunday is sacred, and we should keep still on that particular day and count our past sins. Turning it to a recreation day as well as sacred day is, in truth, serving an object of religion. English and Americans who happen to be visiting in this country, should give serious thought to the question. If they do not learn any other instructive lesson in this country, whose social status is so different from theirs, they must at least notice the way Sundays are utilized in this country. It will be a practical lesson in several questions, which are now perplexing their ablest scientists.

It will be indeed a great pity if, as the *Mail* declared, "the great majority" of English and Americans will "feel constrained to absent themselves from the festival on the 3rd prox." But let them broaden their view just a little bit. Then they will feel no more constrained to take gladly the present opportunity to break their past bigoted record, that is, if they have been keeping their Sabbath as their bigotry dictated. Sunday did not exist for nothing; it has had its utility. But to adopt it to the advanced society of to-day, its character has to be modified. I express, in conclusion, my cordial wishes for the success of the coming Imperial Birthday Ball and for the hearty enjoyment of particularly English and Americans who have been invited to it.

I am, yours very truly,

SHO SHINOMICHI.

Mita, Tokyo, October 31st, 1895.

IS SUNDAY THE SABBATH?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your references to the subject of the ball to be given on Sunday the 3rd prox. in honour of the Emperor's birthday, you assume that Sunday is the Sabbath and that this opinion is held universally by Englishmen and Americans. Are you justified in making these two assumptions? I venture to think not. The Sabbath was the seventh day of the week; and the Jews who abide by the Law of Moses still keep, and quite correctly so, the seventh day as the Sabbath. But Sunday or the

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Lord's day was and is, not the seventh, but the first day of the week; and the observance of it as a day of religious reunion rests not upon the Law of Moses but on the practice of the early Church. The two days are never identified or confounded in the New Testament. Some of the first Jewish converts continued to observe the Sabbath after having become Christians; but Saint Paul thought nothing the better of them for doing so.

Is the Sabbatarian view of Sunday the only orthodox view amongst Englishmen? No doubt it alone was orthodox in the time of the Puritans; but Christian opinion has made a good deal of progress since then, and whatever may be the case amongst the dissenting bodies, the Church of England at all events is free from the mistake of confounding the Sabbath with Sunday. To any one seeking clear views and a full and impartial discussion of this topic I venture to recommend the perusal of Canon Hessey's Bampton Lectures, published some thirty years ago.

Yours faithfully, H.

Yokohama, 31st, October 1895.

MISS ABBOTT'S EXHIBITION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Though not present on the occasion, I am informed by unbiassed spectators that the treatment of Miss Abbott by the students under Mr. Kano at the Kinki-kan *was*, as you report in to-day's *Japan Mail*, thoroughly brutal; but that in spite of the brutality displayed she came out victorious. I fancy this is the first encounter of Miss Abbott with hoodlumism, but it is strange she should have met with this experience from students of the University of Japan. T.

[We do not think that the rudeness referred to was propetrated by Mr. Kano's students. From persons present and from independent sources we learn that the investigation conducted on the evening in question by *Jiujutsu* experts, of whom Mr. Kano is a leader, was taken advantage of by roughs unconnected with the students.—Ed. *J.M.*]

A PERSONAL APPEAL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—A very practical reason induces me to seek a little space in your correspondence columns. I feel sure that I voice the desire of a majority of your readers in beseeching the *Mail's* latest pair of polemists to practise their pugnacity in private. Many of us think that "Secularian" is both clever—as he very well knows—and zealous. But, whilst he amuses us, we cannot admire a certain way he has of lying in wait for fighters weaker than himself, and then ridiculing their size. On the other hand, there are many Christians that do not relish Mr. McCaleb's championship of their faith, for reasons already obvious. There is such a thing as zeal without knowledge. If ill-trained lads must fight, they should at least learn not to make themselves a nuisance to the public. So we earnestly beg these belligerents to leave print and take to the post.

Yours faithfully, P. B. PUBLICO.

October 30th, 1895.

THE SILENCE OF "SECULARIAN."

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Oh where, oh where has "Secularian" gone? Like as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. Has he, unbeknown to us, welcomed Mr. McCaleb to his own fireside to discuss Messianic prophecy and so spared the Rev. gentleman the humiliation of showing in the *Japan Mail* the weakness of the clerical position. Or can it be that the valiant David of Nagasaki has slain the Kobe Goliath with the slings and arrows of his sarcasm?

In was astonishing to read—in the letter from your Nagasaki correspondent—that "Secularian" knew not of other "strange people" besides Mr. McCaleb in this enlightened age; and the Christian community ought to be grateful to Mr. Eric Erics for going out of his way to inform Secularian that avowed Christians really do exist, and are to be found even in the upper circles of society. If Secularian would like to be introduced to a few more noted characters who have accepted the gospel, permit me, Sir, to refer him to the police gazettes of Christian countries as well as to the missionary magazines; and if he is an Englishman he will find in the history of his country plenty of evidence that Christians have existed from the earliest times. Why, Sir, every school-boy knows that the honourable title of "Defender of the faith; head of the Church" has been held by each successive "most religious and gracious" sovereign onward from the time of our Royal Bluebeard, Harry the Eighth, author of "The Royal road to Divorce, together with sure methods of avoiding payment of alimony."

All down the long vista of the ages the Church is conspicuous, linked arm in arm with the State, sanctioning and often sanctifying its atrocious acts and sharing in the plunder of its robberies.

"Secularian" must surely be a hermit if he does not know of such "strange people" as Christians in the year of grace 1895. I pass over the guileless McCaleb, and ask him to cast his eye upon the "faithful laity" prominent among whom he will see the Christian Crœsuses of the Jabez Balfour type, who build churches either by robbing widows' houses, or by unjustly taxing the labour of their servants. Such men are esteemed gentlemen and Christians—pillars of the Church. Oh what a goodly outside falsehood hath! A man endowed with the faculty of observation must, I think, be wilfully blind if he does not see that the Christian Church is a gigantic sham—as foreign as it possibly can be from the New Testament idea.

There are, of course, Christians and Christians; but it is perfectly ridiculous of Mr. Erics to argue that because a man avows himself a Christian; he therefore must of necessity believe in Messianic prophecy—which was the particular matter Mr. McCaleb and Secularian were debating. In priest-ridden countries where Catechisms exist "to be learned of every person," enjoining it as one's duty "to submit myself lowly and reverently to all my betters" (the parson, of course, being always the best) there are people—and a fairly large number of them—who get their "religious belief" so-called, as they get their coats—ready-made.

I imagine Mr. Eric Erics no longer doubts that it is still the fashion among eminent theologians to throw epithets at the heads of their opponents, like brickbats.

The Rev. Mr. McCaleb's last two letters should settle the matter. Clear proof was afforded in them that even in the nineteenth century when "enlightened and gentlemanly controversial methods" are taught, an "eminent theologian" can believe that whoever differs from him is "of necessity, either a fool or a knave"— and sometimes both!

Yours faithfully,

STILL ANOTHER KOBEITE.

P.S.—Perhaps I ought to say explicitly for Mr. McCaleb's information that I am not "Secularian" nor "Inquirer."

Nov. 3rd, 1895.

THE EVENTS OF 1870.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your article "The Events of 1870" in yesterday's *Japan Mail* comments on a recent Paris letter of *The Times* by referring to the columns of the London *Spectator* of July 16th, 1870, as though nothing had been made known in the meantime to rectify the view taken in the hurry of the moment by a London Editor. You quote a long passage from the antiquated article which you praise as "an exceptionally clear exposé of the reasons of the Franco-Prussian war," adding, however, that the strict accuracy of its statements is "now thrown under the shadow of a doubt." It is certainly a most important passage in the "accurate" exposé that in your opinion has now been contradicted for the first time; viz., the story of Comte Benedetti's "having adopted the extraordinarily unceremonious step of presenting the Emperor Napoleon's vexatious demand direct to the King of Prussia on the public promenade of Ems and the King's treating the insult in a Kingly manner." But what you represent as the latest revelation is by no means new to the readers of historical works on that great period. You evidently overlook the fact that Comte Benedetti has published the most accurate account of his doings at Ems (in a well known book entitled "*Ma Mission en Prusse*") as far back as 1871, and that ever since his statement that there was at Ems "*ni insulteur ni insulté*" has been accepted as setting aside the popular anecdotes immortalized by a memorial stone at Ems and in the splendid comic song in honour of King William serenely drinking his cup of *Krœhnchen brunnen* as a King and hero. No wonder that Barthélémy Saint-Hilaire in his recent utterance passes over "in complete silence" Comte Benedetti's assertion of 24 years ago. The belief that "the first insult came from Benedetti" is by no means "everywhere entertained up to the present," as you state. Not Benedetti committed the insult, but Duke Grammont in his famous speech in the French Chamber on July 6th, 1870, before Benedetti put in an appearance at Ems.

The new book which Benedetti, according to Blowitz' letter to *The Times* is publishing just now, cannot possibly add anything to the complete account of his experience at Ems drawn up immediately after the event and corroborated throughout by his official and confidential correspondence with the then foreign minister of France. It is extravagant after so much has already been publish-certainly must have quite another purpose. From the passage extracted from *The Times* letter I am inclined to believe that it is a repudiation by the Comte of gross misstatements and falsehoods which the former Prime Minister of France, Emile Ollivier, allowed himself to insert in the first volume of his bulky History of the Liberal Empire of which he was the leading spirit in the eventful time from January 2nd to August 9th, 1870. Some of the fabrications which Ollivier brought forth last year in defence of his unfortunate actions in 1870, have even found their way into the Paris letter quoted in your paper. You seem to believe that an unjustifiable act of Bismarck's supplied the wanted "offence" which "was bound to come," by altering the telegram sent to him from Ems so as to make war inevitable. If he did so, you feel justified in pronouncing against him "the anathema, was to him by whom the offence cometh." In order to satisfy you on the point that Bismarck in altering the wording of the celebrated Ems telegram for the purpose of making it public as he was authorized to do, simply abridged it without altering its sense, nay even toned it down, I copy the original as made known to the world in the session of the Reichstag on November 23rd, 1892, and Bismarck's much blamed reproduction:—

Abeken's Telegram:	Bismarck's Reproduction:
"Seine Majestaet der Koenig schreibt mir:	Telegram from Ems. July 13th, 1870. Nachdem die Nachrichten von der Entsagung des Erbprinzen von Hohenzollern der Kaiserlich franzoesischen Regierung von der Koeniglich spanischen amtlich nutgetheilt war, hat der franzoesische Botschafter in Ems *an Seine Majestaet den Koenig* noch *die Forderung gestellt, ihn zu autorisiren, dass er nach Paris telegraphire, dass Seine Majestaet sichfuer alle Zukunft verpflichte, niemals wieder seine Zustimmung zu geben, wenn die Hohenzollern auf ihre Kandidatur wieder zurueckkeommen sollten.* Seine Majestaet der Koenig has es darauf *abgelehnt, den franzoesischen Botschafter nochmals zu empfangen, und demselben durch den Adjutanten* von Dienst *sagen lassen dass Seine Majestaet dem Botschafter nichts weiter mitzutheilen habe.*"
Graf Benedetti fing Mich auf der Promenade ab, um auf zuletzt zudringliche Art *von Mir zu verlangen, Ich sollte ihn autorisiren*, sofort *zu telegraphiren, dass Ich fuer alle Zukunft Mich verpflich, tete, niemals wieder Meine Zustimmung zu geben, wenn die Hohenzollern auf ihre Kandidatur zurueckkaemen*, Ich wies ihn zuletzt etwas ernst zurueck, da man à tout jamais dergleichen Engagements nicht nehmen duerfe noch Koenne. Natuerlich sagte Ich ihm, dass Ich noch nichts erhalten haette, und da er über Paris und Madrid frueher Cenachrichtigt sei als Ich, er wohl einsaehe dass Mein Gouvernement wiederum ausser Spiel sei.	
Da Seine Majestaet dem Grafen Benedetti gesagt, dass Er Nachricht vom Fuersten erwarte, hat Allerhoechstderselbe, mit Ruecksicht auf die obige Zumuthung, auf des Grafen Eulenburg und meinen Vortrag, *Ceschlossen, den Grafen Benedetti nicht mehr zu empfangen*, sondern *ihm durch einen Adjutanten sagen zu lassen; dass Seine Majestaet* jetzt vom Fuersten die Bestaetigung der Nachricht erhalten, die Benedetti aus Paris schon gehabt, und *dem Botschafter nichts weiter zu sagen habe.*	
Seine Majestaet stellt Eurer Excellenz anheim, ob nicht die neue Forderung Benedetti's und ihre Zurueckweisung sogleich sowohl unseren Gesandten als in der Presse nutgetheilt werden solte."	

You will see that the underlined words are practically identical. The "somewhat importunate mode" of Benedetti's approach and the "somewhat serious" manner of the King's refusal have judiciously been omitted in Bismarck's reproduction.

The charge that Bismarck had falsified the Royal message with a view of thereby provoking the war, is therefore quite ridiculous for anyone who takes cognizance of the evidence produced on this closely scrutinized question. It was based, 23 years ago, on a comparison (by some Frenchmen) of Bismarck's telegram with the report of the Adjutant Prince Radziwill on the proceedings at Ems. The whole accusation fell to the ground when it was shown that Radziwill's Report was written *after* the date of Bismarck's publication, and that Abeken's telegram was its real basis. But that does not prevent writers like Mr. Blowitz and M. de Lano to treat it as an established fact even now. Unfortunately, when Bismarck told one of the guests at Friedrichsruh in September, 1892, that the abridged telegram had made much more impression on Moltke and Roon than the original, some anti-Bismarckian German papers renewed the old canard; but they were promptly silenced by Count Caprivi publishing at last the original form, as stated above. How you were led to suggest that this charge, when resuscitated after 20 years of oblivion in the end of 1892, may be "a prominent, if not the chief, reason for the disfavour into which he has fallen with the present Sovereign of Germany" in the beginning of 1890, I am at a loss to understand. Finally, you adopt in your retrospective view the same over-cautious attitude which you so amusingly point out in the "Delphian utterance" of the *Spectator* of July 16th, 1870. You will "await the production of fuller evidence on each side to elucidate this most interesting page of modern history." Now, Mr. Editor, that demand seems to me ex-

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ed. There was the "Enquête parlementaire" in 1871 going fully into the merits of all persons concerned, Benedetti's book of 1871, Gramont's account of 1872, Ollivier's recent publication, Madame Carette's Souvenirs, Girandeau's "Napoleon III. *intime*," the Memoirs of King Karl of Roumania, Emperor William's, Roon's, Moltke's correspondence and notes, Emperor Frederick's diary, Bismarck's straightforward stories, Lord Loftus' Reminiscenses, Lord Lyons' Despatches, Beust's Memoires (to mention only the names of close observers) to enlighten us on that point. Is there really any fear that we cannot see the truth, and that men like Blowitz (who as you state yourself is never to be taken *au pied de la lettre*) may still deceive us? Honestly speaking, I am of opinion that you could have solved all your doubts, if time and circumstances had allowed you to refer to any of the recent standard histories of that period, *e.g.* Vol. III. of Sybel's grand work.

Hoping that the plural in the title of your article means that you will bring more abstracts from English papers reviewing the great events of 25 years ago, I have the honour to be,

Yours respectfully, HISTORICUS.

Tokyo, November 2nd, 1895.

CHINESE CHARACTERS.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—In your issue of yesterday is published another letter by the person who arrogates to himself the position of censor on the subject of "Chinese Characters." I would not take the trouble to reply to his puerilities, were it not that, as he has already had three opportunties of expressing his views, it is, with your kind permission, my right to have the last word.

As regards the "on" he now changes his ground. What he in his haste called "erroneous" turn out to be merely "seldom used." I would remind him that he is no judge of what is the real "on" of any character, and that if he wishes to be certain, he must consult some standard Japanese dictionaries, which so far he has not done.

For instance, take the character 播. The "on" is *ha* not *han* in all Japanese dictionaries. I have not got my books of reference down here, but turning to those I have borrowed, the 四聲字林集韻 and the 增續大廣益會玉篇大全, I am confirmed in my previously expressed opinion that the proper "*on*" of 播 is only "*ha.*" The latter dictionary gives the very example I furnished, viz:—播棄, *ha*-ki, not *han*-ki. In my first letter I quoted the Chinese sound of the character to show him that he must be wrong, as I fancied he might possibly know the principles which regulate the Japanese pronunciation of a Chinese Character. He apparently does *not*.

As to 拐 the same two dictionaries give only *kai* as the *on*, and the latter quotes the same example as I do, namely, 拐編, *kai*-hen. He has never been in a Japanese Court of Law, or he would know that 拐帯 *is* pronounced *kai*-tai.

"By all the Japanese I consulted." Let him find out the facts for himself by personal research, and not rely entirely upon his teacher, who may or *may not* be right. "拐騙 is read *katari*," is it? How the two characters are expressed by *one kun* is incomprehensible. The *jukuji* is *not* read *katari* in any case. He will find the proper *kun* in my last letter.

I gave examples, *with my authorities*, in my last letter of 差, 牀, 羹, 旁, 寳, and others which he does not mention. (How about the proverb quoted by him that to be silent on any point is to acknowledge yourself beaten?) I shall not repeat my examples. He can refer to my letter.

He says 差 is read *sa* on page 138 of the Daizōho-kango. Yes, and I give *sa* as the first "on." But he is uncandid enough only to tell half the truth. On another page of the same authority, he will find the "on" given as "*shi*," which I also give, with my examples. He says if I had given what he is pleased to term the "usual" "on," in the characters he criticises, he would, have said nothing. This character is a case in point. I really fail to see how any "on" which is not to be found in any Japanese dictionary, but is simply occurs erroneously in colloquial use, is "of so incomparably much greater importance" than those which are to be found there.

Williams gives 卍 under the radical 十. That is sufficient authority for me. "I know very well that 卍 occurs in Buddhistic works in China, but to maintain that it is a Chinese Character is very much the same as if one would pronounce ? or ! to be of Japanese origin, because in certain recent prints they are used in the sense of the particles *ka* respg. *yo*." What does this mean? His sentences are so involved that it is often impossible to grasp his meaning. I shall be glad to include both ? and ! in the next edition of my work, if he can give me any authority to show they are Chinese Characters.

Then to take the characters 染, 梁, and 渠. It is admissible to put the first two, as I have done under the radical 木: it is absolutely wrong to place the last under Radical 氵. He misquotes Williams, as far as I can remember. The word "formerly" ought not to appear. To prove that I am correct as to these last mentioned characters, I refer him to page 84 of the 增續大廣益會玉編大全.

There is an objection to admissions made in footnotes. They show an undue haste to appear in print,—a fault from which this critic is very far from free.

"He ought to know that 𣃦 when used in Japan is used as a secondary synonymous form of 旅." He ought *not*, because it is *not* so used. I said it was want of candour which made him persevere in his error: I find it is want of knowledge.

He is most emphatically wrong in saying that my 睞 rai, of *hō rai* is a misprint for 脥. It is not. See p. 71 of the 增續大廣益會玉編太全; there is no such character used here as the one he gives.

Again, he says I "confound" 卍 with 卐, 葬 with 塟, 吽 with 叫, 獘 with 弊, and 棊 with 碁. I do not. Each one he names is the same, according to Williams, as the one I refer him to.

I am perhaps as capable as he of appreciating Mr. Gubbins' excellent dictionary. I observe he passes by in silence the points on which I quote the "Dictionary of Chinese-Japanese words" to show him his mistakes, and only mentions those on which he thinks Mr. Gubbins agrees with him.

Yours truly, A. H. L.

Kobe, October 31st, 1895.

[We can not publish any more correspondence on this subject. —Ed. *J.M.*]

CAMPHOR AND THE CAMPHOR INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

(Specially compiled for the "Japan Mail.")

One of the problems brought into prominence by the recent war and the annexation of Formosa to Japan, is the camphor industry. It is a problem in which Japanese and foreigners are interested: the former, because, owing to the steadily increasing demand for camphor in Europe and America, and the equally steady decline of the Japanese supply, they are anxious to turn to the fullest possible account the camphor-producing capacities of the newly acquired territory, the only place outside Japan where camphor can be cultivated: the latter because they apprehend that the supply having now fallen wholly under the control of one nation, whereas formerly it was in the hands of two competitors, the market will be completely at the mercy of the monopolist.

The supply of camphor in the interior of Japan is now indeed in a deplorable condition, for so ruthlessly have the precious trees been felled that few, if any, are to be found in private ownership. Those that still remain are in State forests, but even there the danger of extermination threatens, owing to the fact that the value of the trees prompts clandestine felling on a large scale.

The tree (*Curnamomum Camphora*, Nees) has peculiar habits. It grows only in certain localities facing south and within reach of sea air, where the average annual temperature is above 15° C. Thus, even in Japan, it can be cultivated only in Shikoku, Kiushu, and a limited part of Kii and Izu; that is to say, only in districts situated within 10° to 36° north latitude.

It attains the greatest size of any tree in Japan, specimens being frequently found that measure above 40 ft. in circumference. Such grand trees are to be seen chiefly in the precinets of shrines, on which account they are sometimes called *Shinboku* (sacred trees). The tree being of comparatively slow growth (from ½ to 1½ inches in circumference annually, according to soil, cultivation, and so forth), the people of Tosa, where it is largely grown, are wont to say that its value increases at the rate of one *yen* a year. It is in truth the most precious and profitable tree in Japan, for even if the price of camphor be estimated at 30 *yen* per picul, or less than a third of the price now ruling, the yield from 1 *cho* (2½ acres) of land does not fall below 10,000 *yen* a year, after the trees have attained to a suitable size.

The are two or varieties in Japan, popularly distinguished according to the colour of the young leaves, as "red camphor" and "blue camphor." Of the two, the former is generally considered to contain a higher percentage of camphor. Speaking generally, the percentage varies considerably according to locality, soil, age, and also in different parts of the same tree. The root and stump contain the highest percentage, and the yield becomes less the higher the section taken. Owing to the fact that the older the tree the greater the amount of camphor it contains, formerly, when the demand for this article was still comparatively limited and market prices were low, only trees above 80 years of age were used, and even then only the stump and the stem up to the first branch together with such portion of the roots as could be easily dug-out, were taken. Subsequently, however, as prices rose and the materical became scarce, the tree was considered to have attained a suitable age even when its rings counted less than forty, and morever, not only the small branches, but ultimately even the leaves were used for extracting camphor. In the case of a tree several centuries old, the bark becomes covered with a white deposit of camphor exuding from the wood of the trunk.

It is not clear how far back the manufacture of camphor dates in Japan. There are reasons for believing, however, that the industry was carried on in very remote times, and that the processes were imported from either China or Korea. In Tosa and Sakuma the manufacture used to be, and still is, most extensive. There, as also in other camphor districts, rigid regulations were enforced in pre-Restoration days for the protection of the trees. Any one clandestinely felling a tree, whether in a government or a private forest, was liable to severe punishment, exile, or even death being at times inflicted, according to the gravity of the offence. About 180 years ago, the feudal chief of Satsuma conceived the idea of carrying on camphor manufacture as an official business, and, during more than one century from that time, 120,000 catties of crude camphor were sent every year to Nagasaki. It is said that the business yielded a net profit of about 1,000 *ryo* per annum.

Old as the manufacture is, the process is still primitive and admits of considerable improvement. In almost all the camphor districts the same methods are pursued. Abundance of water being a necessity, a site in the vicinity of a river is chosen, and a furnace is built of stone or brick. Upon it is placed an iron pot measuring, in general, 2.7 feet in diameter and 1.5 feet in depth. Over this pot is set a wooden cask, 3.8 feet deep and 2.6 feet in diameter at the lower end, and 1.2 feet at the top. The cask has no bottom but rests on a perforated board that serves at the same time as a cover for the pot. In the lower part of the cask a bamboo pipe is fixed to regulate the amount of water in the pot. After the cask has been set in position, it is plastered with clay to a thickness of about an inch, then tied round with ropes, and again plastered with clay. On a somewhat elevated spot, separated from the cask by a distance of from 5 to 7 feet, cooling receptacles, two in number and one within the other, are placed. These are made of pine, and are rectangular in shape, the lower measuring 6 feet by 3 feet with a depth of 6 inches, and the upper being somewhat smaller. The latter is separated horizontally into two compartments, the higher for receiving water that flows from a bamboo projecting over it, the lower for receiving the volatilized camphor steaming from the cask. In this lower compartment pieces of board, five to ten in number, are fixed crosswise, and in the upper is a small bamboo pipe through which water is passed to regulate the temperature of the furnace. Finally, a bamboo tube connects the upper part of the cask with the upper compartment of the cooling receptacle. There is no division of labour: the man that chops the camphor chips and brings them from the forest is the same that manages the furnace.

The chips are small—1½ inches wide and about ½ inch thick—and care is taken to cut them across the grain. About 30 *kwamme* (250 lbs.) of chips can be cut by an ordinary workman between morning to evening. They are packed closely into the cask from above. Water is then allowed to flow into the pot through the pipe from the cooling receptacle; when the pot is full the cask is closed with a furnace lid over which clay is thickly plastered. The fire is now lit, and kept burning strongly until steam is seen to issue from the pipe fixed in the upper compartment of the cooling receptacle, whereupon the fire is reduced, and a quantity of fagots sufficient to keep it burning slowly throughout the night is thrown in, the mouth of the furnace being then closed with stones so that only a small opening is left. This partial closing of the mouth of the furnace is said to be the most difficult part in the whole process. Next morning, water is again conducted into the iron pot;

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the fire is fanned to a high temperature and then once more lowered, the mouth also being partially closed as before, after which the workman goes to obtain a fresh supply of chips, and on his return in the evening, the cask is emptied of the steamed chips and fresh ones are packed in. Thus the time generally allowed for extracting the camphor from the chips is some 24 hours. For about ten to fifteen days the furnace is kept alight. When the receptacles become thoroughly cooled the connection between the upper and lower compartments is severed. The camphor deposited on the boards and sides of the lower compartment is then scraped off, while that found floating on the surface of the water in the upper compartment is collected by skimming. The deposits thus obtained vary considerably in amount according to the quality of the raw material and the skill of the fireman. They range from about 35 catties to as little as 5 or 6 the average being a little over 20 catties. The camphor is next transferred to a tub called the "dripping tub" (tare-oke), where it remains for about three whole days, the tub, meanwhile, being tilted so as to facilitate the dripping process. Finally, the camphor is packed in another tub, having a duplicate cover to prevent evaporation. The junctions of the cover and the body are sealed with a narrow strips of strong paper, and the tub is ready for transportation to Europe or America. It holds about 120 catties of camphor.

The above is a brief account of what is commonly called the Tosa process. It will be seen at once how primitive and imperfect is the mode adopted. At present, however, owing to the difficulty of getting a sufficient supply of raw material in any one district mechanism of a more scientific nature can not be fully availed of. Nevertheless, it is easy to see that there is room to effect improvements in the present methods of manufacture even on a small scale, and also in the mode of packing. Prof. Moriya, of the College of Agriculture in the Imperial University, has convincingly proved the possibility of extracting a larger percentage of camphor by slightly improved processes. He substituted an iron distiller for a wooden, and an iron boiler for an iron-pot, and increased the number of cooling receptacles to two instead of one. The material used by him for experimental purposes was of such inferior quality that experts employing the old system could not expect to obtain more than 2 per cent. of camphor. But the Professor obtained 5.23 per cent. His experiments have also shown exactly how the percentage of yield differs according to the different parts of of the tree used:—

	Per cent.
Twigs	2.21
Branches	3.70
Upper part of the stem	3.84
Lower part of the stem	4.23
Upper part of the stump	5.49
Lower part of the stump	5.74
Root	4.46
Average	4.22

These figures compare well with the following results of manufacture conducted by the old method at various places:—

Place.	Quantity of material.	Camphor obtained.	Percentage.
Kochi	1,813 catties...	30 catties...	1.65
Miyazaki	3,375 catties...	90 catties...	2.67
Fukuoka	1,000 catties...	20 catties...	2.00
Wakayama	625 catties...	10 catties...	1.60
Kochi	1,688 catties...	34 catties...	2.00
Wakayama	313 catties...	5 catties...	1.60
Average...	1,469 catties...	31.5 catties...	2.15

Crude camphor contains on an average 10 to 15 per cent. of oil, which, in turn, yields about 50 per cent. of camphor. Prof. Moriya's experiments show that camphor obtained from the upper part of the tree is more oily than that obtained from the lower part. Camphor is extracted from the oil by cooling the latter with freezing mixture.

The percentages of camphor and oil differ according to the season, the former being higher in winter and the latter in summer. Experiments conducted at a certain manufacturing establishment in Tosa gave the following results according to season:—

	Material used.	Camphor obtained.	Oil obtained.
Obtained in one day in summer	200 catties	4 catties 9 *go*	
Obtained in one day in winter	200 catties	5 catties 3½ *go*	

Further, camphor is more subject to evaporation during the hot months than in the cold season.

According to quality, camphor is divided into four different kinds, viz., "*Fyo-kare*" (best dried), "*Chu-kare*" (moderately dried), both of which contain little oil and are chiefly intended for export to Europe and America; "*yamakata shono*" (mountain camphor), and lastly "*sai-sei shono*" (re-manufactured camphor, that is to say separated from the oil), both of which are more oily and are of inferior quality. The two last are chiefly sent to China. Camphor is one of the staple exports of Japan. Practically speaking, it is now produced in Japanese territory only. Since it was first sent abroad, the quantity exported and the price have undergone considerable changes, the price having risen as the quantity has decreased, especially in recent years. The following table shows the export of camphor and oil from the first year of *Meiji*:—

Date.	Camphor. Catties.	Yen.	Price per catty.	Camphor oil. Catties.	Yen.	Price per catty.
1868	468,154	77,097.960	.165	—	—	—
1869	689,812	115,339.110	.167	—	—	—
1870	1,560,561	235,702.850	.151	—	—	—
1872	910,938	129,864.170	.142	—	—	—
1872	650,969	88,721.950	.136	—	—	—
1873	445,677	68,437.480	.154	—	—	—
1874	1,123,584	155,550.230	.138	—	—	—
1875	1,167,171	138,523.000	.185	—	—	—
1876	1,263,639	174,317.560	.138	—	—	—
1877	1,567,598	238,166.120	.152	—	—	—
1878	2,004,952	323,664.840	.161	—	—	—
1879	2,564,314	455,910.070	.182	—	—	—
1880	2,649,962	598,223.970	.226	—	—	—
1881	3,683,816	706,137.580	.192	—	—	—
1882	5,008,413	869,127.930	.174	—	—	—
1883	4,854,342	707,992.760	.146	—	—	—
1884	4,572,905	549,503.060	.120	177,176	5,630.200	.032
1885	3,970,085	558,045.510	.141	375,199	13,906 000	.037
1886	5,450,033	928,027.810	.170	886,149	36,087.860	.041
1887	6,478,094	1,130,506.360	.175	1,052,009	32,565.300	.031
1888	4,555,469	1,017,887.300	.223	1,149,299	35,171.400	.030
1889	4,971,849	1,391,371.870	.270	867,414	40,992.430	.047
1890	4,463,881	1,931,992.540	.433	778.901	38,721.070	.049
1891	4,429,051	1,629,104.650	.368	821,539	35,725 960	.043
1892	3,064,605	1,274,752.660	.416	699,830	34,931.950	.050
1893	2,487,485	1,308,610 750	.526	444,184	24,831.220	.034
1894	2,071,378	1,023,950.350	.495	427,251	23,015.950	.054

It will be seen from the above that camphor attained its maximum export in 1887, and its maximum price in 1890, whereas the minimum price was in 1884. Since the fall of last year it has risen rapidly, until at present the quotation is approximately 100 *yen* per 100 catties. The prices commanded by crude camphor in Japan since 1887 are as follow:—

	Per 100 Catties.
1887	18.890 Yen.
1888	25.030 ,,
1889	30.500 ,,
1890	44.080 ,,
1891	37.070 ,,
1892	42.060 ,,
1893	52.850 ,,
1894	38.910 ,,
1895 (early part of the year)	57.870 ,,

The expense involved in the manufacture of 100 catties of crude camphor may be roughly estimated from quotations, given in vol. 22 of the proceedings of the Dendrogical Society of Japan. They show the results obtained by an expert of Ehime Prefecture in 1889:—

Expenses involved in manufacturing 100 catties of crude camphor, workman's wages, &c.	5.00
Fuel	1.30
Tub	.25
Paper and Rope	.015
Freight (from Uwajima to Kobe)	.245
Miscellaneous expenses	.020
	6.830

To obtain 100 catties of crude camphor about 230 *kwamme* (1,917lb. approximately) of superior chips are expended, and as 12 cubic feet of the tree cost, on the average, 6 *yen*, we may conclude that that about 15 *yen* is consumed in extracting 100 catties of crude camphor. At the present market rate, therefore, the manufacture of camphor must prove a very lucrative business, since there is a margin of some 20 *yen* of per 100 catties.

Of the camphor exported, the greater part goes to America, Hongkong, England, and Germany, in all of which places it is used for various purposes, as for the manufacture of cellulose or "artificial ivory" for cubical gun-powder, and also for medical and certain domestic purpose. That exported to Hongkong is there refined and again shipped abroad.

It is impossible to give even an approximate estimate of the supply of raw material remaining in Japan proper, the principal sources of present supply being roots of trees cut down decades ago, and timber illicitly felled in State forests. Reckless cutting of trees has reduced this profitable business to a sad condition. Under the circumstances, it is not possible to obtain any trustworthy figures relating to the yearly yield of crude camphor in the various districts. The only datum we have is that the quantity of camphor exported stands to that used at home in the ratio of 9 to 1. Of the total quantity exported, seven parts out of every ten are manufactured direct from the trees, while the remaining three are obtained by distilling and freezing the oil.

Such being the present condition of the camphor industry in the interior, the Japanese are paying keen attention to the problem of Formosa camphor. But owing to the still unsettled state of affairs in the island, no definite information has yet been obtained. There is, however, a vague belief that the supply must be immense. What is thus far known about Formosan camphor is founded chiefly on mere rumour and can not be considered trustworthy. The only attempt thus far recorded to cultivate the camphor tree in the West was made by the United States Agricultural Board. Some 15 years ago it obtained seeds from Japan and planted them in the State of Florida. It is said that the young trees are growing very vigorously. By and by, therefore, America may prove a formidable rival of Japan. To complete this sketch, we may give a brief account of the Sumitomo Camphor Refinery in Kobe, the only establishment in Japan that produces the refined camphor comparable with the best brands manufactured in the West. It was only from 1892 that purified camphor came to be produced in Japan, and the new departure was due solely to the enterprise of Mr. Takagi, Chief Expert of the Sumitomo Refinery. Mr. Takagi is a graduate of the Sapporo Agricultural College. Six years ago, he and Mr. Teshima, now Director of the Technical College, were sent abroad by Mr. Sumitomo, a wealthy merchant of Osaka, to inspect mining operations and, at the same time, the refining of camphor in Europe and America. The trip proved entirely fruitless, with reference to the camphor refining business, for, wherever the travellers went they found, to their great disappointment, the doors of the refineries shut to them, the "imitative instinct of the Japanese being already regarded with dislike and distrust in the West. Thus, without practical initiation into the art or chemical works to guide him, Mr. Takagi was obliged to undertake, in 1890, the management of the Refinery, established only a few months previously. He encountered many difficulties during a period of two years, but aided by his extensive chemical knowledge, he at last succeeded in elaborating a process of refining, and obtained a patent in 1892. The news that a Japanese expert had discovered the process of refining camphor was received with considerable alarm in Europe and America, for it was apprehended, and not without reason, that the export of crude camphor from Japan would cease, and that the Western market would be monopolized by the cheap Japanese production. The alarm was soon converted into a serious practical problem when, shortly afterwards, a Hamburg refinery, one of the largest in Europe, sent for Japanese samples and then for a considerable quantity of camphor refined at the Sumitomo works, the samples have demonstrated that the Japanese refined camphor was not interior in quality to the best European, and was about 2 per cent. cheaper. The matter was taken notice of in the London *Chemist and Druggists Journal*, and an editorial very complimentary to the discovery appeared. This served the excellent purpose of spreading the reputation of the Sumitomo camphor throughout Europe and America, and a large number of orders were quickly received from various places in the West. The druggists and refiners of Europe, fully convinced of the gravity of the situation, concerted measures to compete with the new rival, and at last concluded to boycott it, which they did for about a year, but before the minimum price at which the Japanese were ready to sell had been reached, the league broke down. A serious obstacle to the expansion of the Japanese refined camphor industry is the cost of transportation. One of two things must happen, either steps must be taken to have the freight cheapened, or the export of crude camphor from Japan and Formosa must be stopped. One or the other or even both are extremely likely to happen, and some day or other refined camphor from Japan may be found in sole possession of the Western camphor market.

A circular issued by the English agent of a certain German refiner last spring alleged that the camphor produced at that refinery was better in quality and cheaper than the Japanese article, the latter being thus taken as a standard of comparison. The Sumitomo camphor obtained meritorious recognition at the World's Fair in Chicago and at the late Domestic Exhibition. The Refinery exported about 300,000 catties last year, but the quantity cannot be increased this year owing to insufficiency in the supply of raw material, though the demand is constantly increasing. Applications to be appointed agents have been received from almost every country in Europe, but a refusal had to be made in each case, owing to the insufficiency of the quantity produced. The export is now in the hands of two or three resident merchants of Kobe.

YOKOHAMA GENERAL HOSPITAL.

The annual general meeting of subscribers to this institution was held in Keil's Building on Wednesday afternoon, with Mr. A. O. Gay in the chair. Among those present were Messrs. J. Carey Hall, R. Reiffinger, S. Debrabant, P. Dourille, J. Adam, P. Muraour, G. Goudareau, P. Launay, P. Beretta, E. Adet, J. H. Brooke, A. Dumelin, A. J. Wilkin, R. Pohl, Rev. E. C. Irwine, Dr. Hall, E. Campredon, Marthoud, E. Delmas, W. B. Walter, Dr. Ritter, &c.

The CHAIRMAN referred briefly to the accounts pointing out that there was over $83 to the credit of the institution. In conclusion he said he would be happy to answer any questions that might be asked. Proceeding, he said the question that they should have to settle would be as to the disposition to be made for the next year. Dr. Mecre proposed to retain the premises for another year and after that possibly to make some further arrangement. He might state, however, that the Committee had another intimation not sufficiently developed to lay before the meeting, but which still, even if Dr. Mecre continued his arrangement for charity patients, might be considered, though of necessity held in abeyance at present.

Mr. DOURILLE proposed, and Mr. ABILY seconded, the passing of the accounts, which was agreed to by the meeting.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FROM OCTOBER 1ST, 1894; TO SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1895.

RECEIPTS.

October 1894 to May 1895.

To Subscriptions per list	$1,545.00
February 15th.	
To from Mrs. Morris, President of King's Daughters Society	280.00
To from J. H. Brooke, Esq., Contribution from another	25 00
To fee from 3rd class patient	20.00
	$1,870.00
To Balance of Cash	$83.25
Balance from last Account	$27.83

DISBURSEMENTS.

October 1894 to September 1895.

By paid for Charity Patients in General Ward, including Burial expenses $25	$716.00
By paid Medicine, for outside Patients	87.00
INFECTIOUS DISEASE WARD.	
By paid C. M. Smith, Wages and Sundries	536 79
By paid Advertising Meeting	7.00
By paid Prem. on Fire Insurance	31.13
By paid Medicines	24.45
By paid for Repairs caused by earthquake, &c. ...	356.35
By Balance	83.33
	$1,870.00

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 30th September, 1895.

A. O. GAY,
Hon. Treasurer.

Examined and found correct.

J. T. GRIFFIN, O. KEIL, } Auditors.

Yokohama, 30th October, 1895.

The CHAIRMAN wished to know whether there were any suggestions to be brought forward relative to the hospital, or would the meeting leave the matter in the hands of the committee?

Mr. CONIL proposed the continuance of the present arrangement.

This was seconded by Mr. LAUNAY.

The CHAIRMAN called for remarks on the proposition that Dr. Mecre's offer for a renewal of the present contract should be accepted.

The CHAIRMAN said the committee had one proposition before them, which as yet had not been fully gone into, but he could say that it would not interfere with Dr. Mecre's possession of the hospital. He believed it would be best to leave it to the committee to be dealt with. It in no way interfered with the proposition before the meeting; he suggested that it be left with the committee, as the new proposition was as yet too crude to lay before the meeting.

Mr. WILKIN understood that the proposition before the meeting was that Dr. Mecre's lease of the hospital be renewed; was it to be understood that the acceptance of Dr. Mecre's offer included the making of necessary improvements on his part?

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE believed that all agreed with him that matters connected with the general hospital concerned the whole community. Feeling this he was sure that all present would agree that this should be discussed at a meeting where all members of the community were fully represented. They must also consider that the doctor who in former years took over the hospital, did so at a very remunerative rate, $150 per month. Since then circumstances had changed, so that now the Hospital charged no rent, but Dr. Mecre gave in return the privilege of sending charity patients to the hospital at the rate of $1 a day. This the committee fully appreciated, but at the same time it was beyond all doubt that the community now required, in common with the advance in such matters, better buildings than those existing. They could not expect Dr. Mecre to meet this outlay, and to repair them would involve a considerable outlay and be a difficult task. Dr. Mecre proposed a renewal of the lease, and the committee would be loth to put him to inconvenience, but at the same time they felt that the buildings were not satisfactory. There was no statement in his letter that the buildings would be put in repair. The letter only stated that as the contract was about to expire, he asked for a prolongation under the same conditions. The meeting would observe in that letter nothing was said relative to reparation of the buildings. The committee had before them another proposition from another gentleman for the erection of buildings on ground unoccupied by Dr. Mecre. It would be no detriment to him, and would meet with the view of the others. Meanwhile, without a more explicit letter from Dr. Mecre, it would be premature for this meeting to renew the contract. It would be premature in face of the other proposition, and until the receipt of a further letter explaining more clearly what he proposed to do.

Mr. DEBRABANT remarked that if nothing was voted to-day Dr. Mecre could take no proper measures. In about seven weeks' time the contract would elapse, and he thought it would be better to allow him to renew the contract and then consider the new proposition.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE thought it advisable to hold another meeting of subscribers, and this he thought would be more satisfactory both to those who were present and to others who were not present.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that there was already a proposition before the meeting. The last speaker could put his remarks in the form of an amendment.

The Rev. E. C. IRWINE said he would then propose that the meeting be adjourned.

Mr. W. B. WALTER thought it advisable that the wishes of the community should be consulted before the renewal of the lease. It seemed that at the outset Dr. Mecre had paid $150, but that now he paid nothing at all, which difference he believed the community had to pay. The question was, is the hospital satisfactory? They had a hospital, but it was not a satisfactory one, as it offered them no conveniences, and prevented them from making use of it. The hospital had been founded for the purposes of the community, and the fact of the community not making any use of it led him to infer that it was not satisfactory. He seconded Mr. Irwine's amendment.

The CHAIRMAN said that Mr. Walter seemed unaware of the whole circumstances of the case. In exchange for the rent of $150 originally paid, Dr. Mecre now paid, as a result of various changes made, the ground rent, fire insurance, and other incidental expenses which relieved the community of all charges. In addition to this he took in charity patients at $1 each, for which everything was included. Consequently the cost to the community were the fees for charity patients, amounting to $715, with $24 for burial. This would modify what Mr. Walter had said, and he would see that it was no expense to the community.

Mr. WALTER asked whether all the repairs were done by Dr. Mecre.

The CHAIRMAN—Yes.

Mr. WALTER remarked that the buildings were old and no doubt cost a lot to keep in proper repair. Still the account showed an expenditure of $1,500 of the community's money, while $715 was for charity patients. He was inclined to think that charity patients were taken in at Hongkong at very much the same rate.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the major part of the expenses were connected with the infectious ward and other expenses due to the earthquake.

Mr. DUMELIN recommended the renewal of the present contract, so as to leave them time to consider the other propositions. In view of the difficulty in raising subscriptions, he suggested the present arrangement should go on for another year.

The CHAIRMAN said that time was short, only about seven weeks before the end of the year, and the committee were desirous of knowing how they were to go on. He suggested a decision be arrived at rather than a postponement. This would not interfere with the other proposition which could be worked together. Dr. Mecre had been in possession ten years, to ask him to discontinue at so short a notice would be very inconvenient—it seemed to him scarcely right.

The amendment proposed by the Rev. E. C. Irwine was then put to the meeting, and having been lost, the original proposition was then put forward and carried.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that as usual the committee would be pleased to have a new committee proposed.

Mr. DEBRABANT—Are the present members composing the committee willing to serve? If so, the meeting would be pleased to have them continue for another year. This was seconded by Mr. Reiffinger and carried.

After the usual vote of thanks to the Chair, the meeting separated.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

Sydney, September 12.

The official inquiry into the loss of the *Catterthun* is making slow progress, the proceedings having been adjourned to admit of search being made for an alleged uncharted rock, south of the small Seal Rock. Should any such rock be found to exist, as asserted by the fishermen in the vicinity, a fresh survey of this portion of the New South Wales coast will become necessary. The disaster does not appear to have lessoned public confidence in the other vessels running between Sydney, Japan, and China, for it is generally believed that the commander of the ill-fated vessel had deviated from the almost uniform practice of giving the Seal Rocks a wide berth merely to save a few hours on the voyage. Now that the real danger of such a proceeding has been made manifest, it is not likely to be knowingly repeated.

Some little excitement has been occasioned at Newcastle by the appearance of "beri-beri" at that port. It seems that recently there arrived at Newcastle from Rio de Janeiro the Norwegian barque *Seringa*. The vessel was inspected in the usual way by Dr. Miles, the health officer, and being found free from what are considered contagious diseases, was granted pratique. After the process of disinfection to which all ships coming from an "infected port" are subjected, had been performed, Dr. Miles discovered, however, that no less than seven men on board, including the master, Captain Dahl, were suffering more or less acutely from "beri-beri," and the case of the captain and one of the seamen were so severe that they were ordered to the hospital, where they still remain, though both are progressing satisfactorily towards recovery. The rest of the men affected continued at duty, and they also appear to be returning rapidly to their normal condition of health. Several instances of beri-beri having been previously reported, the matter became discussed by the medical authorities of the port, but without practical result, the various doctors disagreeing hopelessly respecting the true character of the disease. The only point on which anything approaching unanimity prevails is, that with the increase of maritime intercourse with Japan, China, Java, etc., beri-beri may become unpleasantly familiar to Australians. It is not improbable that the matter will engage the attention of the various colonial governments.

His Excellency, Rear Admiral Bridge, Commander-in-chief of the Australian station, has been carefully studying the lessons of the recent war. Replying to a representative of the *Brisbane Courier*, who asked him, "What influence would you say the development of Japan will have upon Australian defence?," the Rear Admiral replied:—"The development of Japan is a matter of considerable importance. Whether Japan be hostile or friendly the naval centre of gravity, so to speak, has undoubtedly been moved by the rise of Japan as a naval Power. It is not to be supposed that this is a new thing. It was perceived by naval officers years before the Chino-Japanese war began, and it is a very remarkable fact that not one of the more or less eminent persons that have written books about Japan foresaw in the smallest degree, as far as you can see from their works, either the rise of Japan as a naval Power or the imminence of a conflict between it and China, while every naval commanding officer, without exception, who visited Japan within the last fifteen or twenty years has been struck by and has reported the rapid increase in numbers and efficiency of the Japanese navy, and the certainty that they felt that a war between China and Japan was due to come off before long. Japan now either is or is about to become one of the more important of the secondary naval Powers, and if armies and navies are any use, and there is any reason for their existence at all, it cannot be disputed that this has brought about a considerable change in the strategic conditions of the East, whether north or south of the line." The opinions expressed by Rear Admiral Bridge are shared by all the leading officers on the Australian station.

The treaty between Japan and Great Britain continues to be discussed by the Australian press. A Victorian provincial journal says:—"It is a remarkable and most interesting fact that Japan, in the flush of her success, should seek so earnestly to effect a political alliance with Great Britain, and this is a matter of deep concern to Australia. . . . . Alliance between England and Japan

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will mean that the fleet of the latter, strengthened by the Chinese war indemnity funds, will be equipped in the British-dock yards; but this is a mere trifle as compared with the other facts that the fleet of the growing Power will, with those of the greater, make assurance double sure of the control of the water-ways of the world, whilst preserving Australia from any risk of Japanese invasion. We confess it would be serious for us to have to fight the Japanese, for they are so English in all their methods. We would prefer to trade with them peacefully; to do the best we could to keep on friendly commercial and political terms. And it would be a great relief to Australia to learn that Her Majesty the Queen and the Mikado had joined hands in alliance. We should then have new avenues open to the adventure of trade. When the foreign policy of Great Britain is in the hands of Conservatives —especially when they are assured, as they have been by the recent elections, of an extended term of office—it is usually brilliant, determined and safe. And it seems to us that an Anglo-Japanese alliance is just the one they wanted to fill a present blank in the political scheme of the world. What diplomatists ever seek for is so to manœuvre that the conditions they make and the alliances they form will ever tend to ensure prepetual peace. These are best secured by the control and mastery of the water-ways of the world. Japan, if attacked at sea by Russia, would lose all the spoil of her victories, possibly be effaced as a growing nation. Supported by the moral influence of Great Britain none dare interfere with her, and with such an alliance the road would be opened for the natural trade which must spring up between Japan, who wants our wool, and we, who desire a new market. The question is one of really great concern to us; we trust the solution of it may prove satisfactory."

On the other hand, there are several Australian journals which seem to regard with apprehension the possible establishment of trading relations between Japan and Australia. One of these, published in New South Wales, says,—"Our Importers, as a rule, do not buy in the dearest market, and those who form the medium between manufacturer and purchaser do not distress themselves or refuse to act, if the labour is poverty-stricken European, Celestial or Japanese. Soon we may expect a parcel-post system to Japan, and people will be able to send there for cheap goods as they do now to Sydney or England for printing, &c. Or in lieu of that we may soon expect to see in the metropolis or Newcastle Japanese importers competing successfully with the Chinese and European merchants. Then there will be outcry after a trade is established. This is freetrade, proper." Such nonsense is hardly worth quoting, but it characteriscally illustrates a phase of Australian popular feeling which is ceaselessly endeavouring to find expression.

Queensland merchants are bestirring themselves with a view to bringing their colony within the terms of the Anglo-Japanese treaty. Speaking of the meeting of the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce committee on the Anglo-Japanese treaty with reference to which the committee had decided at the last meeting—"That this committee, believing that it would be of advantage to all the colonies, and to Queensland in particular, to come under the Anglo-Japan Treaty of 1894, recommends that view to the whole chamber for their further consideration"—one of the leading members, Mr. Trundle, said that there did not appear to be the slightestest chance of the treaty being accepted by any of the colonies, with the exception perhaps of Victoria. He fully believed that if the treaty was accepted it would be a good thing for Queensland. It would help the colony to get rid of its exports, and it would be a good thing for labour, but there was what might be termed the domestic question to be considered —the unrestricted or free immigration of Japanese subjects to Queensland. Although he thought that was a bit of a bogey; and would not be afraid to compete against any Japanese, yet it was pregnant with danger in the minds of some people, and he would be the last man in the world to take any action deemed prejudicial in the minds of the people generally. He believed it was a mere matter of sentiment, but the Government of Queensland had not the British pluck to say, "We accept that treaty." He moved that the ques ion be dismissed from the business paper, with a respectful letter to the Adelaide Chamber (who brought the matter under the notice of the Brisbane Chamber), stating that further consideration was futile on account of the improbability of the Queensland Government acquiescing. It was decided to leave the matter over till the quarterly meeting of the chamber." It may be added that the whole of the Australasian Chambers of Commerce are in favour of the treaty, the real objections coming from members of the Labour party, which at present is extremely strong in most of the colonies.

In the New South Wales Legislative Council, one of the members moved the adjournment of the house to call attention to the action of the Colonial Government in regard to the Japanese treaty. He said this was one of the most important questions that had ever engaged the attention of that Chamber. Some time ago, during the Address in Reply, he called the attention of the head of the Government to a paragraph in the Governor's Speech in which they were seriously concerned about the influx of Asiatic labour, and he was told that the question was receiving the serious attention of the Government. He ventured to point out that the Government had not considered the Japanese treaty, although they had had it for seven or eight months. The Attorney-General admitted the seriousness of the issues involved, and went on to inform the House that the matter had not received the attention of the Government; but he promised that when a decision was arrived at the House would be informed. The question had either received the serious attention of the Government or the answer previously given by the Colonial Secretary had been incorrect, for he had informed the Legislative Assembly that the Government did not propose to take any steps to bring New South Wales within the operation of the treaty. He thought that the matter was one in which this colony should not act single-handed, but that it should act in unanimity with the neighbouring colonies. Assuredly, if they carried out what the Colonial Secretary had decided, so far as this colony was concerned, the Japanese might exclude from their waters all commerce which was directed from New South Wales. They would, as far as they were concerned, refuse to allow goods coming from New South Wales to enter into consumption in Japan. Ministers had never yet been called upon to exercise the judgment that belonged to statesmen. The British Government said, on behalf of British possessions and on behalf of the Crown colonies—"We will accept this treaty on the basis on which it has been submitted and agreed to; but we exempt from its provisions the self-governing colonies," and among them was New South Wales. He thought a conference of the Premiers of the Australian colonies ought to be called to consider the provisions of the Japanese treaty. In reply the Colonial Attorney General said no decision had been conveyed to either the English or the Japanese Governments. The matter had been and was still being considered carefully, and he was afraid that it would have to receive consideration for some little time longer. This was the first occasion on which a question of foreign policy had been brought before this Government. The treaty bristled with advantages. But, on the other hand, there were some dangerous clauses, and when once we entered into the treaty we would have to stick to it. What the Government had to do was to get the benefits of the treaty without its disadvantages. The House might take his assurance that nothing had been done definitely either with the English or the Japanese Government. The Government could not see its way to accepting the treaty word for word as it stood. Within a few hours of anything definite being done it would be communicated to this House and nothing would be kept back. Another member of the council said it was of great importance that in that matter this colony should not take isolated action. The whole question of coloured labour, if it was to be dealt with effectually, must be dealt with from an Australian standing. Before any step in relation to the treaty was taken in regard to binding this colony one way or the other a conference should be held, at which the views of all the Australian Governments should be ascertained, and, if possible, united action should be taken. Another member having spoken the motion for adjournment was put and negatived.

Commenting upon this episode, the *Sydney Morning Herald* said:—Until the matter was mooted in the Legislative Council no very definite attention was given, at all events publicly, to the terms of the Treaty, yet, as the discussion showed, the question has its interesting side. When the British Government entered into the treaty last year the expressed condition was that the commercial and trading advantages secured should be shared on the understanding that the Japanese should have free entry to all parts of the Empire that chose to join in the treaty on those terms. For England the condition was a safe one, since there is no danger of an influx of Japanese to any appreciable extent there. The case is otherwise with the Australian colonies. Here we have our Asiatic question. We are only a few weeks' sail from China and Japan, and the danger of over-immigration from either or both of those countries is far from being a sentimental one. The disadvantage at which such an influx of coloured races would put us far outweighs any possible commercial advantage that might accrue, and desirable as the one may be it is too high a price to pay when purchased at the expense of the other. As the Attorney-General said, the treaty bristles with advantages; but the policy of this and the other Australasian colonies on the Asiatic question is declared and fixed. The thoughtfulness of the Home Government in leaving the colonies a choice in such a matter is to be commended, and courtesy requires that it be acknowledged by this colony expressing her intentions in the matter before the term of consideration expires. For the question evidently demands no consideration, nor even so much delay as would be necessary for federal action. Queensland has already taken a definite course in the matter, and all the colonies are sufficiently at one to leave no room for hesitation. The only ground for delay would be suggested by the remark of Mr. Want last night that the Government may get concessions under the treaty without accepting the objectionable clauses. If that can be done, so much the better but on the question of the unrestricted admission of the Asiatic alien we have no choice."

In the Victorian Legislative Assembly notice of several questions relative to Japan have been given. One member is to ask the Premier if he is aware that the Japanese are now colonising Australia, and that the war party in Japan intends to take possession of this continent on the first opportunity, and he will urge the hon. member to secure immediate federation with a view to establishing Australian nationality. In reference to this, it may be mentioned that translated extracts from two or three Japanese vernacular papers have found their way into Australia and become rather widely reproduced. The same member is also to ask—"1. Is the Government aware that cholera is raging in Japan and China, and will it take measures to quarantine all vessels from the infected ports? 2. Will the Government endeavour to induce the other colonies of Australasia to do the same? 3. Is the Government aware that the Japanese are now colonising Australia, and that the War party in Japan intends to take possession of this continent on the first opportunity? 4. In view of these facts and probabilities, will the Government take steps to secure immediate federation, as the only secure defence of Australian nationality?"

Alluding to the recent discussion in the Queensland Legislative assembly on the subject of alien labour, the *Brisbane Courier* says:—"We are all agreed in the desire to make this a white man's country. We all heartily wish that tropical Queensland may be settled as far as any kind of settlement is possible by a white population. Not a no-man's country like nearly all the other tropical portions of Australia. We want settlement and civilisation—the civilization of Europe, not that of Asia. And therefore if for the sake of founding this superior settlement and civilisation we temporarily avail ourselves of coloured labour, that labour must be limited as to numbers and controlled as to occupation. And the limitation and control are the fact to-day. It is simply absurd to talk of the few thousands of coloured workers endangering the interests of the white population. The truth is that the white population is much indebted to the few thousands of coloured workers. Something was said in the House yesterday about Japanese immigration. Irresponsible electioneering talk deserves little notice. Any Australian Government, however, will need to talk courteously and act warily in regard to Japan. Mr. Nelson's explanation of the policy of the Government will, we think, be entirely satisfactory to thoughtful Queenslanders. And it should not be overlooked that Japan may yet become a faithful ally of Australia. Russia's anxiety to strengthen her position in the North Pacific is perhaps Australia's greatest external menace. Fortunately for us it is also perhaps Japan's greatest external menace. Japan and Australia may yet have to fight one enemy."

The French now frankly acknowledge that their battle-ship *Marengo* is a mistake, and she has been sold by auction, probably for old material, at Cherbourg. She was launched as long ago as 1869, and since then large sums have been expended on various experiments, undertaken with a view to making her a satisfactory fighting machine, but the Parliamentary Committee on the Navy decided that nothing could overcome her inherent instability. She was a wooden ship of 7,748 tons, 3,673 horse-power, and an extreme speed of 13.50 knots.

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H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq., Judge—Wednesday, November 6th, 1895.

J. BIEBER AND BRO. VERSUS THE CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

The Court resumed the hearing of this case at 10.30 this morning.

The claim was for $1,079.28, damage done to a shipment of leather on board the *Taiyuan* while on a voyage from Sydney to Yokohama.

Mr. G. H. Scidmore represented the plaintiffs, and Mr. A. B. Walford the defendant Company.

Mr. Scidmore said he regretted to announce that he found it impossible to produce his witness, Mr. Lubowski. The British Consul had been informed of his condition, and counsel himself had seen Mr. Lubowski or Monday evening and was satisfied that it would be dangerous to remove him to Yokohama on even to take his evidence on commission. Indeed, his client had instructed him to say that he would rather lose his case than jeopardise the health of his friend. Counsel would therefore have to proceed with his case as best he could. Mr. Bieber wished to make a correction of a statement that had appeared in the published report of the case.

Mr. Walford said that he wished to explain that any damage which he admitted was not the damage which Mr. Scidmore desired to prove. The only damage admitted was manufacturer's damage, and that only to a slight extent—certainly not to the extent that Mr. Scidmore alleged and wished to prove. He made the explanation in order that Mr. Scidmore might not be misled by any statement he had previously made.

Mr. Bieber, recalled, wished to correct his statement as to the date of the sale of the leather. It was on the 5th not the 3rd June that he sold the leather.

In answer to Mr. Walford, witness said—I do not recollect ever receiving from America leather damaged in this manner.

By the Court—There were 50 hides in the first sample lot of leather that I had from Australia. I received three different shipments of leather from the same people in Australia. They were also damaged, and the intending purchaser refused to take them. They came through the same shipowners, but I believe were transhipped in Hongkong. The sample lot came up in November last.

To Mr. Scidmore—The samples were in clean and good condition when they were delivered.

His Honour—Samples generally are, are they not?

In answer to Mr. Walford, witness said—When I saw the rolls of leather on the *hatoba*, some were round aud some a little flat, the leather having naturally been packed tight and so flattened a trifle. I do not know whether they would have stood up on end. There are two ropes round the roll in Court, one is a Japanese straw rope.

George Moffatt Bond, sworn, said—I am master of the steamship *Rosary*. I have been a shipmaster for ten years, and have been engaged in the Australian trade.

Mr. Walford—I don't know whether this evidence is permissible, we adjourned for the production of expert evidence.

His Honour—It would be very undesirable to shut out any evidence, especially as the other expert witness cannot appear.

Witness, continuing—I have conveyed leather from Australia. The leather is always shipped in rolls, like the roll produced in Court. The leather is never covered. In receiving a shipment of leather on board and before signing the bill of lading, I should examine the ends of the bale principally, because the ends would receive moisture and collect dust, which the middle would not. Looking at the bale in Court, I should describe it as stained on the bill of lading. I should make that statement from observation of the ends. I should not sign a clean bill of lading for it—I would write, bale stained. In stowing it, I should take particular pains to place it as far away from the iron of the ship as possible, because the ship will sweat, and the leather would draw the moisture to it. If the voyage was fine, I should, with such a cargo, open the hatches to allow of ventilation. If the hatches were not opened between Sydney and Hongkong the ship would sweat, and the moisture would fall on the cargo. If the leather was stowed with glue-pieces, bones, fungus, etc., and the hatches were not opened all the voyage, the effect would be that moisture would drop from the deck on to the leather and stain it. I recognise "Stevens on Stowage" as a leading book among shipmasters. He is correct when he says that damp air will damage a shipment of leather by staining it. If I had a cargo similar to that just described and I kept the hatches and ventilators closed all the voyage during fair weather, I should expect upon reaching Hongkong to find the leather damaged. The damage would resemble the damage shown in Court.

Cross examined by Mr. Walford—The damage would be this—that the ends would be black and stained. It would not necessarily be wet as leather dries fairly quickly. I have not had a very large experience of leather, but I have carried it several times. I am of opinion that owing to the ends of the bale being loose and soft, they would collect moisture easier than the hard centre. The colour of a bale of leather is grey, and any bale not grey I should describe as stained, I have never seen leather tanned black. I have carried raw hides and tanned hides.

Re-examined by Mr. Scidmore—Good leather might have another colour than grey, but I call the bale in Court grey.

His Honour—I am afraid you will not find many people to agree with you, but it lets us know what you call grey.

Witness, continuing—The leather in Court is marked with black and is stained; I should describe it as damaged.

The bale of leather in Court was then opened for inspection by the Judge. Two kinds of rope were around it—one a Manila, and the other a Japanese straw rope.

Mr. Walford, in opening his case, said that the plaintiffs had tried to establish three propositions. The first of these was that the goods were shipped in good order and condition; the second that they were delivered here in a damaged condition; and thirdly, that the damage was of such a nature that it could only have been done on ship-board. He would take these propositions in their reverse order, leaving the principal point, the condition of the goods when shipped, until the last. As to the condition of the leather when shipped, he should rely upon the evidence given by the ship's officers. They stated that the leather was stowed in the 'tween deck and reached, if the term was permissible, almost from the floor to the ceiling of that compartment, so that it was impossible for all the hides to be damaged in the way plaintiff alleged. To do that, it would have been necessary to have flooded the whole of the 'tween decks, while the evidence of the ship's officers went to show that the 'tween decks remained dry all the time of the voyage. When the last witness was examed upon this point he said that only the loose ends of the rolls would attract moisture, and that it would not be possible for the moisture to get to the centre of the bale. In addition to that, he thought that water might possibly have dropped through the deck on to the leather. If such had been the case why was it that there were no signs upon the leather of such water dropping. He would submit that had water dropped through the deck like that, then the leather would have borne marks here and there, not marks in masses. Besides these stains would have been on the outside of the roll, they could not have got into the middle of the leather.

His Honour—He says that the ends would attract the moisture, not the middle.

Mr. Walford—Yes, he does not admit that the moisture could have made its way into the middle of the bale. Another point which I could emphasise is that the plaintiff has been engaged for over seven years in the leather business, yet he never saw any leather from America damaged in this way before. Yet he has three different shipments from Australia, in three different ships, and they were all damaged in the same way. This, I think, is a strong point in favour of the ship.

His Honour—Where did he obtain the American leather from?

Mr. Scidmore—From San Francisco. The voyage is in northern latitudes and about 14 to 17 days.

His Honour—Yes, and the Australian voyage is through the tropics and is much longer and hotter.

Mr. Walford—Yes, it is much longer and hotter, but I submit that even if the ship did sweat, such sweating would only make the leather damp not black. The probability is that the leather was either black before it went to the tannery, or that it became so before the processes of tanning were completed. I submit that the leather that Mr. Bieber imported was blackened in the tannery; or it may have been blackened on its way from the tannery to the docks. Uncovered packages, such as this leather, are very liable to get dirty in passage along piers, and docks, and *hatoba*. The second point raised by the plaintiff is that the leather was delivered in a damaged condition. We deny that it is damaged, only that it is black, and I will bring evidence to prove that the presence of black marks on the leather is not indicative of damage. Indeed, we shall bring evidence to entirely refute the suggestion. Then again, there is no evidence as to the extent of damage, the money damage, which the plaintiff alleges he has sustained. He tells us that he was offered $35, and then he sold it for $30. Why he did this was not explained, neither does the Court know. Thirdly, there is no evidence at all as to the condition of the leather when it was shipped. This is a most important point.

His Honour—Except the *prima facie* evidence of the bill of lading: but that of course is not conclusive evidence. It would be very difficult to prove the condition of the goods when shipped unless a man was sent down to Australia for the purpose.

Mr. Walford—Yet, one part of the plaintiff's case, as he stated in opening, rests upon the bill of lading signed by the mate to the effect that the goods were received in good order and condition. But the case of *Peter der Grosse* bears specially upon this point. It is a good authority in such a matter, the bill of lading being of almost a similar description and wording. Counsel then quoted from the finding of the English Court in this case, and urged that because a package was received and signed for as being in good order and condition it did presuppose that the shipmaster was aware of its weight, value, or contents—they would be unknown with such a bill of lading as was signed in this case. A package was received on board the ship purporting to be a roll of leather, it was signed for as such, though for all the mate knew the contents might have been brown-paper or a substance similiar in colour to leather. He referred his Honour to Scrutton's little book upon the subject in hand, and in commenting on the words: "Shipped in good condition—weight, value, and contents unknown—quality and quantity unknown; quoted Article 52, which reads:—"The insertion of either of these clauses in the bill of lading by the master or broker repudiates his liability for any description of the weight or contents of the goods contained in the bill of lading: but he is bound to carry and deliver safely the goods received by him whatever their contents or weight may be. These clauses only admit as against the shipowner that a package was shipped externally to all appearances in good condition. If such goods are delivered damaged the shipper must give *prima focie* evidence either that they were shipped in good condition internally, or that the damage resulted from some external cause within the control of the shipowner." Plaintiff had not proved that the damage was caused by something within the control of the ship-owner. The evidence of the ship's officers was to the effect that no damage could have been done, after the shipping of the leather.

His Honour said that *Peter der Grosse* was appealed; had Mr. Walford a copy of the report containing the case?

Mr. Walford said he had not, but he would point out that in the case of *Peter der Grosse*, the goods, feathers, were enclosed; in the case before the Court the leather was not, having come up without covering, as was the rule with such leather. There was a certain ambiguity in the statement "received in good order and condition," for this reason. When the ship's officer received the leather he would only look out for wet—so he told them—and would pass the package as in good order and condition. Upon the goods being delivered here, an expert might be found, who, on opening the package, might say that the leather was damaged because it was black. The ship's officer did not open the package at all. The plaintiffs, however, assumed that if the leather was stained the ship's officer would have marked it as being so. But he was not an expert in leather. Besides, the leather was not shipped as red leather; if it had been shipped as red leather the ship's officer might then have marked it as being stained black. There is no evidence, I contend, that the leather is otherwise than in the condition in which we received it. We can easily rebut the plaintiff's proposition on the point. I can even follow him into his own country. Mr. Bieber declared that the proper colour of leather was brown. His last witness says it is grey.

His Honour—The last witness said, "that kind of grey."

Mr. Walford—Then he is not a good authority on colours. Mr. Bieber and he certainly hold different opinions in regard to the colour of leather. I am going to bring evidence in regard to the nature of tanning processes. There are many different kinds of bark used in tanning. The bark of the mimosa tree, and sometimes the mangrove is used in Australia for tanning. Both of them produce a strong tanning fluid, very strong indeed it is sometimes, and the liquid is very liable to blacken the hide. In South Africa the same mimosa bark is used, and the South African leather is always black. In other places the leather is tanned by vegetable mixtures, while in

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some instances iron salts are used, the effect being to make the leather black. There thus being so many instances of black leather being shipped, why should the present lot of leather attract the notice of the ship's officers? Then again, the blackness may be accidental. In a certain part of the process of making leather, lime is used to soften the hair on a skin so as to enable it to be removed the more easily. If this lime is not wholly removed before the tanning commences the skin will come out with these blotches upon it.

His Honour—Do these blotches appear on the outside or do they go right through?

Mr. Walford—The blotches are on the side where the the hair has been. Another reason for marks upon the skin would be that certain parts being thinner than the rest, would be come oversaturated with the tanning fluid. And yet another reason for spots on the thicker parts would be that too much pressure has been used in polishing the leather. If too much pressure has been used in the polishing, the effect is a blackening of the leather. Sometimes iron rollers are used in polishing the leather, and if the leather is not quite dry, it is liable to get black. Having gone a little further into the process of tanning, Counsel said that he did not admit that the presence of tannic of iron upon the leather caused any difference its quality. The presence of the black marks on the leather did not really indicate that there was any damage at all. His Honour would no doubt understand that it was quite possible to ship bad leather "in good order and condition," as it was to ship good leather. Having again referred to the case of *Feter der Grosse*, Mr. Walford said that the plaintiffs had failed to prove that the damage to the leather was obviously from an external cause. The bill of lading, though *prima facie* evidence, was not conclusive evidence upon the point. Whatever presumption arose from the bill of lading being signed as to the goods being received in "good order and condition," he would not recognise that the black edges of the leather was a thing that the officers should notice. The bill of lading could not be taken as equivalent of the opinion of an expert as to the condition of the contents of the roll of leather. His case shortly was this: It was quite immaterial to them how the leather came damaged. We can show that it was immaterial to be noticed by the mate.

His Honour—The sea-captain this morning said he should have noted it?

Mr. Walford—And our mate said he would not.

His Honour—Quite so.

Mr. Walford—Our mate said that he would not have noted the black edges—that it was not in his opinion a subject for remark.

His Honour—But the sea-captain who appeared in Court this morning said that he would not have given a clean bill for it.

Mr. Walford contended that the evidence of the last witness was immaterial, for the point they wished to emphasize was that the leather had been damaged during the process of manufacture. That the leather had been damaged from "obviously external causes" had not been proved by the plaintiff, and he would call evidence to prove that it was not so.

An adjournment was then made for tiffin.

Upon resuming, Sekido Jutaro, leather and boot manufacturer, warned, deposed—I am the manager of the Yokohama branch of the Sakuragumi. We are largely engaged in the leather trade. I have had 13 years' experience of the leather trade, and have been 10 years manager. I have to do with manufactured articles only. I remember making the contract to get from Bieber Bros. 100 rolls of leather from Australia, in December last. The first part of the consignment arrived in April of this year. Messrs. Bieber notified us of it arrival, and I went to examine it at the Customs House. I saw the Australian leather there. I remember seeing 45 bales: 22 or 23 rolls arrived in one lighter. They were soiled. I could only see the outer part of the bales or rolls. I did not see the inside, but I noticed the ends were discoloured. I thought the discolouration was caused by coal-dust. The fact of there being dirt, showed that the leather was damaged. Some ends are of value; others are of no value or use. The particular ends I speak of were stained black, but they were of more or less value. As compared with the rest of the hides the ends were of some value. This is the first time I have seen leather discoloured in this way. I communicated with the head office of the Sakuragumi, and after two or three days they sent a man down from Tokyo. The roll now lying unpacked in Court I have seen before, when first brought here by the plaintiffs. The leather that I saw on the *hatoba* was packed in such a way that it would stand upon end.

Cross-examined by Mr. Scidmore—I have never before seen leather arrive from abroad stained at all. The contract arranged by us with Messrs. Bieber was for $44 per picul. I saw the leather twice at the *hatoba*. After seeing it the second time, I refused to take delivery of the leather at any price.

Robert Hille, sworn, deposed—I am an Austro-Hungarian, residing in Yokohama. I am a tanner by profession. My experience goes back some 25 years in Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Denmark, Russia, Sweden, and Norway.

His Honour—That's all over Europe I should think, where else have you been?

Witness continuing—In South Africa, British India, and Dutch East India. Coal dust does not damage sole-leather. The polishing of sole-leather is the last step in its manufacture. I have looked at the leather now lying in Court. Black stains are in no way a necessary indication of damage. I see that there are black stains in that leather. On some of the hides there shown the black stains have been produced by the tanning, others have been made by the polishing. If the leather had been soiled before polishing, no effect would appear, but if wet had made its appearance the polish should have gone. Dry damage would not have spoiled the polish, wet damage would have done so. There are many different ways of tanning, many different barks being used. The colour would be greatly affected by the different barks used. In Australia, I am informed that they used mimosa bark; they are also using mangrove. I know that the tannin derived from mimosa-bark is a very good agent, and produces a firm leather. It is a strong liquid, and has a tendency to blacken leather if applied in a too concentrated form. In South Africa I have used bark from a kind of mimosa tree. The colour of the leather produced there is much darker than any I have seen here. South African leather is dark red, like the edges of the leather in Court, the colour of the edges. It is extremely difficult to produce a uniform colour in the edges; and it is extremely difficult to produce a uniform colour with these strong liquids. I have no experience of tanning with minerals. I have seen the process. The hides come out dark then. I do not consider the leather in Court to be dark. The colour brought out by mineral processes is about the same as the edges of the hides in Court. The difference in the texture of the hide would make a difference in the colour of the tanned leather. If one part of the hide is more saturated than another, the surface would be darker. The time of tanning may vary from one year to a little less, especially less for light weight leather. Sole leather may be produced in weeks, but the product is bad. You can not hurry it. By hurrying the process, the colour would be darker. The hair is generally, in the case of sole-leather, loosened by means of the action of a solution of lime. The lime is extracted from the skin before the process of tanning begins. If the lime is not properly removed it will have a bad effect, causing spots, and giving a general dark appearance. It is only usual to apply warm liquor when it is desired to effect a quick tanning. It would make the thin parts of the hide absorb the tannin too quickly, and cause them to be over-saturated, presenting a darker colour to the rest of the skin. The dark colour I refer too, is similar to the colour on the ends of the leather in Court. There is no damage at all upon the hide I have been shown; the defects on the skins having been caused before they were even taken to the tannery. The defects in the hides in Court have not been made on board ship, they were in the hides before they went to the tannery. It is not the worse in quality for being black. The colour has no bearing on the substance. [Witness then described the hides, and their various parts.] Continuing, he said that a small black mark on the head-piece was caused by the action of the air; it was caused after the process of tanning was completed, but before polishing.

His Honour—Then all leather would be marked that way?

Witness—Yes, if proper care is not taken; and the skin is not covered. Sole-leather is hung up to dry several times, and should never be exposed to the action of air. Taking up another skin witness said that the black marks on its head were caused by the pressure of the rollers, while another spot was caused through the lime not having been properly extracted. The defects were in the offal parts of the hide, and offal parts are of much less value than the other parts.

To this Honour—The leather I am examining is well tanned.

His Honour—Does well-tanned leather smell like that?

Witness—Yes, this does not smell different.

His Honour—Then you don't smell it as I do. [Laughter.]

Witness—No.

To Mr. Walford—All the defects I have pointed out were made during the process of tanning. All the hides in the roll are less damaged than the one I am examining. The leather has been tanned in warm liquor. I see no marks of over saturation. The polishing rollers are sometimes made of iron, sometimes of brass. If made of iron, it has some effect upon the leather, darkening it, if the leather is in a too wet state. The result of drying leather quickly is to render leather brittle and make it black.

Cross-examined by Mr. Scidmore—The stain I am now examining is caused through impurities in the tanning liquid. It is not caused by water dropping on it. Moisture would not bring it out, nor affect the colour of the skin—clear water would not affect the colour, but dirty water would. A close, steamy atmosphere would not produce the dark stains on the skin. There is no end to the number of processes of tanning sole-leather. I have not heard of the Heinsechling process of tanning.

Mr. Scidmore having read out the names of two other German tanning processes.

Witness said he could not tell the name of the process adopted in tanning the leather in Court, but it certainly was by some vegetable process.

This concluded the evidence.

Mr. Walford—I have nothing more to submit than I have already given in my opening, and I will not weary the Court by repeating it. I will only submit that, as has been shown in evidence, there are a hundred different ways in which damage can be done to leather, and that the damage done to the leather shown here to-day cannot have been "obviously external damage," within the meaning of the term. At any rate, there was not sufficient damage on the package for a ship's officer to note on the bill of lading. It seems that when the leather arrived at Yokohama, the manager of the Sakuragami could not say if the leather was damaged—he sent up to Tokyo for advice—although he had had thirteen years' experience of the business. Therefore how could one expect a ship's officer to pass an opinion upon the quality and condition of the leather?

His Honour did not understand the action of the Japanese as being of that nature; he sent to his head office for advice, upon seeing the condition of the leather, as was but natural.

Mr. Walford—He thought that it was coal-dust marks upon the leather, and coal-dust will not damage leather. I leave the case in your Honour's hands.

Mr. Scidmore—The law upon which the plaintiff relies, as mentioned in my opening, is to be found in the case of the *Freedom*, the case of the *Peter der Grosse*, and *Kay v. Wheeler*.

Mr. Walford—I don't think my friend can introduce that?

His Honour (to Mr. Scidmore)—You should certainly have cited it in your opening, so that Mr. Walford might have replied thereon.

Mr. Scidmore—I think he case of *Kay v. Wheeler* is recited in the judgment of *Peter der Grosse*. I will look. (After reference) I am mistaken, it appears in the arguments of Counsel. The case of the *Freedom* was injury done by rats. The principle involved in that case is what I apply to this case.

His Honour—But in that case it was not disputed that the goods were not delivered in the order and condition in which they were shipped. Here it is disputed.

Mr. Scidmore said the bill of lading signed by the mate was *prima facie* evidence that the goods were shipped in good order and condition, and it must be considered as good evidence. The goods were shipped in good order, but it must be admitted that the evidence conclusively proves that they were delivered in bad order externally and internally. It was not for the plaintiff to show where the damage was done.

His Honour—What evidence as to internal damage can you get. You do not mean to say that the officers should open every bale before signing a clean bill of lading?

Mr. Scidmore—No, but the ship is liable for internal as well as external damage. The defendants' say this: we received the goods in good order as there was nothing in their appearance to denote that they were not in good order and condition, and we delivered them as we received them. After the evidence that had been given in Court as well as the production of a sample bale itself, he could only say that such a proposition but nothing short of an insult to the intelligence of the Court. The testimony of the ship's officer was that he passed the goods without remark because all he would look for was "wet." The testimony of

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Captain Bond was very different. Counsel then quoted authorities from Cary's Carriage by Sea, and argued that no exception could be taken in the bill of lading as to the quality of the goods. Having alluded to the nature of the cargo packed along with the leather—glue-pieces, bones, fungus, etc., Mr. Scidmore continued: But I think it reasonable to conclude from the defendants' evidence that from the nature and collocation of this cargo of animal, vegetable, and, to some extent, putrescible matter, by improper packing and insufficient ventilation, and the proximity of the ship's water tank, during a voyage through the tropics, where especial care is necessary, the atmosphere in the hold became heated, damp, and vitiated, without means of escape, and that this atmosphere was the proximate cause of the damage. To this must be added the carelessness admitted in discharging the coal and the small injury done by cutting.

Mr. Walford—We are quite willing to pay anything that is right.

Mr. Scidmore, continuing, said the defence set up had been very ingenious, but it would not hold. The whole of the testimony given before the Court tended in but one direction, that the damage did arise on board the ship. Captain Bond had stated that if the hatches and ventilators had been closed during a fine voyage all the way from Sydney to Hongkong—as the ship's officers stated—and with such a cargo as they had in the 'tween decks, he would expect to find on opening the hatches damage similiar to this.

His Honour—I considered that a very ingenious question to put. If the hatches had been opened and rain had come on they would have been blamed for that; and as the hatches were not opened they are blamed for keeping them closed. What have you to say in regard to the expert evidence given this afternoon?

Mr. Scidmore—The evidence of the tanner is the most absurd ever placed before a Court of law.

His Honour—I am glad you mention it.

Mr. Scidmore—He said that coal-dust would not injure leather.

His Honour—I can quite understand that, if the leather was not wetted: and he is using "damage" in a different way from what we do.

Mr. Scidmore—He said that there were a hundred different processes of tanning, and yet when asked in Court by what process the sample of leather he was shown, was tanned, he could not say. Neither had he heard of the well known processes of tanning that I mentioned to him. He has never been to Australia, and all he knew of tanning processes there was what he had heard.

His Honour said he would deliver judgment on Friday morning at 10.30.

LADIES' LAWN TENNIS CLUB.

The following handicap has been made up for the Ladies' Singles "Handicap Cup"—Autumn, 1895, competition—in the Yokohama Ladies' Lawn Tennis Club:—

—15	Mrs. Gillett	—30.3
—15	Miss Rice	—30.3
—11	Mrs. Campbell	—15.5
—11	Miss Wheeler	—15.5
— 0	Miss K. Page	scratch.
+ 2	Miss A. Page	+⅔ of 15
+ 2	Mrs. Todd	+⅔ of 15
+ 3	Miss Alice Rickett	+⅗ of 15
+ 9	Miss Rickett	+15.3
+12	Miss Thomas	+30

Miss K. Page, bye ..... } .....
Miss Thomas, bye ..... }
Mrs Campbell, bye..... } .....
Miss Wheeler ... } .....
Miss Rickett ... }
Miss Rice..... } .....
Mrs. Gillett ..... } .....
Mrs. Todd, bye ..... } .....
Miss A. Rickett bye ... } .....
Miss A. Page bye ..... }

Best of 3 setts to win. Players to meet at differences of their respective odds, but in no case must less than the full game of 4 points be played by one or other in a tie. Advantage sets to be played throughout:—W. F. Page, F. Gillett, W. Sutter, Handicappers.

Owing to the lateness of the season it is requested that the ties be played off as soon as possible.

"MIXED DOUBLES" HANDICAP—AUTUMN, 1895.

Class.

—14	Mrs. Campbell and Mr. Murray	—30.2
—12	Miss Wheeler and Mr. Gresson	—30
—11	Miss K. Page and Mr. Page	—15.5
— 9	Miss Rice and Mr. Wilson	—15.3
— 3	Miss A. Rickett and Mr. Morriss.	—⅗ of 15
0	Mrs. Gillett and Mr. Walter	Scratch.
0	Mrs. Dinsdale and Mr. Jackson...	Scratch.
+ 3	Miss A. Page and Mr. Caro	+⅗ of 15
+ 3	Mrs. Carew and Mr. O'Regan ...	+⅗ of 15
+ 3	Miss Rickett and Mr. Balden.....	+⅗ of 15
+ 3	Miss Thomas and Mr. Campbell..	+15
+ 9	Mrs. Mudie and Mr. Ross	+15.3

Miss A. Page } Bye
Mr. Caro }
Miss K. Page } Bye
Mr. Page }
Miss Rickett }
Mr. Balden }
Miss Thomas }
Mr. Campbell }
Mrs. Carew }
Mr. O'Regan }
Mrs. Gillett }
Mr. Walter }
Mrs. Campbell }
Mr. Murray }
Miss Wheeler }
Mr. Gresson }
Mrs. Dinsdale }
Mr. Jackson }
Miss Rice }
Mr. Wilson }
Mrs. Mudie } Bye
Mr. Ross }
Miss A. Rickett } Bye
Mr. Morriss }

Best of 3 setts to win. Players to meet at differences of their respective odds, but in no case must less than the full game of 4 points be played by one or other in a tie. Advantage sets to be played throughout.

Handicappers { W. F. PAGE. F. GILLETT. W. SUTTER.

Nov. 6, 1895.

To be played off as soon as possible.

GENTLEMEN'S SINGLES FOR "HANDICAP" CUP. AUTUMN, 1895, COMPETITION.

Class.

—12	Mr. Page	—30
—12	Mr. Sutter	—30
— 6	Mr. Gillett	—15
— 6	Mr. Murray	—15
— 3	Mr. Mollison	—⅗ of 15
— 3	Mr. Gresson	—⅗ of 25
— 2	Mr. Wilemen	—⅖ of 15
— 2	Mr. Jackson	—⅖ of 15
— 1	Mr. Balden	—⅓ of 15
+ 2	Mr. Wilson	—⅖ of 15
+ 2	Mr. Caro	—⅖ of 15

Mr. Wileman, Bye }
Mr. Jackson, Bye }
Mr. Page, Bye }
Mr. Wilson }
Mr. Murray }
Mr. Caro }
Mr. Gresson }
Mr. Balden }
Mr. Gillett }
Mr. Sutter, Bye }
Mr. Mollison, Bye }

Best of 5 setts to win. Other conditions and handicappers same as above.

YOKOHAMA CHIHO SAIBANSHO.

CRIMINAL SECTION.

Before Judge TAKAHASHI BUNNOSUKE, President; and Associate Judges HARA SEIICHI and OHASHI JUTARO.

WEDNESDAY, 6th November, 1895.

THE POLITICAL ASSOCIATION CASE.

Ozaki Yukio, Suzuki Shigeto, and Kudo Kokan were convicted by the Kojimachi District Court, Tokyo, some time ago, of having infringed the Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations, they having assembled at the Atago-kan, Shiba, Tokyo, for the purpose of discussing various political questions. The accused, however, appealed to the Tokyo Local Court against that decision, and the latter Court transferred the case to the Yokohama Chiho Saibansho.

All the accused were present to-day, when the case was called on. Mr. Numata and Mr. Kojima defended Messrs. Suzuki and Kudo; Messrs. Minagawa, Moriya, and Maruyama represented Mr. Ozaki.

The prosecution was in the hands of Public Procurator Takigawa.

After various questions had been put and answered by the accused,

The Public Procurator urged that the accused were guilty, on the ground that they had actually organized a political association and become managers thereof. The Public Procurator then urged that although the organization had no fixed articles, name, office, or managers—which are essential to the formation of a political association—the persons who assembled at the Atago-kan had a common aim in which they agreed to co-operate, and its existence was known to the public as the *Doshi-kai*. Having given various instances of the accused having acted as managers, and adduced evidence that the association was a political one, the Public Procurator asked that the accused be punished in accordance with the 30th article of the Law of Public Meetings and Political Associations.

Mr. Kojima urged that Suzuki Shigeto was not a manager of the so-called political association. He pointed out that the Procurator's argument was weak as to that allegation. Suzuki denied being appointed a manager, nor were there any persons who could have appointed him to that position. Even supposing Suzuki was a manager of the party he had nothing to report upon to the police, as at that time there was no name, no articles of association, nor any office of the association. Suzuki, therefore, could not be regarded as having infringed the Law.

Mr. Numata argued that the association was not a political organization. The accused were politicians, but they only assembled at the Atago-kan to discuss some important political subjects. They had a proper right to do so, and they did not violate the law in so doing. If such an action was an infringement of the law, the Cabinet Ministers were doing the same kind of thing at Nagatacho every day, and they also must be regarded as the violaters of the law. If the nature of any association was to be judged by the name given to it by the press or the general public, it would lead to grave mistakes. Some persons called the present Government the *Hanbatsu Seifu* (Clan Government), and if the former argument was right the Government became a Clan Government. Although a name was given to the association by the press, it yet had no name in fact, and possessed no essentials of an organised political association.

Other barristers having addressed the Court,

Judgment was given as follows:—The decision of the Kojimachi District Court is quashed, and the accused are acquitted on the ground that although they had often met at the Atago-kan since the 1st of June there was not sufficient evidence to show that the association was a political organization.

FORMOSA.

The Amoy correspondent of the *China Mail*, writing under date Oct. 23rd, says:—

When the Japanese cruiser stopped the *Thales* outside she made seven of the Chinese passengers prisoners, but allowed the *Thales* to proceed, on the understanding that the prisoners were to be handed over to the British Consul upon arrival at Amoy. Two Japanese officers accompanied the prisoners on board the *Thales*. The Consul liberated the seven men, who were undoubtedly Chinese soldiers. The cruiser is waiting outside, and we expect she will stop the *Thales* when she leaves to-night for Taiwanfoo.

Taiwanfoo was to be occupied by the Japanese the night the *Thales* left. Liu managed to evade them, and the soldiers, finding themselves deserted by their General, threw down their arms and did not attempt to fight. Mr. MacCallum, Liu's Commissioner of Customs, is still in Taiwanfoo. It was extremely foolish of him not to take the chance of clearing out in the *Thales*.

H.M.S. *Pique* arrived this morning from South Formosa, and reports that all is over with the Black Flags; the Japanese came, they saw, they conquered, or rather they did not have anything to conquer. The *Pique* was at Anping, and the *Tweed* at Takow, when the Japanese arrived off the coast. One of the Japanese troopships, which happened to be nearest in shore, drew fire from the Chinese forts, and had a derrick shot off her deck. After this warning the Japanese kept their distance. Next morning the warships began to bombard at seven o'clock, and the Chinese replied with spirit for a time. Soon, however, it was evident that the Chinese were helpless, for the Japanese kept at a range of 6,000 yards (3½ miles) and the Chinese guns would not tell at that distance. By eleven o'clock there was not a man left in the forts; but the Japanese, to clear the neighbourhood and make everything perfectly safe, went on shelling until after one o'clock. Then they began to land, and took possession without further ado. The rest of the proceedings were uneventful. The *Tweed* and the *Pique* had been waiting about a long time in hope

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to see some fighting, but when the worst came to the worst it did not amount to a fight.

The Douglas steamer *Haitan* arrived here to day from Foochow and Amoy. At the latter port she fell in with the *Thales*, which has been doing a tremendous passenger trade with Formosa as the Chinese stampede from Taiwanfoo grew more frantic. The Japanese were in full possession by Monday, and were anxious to find Liu Yung-fu. The remnant of the Black Flag army, 9,000 men, had piled-arms and surrendered unconditionally when they found themselves leaderless, and they had all sorts of stories to account for Liu's mysterious disappearance. One report was that he had gone away in a fishing junk; another that he was on the *Thales*; another that he had disguised himself as a woman to escape. The *Thales* had left by the time these stories got about; she had on board over a thousand passengers, Chinese refugees from Tainanfoo, and she had been very carefully examined by the Japanese before they let her go; but in such circumstances not much of a search can be made. As soon as the Japanese found that Liu had slipped through their fingers they stopped all ingress and egress, refused to allow any communication with the German steamer *Dante* which had come to pick up passengers, and sent away the swift despatch vessel *Yayeyama Kan* to overtake the *Thales*. She was caught about 20 miles out of Amoy, and another search was made. After keeping her about ten hours, the Japanese decided on seven suspicious characters whom they wished to take away, but Capt. Bathurst denied their right to do so. Meantime, the *Thales* had been sighted from Amoy, and the signal had been put up, and people began to wonder why she did not come in. Inquiries were made at the signal station and it was found that she was being detained by a warship. The *Haitan* then went out from Amoy to where the two vessels lay, and ultimately the Japanese agreed to let the seven Chinese go to Amoy in charge of two Japanese officers, and refer the matter to the British Consul for decision as to the right of detention. By the time the *Thales* did get in, two of her passengers had died; and, strange to say, two new ones had been born on board.

When the seven men were brought to Amoy, the Consul (Mr. Gardner) decided to release them. He had immediately on hearing of the trouble wired to London, to Pekin, and to the British Admiral at Foochow, whence the *Alacrity* was sent down with all speed.

It is positively asserted that Liu's son was among the passengers on the *Thales*, but that the seven suspects were nonentities.

CRICKET.

YOKOHAMA V. KOBE AND OTHERS.

A match was arranged on Saturday between Yokohama and Past and Present Kobe Residents. Unfortunately the pressing engagements of the Kobe visitors prevented them from putting in an appearance on the Cricket ground, and the scheme was altered, Morriss going over to the Kobe side along with some Tokyo players. A pleasant game resulted, though the scoring was far from high. Edwards' bowling analysis is the most remarkable feature of the match. Scores:—

FORMER KOBE RESIDENTS AND OTHERS.

Mr. E. O. Kenyon, c. Kingdon, b. Murray	17
Rev. T. S. Tyng, b. Murray...	9
Mr. E. B. S. Edwards, c. Johnson, b. White	24
Mr. E. R. Morris, l.b.w., b. White...	7
Mr. Kilby, c. White, b. Murray	1
Mr. Tennant, c. Dodds, b. White	10
Mr. Harries, b. Murray	3
Mr. A. Tyng, c. White, b. Murray...	0
Mr. Dewette, c. W. S. Goddard, b. White	0
Mr. Schellenberg, b. White	0
Mr. W. Tyng, run out, b. White	4
Mr. Gring, b. Murray	5
Mr. Lias, not out	5
Byes 9	9
	94

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	M.	R.	W.
Mr. Murray	100	10	30	6
Mr. W. S. Goddard	15	0	12	0
Mr. W. Goddard.....	10	0	11	0
Mr. Bugbird	20	1	10	0
Mr. White	55	1	22	5

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. H. Goddard, b. Edwards	10
Mr. H. S. Goddard, c. Tyng, Jr., b. Edwards	0
Mr. E. Van Smith, b. Edwards	0
Mr. R. C. Johnson, b. Morriss	5
Mr. F. H. Bugbird, b. Edwards	1
Mr. W. Goddard, b. Edwards	2
Mr. A. Kingdon, c. Morriss, b. Edwards...	17
Mr. H. Mair, b. Edwards	5
Mr. F. E. White, c. Morriss, b. Edwards...	0
Mr. Murray, not out...	6
Byes 5	5
	51

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	M.	R.	W.
Mr. Edwards	64	7	21	8
Mr. Morriss	60	4	35	2

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 6.

At a Cabinet Council held yesterday, it was decided that all Embassies should be separately urged to demand from the Porte immediate measures to terminate the anarchy so hurtful to Christians of all nations, otherwise they must in concert adopt the necessary measures.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Hakodate, November 2.

The first snow this year fell during last night—a heavy fall.

At 3 a.m. this morning a fire broke out, and before it was extinguished about 200 houses were destroyed.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, October 31.

Continental Bourses are flat, owing to a strong anti-English article in the unofficial portion of the St. Petersburg *Official Messenger*.

Lord Salisbury, speaking at Watford, stated that he would endeavour, for the sake of continuity, to execute the foreign policy of his predecessors.

London, November 1.

M. Bourgeois—a Radical—has formed a new French Cabinet, in which M. Doumer will be Minister of Finance, and M. Bourgeois Minister of the Interior. The post of Minister for Foreign Affairs is unfilled, M. Hanotaux declining to accept the office because he objects to the annexation of Madagascar, which is the policy of the new Cabinet.

The uneasiness in the political situation, especially as regards the relations between Great Britain and Russia, continues, and the Bourses are in a nervous state.

Reuter's correspondent at Accra states that the King of Coomassie has rejected the ultimatum of Great Britain (as wired on the 17th of October) and that he prefers war, for which he is fully prepared.

(FROM TONKIN PAPERS.)

Paris, October 16.

A man fired a revolver at M. Resseguier, manager of the Carmeaux glassworks. The would-be murderer escaped.

Paris, Oct. 18.

The white troops in Madagascar will return to France in December.

Paris, October 20.

Senator Magnier, compromised in the Southern Railway affair, has been condemned to one years's imprisonment.

Paris, Oct. 21.

Te Deums have been chanted in Paris and in the Provinces in honour of the victory in Madagascar.

Russia threatens to issue an ultimatumn if the Tai Wön-kun attempts to exercise power in Korea.

Paris, Oct. 22.

The opening of the Chambers has been quiet. Numerous questions have been lodged, notably on the subject of Madagascar and the anarchist outrage at Carmaux.

Paris, Oct. 23.

The feeling in both Chambers is favourable to the Ministry.

The King of Portugal refusing to go to Rome because of the Pope, the relations between Italy and Portugal are very strained.

(FROM "EL COMERCIO.")

Madrid, Oct. 16.

The assistance of the Leon Battalion, garrisoning Puerto Rico, has been requested by General Martinez Campos. The battalion has left for Cuba.

With the view of accelerating the campaign in the Gran Antilla towards the end of November, forces are being concentrated so as to organize twenty battalions more.

Oct. 18.

The Zamora column, in Cuba, has surprised and destroyed several parties of insurgents, capturing their encampments, horses, arms, and provisions.

Cholera has broken out in Egypt.

10,000 Mauser rifles have been despatched from Hamburg for the use of the army in the Philippines.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Shimonoseki, Nov. 6.

No. 17 torpedo boat left here for the east yesterday.

Sapporo, Nov. 6.

Snow fell here last night, and accumulated to a depth of a few inches.

Nagoya, Nov. 6.

The Kuwana-Mayegasu section on the Kansai Railway Co. will be opened for traffic to-morrow.

Söul, Nov. 6.

Count Inouye had an interview with the King yesterday, when the Count presented to His Majesty a letter sent by the Emperor of Japan. It is said that the doubts entertained by various Foreign Representatives in regard to Japan's conduct in connection with the recent disturbance, were removed by the arrival of the Count, and the relations between the Japanese Minister and other Foreign Representatives are familiar and smooth. Everything is in a satisfactory condition. Doubts were entertained by the native and foreign residents, but these have disappeared with the Count's arrival.

Akita, November 6.

Dysentery is now very prevalent here, 107 cases being reported on the 5th and 6th inst.

Niigata, November 6.

Twenty-three dysentery patients were reported here to-day.

Hiroshima, November 6.

The preliminary examination of the military officers has nearly concluded. The arrival of two other officers concerned in the *émeute* is expected, and upon the conclusion of their examination a Court Martial will be opened.

It is stated that the Judicial authorities have not at present sufficient evidence, and they have asked the Japanese Legation in Söul to collect additional materials.

Some 346 soldiers of the Second Army Division reached Ujina to-day, and at once embarked on board a transport. They will be disembarked at Anping.

Söul, Nov. 7.

Count Inouye was entertained at the U.S. Legation last night. Ken Zai-ko, Vice-Minister of War, has been appointed Chief Secretary of the Cabinet Office.

Hiroshima, Nov. 7.

Two deportees, named Hasumoto Yasumaro, of Shiga, and Oura Shigehito, of Nagasaki, arrived at the Nishima Quarantine Station at 2.30 o'clock this morning by the *Hinoda Maru*. They were at once arrested and taken to the Hiroshima Local Court, where they received preliminary examination.

Nagasaki, November 7,

Major-General Baron Hasegawa has arrived here.

Kobe, November 7.

Mr. Oyama, Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* in Austria, arrived here by the French mail steamer *Yarra* this morning, and leaves for Yokohama to-morrow by the same ship.

Shimonoseki, November 7.

The *Oshima Kan* arrived off Moji this morning from the west.

Kamiri Katsuyo, formerly a Major, who was sentenced to seven years' hard labour for having stolen some articles while employed in the administrative office in the occupied territory, arrived here yesterday by the *Hinode Maru* from Talien. The man was handed over to the Shimonoseki police. He shot himself while at the police station, the wound being fatal.

The following telegram was received by the Government yesterday.

The Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Japan and Brazil was signed at Paris on the 5th inst. by Mr. Sone, Japanese Minister to France, and the Brazilian Representative in Paris.

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Söul, Nov. 8.

Mr. Uchida, Japanese Consul, accompanied by police constables, proceeded to-day to the residences of the persons now under arrest, and confiscated swords and other materials bearing upon the Korean case.

Shimonoseki, Nov. 8.

The *Chow Chow Foo* left for Nagasaki yesterday afternoon.

Nagasaki, November 8.

Two Russian men-of-war went to Vladivostock yesterday.

Shimonoseki, November 8.

Major-General Shioya arrived here this morning to inspect forts at Shimonoseki and Moji.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 201.

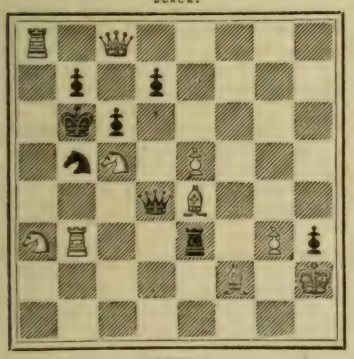
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q to R 2	1—Q takes Q
2—K takes Kt, mate	
	1—K takes Kt
2—B to K 7, mate	
	1—P takes Kt
2—R takes P, mate	
	1—Kt to B 3
2—Kt to Kt 7, mate	
	1—Kt takes R
2—Kt to Kt 4, mate	
	1—Q moves
2—Q takes Q, mate	
	1—Kt to Q 4
2—Kt to Kt 4, mate.	

Correct answers from Shogi, W.D.C., Digamma, W.H.S., Omega, and J.D.

Problem No. 203.

By Bauer.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Hastings Congress.

Game No. 384.

The following is the game by winning which Mr. Pillsbury secured first prize. It is, it will be observed, another Q P Opening :—

WHITE. H. N. Pillsbury.	BLACK. I. Gunsberg.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to Q B 3
3—P to K 3	3—P to K Kt 3
4—Q Kt to B 3	4—B to Kt 2
5—Kt to B 3	5—Kt to B 3
6—B to Q 3	6—Castles
7—Kt to K 5	7—P takes P
8—B takes P	8—Kt to Q 4
9—P to B 4	9—B to K 3
10—Q to Kt 3	10—P to Q Kt 4
11—B takes Kt	11—B takes B
12—Kt takes B	12—Q takes Kt
13—Q takes Q	13—P takes Q
14—Kt to Q 3	14—Kt to Q 2
15—B to Q 2	15—K R to B sq.
16—K to K 2	16—P to K 3
17—K R to Q B sq.	17—B to B sq.
18 R takes R	18—R takes R
19—R to Q B sq.	19—R takes R
20—B takes R	20—B to Q 3
21—B to Q 2	21—K to B sq.
22—B to Kt 4	22—K to K 2
23—B to B 5	23—P to Q R 3
24—P to Q Kt 4	24—P to B 3
25—P to Kt 4	25—B takes B
26—Kt P takes B	26—Kt to Kt sq.
27—P to K B 5	27—Pt to Kt 4
28—Kt to Kt 4	28—P to Q R 4
29—P to B 6	29—K to Q 3
30—P takes P	30—Kt takes P
31—Kt takes Kt	31—K takes Kt
32—P to K 4	32—P takes P
33—P to Q 5 ch.	33—K to Q 3
34—K to K 3	34—P to Kt 5
35—K takes P	35—P to R 5
36—K to Q 4	36—P to R 4
37—P takes P	37—P to R 6
38—K to B 4	38—P to K B 4
39—P to R 6	39—P to B 5
40—P to R 7	40—Resigns.

Game No. 385.

A remarkable game (French Defence) played by the Canadian representative :—

WHITE. W. H. K. Pollock.	BLACK. Dr. Tarrasch.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to K 5	2—P to K B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P to Q B 4
4—B to Q 3	4—P to K B 4
5—P to K Kt 4	5—P takes Q P
6—P takes P	6—Q to R 4 ch.
7—P to B 3	7—Q takes K P ch.
8—Kt to K 2	8—Kt to Q B 3
9—Castles	9—B to B 4
10—R to K sq.	10—Q to B 3
11—Kt to Q 2	11—K P takes P
12—P takes P	12—B to K 2
13—Kt to K B 3	13—K to Q sq.
14—B to K Kt 5	14—Q to B 2
15—B takes B ch.	15—Kt (Kt sq.) takes B
16—Q to Q 2	16—P to K R 3
17—Kt to K 5	17—Kt takes Kt
18—P takes Kt	18—P to Q Kt 3
19—Kt to B 4	19—B to Kt 2
20—B to Kt 5	20—Kt to B 3
21—P to K 6	21—Q to K 2
22—Kt to Kt 6	22—Q to Kt 4 ch.
23—Q takes Q ch.	23—P takes Q
24—Kt takes R	24—Kt to Q 5
25—P to K 7 ch. and White wins (a).	

(a) Decidedly one of the brightest and most original games of the tournament. White by 2—P to K 5 goes dead against modern theory, for that move has long been discarded by authorities. Nevertheless, he gets a crushing attack, and every move tells. At the finish Black's only resource seems to be K to K sq., and then follows, perhaps, B takes P ch. and R to Q sq., pinning the knight which threatens a disagreeable check at B 6.

We copy from the *Weekly Times* the following valuable rules which we think will be of great assistance to some of our solvers.

FIRST PRINCIPLES OF CONSTRUCTION.

There are two admittedly high-class text-books on this splendidly interesting branch of the game—viz., *The Chess Problem*, by H. J. C. Andrews, E. N. Frankenstein, B. G. Laws, and C. Planck; and *Chess: its Poetry and Prose*, by A. F. Mackenzie. At starting three leading principles are given in *The Chess Problem*, necessities of "Beauty of Solution." These are worth quoting in full :—

1.—Elegance and subtlety of the key move;

2.—Brilliancy and depth of the several lines of play (variations) following the opening move;

3.—Excellence of the mating positions.

Taking these rules for granted, as they will naturally commend themselves to every student—the more fully so as his tastes and experiences advance—it would appear almost superfluous to enter upon any prolonged discussion of details. And yet our correspondence convinces us of the tremendous difficulty many experience in grasping these apparently elementary ideas. In brief, then—for we can only summarize what, if quoted in full, as it deserves to be, would occupy several columns—check and capture keys are objectionable for the following reasons :—

1.—They have upon their face the appearance of great strength, whereas the moves leading to the solution should always be those which at first sight appear weak and improbable; they should, if possible, be quiet and unaccompanied with violence. In fact, the stronger keys are in appearance the more objectionable do they become.—*The Chess Problem*, p. 7. May we not also extend this principle to the variations, or different lines of play that follow the opening move?

2.—A checking key must force the defence into adopting some definite reply. Black's resources, even though not narrowed—and it is seldom they are not so—are positively defined, and as a natural consequence much of the element of real strategy is at once eliminated.—(*Chess: its Poetry and Prose*, p. 7.)

3.—Captures have, putting aside altogether their commonplace character, this forcible objection, that at the very outset the defence, of necessity poorly situated in other respects, is deprived of some of his force, and this is properly described as "repulsive."

4.—The capture even of a pawn, possibly allowable in exceptional cases, would be a fatal objection if it were obviously of great use to Black, as, for instance, if the pawn threatened to check or to make a capture itself, or by moving, to greatly strengthen Black's position.

So far the authorities. We have limited our quotations to the points upon which we find general readers most need enlightenment. We may add that under the head of objectionable keys Mr. Mackenzie notes, among others, restricting the movements of the defence, and especially of the King; moving pieces from an *en prise* position; pinning pieces; stopping a threatened ch. to the White King; and moving from obscurity or idleness into a more useful situation.

Solvers must try to grasp these simple rules, because, as we pointed out last week, they form separately and collectively, the surest basis on which to form a judgment. Of perhaps 20 possible alternatives, the knowledge of even the elements of construction will soon enable any solver to dismiss at once about 18.

The *New Zealand Mail* remarks that many reasons have been given for the fact that so many chess masters belong to the Jewish race. "A London writer has said that the Hebrews made a profession of chess because their business talents allowed them to make a good thiug of it. Alapin, Albin, Englisch, Gunsberg, Jasnogrodsky, Lasker, Rosenthal, Steinitz, Tarrasch, Tanbenhaus, and Winawer are cited as amongst the best living examples." It will be noticed, however, that most of these players belong to the classes of wanderers, from whatever cause, from native land. Professional players may often be of Hebrew extraction, but it is to this class that they really belong. The best general explanation that can be offered of Jewish proficiency in chess is that "the Hebrews are accustomed, from an early age, to a logical way of thinking."

Chess Champions.

"Every man who breaks a record is," says Mr. J. Gunsberg, "champion by right, and every man who gains public admiration is a champion by acclamation. To become a champion by right is not very difficult; all that is required is talent as well as good physical condition, youthful vigour, and a species of worldly wisdom—or shall we call it cunning?—that bides its time and chooses its opportunities well. Then success is sure to come. On the other hand, to become a champion by acclamation is far more difficult. In fact, the better way of putting it is that it is impossible except by those especially endowed, for to obtain that distinction one must have not only great talent, but something more, and that is genius. When that is combined with all the other qualities, then we have a true and thorough champion, both by right and acclamation. Such a combination of qualities is rare. Unfortunately it happens more often than not that a player will have great genius but be deficient in some of the other qualities necessary to success. In spite of this, such a player will nevertheless be champion by public acclamation both hearty and enthusiastic. Such a champion is Blackburne. The champion by right feels aggrieved. "Have I not beaten the man you acclaim?" But for all that the public heeds him not, simply because sentiment is stronger than record—it cannot be broken."

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 9th.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 14th.§
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 14th.‖
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 25th.
From Europe, vià Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 22nd.
From Europe, vià Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Nov. 27th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 5th.

* *China* left San Francisco via Honolulu on October 22nd. § *Verona* left Hongkong on November 5th. ‖ *Gaelic* (with English mail) left Hongkong on November 6th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 10th.
For Europe, vià Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 16th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 16th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 23rd.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 25th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 26th.
For Europe, vià Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 29th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per C. P. R. & N. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 6th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. F. Cattarinich, 2nd November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 26th October, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,439, Bailey, 2nd November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Ferguson, 2nd November,—London viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,320, Hancock, 2nd November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 3rd November—Hongkong viâ ports, 25th October, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, Claussen, 3rd November,—Kobe 2nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,350, Ward, 3rd November,—London viâ ports, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, C. Hendry, 3rd November,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 3rd November,—Yokkaichi 2nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 3rd November,—Kobe 2nd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Doris, German steamer, 771, Bruhn, 4th November,—Yokkaichi 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, Shaw, 5th November,—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Ekstrand, 5th November,—Kobe 3rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 6th November,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Hector, British steamer, 2,489, Hutchinson, 6th November,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 7th November,—Hakodate 5th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 7th November,—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, G. W. Conner, 7th November,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 7th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 30th October, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 8th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 8th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Java, British steamer, F. N. Tillard, 8th November,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Crawford, 9th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Admiral Nachimoff (18), Russian flagship, Captain Kachirininoff, 9th November,—Hakodate.

DEPARTURES.

Esmeralda, British schooner, 130, J. T. Harrison, 2nd November,—Guam, Stores.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Phentie, 2nd November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, E. W. Haswell, 2nd November,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 2nd November,—Niigata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Auretta, British steamer, 1,729, Henderson, 3rd November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olive Branch, British steamer, 1,766, H. Schell, 3rd November,—Kobe, Light.—Frazar & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 4th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tritos, German steamer, 1,085, Desler, 4th November,—Moji, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Aurora (9), Austrian frigate, Captain von Pott, 5th November,—Kobe.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,887, Bailey, 5th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 5th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 5th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, J. F. Cattarinich, 6th November,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Mount Lebanon, British steamer, 1,555, C. Hendry, 6th November,—Victoria, B.C., and Portland, Or., viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, R. Forsyth, 6th November,—Otaru, Ballast.—Seimai Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 7th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Porpoise (6), cruiser, Captain F. R. Pelly, 7th November,—Hongkong.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Ekstrand, 7th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 1,350, Ward, 7th November,—Otaru, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 8th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glengarry, British steamer, 1,985, Ferguson, 8th November,—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Daphne, German steamer, 1,394, Claussen, 9th November,—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 9th November,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 9th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro,* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. D. Musso, Italian Consul at Hongkong, Mrs. D. Musso, Mr. A. P. Nobbs, and Mr. John Connelly in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona,* from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. R. H. Smart, Mr. Y. Todoroki, Mr. F. Hoan, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, Miss Kemper, Miss Thomas, and Mrs. Moore Graham and child in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru,* from Shanghai viâ ports:—Mrs. Clarke, Mrs. Field, Miss Layton, Miss McCarthy, Mr. Ishigooka, Mr. Umbsen, and Mr. Nihara in cabin; Messrs. Hirouchi, Ito, Baker, Howis, Shimzu, and Mrs. Sato in second class, and 37 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China,* from Hongkong viâ ports:—Rev. W. T. Austin, Mrs. Strang, Mrs. R. J. Kirby and son, Mr. E. Becker, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Tuska, Mr. C. Fox, Mr. J. Flood, Mrs. Eldridge, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Horne, Mr. Hancock, Mrs. W. Buchanan and child, Mrs. A. Sharp, Mr. and Mrs. E. Suke, Mrs. N. E. Baylies and maid, Miss Huguenin, Mr. J. Utaki, Mr. Stemper, and Mr. R. Byland in cabin; 3 passengers in second class, and one passenger in Asiatic steerage. For Vancouver, B.C.:—Commander W. H. Folger, Mr. G. Flood, Miss A. L. Howe, Mr. Wharton Barker, Mr. F. M. Garland, Mr. L. Camera, Mr. H. Schlee, Mr. F. Styan, Dr. A. Coperman, and Mr. J. Kahl in cabin; 6 passengers in second class, and 169 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru,* for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mrs. James Jones, Mrs. C. Ishikawa, Messrs. Hugo Grun, Max Hauschild, R. C. Ross, S. Katsahiro, and H. Lea in cabin; Miss Katagiri, Mrs. Natano, Messrs. N. Shimomura, F. Asanuma, S. Nosume, Natano Tamotsu, and John Webb in second class, and 65 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Mount Lebanon,* for Portland, Or., viâ Honolulu, and Victoria, B.C.:—Messrs. Ready, J. Nishimura, K. Kajima, S. Kani, T. Masuda, and Y. Yonezu in cabin; 55 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China,* for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Wharton Barker, Miss Ella Blackstock, Mr. R. J. Byland, Mr. L. Camera, Mr. C. H. Conover, Mr. R. J. Martinez Danson, Mrs. R. J. Martinez Danson, Mr. Geo. Flood, Mr. F. M. Garland, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Mr. Wm. G. Hibbard, Jun., Mr. R. C. Hope, Miss A. L. Howe, Mr. J. A. Kahl, Miss H. Kemper, Mr. R. Little, Miss A. M. Little, Mrs. Danson Martinez, Mr. C. Okumura, Mr. H. Schlee, Mr. T. A. Snider, Mr. F. W. Styan, Mr. K. Tanaka, Mr. F. H. Walker, and Mr. H. H. West in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro,* for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OMAHA.	ST. LOUIS.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	194	—	3,761	—	589	—	4,541
Hyogo.....	50	—	—	325	—	—	375
Yokohama.	1,119	—	294	—	—	—	1,413
Hongkong.	117	—	—	—	—	—	117
Total ...	1,480	—	4,055	325	589	—	6,446

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	10	435	—	445
Hongkong	—	235	—	235
Yokohama	—	655	15	670
Total	10	1,325	15	1,350

Per British steamer *Mount Lebanon,* for Portland, Or., and Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	125	125
Foochow	—	—	883	—	883
Hyogo	—	—	411	—	411
Yokohama ...	246	1,095	—	272	1,613
Total	246	1,095	1,294	397	3,032

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong and Canton ...	15	—	15
Yokohama	70	—	70
Total	85	—	85

Per British steamer *Empress of China,* for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	—	20	20
Calcutta	—	—	—	126	—	126
Colombo	—	—	—	72	—	72
Foochow	7,622	—	—	936	—	8,558
Shanghai	3,176	801	4,134	7	—	8,118
Canton	—	—	—	50	—	50
Kobe	127	—	—	155	—	282
Yokohama ...	1,857	—	—	—	—	1,857
Total	12,782	801	4,134	1,346	20	19,083

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	61	—	61
Shanghai	70	—	70
Yokohama	639	—	639
Total	770	—	770

REPORTS.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro,* Captain J. F. Cattarinich, reports:—Left Hongkong the 26th October, via Nagasaki and Kobe. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd November at 8.18 p.m. Passage, 7 days, 5 hours, 18 minutes. Had fine weather throughout the passage.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 6th November,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 7th November,—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Hector, British steamer, 2,489, Hutchinson, 6th November,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Isis, British steamer, 1,588, Walker, 15th October,—Middlesboro', General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Java, British steamer, F. N. Tillard, 8th November,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 1st November,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, Shaw, 5th November,—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 24th October,—Cardiff, Coal.—Langfeldt & Co.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Crawford, 9th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Teviotdale, British steamer, 2,240, Gordon, 31st October,—Rangoon viâ Kobe, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Anaconda, American schooner, 40, A. Lawson, 21st September,—Hakodate 13th September, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Arctic, British schooner, 40, J. B. Brown, 30th October,—North Pacific, 130 Skins.—Captain.

Diana, American schooner, 74, Petersen, 5th October,—North Pacific, 50 otters and 5 seals.—Captain.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 130, Hansen, 23rd September,—North Pacific, 396 Seals and Sealing Gear.—J. Kernan.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hansen, 17th September,—North Pacific, 7 Seals. –C. F. Fisher.

Retriever, American schooner, 75, H. J. Snow, 9th October,—North Pacific, 891 Seals.—T. M. Laffin.

Wm. H. Macy, American ship, 2,188, J. A. Amsbury, 23rd October,—New York 13th June, Oil and General.—T. M. Laffin.

MAN-OF-WAR.

Admiral Nachimoff (18), Russian flagship, Captain Kachiriniroff, 9th November,—Hakodate.

Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Chouneur, 30th October,—Nagasaki.

Bobr (5), Russian gunboat, Captain Molos, 20th October,—Chefoo.

Isly (10), French cruiser, Captain Rivet, 31st October,—Nagasaki 28th October.

Lion (4), French gunboat, Captain Papaix, 16th October,—Kobe.

Musashi Kan (9), Japanese corvette, Captain T. Ito, 31st October,—Shinagawa 31st October.

Pamiat Asova (14), Russian cruiser, Captain Schoukhnine, 1st November,—Hakodate.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Market quiet, but prices fairly well maintained. The present dullness is now attributed to "Harvest operations." There is some little enquiry for Yarns and Grey Shirtings, but all else is lamentably quiet.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,.	1.90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,.	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	PER PIECE. 7.75 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,.	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market quiet. Buyers have "shut up," having bought enough for the immediate future. Quotations the same, but tending towards ease. Tin Plates are dull, with a large stock.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¼ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.75 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

At length Importers have made a stand and refused further concessions. The natural consequence is that buyers are now more inclined to operate, and there should be a good business ere long.

American	$1.90 to 1.95
Russian	1.85 to 1.90
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Small arrivals and large sales have reduced stocks to a low figures. Prices have advanced, and the outlook is healthy. White—Market firm, with a fair amount of sales.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.40 to 4.75
Brown Daitong (New)	3.80 to 3.85
Brown Canton	3.70 to 4.40
White Java and Penang	6.40 to 6.70
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Dealers at last reduced prices to a point which induced large purchases on the part of one or two shippers. But the buying is by no means general: stock is 16,000 piculs, and there seems no reason for an advance in prices, especially on the medium and common qualities.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den. ...Nom.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	$940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	840 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2½, 13/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	850 to 860
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	760 to 770

WASTE SILK.

Dealers are inclined to be current, and there is more business accordingly. Quotations unchanged, but working in favour of buyers. Pierced Cocoons still remain a dead letter.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Prices nominally unchanged, but there is now very little buying. Stock 4,500 piculs. A new feature has come into the trade. Chinese shipping about 400 piculs to Singapore of the Medium kinds. Purchases by foreigners lately have been principally "Fine" and thereabouts.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

There has been very little variation in rates of exchange during the week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/2⅓
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅝
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/3
On Paris—Bank sight	2.77
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.82
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight.	73
On India—Bank sight	192½
— Private 30 days' sight	195
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	53¾
— Private 30 days' sight..	54¾
— — 4 months' sight	55¼
On Germany—Bank sight	2.24
— Private 4 months' sight	2.29
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/16

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 16TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At 211, Bluff, the wife of L. J. HEALING of a Son.

DEATH.

On the 12th November, 1895, Mr. YOSHIKAWA TAIJIRO, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. OYAMA, Japanese *Chargé d'Affaires* in Austria, arrived in Tokyo on the 9th inst.

A RICE-MERCHANT of Tokyo named Suzuki Kichibei, a chronic sufferer from hemiphlegia, was burned to death in his house on the 7th inst. Suspicion is attached to his wife.

A FALL of hail was experienced in Yokohama on Thursday morning.

THE death is announced of Mr. Awaya Shinazo, M.P., which took place in Osaka on the 10th inst.

H.I.H. PRINCE NASHIMOTO was decorated with the Grand Cordon of the Rising Sun on the 10th instant.

THE Government granted a charter to the promoters of the Yokohama Commercial Bank on the 11th inst.

MR. YAMAGATA, Secretary of the Tokyo Municipality, has sent in his resignation, in connection with the Water-works scandal.

SOME 280 gendarmes will be stationed in Söul and Ninsen after the withdrawal of the Japanese garrisons from Korea.

THE date for the convocation of the 9th session of the Imperial Diet has been fixed for the 25th of December next, by Imperial Rescript.

THE State funeral of the late Prince Kitashirakawa took place in the capital on Monday: full honours were accorded the princely dead.

MR. MIYAKE TSUNENORI, a distinguished lawyer, who proceeded to Formosa with Viscount Takashima, died on the 1st inst. in the island.

SURGEON W. F. ARNOLD, of the U.S. Navy, lately arrived in Japan to make investigations into Asiatic cholera, at the request of the Secretary of the Navy.

RINDERPEST has broken out at Yukiura-mura, Nishi-sonoki District, Nagasaki Prefecture, and has spread to Matsushima-mura, where seven cases have been reported.

THE concert in aid of the funds of Christ Church, Yokohama, passed off very successfully on Friday evening, nearly every seat being booked and occupied.

THE Educational Authorities have decided to turn the Kyoto High School into a university. The matter will be brought before the Diet at its approaching session.

MR. OBATA, Governor of Kagawa, was released from his post on the 9th inst. at his own request, and was succeeded by Mr. Fukano, Secretary of Tottori Prefecture, as formerly stated.

THE first two days of the Autumn Meeting of the Nippon Race Club were anything but pleasant as regards the weather. Thursday, however, was bright and sunshiny, with a stiff northerly breeze.

THE new officers of the Yokohama Rice Exchange are Messrs. Tanaka Fukutaro, Oki Kotetsu and Fujino Zensuke, Directors, and Tomoda Kahei and Yoshida Heinosuke, Auditors.

THE rumours in Tokyo regarding a probable reorganization of the Cabinet were increasing in strength and probability, when a coalition between the Ministry and the Liberal Party restored the situation.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR was unable to attend the Yokohama races this year, in consequence of the death of Prince Kitashirakawa, but he sent a very handsome pair of vases as a prize: these were won on the second day by a Japanese-owned pony.

IT is stated that the naval authorities have concluded the compilation of the estimates and plans for various new ships of war. Four of them will be battle-ships of 15,000 tons each, and four others cruisers of 7,500 tons. Torpedo-boats and smaller cruisers will also be built.

THE Tokyo Water-works scandal has brought about more arrests during the week. The loss sustained by the city is variously estimated between *yen* 200,000 and *yen* 900,000.

MR. YOSHIKAWA, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, died at Oiso on the night of the 11th inst. He had long been suffering from consumption. The funeral will take place on the 20th inst.

THE Norwegian steamer *Borjg*, bound from Kobe to Vladivostock, stranded on Wednesday when a few hours from the former port. No lives were lost. The vessel was floated yesterday, and, being found to have received no injury, proceeded on her voyage to Vladivostock.

THE Osaka Marine Court of Inquiry suspended, on the 31st ultimo, the certificate of Miyaoka Hyakuzo, a pilot, for three months, in connection with the stranding of the *Riversdale*, which took place off Kabutojima, Sanuki Province, on the 24th of April last.

IT is stated that H.I.M. the Emperor proposes to dispatch an Ambassador to attend the Coronation ceremonies of the Czar, which are to take place in February next. The Ambassador will probably be ordered to visit other Courts in Europe, and proceed home *vid* America.

REUTER TELEGRAPHS:—According to telegraphic advices from London, the British Minister at Washington (Sir Julian Pauncefote) has approached the U.S. Government with a view of inducing limited co-operative action in Turkey between the two great representatives of the Anglo-Saxon race to give protection to British and American subjects in the Sultan's dominions. In addition to his diplomatic difficulties, the Sultan is now confronted with a financial crisis in Constantinople, and the Sublime Porte has proclaimed a *moratorium* for four months—during which time none of the liabilities of the Government will be discharged. Telegraphic news indicates that while the crisis in Constantinople is passing, affairs on the Asiatic side are growing more threatening, and a general revolt is feared. That this is so is shown by the fact that the Porte has requisitioned forty thousand men of the reserves, and the situation is likely to be further complicated by the circumstance that the Czar is to be petitioned by the Armenians, who pray for his protection against their oppressors.

THE Import trade continues quiet generally for Textiles. Yarns show some sign of improvement, but Cotton and Woollen Piece-goods are generally dull, Italian Cloth and Velvets being the exception. The Metal trade has not revived, the business done being hardly enough to make quotations. The Kerosene trade is looking up, buyers being unable to hold off any longer, and to fill immediate requirements have had to put up an increase of 10 per cent. or thereabouts, being willing to go on, but holders are in no hurry for business. In the Sugar trade, arrivals have not been equal to sales, and as the stock goes down prices go up. There is a steady trade in White sorts at late rates. There has been a quiet week in the Silk trade, though more enquiry has been made during the last few days. Prices, which are without quotable change, have a tendency in favour of buyers. There is nothing doing in Waste, and the conditions of the market are unaltered. Next to nothing moving in the Tea trade, the leaf on offer not being of a desirable kind. There has been very little alteration in rates of Exchange, which are much the same as a week ago.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The reported coalition between the Government and the Liberals naturally engrosses a large share of journalistic attention. The expected announcement of the matter has not yet been made by the Liberal Party, but the revelations published in the *Nichi Nichi* are regarded as equivalent to an official declaration. Various stories are told about the circumstances that led to this open coalition. One is that Marquis Ito's visits to Count Okuma and his unconcealed desire to resign his office, caused much excitement among the younger official followers of the Premier and the leaders of the Liberal Party. The first step decided upon by the Premier's followers in office was—so runs the story—to sound Marquis Yamagata as to the probability of his accepting the post of Minister President. The attempt proving unsuccessful, they next fell back upon the only alternative of begging the Premier to remain in office. Just at this juncture, the Liberal leaders, equally alarmed by the report of the Premier's intended retirement, opened communications with the above mentioned younger officials of the Government, and these two coteries of politicians combining, decided upon an immediate proclamation of the long-existing entente between the Cabinet and the *Jiyu-to*. Their united efforts proved successful, and the result is the declaration made by the *Nichi Nichi*. In this way the path to an understanding with the Progressionist leaders has been effectually barred. Such is the substance of the rumour most widely circulated. We are further told that Marquis Ito has abandoned all thought of resignation. But other persons think differently. In their opinion, Marquis Ito's resolution to resign is irrevocable, and has not been in any way affected by the proclamation of the alliance with the Liberal Party. We do not profess to believe entirely in either of these rumours. We note them simply because they are very generally circulated. The comments of the *Nichi Nichi* on the subject have already been reproduced. We therefore confine ourselves in the following paragraphs to the principal articles appearing in other papers.

* * *

The independent, that is, non-party section of the press, welcomes the news as inaugurating a new epoch in the history of constitutional Government in Japan. The *Nippon*, for instance, writes as follows:—"The Ito Cabinet having effected an alliance with the *Jiyu-to*, the natural result will be a more distinct line of demarkation between the contending parties, and a consequent tightening of the bonds that unite the different sections of the Opposition, until the latter will finally be amalgamated into a single party. Under these circumstances, we cannot but regard the present political departure as a step in the right direction." As to the circumstances that have brought about this important change, our contemporary accepts the first story repeated in the foregoing paragraph, and writes in a manner highly unfavourable to Marquis Ito. Being preëminently quick in reading the signs of the times, the Premier, says our contemporary, did not fail to perceive that he was steadily losing public confidence. He, therefore, resolved to resign, and in order to find a suitable successor, visited Count Okuma and Count Matsukata. But his conduct provoked resolute disapproval among his followers, such as Mr. Yoshikawa, Marquis Saionji, Baron Ito, Viscount Nomura, and so forth. Alarmed by this excited and indignant attitude, the Premier, thinks the *Nippon*, changed his mind, and decided to continue in power with the help of the Liberal Party. As to the latter, our contemporary dubs it a subservient tool in the hands of the Cabinet. Nothing more rational could have been expected from the *Nippon*.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* is heartily glad of the coalition, and says that it has long been wishing for such an incident. There being now no real ground of difference between the Government and any of the political parties, our contemporary sees nothing singular in the present alliance, and believes that the combination will be made stronger by giving office to the leaders of the *Jiyu-to*. This political change will finally lead to the introduction of a system of Government by Party, and in the language of religion the *Jiji* declares that the kingdom of heaven for party politicians is near at hand. Thus our contemporary hails the news with delight, but at the same time wishes to draw attention to the fact that a coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberals will hardly suffice to secure smoothness in the relations between the Government and the Diet. There is danger of a split in the ranks of the Liberals in consequence of such a connection. The decisive step has been taken at the discretion of the principal members of the Party in Tokyo, and it is but natural to expect that the measure will be disapproved by some of the provincial Liberals. In that event, the strength of the Party in the Diet may be considerably weakened, and it may be impossible for the Government to secure a majority, while it is very probable that the other parties will combine more strongly than ever against those in power. Consequently, the *Jiji* counsels the Government to effect an understanding with the Progressionists. Between the Progressionists and the Liberals there is unanimity of views on essential political questions, and no reason exists why the two parties should not combine. There has of late been some ill-will between them, but since their political creeds coincide, no difficulty should offer in effecting a reconciliation, especially at a time like the present, when party strife ought to be shunned by all the true lovers of the country.

* * *

The Progressionist organs pretend to view the matter with a degree of indifference little to be expected from them. In this connection, it will be sufficient to quote the comments of the *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Shimbun*. Strictly speaking, the former journal is not an organ of the Opposition, or indeed of any political party. But as its sentiments are entirely in sympathy with the Progressionists and others of the same camp, it may practically be classed as a representative of the Opposition. It doubts, in the first place, whether the reported coalition is true, but supposing it to be well founded, it further doubts the probability of the connection lasting for any length of time. Marquis Ito's defects, says our contemporary, lie in his want of decision, constancy, and perseverence. The *Kokumin* is confident that many members of the Government are opposed to an alliance with the Liberal party, and doubts whether the Premier will have courage to persevere in his course despite the opposition of these discontented persons. As to the Liberal Party, our contemporary compares it to the Chinese Empire. Like Japan's big neighbour, the Liberals lack power of cohesion. There is reason to apprehend that the party will be split up by the public announcement of a coalition with the Cabinet. The *Kokumin* is strongly disposed to suspect that the whole affair is the work of some interested schemers on both sides. On the one hand, not only are a large number of the Liberals entirely ignorant of the matter, but on the other, even the Premier himself is probably still undecided what course to follow. Thus our contemporary imagines that the public announcement of the coalition is a device on the part of some intriguers who desire in this way to precipitate an arrangement ardently wished for by themselves. "Two pieces of jelly cannot make a stone wall," says the *Kokumin*, "and as we are intimately acquainted with the inner circumstances of both sides, we are led to fear that the present endeavour for their combination, so far from being crowned with success, may end in furnishing fresh material for public laughter and ridicule."

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* writes in a similar strain. While, on the one hand, says our contemporary, Marquis Ito was alarmed by the extraordinary increase in recent times of the strength of the popular opposition to his Government, there were, on the other, some men independent of parties who, perceiving the powerlessness of the present Cabinet, began to advocate the theory of reconciliation between the *Meiji* statesmen, as a means of placing the foreign affairs of the country in surer hands. The latter proposal of non-party men found a response in the heart of the Premier, who, glad of any help at such a critical moment as the present, visited the Opposition leader on the pretext of exchanging social courtesies. Our contemporary does not profess to know in what way the overtures made by the Premier were received by Count Okuma, but it states that, if the Cabinet means to be in earnest, it should first tender its resignation in a body, and leave its successors free to conduct the affairs of State according to their judgment. All measures of compromise short of such a course are deprecated by the *Mainichi*. The Premier, says that paper, seems to have been sincerely desirous of retiring from office, and inaugurating a new order of things. But such a course appears to have been stoutly opposed by his followers, who, from habit as well as obvious considerations of self-interest, are now more enthusiastically in favour of the policy of standing aloof from parties than their chief. Under these circumstances, the Premier was unable to decide on any course of action, when the plan of temporary coalition with the Liberals was proposed and accepted by him as a scheme for tiding over the present crisis. So the *Mainichi* does not think that the connection will survive the coming session of the Diet, and considers that, viewed in this light, the incident is unworthy of any serious attention.

* * *

The question of the Iron Foundry fraud continues to engage much attention. The *Nippon* severely censures the police authorities for negligence in matters of administrative police. While respectable politicians and innocent students are subjected to a provoking system of political espionage, swindlers and sharpers are left free to practise their mischievous arts upon the innocent and unwary. How on earth the police could have prevented the fraud, or interfered in any way, the *Nippon* does not say.

* * *

Other questions that have been discussed during the present week are the settlement of Formosa, the Liaotung peninsula, the employment of the war indemnity, and so forth. The comments on the Liaotung question have already been reproduced, and those on the remaining topics do not merit special reference.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

MR. OISHI ON THE SITUATION IN THE EAST.

MR. OISHI MASAMI recently delivered an address on the above subject at a meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association of Tokyo. Before proceeding to the subject of his lecture, he begged to say a few words on a topic to which he though it advisable to draw the attention of his youthful audience, the institution of public lecturing. It is a practice borrowed by the Japanese from the Occident. More than twenty years have elapsed since the practice of lecturing was first introduced in Japan, but Mr. Oishi is grieved to notice that the institution is still in a state of infancy. The art of addressing a public meeting is properly understood by very few persons; while the public in general is lamentably deficient in capacity to profit by what is said from the rostrum. The tardy progress made in this direction is to be ascribed to the comparatively low degree of development of national intelligence. What Mr. Oishi most deplores about public speakers in Japan, is that they are deficient in independence and originality of thought. They either rehearse what they have heard from others or repeat what they have read in books. He recommended his hearers to form the habit of independent observation and thought. "Try to think for yourselves about whatever question comes under your notice." After dwelling at some length on this topic, the lecturer proceeded to discuss the interesting theme forming the caption of this article. The

first thing that strikes all observers of current events in the East is the fact that this part of the world is now the scene of an ever increasing competition between the different Powers, not only in commerce but in politics. Countries and races unfit for this keen race of life have to yield. India was the first to fall, and now China is already tottering. The common malady of these two races is lack of national spirit and utter disorganization of society. Under these circumstances, it is scarcely necessary to point out that Japan's *vis-à-vis* in her career of expansion is neither Korea nor China, but the Powers of the West. The lecturer then alluded to an address once delivered at a public meeting by Lord Salisbury, in which the Marquis insisted on the importance of pursuing a vigorous policy of colonial and commercial expansion. That the English Premier is carrying out the policy once propounded by him, is proved by the attitude adopted by England about the Kucheng massacre. It is needless to say that the same strong policy is followed in the East by the other Powers of Europe. The East has thus been converted into a stage on which Western races are to enact their drama of encroachment. What ought Japan to do under these circumstances? Mr. Oishi strongly urges his countrymen to direct their attention and energies to the acquisition of an important foothold on the continent. He naturally refrains from saying what part of the continent should be annexed, but he remarks that such a region should be selected as will, first, repay its occupation, and, secondly, facilitate further territorial expansion. The three weapons absolutely necessary for the attainment of this object are armament, diplomacy, and money. The nation should strain every nerve to complete its preparations in these three different fields.

THE FIN DE SIÈCLE SOLDIER.

Mr. Archibald Forbes received his baptism of fire long before the opening days of the antiseptic treatment of wounds We are therefore surprised to find him railing at the humanitarian principles that now prevail in military surgery. In a recent book he says:—"The soldier is coddled nowadays to the extent of being really deteriorated by over-tenderness of treatment. He has an anæsthetic administered when the top joint of his finger is being taken off; he has hypodermic injections when he has a twitch of pain; he is treated with champagne, with all sorts of delicate extras, and everything that can make a man reluctant to own to convalescence. In the old days of the Peninsular War men had natures of more pith, and did not seem to die in much greater proportion than nowadays [as a matter of fact modern battlefields seem to be less bloody than even those of the days of Brown Bess], although they were entirely strangers to all this demoralising excess of dry-nursing." Mr. Forbes seems to imagine that callous indifference to suffering in the field and camp tends to harden the fighting-man. Certainly the records of our War Office prove that the veterans of the Peninsular and other wars in the earlier years of the century were the results of the "survival of the fittest' principle; but only to take these into account is to wilfully shut one's eyes to the long legacy of terrible disease that the wounded and invalided of those wars bestowed upon theEnglish nation.

COLLISION WITH A SHARK.

"A curious thing," writes a correspondent to a home paper, "occurred on the last homeward voyage from Australia of the P. & O. Royal Mail steamer *Himalaya*, when the ship while steaming up the Red Sea ran into and killed an enormous shark. The sea was dead calm at the time, and the brute must have been basking in the sun upon the surface, as they often do, when the ship struck it. Though under easy steam she was then running quite nineteen tland miles an hour, and anyone acquainted with she huge proportions of a great ocean liner will understand the force and impetus with which the sharp stem must have been driven into the shark's body. It was not quite cut in two, however, and was carried some distance before the engines were topped and reversed to enable the ship to get clear, when it turned over and sank, apparently dead; but for some time after being struck it was alive, and lashing out furiously with its tail. I am not sure to what size these monsters actually grow, but this one must have measured at least twenty-five feet. It is also interesting to speculate how, upon the theory that a fish never sleeps, this one allowed itself to be run into—especially as these incidents seem by no means rare."

ARRIVAL OF THE U.S.S. "OLYMPIA."

The United States steel commerce-destroyer *Olympia* arrived at Yokohama on Saturday morning. She left San Francisco on August 23rd and arrival at Honolulu on September 2nd. Owing to cholera prevailing at that port, she went to Lahano, Maui, S.I., about seventy miles south of Honolulu, when she stayed for some time. The cholera dying out somewhat the *Olympia* returned to Honolulu and coaled. On the 23rd of October the cruiser left Honolulu for Yokohama and proceeded under easy steam in pleasant weather till Nove. 1st, when a gale came on. This lasted for about 900 miles. The officers of the *Olympia* report passing the O. & O. steamer *Coptic* on Nov. 2nd, who reported "cholera on board." The *Olympia* was built in 1893 at a cost of £477,600. She has a displacement of 5,800 tons, is 340 feet in length, and 53 feet beam. Her mean draught is 21 ft. 6 in., and she is driven by two propellers, which are worked by engines having an indicated horse-power of 13,500 national draught, 17,363 forced, her speed being 21.69 knots. At 10 knots an hour her coal supply with carry her 10,000 nautical miles. The hull is of steel and the deck of the same material is 4¾ inches to 2 inches in thickness, while the barbettes are protected by 4½ inches armour. Her armament is very extensive, consisting of four 8-in., ten 5-in., fourteen 6-pounders, six 1-pounder quick-firing guns, and four machine guns, and six torpedo tubes.

NAVAL NEWS.

H.M.S. *Grafton*, says the *China Mail*, first-class cruiser, sails from England on the 12th November for Hongkong with relief crews for the ships ordered to pay off here:—*Alacrity*, *Daphne*, *Pigmy*, *Redpole*, and *Plover*. The *Grafton*, is a sister ship to the *Edgar*, and is of 7,350 tons, 12,000 horse-power, 12 guns. Her presence on the China Station will give temporary strength to Admiral Buller's squadron. H.M.S. *Æolus* is expected in Hongkong shortly, as soon as it is deemed advisable to reduce the strength on the Yangtse. Admiral Buller is expected here with the *Centurion* and other vessels about Wednesday next. He will go to Singapore soon after. Mrs. Buller and son are expected in Hongkong shortly. H.M.S. *Pigmy* arrived at Canton 29th October. H.M.S. *Mercury* has been docked at Singapore.

YOKOHAMA CHARITY HOSPITAL.

The report of the Yokohama Charity Hospital for the half-year ending June 30th, 1895, has just been issued. It states that the work has been most successfully carried on during the period under review. Owing to the departure of Mrs. Lindsley for America, late hon. treasurer of the Society, and of Mrs. Megata for Tokyo (secretary), their places have been filled by Mrs. Okoshi. At present the Management of the hospital is conducted by Dr. Rokkaku; Dr. Tokunaga and Dr. Ito, assistants, as before, and Miss Kadokura, Midwife. The number of patients who have received treatment in the hospital during the half year were:—Paying patients 76: of which those that left entirely cured number 32; remaining, 14; left before recovery, 17; died, 13; free patients, 16; remaining, 3; out-door patients, 61—total, 259. The total receipts had been $1,217.29; the expenditure $913.34, and $303.95 remained in hand.

DEATH OF THE GOVERNOR OF CANTON.

Ma Pi-in, the Governor of Canton, died in his yamên on the 25th October at 9 p.m. His Excellency was seventy-six years of age and was appointed Governor of Canton last November. His fourth son was with him at the time of his death. The remains were coffined on the 26th ult. The Viceroy and all the high officials went to the deceased's yamên to pay the usual tokens of respect to his memory. A report was set in circulation to the effect that Ma was the victim of poisoning, the poison having been administered at an official feast, when he and the other five officers partaking of food together, were all on their return home attacked by symptoms of poisoning. At these feasts the guests sit in groups, usually six at a table, and it was only the guests at the Governor's table that showed any signs of illness. The other five recovered, but the Governor was not so fortunate. It is said that the poisoning was the work of gamblers and other bad characters in revenge for the suppression of the gambling houses which Ma had brought about. On inquiry, the Hongkong *Daily Press* found that this report was not generally credited by the Chinese. The late Governor's illness commenced some three weeks ago and throughout its course there was nothing to suggest foul play. The report is supposed to be based on the well-known hatred entertained for him by the gambling fraternity, who would probably not have hesitated to put him out of the way by foul means had the opportunity of safely doing so presented itself, but as a matter of fact, it is said, they have been relieved of his inconvenient presence by natural causes.

UNRULY JAPANESE COOLIES IN HONGKONG.

Some sixty Japanese coolies employed on board one of the Japanese transports now docking at Hungham, Hongkong, got quarrelling with some Chinese coolies the other day. In the course of the dispute the Japanese produced knives, sticks, and revolvers. Upon the police coming up to disperse the mob, one Japanese, named Tamaru, stabbed a Chinese constable and a Sikh policeman, one on the arm and the other in the back. The man was arrested along with five others. Fines of $10 were imposed on all, except Tamaru, who was sent to gaol for six months with hard labour.

DEATH OF MR. YOSHIKAWA.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that Mr. Yoshikawa Taijiro, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, who has been suffering from consumption for a long time, died on the night of the 12th inst. at Oiso, where he has been staying for the benefit of his health. Mr. Yoshikawa was yesterday decorated with the Medium Cordon of the Rising Sun in recognition of services rendered by him during the late war.

CLOSE OF THE KOBE CRICKET SEASON.

The cricket season was brought to a conclusion at Kobe on Friday with a match between Tea and The Rest. Tea won, hands down, with 188 for eight wickets against 27 for The Rest—the latter team's collapse being perfectly inexplicable. Football was started the following day.

THE NEW "MOYUNE."

The new *Moyune* is one of the largest cargo steamers that has ever entered these waters, her tonnage capacity being 9,039. She is 410 ft. long, with 47.10, ft. beam, and 29.2 ft. depth; with a single propeller she attains an average speed of 13 knots an hour.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE IN YOKOHAMA.

Shortly after 4 a.m. yesterday fire broke out in an unoccupied house at No. 87, Sumiyoshicho, Rokuchome, Yokohama. The flames soon spread to the adjacent buildings, although a considerable number of firemen promptly answered the call. Eleven houses were either destroyed or considerably damaged at Sumiyoshicho, Rokuchome, and at Aioicho Rokuchome. Among the houses completely burnt was the residence of Mr. Sakai, on the staff of the *Japan Mail*—that contained a valuable private collection of Japanese art objects—and the office of the Gaishinsha, the parcel delivery company. The office and residence were insured, but the fine art collection, valued at over *yen* 30,000 is completely lost. The fire is said to have been caused by an incendiary.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CURRENT TOPICS.

Rumours about probable changes in the Cabinet begin to assume a more definite shape. The latest story is that the new Ministry will contain, among others, Marquis Yamagata (Premier), Count Okuma (Foreign Affairs), Count Matsukata (Finance), and probably also Viscount Takashima (War). Among other statesmen supposed to be likely to enter the Cabinet are Count Inouye and Count Kuroda. The former is expected in Tokyo in about a fortnight. Viscount Enomoto, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, will, it is stated, be accredited to Russia as Baron Nishi's successor. Against this plan of a Coalition Cabinet, there is said to be powerful opposition among the younger officials of the Government, who favour the formation of a Ministry by men of their own generation. Baron Ito Miyoji is supposed to be one of the leading spirits of their party. These reports are circulated by the *Naigai Tsushinsha*, an agency that has earned notoriety for enterprise rather than honesty. Stories derived from such a source are, of course, reproduced here with all reserve. Whatever be the accurracy of the details, however, it now seems to be a fixed belief among a large section of the public that some changes in the Cabinet will occur at no distant date. Some journals venture even to predict that the time for the event will be before the 20th instant.

Besides the return of Count Matsukata to Tokyo, and constant meetings between the older statesmen of various parties, additional matter for speculation has been afforded by the recent visit of Marquis Tokudaiji, Lord Keeper of the Privy Seal, to Marquis Yamagata in Kyoto, and the expected return of the latter to the capital in a short time. It has been given out that the Lord Keeper did, indeed, see Marquis Yamagata in Kyoto, but that the visit had no political significance whatever, the object of the ex-Kuge's journey to his native city being to worship at the family mausoleum. As to Marquis Yamagata's return to Tokyo, it is stated to be connected with the marriage of his daugther to Mr. Funakoshi. But these explanations serve only to increase public belief in the political importance of the events.

With regard to Count Oki and Count Goto, who seem to be on very good terms, it may be noticed that their chances of getting into the Government seem rather slender. Some folks assign ministerial posts to them. Count Oki, indeed, is understood to be very intimate with Count Okuma, and in the event of the latter's joining the Cabinet, we should not be surprised to find the ex-Minister of Education in possession of a good office outside the Cabinet. But it appears beyond the limits of probability that a minister's portfolio should be offered to him.

The report that Baron Ito Miyoji has tendered his resignation is emphatically denied by the *Nichi Nichi*. Suffering from a chronic disease of the alimentary canal, the Secretary General of the Cabinet was advised by his physician to make a journey to a health resort, and having obtained the necessary permission, he was on the point of leaving Tokyo, when an attack of influenza not only obliged him to postpone his journey but also incapacitated him from attending his office. It was probably in these circumstances that the rumour of his resignation originated.

The delegates of the Opposition parties, Messrs. Ohigashi Gitetsu, Haseba Junko, Minoura Katsundo, and Taguchi Ukichi, obtained their long-sought interview with the Premier at his official residence on the morning of the 9th instant. Mr. Ohigashi, as spokesman of the party, explained the object of their visit, which was to recommend the joint resignation of the Cabinet in connection with the Korean question. Lest verbal representations should be imperfect and misleading, the spokesman presented to Marquis Ito a written memorial on the subject. The Premier, after a glance at the document, pointed out a gross misrepresentation of facts concerning the Korean *émeute* of 1884, and returned the paper, declaring it unfit to be received. His Excellency then told his visitors that the duties owed by the Ministers of the Crown to the Emperor and the State did not allow them to act in such a rash and irresponsible manner as that recommended by the delegates. The latter took leave after having talked with the Premier for about forty minutes.

The rumours now circulating in Tokyo are so contradictory, that the safest course would be to treat them with indifference, were there not a very general belief in well informed circles that Cabinet changes of some sort are sure to take place before long. For the sake, then, of indicating the trend of political opinion, we reproduce some of these rumours. It is stated that, in conversation with a certain visitor, Count Okuma declared it to be true that he was offered a Ministerial post, but said that whether he would enter the Cabinet was as yet uncertain, the Government's answer to conditions proposed by him being a necessary preliminary. This report is, however, pooh-poohed by the *Nichi Nichi*, which says that the ignorance of persons crediting such a story will cause Count Okuma himself to smile. Another rumour is that a section of the Cabinet is in favour of Marquis Yamagata's taking the place of Marquis Ito, the latter rendering assistance from "behind the curtain" to Count Mutsu and Marquis Saionji in the conduct of foreign affairs. According to this programme, the only other changes in the Cabinet would be the appointment of Viscount Tanaka, present Vice Minister of the Household, to the Ministry of Justice, and the transfer of the present Minister, Mr. Yoshikawa, to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, the chief of the latter, Viscount Enomoto, becoming a Privy Councillor. A third view is that Marquis Yamagata has declined the Premiership, and that the programme under contemplation is based upon the appointment of Count Matsukata to the post of Minister President and Count Okuma to that of Foreign Minister. This arrangement, it is said, has a fair chance of being successful, for the two Counts are on very good terms. It is even rumoured that Count Matsukata, while Minister of Finance, strongly urged upon the Premier the advisability of appointing the Progressionist leader to the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. Further, there are men very confident that, despite prevailing rumours to the contrary, the Cabinet is really in no danger of a crisis, but this assurance is received on all hands with doubt and misgiving.

What makes the situation still more confused is a report that the Radical Party is about to proclaim alliance with the statesmen in power. This rumour has been in circulation for the past few days, but we have forborne to notice it, as it seemed at least premature. Now, however, there appears to be some foundation for the theory. The facts are described by the *Nichi Nichi* in the following note:—"The Radicals, impressed with the increase of the nation's responsibility since the war, have recognized the paramount necessity of harmonious cöoperation between the Government and the people for the successful carrying out of the State policy. They consequently adopted a Party resolution that, under the circumstances, it was not advisable to demand the Cabinet's resignation on account of the Liaotung question. Shortly after proclaiming that resolution, they opened communications with those in power in a conciliatory spirit, and an exchange of views took place. It is said that the statesmen in power naturally welcomed the approaches made by the Radicals with the object of accomplishing the much desired cöoperation between the different sections of the nation, and consented, in so far as might be possible, to pursue the same line of policy as that Party. On the part of the Radicals, too, the question of alliance with the Cabinet is said to have been definitely settled at a meeting. The fact is expected to be proclaimed in a few days."

In connection with this important piece of news, the *Nichi Nichi* makes some interesting remarks at the end of an editorial article in which it strongly ridicules the idea of a coalition between either Marquis Ito, Marquis Yamagata, or Count Matsukata on one side, and Count Okuma on the other, saying that, however friendly these statesman may be personally their sense of dignity and of responsibility for their publicly expressed opinions would not allow them to occupy seats in the same Government. The *Nichi Nichi's* comments run in the following strain:—"After the above article was in print, we have come into possession of important news regarding the relationship between the Radical Party and the statesmen in power. According to what we learn, it seems that the Ministers are no longer disposed to hold strictly by the views expressed by them to Marquis Saigo and Viscount Shinagawa on the occasion of a farewell banquet to the two latter at Count Kuroda's residence, on the 12th of August, 1892. But it does not appear that connection with the Radical Party would involve any important change in the policy of the Cabinet. Indeed, the Government and the Radical Party began to approach each other from the moment the latter issued its manifesto on the question of the Liaotung Peninsula. It may also be noticed that the news under consideration does not affect in any way what we have said in the above article. We are convinced that the statesmen in power will not forget that they are Ministers of the Crown and not nominees of any particular political party. The Radicals, on the other hand, must bear in mind that, although they support the policy of the Government, they are not to look for direction to Marquis Ito, Marquis Saigo, and others."

How the announcement of a coalition between the Cabinet and the Radical Party with affect the situation, is the question asked everywhere. It is believed by some that the Radicals, acting in concert with a certain influential coterie in the Government, have decided to take an early opportunity of proclaiming the coalition, so that there may be no room left for any Ministers to attempt a reconciliation with the Progressionists and others. If the report of the coalition be true, as it now seems to be, then the obvious inference is that all the rumours about probable changes in the Cabinet are entirely fallacious. It may be taken for granted that the National Unionists will join the coalition, and it is presumable that, whatever changes may take place in the *personnel* of the Cabinet, the vacancies will be supplied by men connected with these parties. There will be a possibility of speaking more definitely in a week or thereabouts.

ANOTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF BRITISH INDUSTRY.

Another large English Company which aspires to a share of patronage from Japan is Palmer's Shipbuilding and Iron Co., Limited, of Jarrow. This firm, we understand, has sent, or is sending, a special envoy to push its interests in Tokyo, and if the satisfaction it has always given to its own Government and to others that have placed orders in its hands, is to carry any weight, as we should imagine it must do, the firm ought to stand well in the competition. Among the ships built at this Yard during the last five years may be cited the first class battle-ships *Resolution* and *Revenge* of 14,150 tons displacement, carrying 18 inches of armour; the cruisers *Pique*, *Rainbow*, and *Retribution*, of 3,600 tons; and the torpedo boat destroyers *Janus*, *Lightning*, and *Porcupine*. The Spanish ships of 7,000 tons *Infante Maria Teresa*, *Admiral Oquendo*, and *Vizcaya*, each carrying 12 inches of armour, may also be said to have been practically built by this Company, as the Dockyard at Bilbao were they were constructed was established and is worked by Sir Charles Palmer in partnership with the Spanish capitalist Señor Martinez de las Rivas.

FUNERAL OF H.I.H. PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA.

Under gloomy skies the funeral of H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa took place on Monday in Tokyo. The order of the funeral cortége, of the march, and of the last obsequies at the temple, was carried out in rigid adherence to the plan already published in the *Official Gazette*. From first to last there was neither jar nor misstep: everything being done with the most punctual precision, and in an impressive silence singularly characteristic. It was like the pageant of a dream. The crowd, reverently mute as the sad though brilliant train passed; the absence of all music, except within the temple-grounds; the deserted streets everywhere except in the immediate vicinity of the route chosen—all combined to give a most pathetically sad impression. There was evidently a decided sense of national bereavement. The onlooking crowd exhibited a most reverential mood, and hardly a whisper could be heard as the long cortége wound from the Marine buildings to the six miles distant temple at Toyoshimaoka.

Starting punctually at nine o'clock—the ceremonies having begun at the residence two hours previously—the train, headed by portions of the First and Third Regiments of the Imperial Guard, with arms reversed, and two companies of Lancers, on foot, wound through Uchi-Saiwai-cho, passing in front of the official residence of the Home Minister; then through the Hibiya Gate, turning to the left, following the direction of the moat. On passing Tatsu-no-Kuchi, a turn to the left again brought the procession past the Treasury Department. Thence on across the Kanda Bridge, to the left by the moat as far as Nishiki-cho. Turning to the right, Nishiki-cho was followed up to Ogawa-machi, which, opening into Sarugaku-cho at the corner where the Toyo-Kwan Bazaar stands, led across the Suido Bridge. Turning here to the left, and passing the Koishikawa Arsenal, the route went on to the Yedo River, whose left bank was followed up to Ishikiri Bridge. Thence left through Kobinata Suido-cho, and with another turn to the right into Otowa-machi. The next turning brought the train into the broad street debouching into the temple itself.

The crowd was enormous all along the route, the vicinity of the princely residence, Hibiya Gate, Nishiki-cho, Ogawa-cho, the Suido Bridge and both banks of the little Yedo-gawa being impassable from early morning. All Government schools, as well as nearly every private educational establishment, had closed for the day, and their pupils lined the route in various places, drawn up in military order. Hundreds of special constables succeeded in keeping perfect order, though with no little difficulty in Kanda District, where a number of minor casualties occurred. The upper storeys of buildings along the line of march were deserted, it being, of course, an act of sacrilege in Japan to look down upon a procession in which were so many persons of exalted rank. In several places, especially on the banks of the Yedo-gawa, private citizens had set out *sakaki* (*Cleyera Japonica*) and other evergreen trees. Trade was everywhere at a standstill. All national and private banks were closed. The whole city was in mourning.

The procession was of great length, taking nearly one hour and a half to pass a given point. It was essentially simple, and not nearly so ornate as had been popularly expected. Of stands of *sakaki* trees and flowers there were but sixty all told, though of huge dimensions. It had, of course, been requested that such tributes should not be sent in; only the privileged few were allowed to do so. On the other hand, the number of those taking either direct or indirect part in the obsequies, was enormous. Within the temple grounds there were fully ten thousand people. The two wooden sheds erected for those in attendance on the services at the temple, gave shelter to more than six thousand persons. Including soldiers and others, the train was supposed to be composed of not less than twelve thousand, while fully one-seventh of the total population in Tokyo—say 200,000 people—lined the route of march. Yet despite this enormous concourse, there was everywhere apparent the greatest decorum. Truly, a Japanese crowd has not its counterpart anywhere.

The order of the funeral cortége was as follows:—

HERALD.

Mounted Police. Mounted Police.
Inspector. Inspector.
Chief Inspector of Police (on horseback).
Mounted Police. Mounted Police.
Military Band.
Detachments of the First and Third Regiments of the Imperial Guards.
Four *Sakaki*-bearers. Four *Sakaki*-bearers.
do. do.
White Banner. Red Banner.
(Ten banners in all, carried by white-robed bearers.)
A Shinto Priest.
Box containing Offerings, borne by four bearers clad in white.
Shinto Priests, clothed in ceremonial *Shitatare*.
Wooden bench. Wooden bench.
Uhi (rain coat). *Uhi* (rain-coat).
Wooden bench. Wooden bench.
(The above borne by *hakucho*, or bearers clad in white.)
Shinto priest, mounted. Shinto priest, mounted.
Assistant Head Priest, in carriage, attended by *hakucho* on foot.
Chief Priest, in carriage. Mounted Shinto Priests.
Brocade Banner
(Borne by six *hakucho*).
Priestly Musicians, in Ceremonial Garb.
Musicians. Musicians.
do. do.
do. do.
Growing *Sakaki*-tree, borne by four *hakucho*.
Sakaki-trees presented by members of the Imperia Family.
Forty stands of flowers, borne by three bearers each. Some of these were of exceptional size and beauty, surmounted by tufts of many-coloured maples or the bright red berries of the *Nandina*.
Decorations and Medals of the deceased Prince, borne on cushions by officers of the Prince's Household.
Armed officers walked on each side of those carrying the decorations.
Various Military Officers.
THE SARCOPHAGUS,
of snow-white pine, borne by 16 wrestlers who had followed the forces to Formosa.
Seventy *hakucho* in attendance.
Wounded Military Officers who had come back from Formosa with the deceased Prince.
The Princely Body-guard, of 10 soldiers, in the frayed and travel-stained garments worn during the campaign in Formosa.
Imperial Body Guards.
Retainers of the late Prince's household, carrying rain coat and leading the late Prince's three favourite horses.
The late Prince's foreign and Japanese Swords borne by retainers.
The late Prince's Shoes, borne by retainers.
Chief Mourners, H.I.H. Prince NARIHISA, in coarse mourning garb, straw-sandaled, on foot, followed by his two younger brothers,
H.I.H. Prince TSUNEHISA
and
H.I.H. Prince TERUHISA.
These little mourners were escorted on each side by attendant priests.
The Chief Steward of the late late Prince, on foot.
The Retainer of highest rank of the late Prince, on foot.
The late Prince's family, in carriages.
The late Prince's relatives, in carriages.
Officers connected with the obsequies, in carriages.
Retainers, on horseback.
Ministers of State.
Officers of *Shinnin* rank, Dukes and Marquises.
Officials of the Second Grade.
Holders of the Highest Order of Decorations (*hun itto*).
Nobles by creation.
Holders of decorations higher than the third class.
Peers.
Members of the Upper and Lower Houses, mounted or in carriages.
Armed Guard.
Rear Guard.
Chief Inspector, mounted.
Mounted Police. Mounted Police.
do. do.

The temple grounds were reached at about 11.40 a.m. To the left of the main entrance places or rooms were apportioned to the students of the Nobles' School, the Foreign Consular Body, and other foreign participants, while the Corps Diplomatique (which was fully represented) had rooms apart to the right of the grand flight of stairs. After a brief pause for refreshments, a movement was made towards the two great sheds on both sides of the sarcophagus. The arrangement here was as follows:—

SARCOPHAGUS.

Representatives of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress.	Officiating Priests.
	Priest Musicians.
	Ministers of State.
The late Prince's family and relatives.	Priest of highest rank.
	Corps Diplomatique.
Members of the Upper and Lower House.	Consular body and foreigners.
Priests of high rank (Shinto and Buddhist).	Military Officers.
	Naval Officers.

The services were in accordance with the ceremonial of the Shingon sect: simple, yet highly impressive. The wail of the *sho* reed-organs and funereal flutes seemed to accentuate the profound stillness. When a short eulogy had been made on the deceased Prince by a priest, who offered prayers, and after various offerings of rice, water, *saké*, and fruits had been made before the sarcophagus, the family and relatives of the departed—preceded of course by the representatives of their Imperial Majesties—made obeisance before the coffin. They were followed by the members of the Imperial family, the Ministers of State, and a few officers of the highest rank. A triple salvo of guns announced that all was over. The ceremonies at the temple lasted nearly two hours. By half-past two the crowd were wending their way homewards.

THE PRISONERS IN THE KOREAN CASE.

Two additions were made to the prisoners in the Korean case on the 7th instant. They are Oura Shigehiko and Hashimoto Yasumaro, interpreters in the employ of the Korean Government. The Preliminary examinations are said to be making rapid progress, so that, in spite of the great number of the accused, the task is expected to be finished before the end of the present month. The prisoners are stated to be all in good health. Viscount Miura spends the time reading novels and religions meditation. He refuses to touch the food supplied him by his relations, saying that the prison rations are good enough. Messrs. Okamoto, Shiba, and Kunitomo spend their time studying the Chinese classics.

As to the military prisoners, they are daily undergoing examination at the head-quarters of the gendarmes. It is believed that they will be acquitted of the charge on which they arrested.

THE PACIFICATION OF FORMOSA.

His Majesty the Emperor has addressed an Imperial Message to the Governor-General of Formosa, in connection with the complete suppression of the insurrection. The Message runs thus:—

We express approval of the manner in which the troops under your control advanced southward, and overcoming many difficulties, swept away the insurgents from Tainan and acquired speedy possession of that place. It is Our desire that you now put the affairs of the island in order, so as to establish peace and good order everywhere.

The Empress also caused her Master of Services to convey the following intimation:—

It having been reported to Her Imperial Majesty the Empress that the troops under the command of the Vice-Governor-General of Formosa have advanced southward and driven the insurgents from Tainan, Her Majesty desires that the expression of her satisfaction be conveyed.

To these Messages H.E. Count Kabayama made the usual formal and brief replies, through H.I.H. Prince Konatsu, Chief of the Staff.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

KOREAN NEWS.

Count Inouye arrived at Ninsen on the 20th ultimo, and was received by Mr. Hiki, Secretary of Legation, Consul Hashiguchi, Consular Attaché Iijima, and a large number of other Japanese officials and residents. Stopping that night at Ninsen, the Japanese Ambassador and suite went up the Han river by the steam launch *Dai-ichi Aurai* on the 31st, reaching Yong-san at seven in the evening. At Yong-san the Count was met by several hundreds of Japanese and Koreans, including the Korean King's representative, Yu Kitsu-ei, and several other distinguished courtiers. From thence the party proceeded to Sōul in palanquins, escorted by a body of Korean constables. The Ambassador is staying at the Japanese Legation, and his suite are lodged in a hotel in the settlement. The Korean Government had proposed to prepare suitable quarters, but the offer was declined by the Japanese Minister.

The news that Count Inouye had been ordered to proceed to Sōul is said to have produced a strong impression in the Korean capital. The man most keenly affected was the Tai Wōn-kun, who at once began to show great uneasiness, knowing well with what sort of person he would now have to deal. As to the Cabinet Ministers, they, too, appear to have awaited the arrival of the Ambassador with considerable anxiety. On the other hand, the Count's mission produced a universal feeling of security among the Japanese residents.

Concerning the present condition of the Min faction, the *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent states that they are believed by well informed persons to be considering ways and means of taking vengeance on their enemies. They have all left the capital and are in hiding at various places not very far away, so as to be ready to take advantage of every turn of events. Their leader, Min Yong-chun, at one time supposed to have escaped to Wōn-san and from thence to Vladivostock, is said to be staying in the neighbourhood of Sōul. Recently two suspicious looking persons were arrested in the act of attempting to remove part of the late Queen's private property from one of the palaces. Admissions made by them under examination suggested a strong probability that they had been acting under the direction of Min politicians. They stoutly refused, however, to reveal the names of their employers. One of them was then released, and his movements being watched by the police, it was discovered that he held communication with several of the Mins. Though direct evidence is not yet forthcoming, it is believed to be almost certain that Min Yong-chun was the principal instigator. The conjecture is that the Mins are secretly collecting a fund with the object of a counter revolution.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent tells a curious story about Hong Jong-u, Kim Okkyun's murderer, and his confederate Ken Toju. That these men had fled across the frontier into Russian territory has been stated in these columns more than once. It is now mentioned that as soon as they entered Russian territory, they assumed the character of Special Ambassadors to St. Petersburg to ask for Russia's protection. It seem likely that they had with them some documentary evidence to establish their assumed status. They were received with due honour by the Governor of Usuri, stopping at his official residence as his guests. The facts became known in Sōul some time in the summer of the present year, where the news created considerable surprise among politicians. Some accused the Queen of being the sender of the mission, while Her Majesty is said to have tried to lay the blame on Pak Yong-ho. It is very singular that no body seem to have doubted that the so-called Ambassadors were not acting on their own account. They appear to have had in their possession some incontestable instrument establishing their official capacity. It must have been obtained through some irregular channel. The upshot of the mutual recrimination between the Court and the Cabinet, was that two officials were sent to Usuri to inform the Russian Governor of the illegality of the powers carried by the so-called Ambassadors. Telegraphic communications that then took place between the Russian Governor and the Russian Legation in Sōul, elicited the reply that the "Ambassadors" were not properly appointed officials. But, in spite of this reply, the Russian Governor refused to believe that he had been entertaining impostors, and was in great wrath with the Korean officials that first brought the unwelcome news, even threatening to detain them prisoners. Escaping at midnight, they reached Vladivostock, and, through the assistance of the Japanese Consul there, made their way to Wōn-san, and thence to Sōul. Such is the story which they have told on their return. The so-called Ambassadors are still stopping at Usuri.

FORMOSA NEWS.

According to the *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent, writing under date of the 26th ultimo, the inhabitants of Tainan-fu, taught by their experience with the Black Flags, were apprehensive that their property would suffer at the hands of the Imperial troops, and consequently, most of them shut themselves up in their houses, refusing to supply merchandise to the Japanese even when assured of liberal pay. Some of the military coolies are stated to have behaved in a disorderly manner, but the prompt and impartial restraint to which they were subjected by the gendarmes produced an excellent impression upon the citizens. In reply to the question why they did not open their shops, the merchants are said to have invariably stated that they were awaiting the arrival of the Governor-General, when, they conceived, there would be no fear of violence on the part of the soldiers and coolies. It is also mentioned that many disguised Chinese soldiers are in hiding in the city. They are believed to be assiduously engaged in disseminating disquieting rumours, which in part accounts for the suspicious attitude of the people.

The same correspondent recounts an adventure that he had on the night of the 21st ultimo. The city of Tainan was then occupied by a part of the 16th Regiment. After a fruitless search for the head-quarters of the detachment, he was walking through a quiet and abandoned part of the city, when, through an opening in a bamboo grove, he observed a light issuing from a window. Being hungry and tired of walking, he approached the house and knocked, whereupon the door was instantly opened and two or three big fellows appeared. They good naturedly invited him to enter and sit at a table on which were confusedly placed several bowls and cups, The party had just finished their evening meal. A bowl and a small quantity of liquor still remained, and these were placed before him. Having satisfied his hunger, he had leisure to took around him more minutely. His entertainers were all stout-looking, soldierly men, and the furniture in the house was so ill assorted, and things in general were in such a condition, that it looked more like a place taken possession of by soldiers or robbers than a peaceful habitation. His apprehension was confirmed when he began to conduct a written conversation with his hosts. They showed a particular desire to gather information about the movements of the Japanese troops and the strength of the Army that was about to enter the city. The Japanese correspondent, wishing to produce an impression, wrote that 80,000 troops were to come the following morning. This news visibly disconcerted the Chinese. He was earnestly invited to pass the night at the house, but being in no easy frame of mind, he hastily beat a retreat, without meeting with any accident. He has no doubt that these were followers of Liu, and that a large number of men of the same description are in hiding in the city.

Concerning the prevalence of sickness among the Imperial Guards, the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent states that, during the march from Chia-i to Tainan, few of the officers were in ordinary health. Major-Generals Kawamura and Sakai were suffering from malarial fever; Colonel Isaki was attacked by dysentery; and another Colonel was sick with fever. In a certain Company, there were only fourteen healthy soldiers. But most of the sick officers proceeded in palanquins by the side of their troops. The only perfectly healthy officer was Colonel Sameshima, Chief of the Staff.

THE LATE PRINCE KITASHIRAKAWA.

It is amusing to read the excited criticism penned by a foreign journal in Kobe with reference to the actual date of the late Prince Kitashirakawa's death and the date as officially announced. The *Kobe Herald* charges the Japanese Authorities with "stooping to an act of wilful and deliberate deceit," and declares that "the etiquette of the Japanese Court compels the Imperial Family to concoct and father an unblushing misstatement." Truly it is difficult to sympathise with such language when there is question simply of a point of etiquette. It has been the custom in Japan from time immemorial not to make any official announcement of the death of an Imperial Prince until the body has been carried to the palace of the deceased. We do not fully understand the reason of the habit, neither can we profess to feel any respect for it. It is merely a traditional usage, and of course if its observance signifies a tribute to the dead, we can easily conceive the Court's unwillingness to depart from it. But can it properly be called an act of "wilful and deliberate deceit?" No one is deceived, nor is there, so far as we know, any desire to deceive anyone. Nothing is involved beyond due observance of the ceremonial procedure laid down in such cases. The code of Court etiquette requires that certain things shall be done at certain periods, and to comply strictly with these rules, the death cannot be officially announced until the corpse is within immediate reach. That, we believe, is the whole explanation. It is quite insufficient, from a Western point of view, and we think that the custom might be changed with advantage. But to denounce it as "an act of wilful and deliberate deceit" is extravagant.

THE RUSSO-CHINESE SECRET TREATY.

It appears that an anonymous correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph*, writing from Nagasaki, is the originator of the story that a secret treaty has been concluded between Russia and China by which the former secures the privileges, first, of running the Siberian railway across a part of Manchuria; secondly, of constructing a railway from Tsitsikar *vid* Moukden to Port Arthur, these railways to remain under Russian management and administration for 20 years; and thirdly, of anchoring a fleet in Port Arthur at all times. This treaty is said to have been concluded in the autumn of 1894, and to have been carried to St. Petersburg by Wong Chi-chuan, who went to Russia ostensibly to offer China's congratulations to the new Czar. Despite the inherent improbability of this story; despite its explicit denial by the Russian Embassy in London, and despite the British Government's avowed conviction of its untruth, the sensational journals of the East still insist upon crediting it. They are able, apparently, to persuade themselves that six months before Germany, France, and Russia combined to prevent the occupation of the Liaotung Peninsula by Japan, on the ground that if she held that part of Manchuria as well as the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea, the independence of Korea would be illusory—six months before the three Powers took that step, Russia had virtually secured the Peninsula for herself. The faith of these sensational editors is magnificent. It finds a parallel only in the audacity of the anonymous Nagasaki correspondent.

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THE RAILWAY REUNION.

The fifth Railway Reunion was held at the Maple Club, Shiba, Tokyo, on the 8th instant. There were present over a hundred persons, representing the different railway companies throughout the country. Among them, we may mention Messrs. Ono Gishin, Watanabe Hiromoto, Shoda Heigoro, Nakamigawa Hikojiro, Takahashi Shinkichi, Nishimura Sutezo, Hara Rokuro, Yonekura Ippei, Matsumoto Jotaro, Kato Tokuzo, and so forth. Proceedings commenced at 10 a.m., with Mr. Ono in the Chair. The first topic brought forward for discussion related to the regulations of the Reunion, and some proposed changes were unanimously approved. Then followed a measure of importance. It was introduced by Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, President of the Ryomo Tetsudo Kaisha, and related to the establishment of a Railway Association for the purpose of conducting researches in subjects connected with railways. The scope of the Association was further to include the maintenance of a school of railway management, and the publication of a railway magazine. Considerable funds are necessary for the prosecution of such extensive tasks, but a sufficient sum of money will be forthcoming if the Association be joined by a majority of the companies. The proposition was entrusted to a Committee. This completed the proceedings in the forenoon. After luncheon, the session was resumed at half-past one. The first measure debated related to the presentation of a memorial to the Government for the insertion of a new article into the Private Railway Regulations, in the sense that railway companies may combine the business of working copper, iron, coal, or sulphur mines, and may also run steamship lines connecting with their railways. It was decided to entrust to the Sanyo and Nippon companies the drawing up of the memorial and its presentation. Lastly, those present were invited to propound and debate any questions suggesting themselves. At six o'clock the evening, they sat down to dinner.

A STORY FROM CHINA.

Changwha is the capital city of Hunan, the great province that represents one-fifteenth of the area of China proper. Last May, a famous idol, called Wangyeh, was attacked one night in his temple in Changwha, was thrown from his pedestal, and had his eyes abstracted. People desired to charge the Christians with the crime, but there happened to be no Christians in Changhwa. *Faute de mieux*, a number of Hupeh men, supposed to be favourable to Christianity, were seized. Wu Ta-chéng was then Governor of Changhwa. He has long enjoyed the reputation of being one of the most enlightened and progressive among Chinese high officials. But it is hard to be enlightened or progressive in the capital of Hunan. Besides, Wu having failed as a General in the Manchurian campaign, had decided to throw in his lot with the Hunan faction. He dressed in a cotton robe and straw sandals, the mourning garb of China, proceeded to Wangyeh's temple and prostrated himself before the remains of the fallen idol. Then, there being no evidence against the Hupeh men, he had them brought before the idol and subjected to the ordeal of lot, when, as a matter of course, they twice drew a tally indicating their guilt. Condemnation would have followed, but the Provincial Judge interfered on the grounds that China had no law authorizing such evidence, and that the god having lost his eyes, could not be expected to clearly distinguish the innocent from the guilty. The Hupeh men were finally liberated, but not before they had been stripped of all their worldly possessions. As for the real culprit, one of the notorious Chou Han's men came forward and confessed that he was the eye-stealer, having been bribed thereto by foreigners. So the all-responsible Occidental was dragged into the trouble after all.

BISHOP CORFE.

Bishop Corfe continues to publish most pessimistic views about Japan's influence in Korea. He talks of the independence of the Kingdom as being a mere myth because Japanese soldiers are to be found not in Sōul alone but also in Ping-yang, and in other parts of the provinces. The Bishop evidently forgets—indeed we can scarcely expect one of his cloth to remember—that the main road from Sōul to Wiju *via* Ping-yang is now, and has been for 16 months, the only over-land line of communications with the Japanese forces in Manchuria. He also seems to forget that an offensive and defensive alliance exists between Japan and Korea, and that, under these circumstances, the presence of either Power's troops in the territory of the other, does not at all affect the latter's national independence.

The Bishop further accepts, without question, the most anti-Japanese view of Pak Yong-ho's conduct. "This month has seen," he writes, "another shameful piece of work in Sōul. The assassin Pak, who was brought back to Korea by the Japanese last year, and then forced by them upon the King as an enlightened reformer, had become Prime Minister. He was discovered in a plot against the King, who, acting for once on his own responsibility as an independent sovereign, issued a proclamation to arrest him. But the Japanese protected him, and, disguised as a Japanese soldier, this man actually marched down with an escort of Japanese soldiers to the river, where a Japanese launch was ready to take him to Chemulpo, where a steamer had just looked in to take him to Japan, where he now is, and where, I suppose, he will remain until the Japanese want to conjure with him again."

We must confess that such obvious bias as the good Bishop's writings display is unusual in the case of a church dignitary discussing lay matters. In the first place, it has never been proved that Pak conspired against the King: the best established theory is that he became entangled in the meshes of Min intriguers. Besides, the Bishop forgets that information of Pak's so-called plot was given by a Japanese. He also forgets, or perhaps has not heard, that the informer is totally discredited among his own countrymen. Finally, Bishop Corfe is wrong when he alleges that Pak is in Japan. The fugitive found no refuge here, but passed over at once to the United States.

By way of general conclusion, Bishop Corfe writes:—"We have now finished just one year of Japanese occupation, and there is no European who has resided here all this time but will tell you that if there was hope of lifting Koreans a year ago there is much less hope now. The stone which Japan has bound to Korea is steadily sinking her. The latest (and he ought to be the best) witness of this is Count Inouye, the Japanese Minister in Korea, himself, who has stated publicly in Japan that there will be no reformation for Korea until the Japanese in Korea have themselves been reformed." What is "the stone which Japan has bound to Korea?" The phase is effective, but if Bishop Corfe were asked to explain it, he would be considerably perplexed we imagine. So far as we can make out, he refers to "the cruelty, the greed, the deception, and the selfishness of the Japanese now in Korea." Count Inouye denounced these failings, but was never so silly as to draw the deduction imputed to him by Bishop Corfe, namely, that "there will be no reformation for Korea until the Japanese in Korea have themselves been reformed." If Bishop Corfe holds such singular views, he ought to advocate the withdrawal of all Christian propagandists from the East, on the ground that there can be no Christianization for the Orient until Occidental residence in the East has ceased to be disfigured by eminently un-christian features. But Bishop Corpe is not practical or logical. He is essentially a pulpit politician. "I must be permitted to doubt," he writes by way of conclusion, "whether the Executive of a country which has so little power over its nationals is fit to undertake the far greater task of reforming a whole nation. It is a curious and sad confession of an incapacity which everyone, save the Japanese themselves, has foreseen from the first." Does the worthy Bishop imagine that it falls within the capacity of any Executive to correct such failings as "cruelty, greed, deception, and selfishness" on the part of its nationals? And does he not perceive that, if Japanese statesmen are incapable of introducing reforms in Korea, because of their incapacity to reform their own nationals, then the much talked of reforms successfully inaugurated in Japan itself within the past thirty years must be all mythical? We strongly advise the Bishop to restrain his pen and exercise his faculty of reflection a little more vigorously. His present displays of intemperance and prejudice will only bring contempt and dislike on the cause for which he came to the East. We might reasonably adopt his own phraseology and ask, "how can the Christian doctrines of justice, charity, and generosity be propagated in Korea so long as their chief propagandist makes such exhibitions of injustice, uncharitableness, and illiberality?"

THE CANTON AFFAIR.

If the accounts thus far published be correct, the plot recently formed to seize Canton partook of the character of a genuine reform movement. The ringleader, Huang, had been for many years abroad, spending his time in the United States, in England, and in Germany. Possessed of wealth, social status, and a wide circle of friends in his native province of Kuangtung, he was easily able to foment discontent against the corrupt, unprogressive, and incapable Government of his country, and his propaganda found favour with emigrants returning from abroad, so that soon a very large number—thirty thousand men, it is said—were pledged to support his scheme of overthrowing the dynasty. The capture of Canton would have placed the insurgents in an excellent position to procure arms and ammunition as well as supplies of money, and moreover numerous accessions to the ranks of the rebels were expected from among the literati of the city. The programme was to start the insurrection at three points simultaneously in the north of the province, and when the troops had thus been drawn off from Canton, to seize the city. As usual the certainty of reward as an informer compared with the chance of it as a successful rebel, induced one of the associates to betray the plot. But it is alleged that only a very small fraction of the rebels have been arrested, and at any rate the affair indicates that possibly there may arise from among the Chinese themselves a leader who, in his position as a usurping Sovereign, would be compelled to centralize the administration, and thus eliminate the provincial interests at present fatal to progress.

TRADAL MISSIONS TO THE EAST.

The Blackburn Chamber of Commerce is about to despatch a commercial mission to China for the purpose of opening up new markets and developing the present trade in English-made goods. As a general rule it is difficult to perceive what practical results such missions can hope to accomplish. In special cases, where it is known that orders of exceptional magnitude for a particular class of goods are about to be given by a country, it is obviously useful that experts in that class of commodities should proceed to the country, furnished with drawings and specifications of a more explicit character than the merchants on the spot can be expected to possess. But for the rest, the resident British merchants are thoroughly competent to develop new markets, if that be possible, or to exploit those already opened. In point of enterprise, shrewdness, and familiarity with existing conditions, the resident merchant has nothing to learn from, though he may have a great deal to teach to, gentlemen sent out fresh from Europe with vague ideas, large expectations, and indefinite conceptions.

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THE STATE OF THE EAST.

If it were possible to plunge the East and West into war by sensational writing, the feat would have been accomplished long before this by the local English Journals of Yokohama. As a soothsayer, the courage of one of these journals is simply astounding. It keeps on predicting and predicting and predicting, with just as much solemnity and assurance as though its prophecies had not invariably been falsified by events. It reminds us vividly of that splendid American eagle that soared and soared and soared until it soared its sanguinary tail off. Youth, they say, is the only fault that time can be implicitly trusted to correct, but time does not seem to be conferring even that boon on our verdant contemporary.

THE LIAOTUNG QUESTION AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

The news of the settlement of the Liaotung question has thus far received a rather scanty measure of journalistic attention in Tokyo. In truth, the question having been discussed for the past five or six months, little remains to be said about it. We may, however, refer to the few comments made by the vernacular press. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is glad to learn that the problem has at last been disposed of, and appreciates the labours of the Plenipotentiaries of Japan and China. The question, however, had been previously arranged between Japan and the three European Powers concerned, so that the so-called negotiations between Baron Hayashi and Earl Li were merely a matter of form; and although the treaty has still to be ratified by the Sovereigns of the two countries, it may be regarded as already final. The *Nichi Nichi* observes that, in this matter, the policy of the Japanese Government has undergone a change. Originally it was the aim of the Tokyo Cabinet to admit no interference by the allied Powers in the settlement of matters relating to the return of Liaotung, but in practice these Powers have been suffered once more to come between the parties directly concerned. Probably such a change of policy was necessitated by good reasons. But our contemporary thinks it proper to defer the discussion of this topic, as well as of other subjects connected with the transaction, until the treaty shall have been promulgated.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, although not professing to possess any special knowledge, is disposed to conclude that, in handing over the Liaotung peninsula to China, Japan has exacted from the latter a solemn promise never to cede the territory to any foreign Power. In demanding its cession, Japan's idea was to claim it not merely as a fair prize of her victories, but also as a security for the independence of Korea. Rightly or wrongly, however, the Powers judged its permanent occupation by Japan to be dangerous to the peace of the East, and this empire having deferred to their wishes so far as to give up her legitimate conquest, is entitled to insist that the rendited territory shall not fall into the hands of any other Power. The report lately circulated about a secret treaty between Russia and China has turned out to be untrue, but the *Jiji* fears that some such surprise may at any moment be sprung upon Japan. Supposing that a promise has been exacted by Japan that China will never cede the peninsula to any Power, the task of making good this pledge will eventually fall upon Japan, for the Middle Kingdom is scarcely capable of implementing such an engagement. Consequently matters stand pretty much in the same position as though no such promise has been obtained, for in either case it will be upon her own will and power, and not upon any paper arrangement, that Japan will have to rely for keeping the Manchurian coasts free from foreign encroachment. The *Jiji* earnestly hopes that this fact will be always kept in mind by its countrymen.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* does not think it necessary to offer any comment on the manner in which the Liaotung question has been settled: nothing befits the occasion but a sigh. But however regrettable the termination of the affair may be, evacuation of the peninsula having now been finally decided, our contemporary urges the Government to withdraw the troops with the utmost celerity, partly because delay would cause considerably trouble and expense on account of the approach of winter, and partly because it is desirable to let the world know that, when the Japanese once resolve to forego any advantage or right, they can do so graciously and promptly.

LAWN TENNIS HANDICAP IN TOKYO.

A lawn tennis handicap (doubles) was played at the British Legation in Tokyo on the 8th and 9th instant, for prizes given by Mr. and Miss Lowther. The play was on the American system, each couple playing all the others, the games were 25 up, and the handicap points were as follow:—

CLASS I.
Miss F. V. Dening, Mr. F. H. Trevithick, Miss Divers, Mr. M. Kirkwood ..... Scratch.

CLASS II.
Mr. Pownall, Mr. Wileman, Miss Lowther, Captain Brinkley, Mrs. MacMillan, Mr. Paget, Mrs. Kirkwood, Mr. T. H. James ..... Receive 5

CLASS III.
Miss Munter, Mr. Lowther ..... Receive 7

CLASS IV.
Miss Palmer, Mr. Tuke ..... Receive 10

CLASS V.
Miss Tuck, Mr. Parlett, Madame La Baronne d'Anethan, Mr. Vieuguê ..... Receive 17

The playing commenced at 10 a.m. on Friday, and at 11.30 on Saturday, and the players were entertained at luncheon in two parties, by H.E. Sir Ernest Satow and Mr. and Miss Lowther. The weather was perfect, bright and still, and both of the courts being in excellent order, the affair proved most enjoyable. Unfortunately Mr. Kirkwood fell and injured his knee so severely that he was obliged to give up playing after having competed in five setts only. The following are the final scores and places, the points received by the players being, of course, included in their totals:—

	Points obtained.	Games Won.	Place.
Miss Palmer, Mr. Tuke	214	5	1
Miss Munter, Mr. Lowther	211	7	2
Miss Tuck, Mr. Parlett	211	5	2
Madame La Baronne d'Anethan, Mr. Parlett	208	6	3
Miss Lowther, Captain Brinkley	204	5	4
Mrs. Pownall, Mr. Wileman	203	6	5
Miss Dening, Mr. Trevithick	185	3	6
Mrs. Kirkwood, Mr. T. H. James	177	3	7
Mrs. MacMillan, Mr. Paget	176	3	8
Miss Divers, Mr. Kirkwood	103	2	Played only 5 games.

The tie for second place having been played off, resulted in a victory for Miss Munter and Mr. Lowther, who thus won 8 setts out of a total of 10. Mr. Lowther presented the first prize for the ladies to Miss Palmer—a silver box, richly inlaid with gold and having on the lid a finely chiselled design of swallows and willow sprays in high relief—and the second prize to Miss Munter—a pretty little *bonbonnière* of cloisonné enamel. The first prize for the gentlemen—a gold scarf pin in the form of a tennis racket and ball, the latter a handsome pearl—was presented by Miss Lowther to Mr. Tuke.

THE IRON FOUNDRY CASE.

As had been apprehended, Mr. Amenomiya Keijiro, former President of the Tokyo Iron Foundry Company, was arrested on the 8th instant at the Maple Club, Shiba, where he was attending a conference of the delegates of the Railway Companies. Simultaneously with his apprehension, his city residence and suburban villa were subjected to a search, and many valuable documents were seized. It is stated that the confession made by Hamano led to the arrest of his predecessor. As the case progresses, the fraudulent practices resorted to by the prisoners appear in an even worse light. Besides substituting bad pipes for good, the company, according to the latest discovery, tampered with the gauge used in testing the hydraulic pressure that the pipes were capable of resisting. The official examination of the gauge conducted at the Local Court on the 6th instant revealed the astounding fact that the machine indicated 160 pounds of pressure whereas the real force measured was only 100 lbs. This discovery makes it necessary to dig up all the pipes supplied by the Company, the great majority of them being believed to be unfit for use. Thus the loss caused to the city is now estimated at about 200,000 *yen*.

The arrest of Mr. Amenomiya has created a stir on the Stock Exchange. His speculative operations are well-known to have been the principal cause of the extraordinary high price attained by the Tanko Tetsudo shares. These shares have already commenced to fall, the depreciation being as much as two *yen* per share on the morning of last Saturday.

The amount of loss inflicted on the City of Tokyo by the fraud of the Iron Foundry Company is now believed to be far greater than was supposed. Estimates naturally differ. Some put the amount at about 200,000 *yen*, while many calculate that it will exceed 900,000 *yen*. The latter estimate may be a little exaggerated, but it is now taken for granted that the City has been cheated out of a considerable sum of money. The number of arrests made has reached twenty. Of the officials of the company, only two remain at large, but they, too, it is believed, are under police surveillance, and may be apprehended at any moment. Mr. Amenomiya's property has been attached. Its value falls far short of the popular estimate, and it is believed that a considerable portion of it must have been previously transferred to the names of other persons. Mr. Yamagata Isaburo, Secretary of the Tokyo City Government and *ex officio* an Alderman of the City, has tendered his resignation in connection with the case. The other Aldermen have also resigned.

The excitement among the citizens of Tokyo is increasing. Indignation meetings are held by the better sort of people, strongly censuring the negligence of the Aldermen and the members of the Municipal Council. The inhabitants of Nihon-bashi and Kanda Wards have decided to present a memorial to their municipal representatives calling upon them to resign—should the latter hesitate, the citizens threaten to resort to a more decisive method of compulsion.

BARON ITO.

Baron Ito Miyoji is just now the subject of malicious slanders by some papers in the capital. It is pretended that he has tendered his resignation in consequence of the discovery of some letters of his at the house of Hamano Shigeru, the principal prisoner in the Iron Foundry case—letters which, though not implicating the writer, yet lay him open to a charge of serious breach of official discipline, since they contain allusions to various important State secrets. Such is the story published by the *Nippon* and other journals. The whole tale is a falsehood invented by some enemies of the Baron, whose exceptionally brilliant official career has created numerous enemies in and out of the Government. As already stated in these columns, Baron Ito has not tendered his resignation, there being no cause for such a step.

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AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

If there be any possibility of opening a trade with Japan the Australians certainly deserve to succeed, considering the enterprise they have displayed. We do not think, however, that the prospects are very bright at present. Not the slightest doubt can be entertained that the Japanese will by and by manufacture their own woollen and cotton-and-woollen fabrics, just as they are now manufacturing their cotton. How long the time is distant, we have no means of judging, but when it comes there will unquestionably be a large demand for Australian wool in this country. A trade in leather also may be developed, but we do not see much chance for frozen beef, on which the Australians build some hopes, unless a contract can be arranged with the War Department by way of preliminary. Beef eating does not appear to find such rapidly increasing favour among the Japanese as might have been expected from the taste developed at the outset. After all, beef is not so very attractive as a viand unless it be well cooked, and the cooks that profess mastery of *seiyo ryoji* in Japan are thoroughly competent to spoil the best beef. Perhaps much of the fault is to be laid at the door of the beef-eaters themselves. We have heard of an excellent cook who confessed that a few months at a restaurant in Tokyo had almost deprived him of his skill, for to serve tender meat to his customers involved its certain rejection as over-kept. The average Japanese wants something to set his teeth into. The era of tastefully furnished restaurants and good cooks is still a long way off in Japan, we imagine, and until it comes beef will never be a staple article of food. As for mutton, the Japanese will not look at it, and even if they wanted it, Australia could scarcely supply it in competition with China. Putting the Japanese nation aside, however, it seems strange that the foreign communities in the East do not draw more largely upon Australia for their supplies. Bacon and hams, for example, of the finest quality could be supplied from Adelaide or Melbourne at prices 40 per cent. lower than those paid here for the same articles from England, and in the matter of tinned soups, fruits, vegetables, and so forth, almost equally marked economy could be effected by dealing with Australia. Against Australian wines there still exists a strong prejudice, though truly its justification is hard to find except in the case of some special vineyards. The Australian vitners have spared no expense to produce good wine. They have employed the best French experts, and are now in a position to export wines of excellent and uniform quality at prices very much lower than those at which European wines can be laid down in Japan. Store-keepers adhere to the old grooves, but it really does seem that a paying business might be done by introducing Australian stores and wines on a large scale for the use of the foreign residents in China and Japan.

THE WATERWORKS AFFAIR AND COUNT MATSUKATA & BARON ITO.

Under this heading, the Tokyo News Agency reports as follows:—"Since the arrest of Messrs. Hamano Shigeru and Amenomiya Keijiro, various rumours are circulated about many of their acquaintances. Among the latter, the most censured are Count Matsukata and Baron Ito: These personages are but slightly acquainted with Hamano, and yet men pretend that they have had some secret and irregular transactions with Hamano. Messrs. Hamano and Amenomiya are well known men in society. The latter especially is received by the most distinguished personages, as he has a seat in the House of Representatives. A few years ago, his wild-duck preserve was much frequented by distinguished persons. Baron Ito was one of these, visiting it on two or three occasions. Subsequently, however, Hamano's society began to be shunned by his acquaintances of the better class, as it was rumoured that he might make use of their names for dishonest purposes. Of late, these persons, among them being the Baron, entirely ceased to associate with Hamano. Under these circumstances, all the above stories are entirely without foundation. According to information, so far from the Count and the Baron being in any way associated with Hamano, neither of them ever wrote a single note to him during the time of their acquaintance."

SICKNESS OF JAPANESE TROOPS IN FORMOSA.

According to a recent number of the *Sensō Jikki* (War Recorder), the experience of Japanese troops in Formosa has been little less painful than that of the French Army in Madagascar. No place has a worse name than Chang-hwa for insalubrity of climate. The land there is low and marshy and the air was so full of malaria during the 20 days that the Japanese troops were stationed in the neighbourhood that it is stated there was not a single man exempt from sickness. A hospital prepared for the treatment of some 200 wounded soldiers was required to find accommodation for as many as 550 new patients per diem. There were companies that had only 14 men fit for active service, and there was a battalion which when ordered to take the field, could not muster more than 200 men. It is said that quinine had little effect on patients suffering from malarial fever in Chang-hwa. Statistics giving the number of patients under treatment in hospitals on September 30th at Kielung, Taipeh, Sinchuh, and Wulung are as follow:—

Cholera	124
Dysentery	373
Forms of Diarrhœa	881
Beri-beri	1,670
Malarial Fever	304
Other complaints	923
Total	4,275

The above figures by no means represent the whole amount of sickness. It is stated that in addition to the above every military doctor has under his care a number of patients for whom no accommodation can be found in the hospitals; so that the actual number of sufferers exceeds 5,000.

HUNAN.

The province of Hunan is as large as Great Britain; has twenty millions of inhabitants; abounds in resources agricultural and mineral; and is traversed by four large rivers rendering every part of it easily accessible. Yet it remains to this day the anti-foreign reservation of China. In the terms of peace originally proposed by Japan at Shimonoseki, the opening of Siangtow was included—Siangtow described by Williams as "one of the greatest marts of China." It has a population of a million, is a centre of trade and banking, and extends for three miles along the bank of the river and nearly two miles inland, with thousands of boats lining the shores. The Viceroy Li opposed numerous objections to the opening of this place. Nor can we wonder that he did, for the Viceroy of Nanking, the great Chang Chi-tung, within whose jurisdiction Hunan lies, never ventured to send foreign experts thither for the purpose of surveying its minerals—coal, zinc, tin, copper, iron, cinnabar, and gold—and found it impossible even to erect a line of telegraph there. It is a pity that the Japanese agreed to abandon their demand. Hunan remains hermetically sealed, and considering the earnestness of the Occident's search for new markets, it is wonderful that twenty million Hunanese with seven large cities, immense exportable resources and corresponding purchasing power, should be left in their seclusion to compile anti-foreign literature and defy the progress of civilization. The *N.-C. Daily News* has a forcible and interesting article on the subject.

THE MINISTRY AND THE RADICALS.

Public announcement of a coalition between the Ministry and the Radical Party will be made on the latter's part by its periodical organ, the *Jiyu-to-ho*, the next number of which is expected to appear soon. Mr. Kurihara Ryoichi is stated to be engaged on an article proclaiming this important news. Meanwhile, the *Mesamashi Shimbun*, which is understood to be connected with a section of the Radical Party, preserves complete silence on the subject, a circumstance that attracts considerable attention. Perhaps its reticence is to be attributed to the prudential consideration that it would be unwise to attempt any incomplete revelation prior to the official proclamation of the fact by the Party's recognised organ. Apprehensive of some misunderstanding on the part of the provincial Radicals, a deputation under the leadership of Mr. Matsuda Masahisa will, it is said, be sent from the head-quarters of the Party to make a tour throughout the country.

There seems to be little doubt that the National Unionists will definitely range themselves on the same side with the Radicals, but their organ, the *Chuo Shimbun*, says nothing of any such intention. It may be inferred that the National Unionists are still considering the problem, not as to whether they should support the Government, but as to the definite relationship that they ought to maintain with the Radicals.

Writing on this subject editorially, the *Nichi Nichi* remarks as follows:—"Without stopping to inquire into the considerations that have induced the Radicals to tread the same path with the statesmen in power, it would seem but just to recognize that the conduct of these politicians are based on honourable motives. They appear to have been guided by the conviction that the great responsibility with which the nation is charged in consequence of the late war requires hearty union between the Government and the people. As to the origin and progress of the coalition, there is a history to be related. When an agitation was raised about foreign affairs toward the close of the year 1893—an agitation calculated to be productive of prejudicial results to the foreign intercourse of the country—the Radicals had the courage to stand aloof from the prevailing tide of popular excitement. The Diet had subsequently to be dissolved twice, and shortly afterwards the war with China broke out. During that eventful period, it was observed that the Radicals always held themselves independent of petty party struggles, and that they furthered the aims of the national policy, whenever an important question of foreign affairs came up for discussion. They pursued the same sensible course not only during the war but also with regard to the Liaotung question. During all this while, the Radicals were in no way connected with the Ministers. On the centrary, they were almost diametrically opposed to the latter on questions relating to civil liberty. Now that the Empire is charged with the solution of various problems that have to be solved under the jealous and suspicious eyes of Foreign Powers, the Japanese can not afford to engage in petty party contentions, and in recognition of this circumstance, the Radicals have taken the decisive step of cöoperating with the statesmen in power, who, on their part, are ready to welcome with sympathetic appreciation the sincere solicitude of these party politicians for the welfare of the country. Is not such a change in the political situation a matter for sincere and profound rejoicing and congratulation? Political parties are the unavoidable accompaniments of a parliamentary system of government. The Ministers of State, though advisers to the Crown, are yet bound to consult the views of the Diet in the conduct of state affairs, and it is consequently impossible for them entirely to ignore the various parties in the Legislature. There are two ways in which they can manage the Diet, either by cöoperating with one or two particular parties in it, or by keeping themselves independent of any party and skilfully playing the various factions against one another. The former plan was adopted by the Yamagata and Matsukata Cabinets, the

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parties cöoperating with them being the *Taisei Kai* (since dissolved) and the National Unionists respectively. The existing Cabinet has hitherto endeavoured to follow the second policy of matching the various parties against one another, without a definite understanding with any of them. By pursuing this policy, the present Cabinet was barely able to pull through the first session of the Diet, and in the following session things came to a crisis necessitating two dissolutions in rapid succession. The breaking out of the war with China brought about a temporary truce in the warfare of political parties. With the cessation of the war, however, the party politicians so far forgot the gravity of the situation as to renew hostilities, and, adopting the Liaotung question as a weapon, they began to agitate for the retirement of the Ministers of State. In their eagerness to accomplish that object, they showed themselves ready even to sacrifice the execution of some measures of the first national importance. Under these circumstances, those in power naturally turned their eyes in quest of politicians sincerely devoted to the interests of the country. No wonder that their choice fell upon the Radicals, who, in common with the National Unionists and other Moderates, have always evinced a determination to serve the State first and their party second. Formerly, it is true, Viscount Shinagawa and his followers might have been regarded as the political friends of the present Ministry. But only four days after its organization, the Cabinet renounced all connection with them,on the occasion of the farewell dinner given to Viscount Shinagawa, when he was about to leave the capital, in company with Count (now Marquis) Saigo, for a political campaign in the provinces. Since then, personal intercourse apart, there has existed no understanding between the Government and any of the political parties. The Ministers, however, now seem to have changed their policy, after mature consideration of the existing situation. The question to day is what will be the relationship between the Cabinet Ministers and their new political friends? It is not likely that Marquis Ito, Marquis Saigo, and others will join the Radical Party and assume its leadership. It is also scarcely necessary to state that the Ministers, as advisers of the Crown, are bound to abstain from negotiating with, or pledging themselves to, any political party in respect of the administrative policy to be followed in the future. Hence the connection between the Ministers and the Radicals may be best described by stating that they recognise their mutual similarity of views and sentiments. The relationship, in other words, is not close enough to warrant a statement that the Ministers, in their collective and formal capacity as a Cabinet, have obtained the adhesion of a political party. Nevertheless, since the two sides are agreed in solicitude for the good of the country, it may justly be expected that the Radicals will support the Government's policy as regard foreign affairs and the completion of the national defences; while, on the other hand, the Government will not hesitate, in so far as seems proper, to adopt the views of the Radicals on questions of domestic policy. Only within the limits, indeed, is it possible for the Imperial Ministry to cöoperate with any political party, and within these limits cöoperation may take place not only with the Radicals but with any other party. So, in one sense, the present departure in Japanese politics may be regarded as a first step toward general unity between the Government and the people. Nothing could be more inadvisable than that the present connection between the Government and the Radicals should rest solely on the basis of an assimilation of principles for the sake of official emoluments. Should that be the case, the coalition could not be said to have been formed by men devoted to the interests of the country. Such a state of affairs would be contrary to the professed principles of the Government as well as of the Radicals. We are confident that neither the Radicals nor the Ministers of the Crown are capable of conduct so base."

The rumour that Count Itagaki is about to be appointed President of the Privy Council, is not worthy of credence. It is believed that for the present none of the Radical leaders will receive official appointment.

As to the condition of the coalition, it is reported that there is no definite understanding between the Cabinet and the Radicals. But many believe that the Radicals are confident of obtaining the Government's approval of their views concerning the amendment of the Newspaper Regulations, the Political Association Regulations, the Law of Election, and so forth.

DR. MARUMO AND MISS ABBOTT.

Dr. Marumo, of Tokyo, a well-known graduate of the Imperial College of Medicine, says that he has discovered the secret of Miss Abbott's so-called powers. Not that he claims any great credit for the discovery; indeed he is said to have requested the *Hochi Shimbun*'s representative, from whose account we are about to quote, not to write in any bombastic style, for anybody acquainted with the elementary principles of experimental and transcendental physics would find little difficulty in satisfactorily explaining the feats performed by the Georgia Magnet, if he only applied his attention to the matter in a right manner. Before proceeding to explain the secret, Dr. Marumo called to the room his wife, his daughter (a child of five years), and his student, and successfully performed all the feats exhibited by Miss Abbott, not omitting even the increasing of children's weight by suggestion from a distance. As to the cataleptic feat in which Miss Abbott is rendered so rigid as to support the weight of any heavy person standing on her body while she is laid horizontally on the top of two chairs, this was not performed by Dr. Marumo on the present occasion. But he had achieved it successfully on a former occasion when another writer on the staff of the *Hochi* was present. That he performed these feats in a satisfactory manner, is most emphatically vouched for by the writers. Not only did Dr. Marumo succeed in performing the feats, but his wife and student showed themselves equally proficient in the art, which, according to his theory, is within the reach of anybody.

The secret, in Dr. Marumo's opinion, may be explained partly by the principles of experimental physics and partly by those of transcendental physics. All the feats performed with chairs, and poles or sticks, for example, are easily accounted for by the principles of the lever, parallelogram of forces, and resolution of forces. By a skilful application of these principles, the forces exerted in opposition to the performer may be so directed as to spend themselves instead of pressing upon him or her. By way of example, the trick of holding a stick against the pushing of antagonists may be cited. In that feat, Miss Abbott inclines forward by raising one of her feet and keeping it at the back of the other foot. In such a posture her centre of gravity is located about the middle of her breast. Now she takes care to hold the stick right in front of her neck or chin, so that the force applied by her antagonists presses against her far above the centre of gravity. By maintaining a proper ratio between the direction of the antagonistic force and her centre of gravity, she manages to resist the pushing of several persons. She requests her antagonists to be gradual and steady in exerting their strength. This condition is necessary, in Dr. Marumo's opinion, to enable her to adjust the ratio between the antagonistic force and her own centre of gravity. As to the holding of a stick upright against attempts to pull it down, this is accomplished by pressing the stick obliquely by the application of her hands at the two ends of the stick, thereby meeting a vertical force with an oblique one. With regard to the lifting of a chair with several persons on it, Dr. Marumo is represented to have stated that, although this puzzled him a great deal at first, he found it to be one of the most childish tricks of all. The weight of the persons on the chair is naturally made to fall backward, so that the centre of gravity of the whole mass passes down through the back legs of the chair. In that position, the whole mass may be easily made to oscillate round the back legs of the chair as a pivot. This motion gives an appearance of the chair being raised, whereas in fact it is not raised.

Dr. Marumo acknowledges that there are other performances which cannot be adequately accounted for by the principles of experimental physics alone. These are the increase of a child's weight by suggestion from a distance, and the cataleptic stiffening of the body. These feats belong, in his opinion, to the domain of transcendental physics; in other words, they are to be explained by the subtle action and reaction of mind. In the first of the above mentioned cases the result is produced by three concurrent influences; nameiy, the performer's self-conviction that the children will not be raised; the little one's strong confidence that they have become immovably heavy, and a strong prepossession to the same effect on the part of the person that attempts to lift them. As to the cataleptic performance, the Doctor thought fit to withhold the explanation of the manner in which the result is obtained, for the publication of the truth might lead to its employment for mischievous, nay, even criminal purposes, as has actually happened more than once in Europe. Neither does he think it at all necessary to explain the truth, for it is well-known to every novice in the science of medicine. In speaking of the principles of what he calls transcendental physics, he is said to have repeatedly referred the *Hochi's* representative to a well-known work by Dr. Turner of Germany on the subject, from which he cited several attested instances of the manner in which a strong prepossession produces material phenomena without any material agency.

It is scarcely possible to follow these explanations unless they are accompanied by mathematical figures and demonstrations. Besides, we cannot but think that Mr. Marumo's interpreter, not being himself a mathematician, fails to convey a really clear and accurate exposition of the Doctor's meaning. Take, for example, the feat in which Miss Abbott, poising herself on one heel, holds a stick horizontally before her, somewhat below the level of her shoulders, and defies four or five men to push her backward by exerting their strength on the stick. Mr. Marumo says that in such a position Miss Abbott's centre of gravity is located about the middle of her breast, and that she takes care to have her antagonists press against her far above the centre of gravity, when, by a proper adjustment of the direction of the pushing force, she can successfully resist it. Now any one can examine this explanation. It is only necessary to conceive a straight line placed in an inclined position and having its lower extremity pivoted. Through a point in this line a force of fixed magnitude—the performer's weight—acts vertically downward, and at a point higher up, a horizontal force—the push of the experimentalists—acts horizontally. There can be no stability in such a system unless the resultant of the vertical and horizontal forces coincides with the inclined line—*i.e.* the direction of the performer's body—and thus pssses through a fixed point—her heel. Moreover, we have to assume that her body is a perfectly rigid line. Considering, however, that the horizontal force is of virtually unlimited dimensions, while the vertical force is invariable, we fail to see how the direction of the resultant can be so effectually controlled. With regard, again, to the stick held upright while one man, or several, attempt to pull it down, Dr. Marumo's explanation leaves us quite in the dark. He tells us simply that a vertical force is met by an oblique one. What that means we cannot tell. It is conceivable that if a steady point—a fulcrum—could be obtained in a stick held at a greater or less angle to the vertical, two forces acting vertically downwards from either end of the stick might neutralize each other. The stick would then represent the beam of a weighing machine. But how is the steady point to be obtained? It is a mathematical principle that the pressure on the fulcrum of a bal-

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ance is equal to the sum of the momento acting on either side of it. If Miss Abbott obtains a steady point by holding the stick near the middle, she must exert a force of immense magnitude. If either Dr. Marumo or Professor Kano would publish a scientific demonstration, accompanied by diagrams, the public's judgment could be soundly exercised, but these confident allegations based on vague proofs suggest doubts only. We may say, in conclusion, that Dr. Marumo's explanation of the chair-lifting feat is directly opposed to the evidence of our own senses. We have actually seen the back legs of the chair raised, not once but many times, through a height of several inches from the ground. If the Doctor had said that the weight of the persons heaped upon the chair was made to fall forward, so that the centre of gravity fell over, or nearly over, the front legs, then there would obviously be little or no force acting downward through the back legs, and the apparent lift would be merely a simple tilt, not beyond the strength of a woman. Can the weight be thus distributed, however, when the lowermost person on the chair sits with his back pressed tightly against the chair's back? The natural result of the position occupied by a number of persons heaped upon a chair is that the centre of gravity is located somewhere near the back legs, in which position it would be comparatively easy to tilt the front legs, but immensely difficult to raise the back. We do not wish to be understood as denying that Professor Kano or Dr. Marumo has discovered the truth about these feats. Being ourselves unable to explain them, it would be unpardonable presumption to deny the ability of others. What we allege is simply that the journalistic interpretations of the two experts' reasoning are obviously insufficient, but whether the fault lies with the interpretation or with the original reasoning, we do not profess to determine.

FIRE ON THE "WANDERING JEW."

$150,000 WORTH OF CARGO DESTROYED.

At one o'clock yesterday morning, says the *Hongkong Daily Press* of Oct. 31st, a seaman on the American ship *Wandering Jew*, now lying in the harbour, was going along the upper deck of the fore part of the ship when he pushed a hatch back and volumes of smoke issued through the aperture. He at once called the captain and mates, and an examination of the vessel proved that a fire had broken out in the lower 'tween decks. The captain (Mr. Nicholls) immediately gave the usual fire alarm by firing muskets, rockets, and blue lights. An attempt was made to get down to the seat of the outbreak, but the dense smoke prevented the men from going lower than the main deck. The fire signals were responded to with commendable promptitude, and by two o'clock the steam fire engine was alongside the vessel and pumping water into the fore hold. Hon. Commander W. C. H. Hastings, Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, also turned out as soon as the alarm was given. The vessel was towed into shallow water and scuttled. Holes were drilled in the upper deck and the hose passed through them, and water was poured into the vessel. Everything was battened down, but it is almost a certainty that the work of drenching the whole of the cargo will not be completed until this morning. The cargo consists of 825 boxes of fire crackers and 25,000 rolls of matting, and the whole is valued at $150,000. The major portion of it was shipped by Messrs. Siemssen and Co., but none of the insurance companies in the colony will suffer, as all the cargo was insured in America. How the fire originated is not known. It is very fortunate indeed that the vessel had not left for New York, her destination. On Friday last the ship was almost ready to sail, but it was decided to wait for four hundred additional rolls of matting from Canton. These were to have been shipped yesterday. She is now lying on the mud bank near Stonecutter's Island, and will of course have to be docked after the damaged cargo is taken out. It is thought that the fire must have been smouldering for some days.

THE KOREAN COUP D'ÉTAT.

The Korean correspondent of the leading Shanghai journal continues to exercise his really curious faculty of mischief-making and credulity. His latest is this:—"As events come to light, there seems no doubt whatever that the *coup* was simply the completion of what Pak Yong-ho tried to do a few months ago and failed; but General Miura was sent over to see it properly carried out." What a splendid *farceur* this correspondent must believe Japan to be! She sends a Minister to Korea for the express purpose of carrying out a certain *coup d'état*, and when he has very thoroughly obeyed his instructions, she arrests him and tries him on a criminal charge! Is it possible that the *North China Daily News* can not procure some Korean correspondent other than this crack-brained romancer?

AN AWFUL RECORD.

It seems to be pretty clearly established that the number of victims carried off by cholera in the city of Pekin during the summer of this year was fifty thousand. Assuming the population to be seven hundred thousand, it follows that one person out of every fourteen died, and as the epidemic lasted for two months only, the deaths must have been over eight hundred daily, or about eleven hundred and fifty seizures per diem, supposing the rate of mortality to have been seventy per cent. If, further, we note that the ravages of the disease were comparatively little felt in the Tartar city, the state of affairs that prevailed in the Chinese section presents itself in terrible proportions.

"TRILBY."

The *Medical News* of Philadelphia, quoted by the *Literary Digest*, holds that the hypnotic incident in "Trilby" is not a possibility. It argues the matter thus:—

"In 'Trilby' we have a charming little story utterly wrecked and ruined by a baleful and ghastly shadow of hypnotic influence, which hangs over it like a pall. Like most such 'glooms' it has, happily, no counterpart in real life, not even in the life of the hospitals. There are two absolutely essential elements lacking in the verisimilitude of Svengali's influence over Trilby: Willingness to submit to being influenced on the part of the subject, in the first place, and the original possession of the faculties which she exhibited at his suggestion in the second. Without the first requisite hypnotism can never take place, though, of course, after the hypnotic state has been reached the subject's actions may be entirely beyond the control of her own will. As to the second, an absolutely tone-deaf person, as Trilby avowedly was, could no more be endowed by hypnotic influence with the power of appreciating harmony and distinguishing shades of musical expression, than she could be changed from a blonde to a brunette. Every physiologist knows that, no matter what her vocal powers might be, she would be utterly incapable of harmonious song unless she could hear and correctly appreciate the tones of her own voice. Deaf-mutes, for instance, are dumb, simply because they can not hear the sounds made by their usually perfect vocal apparatus, and consequently can not regulate and combine them into articulate speech. No amount of suggestion or mesmerism can draw out of any subject anything more than was in them before. The popular idea that hypnotism is a sort of connecting-tub, through which the moods, will, impulses, and powers of the operator can be poured into the mind of the subject, is entirely unfounded. Finally, the mysterious decline and death of Trilby from the 'fearful drain upon her nervous force,' without pain or symptom of disease, are highly artistic, but extremely unnatural. People do not die that way at thirty-one, except in novels, or from that cause at any age. In short, we are thankful that the painful later experiences and early death of Miss Trilby O'Ferrall not only did not happen, but could not have happened; and we sincerely hope that Mr. Du Maurier will recognize the fact in his forthcoming sequel.

"Death and disease are painful and piteous enough; but, like a certain other morbid influence, not half so black as they are painted, and even from the hospital-ward and the post-mortem table we may learn that

'There are nettles everywhere,
But sweet green grasses are more frequent still,
The blue of heaven is greater than the cloud.'"

MILITARY AND NAVAL INCREMENT.

The *Kokkai*, with much show of assurance, alleges that it has been decided to add one Brigade to each of the present Divisions of the Army, and, further, to increase the number of Divisions by two. The latter change would not produce any sensible effect on the force available for service within Japan proper or beyond the sea, for two Divisions will be required for permanent service in Formosa. But the adding of a third Brigade to each Division would signify the virtual doubling of the present force. As to the Navy, the *Kokkai* says that it will raised to a tonnage of 250,000.

GOLD.

By way of sequel to what we recently wrote on the subject of the increased out-put of gold and its probably paralysing effects upon the bimetallic agitation, for the present at all events, we quote the following interesting paragraph from the *Spectator*:—

It appears, then, that in the first fifty years of the present century, the gold produced was worth £163,248,560, showing an average output of about 3¼ millions' worth per annum. During the succeeding forty-five years, taking the output for 1895 at a fair estimate, the gold won will have been worth £1,153,088,600, having been turned out at the rate of about 25⅝ millions' worth per annum, and the average value of the results for the ninety-five years comes to a little less than 14 millions a year. The gold turned out last year was valued at £33,400,000, and this year's mining is expected to result in a return of 40¼ millions. The figures, most of which are taken from "Le Marché Financier en 1894-1895," a trustworthy and interesting work compiled by M. Raffalovich, are quite sufficiently startling, showing as they do that this year's output of gold is nearly three times as great as the average annual yield during the present century. But when we look forward and take into account the confident predictions of experts whose forecasts have hitherto proved singularly correct, the possibilities of increase in the immediate future open up a still more remarkable picture. At present the world's production may be divided, very roughly, into four equal parts, which are contributed respectively by Africa, Australia, the United States, and "other countries." But it is expected that the output of the chief field in Africa will be more than doubled within the next few years, and a proportionate increase is looked for from the other established fields in this highly auriferous region. An enormous amount has also been invested lately in Rhodesia, though the possibilities here are still a matter of conjecture. As to the probable yield from Western Australia opinions are very much divided, and the Londonderry fiasco certainly encourages careful estimates. The field has hardly been scratched as yet, but there seems little doubt that it is extraordinary rich on and just below the surface, and a large addition to the Australian return is expected from this tract. Moreover, British Guiana is said to be developing well, and it is maintained that there is untold mineral wealth in Central America if only capital could be raised to work it. Apart, however, from hypothetical additions to the world's supply of gold, it is safe to estimate that early in the next century the annual output will be worth from fifty to fifty-five million sterling, or about sixteen times as much as in the early years of the present century. As to the results of this addition to our monetary resources, it is difficult to foresee them clearly, and their discussion leads one into very rugged and difficult paths. It is obvious, however, that bankrupt States which are struggling on with dirty and unsanitary paper-money will have a good opportunity for establishing a metallic currency, and that the use of gold in the arts will be considerably increased. There is no doubt that the rise in the buying-power of gold has stimulated its production; but it is not so certain that the expected increase in its amount will cause a rise in general prices. On the contrary, it is very probable that the abundance of gold may lead to a further expansion of the credit system and a consequent development of the production of general commodities which would prevent any material advance in their values. The output of gold has been increasing fast and steadily during the last twenty-five years, and prices have been falling *pari passu*, though the conditions have been so much complicated that it is possible to argue that the fall in prices would have been far greater if the increase of the gold-supply had not happened at the same time, and that henceforward, assuming that the cheapening of transit and the improvement of industrial processes are not carried still further, the weight of gold in one scale will force up general values in the other. The next few years will solve the problem; but probably, even when they have passed, economists will differ as to the actual meaning of the solution.

The Authorities propose spending *yen* 150,000 upon improving education in Formosa. It is stated that some elementary, middle, and normal schools will be established there in 1897.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha and its branches in all parts of the country will be closed during the five days commencing the 13th inst., in connection with the death of the President, Mr. Yoshikawa.—*Kokumin Shimbun*.

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THE WAR SCARE.

IF some basis could be discovered for the war scare now sedulously promoted by journalistic sensationalism in Yokohama, we might be disposed to believe ourselves in the neighbourhood of a crisis. But even those that profress to be acutely sensible of impending trouble and hubbub, do not attempt, and are obviously unable, to explain what is the matter. There is vague talk, indeed, of strained relations between England and Russia in connection with the Armenian affair. But that is pure conjecture. When the latest detailed news reached us about the complication with the Porte, Russia and England were in perfect accord, and nothing, so far as we know, has since occurred to disturb their harmony of action. In the East, there is an equally conspicuous absence of any cause of quarrel. No issue of any serious character—we may even go so far as to say, no issue whatever—has recently presented itself between the two countries, and if their relations be strained, it must be owing to some sudden and wholly unexpected incident. Is it conceivable that such an incident, had it happened, could remain hidden from the public? Surely not. Yet many people, though ignorant of any such incident, seem to imagine that war can not be averted without difficulty. A vaguer or more unreasoning dread could not easily be conceived. The other day, an anonymous newspaper correspondent in Nagasaki—in Nagasaki of all places under the sun!—undertook to make a revelation about a secret treaty between England and Russia. He chose the *Hongkong Telegraph*—the *Hongkong Telegraph* of all papers in the East!—as a medium of communication, and *The Times'* correspondent in Hongkong was betrayed into telegraphing the news to the great journal. Then Reuter re-telegraphed it out here, and the sensation-mongers, entirely failing to perceive the inherent impossibility of the story, not only accepted it as true, but refused to abandon their delusion even after the Russian Embassy in London had given an explicit denial. On that occasion they had at least a cock-and-bull tale to serve as basis for their perturbation, but in the present instance they have nothing at all. For the news that English Consols have fallen two points and a half, can be referred much more easily to events that we know to have been recently taking place than to complications suggested solely by imagination and inconsistent with our latest trustworthy intelligence. Two months ago a speculative mania for South African mining stock had assumed such dimensions in London and Paris that a financial panic in both cities was already apprehended. If it has come, as was almost inevitable, there need be no difficulty in interpreting the present depreciation of English Consols. With a simple explanation so palpably in sight, there is surely no occasion to go abroad in search of war scares. The season, also, must be remembered. Russia can not fight in the East, even were there reason to fight, until the spring of 1896 is well advanced. She is entirely without harbours of refuge, coaling stations, or dock-yards—unless, indeed, she has Japan for an ally, which contingency we see no reason to take into account. Looking at the situation from another standpoint, we observe that if a cause of quarrel has arisen between England and Russia in connection with Armenia, the statesmen of St. Petersburg must have been taken entirely by surprise, otherwise they would not have detached the large squadron now on the Pacific Station—a squadron that must remain eliminated from the European field for over two months, since the Suez Canal would be closed for the ships' return voyage. Everything, in short, points to the baselessness of the present war scarce. We regard it with absolute scepticism.

JAPAN'S FORCES IN KOREA.

WE referred, pretty fully, in a recent article to the intimate connection that exists between the presence of Japanese troops in Korea and the occupation of Manchurian territory by Japan. Holding the Liaotung Peninsula and the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea it would be absolutely necessary that Japan should preserve her overland lines of communication through Korea to the Yalu River, at the outset at all events. In the course of time, she might bring herself into telegraphic touch with her Manchurian possessions by laying a submarine cable to Talien, and she might establish coastwise stations that would enable her to dispense with commissariat lines through Korea. But pending these steps, Korea must remain, in a certain sense, a Japanese basis of operations for the retention of southern Manchuria, and a military force must consequently be maintained in the peninsula. So soon, however, as she agrees to strip herself of all her territorial acquisitions beyond the Yalu, there ceases to be any need for keeping open the Korean lines, and all the troops engaged for that purpose may be withdrawn. There can be no difficulty whatever in comprehending that very simple statement of facts, or in perceiving that since, by the terms of the Convention recently concluded in Pekin, Japan has engaged to restore her Manchurian acquisitions, she may, so soon as the rendition is effected, recall from Korea whatever forces are there engaged in the maintenance of her lines of communication. We make these remarks because our original reference to the return of the troops appears to have been interpreted in the sense of a much more sweeping measure than we intended to describe. We do not suppose that the Japanese Government thinks of recalling its entire military force from the peninsula. The protection of the Legation and Consulates has to be provided for, and it is further very evident that until the Korean police and soldiery can be organized and trained sufficiently to be safely entrusted with the preservation of public peace and good order, a certain degree of responsibility devolves upon Japan. What provision she may deem it necessary to make for these purposes, we are not in a position to assert. But we are in a position to deny most explicitly and emphatically the persistent allegation made by a local English journal that Japan has had to choose between withdrawing her troops from Korea and fighting, and that she has announced her intention of withdrawing. No such alternative has presented itself, and no such announcement has been made. Whatever withdrawal of troops takes place, will be merely part of a military programme depending primarily upon the rendition of Japan's Manchurian acquisitions. It is most mischievous to submit to the public such gross misrepresentations as are published by the *Japan Gazette* with regard to the relations between this empire and Russia. Russia has not played the blustering, hectoring rôle thus attributed to her. That has never been the character of her diplomacy in Japan. From the beginning until the present time she has never raised any official question about the presence of Japan's forces in the peninsular Kingdom. Whether her silence in the past warrants any inference as to her conduct in the future, we do not pretend to judge. It would be manifestly opposed to her interests that Korea would become a part of Japanese territory. If she sees reason to apprehend such a contingency, doubtless she will take steps to avert it. Meanwhile, we may remind those to whom the presence of an exceptionally large Russian squadron in these waters has suggested so many chimeras, that very obvious considerations,—considerations of which Japan's military occupation of Korea constituted only a corollary—may have influenced the Great Northern Power. In the first place, her interests being chiefly concerned in the success of the Three Powers' intervention, it was natural that she prominently should provide the means of enforcing it. In the second, there was no special reason to anticipate that a proposal so unpleasant as that formulated by the Triple Alliance would be quietly accepted by Japan, or, if accepted, would be readily put into practice. In the third place, the proposal was couched in somewhat vague terms and elicited a correspondingly vague reply. It invited Japan to evacuate Liaotung, and she, though agreeing, did not pledge herself as to time, or promise to place the islands of the Yellow Sea in the same category as its coasts. It was not unnatural that Russia should contrive an object lesson

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to suggest the consequences of rejecting, or partially evading, an issue presenting so many elements of uncertainty and grounds of mistrust. Thus there is no difficulty in accounting for the marked efforts made by her to assemble a powerful fleet in these waters; she need not be suspected of any arbitrary or masterful designs because she took care to be prepared for evidently possible eventualities.

GOLD.

THE unexpectedly large output of gold from South Africa is triumphantly noted by monometallists. The Rand area of mining operations is already turning out nine millions' sterling worth of the precious metal, and enthusiastic forecasts are widely circulated that, in the course of the next few years, the figure will rise to twenty millions. This prospect has produced feverish excitement in the market for capital. Investors from all parts of the world are hastening to purchase South-African mining shares, so that a boom surpassing even the great railway mania of the forties has set in. Australia, too, promises to add vast stores to the world's stock of the precious metal. On the whole, the recently impending danger of a gold famine seems to be averted. It is a curious and suggestive example of humanity's innate capacity for adapting itself to its circumstances. Had mining processes made no progress during the past twenty-five years, the earth would now be yielding so small a stock of the precious metals that their uses in manufacture must already have been greatly restricted in favour of the more imperative demand for coinage purposes. But chemistry and mechanics have developed such admirable appliances and methods that the so-called "refuse" thrown aside by miners of former generations is now profitably worked, and shafts driven three thousand feet deep in search of the yellow metal become paying investments. Thus the unwilling earth is compelled to yield a growing supply of its treasures in proportion as the wants of man grow. The most confirmed pessimist should find some element of comfort in this reflection. As for monometallists, their satisfaction is not more pleasant to the bimetallists than to themselves. Advocates of silver rehabilitation are not selfish jockeys of a hobby. Their plea that the white metal should be allowed to discharge the function designated for it by nature and indicated by the needs of commerce and exchange, is based on profound conviction that such a course is essential to the prosperity of the human race. Hence they, too, equally with the monometallists, welcome any incident tending to relieve the suffering entailed by the unnatural exclusion of silver from its chief use. They may, indeed, doubt whether a palliative like the sudden increase of gold production makes really for the world's advantage, or whether it would not be better that society should descend to greater depths of pain in order that financiers might be forced to turn to the only permanent corrective. But for the rest, everything tending to lessen the evils of an arbitrarily restricted supply of the media of exchange must be counted a blessing. One point, however, the bimetallists may justly note. It is that, if monometallists really saw no danger in the recently glaring disproportion between the scanty supply of gold and the heavy and constantly increasing duties imposed upon it, their exultation in the presence of an increased output is difficult to explain. Were they secretly haunted by the very dread that they ridiculed their opponents for acknowledging? These things apart, however, there can be no question that events have taken a turn unfavourable to the advocates of silver rehabilitation. Not merely this great increase in the production of gold, but also the returning glow of commercial and industrial prosperity tend to thrust the silver issue out of sight. Unfortunately the great financial problem of our era defies any scrutiny that every-day individuals are prepared to bring to its solution. Even those that have studied it most keenly recognise how multifarious and complicated are the factors involved, and how easily the result is affected by the varying values that independent investigators assign to each factor. Only the pressure of a trouble that he can not explain will induce the ordinary business man to meddle with issues so bewildering, and since that pressure is temporarily removed by an increased production of gold and a revival of commercial prosperity, the din of the silver battle will probably grow perceptibly fainter in the near future. We shall not see a finished fight, but only a temporary truce, for the contest has elements of vitality that can not be destroyed. But the object lessons that interested the masses in this great problem have, for the moment, lost their force.

THE SOURCE OF NATIONAL EXISTENCE IN THE EAST AND WEST.

DR. KATO HIROYUKI delivered at the Philosophical Institute a short time ago a lecture entitled, "An Inquiry into the ultimate sources of national existence in the East and the West." This lecture has since appeared in the pages of the Proceedings of the Oriental Philosophical Society. It is characterised by greater prolixity and repetition than are usually found in the literary productions of this veteran politician and scholar, and the theory propounded seems to us to lack the logical and philosophic foundation supporting so many of the opinions championed by Dr. KATO. But of this we will place our readers in a position to judge by furnishing a concise statement of the lecturer's arguments. Stripped of all superfluous adjuncts, they may be thus reproduced.

Comparison is the root of all knowledge. It is only when sciences have reached the stage in which all their chief theories are based on exhaustive comparison that they can be deemed thoroughly trustworthy. Politics in the East and the West are two very different things. But hitherto, owing to the fact that Eastern national life is very imperfectly understood in the West, little progress has been made in the study of those ultimate sources of national life and existence to which both in the East and West nations owe their survival—their freedom from the disintegration that so many great empires in the world's history have undergone. Here lies a field of research that the Japanese student of Western learning is specially fitted to explore. The subject is new and I can pretend to do no more than open it up for the fuller investigation of others.

When speaking of Oriental countries, I wish it to be understood that I refer chiefly to China, though in many cases what is true of China is equally applicable to other Eastern States. By Western nations I mean European nations. When asked upon what in China does the existence of the State depend, I reply upon the idea that the SOVEREIGN is a man of perfect virtue and that all his dealings with his subjects are characterised by the most impartial display of benevolence. This was the idea that CONFUCIUS, MENCIUS, and other great sages of antiquity spent their lives in impressing upon the mind of the nation; the idea on which all their modern admirers and followers have never ceased to dwell. The EMPEROR regards his subjects as his children, whom parental affection prompts him to treat with kindness, and Chinese subjects submit themselves to the will of the SOVEREIGN with the feeling that they are not only acting as filial children ought to act, but that they are giving the allegiance due to exalted virtue.

Turning to Europe we find a very different state of things. There the most sacred of all feelings is the love of individual liberty. The conviction that whatever the form of government, the rights of the people will be respected is the mainstay of European nations. The love of liberty, so prominent in the West, characterised the ancient Greeks and Romans, but it is only in recent times that it has become a dominant sentiment, and its cultivation and development have been recognised to be a safeguard against national dismemberment.

Thus we see that in the East and the West two widely different feelings exist. The Oriental is ready to sacrifice everything for the reigning monarch, on the supposition that he is the embodiment of virtue. The Occidental respects his government and his country's laws because

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he regards them as the bulwark of individual liberty. In China there are no preachers of individual liberty. In Europe there are no proclaimers of IMPERIAL virtue. To the first of these assertions some would doubtless reply, did not CONFUCIUS and MENCIUS both protest against the violence and despotism of certain EMPERORS? Did they not frequently espouse the cause of the people against the ruling classes? And on these occasions are they not to be regarded as the champions of liberty? If I am not mistaken, their writings are not thus to be interpreted. In the reproofs they uttered, their object was the reform of Imperial abuses, and not the curtailment of Imperial rights in order to secured greater liberty for subjects.

For the origin of this great difference between East and West we must look to history and social science. Certain writers on the history of European civilisation assert that the love of individual liberty in Europe is the result of the high rank that personal courage and daring held among virtues in past ages. Self-assertion and self-preservation were for centuries reckoned essential qualifications for successful warfare with life's difficulties. The habit of each individual's defending his own rights against those of other individuals gradually led to a combination of aggrieved individuals against the despotism, real or supposed, of reigning monarchs and oligarchies, and in many cases ended in their overthrow. If in Europe the highesteem in which individual liberty is held is to be traced to a highly developed moral courage, the servility of the Chinese is the result of self-effacement and cowardice such as it would be hard to find in any country to the same extent. There could be no greater contrast than is afforded by the picture of China's teeming millions from age to age quietly subjecting themselves to their rulers' will, and the picture of Europe pouring out its life blood for the sake of establishing the principle that monarchs possess no rights but such as have been ceded to them by their subjects. To us neither system appears perfect. The implicit trust that the Chinaman places in his ruler leads to abuse of power on the part of Monarchs and their Ministers. But on the other hand, the absence from the European mind of anything like real respect for Royalty and high rank is a distinct defect. The whole history of European conquests shows that virtue has never been held in the same regard as in China. The relation of ruler and ruled in the West is of a legal, rather than a moral, character. It is the rights of the parties that so often become a bone of contention. This absence of moral feeling in European government is an element of weakness, as has been often shown in past history, never more signally than during the French Revolution.

Fortunately, Japan is not committed to either of the systems that I have been discussing. She can avoid both extremes and blend what is of value in Eastern and Western methods of consolidating the various units that combine to make a great nation. It is common to find European scholars regarding the patriarchal form of government as essentially barbaric and as possible only in unenlightened countries or in the dark ages of the world's history. That with the exception of the comparatively short period when the country was subject to military rule, Japan flourished and made progress under this form of government, is a fact of which these scholars are profoundly ignorant. They do not know that, even since the revolution of 1868, both in theory and practise this same form of government has been closely adhered to and brought to a high state of perfection in Japan. The thing that exists only in name in China exists in reality here: the EMPEROR rules by means of virtue and his subjects obey him from pure loyalty. The relationship between ruler and ruled is that of parent and children. Neither of the defects that we have discussed above characterises the Japanese system of government. In the possession of a Constitution, the liberty of the subject is guaranteed to all time. In the adoption of a new code of laws we have reared another bulwark of liberty. The Japanese of to-day is not the man that lived in the TOKUGAWA era. He knows he has individual rights and is determind to maintain them. But at the same time he is loath to part with a form of government in which rulers and subjects are bound together by the strongest of all ties—moral feeling and devotion.

Although there is much that is extremely interesting and suggestive in Dr. KATO'S lecture, we cannot say that the comparison on which he lays such stress appears to us to be founded on fact. The situation in China and the situation in Europe are, to our mind, both incorrectly described. In China, the Government is doubtless patriarchal, and in theory this implies the existence of a strong moral feeling between rulers and subjects. But in reality that feeling no longer exists. The local officials are hated, notwithstanding the fact that they constitute the link that ought to join subject and SOVEREIGN. China has been hitherto saved from disintegration, not by the strength of moral feeling among her subjects, not by loyalty regarded as one of the most sacred of duties, but by the fact that her people have grown too servile and too cowardly to rebel. A thoroughly despotic government needs no moral power at its back to enforce obedience, as has been proved in the history of nations over and over again. When once people have been rendered spiritless by ages of oppression, physical force is all that is necessary to keep them in order.

While admitting the truth of most of Dr. KATO'S remarks bearing on the high regard in which individual liberty is held in Europe, we fail to see what that has to do with national unity and stability. Did anything like the importance assigned by Dr. KATO to this feeling exist; were this the one dominant sentiment in the minds of Europeans, national disintegration would be the result. As things now are, a deep respect for certain old institutions, an ineradicable spirit of conservatism, acts as a brake on the wheel of liberty and prevents it from endangering the existence of the State. Dr. KATO entirely under-estimates the power of moral feeling in Europe. To the existence of this feeling is to be traced some of our greatest reforms and the abolition of crying evils, such as the slave trade. It is an absolute misrepresentation to assert that a virtuous Monarch in Europe is less highly esteemed than he is in China. Though for the purposes of his argument Dr. KATO finds it convenient to represent Western forms of government as all belonging to one class, and Western nations as held together by the prevalence of one sentiment, nothing could be more contrary to the reality than such an assumption. There are countries in Europe where subjects enjoy no more liberty than they do in China. If, as Dr. KATO contends, love of personal liberty be the tie that binds men together, despotically governed nations would soon cease to exist. Dr. KATO'S comparison rests on imperfect data, and hence has no philosophic value, but notwithstanding this we think the lecture well worth reproduction for the sake of the light that it throws on a variety of subjects. Whatever exception may be taken to many of Dr. KATO'S remarks about China and Europe, his representation of the state of feeling in Japan is in the main, we venture to think, true to facts.

BRITISH ENTERPRISE IN JAPAN.

AT the present time, when everything seems to point to the probability that Japan is on the eve of inaugurating an extensive shipbuilding programme for the satisfaction of her legitimate ambition to become in the near future one of the great Naval Powers, it will be of interest to Englishmen here to know how far their own country is displaying activity in competiting for the orders that may be expected.

An enterpising Naval programme, such as we look to hear announced before long, must have the effect of stimulating several important industries in which the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland has always excelled. There are ship-builders, then armour-plate makers, makers of engines and boilers, of heavy shafting, of big guns, of machine guns and small arms, of ammunition, of electrical machinery and appliances, and of a host of other materials too numerous to detail but all absolutely necessary for a complete ship of war. In every one of

these trades the United Kingdom holds a leading place, and notoriously stands unrivalled for the celerity with which it can complete and deliver in working order, fully equipped for immediate use, every description of vessel from a first-class battle-ship to a high-speed torpedo boat. It is to be expected, then, that the advantages offered by England's leading position in the ship-building industry will receive due consideration, and we note with satisfaction that several prominent English Firms are sending representatives to this country. One of these—formerly an Engineer Officer in the British Army, and now a Director of the Firm of JOHN BROWN & Co. of Sheffield—has given us some particulars on the present state of the question of armour versus ordinance which may be of interest to our readers.

The development of heavy armour, which has been going on during the last twenty years, has during the last three or four advanced with gigantic strides. In the early days Cabinet Ministers visited JOHN BROWN and COMPANY'S Works to see the first 4-inch iron plates rolled (for H.M.S. *Warrior*), so great an achievement was this then considered to be; but not many years had passed before the heavy and powerful mills put down for the purpose at Sheffield were turning out quantities of rolled iron plates 12, 18, and even 24 inches in thickness. Still, as fast as the weight of the plates increased, the power of artillery advanced in proportion, and before long it became clear that a stronger material than wrought iron was desirable. In France steel plates were substituted, but at first with indifferent success, as it was long before improvements in manufacture enabled a satisfactory quality of steel for the purpose to be produced. In England recourse was had to a system of uniting a hard and comparatively thin steel face to a thicker plate of wrought iron, by fusing the two together when hot with molten steel poured into a narrow space left between them, the whole being afterwards consolidated by pressing and rolling. Plates made on this system were the patent of Mr. ELLIS, the head of the Firm of JOHN BROWN & Co. They were known as compound plates, and gave very satisfactory results so long as chilled cast iron continued to be the best material available for projectiles, their comparatively hard faces causing the shot to fly to pieces on impact. As, however, the difficulties of making projectiles of forged and hardened steel were gradually overcome, the compound plates, whose advantage lay in their power of breaking the shot, began to be equalled and even surpassed in resisting power by the French all-steel plates, which had all along been steadily improving. This was the state of things five or six years ago when two new inventions began to attract attention. One of these, the patent of Captain TRESIDDER, of Messrs. JOHN BROWN & Co., consisted of a special method of producing adamantine hardness in the face of any armour-plate when that face was formed of high-carbon steel. The other, the invention of the late Mr. HARVEY of the U.S. of America, consisted principally in a method of supercarbonising the face only of an all-steel armour plate, so as to render it capable of being subsequently made quite hard while the body of the plate remained tough and ductile. Strange to say, the original patent for these two inventions were applied for on two consecutive days; TRESIDDER'S application being filed in England one day before HARVEY'S was filed in the United States, neither party having any knowledge of what the other was doing. Under these circumstances, the Companies formed to work the HARVEY process in Europe made arrangements with Messrs. JOHN BROWN & Co. by which the TRESIDDER patents were acquired and added to the other patents protecting the HARVEY process. The HARVEY armour-plate is undoubtedly the armour-plate of the day, a 6-inch plate of this make being accounted practically equal in resistance to 10 inches of ordinary steel or 12 inches of wrought iron, so the following brief description of its manufacture will not be without interest. First, a steel ingot of extremely high quality is cast, weighing rather more than half as much again as the finished plate. This is then forged under a powerful hydraulic press into a flat slab, some inches thicker than the required plate, and nearly one-third by weight is cut off at the some time from the top end where slight unsoundness in the steel may generally be expected. The slab is next rolled to the finished thickness and cut approximately to length, and the rough plate thus produced is placed in a "Harvey" furnace together with another similar plate, in such a way that both are completely surrounded by sand but are separated the one from the other by about five inches of a special form of solid carbon. The whole mass is then exposed to intense heat for about a fortnight, exclusive of two or three days occupied in getting the heat up and two or more in allowing it to cool down. The result is that wherever the plates are in contact with the sand, carbon is abstracted from them, and wherever they are touched by the solid carbon—that is on the sides which will respectively form their faces—absorption of carbon into the steel takes places; so that after this process the face of each is very high in carbon, the back very low, and the interior mass is not affected. The plate is next bent to the proper curve (with an allowance for subsequent warping or hardening), and after being machined to size on the edges (with an allowance for subsequent shrinkage), any holes required for attachments in the face are drilled and tapped. Indeed, the plate is now approximately finished as regards machine work except the drilling of bolt holes in the back, which can be as easily done after hardening as before. The next process is the chilling or hardening, and this calls for the greatest care and experience. The plate is brought to a moderate red heat in a special furnace, every precaution being taken to avoid oxidation and to ensure a proper and absolutely uniform temperature. When this is attained, it is quickly removed from the furnace and placed face up on a special apparatus so designed that thousands of small jets of cold water can be instantaneously caused to impinge forcibly on both its upper and lower surfaces. In this way it is rapidly cooled, and if everything has been properly done, it will have warped and shrunk so nearly to the required form and dimensions that the shape can be made exact with a slight amount of cold pressing, and the size adjusted by a little grinding on the edges with an emery wheel or grit-stone. After chilling, the face is tested with large hardened steel punches, which are held in a pair of tongs and struck heavily with a sledge-hammer. These being shattered at the point without indenting the plate, indicate the intense hardness of the face-steel, which may then be relied on to destroy the best steel projectiles attacking it under ordinary conditions.

One of the modifications in the above described process, for which Messrs. JOHN BROWN & Co. obtained a patent early in their experience, consisted in applying the carbonising operation to the slab before rolling it to the final thickness, so that the face of the plate would receive its final consolidation after being carbonised instead of before. Pressure of work prevented this idea being practically tested at the time, and pending such test a condition was inserted by the British Admiralty in contracts for Harveyized plates specifically forbidding its adoption. It appears, however, from reports of a trial in America, that the rolling subsequent to carbonisation improves resisting powers. Further experiments to confirm this may be thought desirable, but Messrs. JOHN BROWN & Co.'S representative states that his firm would as soon make the plates the one way as the other, and it is merely for the purchaser to choose which he prefers.

It will readily be understood that the machinery and appliances at such works as those of JOHN BROWN & Co., turning out yearly from 5,000 to 6,000 tons of finished material in the armour-plate line alone, require to be of special power and involve a huge capital outlay. In addition to a fine forging press capable of exerting a total pressure of 4,000 tons, and a bending press of 6,000 tons, this firm has just put to work a mammoth forging press of 10,000 tons power, which, with the engines, cranes, furnaces, &c., necessary to make it complete, has alone involved a capital expenditure of no less than

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£100,000 sterling. To attempt to enumerate all the smaller presses, gigantic planing machines, big lathes, electrical machinery, rolling mills, hammers, &c., kept at work by this Company would be an endless task. Next to armour-plates their most important line of products is large forgings, either rough or finished, for gun work and marine shafting. In such railway material as springs, tyres, axles, buffers, &c., they have also a world-wide reputation, and almost every marine engineer of eminence has paid at least one visit to Sheffield on purpose to see their patent system of boiler installation. In this system, which is steadily gaining favour, PURVES ribbed furnaces and SERVE "winged" tubes are combined with retarders, assisted draught and hot-air feed in a way that claims to equal the much belauded water-tube boiler in efficiency, and to excel every known system as regards economy of fuel. The best general idea of the importance of the Company may be derived from the fact that their Works cover 32 acres of ground, every square yard of which is occupied to the full with costly plant; that they employ about 5,000 workmen; and that all this is quite exclusive of their extensive colliery property, where another 5,000 men find employment.

THE "JIYU-TO" AND THE CABINET.

IT is a singular fact in Japanese constitutional history, that never yet has any political party been an avowed supporter of the Government. In the first session of the Diet a section of the members were not unwilling to be tacitly regarded as friendly to the Cabinet, but the Opposition, then an overwhelming majority of the Lower House, succeeded in enveloping the term *Seifu-to*—Government party—in such an atmosphere of contempt that very soon no one was found willing to acknowledge himself an ally of those in power. It frequently happened in those days that when a member found himself constrained by the unavoidable dictates of common sense to vote in favour of an official measure, he took care to deprecate any inference of pro-Government tendencies. The late Mr. AWAYA SHINAZO was, perhaps, the sole exception to this rule, but the reputation he enjoyed for frank fearlessness was equally exceptional. There is no difficulty in accounting for this state of affairs, unprecedented as it is in parliamentary annals. Beyond question, numbers of politicians were perfectly sensible that many of the ablest men in the Empire served in the ranks of officialdom, and that, on the whole, the country owed a heavy debt of gratitude to the statesmen of the *Meiji* era. But so long as the Ministers of the Crown steadily maintained their irresponsibility to the Diet, and refused not merely to be openly connected, but even to be privately associated, with any political party, it was of course a practical impossibility that any party should work openly in official interests. Nobody can ever have imagined that the state of affairs then existing could be permanent. Party Cabinets are the inevitable outcome of parliamentary institutions, and though the best interests of the country demanded that a system so delicate, and a system hitherto workable in one country and one only, nor even there conspicuously successful—should not be inaugurated until the elements essential to its smooth operation were duly organized, there was, at the same time, evident danger that the progress of the nation would be interrupted seriously in the interim. For three years, indeed, every Bill introduced by the Government for the development of the country's armament or resources was opposed by a majority of the Representatives, not on its merits, but simply for the sake of creating a legislative deadlock such as should ultimately force the Cabinet to acknowledge dependency on a parliamentary majority. Had there been then in existence any party apparently capable of assuming the administration of State affairs, it is very probable that an opportunity would have been afforded to it to try its hand. But there was no such party, and since, though avowedly unqualified to replace the Cabinet, the various sections of the Opposition persisted in their destructive programme, no hope offered except that some issue too vital to be made the sport of party politics should arise between the Government and the Opposition. That was what happened in 1893, when the doctrine of Strict Treaty Enforcement, with its anti-mixed-residence corrollary, having been adopted by the extremists, it became necessary for the Opposition to choose between ranging themselves on the side of the Cabinet and giving their adhesion to a policy plainly detrimental to the empire's foreign relations. The Liberals (*Jiyu-to*) showed no hesitation in the face of such an alternative. They came out flat-footed against the vexatious and petty scheme of strict enforcement, and against the retrogressive and cowardly notion of postponing mixed residence. The split in the ranks of the Opposition was final, and every student of the time then foresaw that since the Liberals had preferred their country's interests to their party's cause, the probability of their becoming Government supporters in opposition to the purely destructive policy of their former confederates, was not remote. Apparently the forecast is now to be realized. Believing that the Cabinet's action with regard to the Liaotung Peninsula could not have been other than it was, and persuaded that to precipitate an administrative crisis on account of that issue would be to hamper the adoption of measures absolutely necessary under the empire's altered circumstances, the Liberals are about to declare themselves openly supporters of the Cabinet. Their example will be followed, in all probability, by the National Unionists, and since these two parties alone command over 130 votes in the Lower House, their combination with the practical, though hitherto not professed, friends of the Cabinet will give the latter complete control of the parliamentary situation. It is a conjuncture of the greatest interest in the history of Japanese constitutional government. Of course, as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* explains in an article translated elsewhere in our columns, there can be no definite adhesion of the members of the Cabinet to the ranks of the Liberals, neither can there be any pledge as to the administrative or legislative action of the former. But nevertheless we shall see for the first time a large party in the Lower House openly supporting the Government, and the fact will of course contribute immensely to general political tranquillity.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

MISS ABBOTT'S EXHIBITION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In a letter from "T.," inserted in your issue of the 5th inst., the following words occur:—"I fancy this is the first encounter of Miss Abbott with hoodlumism, but it strange she should have met with the experience from students of the University of Japan." Will you allow me to state that whether students under Mr. Kano did or did not act brutally, the question has nothing whatever to do with the students of the Imperial University, or the "University of Japan," if "T." prefers to have it so. It is strange that a man when he is going to charge others with hoodlumism should not take trouble to find out more accurately at whom he is about to hurl his accusation.

I remain, Sir, yours, etc.,

STUDENT.

November 6th, 1895.

A CHALLENGE.

SIR,—As you observe, there is anything but order in the present discussion. There is also great danger of forgetting the real points at issue and degenerating into a mere war of words and smart sayings that cannot edify but only gender strife. I therefore suggest that the proposition—or the propositions as the case may be—be distinctly and formally stated and that the rules of decorum worthy of such a discussion be observed. To help matters forward I will therefore agree to defend the following proposition: *Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God; he is our once crucified but now risen Lord; and he only is the saviour of the world.* Is there one of an opposite view who will agree to meet me on this theme? *And who will agree to defend his belief over his real name?* Or at least give me his name by private correspondence? Hoping all may see the wisdom of some such arrangement, and the impropriety of proceeding in such a haphazard way as the present,

I remain most faithfully yours,

J. M. McCALEB.

November 8, 1895.

"THE DOCTRINE OF IMMORTALITY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I beg your kind permission to enter an emphatic protest against the misrepresentation of the doctrine of the Christian Church on the subject of the future life by the writer of a communicated article on "The Doctrine of Immortality" in to-day's *Mail*. When such misrepresentations come from writers plainly animated by a general

hostility to Christians and Christianity, while they are not pleasant reading, they can be passed by with the contempt they deserve. But when a writer like this one, who appears to be honestly aiming at a broad and philosophical view of the subject, and apparently thinks that he has attained it, so entirely misrepresents the beliefs that he is attempting to discuss, I must own that I for one find it difficult to be patient. If such writers do not find it worth while to find out what the Christian Church really does teach, why will they not save themselves the trouble, and others the pain, of a public discussion of that teaching?

I do not wish to debate the questions involved. They can not be satisfactorily discussed in any space that you could allot for the purpose. But I deny that the Christian Church teaches that "among those consigned to perdition are to be reckoned all rejectors of orthodox teaching, all deniers of miracles, all men of the Huxley and Spencer type, despite their sincerity." The teaching of the Christian Church could only be proved in one of two ways; from some symbol of practically universal acceptance like the Nicene Creed, or from the practically universal consent of all Christians, shown from an exhaustive examination of the writings of representative Christians of all ages. Your correspondent's assertion can be proved neither in the one way nor in the other.

This writer shows the same want of understanding of the subject he discusses in other ways. He makes the believers in conditional immortality to hold "that men are to be saved from extinction only by believing in the doctrine of the Atonement, as explained by Church authorities," while all others are "doomed to annihilation." I doubt if there is or ever was a mortal man who would accept that as a statement of his belief. Certainly the greater number, if not all, of those who have accepted the idea of conditional immortality would maintain that the faith which saves a man is essentially a moral and spiritual relation to God, of which the chief manifestation is obedience to God's will, and the strenuous endeavour to "be perfect as our Father in heaven is perfect," and that it can not be adequately described as belief in any "doctrine" whatever.

It is not in itself a matter of very great importance that this same article misrepresents Bishop Butler as holding in his "Analogy" that the lower animals also survive death, whereas in fact he only holds that a future existence for them can not be disproved, nor the idea of it used as a *reductio ad absurdum* of the belief in human immortality. But the misrepresentation is at least significant of the amount of pains that the writer takes to be correct in his attribution of opinion to other people. Of all the defects of this article, however, the worst seems to me to be this;—that in discussing the Christian belief in the future life, while he has tried to consider it broadly, and has attempted to find a psychological explanation of it in men's feelings and desires, he has left altogether out of the account the Christian belief in God, and in man's filial relation to God, on which it really rests. The Christian doctrine of the future life was stated long ago by an apostle, who wrote: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be, but we know that we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is." Apart from that faith, there is no Christian doctrine of a future life. It does not need three columns, or three lines of the *Japan Mail*, to show that when God's Fatherhood and Man's sonship to him are denied or ignored, the Christian hope for the life to come must disappear,

Very truly yours, T. S. TYNG.

Tokyo, November 8th, 1895.

PROPHECY AND PHRASE-TORTURE.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Before replying to Mr. McCaleb's latest deliverance on the question of prophecy, I have waited with interest to see what defence he would offer for the assertion that I wrote "over an assumed name changing with each succeedig letter"—an accusation which there is no necessity for me to repel, as you have yourself pointed out that the charge is groundless. It is interesting, however, to find that Mr. McCaleb practically refuses to accept your assurance that the correspondents referred to by him as one and the same, are two distinct persons; but such a course is extremely characteristic of the class to which Mr. McCaleb belongs. I have repeatedly found that individuals extremely credulous concerning extraordinary events, related on the authority of persons who lived seventeen or eighteen hundred years ago, are at the same time very suspicious of the good faith of their contemporary fellow-men. Mr. McCaleb does not seem to know that outside religious circles it is customary to accept such an assurance as you have given without question, the bare statement being sufficient among gentlemen, and needing neither oath nor proof to substantiate it. It is a well-known fact, indeed, that the man who is extremely suspicious of the veracity of his fellow-men is as a rule not a person who has himself very close dealings with Truth, and after such an exhibition as has been given I beg to decline with thanks Mr. McCaleb's offer to meet me at my own fireside and talk over these subjects face to face. It would be absurd to admit to fireside intimacy a man who has so little knowledge of social canons as to demand proofs of a personal statement affecting individual veracity, for argument under such condition would simply be a farce. Nor, after the rejection of your assurance that "Earnest Inquirer" and "Secularian" are not one and the same person, shall I make any attempt myself to convince such a sad example of the "unbeliever." To others who take interest in the present discussion I would say that though "Earnest Inquirer's" original letter, which commenced this discussion is dated from Kobe, I have not the remotest idea as to who was the writer—I neither wrote the letter, nor asked anybody else to write it, nor suggested to any body else the query it contained, for at the time it was apparently penned I had not read Mr. McCaleb's letter.

But what is the reason for the anxiety of reverend or semi-reverend gentlemen to learn the identity of correspondents who may oppose them in argument? Is it that they desire to exert the force of social pressure against the unbeliever,—to injure materially the opponent whose arguments they find difficulty in answering intellectually? It is not unnatural that such a suspicion should arise, as there is absolutely no valid reason why the identity of the controversialists should enter into such a discussion as the present. Mr. McCaleb excuses his demand for the name of his opponents on the ground that anonymity is "a reason of suspicion that the writer is either ashamed of his position or lacking in a due degree of sincerity in actually believing what he claims." If this be so, then Mr. McCaleb must be sadly exercised about giving credence to the Gospels, which are all four anonymous. In such a discussion as the present, however, the suggestions are simply ridiculous, for the further question at once arises, Why, if the anonymous correspondents are ashamed of their position or lacking in sincerity, do they trouble to write at all? Shame would suggest concealment; lack of sincerity would involve indifference. The writer who attacks what he believes to be established error gains nothing save the satisfaction that he is performing a simple duty in the general search for Truth. Is it exactly the same with Mr. McCaleb? Presumably he is a salaried defender of the Christian religion, and naturally desires that his Mission Board and the world generally should know how energetically he is performing his commission. If it were absolutely essential in the interests of truth that arguments should be supported by names, then of course it would be imperative that the opponent of established error should declare his identity, even at the risk of social ostracism by a Christian community. But it is not essential, as such a discussion as the present can be carried on far better by leaving altogether out of sight the personality of the disputants save as disclosed in their method of controversy. I make these remarks on the question of anonymity from a general point of view, as personally I have no objection to my identity being disclosed. Indeed, I employed the *nom de plume* "Secularian" in the present discussion because to those who have taken interest in the discussions which took place in the *Japan Mail* some years ago, it is, I think, far better known than my name would be, and it is the *nom de plume* I have invariably used in these controversies on religious matters. The *nom de plume* is, however, a very open secret, and if Mr. McCaleb will take the trouble to inquire among his missionary friends living in Kobe, he will soon have his curiosity set at rest.

I am afraid, Sir, you will think that this is a long digression from the questions at issue in this discussion; but my object is in the first place to dispose of the question of anonymity once and for all, with the hope of clearing the way in future controversies of this character; and in the second place I have dealt with the matter at length, as the attitude Mr. McCaleb has taken up on this side issue is full of significance as regards his position on the larger question of the alleged predictions of Christ in the Old Testament. It is evidently a matter with him not of "proof" but "belief." Two correspondents with different *noms des plume* write to the same journal in the course of a certain discussion. They write from the same place, and apparently hold the same opinions; and, as it suits Mr. McCaleb's preconceived idea, he immediately assumes that they are one and the same person, and then proceeds to state this as a positive fact. Similarly, Mr. McCaleb and those for whom he stands as a type read in the Old Testament certain vague mystical allusions to coming Deliverers, Messiahs, and so forth,—all of which have perfectly natural explanations in the history of the Jews apart from the particular attribution to which they wrest them,—and holding that the Christian religion would be strengthened if the coming of Christ could be shown to be predicted a few hundred year before it occurred, they positively state, as if there were not the slightest question about the matter, that the various political and poetical passages they quote from the so-called "prophets" have reference to one and the same person who lived in Judea some hundreds of years later.

That this system of word-torturing and context-straining has an evil ethical effect upon those using it no one can doubt who is acquainted with current Christian apologetics. Mr. McCaleb is a case in point. In his first letter he distinctly stated that "Christ came in fulfilment of a certain line of prophecy that had long since gone before upon him, *even concerning his name.*" Then he proceeded to give six of these names as "Wonderful," "Counsellor," the "mighty God," "Immanuel," "Christ," "Jesus." I would ask any impartial person whether in reading such a list the natural impression received would not be that each of these names appears in our translation of the Old Testament as Mr. McCaleb has written it. Taking "Jesus" as standing for "Joshua," though it is not quite ingenuous to thus spell the name, five of the titles or names do so appear in the Old Testament, while the remaining name "Christ" does not. Oh! but, says Mr. McCaleb, the translation of the word "Christ" is "The Anointed,"—a fact of which the most superficial student of Christian apologetics is well aware—and therefore he argues that he was quite justified in using the Greek word "Christ," putting it within inverted commas as if it actually occurred in our translation of the Hebrew Scriptures, and presenting it as an example of "the fulfilment of a certain line of prophecy that had long since gone before upon him, *even concerning his name.*" Nine out of ten casual readers who perused the original sentence would believe that Mr. McCaleb meant to state that the name "Christ" actually thus appeared in the Old Testament, for it need scarcely be pointed out that the custom of translators is not to give the meaning of names, but to transliterate them as closely as possible. Mr. McCaleb would be the first to denounce as disingenuous such a juggling with words and meanings in a controversialist to whom he was opposed.

But this is not the only example Mr. McCaleb gives of a lack either of controversial integrity or of understanding of the matters about which he writes. In my first letter I referred to "the absurd contradiction involved in the assertion that Christ was born of a virgin, and that he was nevertheless (by two inconsistent genealogies) of the House of David." In reply Mr. McCaleb denies that the genealogies of the Gospels ascribed to Matthew and Luke are contradictory, and positively asserts that "Luke gives the line from Mary back to David, Matthew gives the line from Joseph (Jesus's father by law) back to David." Now, if words have any meaning, Mr. McCaleb is here advancing a contention for which there is absolutely no support whatever in the book to which he refers. Matthew gives the alleged line of descent from Abraham through David to Jacob, the last verse of the genealogy reading, "And Jacob begat Joseph the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ" (Matt. i. 16). Luke gives the genealogy also from Joseph, his words being, "And Jesus himself began to be about thirty years of age, being (as was supposed) the son of Joseph, which was the son of Heli," and so on (Luke iii. 23). The heading of the chapter in the Authorised Version is, "The age and genealogy of Christ *from Joseph upwards.*" And yet Mr. McCaleb, who must or should be aware of these facts, says, without the slightest hesitation, that "Luke gives the line from Mary back to David."

Similarly in dealing with my objections to the famous "Immanuel" text in Isaiah, Mr. McCaleb says: "Nor can it be shown that his [Christ's] mother did not call her son Immanuel, but suppose we grant she did not, *the prophet leaves it indefinite as to who is to call him Immanuel.*" Now the actual words which the Authorised Version attribute to Isaiah are as follow:—"Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, *and shall call his name Immanuel,*" the alternative reading in the margin of the Teacher's Edition being even stronger, "Or *thou, O virgin, shalt call,*" &c.

Such is the deplorable outcome of the word-

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twisting upon which so much theologic training is necessarily based. Brought to bay upon the clearest issue, the theologian attempts to escape either by flat denial of his own Scriptures or by attaching meanings to words and phrases which they can bear only by doing actual violence to the language. It is the merest beating of the air to argue with a controversialist for whom words have whatever meaning it may suit the exigency of the moment to attach to them. I shall therefore not attempt to follow Mr. McCaleb's rejoinder in detail, for much of it is altogether beside the mark, and what there is that is pertinent is vitiated by the fatal drawback to which I have directed attention. Mr. McCaleb has utterly failed to meet my criticism of the text in Isaiah which I took as a sample of the so-called prophecies, and he must, I think, realise in his own mind that he has so failed. Similar examination devoted to the other passages he quotes will be found to yield exactly the same result as in the case of the Isaiah text, but I am afraid the *Japan Mail* would scarcely find room to print the catalogue of inaccuracies and exposure of fallacies that would be involved. What I would suggest to those who are really interested in these matters is that each passage Mr. McCaleb quotes should be read with its context and with the aid of a commentary, Christian or other, and then subjected to the rules of logic and common sense. If this be done, the impartial and unprejudiced inquirer can, it seems to me, come to but one conclusion—that the passages described as "prophecies" no more foretell the coming of Christ, than they foretell the coming of Confucius, Buddha, or Mohammed, Spinoza, Voltaire or Paine, Comte, Huxley, or Spencer.

The utter futility of prophecy for any purpose whatever must, indeed, be apparent to any one who will divest himself of the predilections in which he has been nurtured, and carefully think the matter out. Of what possible value to the Jews of the ante or post-Captivity period could it have been to be promised that some hundreds of years later a Man-God should be born among them who should live, suffer, and die for the sins of humanity? Of what value could the prophecies have been to those who lived in the actual period during which the signs and wonders associated with such a teacher were performed? Of what value can the prophecies be to us, upon whom, if we are believers, the actual signs and wonders of the first century must have far more weight than predictions, and who, if we do not believe the contradictory testimony of the anonymous gospel-writers, are not likely to be convinced by the vague and mystical references of their Jewish predecessors? The only value the prophecies had were for the early Judaizers, who desired to prove that Christ was a Jew, who claimed that Jewish prophets had foretold him, and who, like Matthew, argued that what was holy was not to be given to the dogs, that is, to the Gentiles. It was in the interest of the Judaizers that Christ should be represented as coming to the Jews and for the Jews alone, and these were the first who endeavoured for their own purposes, and to support their own narrow arguments, to connect the ancient prophets with the modern creed. How clumsily the work was done will be apparent to any one who will take sufficient trouble to compare the various passages quoted in the Gospels with the originals in the Old Testament, and then read up the context and inquire into the circumstances under which the originals were written. After this is done, let such an inquirer consider whether a superhuman intelligence would or could have adopted such a vague and roundabout method of pre-attesting an event which, if Christianity be true, was to be of such exceeding moment to every human being.

Yours, &c., SECULARIAN.

Kobe, November 3rd, 1895.

MR. McCALEB.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I must excuse myself for troubling you to insert these lines in your paper, but to my mind nothing coming from a reverend gentleman has ever struck me as being so painfully absurd and out of place as the Rev. J. M. McCaleb's remarks contained in your issue of the 11th inst.: "who will agree to defend his belief over his real name." How large-minded a man must be to be able to utter such a wise remark, can be estimated by the readiness with which he judges all believers of other faiths to be afraid to append their names to a note in answer to such an unreverend challenge. Such a stand in my opinion would hardly help matters forward, and as for the *wisdom of some such arrangement*, it is a consolation at least to find that not many believe such a bold attitude of defiance an attribute of wisdom.

The Rev. Gentleman wants to meet some one on this theme. Does he want some one to prove to him that another creed has a different view of the matter, or does he wish merely to exert his best qualities in behalf of his church by finding a foeman worthy of his steel?

Hardly do I think it time well spent to try and explain any unexplainable portions of a religion; much less do I think a good religion needs defending. Mr. McCaleb seems to be ready to defend his by leaving to others to find proof of an impossible kind. The patient people may believe what he "quotes" about Jesus being the Messiah etc., but how these patient people must be grieved also to hear the same man say in a manner utterly unlike a clergyman, *is there anyone of an opposite view who will agree to meet me on this theme.* This I think an unwise and unnecessary step to an argument where one man's views are as good as another, and where common sense clearly shows that proof of the kind necessary is impossible to get. If all the theological training of the kind that this gentleman has does not instill the correct respect for other beliefs and does not teach that a man, be he of whatever sect he may, does not need to defend over his signature his belief to make it worthy of him, for one I am sorry so much valuable time has been wasted.

I have the honour to be, Sir, yours respectfully,

"DEFENDER" F.C.S.

Yokohama, Nov. 11th, 1895.

MISS ABBOTT'S EXHIBITION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—"T." makes his sincerest apologies to the students of the Imperial University. The important matter, however, is that such unfair play was allowed. One spectator declared he was sickened at the sight of it and could not sleep at night. I am informed that so far from any resentment being shown, the apparent success of the interference was greeted with cheers and shouts of *Banzai*.

November 11th, 1895. T.

THE CHRIST ACCORDING TO PROPHECY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It is to be regretted that in the discussion on "The Christ according to prophecy," carried on between Mr. J. M. McCaleb and "Secularian"; much extraneous matter has been introduced, not altogether without the fault of Mr. McCaleb himself, whose remarks on anonymity were not in any way relevant to the subject. The chief point at issue between the two disputants is the meaning of Isaiah vii. 14. "Secularian," in denying the Messianic character of this passage, finds himself in the company of the earlier as well as later rabbis, such as Hillel, Kimchi and Abarbanel, who hold the *almah* in question to be either the Queen of Ahaz and mother of Hezekiah, or the prophet's own wife (compare also *Bab Sanhedrin, f.* 99; Grätz, History of the Jews vi. 386; and Justin the Martyr's Dialogue with Tryphon the Jew c. 49 and c. 67 *sqq.* where this very question is discussed). The latter view, viz., that the *almah* in question was the prophet's own wife (already married, or at the time of the prophecy about to be married, to the prophet), held by "Secularian, is also maintained by such learned authorities as Bolten, Faber, Fritsche, Gesenius, Grotius, Hezel, Hitzig, Isenbiehl, and Pluschke. Other explanations not recognizing the Messianic character of the passage are given by Ammon, Bauer, Cube, Eichhorn, Heusler, Paulus, and Steudel. A double sense, the primary meaning of the passage as well as an ultimate reference to Christ, in other words, the Messianic character of the prophecy, is claimed by Dathe, Koppe, Lowth, von Meyer, Olshausen, Richard Simon, Dr. J. Pye Smith, and Williams, men with whose views Mr. McCaleb will find himself more or less in agreement. Neither the majority of Christian writers, whether liberal or orthodox, nor any of the rabbis and interpreters of the law and the prophets among the Israelites, so far as known to me, take *almah* in the sense of *virgo illibata*; Dathe, however, does so, as does also Mr. McCaleb, for the italics and the whole context place his meaning beyond the shadow of a doubt. The former, with admirable consistency, also believes in the actual occurrence of a miraculous conception at the time of Isaiah's prophecy, in due fulfilment of the word spoken through the prophet and as a sign to the generation living under the reign of Ahaz, a view perhaps also shared by Mr. McCaleb.

There was, and probably always will be, diversity of opinion on the Messianic character of Old Testament passages. The Targam of Onkelos refers only two Pentateuch passages to the Messiah, those of Shiloh and the Star out of Jacob, while the later Pentateuch Targum holds no less than seventeen passages to be Messianic in character (Buxtorf, *Lex Chald. et Talm.* p. 1268). Similar diversity of opinion on this subject exists also among Christian writers, to a greater extent, perhaps, than either Mr. McCaleb or "Secularian" realizes. Each man must, after due inquiry and study, reach his own conclusions with regard to any given passage; but each man, while thus engaged, should also bear in mind that, according to Christ himself (Matthew xxv.), the final tests of character lie not in mere belief or profession, but in the sphere of active morality and benevolence.

Yours very truly, EPSILON.

Tokyo, November 11th, 1895.

THE DISCUSSION ON PROPHECY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Permit me to call attention to a misprint in my letter, dated the 3rd of November, which appeared in the *Japan Mail* on Monday. A few lines from the bottom of the second column there is a sentence commencing, "The only value the prophecies had were for the early Judaizers, who desired to prove that Christ was a Jew." This should read, "who desired to prove that Christ was a Jew *of the Jews*," the three words omitted, as will be seen, making a distinct alteration in the sense of the clause.

Those who have followed the present controversy will be decidedly amused at Mr. McCaleb's complaint in his letter printed in Monday's issue that "there is anything but order in the present discussion," followed by a challenge to debate an entirely different proposition to what has formed the basis of the present controversy. What Mr. McCaleb set out to prove was that "Christ came in fulfilment of a certain line of prophecy that had long since gone before upon him, even concerning his name." Now he offers to defend the proposition that "Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God; he is our once crucified but now risen Lord; and he only is the saviour of the world." And he apparently thinks that both propositions are practically one and the same. Mr. McCaleb is a hopeless controversialist. He does not even realise, apparently, that in the very act of restating the proposition he is entirely shifting the ground of argument. I am afraid that if I were to accept Mr. McCaleb's challenge after the latest exhibition of his controversial incapacity I might lay myself open to the charge that well known gentleman Mr. P. B. Publico brings against me in your issue of the 5th inst., of lying in wait for a weak fighter, and then ridiculing his size! But where are those doughty champions of Christianity who assert that they see Mr. McCaleb's weakness without attempting to come to his assistance? Is it possible that in their hearts they realise that it is not so much Mr. McCaleb's incapacity that is at fault, as the intrinsic weakness of the Christian position?

Yours, &c. SECULARIAN.

Kobe, November 12th, 1895.

CONCERT AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

The concert given in the Public Hall on Friday evening in aid of the funds of Christ Church, was a great success. What few seats remained unoccupied were so only in consequence of the Canadian mail that sailed at daylight. The concert began with refreshing punctuality for Yokohama, within a few minutes of the hour, and as there were no long waits between, the programme concluded by eleven o'clock. After the opening pianoforte duett by Miss Vincent and Mr. Griffin, Adams' beautiful "Star of Bethlehem" was given with charming effect by Mrs. Bent. Then Miss Laura Smith gave two dainty little pianoforte pieces (*a*) "Si oiseau j'étais" (Henselt), and (*b*) "Au printemps" (Grieg), and received a beautiful bouquet of flowers, a fitting tribute for a very pleasing performance. Mrs. James Walter secured a hearty recall for Bohm's well-known "Thine:" and bowed her thanks. One of the most successful items of a very interesting programme was Mr. Sharp's recitation "King Robert of Sicily," with musical interludes. Once or twice, however, a fine effect was marred through the speaker's voice being almost drowned by the musicians behind the curtain. In pieces of this description the music we think should never be more than suggested. The applause was loud and long at the conclusion of the item. Mrs. Irwine was down for the next number, De Faye's "Tell her I love her so." Needless to say it was given with all the marvellous intonation and delicacy of phrasing that Mrs. Irwine always throws into her songs; and the delighted audience demanded the last verse over again. The string trio, which

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concluded the first half, was a most successful effort. In the duett "Les Hirondelles," by Mrs. Irwine and Miss Burdett Leach, another decided success was achieved, the blending of the lovely voices being particularly beautiful. In response to the encore, the singers kindly repeated the last verse. We have seldom head a finer rendering of a Mazurka by Wieniawski than was given by the gifted musician whose name appeared opposite No. 2 in the second part. He was recalled and eventually responded to the encore. Mrs. J. C. Hall next gave a rendering of Benedict's "The Bird that came in Spring," which earned a recall. Mendelssohn's "Zweites Capriccio" from Op. 33, found a capable exponent in Mrs. McIvor: the pity was she would not be pursuaded to give another exposition, for her command of technique and charm of expression are of high degree. The three concluding items were all vocal, "Happy Days," by Miss Lloyd Thomas; "Punchinello," by Mr. R. de B. Layard; and "In this hour of softened splendour," by Miss Thomas, Mrs. Read, Mr. Nicholas, and Mr. Sharp: all were capitally given.

PROGRAMME.

Overture ... ... Nabucodonosor... ... ...Verdi.
March ... ... Krönungs-Marsch ... ...Meyerbeer

1.—P.F. Duo... ... ... Romanza ... ...Haydn.
Mr. Griffin and Miss Vincent.
2.—Song ... ..."Star of Bethlehem"... ... ...Adams
Mrs. P. S. Bent.
3.—P.F. Solo... ... (a) Si oiseau j'étais ... ...Henselt.
(b) Au printemps... ....Grieg.
Miss Laura Smith.
4.—Song... ... ... "Thine" ... ...Bohm.
Mrs. James Walter.
5.—Recitation.... ... King Robert of Sicily ... ...Longfellow.
Mr. H. J. Sharp.
6.—Song... ... ... "Tell her I love her so" ... ...De Faye.
Mrs. Irwine.
7.—Trio... ... ... Allegro Animato (Op. 49) ... ...Gade.
Mrs. Poole, Mr. Poole, and Mr. Schmid.

Fantasia ... ... Der Freischutz ... ...Eckert.
1.—Duett... ... ... Les Hirondelles ... ...Masini.
Mrs. Irwine and Miss Leach.
2.—Violin Solo... ... ...Mazurka... ... ...Wieniawski.
3.—Song... ... "The Bird that came in Spring"... ...Benedict.
Mrs. J. C. Hall.
4.—P.F. Solo... ... Zweites Capriccio (Op. 33) ...Mendelssohn.
Mrs. McIvor.
5.—Song... ... ... "Happy days"... ... ...Strelitsky.
Miss Lloyd Thomas.
Violin Obbligato, Mr. H. A. Poole.
6.—Song ... ...Punchinello ... ...Mollo.
Mr. R. de B. Layard.
7.—Quartett ..."In this hour of softened splendour"... Pinsuti.
Miss Thomas, Mrs. Read, Mr. Nicholas, and Mr. Sharp.
GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

March ... ...Tannhäuser... ... ...Wagner

LETTER FROM FORMOSA.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY.)

Anping, October 25th.

The reign of Liu Yung-fu, the Black Flag Chief, dates back to the early days of June, when President Tang made his escape from Taipeh-fu, the northern capital. About this time the Taotai and leading officials stationed at Tianan-fu, in compliance with the orders from the Emperor, returned to the mainland leaving an ex-mandarin, who had been serving as confidential adviser, to act as Taotai, Magistrate, and Prefect.

Ku-ku-chingsu, commonly known as Khâ, Pok-sia, and other *literati*, to the number of about one hundred, invited Liu, then at Takow, to come to Tainan-fu and protect the city. He consented, was installed in the Examination Hall, and adopted the title of Assistant Commissioner. When Tang fled, the *literati* and other persons composing the so-called "Parliament," elected Liu Yung-fu to the Presidency of the "Republic," which they determined should continue. A "ways and means" committee was formed and arrangements made for collecting the necessary funds from the people, by means of a capitation-tax and "voluntary" subscription. Besides the usual land and other taxes, a special war-tax was imposed on property to the extent of five per cent., the value being fixed by an official assessment. Besides this, Liu arranged to carry on the Foreign Customs, the proceeds from which went into his treasury. An Executive Council, elected from the "Parliament," and consisting of seven senators, sat in the city every afternoon. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of this body was "Pok-siâ" and "Khâ" respectively. Proclamations were issued setting forth that, as soon as the Japanese had been driven from the Island and peace restored, railways were to be built, mines opened, and trade otherwise developed. A Silver "Republic Seal" was now offered to Liu with much ceremony, accompanied by the request that he would assume supreme control of public affairs. Like Cæsar, he declined the proffered dignity, saying that when peace had been restored, and he had proved himself worthy of the honour, he would accept it; but for the time being he would only promise to do all he could to attain that object. He requested the petitioners to give him unanimous and loyal support. It was also distinctly announced that the setting up of an independent Government in no way indicated a lapse on the part of the Formosans in their allegiance to China; on the contrary, it was hoped that what was done would tend to aid China in the hour of her need and helplessness; the Republic was to be conducted in unison with the Mother-Government, both working side by side as "twin-mountains." It has always been understood, too, that after peace had been established by the expulsion of the Japanese, the people of Formosa would once more place themselves beneath the laws of the Emperor of China. There can be little doubt, that Chang Chih-tung and other high officials secretly instigated and supported Liu, and through him the people, in carrying out this scheme. For many months Chang Chih-tung forwarded money, men, and arms in considerable quantity to Liu, and this support only ceased within the last month or six weeks; though, even then, Liu's principal supporters in Nanking and Foochow, proferred, at least verbally, to redeem the paper-notes which Liu was obliged to issue to his troops. The notes were really issued, and supposed to be guaranteed by a foreign compradore, and their face-values were $1, $5, and $10. Cash-notes of face values of 100, 500, and 1,000 copper cash each were on the point of being circulated when the crisis culminated that put an end to all plans and calculations. All government payments have for the past month been made in notes, proclamations being issued calling on the Customs, hongs, and the people generally to accept them as good and legal tender. For some time the notes were redeemed at par on presentation to the above mentioned compradore, but during the last week or two redemption was suspended, and thereupon "bond-notes," resembling the others in appearance, were issued, these being guaranteed by the wealthy people in the city. Another form of speculative note was also circulated which purported to promise to pay the holder five dollars for every dollar note presented after peace had been restored and the republic established. Opium merchants took advantage of the depreciation in the paper currency to buy up the notes at a great discount, and then presented them in payment of duties at the Customs. The stamp mania, now so universal, was also utilised "to raise the wind." Proclamations were published that postal agencies would be established in Amoy, Swatow, and Hongkong for the distribution of letters bearing the Republic's stamps. The issues appeared: the first, from a locally cut silver die, was on a thin tissue paper, unperforated. About 5,000 only were issued. The colours were green, violet, and red. The die was then melted and attempts made to obtain one more perfect. Failing this a new die was obtained from Canton, and a new issue of stamps printed from the Canton die appeared. These were also in three colours blue, violet, and red, but were perforated. The face-values of the different stamps were, for both issues, 3, 5, and 10 cents respectively. It should be noted that the legitimate manufacture of stamps ceased with the existence of the Republic, and it is necessary that special precautions be taken by collectors to avoid forgeries, as already the demand for the first issue has called the forger into the field. Liu decreed that all Chinese letters posted through the local post should be stamped, and the bags were duly vised to ensure this having been done. A final effort to replenish the depleted treasury was made by taxing each person leaving the island—and there were many thousands of these. The rate varied from two to four or six dollars, according to the financial standing of the payee. It must be said, in justice to Liu, that he undoubtedly paid his troops in money as long as he had it, and besides this clothed and fed them at Government expense. Knowing the number of men he had under his command, and the amount of money at his disposal it seems difficult to discern how Liu could have "squeezed" the sums for his personal use that people outside the island are prone to assert. It is certain that every one speaks very highly of Liu's personal integrity.

From all that can be ascertained, the troops under Liu's command, after Tang had bolted, and including local levies, was not far short of 30,000; of these only about 4,000 could properly be styled the original "Black-flags." The local levies, even the Hakkas, who were enthusiastic followers of Liu at the outset, decreased in number daily as the Japanese advanced on Tainanfoo, until at the end probably not more than 12,000 men remained with the colours. At one time a band of aborigines from the south, all dressed for the war-path, made a pretence of joining Liu. They encamped in the city and received food in return for their services. Two died, whereupon the remainder said it was a bad token, and, taking the dead with them, suddenly disappeared. They have never been heard of since. They obtained arms and ammunition from Liu which, no doubt, they think ample recompense for the trouble they were put to.

As the Japanese approached, and especially after the landing in the south had been effected, Liu realised the gravity of the situation and made many abortive attempts to surrender. His first was made by letter, which H.B.M.'s Consul took to the Pescadores and handed to the Japanese Admiral. The following terms of surrender were proposed by Liu:—

1. The Japanese to pay all arrears due the soldiers.

2. The Japanese to send him and his soldiers to Canton in transports, and that the Shimonoseki Treaty be carried out as to the Chinese being allowed two years in which to consider whether they would become Japanese subjects or not.

To these proposals the Admiral replied that the Fleet would be off Anping on the 12th at noon, and that General Liu, or his authorized delegates, should come on board to discuss the surrender of the Island. He promised not to open fire without first giving notice, unless the Chinese commenced the attack. The flagship *Yoshino* appeared off the port at 7 a.m. on the 12th, but for some reason unknown did not come to anchor until 2.30 p.m., which induced Liu to become suspicious as to the *bona fides* of the Japanese Admiral. He therefore refused to go off and see him. The day previous, Liu had requested Mr. Alliston, a visitor from Hongkong staying in Anping, to take a letter for him to the Japanese troops at Khagi containing a somewhat similar offer of surrender to that sent to the Fleet, of which latter fact he also informed the General. Liu begged the Commander-in-Chief to cease operations for the present. Mr. Harry Hastings accompanied Mr. Alliston as interpreter, and the party was escorted by Twenty Black Flag soldiers. The escort deserted when within about two miles of the Japanese lines. No difficulty was experienced in reaching the Japanese Head-quarters, but as the Commander-in-Chief was with the other division no practical result could be arrived at. Messrs. Alliston and Hastings returned empty-handed, though not without the credit that such a plucky and philanthropic action undoubtedly deserves.

General Liu sent a deputation consisting of two Chinamen on board the *Yoshino*. They called first on board H.M.S. *Pique* and were accompanied by H.M.'s Consul to the flagship, where they presented a request that the Admiral give Liu a written guarantee of safety to and from the *Yoshino*. The Admiral declined to parley further in the matter, as he considered that Liu had had assurances enough, and finally stated that the *Yoshino* would remain until 10 a.m. next day when, if Liu did not appear in person, or by deputy, the fleet would either open fire or heave anchor. Thereupon the deputation withdrew. At the stroke of 10, on the 13th, Liu having shown no inclination to keep his appointment, three of the ships got under way, leaving one behind. In the afternoon the Customs were asked to signal that the negotiators had left the shore. This signal was acknowledged by the Japanese ship, but again Liu failed to keep his word for no deputation left the port.

That night Liu sent two deputies to the *Pique*, but every one had grown so disgusted at his vacillation that they refused to help any further in the matter, and the delegates returned to shore. On the 15th the *Dante* with 1,800 passengers, and the *Thales* with about 1,400 left for Amoy, and from these passengers Liu levied about $12,000. A compradore of a British firm wishing to send away $8,000 had it seized by Liu, who said the shipper had promised to contribute that amount to the war fund and had failed to do so. The Japanese dispatch-boat *Saikio Maru*, was fired on that day by the Anping forts, as mentioned in my previous letter. On the 17th the report reached here that the Takow forts had sunk three Japanese ships. This was vouched for by Liu, who said he had it by special messenger—this was really two days after Takow had been occupied by the Japanese Forces, naval and military. On the 18th, the British steamer *Thales* returned, and the first suspicions of a "bolt" on the part of Liu became assured by the news that he had arranged for a passage for his 8 dogs by that steamer. On the morning of the 18th, General Liu successfully performed the "vanishing trick."

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The last known of Liu's movements was that on the night of the 18th, he went down to the Anping (large) fort on the pretext of inspecting it. He remained there that night, and next morning had disappeared, along with about 100 officers and his immediate body-guard. Lying off the fort at dusk was a junk, and it is supposed he left in her, but how far he proceeded in that craft is not known. Some say he actually escaped, disguised as a coolie, on board the *Thales*, but nothing definite is known. One rumour assumes that he got away to the Eastern hills, though this seems improbable. The news of Liu's departure spread like wild fire, and the soldiers began pouring into Anping settlement, where the only foreigners were Messrs. McCallum, Burton, and Alliston, the others being either in Takow, or on board the *Pique*, or in Amoy. In the city of Tainan-fu were Messrs. Ede, Fergusson, and Barclay, of the E. P. Mission. Messrs. McCallum, Burton, and Alliston persuaded the soldiers, after an altercation, to lay down their arms, which were then stacked in the Customs Opium-godown. This operation took nearly all day, between 6,000 and 8,000 rifles being eventually stowed away, together with several tons of small-arm ammunition. The men were placed in the Compound, and on the night of the 20th, the forts and barracks were totally deserted, no soldier in Anping or Tainan-fu being armed. Early on the morning of the 21st the Japanese troops landed, the northern and southern divisions of the Army advanced on the city and the Japanese completed the occupation of the whole Island. The Japanese, on landing, found 4,000 disarmed soldiers congregated round Fort Zelandia. These were driven, like so many sheep, into a large walled compound belonging to the Customs. Here they were kept under guard until shipped to Quemoy on the mainland, by the transport *Riojun Maru* early on the morning of the 23rd.

On the morning of the 20th, the prisoners had food and water served out to them, but after that the Japanese Navy being unable to apply food for so great a number, the sufferings they underwent, especially for water, were piteous in the extreme. Several residents and officers of the British ships did what they could to assuage the terrible thirst of the poor wretches, but, of course, even their best efforts fell far short of what was required. Why the Japanese made no effort to supply water seems inexplicable. On the 21st, the villagers were again requisitioned and they supplied a few buckets of congee-rice, but so great was the scramble and confusion that but few got even this. With the knowledge that eight Japanese heads had been exposed on the adjoining forts and five them were even then rotting in the sun, it is not to be wondered at that very little sympathy was felt for General Liu and his followers by the Japanese officers and men. One Japanese sailor guarding the corral committed an act of barbarity which should receive the most serious attention of the naval authorities. Water was being served out from a tub just outside the low stile-gateway facing the Bund. The people had been allowed to push their bowls through this opening, and were struggling for attention and relief in a most heart-rending way. One of the sentries, who had stepped on to the Bund, seeing one man leaning over rather further than the rest, made a rush at him with his bayonet, and ran him clean through the body. The unfortunate victim fell back, rolled over two or three times, and was dead. The assassination called forth universal execration from the foreigners standing by. Wild, almost maddened as the people were with thirst, they continued to be most amenable to orders and discipline, and there can be no excuse for such a display of savagery. It can only reflect injuriously on the credit of the service to which the ruffian belonged. No doubt when the case comes before the Admiral the guilty man will receive the punishment he deserves.

At 9 a.m. on the 21st, the Southern Division having reached Tianan-fu, a detachment was sent into Anping. On the outskirts of the village they met some of the sailors from the Fleet who were mustering the prisoners. These latter had been suddenly surprised while at breakfast in some houses near, not being aware of the approach of the Japanese. On sight of the latter the prisoners rushed out in great confusion and terror, and attempted to get away, whereupon 56 of them were killed at the point of the bayonet. The majority had thrown down their arms. They have all been buried in one large grave and a record board is placed over the mound.

Anping, October 29th.

His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa, Commander of the Guards Division, died on the 28th, of fever combined with heart trouble. While I was in Chang wha (Shoka) in September he was just recovering from an attack of fever. He undoubtedly failed to regain his full strength, and this combined with the fatigue of the long trip to Tainan-fu was too much for his enfeebled constitution. His death took place in the city of Tianan-fu and his body is to be brought to Anping to-day, and transported to Japan direct.

Taiwanfoo, Formosa, Oct. 30th, 1895.

My last letter relating to the Guards Division under command of Colonel Samishima, left them at Changhua (Shoka), with a detachment holding a small village to the south. This was towards the end of September, and the Commander was awaiting the departure of the main division for the south. The unhealthiness of Changhua and the long enforced idleness of the troops, prepared them for a happy acceptance of the order from head-quarters to advance towards the south. On the fifth, the advance-guard crossed the river near Po-toa (Hoku-to), and proceeded towards Chu-wa ka (Su-so ka) where they defeated seven or eight hundred Chinese. They arrived by night-fall at Si-tong-kang (Se-to-ko), and there encamped. On the sixth, the advance-guard proceeding, an encounter took place near Ta-li-bu (Ta-li-mo) with about 3,000 Chinese troops, and resulted in victory for the Japanese; the village was then occupied by them. The same day, a detachment sent to the East defeated about 1,000 of the enemy, who were occupying a small village 2½ miles south-east of Chu-wa-ka. Then advancing to Fang-ling (Oong-ling) an engagement with 3,000 troops resulted in a loss to the Chinese of 200 killed. The Japanese occupied this village for the night. The Right Detachment occupied To-ko-ke (Do-ko-ki), and the Division Staff advanced to Si-tong-kang.

Kangi (Kagee) a place well fortified by the Chinese, was attacked on the 9th by the Guards Division from three sides. The city was defended by six or seven thousand Chinese troops, including 600 Black Flags. After two hours fighting the Chinese retreated in the direction of Tainan-fu and the Japanese occupied the city. Over 200 Chinese were killed in the engagement and the Japanese loss, including, all the engagements since the seventh, was 68 killed and wounded. At Kangi the Guards Division was ordered to stay until General Takashima's troops had landed.

In a letter written at the Pescadores, I informed your readers of the departure, on October 10th, of General Takashima and his expedition for Paw-tay-chui, which lies on the coast about 20 miles north of Anping. The men-of-war *Kaimon* and *Seiyen* escorted the transports. They commenced the attack by shelling the Chinese troops who appeared on the beach. A few hours later the Chinese retired, and the landing of the troops commenced. Blue-jackets were first to gain the shore and a portion of the Mixed Brigade under command of Prince Fushimi followed. The anchorage is about 3 miles from the shore, and with a strong wind blowing the landing was extremely difficult, it taking seven or eight hours for the sampans to make the trip. The enemy occupied the village, but after a little fighting retreated, leaving the Japanese in possession. The natives informed them that a few days before several thousand Chinese soldiers had been sent to the village but had retreated during the early hours of that day. Only about 800 remained to attack the landing parties. The village being burnt, no further opposition was made to the new arrivals. The Japanese loss during the day was two wounded.

Only the Brigade Staff, the Fifth Regiment, and two companies of the Seventeenth Regiment were able to land during the day. An advance on Gam-sui Kang (En-sui-ko), Kow-wah-tow (Ko-so-to), and Ku-pa-so (Ki-bot-si) was made in three columns, and then a bivouac was ordered for the night. During the 12th the Mixed Brigade were sent out against the scattered bands of the enemy in the surrounding district, but with the exception of an engagement near Kaw-wah-tow the resistance was very feeble. Communication was opened with the Guards Division by the arrival of two staff officers from Yam Sui-kang, that had previously been occupied by a detachment sent forward from Kangi (Kagee). On the 14th, orders were given by General Takashima to the Mixed Brigade, that great care should be taken in thoroughly scouring the district for all Chinese soldiers, that none might remain to harass any small parties of Japanese passing through, or to endanger the lives or property of peacefully inclined Chinese. The brigade and Guards Division were also prepared to advance on Tainan-fu on the 18th. Word was received at head-quarters that one company of the 17th Regiment that had been sent out the day before in the direction of Tang Chui (So Ko), had been surrounded by the Chinese troops. One company and a half were accordingly sent as a reinforcement, and after some fighting the Chinese fled to A'oah and Pu-aw-kah (Boku-sio-ki-aku) with the loss of 60 killed. The Japanese lost 9 killed and 10 wounded. A detachment followed the retreating soldiers in the direction of A'oah, the next day. On the 15th, the van of the Mixed Brigade advanced to Kit-sui-ke and the Brigade staff to Yam-sui-kang. On that day the last of the supplies were landed from the transports at Paw-tay-chiu. Ont he 18th, information was received from native spies of the sites of mines and earth works constructed north of Tainan fu and that 10,000 troops were distributed in the district.

The Commander of the Mixed Brigade having been informed that between 5,000 and 6,000 Chinese troops were stationed near Ong-ya-toi (O-ya-to) despatched the Fifth Regiment of Infantry, one battery of Artillery, and a troop of Cavalry to engage them. After a few hours' fighting, in which 3 Japanese were killed and 14 wounded, including 5 officers, the enemy retreated, leaving 80 dead on the field. Two large cannon of ancient model were captured. On the same day the right column of the Guards Division took Mow-kang-bwi (Boko-bi) without opposition, and proceeded to Chung sha (Chu-sha). Here they encamped for the night. The right detachment of the Mixed Brigade met the enemy about four kilometres west of Ta-sung-tow (Dai-sen to) and fighting ensued. Later in the afternoon Ong-ya-toi was occupied. The Chinese loss for the day about was 400 killed, the Japanese, one captain wounded. One Krupp field-gun, one mountain gun, two bronze cannon, many rifles, and much amunition were captured. The advance Guard of the Mixed Brigade had rather a hard tussle with the Chinese all day. The first engagement was near Mo-toi (Ma-to) in which two Japanese were killed. Then advancing and crossing the So-boong-ke river about 4,000 of the enemy were encountered who were all well armed with repeating rifles. After a strong resistance the enemy fighting behind earthworks, the Japanese defeated them, but with a loss of 2 killed and 11 wounded, including two officers. The Chinese loss was only 20 dead. On the 19th, the right detachment surrounded 3,000 Chinese troops that had sought shelter in the village of Shoi lan (Sho tui). Escape was impossible and a most desperate engagement resulted, in which nearly 1,000 Chinese were killed and the Japanese lost 9 killed, including one officer, and 21 wounded, including two officers. The Chinese had laid mines along the regular route, and of course could not comprehend how it would be possible for an army to conduct operations contrary to their expectations. The extensive earthworks were consequently useless, but the mines caught two unsuspecting officers. Commodore Count Yoshii, Adjutant to his Majesty, and Capt. Ogawa, Adjutant to the Commander-in-Chief, were following at a safe distance behind the troops and had not observed the detour that was made to avoid the issues. Captain Ogawa was riding ahead when his horse struck a mine and a terriffic explosion ensued. He was wounded severely and his horse killed instantly. Commodore Yoshii was wounded about the head, but not seriously. I am informed by the latter officer, that if the mine had been properly constructed the loss of all the party would have resulted, but the explosives were simply covered with sand. At this village the news reached the Brigade of the occupation of Anping and Tianan-fu. The Chinese troops had surrendered, so both the mixed Brigade and the Guards Division reached Tiananfu without encounting further opposition. My letter written from Takow gives the events of Nogi's division in the south up to their arrival at that port.

News reached Head-quarters yesterday of the engagement of October 14th near Tang-koi sui, one of the southern villages. Two companies of infantry were in the vicinity reconnoitering, when they were suddenly surrounded by five or six hundred Chinese soldiers, who commenced to fire upon them from ambush and the surrounding mud huts. After several hours of hard fighting the Chinese were finally driven out, but not until 94 Japanese had been killed or wounded. The Chinese loss was only 30 killed. This engagement is of special interest, as it is the first in the whole war where the Japanese loss exceeded that of the Chinese. Two soldiers while tramping around Ape's Hill Fort at Takow, accidently discharged a mine, and both were killed. From Pit-han, which is about five miles east of Takow the Division advanced early on the morning of the 19th. On the 20th at Ji-chang-hang, about five miles south of Anping the advance guard of Cavalry were surrounded. After some fighting the Chinese retreated leaving 150 killed on the field; two Japanese were wounded.

Messrs. Ferguson and Barclay, connected with English Presbyterian Mission, on behalf of the Chinese, took under to convey to the Japanese at Ji-chang-hang a letter from the residents of Tainan-fu requesting the Japanese to come at once to the city, where they would meet with no opposition. Upon receiving this epistle the Japanese moved at once, arriving at the outskirts of

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Tainan-fu at seven a.m. They were in full possession of the city at nine a.m. on October 21st.

About 2,000 Chinese soldiers fled into Tainan-fu on the morning of the 21st, and discarding their weapons and uniforms for the more appropriate garb of humble coolies, mingled with the towns-people.

The *Riogun Maru* landed at Quemoy 5,182 prisoners. They were given five meals, consisting mostly of rice. Governor Kabayama, Mr. Mizuno Chief of the Civil Department, Mr. Okubo, and a large number of Civil Officers arrived on the 26th. They are mostly quartered in Tainan-fu. The Governor and his staff will return to Taipeh in about 10 days.

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

The following is a *résumé* of a paper upon James Russell Lowell, poet, critic, essayist, and and diplomatist, read by Mr. A. B. Brown before the Yokohama Literary Society on Friday evening. The paper was freely illustrated with quotations from the poems, the "Biglow Papers," and excerpts from several of Lowell's essays:—

JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL.

In common with so much of the flower of American life, James Russell Lowell was of Puritan origin. He was the heir of several generations of men of plain living and high thinking and pious ways: the outcome of a line of eminent divines, munificent philanthropists, and enterprising manufacturers. The best blood of Massachusetts flowed in his veins, for he was a descendant of Percival Lowell, a merchant, who emigrated from Bristol in 1639, and settled in Newbury, Massachusetts. The Russells also were men of mark in the State. The poet's father Dr. Charles Lowell, was a cultivated Unitarian clergyman, fond of books and a lover of old ways. His wife, Harriet Spence, a lady of unusual parts, was the daughter of Captain Robert T. Spence, of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, an officer of the U.S. Navy; and from him no doubt came the imagination and poetic faculty with which the brilliant author of the "Biglow Papers" was so largely endowed. James Russell Lowell was the youngest of five children, and was born at Cambridge, Massachusetts, on February 22nd—Washington's birthday—1819, in the old house—"Elmwood"—in which, he died. Many lines in his poems give glimpses of his early home: and in his essays he often dwells with loving tenderness over the memories of his birthplace, then a pretty, quiet country village, with "a few houses, chiefly old, around the bare common, with ample elbow-room, and old women, capped and spectacled, still peered through the same windows from which they had watched Lord Percy's artillery rumble by to Lexington," and where before the quaint inns you might see "great white topped waggons, each drawn by double files of six or eight horses, with its dusty bucket swung from the hinder axle, bull dog silent underneath." Elmwood, too, built in old pre revolutionary times, was full of books, pictures, and ancestral portraits.

In this atmosphere of purity and culture, where the talk was of literature or weightier matters, of the Federal Bank, Clay's or Calhoun's last speech, Channing latest sermon, or essay, or Scott's last novel, and where stern protests against slavery were uttered by the hearth, grew up the poet, critic, and militant abolitionist. At 16 he went to Harvard. The ordinary studies had no charm for him. Rumour has it, indeed, that at Harvard, Lowell showed a great faculty for idleness, and would read nothing except books that attracted his capricious and satirical fancy. For mathematics he conceived a settled distaste, and it was during a brief period of rustication for idleness from his *alma mater* that he first made acquaintance, at Concord, with Emerson, whose transcendental side the young satirist attacked in many humourous and playful sallies. He entered the Law School at Harvard and having taken his degree of L.L.B., actually opened an office as a lawyer in Boston. But he did not seriously attempt to practise. His only record as a "limb of the law" is to be found in a laughable story called "My first client," which appeared in the *Boston Miscellany* in 1841. After the lapse of a year he turned his back on the profession, bidding farewell for ever to "Coke upon Lyttleton," "Story's Commentaries upon the Constitution," and similar diverting calf-bound volumes beloved by the legal mind. Literature was his early passion and it soon absorbed him. Before his 22nd year he published a volume of poems, neither better nor worse than most juvenile productions, very melancholy and very musical, and with a characteristically youthful motto. In 1843 he began to edit at Boston a literary and critical magazine called the *Pioneer*. Among his contributors were Edgar Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Whittier and other writers who afterward became famous. The magazine made but a short voyage, making shipwreck after three numbers had appeared. But a great advance was already discernible, and it was clear that America possessed another poet. In 1844, the volume containing "A Legend of Brittany," "The Shepherd of King Admetus," and "Prometheus" appeared. Here and there the practised ear detected echoes of Keats, Wordsworth, and others. But true native notes were struck. If rhetoric predominated, it was noble rhetoric, and the thoughts of the young poet moved in a high region of sweet music. Many of the sonnets expressed strong anti-slavery sentiments. Had Lowell written no more than "A Legend of Brittany"—"beautiful as the illumined marge of some old book"—he would have taken a high place among the poets of his country. But in 1848 he made greater advance and stepped at once into the front rank of writers by opening up the rich, fresh vein of the "Biglow Papers." Destined, we can scarcely doubt, to be permanent in literature the papers could have appeared at no other time. The Mexican war had just broken out, and Lowell protested against it vigorously in the witty essays and dialect poems which have since become world famous. The first of the Papers appeared anonymously in the *Boston Courier*, under date, June, 1846, and they continued every week until the middle of 1848. "They consist," writes Mr. Charles Dudley Warner, "of a series of poems in the Yankee dialect, ostensibly written by Hosea Biglow, and edited, with an introduction, notes, glossary and index, by the Rev. Homer Wilbur, pastor of the first church in Zaalam, and prospective member of many literary, learned and scientific societies"—a full list of which takes up a long page of closely printed abbreviations. These papers had no mere literary success; they are to be compared rather with the Drapier Letters than with the satires of Pope or Dryden. The whole rhetorical stock in trade of many eminent politicians of the day became at one blow unsaleable. Lowell's laughable description of the *dramatis personæ* of the Biglow papers has often been quoted, and runs as follows:—"There was the danger of vulgarising deep and sacred convictions by adopting a light, comic form. I needed on occasion to rise above the mere patois, and thus I conceived the Reverend Homer Wilbur to express the more cautious element of the New England character and also its pedantry, and Mr. Hosea Biglow, who should serve for its homely common sense, vivified and heated by conscience. Finally, I invented Birdofredum Sawin for the close of my little puppet show. He endeavours always to be on the winning side, 'opining that a genooine statesman should be on his guard, if he must hev beliefs, not to b'lieve em too hard.'" The America of Birdofredum Sawin has passed away: it is faithfully preserved for ever in the "Biglow Papers." The second series was wrung from him by a war compared with which that between the United States and Mexico in 1846 was a skirmish—a war involving the temporary disruption of the Great Republic. But the flavour of the second series was not quite so racy as that of the first. The incomparable success could not be repeated. He himself, in his own moderate, modest way, said—Friendly people say to me sometimes: "Write us more Biglow Papers," and I have even been foolish enough to try, only to find that I could not. This has helped to pursuade me that the book was a genuine growth and not a manufacture.

Witty though Lowell was, he has said that he never used the mask of Momus except to command attention to serious thoughts; and it is characteristic of the man that his next works were the poems, "The vision of Sir Launfal" and "The Present Crisis." These set to music the gravest resolves of the sternest spirits of New England, and have since furnished with inspiring texts many a religious and social reform. "A Fable for Critics," published anonymously in 1848, obtained for him another success, whether a durable one is more doubtful. Loud were the cries of indignation from the crowd of poetasters who had squatted down on the highest peak of Parnassus, and whom, with a good natured shove, he pushed off into their proper place on the flat below. The "Fable" did its work. The poem introduced, says a comptent critic, a due sense of proportion into American criticism. It put an end to those dull times, when, to use Lowell's words, "to write a hundred blank verses was to be immortal till somebody else wrote a hundred and fifty blanker," and pruned, with good effect, the too luxuriant growth of "remarkable" men of letters in every community big enough to maintain a grocery store or a newspaper.

In 1855 Lowell was appointed, in succession to Longfellow, to the chair of Modern Languages and Belles Letters at Harvard. He went abroad for two years, to live chiefly in Germany and Italy, there to widen still further his knowledge of modern literature. He returned to Cambridge in 1857, and his work as a professor was varied by lecturing at the Lowell Institute, the publication of "Fireside Travels"—in the opinion of many of his admirers the best of his prose writings—and the task of editing the *Atlantic Monthly*, which, under his skilful guidance, did much for the literature of his country. "Under the Willows," containing more than one charming poem, appeared in 1869. Perhaps on some products of this time, full of subtle feeling and exquisite susceptibility to nature's tenderer aspects, the admirers of Lowell will linger with most delight. In his "Commemoration Ode," "dedicated to the ever sweet and shining memory of the 93 sons of Haward College who have died for their country in the war of nationality," he once more was the chosen spokesman of the deepest thoughts of his countrymen. We English cannot, perhaps, value his Odes as highly as they do; they are for them robed in personal associations of sorrow and glory, which to Englishmen must be invisible. But no one and can read them unmoved; they were the fit expression of a nation's grief. In an early work entitled "Conversations," Lowell had given the world a taste of his quality as a critic; and, as editor of the *Atlantic Monthly* and the *North American Review*, he wrote many fine critical essays. His full strength and richness, as such, were revealed in the essays published between 1870 and 1876. "My Study Windows," and "Among my Books" are in all hands. Wherever literature is loved, wherever learning and appreciation of what is beautiful and good are held in honour, these delightful fruits of a full life are prized. It is easy to find defects in him as a critic. Half of his faults, however, are due to exuberance of wit and fancy; the other half are perhaps ascribable to overkindliness. With all their blemishes, these essays, a well known English critic writes, take rank with the very best of Hazlitt's and scarcely fall short of the master-pieces of Lamb. No man ever wrote less bookishly and more delightfully about books; none of his generation could distill more skilfully the subtle aroma of the finest literature. An eclectic, he was no simple product of his own New England. Many minds, the rich washings of many streams, ores from far countries, and the dust of diamonds bequeathed by the past imparted to his style its irridescence and remarkable beauty. Nothing can be better than his critical analysis of Shakespeare, Milton, Dryden, Spenser, Pope, Wordsworth, and the immortals of English poetry; but to our thinking he is still happier in dealing with smaller English writers. Perhaps the best of all is his criticism of Gilbert White, the author of "Selborne," of whom he says that the American Revolutionary War between 1776 and 1783 had no such thrilling excitement as that which marks his letter to the Hon. Daines Barrington, communicating that the swallow has made his first appearance at Selborne twenty days earlier than usual!

From his congenial life in Cambridge, Lowell was called in 1877 to become Minister at Madrid—an Embassy once filled by Washington Irving—and in 1880 succeeded Mr. Welsh as representative of the United States in England. No foreign representative was ever more respected and admired than Mr. Lowell. His was an Embassy of culture and goodwill. We prized his counsels and criticisms of England, even if pungently expressed. We rejoiced in his refined, humorous speech. An admirable public speaker, like most of the American Ambassadors to England have been, he was ever the soul and life of a congenial company. We could not have been more proud of him had he been one of us. He made warm friends in the old country; and his departure from England, on the change of administration in 1885, was regarded as nothing short of a calamity. As a learned critic in *The Times* observed, soon after Lowell passed away "to his long home," it is evident that he upon whom was showered so much success laboured under one constant disadvantage, his versatility and many-sidedness lessened his reputation. "The mountain which has far reaching spurs sloping gently into the valleys seems to a careless eye so much smaller than the peak, really a dwarf in comparison, shooting out of the plain. His culture was so wide, the hospitality of his mind so generous. He loved the warm sunshine and fresh nature of Chaucer; it did not prevent him from writing the best essay in the language on Dryden; his study of Lessing—a kindred spirit—is perhaps the great critic's most satisfactory biography; and he could not speak of Dante, Shakespeare, Keats,

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or Browning without saying things, if not unsaid before, never said so well. His vision ranged with easy glance from Concord to Weimar, from Stratford to Florence, and to some minds it was natural to question his originality, while admitting his learning. Certain people always delight to praise the duckweed of the ditch, just because of its origin, at the expense of the full-blown flower, the product of nature and art. Posterity corrects such mistakes; it is apt to think cheaply of that originality, the first and almost only condition of which is ignorance." Certainly Lowell had many of the qualities calculated to secure lasting fame; and we cannot believe that such gems as "The Courtin," "The Present Crisis," or the best parts of the "Biglow Papers" will perish.

LETTER FROM WASHINGTON.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Washington, D.C., October 10.

Quick as Japan is to adopt new ideas and appliances we have one thing that has hardly reached any part of the Orient or even Europe—"trolley parties." You pick out your route, charter an electric street car for the evening, fill it up with your friends, put in lunch baskets and bottles, and away you go merrily rolling around town—and you have a "trolley party." There are no disagreeable stops, as no one else is allowed to board your car. No one tries in fact, as at a glance one can see that for the time it is private property, from the rows of incandescent lights strung around the roof, and the flowers festooned about the handles and posts, and flags waving from almost every seat. You can also have any music you wish up to ten o'clock, but after that only vocal, or very gentle instrumental strains in some places. Some noisy fellows at first made night hideous with blaring brass bands and discordant tin horns and drums, and the police had to check the disorder. But with congenial souls there is no pleasanter way of spending a hot evening than to whirl through the streets and out to some suburban resort, there to rest awhile, then to whisk away to another on the opposite side of the city miles away, enlivening the moments, and delighting the hot dwellers along your path with singing old familiar songs, till you go to bed in the small hours cooled by your long, swift ride. The expense per head is very slight, being about 25 cents or fifty *sen* apiece for the entire period. This form of diversion originated in Philadelphia, and has reached its fullest development there. It was probably due to this influence that "parlour" street cars have been introduced in that city, modelled after Pullman's, with a table and comfortable chairs, and curtains, to secure privacy. But you pay double for one of these. The "trolley party" craze has taken firm hold in Baltimore, where I could observe its manifestations during August. That was a very hot month and on some evenings there were as many as a hundred "parties" out. I saw nearly a dozen on one branch of one line one night. Here in Washington, though only forty miles from Baltimore, we are still old-fashioned, perhaps because our "tram" system has not attained sufficient growth.

It was confidently predicted several years ago that the electric road would prove a serious foe to its steam brother in local traffic. A verification was furnished the other day by the cut of 25 per cent. to the suburban points of Baltimore and Washington made by the Baltimore and Ohio line, one of the largest corporations in America. The same reduction, or even larger, has been brought about in Philadelphia, New York, and some of the thickly settled sections of New England. From all these places electric lines radiate, parallelling and tapping the steam ones, and bringing business men relief from the tyranny of the time tables. Thus far electricity has steadily gained ground in the fight; so much of the short travel has it captured that some of the strongest steam companies have taken off several daily passenger trams on some lines leading into the great cities. That other phase of this battle—competition over long distances—has not come into consideration yet: but it will doubtless do so in a little while, as there will soon be continuous electric tracks of nearly a hundred miles in length. It was planned some months ago to unite the spokes stretching out from New York and Philadelphia. Baltimore and Washington will be connected by an electric road, if not two, in less than a year, as the contract for the entire work has been let to responsible bidders, and numerous hands have begun grading. It is said the fare will be one dollar, while you travel now for two. There is no instance of electricity being successful at this long range and the experts have an open field for forecasting, but the burden of opinion seems to be unfavourable to any wholesale change until appliances have been improved. A curious pointer may be the invention by that prodigy Testa. He puts his electric motor on the ordinary locomotive, and by first converting the energy of coal into steam and then into electricity he claims that he can get two or three times as much power from a given quantity of combustion as we now extract. While this would be a saving in one direction it would not assist the cleanliness or comfort of travellers. The same dust, smoke, and cinders would still assail us, and the slight economy in fuel would hardly compensate for the added cost. Aside from the money item, it is clearly established that the subtle current can drag the heaviest trains and can carry passengers at the greatest speed. During the past summer an electric Mogul has been pulling the most enormous loads through a tunnel, over a mile long, under Baltimore. It has done this with ease, as it weighs some 90 tons, about twice as much as its average steam rival. It has also fully met expectations in keeping the underground passage free from odours and impurities. In New England, in careful, rigid tests, this invisable agent drew passengers at nearly a hundred miles an hour. Electrical specialists pardonably point with pride to these achievements, but financiers coldly stand by the balance sheets, which invariably foot up in favour of steam.

A matter of the greatest interest to all missionaries was discussed at the regular Fall meeting of the British Association, in the anthropological section. Professor Petrie, the eminent authority in Anthropology and Egyptology, precipitated the question by his paper thoughtfully condemning us dominant Aryans for trying to force weaker races to adopt our civilization. He was very outspoken on this point, arguing that our system "is the most complex, unnatural, and artificial that has ever been known, a system developed in a cold country, amid one of the hardest, least sympathetic, most self-denying and calculating of all the peoples of the world. Such a system, the product of such extreme conditions, we attempt to force on the least developed races and expect from them implicit subservience to our illogical law and our inconsistent morality. The result is death. We make a death house and call it civilization. Scarcely a single race can bear the burden, and then we talk complacently about the mysterious decay of savages before the white man." One of his colleagues, Professor Haddon, also said: "Savage customs are often as powerful for morality as those we have sought to inflict, and there is no reason why we should interfere with them any more than is necessary to make life and property safe. Very many good people have confused clothing with morality, but the experience of all travellers is that there is absolutely no connection between the quantity of clothes and the degree of virtue. If we want to extend the markets for cotton goods let us do so honestly, and not under the pretence of advancing religion and morality." In this toleration of other customs than ours Professor Petrie claimed to have the sanction of the Apostle Paul, who he, says, "preached non-interference with any customs, even with the idol offerings provided," and who did not "prohibit slavery, polygamy or even gladiatorial shows." Other experienced and practical investigators took the same view, and the general tone was said to be decidedly hostile to the average missionary methods and aims. Of course to such an advanced people as the Japanese and to such intelligent Christian labourers among them this criticism could not apply.

While missionaries are zealously working in foreign lands there is plenty of "heathenism" at home in the opinion of some ministers, even in the metropolis of America, New York. The Rev. Thos. Difon, of the Baptist denomination, has recently delivered a course of sermons in that city with the startling subject, "The failure of Protestantism in New York City." He made naked statements and gave some shocking figures, as exhibited in this extract. "New York is without exception, the most godless city on the American continent. In 1840 there was one church for every 2,000 inhabitants. To-day it has one church for every 4,500 of its inhabitants. There are vast districts in this city in which there are 50,000 people and no church. New York city has 500,000 human beings who, as far as regards Christian knowledge, are heathen, and heathen not in name and form, but in heart and spirit. The number of men who attend church is not equal to one-half of those who register daily at the hotels in our city. In the Methodist Church, which is the most aggressive church of our time, there was a membership in New York last year of 17,309, divided among 86 churches. The members subscribed last year $550,000, and there was $4,100,000 invested money besides. All this capital resulted in a gain of 241 members during the year. In the Baptist Church the average gain is 216 members a year, with a membership of 18,000, an income of $500,000, and an invested capital of $4,000,000. The same state of affairs prevails in the Presbyterian Church, notwithstanding its immense wealth and power. The men have destroyed the Churches of New York. There are one thousand secret orders in New York, and they have not a single woman member, and 300 churches, the membership of which is three-fourths women." These charges if true prove a distinct loosening of evangelical forms in our chief aggregate of population, but they may not indicate any decay of spiritual life.

Perhaps a new style evangelist like Sam Jones may be needed to stir up the backsliders. His style and breeziness are as far removed from the dignity and unction of the regular conservatives as the manners of a prize fighter from those of a meek martyr. But he is very popular and affecting with the masses. He preached daily for three weeks at a Methodist camp meeting twenty miles from Baltimore, and crowds went to hear him. So well did he draw that the gate receipts, from ten cents a person, more than paid his salaries of a thousand dollars. These two quotations will give some notion of his style:—"I wouldn't vote for a man put up by the damnable old red-nosed democratic party or the infernal old hypocritical republican party, not if he were an angel sent from heaven. He's in too bad company." Again he used these choice epithets:—"How about the record of members of the Legislature? When an old bum is found utterly without character and good for nothing else, they run him for the Legislature. It's a fact. If I were running a soap factory in hell, and the devil were to bring me a lot of members of the Legislature, I would say to him: Take them on. I couldn't deoderize their damnable stinking old carcasses with all the disinfectants I've got in the place."

An incident at Coney Island, a resort near New York, might furnish a useful hint to those missionaries who have difficulty in learning the tongue native to the people they labour among. In this place the ministers all left for the summer, but one more thoughtful than the rest loaded up a phonograph with a complete burial service. It was needed too, as a baby died during the summer and the mother was frantic to have the proper rites performed. As no clergyman could be got the instrument was called into service and discharged its duties as follows:—"Mrs. Stillwell conducted the services. She changed the cylinders five times, and from the opening to the close it was just thirty-five minutes. An extra loud needle was used and the voice from the machine, as clear as a bell, penetrated to all parts of the room. Had a stranger been listening at the door he would have thought that a minister stood beside the coffin and spoke the words that rang through the double parlors. First was the Lord's Prayer, recited in a slow impressive manner. Then a shrill voice, unlike the other, announced that the Amphion Quartette would sing 'Nearer my God to thee,' and four well-blended voices sang the anthem. Then a passage of Scripture was heard. There was a buzz of the cylinder and then a deep voice pronounced the words committing the body to the grave. 'Blessed are the deal who die in the Lord,' were the words which rang out with greater distinctness than the rest, and then followed the benediction." A missionary who cannot catch the correct Japanese accent could have his written sermons talked into the funnel by a Japanese assistant, and then he could go around with the phonograph, and feel sure that he would be heard and understood.

It is a long step from Missionaries to millionaires, especially if we estimate in dollars, but the *New York World* lately considered the question of the six richest men on earth, and drew up this list, perhaps not more accurate than much of our war news from the East last summer:—

Li Hung-chang	$ 500,000,000
John D. Rockefeller	180,000,000
The Duke of Westminster	100,000,000
Colonel North	100,000,000
Cornelius Vanderbilt	100,000,000
Woh Qua	100,000,000
Total	$1,080,000,000

Think of it! Over a billion dollars.

The London Missionary Society brought to an end on 28th ult. their centenary celebration meetings. Papers were read in the morning upon missionary work in Polynesia, in Madagascar, and elsewhere, with especial reference to the training of native workers, while the subject for discussion in the afternoon was "Christian Literature in the Mission Field." The centenary found now amounts to £76,300.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

LETTER FROM ST. LOUIS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

St. Louis, Mo., Oct. 18th.

The return of cool weather finds this section of America in a more flourishing condition. The roar and fury of steam and the flashes of ten thousand electric currents, intermingled with numberless multitudes hurrying to and from work of every sort, remind one that every vestige of the depression of a year ago is gone. This is truly a marvellous country. One day disaster may rudely mar the commercial or social welfare of the nation, but to-morrow every thing is prosperity. No nation even arose to greater glory in so incredibly short a space as did the United States from the ravages of war and this spirit has been repeatedly evinced in various other ways. Improvements, inventions, and advancement in every line are so rapid that if one does not studiously keep up with the times he will quickly find himself living in an era of the past and surrounded by entirely new environments. The multiplied millions invested every month in real improvements in this city alone is simply amazing.

During the past month the annual autumn festivities have been pompously and successfully observed. The Veiled Prophets and King Hotu's Retinue of Funny Fellows have had their parades. The St. Louis Fair and Exposition have been ablaze. The number of visitors to the city during these weeks reach into the millions. Fully 400,000 people witnessed each parade, and on one day of the Fair there were 160,000 people who paid admission. It can be imagined what an increase in the volume of trade this multitude of visitors naturally effected. Our street cars have adopted the transfer system so that one can travel ten miles or more over the city for five cents. This greatly aids in getting about. There are three or four Japanese managing an exhibit in the Exposition. They seem to be doing a fairly good business.

While making an excavation preparatory to erecting a residence in a suburb of this city, a workman, a few days ago, dug up a human body turned into stone. The petrified body has been on exhibition at the Fair, and thousands of people have viewed it with much interest. There is no fake about it, as I saw it for myself. The body is that of a large woman laid out and in a natural position. Every part is distinct and preserved, only it is solid stone.

Rev. A. S. Ishida who has completed his education in this country, will return to Japan to take charge of the Methodist Church at Matsuyama, to which place he has been informed Bishop Hendrix has appointed him. He attended the St. Louis Conference several days ago, and is held in high esteem by the Church in America. A few days ago he received a letter from the Rev. Jerome C. Berryman, a noted pioneer Missionary veteran of 88 years, that on account of the fame of the author and its reference to a Japanese ministerial student, will no doubt be of interest to your readers. The following is the letter as it appeared in the St. Louis *Christian Advocate*:—

MR. A. S. ISHIDA—Very Dear Brother in Christ: You will excuse me for using pencil, for because of the unsteadiness of my hand, the pen is of no more use to me. In taking you by the hand a few days ago, for the last time probably in this world, I felt that I was taking leave of one whom I had learned to love most dearly. Not only as one of God's children, but as a gentleman, whose prudent deportment and well ordered Christian life during the last three or four years that you have been intimately known to me has been faultness; and further, I may safely say, your memory will be kindly cherished by those who have been your associates and instructors here, both in the church and school; your teachers all give you high praise. What I say to you here is not flattery, but for your encouragement; because you are far away from your home and kindred. "A stranger in a strange land." But He who is the Father of us all will take care of His own, whether in America or Japan. You came to America to prepare yourself for great usefulness when you shall return to your own loved native land. God and His people have been good to you, and I am persuaded that you will find both Him and them equally good to you so long as you put your trust in Him who has said: "I will never leave you, nor forsake you." Let no temptation shake your confidence. Having been sixty-seven years in the gospel ministry of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, spending fourteen years of that time as missionary among the heathen Indians of our own continent, and the remainder as pastor and teacher to my own people, you may infer that my opportunities for testing the truth of the Bible as a revelation from God, have been ample, and now at the age of eighty-six, I declare to you that I would not exchange my faith in Christ to be crowned Emperor of the whole world and be made young again. This Bible, my brother, is for your people as truly as for me and you. Should you be returned to your native land and people, tell them God hath made of one blood all the nations that are upon the face of the whole earth, and salvation is free for all who will believe in His Son, Jesus Christ. It is my expectation to die in this faith and through the merit of Him who suffered for my sins. I hope to get to Heaven, and more, I expect to meet you and other Japanese there. My wife instructs me to give you assurances of her kind remembrance and fervent prayer for your welfare. Let us hear from you as often as your convenience will allow. Affectionately yours.

Caledonia, Mo., JEROME C. BERRYMAN.

At this writing the prize-fight between Champion Corbett and Fitzsimmons is in a fix. It was proposed to hold the contest for the World's Championship in Texas, but the Governor called an extra session of the legislature which passed laws prohibiting the fight. It was next given out that Hot Springs, Arkansas, would be the scene of the battle. But this has been forbidden by the Governor of the State, and it is hard to say where it will take place. But before this is in print you will doubtless hear the result of the tangle.

Cardinal Gibbons of Baltimore, who recently returned from a visit to Rome, where he had a long conference with Pope Leo XIII., was in St. Louis last Sunday. He was on his way to Sante Fe, where he invested Archbishop Chappelle with the pallum, the insignia of his new office.

It is rumoured that the famous African explorer and member of the English Parliament, Mr. Henry M. Stanley is now in this country and will enter upon another lecturing tour. He, however, refuses to be seen by newspaper men, and even registered in San Francisco under an assumed name. Stanley is well known here and in New Orleans. His early life contrasted with his brilliant and marvelous career makes him admired by every American.

A very amusing joke has been recently perpetrated by a shrewd Japanese upon a St. Louis medicine man. The "Dr." got up a scheme to make a Japanese medicine, and accordingly wrote to a Japanese in Japan to translate an English endorsement of the medicine which he enclosed. The English version goes on to say that the medicine has been used in Japan for 2,000 years and is used as an invaluable and certain cure for various and sundry diseases. The Japanese wrote back in a bold Japanese classical hand saying that he could not indorse the medicine and if he should become a party to such a fraud the gods would punish him. He addressed the "Dr" as a horn-blower and poked ridicule at him. When the "Dr" got the writing he naturally thought it was a translation of what he sent, so large electroes were made and a fac-simile of the Japanese can be seen in hundreds of drug stores with the English beneath as a translation of the testimonial. I met a Japanese on the street the other day and he showed me his discovery, which was very amusing to him. The "Dr" took the translation to several Japanese now in the Exposition; here they were of course too polite to tell him better, so he goes on printing an abuse of his own remedy.

The millionaire double-murderer Dr. Arthur Dustrow, now in prison here, is still pushing his simulations of Paronaic insanity. A day or two ago he had a messenger called to his cell to whom he gave $500, with instructions to purchase flowers and carry them to his wife, whom he said was living at the mansion of his young sister on Lafayette Avenue. He killed his wife and child in a most brutal manner two years ago, but he claims to believe they are living. I have often seen and talked with him in gaol. He is a fine looking young man of 34 years, black hair and moustache. He has often spoken to me on his paronaic theories and is pleasant in his demeanor, but like nearly every other man, I believe he is simulating and never encourage him to talk to me on that line. Ex-Governor Charles P. Johnson, his counsel, says he will never hang, but the State thinks differently, and Circuit Attorney Zachritz is now endeavouring to re-indict him so that the case may be tried in this city instead of at Union, Mo., to which place it went on a change of venue. I have heard it said that Dustrow's Counsel has received a fee of $50.000 for defending the murderer. It is certainly one of the most noted cases in the annals of criminal practice in the West.

The tobacco monopolies are at war in this country and as a result one can now buy 50 cigarettes for 5 cents. or a pound of chewing tobacco for 14 cents. This is about one-half the usual price, but cigars keep up, it being impossible to buy anything like a good cigar for less than ten cents.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge.—FRIDAY, November 8th, 1895.

BIEBER ARD BRO. VERSUS THE CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

Judgment in this case was delivered at 10.30 o'clock this morning by His Honour.

The question that he was asked to decide was, he said, whether the damage sued for was ship damage, and the plaintiffs put in the bill of lading, which was a clean one, in support of that contention. The onus therefore lay with the defendants to prove that the damage was not done on the ship, and whether they had proved this or not was the question he had now to decide. The defendants called the Second Officer of the ship, who in his evidence stated that the leather was in the same condition at Sydney in which it was delivered here. Of course if that was established the defendants had done all they were bound to do, to deliver the merchandize in the same order and condition in which they received it. The Second Officer stated that he had given a clean receipt for the leather because he considered that the bales were in good condition, and when he was shown a sample bale in Court he still maintained that he would give a clean receipt for it. This statement was corroberated by the evidence of the Chief Officer. To meet this point, the plaintiffs called a witness, Captain Bond, who has been engaged in the Australian trade and had some experience with leather. He said that he would not have given a clean receipt for the leather in its present condition. He would have signed it as "stained." The suggestion that is offered upon this evidence is, that I should disbelieve the evidence of the Second Officer and find as a fact that the cargo was not received in Sydney in the condition in which it was delivered here. If a mass or a body of evidence of ship-masters and mates had been brought to that effect then it might very well be that I should be compelled to disbelieve the Second Officer's statement. But such is not the case. It is only the practice of one man against another. Obviously, therefore, I ought not to disbelieve one witness because an other witness says he would act in a different way. I omit the Chief Officer's corroboration for the time being. For the moment I am contrasting the difference of procedure between plaintiffs' witness and the Second Officer. I think there can be little doubt that it would have been more prudent for the Second Officer to have marked the shipment of leather as stained. If the bales had been described—"ends stained"—in the shipping order or the bill of lading, we should have heard nothing of the case. Either the shippers would not have sent the goods forward, or if they had gone forward I cannot see how a case would have arisen here. But this is one thing: it is quite another thing to say or suggest that I ought to disbelieve the evidence of the Second Officer. His practice, he has told us, is to give a clean receipt to the effect that goods are in good order when there is no wet, or if the package is covered, when it is not broken. This is the principle that he proceeds upon. I am not prepared to say that such is not a reasonable principle to proceed upon. It is quite certain to my mind that I ought not to disbelieve the Second Officer when he says that the goods were received in good order and condition and were delivered in the same way. It is quite obvious that I cannot disbelieve him on the strength of the evidence on the other side. But I am not driven to dispose of the case on these narrow grounds. There were two theories set up in this case, one by the plaintiffs and the other by the defendants. Plaintiffs' theory was supported by the same witness. He thought that the damage had been caused by the ship sweating during the voyage through the tropics, that the moisture had collected in the hold through failure to open the hatches in fine weather to induce ventilation, while the ship was on this voyage from Sydney to Hongkong. But the theory that the damage was due to moisture which fell from the deck above on to the leather is wholly inadequate. After taking into consideration the place where the cargo was stowed, how it was stowed, and of what the rest of the cargo consisted; taking also in consideration the condition of the voyage, I am utterly unable to adopt the theory put forward by that witness. He said that moisture must have collected under the deck and from thence dropped down on the ends of the leather and so produced the damage we see. But in my opinion it is impossible that the damage could have been done that way. Why should the moisture only have dropped on the edges of the bales? If moisture had fallen as the witness described it on the leather would have shown

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marks of the dripping of the moisture, the water also permeating the centre of the bale. The theory of the witness is wholly unsustainable. It is in my opinion, a forced theory, for it starts with the assumption that the leather is not in the same condition as it was when received on board the ship. It is more probable that the leather is in the same condition as when it came aboard the ship; that is the point I have to look for. I will now refer to that passage in the *Freedom* case, which Mr. Scidmore read the other day with so much unction. "But I think it reasonable to conclude from the defendants' evidence that from the nature and collocation of this cargo of animal, vegetable, and, to some extent, putrescible matter, by improper packing and insufficient ventilation, and the proximity of the ship's water tank, during a voyage through the tropics, where especial care is necessary, the atmosphere in the hold became heated, damp, and vitiated, without means of escape, and that this atmosphere was the proximate cause of the damage." His Honour, proceeding further, said that in the *Freedom's* case the voyage was tempestuous and when the hatches were opened in London there was such an escape of steam and vitiated air that the ship's officers feared the decks might be blown up. He was not surprised, therefore, that the Judges in that case came to the decision they did. The *Freedom's* was a different kind of case to the one they had here. All the rest of the cargo in the hold in which the leather was stowed was delivered in good condition, as the Chief Officer proved in his evidence, so that it seems impossible that the damage occurred in the way suggested. Had the whole cargo been damaged, and not merely the ends of the leather, the supposition would perhaps have been tenable. Then we have the other theory, that advanced by the defence. That, in my opinion, explains the whole matter. Here we have the evidence of a tanner of 25 years' experience. He was shown the worst skin in the whole bale, and he said that all the damage he saw there was done before the skin reached the tannery or was caused through want of care during the process of tanning. You have heard the explanation he gave, and I need not go through it again. His evidence in my mind was conclusive—if I required satisfying upon the point—that the damage was not done aboard the ship. One other point I may mention, and it is a cogent little circumstance in the case, and that is the statement of the plaintiff that this was one of three shipments of leather ordered of the same dealer in Sydney, all of which, though they came up on different ships, were damaged alike. The intrinsic value of the statement was to confirm the opinion that the damage to the leather was caused anterior to the shipping of it aboard the defendants' ship. The defendants had to discharge the onus cast upon them that the damage did not occur after shipment, and they have proved it, judgment is therefore given for the defendants.

Mr. Walford—And costs, your Honour?

His Honour—Costs follow the event. They will be taxed in the usual way if the parties cannot agree. You raised the question of some costs attendant on the adjournment: I am not dealing with them now. I shall require more information about them, and you will have to appear before me if the application is pursued.

The Court then rose.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

(From the "Daily Press.")

London, Oct. 31.

The political situation is still causing uneasiness, especially the relations between Great Britain and Russia. The Bourses are nervous.

London, Nov. 1.

A Russian official communication declares that the situation is tranquil and not calculated to inspire uneasiness.

A series of strong earthquake shocks have occurred at Rome, but no serious damage has resulted.

(From the "Siam Observer.")

London, Oct. 20.

Lord Salisbury has sent an ultimatum to the Government of Venezuela demanding a prompt settlement of the long standing claims of England against that country.

London, Oct. 20.

Advices have been received from Massowah to the effect that King Menelek has been struck by lightning as he was seated in his tent and was deprived of the power of speech. Mangascia is now suing for peace.

London, Oct. 20.

It has been arranged that General Duchesne and part of the troops will remain temporarily at Smyrna. The Hova Queen has accepted the position and is now endeavouring to get her subjects, who had fled from Antananarivo, to return.

London, October 21.

On the entry of the French into Antananarivo the mob massacred and mutilated the French prisoners. The good behaviour of the French troops is having a good effect towards reassuring the Hovas.

London, October 21.

To-day being the anniversary of the battle of Trafalgar, the leading English papers seize the opportunity to urge the maintenance of the naval supremacy of England.

London, October 21.

The first-class twin-screw battleship *Victorious*, which registers 14,900 tons and will carry 52 guns and five torpedo tubes, was launched to-day at Chatham, after having been only seventeen months in building.

London, October 21.

A Danish expedition for scientific research in Central Asia will start in January.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

(From the "Comercio.")

Madrid, October 22.

A storm has swept over Cuba, which has caused a suspension of operations by the army.

The President of the United States has declined to recognise the insurgents as belligerents.

Madrid, October 24.

The storm in Cuba has wrought great havoc.

Madrid, October 29.

General Martinez Campos states that while meeting war with war he will continue his policy of conciliation.

General José Gar Aldave attacked a rebel force at Aigo de Avila and completely routed it.

General Martinez Campos in a despatch to-day states that the recent storm disabled a hundred and seventy men in one column and obliged him to suspend the campaign for several days.

Madrid, October 29.

The gunboat *Antonio Lopez* is believed to have been lost on the Diana shoal.

Madrid. October 24.

A cruiser on the same lines as the *Reina Regene* is to be built at Ferrol and two more cruisers are to be procured in England, to be called the *Sanches Bercaiztegui* and *Cristobal Colon*.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Sōul, November 11.

Over two hundred robbers have been exploiting Hwang-ju and An-song. Requests have been made for the dispatch of police.

Kumamoto, November 11.

The election of a member of the House of Representatives for the first district of this Prefecture took place to-day. The Kokken candidates, Mr. Naito Masayoshi, was returned with 1,273 votes against 284 thrown for the Radical candidate, Mr. Awatsu Takeo.

Shimonoseki, November 11.

The *Ikai Maru*, with 700 soldiers belonging to the Second Division, called here to-day on her way to Formosa.

Takow, Formosa, November 11.

The Imperial Guards will embark on transports and start for home on the 13th inst.

Pekin, Nov. 9.

One of the members of the Japanese Legation left for home to-day with the Treaty for the return of the Liaotung Peninsula.

Nagasaki, Nov. 12.

A Shanghai correspondent reports that five leaders of the Kucheng Riot were beheaded at Foochow on the 7th inst. More accomplices are being arrested.

Wong Chi-chuan, who lately returned from Russia, has been appointed Governor of Hupeh. He was expected to arrive at Shanghai on the 9th inst. from Tientsin.

Mayebashi, Nov. 12.

Rumour has it that Mr. Nakamura, Governor of this Prefecture, had sent in his resignation. The statement is likely to be a fact, and some residents are consulting as to the advisability of urging him to remain in his position.

Nagasaki, November 11.

The *Iwaki Kan* has arrived from Sasebo. A Russian man-of-war and two torpedo boats have arrived from Vladivostock.

Matsuyama, Nov. 12.

Nos. 9 and 10 torpedo boats arrived at Mitsugahama yesterday, and proceeded to Yokosuka to-day.

Osaka, Nov. 12.

A boiler explosion took place last night in a paper manufactory at Tamayecho, Kitaku, and one person was killed, another being wounded.

Nagasaki, Nov. 12.

A Russian steamer arrived here to-day with 900 Russian soldiers sent from Vladivostock to Europe.

Saseho. Nov. 12,

The *Akitsusu* and *Yayeyama* arrived from Formosa last night.

The following Pekin telegram was yesterday received by the Government.

The Emperor of China has ratified the Treaty for the return of the Liaotung Peninsula signed by the Commissioners of Japan and China.

Sōul, Nov. 12.

A conference of the Foreign Representatives was held at the Japanese Legation to-day. It is said that measures for the best arrangement of the Korean affair were discussed at the meeting.

Sōul, Nov. 13.

It is stated that a resolution has been arrived at to withdraw all the Japanese soldiers guarding the commissary line in Korea, with the exception of two companies in Sōul and one company each at Gensan and Fusan, and that over two hundred gendarmes will arrive here. It is gathered that the Foreign Representatives acknowledge the inability of the Peninsular Government to maintain public peace if the Japanese soldiers are suddenly withdrawn.

It is stated that the Japanese commissary office at Phyong-yang will be closed this month.

Shimonoseki, Nov. 13.

The Norwegian ship *Bjorg*, belonging to Messrs. Doshan (?) & Co., stranded off Kibunejima this morning. Her tonnage is 1,184, and she is commanded by Captain Roland Neilson, her crew consisting of 18 foreigners and 2 Japanese. She was on the way from Kobe to Vladivostock.

The *Yayeyama* passed here this morning for the east.

Nagasaki, Nov. 13.

A great conflagration took place at Funatsu, Takagi District, on the 11th inst., destroying 353 out of the 400 houses that constituted the village.

Hiroshima, Nov. 13.

Five military officers, under arrest at the Gendarmerie Office, were yesterday removed to the Military Prison. Lieut.-Colonel Kusunose and Major Umayabara are still at the Gendarmerie Office.

Hiroshima, November 14.

The *Satsuma Maru*, which left Kelung on the 13th inst. with Viscount Takashima, and over two hundred officers and men of the Imperial Guards, is expected to arrive at Ujina on the 17th inst.

The number of men belonging to the Imperial Guards Division, who were not injured during the war and are now returning home, is 12,452. They are to be conveyed in 17 transports.

The election of Mayor of this town took place last night, and resulted as follows:—Major-General Sato Tadasu, 26 votes; Mr. Kawa-ai Rinzo, 16 votes; Mr. Fujita Takayuki, 15 votes.

Shimonoseki, Nov. 14.

The Norwegian ship *Bjorg* stranded off Kibunejima through mistaking her course. The crew is still on board, but will proceed to Vladivostock by another vessel if the stranded ship is not afloat to-day.

Sōul, Nov. 14.

Count Inouye leaves here on the 16th inst. for home.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 202.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to K B 6	1—K P takes R
2—R to K 8	2—Anything
3—Q mates	
	1—Kt P takes R
2—R to K Kt 8	2—Anything
3—B mates	
	1—P takes Kt
2—R to K Kt 8	2—Anything
3—B to Kt 3, mate	
	1—P to K 4
2—P takes P e.p. dis. ch.	2—P takes R
3—Q to B 5, mate	
	1—P to B 5
2—Q to Q 4 ch.	2—K to B 6
2—Q to Kt 4, mate	
	1—P to Q 3
2—R to K 6	2—P takes R
3—P takes P dis., mate	
	1—Any other move
2—Q mates.	

Correct answers received from Shogi, W.D.C., Omega, and J.D.

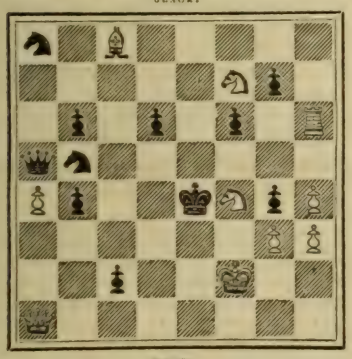
Correct solution to No. 201 from E. J. King.

Kr.—Your Key-move to No. 202 is no use. 1—R to K Kt 6, 1—R P takes R; 2—P takes P, 2—P takes Kt; and there is no mate.

Problem No. 204.

By Karl Traxler.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Yokohama Chess Club.

The Championship contest is now in progress and the following is the drawing for the first round.

Mowat	*versus*	McIlwraith.
Irwine	*versus*	Mendelson.
Wollheim	*versus*	Davieson.
Griffin	*versus*	Komor.
Tennant	*versus*	Andreis.

Conditions:—First round to be finished by 30th November. First three wins (draws not counting) to decide a heat. Staunton Rules.

Mr. Blackburne has expressed the opinion that Champion Lasker is the greatest living chess-player.

We are anxiously waiting for the score of the game won by Blackburne of Lasker in the last round of the Hastings Congress.

Game No. 386.

WHITE. J. L. Jacobson.	BLACK. S. Henderson.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to Q B 4 (a)
3—Q P takes P (b)	3—P to K 3 (c)
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—B to K Kt 5	5—B to K 2
6—P takes P	6—Kt takes P
7—B takes B	7—K takes B
8—Q to Q 2	8—P to B 3
9—R to Q sq.	9—Kt to Q R 3
10—P to K 4	10—Kt takes Kt
11—Q takes Kt	11—Q to Q B 2
12—P to Q Kt 4	12—R to Q sq.
13—R takes R	13—Q takes R
14—Kt to B 3 (d)	14—Q to K sq.
15—B to K 2	15—B to Q 2
16—Castles	16—P to K 4
17—R to Q sq.	17—B to Q B 3
18—Q to B 4	18—Kt to B 2
19—Q to Q 3	19—R to Q sq.
20—Q to B 2	20—B to Kt 4
21—Kt to K R 4	21—P to K Kt 3
22—P to K R 3	22—B takes B
23—Q takes B	23—R takes R ch. (e)
24—Q takes R	24—Q to B 3
25—P to R 3	25—Kt to Kt 4
26—Q to Q 2	26—Q takes K P
27—Q to R 6	27—P to K Kt 4
28—Q to Kt 7 ch.	28—K to K 3
29—Kt to B 3	29—Kt takes R P
30—Q to Kt 8 ch.	30—K to K 2
31—Q to Q Kt 8	31—Kt to Kt 4
32—Kt to Q 2	32—Q to K 8 ch.
33—Kt to B sq.	33—Q to Kt 5
34—Kt to Kt 3	34—Q to B 3
35—Q to K Kt 8	35—Kt to Q 5
36—Q takes R P ch.	36—K to K 3
37—Q to K Kt 8 ch.	37—K to K 2
38—Q to K Kt 7 ch.	38—K to K 3
39—Kt to K R 5 (f)	39—Q to R 5
40—Q takes B P ch.	40—K to Q 2
41—Q to Q 6 ch.	41—K to B sq.
42—Kt to B 6	42—P to Q R 3
43—Kt to Q 3 (g)	43—Resigns.

(a) Better is 2. P to K 3.
(b) We like 3. P takes Q P—Q takes P, 4. P to K 3—P takes P, 5. Kt to Q B 3—Q to Q sq. 6. P takes P with a free position, the isolated P notwithstanding.
(c) He never gets the P back. 3. P takes P was all right; if in reply 4. Q to R 4 ch and 5. Q takes B P Black gets a quick development.
(d) Here, and presently we should take off the Kt, securing thereby a passed P and Kt v. B for the ending.
(e) With a Pawn down, why this eagerness to exchange pieces?
(f) A winning move.
(g) Decisive and neat.

Game No. 387.

A game by Mr. S. Loyd.

WHITE. H. Driscoe.	BLACK. S. Loyd.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—Kt to K B 3
3—Q to K 2	3—Kt to B 3
4—Kt to K B 3	4—B to K 2
5—P to Q 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to K R 3	6—Kt to Q R 4
7—Q Kt to Q 2	7—Kt takes B
8—Kt takes Kt	8—B to K 3
9—Kt to K 3	9—P to Q B 3
10—Castles	10—P to K R 3
11—P to Q Kt 3	11—Q to Q 2
12—K to R 2	12—P to K Kt 4
13—P to K Kt 4	13—P to K R 4
14—Kt takes P	14—P takes P
15—Kt takes B	15—R takes P ch.
16—K to Kt 2	16—Q takes Kt
17—Kt takes P	17—Kt takes Kt
18—K takes R (a).	

(a) Black mates in five moves, beginning with Kt—K 6 dis ch. White lost time in the opening, and Black took full advantage of every opportunity. The ending is a problem by this celebrated composer in actual play.

Game No. 388.

Played in the match Town v. Country, at Adelaide.

PALKBEER COUNTER GAMBIT.

WHITE. W. McArthur.	BLACK. J. M. Belcher.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to K B 3	3—B to K Kt 5
4—B to K 2	4—B takes Kt
5—B takes B	5—P takes B P (a)
6—Castles	6—P takes P
7—B takes P	7—P to Q B 3 (b)
8—R takes P	8—Kt to B 3
9—P to Q 4	9—B to Q 3
10—R to R 4	10—Q to B 2
11—Q to K 2	11—Castles
12—B takes P ch. (c)	12—Kt takes B
13—Q to R 5	13—P to K B 3
14—Q takes Kt ch.	14—K to B 2
15—B to R 6	15—R to Kt sq.
16—Kt to B 3	16—Kt to Q 2
17—Kt to K 4	17—B to K B sq.
18—R to K B sq.	18—B to Q 3
19—Kt to Kt 5 ch.	19—K to K 2
20—R to K 4 ch.	20—B to K 4
21—B takes P	21—K to Q 3
22—P takes B ch.	22—P takes P
23—R to Q sq. ch. and White wins. (d)	

(a) Inferior. Development by Kt to K B 3 is more to the point.
(b) Black could win the B by the ch at Q 5, but at the expense of his Queen, which would be lost by R to K sq after.
(c) A similar attack by Pillsbury occurs in a recent game.
(d) A very pretty game, well played by White in every respect.

Game No. 389.

Played in match North Adelaide v. Norwood (Australia).

SCOTCH GAMBIT.

WHITE. J. M. Belcher.	BLACK. W. F. Harrison.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to Q 4	3—P takes P
4—Kt takes P	4—B to B 4 (a)
5—B to K 3	5—Q to K B 3
6—P to B 3	6—K Kt to K 2 (b)
7—Kt to Q B 2 (c)	7—B to Kt 3
8—Q Kt to R 3	8—P to Q 3
9—B takes B	9—R P takes B
10—Kt to Kt 5	10—K to Q sq.
11—P to K Kt 3 (e)	11—Q to Kt 3
12—B to Kt 2	12—B to Q 2
13—P to K B 4 (f)	13—R to K sq.
14—B to B 3	14—Kt to K Kt sq.
15—Castles	15—K to B sq.
16—Q to K 2	16—Kt to K B 3
17—K R to K sq.	17—P to R 4
18—Kt (Kt 5) to Q 4	18—P to R 5
19—Q to Kt 2	19—P takes P
20—P takes P	20—R to K R sq.
21—P to B 5 (g)	21—Q to Kt 4
22—Kt takes Kt	22—P takes Kt (h)
23—Kt to K 3	23—K to Kt 2
24—Q R to Q sq.	24—R to K R 2
25—Kt to B sq.	25—Q R to K R sq.
26—P to K 5 (i)	26—P takes P
27—R takes B	27—R to R 8 ch. and wins (j)

(a) It is very fashionable and apparently stronger to play the move modern variation beginning with Kt to B 3 at this point.
(b) Moves 1 to 6 on both sides are well recognized as good and sound.
(c) Said to have been invented by Fleissing and Meitner at the Vienna Congress. Another move for White leading in many continuations to an interesting game, is now Q to Q 2.
(d) B to B followed by P to Q R 3 was now better. The text play necessitates the K move to Q sq, as the Q B P cannot well be abandoned.
(e) A novel continuation which can scarcely be commended for general adoption. One objection to it is the attack gained by Black's R P advance which speedily follows.
(f) The advance is undoubtedly weak, time being wasted thus, and by the next move. Kt (B 2) should have brought into play by way of K 3 &c. See moves 23 and 24 when it was too late.
(g) P to K 5 was much more to the point. If then 21 to—, B to R 6; 22, Kt takes Kt, &c., with many good chances of bettering the game.
(h) Certainly good, as well as unexpected. The point is, room is made for the King at Kt 2 and the Rooks are free after.
(i) White finds out the good moves later than is desirable, as already observed.
(j) Here the game was adjudicated in Black's favour. Q takes B P seems Black's continuation. It threatens immediately Q takes R, P to K 5, Kt to Kt 5 ch. &c. A good game.

Game No. 390.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. J. W. Showalter.	BLACK. A. B. Hodges.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles	4—B to K 2
5—Kt to B 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Kt takes P	7—B to Q 2
8—B takes Kt	8—P takes B
9—P to Q Kt 3 (a)	9—Castles
10—B to Kt 2	10—R to K sq.
11—Q to Q 3	11—B to K B sq. (b)
12—Q R to K sq.	12—P to B 4
13—K Kt to K 2	13—B to B 3
14—Kt to Kt 3	14—P to Kt 3
15—P to B 4	15—B to K Kt 2
16—P to K R 3	16—P to Q R 4
17—Kt to Q sq.	17—P to R 5
18—P to B 5	18—R P takes Kt P
19—R P takes P	19—R to Kt sq.
20—P takes P (c)	20—R P takes P
21—Q to K B 3	21—R to K 3
22—Kt to K 3	22—Q to K B sq. (d)
23—Kt to Kt 4	23—Kt takes Kt
24—B takes B	24—Q takes B
25—Q takes Kt	25—Q R to K sq.
26—R to B 4	26—P to K B 4
27—Q to Kt 5	27—R to K 4
28—Q R to K B sq.	28—P takes P
29—Q to Kt 4	29—B to Q 2
30—Q to K 2	30—P to Q 4
31—Q to Q R 6	31—R to Kt 4
32—K to R 2	32—Q to B 6
33—Kt to K 2	33—Q to K 4
34—K to R sq. (e)	34—Q to Q 3
35—Q takes Q	35—P takes Q
36—R to B 6	36—B to Kt 4
37—P to B 4 (f)	37—P takes P
38—Kt to B 3	38—P takes P (g)
39—Kt takes B	39—P to Q 4
40—Kt to B 7	40—R to Q B sq.
41—Kt to K 6	41—R to B 4
42—R takes P ch.	42—K to B 2
43—R takes R ch.	43—K takes R
44—R takes P	44—P to Kt 7
45—Kt to B 4 ch.	45—K to B 3
46—R to Q sq. (h)	46—R to Q R sq.
47—Kt to Q 5 ch.	47—K to K 4
48—Kt to B 3	48—R to R 8
49—Kt to Kt sq.	49—P to B 5
50—R to K Kt sq.	50—R takes Kt
51—R takes R	51—P to B 6

(a) A good move, anticipating R to Kt sq. and making way for the Bishop.
(b) It is curious to note how long and decisively the attack on the K P, thus initiated, lasts throughout the game (Séguin).

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(c) Much inferior to Q to K B 3, which gives White the better game at once (Showalter).
(d) A fine move, prevented possible sacrifice of Kt at B 5, and allowing of Q R to K sq. (J.W.S.)
(e) Pressure of time limit, P to K R 4 was undoubtedly much better (J.W.S.)
(f) Mr. Showalter calls this an unfortunate venture which loses the game and the match. The play at this point and onwards is deeply interesting.
(g) Splendidly played is this, and the whole ending. But obviously the sacrifice of B was forced in a measure, as Mr. Showalter points out. Otherwise Black loses too many pawns.
(h) A Kt against a pawn, and yet White's game is hopeless.

Only a Pawn.

It is stated, we think of Mtesa in "The Two Kings of Uganda," that he could lose a battle with as much equanimity as a chess-player regards the loss of a pawn. In regard to this it may be observed that the loss of a single pawn often implies the loss of a game, and hence what outsiders may regard as of small moment is really of vital importance. But it is a lesson only learnt after bitter experience. The fact is, no one has learnt sound chess who tamely submits to a shade of loss either in material or position. This is a great leading principle, but by no means implies that oversights may not be made, that miscalculations are impossible, or that pawns and pieces may not be sometimes safely sacrificed when results can be surely foreseen and carefully weighed. Some one has well said "Take care of the pawns the pieces will take care of themselves." Only a joke was of course intended, but is not something infinitely more important conveyed?

The Pawn.

[A chess moral written in the seventeenth century by Thomas Jackson.]

A lowly one I saw,
With aim fixed high;
Ne to the righte,
Ne to the lefte,
Veering, he marched by his law,
The crested Knighte passed by,
And haughty Surplice-vest,
As onward toward his heste
With patient step he prest,
Soothfaste, his eye—
Now, lo! the last door yieldeth,
His hand a sceptre wieldeth.
A crowne his forehead shieldeth.
So, mergeth the true-hearted,
With aim fixed high,
From place obscure and lowly;
Veereth he naughte
His worke be wroughte.
How many loyal paths be trod,
So many royal crowns hath God.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 28th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 29th.†
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 25th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 22nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Nov. 27th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 1st.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 5th.

* *Ewandale* left San Francisco on November 8th. † *Peru* left San Francisco on November 13th. ‡ *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on November 12th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 23rd
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 25th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 26th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 29th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 30th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 6th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 15th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 9th November,—Marseilles 29th September, Hongkong 30th October, Shanghai 3rd November, Nagasaki 5th, and Kobe 7th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Auretta, British steamer, 1,729, Henderson, 9th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain J. G. Read, 9th November,—Honolulu 23rd October.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 10th November,—San Francisco 22nd October, viâ Honolulu 30th, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 11th November,—Hakodate 9th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Thomson, 11th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 11th November,—Hakodate 8th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghasee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 12th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Euplectela, British steamer, 4,100, Morris, 12th November,—Hongkong, Petroleum.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 12th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 12th November,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., 26th October, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Mathias, 13th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, C. Anderson, 14th November,—Kobe 13th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 14th November,—Hongkong via ports, 6th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 14th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 5th November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Baltimore (24), U.S. cruiser, Captain Foy, 15th November,—Chefoo.

Irene, German steamer, 1,630, R. Schuder, 15th November, —Hongkong, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Nagato Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, G. W. Conner, 9th November,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma, British steamer, 1,661, J. R. Crawford, 10th December,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 1,872, Evans, 10th November,—New York viâ Suez Canal, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Oanfa, British steamer, 1,970, Shaw, 10th November,—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Lion (4), French gunboat, Captain Papaix, 11th November,—Kobe.

Auretta, British steamer, 1,729, Henderson, 11th November,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 11th November, —Nagasaki, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 12th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 12th November,—Hongkong viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 13th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 14th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghasee, British steamer, 1,439, Bailey, 14th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 15th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 15th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hector, British steamer, 2,489, Hutchinson, 16th November,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yarra, French steamer, 2,126, de Maubeuge, 16th November,—Shanghai viâ ports; Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, from Marsellles viâ ports:—Mr. Goudareau, Mr. Ohyama and family, Mr. and Mrs. de Micheaux, Mr. Vromageot, Monseigneur T. Montes de Oca, Abbé Lamos, Mr. Okano, Miss Koda Nobu, Mr. Kowaki, Miss de Maubeuge, Mr. Dalton Thee, Mr. Collaco, Mr. A. da Cruz, Captain J. Fauchoux, and Mrs. J. W. Lee and daughter in cabin; 7 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, from San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—Hon. H. Lockwood, Mr. and Mrs. Ackerman, Rev. H. Topping and family, Rev. J. W. McCollum and family, Rev. J. W. Cate and family, Rev. F. G. Harrington and family, Rev. S. Doi, Rev. G. K. Irie, Mr. J. D. Shafe, Mr. E. Hart, Dr. W. H. Furness, Dr. H. M. Hiller, Mr. Fokotilow, Mr. A. Werth, Mr. M. Seya, Rev. and Mrs. R. B. Peery, Mrs. Mendelson and two children, Mr. and Mrs. Schmeidel, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hatch, Mrs. Sherman, Miss Sherman, Mrs. B. Blackwood, Miss Mae Warner, Miss Harrison, Miss M. Carpenter, Dr. J. M. Wilbur, Dr. H. A. Tupper, Mr. K. Hayashi, Mr. K. Yamasaki, Mr. H. Oda, Mr. K. Minami, Prof. E. Clark, Miss E. Van Buren, Miss F. Clemson and maid, Mrs. M. Hart, Miss M. Hart, Miss C. A. Howard, Miss F. Lichtenburg, Mrs. V. F. Leavitt, Miss N. E. Fife, Mrs. Komai, Mr. E. Learned, Mr. E. W. Brown, Colonel W. Romanoff, Mr. E. Konigsberger, Mr. K. Konigsberger, and Mr. H. Tanaka in cabin. For Shanghai:—Hon. Hsu Koh and family, Mrs. V. Porter, Miss L. Boyd, Miss Ida Stevenson, Miss F. Wilson, Miss R. Caldwell, Miss A. Lake, and Miss A. Lewis in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. C. Milward, Mrs. G. F. Tilston, Mr. H. W. Grantley, Mr. R. H. Wood, Mr. S. J. Levy, Rev. and Mrs. R. H. Graves, and Rev. and Mrs. R. E. Chambers in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Miss E. Case, Mrs. J. S. Robertson, Mr. B. Roth, Mr. A. Madella, and Mr. M. W. Carleton in cabin. For Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. Hudson and 4 children in cabin. For Shanghai:—Rev. and Mrs. C. Leaman, the Misses Eliza Leonard, M. J. Hill, M. C. Hunt, Billar Robson, M. Greer, L. F. Bridge, J. McKillican, Emily Burton, H. Bance, Jessie Thomson, S. M. Thompson, and E. Ogden in cabin; one European, 20 Japanese, and 99 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. Kendall, Mr. and Mrs. M. Moritz, Captain Wilson Walker, Mr. F. C. Loring, Rev. E. Loomis, Mr. M. Assomull and servant, Mr. C. Von Bose, Colonel J. C. Hill, and Mr. D. C. Blake in cabin.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Yoneda, Surgeon-Major Gray, Mr. Macpherson, Mrs. Gibbens and native servant, Mr. and Mrs. Grosser, and Mrs. Balk in cabin; 2 Chinese and one Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. G. Winslow, Mr. J. H. Graham, Mr. F. Haan, Miss Watt, Miss Wilson, Miss F. Wehrmann, Mr. R. Baron, R.N., Mrs. Moore Graham and child, Mr. J. P. Pomeroy, Miss Holmes, Miss Hardman, Miss Doran, Mr. and Mrs. Solomko, Mr. W. Balden, and Mr. J. Flood in cabin; 2 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Nagato Maru*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Yoshisuye, Messrs. Wm. Macpherson, S. Nagayo, and Arakawa in cabin; Messrs. S. Yoshizaki, Ariyoshi, and O. Umayabara in second class, and 45 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *China*, for Hongkong viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. E. W. Rutter, Miss Lesa Forssell, Mr. J. V. C. Comfort, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Francis, Mrs. Blackwood, Mr. H. Goldman, and Miss Van Buren in cabin.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Captain Frosedelon, Messrs. K. Kesler, R. Masujima, J. A. Ailion, Kaufmann, A. Unger, Bombelle, J. Blinger, G. Snikoff, V. Simondon, W. Walker, Medordoff, Ariote, Abdool, J. W. Hauling, Fonakon, H. Aikan, W. Stephen, Weiss, Higgins, W. Wood, C. Thompson, T. Thompson, Suzuki, Mrs. J. F. Lowder, Mrs. Koyama Sugi, Mrs. and Miss Holtermann, Miss Schmidt, Miss H. dos Santos, Miss S. R. Pratt, M. l'Abbe Maviol, Captain Gosland, Dr. Mecre, Ensign Gosland, Ensign Sarcey de Mascillac, Ensign Poi, Mrs. Megissior, Messrs. H. Veaux, R. Abenheim, H. Bastell, Brault, Torachand, J. A. Vikot, Vidal, A. Chaloub, W. Thompson, and J. F. Sears in cabin; 5 seamen and 7 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—Mr. M. Baggallay, Mr. C. von Bose, Mr. D. H. Blake, Captain G. W. Conner, Rear-Admiral C. C. Carpenter, Mr. Jas. D. Carson, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Elliott, Monseigneur Ignace Montes de Oca, Mr. F. H. Loring, Mr. F. H. Olmstead, Miss Preston, Mr. Ed. Quackenbush, Mrs. W. B. Rose, Rev. J. Ramos, Mrs. E. Simpson, child, and maid, Mrs. E. C. Wright, and Mr. Y. Wooyeno in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 191 bales; Waste Silk, 137 bales.

Per British steamer *Tacoma*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

	TEA.				
	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	748	2,264	—	538	3,550
Hyogo	—	1,337	1,786	—	3,123
Yokohama ...	679	2,863	713	377	4,632
Hongkong	35	217	—	193	465
Amoy	—	—	3,179	—	3,179
Total	1,482	6,681	5,678	1,108	14,949

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	SAN FRANCISCO.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	440	5	445
Hongkong	77	—	77
Yokohama	876	—	876
Total	1,393	5	1,398

RATES.

Tea ..... 1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk ..... 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement ..... $11 Gold per ton.

Per French steamer *Yarra*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 152 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 103 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Victoria*, Captain Panton, reports:—Left Tacoma, Wash., the 26th October at 6.30 a.m., and Victoria, B.C., at 6.30 p.m. the same day; fresh head winds and moderate sea were experienced to the meridian which was crossed in lat. 50° N.; thence to port strong gales from N.W. and W.N.W. with heavy head seas. Arrived at Yokohama the 12th November at 9 p.m.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain W. G. Pearne, reports:—Left Hongkong the 6th November at 6.12 a.m., viâ ports; had variable winds and fine weather to Kobe; thence to port strong westerly gales and high sea. Arrived at Yokohama the 14th November at 4.35 p.m.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Market generally quiet, although Yarns show some little sign of waking up. All else dull, both in Cottons and Woollens. Italian Cloth and Velvets move slowly, but other kinds stick.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.2e to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.32
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market continues very quiet. Quotations nominally unaltered, but there is hardly any business to test prices.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.75 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

At last we have seen the upward move. Buyers got uneasy at the stand which holders made and rushed the market, so that prices soon improved and are close upon 20 cents per case over our last week's quotations. Buyers are now eager and holders conservative.

American	$2.10 to 2.15
Russian	2.05 to 2.10
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Sales have again exceeded arrivals, and prices are raised accordingly. White—Steady trade at late rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.50 to 4.80
Brown Daitong (New)	3.90 to 4.00
Brown Canton	3.80 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	6.40 to 6.70
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A quiet week, with rather more doing at the close. Prices nominally unchanged, with perhaps a slight tendency in buyer's favour.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den. ...Nom.	—
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	$940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	840 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	850 to 860
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	760 to 770

WASTE SILK.

Not much doing. Market as before. Prices also.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Very small business at unchanged rates. Stock has increased a little, being now 5,000 piculs, but there is not much desirable leaf.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Very little alteration has taken place in rates of Exchange, which are much the same as those of a week ago.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/2¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2⅜
— — 6 months' sight	2/2¼
On Paris—Bank sight	2.75
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.80
On Hongkong—Bank sight	⅛% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	72
— Private 10 days' sight	73
On India—Bank sight	192½
— Private 30 days' sight	195
On America—Bank Bills on demand	53½
— Private 30 days' sight	54½
— — 4 months' sight	54¾
On Germany—Bank sight	2.22
— Private 4 months' sight	2.27
Bar Silver (London)	30¾ @ 13/16

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 23RD, 1895.

BIRTH.

On the 18th inst., at No. 9, Yama, Kobe, the wife of F. W. GOTCH of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 21st November, at the Union Church, Kobe, by the Rev. S. Swann, CHARLES BARTON, second son of Rev. P. M. Stedman, to GRACE, daughter of Thomas Archer, Esq., C.M.G.

DEATH.

At No. 2, Bentendori, Ichome, after a short illness, KO, the beloved wife of K. Tamamura, in her 31st year; deeply regretted.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ADMIRAL CARPENTER of the U.S.N., has returned home.

A NEW railway line to Dzushi viâ Sugita, Tomioka, Hayama, etc., is under contemplation.

THE Meiji Fire Insurance Co. lost *yen* 10,000 by the great conflagration which took place at Sanjo, Niigata Prefecture, on the 15th inst.; *yen* 6,000 was also placed with the Tokyo Fire Insurance Co.

THE Imperial Guards have returned from Formosa, and received a remarkable ovation in Tokyo.

THE Osaka Water-works have been completed after four years' work. They cost over *yen* 2,200,000.

MR. MIURA, Governor of Tokyo, refuses to resign at the suggestion of the Municipal Council, of which he is Mayor.

THE Emperor despatched a Chamberlain to welcome the Guards when they arrived at Ujina from Formosa this week.

IT is stated that the *Saikio Maru* and *Omi Maru* will be released from Government service in two or three days.

THE Yokohama Athletic Sports have been postponed till December 7th, in consequence of the illness of Mr. Kenyon.

MARQUIS NAKAYAMA, Grand Chamberlain of H.I.H. the Crown Prince, has been released from his post at his own request.

MUCH anxiety prevails in Yokohama over the non-arrival of the N.P. steamer *Strathnevis*, now about 40 days out from Tacoma.

SOME residents at Shimoda, Izu Province, are contemplating the building of a dock, capable of receiving ships of about 200 tons.

A CONCERT and Organ Recital was given at the Union Church on Friday evening, in aid of the funds. The affair was very successful.

OWING to the sudden indisposition of Judge Mowat, a civil case set down for hearing in the British Court on Monday was postponed for a fortnight.

IT is stated that the Japanese Representative in Russia reported to the Tokyo Government that the Empress of Russia gave birth to a daughter on the 15th inst.

MR. HARA RYOTARO, Third Secretary of Legation, has been appointed to the Netherlands, and Mr. Yamaza Enjiro, Third Secretary of Legation, to England.

THE funeral of the late Mr. Yoshikawa, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, took place in Tokyo on Wednesday. The arrangements were on a most lavish sale.

THE Yokohama Town Assembly decided at a meeting held on the 18th inst. to build on Nogeyama a water reservoir of a capacity of one million gallons, at a cost of *yen* 94,800.

Two thousand artisans assembled by the military authorities left Tokyo on the 16th inst. for Formosa, where they are to be employed in constructing various buildings for the Army.

A RAILWAY train on the Nara line collided with a Fushimi electric car at the level crossing near Fushimi on Tuesday evening, and five persons were killed outright, many others being injured.

THE presence of Marquis Ito, Count Mutsu, Count Itagaki, Mr. Kono Hironaka, and Mr. Hayashi Yuzo at Oiso during the week has afforded much food for political gossip mongers.

MR. C. E. LLOYD THOMAS, of Yokohama, an officer on H.M.S. *Edgar*, was among those who escaped from the disaster that befel a boat's company in Chemulpho Bay on the 12th inst.

THE sealing schooner *Saipan* returned to Yokohama on Tuesday with seventeen of her men missing. They were landed at Robben Island, and the Russian authorities evidently caught them in *flagrante delictu*.

MARSHAL Marquis Oyama, Minister of War, gave a garden party on the 21st inst. at his private residence, Aoyama, to the leading officers of the Army and Navy, to celebrate the first anniversary of the fall of Port Arthur.

LIEUT.-GENERAL VISCOUNT KAWAKAMI gave a banquet to the military *attachés* of the various Legations in Tokyo on the 16th instant at the Maple Club, Shiba Park. Over fifty officers of the General Staff Office were invited to meet the guests.

MR. HYODO, Governor of Chiba, dismissed the Headman of Kanui-sosa District. This occasioned strong excitement among the Chiba residents, who are preparing a petition to the Central Government praying for the removal of the Governor.

REUTER telegraphs:—The Duke of Devonshire speaking at the Cutler's Feast, said that everyone must see that we are not far removed from the re-appearance of the Eastern Question, if indeed it has not already re-appeared. He also pointed out that previous history shows how difficult it is for even the most pacific sovereigns and the wisest statesmen to effect a permanent solution of the difficulties which the Eastern Question may bring. A sharp fall is being experienced in Home and Foreign Stocks. The tone of Lord Salisbury's speech at the Lord Mayor's Banquet at the Guildhall on Saturday was essentially pacific. Referring to the reports of Russian designs with regard to Port Arthur, he stated that England was equally prepared to entertain any proposal, which regards either war or commerce in that direction, and may look with equanimity upon any person who thinks he can exclude her from that fertile region. In concluding he said that England was prepared to meet any combination, either in war or commerce. The Press unitedly approves of Lord Salisbury's speech, especially as regards his references to Turkey and his warning to the Sultan. There has been a meeting of Paris Bankers to consider the financial situation, and what measures are to be adopted to restore confidence. It is doubtful if the Sultan would carry out the reforms in Armenia, but all the Powers are cöoperating. Any failure to execute reforms must lead the Turkish Government to its doom, nevertheless, it is believed that the Powers adhered to the maintaining of Turkey, so as to avoid a calamitous outbreak in Europe.

THIS has been a quiet week all round, with prices firm for most things. In Cotton piecegoods holders seem able to maintain their position without difficulty, and the wintry weather is helping the Woollen market. Metals are dull, though some kinds are moving slowly, and there are indications that up-country men are running short of supplies. In Kerosene a strong market offers, but dealers do not seem particularly anxious to follow up recent operations; perhaps they fondly imagine prices will recede with fresh arrivals. The probable loss of the *Barcraig* will not affect Japan. Sugar, both White and Brown, remains as last week, though the stocks are much reduced—prices are all maintained. Raw Silk has had a quiet week, buyers being very cautious. With the large stocks now on hand holders are beginning to look anxious, and a further drop in prices may be anticipated. In Waste no particular change is to be noted, for notwithstanding recent shipments, there is no life in the trade. Tea still struggles along with a few retail orders, but the season is practically over. Exchange weakened towards the close of the week, and rates are far from firm.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberals, and the alleged resignation of Marquis Ito, form the principal topics of discussion in the columns of the vernacular press. The stories circulated in political circles have been noticed in these columns from time to time, and our readers know all, probably more than all, that is worth knowing about the peculiar state of affairs now existing. In truth, the situation is unsettled. This may seem strange now that the coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberals has been made public through the columns of the *Nichi Nichi*, and in the Party's Manifesto. But so many aspects have to be considered that everybody seems perplexed to decipher the exact facts, and we strongly suspect that something of the same feeling of bewilderment is felt even by those directly concerned in solving the problem. But light may be expected to shine soon through the darkness.

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The tone of the metropolitan papers on the subject of the alliance has undergone a change since the time of preparing our last weekly summary. We shall first consider the alteration of tone in the case of the Opposition party organs. These papers at the outset pretended to regard the news of the alliance with suspicion and doubt. But they have since come to acknowledge its reality, and they now devote their pens to depreciating its value for either side. On the one hand, the Liberals are taunted with having suffered themselves to become servile supporters of the Cabinet; on the other, the Ministers are ridiculed for relying on the support of an utterly disorganized party like the *Jiyu-to*. It will be sufficient for our purpose to refer to an article in the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the chief *Kaishin-to* organ. That journal thinks it very doubtful whether the alliance will last long, or whether it will serve the Cabinet's purpose, namely, to obtain a majority in the coming session of the Diet. In its opinion, the Cabinet is far from being united: influence and power are slowly gravitating to the Ministers of the second order. The Premier, it recognizes, is still very powerful, but not sufficiently powerful to ensure the smooth carrying out of his designs in opposition to the wish of his colleagues. As to the condition of things among the Liberals, the same criticism is said to apply with even greater force. Their leader is a mere puppet in the hands of two or three artful schemers, and these latter exercise little authority over the members of the Party in remote localities. Thus the *Jiyu-to* are lamentably deficient in cohesion. An alliance between such a party and such a Cabinet can never be expected to accomplish any effective work." Moreover, the *Mainichi* believes that a split is unavoidable among the members of the Liberal Party in consequence of the unconditioned surrender that their leaders contemplate, and that the fraction of the Party actually supporting the Cabinet will dwindle to a small and insignificant number. Such a result would be especially disastrous to the Cabinet, because, apart from their numerical strength, the individual Liberals have, in the *Mainichi's* opinion, little to recommend them.

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The change of tone has been more remarkable and significant in the case of non-party organs, whether favourably or unfavourably disposed toward the Government. They originally welcomed the news with delight as the inauguration of a new epoch in the political history of the country. But they are now inclined to set little value upon the incident, and even to doubt the motives of those in power in effecting an understanding with the Liberals. Such is the attitude of journals like the *Jiji* and the *Nippon*. The latter observes that it was originally opposed to the introduction of Government by Party into Japan, but in its opinion the subject has undergone great modification, so that it would now even welcome such a conjuncture. This marked change in its political creed has been produced by an improvement in the character of parties in recent years. Formerly political parties in Japan had their *raison d'être* more in personal considerations than in political principles, and while they remained in such a condition it would have been obviously dangerous to introduce a system of Party Government. But things have esssentially changed since then. Political parties are now differentiated by principles, not by mere personal considerations. Hence the *Nippon* thinks it possible and safe to inaugurate Party Government. Will the desired political revolution result from an alliance between the Cabinet and the Liberals? At first the *Nippon* was disposed to answer in the affirmative. But it is now inclined to take a different view. Instead of leading to true Party Government, an alliance between Count Itagaki and Marquis Ito may end in a combination of most injurious tendency, a combination for the purpose of governing in defiance of national sentiment. Our contemporary appears to attach importance to the absurd rumour that Marquis Ito and Count Itagaki have agreed upon dissolving the Diet in case they find themselves in a minority, and upon continuing to dissolve until, by fair means or by foul, they succeed in obtaining a friendly Legislature. Crediting such a silly story, it is no wonder that the *Nippon* writes in a silly manner.

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It passes our comprehension to discover what has induced the *Jiji Shimpo* to change its views about the alliance. Like many of its contemporaries, it has abandoned the hopeful tone in which it originally welcomed the news, and now strongly suspects that the object of the Ministry is, not to form a permanent alliance with the Liberals, but to utilize the latter simply as a means of tiding over the crisis in the next session of the Diet. In consequence of the undoubted success they have achieved during the past twelve months, and the dazzling rewards they have received for their services, the statesmen in power, says the *Jiji*, have become objects of intense and universal jealousy and envy. They know this very well, and are anxious to resign office. But they find it improper to do so on the eve of the convocation of the Diet. The approaching session promises to be stormy, and it may become necessary to advise the dissolution of the Lower House. In that event, the Ministers would have to stay in office until the convocation of the new Diet. The prospect, therefore, is very unpromising, and they seem to have struck upon the device of a coalition with the Liberals on the basis of some vague understanding, so that they shall be free to carry out their cherished desire, namely, resignation, immediately upon the conclusion of the coming session of the Diet. Something must have occurred to offend our usually sober and moderate contemporary: otherwise it would not write in such a manner about statesmen with whom it but lately showed much sympathy.

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The *Nichi Nichi* has an article interesting on account of the opinion it freely expresses about the position and capacity of Count Okuma. Our contemporary is rather severe upon the Progressionist leader. It alleges that he lacks fixed political principles, his strength lying in the ability with which he adapts himself to the varying circumstances of each epoch. By way of illustrating his want of fixed views on any subject, reference is made to the fact that, notwithstanding his declaration, while in office in 1889, that the utmost limit of reduction in public expenditure was only two million *yen*, he did not hesitate, a year later, to approve the Progressionist Party's demand in the Diet for a reduction of over eight millions. Again, after having signed new commercial treaties with the United States, Germany, and Russia, he not only endorsed the Cabinet's decision to repudiate those treaties, but consented to undertake the task of repudiation. He is said to possess exceptional capacity for carrying out plans devised by other persons but to be without any definite opinion of his own. Hence it ill becomes him to lay any stress upon the necessity of his opinions being approved by the Ministers as a condition to his entrance into the Cabinet. The *Nichi Nichi* advises him to enter the Cabinet without any conditions, for to impose conditions would be futile on the part of a statesman without settled views. As a financier, the *Nichi Nichi* fails to agree with his worshippers. In point of fact, he must yield the palm to Counts Matsukata and Inouye, if services actually rendered to the country be a test. As a diplomat, too, despite his undoubted decision, powers of conversation, and fertility of resource, he is inferior to Marquis Ito and Count Mutsu in foresight and capacity for practical management. The *Nichi Nichi*, however, acknowledges him to be by far the ablest diplomat among the statesmen out of office. "Whether he enters, or does not enter, the Cabinet, is not a question of any great importance. But if he means to accept office, he ought to do so promptly. If not, it looks exceedingly unbecoming and ridiculous that he should suspend his attacks on clan Government and even flatter a section of it."

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The position of the National Unionists is one of great interest. They actually hold the balance of power in their hands. Supposing that they remain neutral, the Cabinet is expected to have about 140 supporters, and the Opposition will number about 120. The scale will therefore be turned in favour of whichever side obtains the adhesion of the National Unionists. Conscious of this circumstance, they are apparently determined to sell themselves dear, for they refuse to declare in favour of either side. Hence a great sensation was produced by a statement in the *Nichi Nichi* that they had cast, or were about to cast, their lot in with those in power. This statement has since been denied by the *Chuo Shimbun* and Viscount Shinagawa. But the fashion of the denial is not quite reassuring to the opponents of the Cabinet. The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, writing on the *Nichi Nichi's* news before its contradiction, observed that all was over with the Opposition in the coming session of the Diet. But it tried to support the drooping spirits of the Opposition politicians by reminding them that they would not permanently remain in the minority, for history proved that the ruled were always ultimately victorious over the rulers. Our contemporary, moreover, seemed to have some hope of a dissension among the National Unionists. There were two sections among them, it said. One led by Viscount Shinagawa and Mr. Shirane, including members from Mikawa and some other provinces, was stated to be favourably inclined toward the Cabinet. The other, following the lead of Count Matsukata, was opposed to the Cabinet, and consisted of politicians from Kagoshima and Fukuoka. The National Unionists of the latter group were said to have expressed themselves strongly in favour of the agitation against the Cabinet in connection with the Liaotung question. Consequently, our contemporary hoped that, in the event of the first section's going over to the Government, the second might remain true to the Opposition. But the *Yomiuri* confessed itself conscious of the slenderness of this hope, and would not have been surprised to hear that the National Unionists in a body had joined the Ministerialists. Our contemporary called upon the Opposition parties to stand firmly united and to bide their time.

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The question of the settlement of Formosa is discussed by several papers. The *Kokkai* lays particular emphasis upon the necessity of completely Japonicising the inhabitants of the island by means of education. Primary schools should be established all over the land, and boys and girls should receive instruction in the Japanese language. The *Yomiuri* calls upon the Buddhist priests and Christian propagandists among its countrymen to take upon their shoulders the task of civilizing the savage aborigines of Formosa. They are encouraged and stimulated by reference to the heroic conduct of the early Buddhists in Japan, and the no less heroic enterprise of Western Christians in their work among the savages of Africa and elsewhere.

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We may here notice an interesting article

published by the *Kokumin Shimbun*. It commences by observing that in governing her new subjects in Formosa, Japan ought to be firm and unbending. The Chinese hold the Japanese in as much contempt as the latter do the former. Consequently, any tendency to magnanimity on the part of the Japanese rulers of the island is sure to be misconstrued by the Chinese as an evidence of weakness. The only way to govern the Formosans effectively is to inspire them with sentiments of awe and respect. As to the details of administration, they are dealt with seriatim. First, the property of all inhabitants proved to have joined in resistance to the Japanese troops, should be confiscated. The celebrated Lius are supposed to have been active in measures of resistance, and should the suspicion prove well founded, no mercy ought to be shown them. On the other hand, those that were submissive to the Imperial troops should receive efficient protection of person and property. Secondly, a strong body of troops should be quartered among the mountain savages, and these should be led into the path of peaceful improvement by a firm hand. In this context, our contemporary recommends the authorities to encourage the emigration of poor *samurai* in large groups for settlement on lands adjacent to the savages. The emigrants should be provided with arms for protection, and treated somewhat in the manner of the colonial militia of Hokkaido. Thirdly, all Chinese desiring to become naturalized subjects of Japan should be required to cut off their pigtails and give up the habit of opium eating. Fourthly, all real property illegally held by foreigners should be confiscated. Fifthly, while, on the one hand, encouraging the moneyed class of Japanese to go to Formosa and engage in commerce and industry there, the rich inhabitants of the island should be induced to make visits to Japan, as a means of acquiring affection for the country of which they have become subjects. Sixthly and lastly, the whole island should be speedily opened for the free ingress of the Japanese. Hitherto, the exigencies of the situation have compelled the authorities to impose restrictions upon the going of private individuals to Formosa. Taking advantage of this state of things, certain officials and favoured individuals are monopolizing advantages that in fairness ought to be open to the free competition of all Japanese. In short, the *Kokumin* urges the importance of converting the island not into a colonial dependency but into part and parcel of the Japanese Empire, so that in the event of a foreign war the loyalty of its inhabitants may be relied upon.

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Other topics discussed by the vernacular press are the Iron Foundry case, the foreign affairs of the country, and some economical questions. On the subject of the Iron Foundry case, the Opposition papers bitterly criticize the refusal of Mayor Miura to accept the impertiment advice of the Municipal Council and resign his office. He is compared to the Cabinet Ministers who declining to act upon the advice of the Opposition politicians, will not resign in connection with the late Korean affair.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE LATEST MOVEMENT AGAINST SOCIALISM IN GERMANY.

After the Anti-Socialist bill had been defeated in the German Reichstag, little was heard about the Socialistic problem until the German nation celebrated its political birth, within the past few months, during which time the opposition of the German Socialists proved to be more than merely a discordant note in the midst of national rejoicing. The Socialistic press treated the celebration with unmeasured contempt, which in turn created profound indignation throughout the nation. The climax seems to have been reached when the *Vorwärts*, the leading organ of the German Socialists, bitterly attacked the person of Emperor William I. This led the present Emperor to refer to the subject in several public addresses. In an address to the Imperial Guard, he is reported to have expressed himself as follows: "A note has been struck at our glorious celebration which has no place here. A rabble unworthy of the German name has dared to drag in the dust the sacred person of an Emperor whom we universally honour and whose memory is sacred to all of us. May the whole people find in themselves the strength to repel such monstrous attacks. If not, then I will call upon you to resist this treasonable hand, and free us from such elements." Outside of the Socialists circle, the German press generally admits that the situation justified the Emperor in making the above and several similar declarations. However, the *Kölnische Zeitung* complains that some party papers are not as earnest as they ought to be in their endeavours to suppress revolutionary tendences. They are chiefly concerned about private affairs and consequently more or less indifferent when questions of national interests are involved. The *Zeitung* continues: "The Kaiser has not requested the Reichstag to proceed against the Socialists. He calls upon the whole nation's strength to repel this destructive element. And indeed, this is necessary. The Emperor has spoken so clearly that it is impossible to accuse him of duplicity. If he wanted anti-Socialistic law (*umsturz gesetz*), he would not call upon the people, but rather upon their legal representatives." The *Frankfurter Zeitung* thinks: Social Democracy defending its constitutional rights is far different from the Socialists who deliberately wound the feelings of the nation. The defeat which followed the latter action need not be feared by the Socialists in the former case. The Socialists will be much pleased if anything is done that will neutralize the effects of the defeat they have suffered. Many of the leading papers in the Fatherland are unanimous in saying "honest indignation prompted their Sovereign to utter threats, and it would be unwise for those in question to disregard these threats." The Socialists themselves have become less reckless in their statements than before. The *Vorwärts* which, for instance, called the Franco-German war a crime and the transfer of Alsace-Lorraine a theft, which Germany ought to restore to France, now says on the latter subject: "We opposed the annexation. After its consummation a new situation has come into existence—how, is another question,—and to restore the provinces to France would cost streams of blood. Therefore without harm to our principles, we can never advise the return of Alsace-Lorraine, for this would result in such a terrible war that no one would wish to shoulder its frightful consequences. We want no war on this account. If the French think different about this matter, it is their affair. The more sensible among them are of our opinion." *Die Neue Zeit*, a prominent Socialist Magazine, in treating the Emperor's address, says: "As usual, the Kaiser has opened the political winter campaign with a war-cry against Social Democracy. It is no doubt a good sign of his natural vigour and freshness that he continues to hold up the banner for that which he regards as right and good, notwithstanding his repeated defeats in this respect. We are all the more willing to acknowledge his activity, as we are far from feeling over sensitive with reference to the hard words which the Kaiser hurls against the self conscious proletariat. * * * We are therefore in the position to examine the remarks of the Kaiser against the organized Labour Party without prejudice. The Kaiser calls the Socialists "a rabble unworthy to be called Germans. He thinks this rabble ventures to defame the German people and drag in the dust the sacred person of the most honoured, deceased Emperor." With regard to the first point the Kaiser has been obviously misinformed by his responsible advisers. How could the Socialists defame the nation of which they constitute a considerable and important part! Neither in the Labour press nor in Labour meetings has the German nation been defamed. Possibly those that brought this fable to the Kaiser did not intentionally tell a lie. But in that case they are afflicted by that comic imagination that they, the ruling classes, an insignificant minority, constitute the nation. This insignificant minority deemed it good to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the greatest human butchery which this century has witnessed. In this celebration working classes could not participate and our press has duly criticised the affair as it deserved to be criticised. If this criticism is to be called defamation we will not dispute about words. * * * We would have greater reason to speak about the Kaisers remark's against the Socialists concerning the deceased Kaiser. The Kaiser loves his grand-father fanatically, and this is quite in order, it would be unnatural were it otherwise. The old Kaiser Wilhelm lived so exclusively for the House of Hohenzollern, and did so much for it, that all its members needs must bless his memory. Therefore it is quite concievable and humanly an admirable trait of the present Kaiser to regard the person of his grandfather as sacred! Therefore any criticism of the historical acts of William I. will be regarded by William II. as dragging him in the dust. Therefore the very reasons which justify the attitude of the Kaiser strip it of all objective significance. We say William I., though a good Hohenzoller, was not a good German. The German Empire came into existence against his will and he had to be pressed into it. His offensive treatment of the masses of the people can only be overlooked or excused on the ground of his make-up, culture, and training. It is possible that the present Kaiser can judge his grandfather better than we, for we are as little infallable as he is. However, this question will be decided by historical science, but not by the state lawyers or criminal judges of the Prussian guard." In conclusion, we quote a statement of Professor Weber, of Freiburg. He says: "Proudly the modern proletariat announces itself heir of the ideals which formerly led the middle classes. What chances has it to obtain the political leadership of the nation? Those who would to-day declare that German labourers, as a class, are either politically fit or on the road to fitness, would assume the rôle of a flatterer and a seeker of the doubtful honours of popularity. In their economical views the upper circle of German workmen are much more advanced than the egoism of possessing classes is willing to concede. Politically, the working classes are immeasurably less fit than the clique of journalists who seek to monopolize their leadership. These disgraced *bourgeoisie* like to juggle with the reminiscences of a hundred years ago—and they have succeeded in presenting themselves to the timid as the intellectual descendants of the men who sat in the French National Convention. But they are less dangerous than they think they are. There is nothing of Catiline in their character, neither is there any of the powerful national emotion which inspired the men of the Convention."

THE TANAKA BANK.

It is stated that the arrest of Mr. Amenomiya, in connection with the Iron Foundry fraud, is likely to ruin the Tanaka Bank. That institution belongs nominally to the Itohei family, but is chiefly concerned with the Tanko Railway Company. The Bank is said to have lent to Mr. Amenomiya a large sum—six or seven hundred thousand *yen*—as security for which it holds shares of the Tanko Railway and other stocks. The transactions between Mr. Amenomiya and the Bank having been, however, on a credit basis, no documents pass, and the law consequently does not permit the Bank to appropriate Mr. Amenomiya's shares for the purpose of meeting his over-draft. They will be seized at the suit of the Tokyo Municipality. Considering that the capital of the Bank is only six hundred thousand *yen*, it can scarcely survive such a blow as this. The collapse of the Bank would, it is alleged, inflict heavy loss upon many of the silk merchants of Yokohama. Many depositors have begun to withdraw their money, and the state of the institution is reported to be very insecure.

NATURALIZED JAPANESE IN LIAOTUNG.

According to the *Mainichi Shimbun's* information, there are some four thousand naturalized Japanese subjects scattered about the Man-

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

churian district now in Japanese occupation. On the evacuation of the region by the Japanese, it is feared that these people will receive very summary treatment at the hands of the Chinese. The Japanese Government, continues our contemporary, proposed to the Chinese Government that they should be treated as prisoners of war, but the proposal was rejected. Under the circumstances, it is said to have been decided to carry them all to Hokkaido, where suitable grants of land will be made to them. We presume that by "naturalized Japanese subjects" the *Mainichi* means Chinese that have become naturalized. It will certainly be a remarkably magnanimous and benevolent measure on the part of the Japanese Authorities if they carry these persons to Hokkaido and give them tracts of land to reclaim, but the wisdom of the step is open to discussion.

A RAZOR'S EDGE.

OLD fashioned fallacies die one by one. It used to be a common belief, for example, that the edge of the Japanese sword was a fine band of steel welded on the body of the blade. Doubtless that idea was suggested by the line of demarcation, sometimes straight, sometimes wavy, that separates the clear blue steel along the edge from the darker metal of the body. But we now know that no such process as that of welding is resorted to by the sword-maker of Japan. The difference in colour between the edge and the body of the blade is produced at the time of tempering the former, a coat of clay-like composition—the exact ingredients of which are supposed to be determined by a secret receipt—being applied to the body in such a way as to leave only the edge exposed to the influence of the fire. It used also to be supposed that these remarkable swords owed their cutting properties to an exceedingly fine serration of the edge, as was believed to be the case with razors. But careful microscopic examination, recently conducted, has shown that the edge of a good razor has no serrations and does not by any means act like a saw. The edge is, in fact, a true wedge, of the greatest delicacy, which, owing to its extreme tenuity, sinks into any material with which it comes in contact, and divides it just as a wedge splits wood.

POLITICS AT OISO.

DURING the past few days Oiso has been the centre of attention in the political world. We may say that is so even now. Marquis Ito is for the present staying there on account partly of his own health and partly of that of the Marchioness. On the 15th, Mr. Hoshi went down to see the Premier, with whom he had a long talk. Scarcely had he left for the capital, when Count Itagaki, Mr. Kono Hironaka, Mr. Hayashi Yuzo, and a few other well-known Liberals arrived. They had, it is said, repeated conferences with the Premier. The *Kokumin's* correspondent reports that among the subjects discussed at these conferences, one related to the appointment of Count Itagaki to the post of Minister of Home Affairs; Mr. Hayashi to that of Metropolitan Police Inspector-General; and a number of other Liberals to local Governorships. This report must not be received without caution.

THE KYOTO EXHIBITION.

WE are indebted to a Kyoto correspondent for some interesting statistics concerning the recent Domestic Exhibition. The total cost, which is defrayed by the Government, amounts to half a million *yen*. A little over one-tenth of this sum was taken at the gates, or rather less than 60,000 *yen*. The buildings, which cost 70,000 *yen* to erect, have been sold for 20,000 *yen*, the buyer being pledged to remove all by the end of the year. This then represents the price of the material alone. But despite the large outlay connected with the Exhibition, it has more than fulfilled its purpose, new channels of trade having been opened up and a great impetus given, particularly to the industries of the sister cities of Osaka and Kyoto. The latter has, it is computed, profited more than two million *yen* directly, while the indirect gain promises to be still larger. Famine prices prevailed in the city during the months of July and August, eggs that fetch one *sen* or 1½ *sen* in Tokyo selling readily for three times as much. Milk that could be had in the capital for 2 to 3 *sen* per *go*, brought 8 and even 10 *sen* for a like quantity. Cotton stuffs, towelling, etc., went at exorbitant rates. One consequence is that the city has grown decidedly larger, and that villas are springing up all over the suburbs. The Kyoto people declare that the Osaka-ites are jealous of their success; but as many large-sized crumbs fell to the share of the latter city, neither has much to complain of, except it be the cholera, which raged with unprecedented fury in Osaka for nearly two months. Had it not been for the epidemic, it is stated, Kyoto would have done fully twice, if not three times, as well.

FLOATING OF THE "BJORG."

FROM information which reached the *Kobe Chronicle* on Friday, we learn that the *Bjorg*, which stranded somewhere near Bakan on Wednesday, got off successfully on Thursday night. The sensational news published by a Japanese contemporary as to the damage she had met with appears to have been unfounded, as on examination she was found to be so little injured that the captain determined on proceeding with the voyage to Vladivostock, and the *Bjorg* was to leave for that port yesterday. It had been arranged to send the *Rheingold* down to take her cargo, but on receiving this news the departure of the latter vessel was countermanded.

MR. W. S. WETMORE.

AFTER forty-five years of residence in the East, Mr. W. S. Wetmore has left Shanghai for England. In the early eighties, when the subject of bimetallism received considerable attention in these columns, Mr. Wetmore was one of the very few merchants in the Far East that recognised the great issues involved. His private letters to us at the time would have constituted valuable contributions to the public's understanding of an extremely abstruse subject. But it was not until very recent years that he sought the publicity of the press, and gave to the world writings that have been widely read and appreciated. We join the Shanghai journals in an earnest tribute to his marked financial ability, and in the hope that he may soon return to China.

THE OLD RUSE.

IT is alleged that the French priests at Chêngtu having inspected the bodies of the six men executed nominally for the anti-Christian riots, found them to be wretched looking persons who had evidently lain a long time in prison, and must have been originally incarcerated for some other offence. It is plain that if Chinese officials choose to resort to such devices there is little to prevent them. Men lying in prison under sentence of death can always be carried out and executed to expiate a crime that they never committed.

PROPOSED NEW LINE TO DZUSHI.

THE promoters of a new railway between Yokohama and Dzushi *viâ* Sugita, Tomioka, Kanazawa, Yokosuka, Otsu, Uraga, Kurihama, Nagasawa, Sashima, Hayama, and Horinouchi, a distance of 32 miles, have applied for a charter. Among the promoters are Messrs. Morioka Masazumi, Oye Taku, Fukuzawa Sutejiro, Nakakamigawa Hikojiro, and Yonekura Ippei. The capital is fixed at *yen* 1,800,000.

THE CHINESE MINISTER TO TOKYO.

IT is rumoured at Pekin, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, that the friends of H. E. Yü Keng, the Chinese Minister in Tokyo, are trying to get that gentleman transferred as Minister to Washington upon the expiration of H.E. Yang Ju's term next summer.

CHINA'S NEW WAR-VESSELS.

THE torpedor-catcher *Fei Ying*, which has just been constructed at the Vulkan Wharf at Swinemunde for the Chinese Government, underwent her gunnery trials at Kiel at the end of September. The vessel, after taking on board six loaded torpedoes, sailed for China with a crew of 60 Chinese and 16 Europeans. On 3rd October she proceeded through the North Sea and Baltic Canal.

IMPERIAL GARDEN PARTY.

The Imperial Chrysanthemum Party came off on Tuesday and was as usual a very brilliant affair. The weather was perfect, and the scene was enlivened by the presence of a large number of French and Russian naval officers in full uniform. His Majesty the Emperor entered the park punctually at half-past two o'clock, but the Empress was prevented by indisposition from being present. The chrysanthemums showed as fine bloom as ever. Single flowers not less magnificent may be seen in London or Paris, but to the Japanese belongs the palm for growing an immense number of blossoms—a thousand and upwards on one stem. A cold collation was served in booths specially erected, the Emperor presiding and setting a very hearty example to the guests.

THE "EDGAR" DISASTER.

Through the kindness of Mr. Tom Thomas we are placed in possession of a few particulars concerning the terrible disaster that occurred at Chemulpho on November 13th, when 48 bluejackets belonging to H.M.S. *Edgar* were drowned. The news comes in a letter from Mr. C. E. Lloyd-Thomas, who is serving as an officer on the *Edgar*. It appears that on the 13th inst. a detachment of blue-jackets in charge of Lieut. Bruen, with Sub-Lieut. Rymer and Midshipmen Hobson and Mackworth, and Mr. Thomas were landed on Wŏl-mè-to, an island near Chemulpho, for the purposes of company drill. Everything seems to have gone on satisfactorily and preparations were made to return aboard. We give what followed in Mr. Thomas' own words. He says:—"After finishing drill we marched back to the boat and embarked for the ship; seas began to come in over the bows and she was filling, so we turned round and made for the shore. When about 600 yards off the shore she filled and sank. Nearly everybody jumped overboard at once, but I couldn't, as I was in the bottom of the boat trying to bail out. When she sank I swam clear, and then swam back to get hold of something and found about a foot of the mast sticking up. I held on to that for a short time and then it sank. I then swam about looking for something and saw Hobson with a breaker and joined him, but we found it sinking and we had to look out for something else, and I was just starting to swim for shore when I saw two men with a breaker, so I joined them, and just put my finger through the becket to keep myself afloat until I was picked up by a Russian steamboat." Continuing, Mr. Thomas says:—"We were in the water 15 minutes, temperature 48°, and tem. of air 40°. All of the officers were saved, but only 18 men, making only 23, out of 71." Such is the brief story sent home to Yokohama, of one of the most distressing catastrophes recorded for many years in connection with the British squadron in Far Eastern waters. We would have liked to have placed before our readers more minute details—such as the time of the accident, whether the boat was under sail or oars, or in tow of a launch: whether a gale sprang up suddenly, or not; and other particulars as to the state of the weather before launching the boat; the condition of the craft when all were aboard, etc., but for these we must wait until the official reports are available. Mr. Thomas gives no explanation of the reason for the great loss of life except in one sentence, where he says:—"I am afraid the men lost their heads completely, for they seemed to let go of things they had hold of." Of course it may be hazarded that the men may have been numbed by the cold, and this combined with the weight of their accoutrements, may have caused them to sink under the water, after a very few minutes' battle with the icy waves. Mr. Lloyd Thomas is indeed fortunate in escaping the deadly peril.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CURRENT TOPICS.

A certain section of the public in Tokyo still continue to believe, or pretend to believe, that the *Nichi Nichi's* proclamation of a coalition between the Government and the Liberal party is premature, and that the so-called coalition does not amount to more than an understanding between a small portion of the Ministers, on the one hand, and the leading Radicals in the Capital on the other. According to this view, the alliance was the work of the Choshu elements in the Cabinet, the Satsuma statesmen being dissatisfied with it. Among the Liberals, besides the Tosa section and a few others, the bulk of the Party, according to this theory, are said to be opposed to the step. It is rumoured that the younger generation of Satsuma malcontents in the Government circle are taking active steps to organize a counter-movement. Count Matsukata, who is about to leave again for Kyoto, is naturally regarded with much attention. It is conjectured that although his avowed object is to attend an industrial conference in Kyoto, his real purpose is to consult with Marquis Yamagata about the situation. Count Inouye is reported to have left Söul on the 16th instant. It is surmised that his arrival in Tokyo, which will be in less than a week's time, will precipitate some decisive issue, one way or the other. None of these rumours seems to rest on any solid foundation, but if they are not trustworthy, they at least serve to show that the situation is still somewhat unsettled. An impression prevails in the capital that some changes in the Cabinet are unavoidable before the opening of the Diet.

The attitude of the National Unionists remains undecided. Their organ, the *Chuo Shimbun* does not afford us the slightest glimmering as to the sentiments of the Party. But from their past history and the connection between their leaders and the Cabinet Ministers, it is not likely that they will take the side of the Progressionists in the coming session of the Diet.

The middle of next month promises to be a busy time in the political world. The Liberals are to hold a general meeting on the 15th, while on the preceding day the Progressionists will assemble for a similar purpose. The Progressionists will issue a manifesto on that occasion, and the drawing up of the document has been entrusted to a committee, consisting of Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Ogaki Yukio, Minoura Katsudo, Koizuka Ryu, and Takata Sanaye. On the part of the Liberals, it is stated that the manifesto declaring the coalition with the Cabinet will be published in the *Tôho* of the 25th inst.

The *Jiji Shimpo* attempts to classify the members of the House of Representatives into parties for and against the Cabinet. According to its information, the situation is approximately as follows at the present moment:—

		Numerical strength.
Ministerialstis	Liberals	107
	Kishu members	5
	Non-party members	29
	Total	141
Uncertain	National Unionists	32
	Non-party members	2
	Total	34
Opposition	Progressionists	53
	Constitutional Reformists	40
	Ote Club	25
	Middle Province Progressionists	5
	Non-party Members	2
Total		125

The non-party supporters of the Cabinet in the above list consist principally of the so-called "Industrial Members" (*Jitsugyo Dantai*). Concerning the National Unionists, the *Jiji* remarks that their past history would seem to warrant the supposition that they will support the Government, but that under existing circumstances a considerable degree of uncertainty attaches to their attitude.

Concerning the recent conferences at Oiso between Marquis Ito and the Liberal leaders, very contradictory stories are told in Tokyo. While, as we have already stated, one report mentions that among the subjects discussed was the appointment of the principal Liberals to official positions, another account is that the Liberal leaders repaired to Oiso to pursuade the Premier to desist from his intended resignation. It is also stated that the recent journey to Oiso of Count Itagaki, Mr. Hoshi, Mr. Kono, and others, was the result of an indignant remonstrance made by the Premier to Count Mutsu against the premature announcement of the coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberal Party. These two last stories rest on the presumption that the revelation of the alliance was a mere device on the part of some followers of the Premier to compel him to cast in his lot definitely with the Liberals, thereby ensuring the stability of the present Cabinet and preparing the way for the promotion of the intriguers to Ministerial positions. According to this theory, Marquis Ito is dissatisfied with the policy of his followers and determined upon resignation. These views are generally entertained among the politicians opposed to the Liberal party. One of the Progressionist organs even hints in a tone of confidence that the Liberals building extravagant hopes upon the so-called alliance with the Cabinet, will be most greviously disappointed, for the present Ministry will soon have to give place to another from which the Liberals will have little ground to expect favour or countenance. We direct our readers' attention to the source of these anti-Liberal stories.

Marquis Yamagata is reported to have left Kyoto for the capital on the evening of the 19th instant. Before setting out, he had a conference with Count Matsukata who had just arrived from Tokyo. The speedy return of Marquis Yamagata to the capital is regarded as very significant. Count Inouye is expected in Tokyo in a few days. Viscount Takashima, too, is coming back in a short time. It is thus supposed that in the course of the next fortnight or so, the situation will be settled one way or another.

Concerning the attitude of the Progressionists, the *Jiji Shimpo* believes that their views about the Government have undergone a wholesome change. They no longer seem to be actuated by uncompromising antagonism to those in power. In support of this statement, the *Jiji* refers to an article that will be published in the next issue of the Party's journal. The article will discuss the bearing of the recent meetings between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma upon the position of the *Kaishin-to*. After observing that Marquis Ito is now engaged in the task of reconstructing the Cabinet, the article is expected to proceed thus:—"The Progressionist Party's attitude toward the Cabinet is not in any way affected by the meetings between these two statesmen, for the Party's policy remains unchanged amidst all the vicissitudes of political combinations. However, the Party will not hesitate to give its support even to Marquis Ito, if only he promises to conduct the administration according to public opinion. Neither will it scruple to attack even Count Okuma, should he show himself opposed to such a method of Government."

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that Marquis Ito is not likely to return to the capital soon, for he has just sent instructions to his residence in Tokyo to forward a fowling piece to him at Oiso. It is also announced by some other papers that he has just tendered his resignation. Those that believe in this rumour regard Marquis Yamagata as Marquis Ito's successor in the post of Premier. Marquis Yamagata arrived at Shimbashi at 5 p.m. on the 19th instant. He drove from the station direct to Viscount Nomura's official residence, and early on the following morning he repaired to the Palace and had an audience with the Emperor. It is said that he returned from Kyoto in obedience to urgent instructions from His Majesty. On his way, it is stated, he had a conference with Marquis Ito at Oiso, but this report does not seem to be well founded. Probably it originated in the fact that at that station he was accidentally joined by Mr. Shirane, Minister of Communications, Count Itagaki, and Mr. Kono, who had been on a visit to the Premier.

Concerning the National Unionists the *Nichi Nichi* has the following note:—"We have hitherto thought it strange that the National Unionists, not being entire strangers to the statesmen in power, should stand aloof after the latter have definitely entered into cöoperation with the Liberals. We are now informed, however, that the relations between the Cabinet and the National Unionists have once more become very intimate. Seeing that both sides have always been virtually agreed about the principles of nationalism and the question of national defence, it is no wonder that they should join at a juncture like the present." We (*Japan Mail*) have always regarded such a consummation as very natural and there is little reason to doubt that the *Nichi Nichi's* information is true. The National Unionist organ, the *Chuo Shimbun*, however, preserves complete silence upon the subject. It is easily conceivable that, before any authoritative statement can be made by the official organ of the Party, the question must be definitely settled at a general meeting, though the probable result of such a meeting is not difficult to foresee.

The Opposition papers continue to publish reports tending to show that the Liberal Party is on the brink of a serious split, and that a large number of the provincial members will leave the Party in consequence of the coalition that their leaders in Tokyo have formed with the Cabinet. But the *Jiji Shimpo* is strongly inclined to think otherwise. It bases its opinion upon the general tone of the provincial papers, which, without distinction of party or faction, regard the news of the coalition as a matter of course, and refrain from any extravagant attacks upon the Liberals; while, on the other hand, the journals belonging to the Liberal Party accept the intelligence not merely without any protest but even without the slightest show of dissatisfaction. Such is the impression produced on the *Jiji* by a careful perusal of the provincial press of all parties and localities.

The *Chuo Shimbun* remarks that at a recent meeting in the Atago-kan, the politicians of the Opposition parties adopted a resolution to the effect that should the Cabinet refuse to resign in connection with the Korean question, consent must be withheld in the next session of the Diet from all the expenditures not coming within the scope of the 67th Article of the Constitution, their idea being to force the Ministers to resign. It would be premature to accept this as the policy mapped out by the Opposition in general, but undoubtedly some such course is meditated by the extreme section of the politicians hostile to the Cabinet.

Count Inouye, who is expected in Tokyo in a few days, seems to be the last hope of the persons opposed to an alliance between the Liberals and the Cabinet, or, as these persons prefer to say, between the Liberals and Marquis Ito's faction. Count Inouye, it is stated, is not in favour of such an alliance, and it is expected that his return may upset the arrangement and lead to the reorganization of the Cabinet upon entirely new principles. His return, it is also rumoured, is impatiently awaited by Marquis Ito, who, according to the enemies of the Liberal alliance, is resolved to abide by the decision of the Count. These rumours, of all those in circulation, seem to be the least worthy of credit.

COUNT INOUYE'S RETURN.

The return of Count Inouye will probably be a little delayed. A telegram received on the evening of the 20th, said that the steamer carrying His Excellency had been obliged to put into Kozaki in Tsushima on account of stress of weather. It may be concluded, therefore, that the Count will not reach Tokyo before the 24th.

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THE RETURN OF THE GUARDS.

The Head-quarter Staff of the Imperial Guards arrived on Thursday forenoon at Shimbashi terminus and were received by thousands of shouting citizens. The capital had been in a state of "reception" from the preceding evening, for one batallion reached Tokyo on the afternoon of the 20th, and two others in the small hours of the following morning. The exact times of the three batallions' arrival being, however, uncertain, no attempt was made to give them an elaborate welcome, except that the streets were gaily hung with flags and two or three thousands of enthusiasts assembled to do a modicum of shouting. But it having been duly announced that the Head-quarter Staff would reach Shimbashi at half-past ten in the forenoon of the 21st, a very hearty demonstration was prepared by the citizens. It would be difficult to form an estimate of the crowds that packed themselves densely in the immediate vicinity of the terminus. There were about as many as the great space in front of the station could hold, and an overflow that defied estimate lined each side of the streets, half a dozen deep, all along the route from the terminus to the barracks. The student class was conspicuously represented, and the lusty roaring of its members betrayed a fever of military zeal not without suggestiveness for prophets of Japan's future. There was also a students' band, which played totally unrecognisable tunes with instruments among which a hoarse drum alone could be identified. Needless to say that the lamp-posts carried their usual clusters of urchins, and that the roof of every pent-house within visual range was loaded to its utmost limit of endurance. The usual door of exit from the side of the station had been chosen for the passage of the troops, though the door of ingress in front would certainly have been better adapted to the occasion, had any idea of producing a picturesque effect been entertained. Perhaps intentionally, the police were not at all *en evidence*. To a slender rope stretched between frail supports was entrusted the whole function of reserving a space for the soldiers, and even in the absence of constables' batons and sheathed sabres, it accomplished its task, though the swaying crowds sometimes threatened to snap it. The arrival of the train was tolerably punctual, and the engine, as it glided forward to the points after uncoupling, and sent up a puff of notifying steam, received the first roar of the ovation. The Head-quarter Staff of a Division is not, at the best of times, a very imposing body, and after a long railway journey its claims to public notice are not augmented. But the citizens of Tokyo were determined to see a Formosan hero in every wearer of a uniform that arrived at Shimbashi on Thursday morning. No distinction of persons was made. Groups of fatigue-men straggling out of the station, laden with parcels and bundles, received cheers as hearty and as vehement as did the company of weather-beaten soldiers that ultimately emerged, marching to the music of a band within the station. The men looked as brown as berries and as thin as greyhounds, but their uniforms were fairly smart and their general appearance did not suggest much hardship. The crowd would have preferred, of course, to see them in the mud-coloured costume that they actually wore on campaign—the costume that made such a sombre feature in the funeral cortège of His Imperial Highness Prince Kitashirakawa. But the raw cold that precedes rain on a dull November morning forbade any sacrifice to the picturesque in that direction. The soldiers, as they marched in the ranks, preserved a mien of stolid indifference. Neither their return to Tokyo nor the ovation that awaited them seemed to awaken any enthusiasm in their breats. They were too chilled and too weary to remember anything but the mechanics of discipline. The officers, on the contrary, behaved as if they had been specially drilled to receive popular ovations, saluting the people right and left, and treading gaily forward as though to invite the cheers that rang about them everywhere. Field Marshal Nodzu, who wore a heavily-furred cloak lined with scarlet, made a particularly conspicious figure and was wildly cheered, as were also Major-General Kawamura and Colonel Sameshima, Chief of the Staff, who accompanied the Marshal. Nevertheless the arrivals had been so few and the troops had seemed so small a body, that the big crowd, evidently dissatisfied with its opportunities to be vociferous, expended its surplus cheers upon straggling baggage-guards in *jinrikisha*, shouting at them, clustering round them and *banzai-ing* them in the heartiest manner concievable. Altogether Tokyo took care that there should not be the slightest room to doubt its lusty gratitude to the men that had suffered so much for their country's sake in Formosa.

TARIFF CONVENTION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND JAPAN.

The Supplementary Convention, provided for in the Revised Treaty between Great Britain and Japan, having been concluded and ratified, the ratifications were exchanged yesterday at the Foreign Office in Tokyo, their Excellencies Marquis Saionji and Sir Ernest Satow representing the High Contracting Parties. It will be remembered that the purpose of this Supplementary Convention, as defined in the Protocol to the Treaty, was to convert the *ad valorem* duties mentioned in the new Tariff into specific duties, as far as possible, the basis for such conversion being the medium prices, as shown by the Japanese Customs Returns during the six calendar months preceding the date of the protocol, together with the cost of insurance and transportation from the place of production, purchase or fabrication to the port of discharge, as well as the commission, if any. The Convention was to have been concluded before the 16th of January in the present year—that is to say, within six months from the date of the Protocol—but it having been found impossible to finish the work in that time, owing to the immense increase of abnormal functions devolving on the Japanese Foreign Office in connection with the war, an extension of time until July 16th of the present year was agreed upon. The Convention having been concluded by that date, was duly ratified, and the ratified document having arrived from England on the 14th instant, ratifications were exchanged on the 21st. It may be presumed that the final settlement of this question will promote the progress of the negotiations now going on with other European Powers.

MR. PARSONS IN TOKYO.

The Honourable J. Langdon Parsons, Commissioner for South Australia to Japan, China, and the Philippine Islands, delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture at the Higher Commercial School last Saturday on the subject: "Australia and Japan; their mutual interests." The large Lecture Hall was filled with a very appreciative audience, among whom were H.E. Mr. Makino, Vice-Minister of Education, the professors and alumni of the school, and the students. Beginning with Australia, Mr. Parsons spoke of (1) her early history, natural features, climate &c., (2) her political position and conditions, and (3) her social condition. Then he touched upon the history of Japan, saying that he had been a very careful reader of her recent wonderful changes, and wound up by speaking of the commercial future already opening to the mutual benefit of Australia and Japan.

In the evening he attended the Reunion Dinner of the alumni of the above institution, at which a gold medal was presented to their former director, Mr. Yano, in token of their grateful recognition of services to them and the country.

ECONOMICAL AND INDUSTRIAL.

The following figures show the capital, receipts, and dividends of some of the railway companies for the half-year ending the 30th of September:—

	Capital. Yen.	Receipts. Yen.	Dividend. Per cent.
Tanko Tetsudo.....	6,500,000	381,563 029	12
Osaka Tetsudo.....	3,000,000	147,091.732	13
San-yo Tetsudo.....	13,000,000	434,261.773	10
San-gu Tetsudo.....	1,100,000	55.978.507	10
Settsu Tetsudo.....	240,000	6,595 845	4.62
Chiku-Ho Tetsudo.	3,700,000	199,783.830	10
Ryomo Tetsudo ...	1,500,000	78,198.721	8.5
Naniwa Tetsudo ...	250,000	4,307.142	6.
Ome Tetsudo	150,000	1,378.023	4.08
Kawagoye Tetsudo.	300,000	19,932 916	8.
Kobu Tetsudo	1,500,000	78.585.580	11
Kyushu Tetsudo ...	11,000,000	307,386.816	8.

Commenting on these statistics, the *Shogyo Shimpo* observes that, with the exception of the San-yo and Kyushu lines, the exceptionally prosperous condition of the above mentioned roads is owing to the revival of commerce and industry during the period under review. As to the San-yo and Kyushu railways, the increase of their profits was brought about in large measure by the conveyance of troops and war material. The low rate of profits on the Settsu, Naniwa, and Ome lines, is easily explained by the fact that they are new roads just opened for traffic. While congratulating these companies on their prosperous condition, the *Shogyo* is constrained to offer some criticism about the improvident eagerness shown to declare high rates of dividend without making a sufficient provision against bad seasons. The directors of these companies are reminded of the fact that their *confréres* in the West pursue a very different method, their care being always to set aside a sufficient sum for the equalization of dividends from year to year. The same prudent course is strongly recommended to the Japanese companies.

Among the railway projects just announced, we may mention the Tokushima Tetsudo, capital 750,000 *yen*, connecting Tokushima and Kawada in Tokushima Prefecture; the Ka-No Tetsudo, capital 700,000 *yen* running from Tsubata in Kaga to Nanao in Noto; the Isesaki Tetsudo, capital 200,000 *yen*, connecting Isesaki and Takabayashi in Joshu; the Kibi Tetsudo, capital 200,000 *yen*, from Okayama to Samban; the Hoshu Tetsudo, capital 200,000 *yen*, between Oita and Beppu in Bungo, Kyushu; the Chikugo Tetsudo, capital 700,000 *yen*, between Kuroki and Wakamatsu in Chikugo, Kyushu; the Jo-Gan Tetsudo, between Mito and Koriyama on the Nippon Tetsudo line.

An industrial mania is sweeping over the land, as may be seen from the following table showing the market prices of the shares of the new companies:—

	Paid up as security. Yen.	Market price. Yen.
Narita Tetsudo	1.10	.....11.50
Toyokawa Tetsudo	1.00	..... 6.00
Gan Etsu Tetsudo.....	1.00	..... 2 00
Kyoto Tetsudo	1.00	..... 3.50
Nankai Tetsudo..... ...	1.00	..... 7 00
Seiwa Tetsudo	1.00	..... 2.00
Chugoku Tetsudo	1.00	..... 2.30
Isominato Tetsudo.....	1.00	..... 1.70
Joya Tetsudo	1.00	..... 1.50
Denki Tetsudo	.25	..... 3.70
Kyohoku Tetsudo	nom.	... . 7.00
Shanghai Spinning	nom.	..... 5.00
Yokohama Commercial Bank	.50	.....12.50

The projected Dockyard Company at Moji has been joined by Tateno Gozo, Hiromi Nisaburo, Hamanaka Ihachiro and others. The capital has in consequence been increased to 900,000 *yen*, the capacity of the projected dock being sufficient to admit ships of 3,000 tons at least.

The projects for the establishment of docks in Kobe and its vicinity are said to be making favourable progress. The first is that promoted by the Mitsu Bishi Firm. This programme includes the construction of a dock at Onohama, capable of admitting ships of upwards of 7,000 tons. The

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next project, promoted by a number of well-known capitalists of Osaka and Kobe, contemplates the establishment of similarly large docks at Iwaya in the island of Awaji. The third and last under contemplation by influential merchants of Kobe and Osaka relates to the establishment of big docks at Komabashi, Hyogo.

The Prefectural Government of Yamanashi recently caused some officials to make a tour through the localities where the silk fabric, *Kaiki*, is produced, in order to call the attention of the manufacturers to the importance of forming themselves into a guild in order to prevent the production of articles of inferior quality. The need of such a guild having already been strongly felt by the manufacturers themselves, the officials found little difficulty in securing favourable attention. A guild has been organized binding all the members to submit their manufacture to the inspection of certain examiners appointed by the guild.

With the development of commerce, the system of credit is rapidly improving. Speaking on the subject at a recent Bankers' réunion in Tokyo, Mr. Yamamoto Tatsuo, of the Bank of Japan, expressed surprise at the wonderful increase during the past few years in the amount of credit bills and notes used in business transactions in the capital. The total of the bills and notes discounted at the Clearing House in 1891, the first year of the institution's operation, was 106,000,000 *yen*. It increased gradually until the amount reached 282,000,000 *yen* in 1894. There are a large number of banks that have not yet joined the Clearing House, and have their bills exchanged at the Bank of Japan. The average daily amount of bills thus treated at the Bank during the month of October was 110,570 *yen* in 1893, 180,000 *yen* in 1894, and 310,000 *yen* in 1895.

The project of Mexican Emigration, undertaken by the Colonization Association, is said to have matured. It is stated that Mr. Ono Kanemoto, formerly of the Hokkaido Administration Board, will be dispatched to Mexico as agent.

A general meeting of the promoters of the Yayeyama Sugar Manufacturing Company was held in Tokyo on the 18th instant. Mr. Shibusawa was in the chair. The principal business was the discussion of the Company's constitution and the election of Managers and Assessors. To the board of Managers were appointed Messrs. Torimi Seizayemon, Umeura Seiichi, Nakagawa Torasaburo, Tonoki Zenbei, and Oye Taku. Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi and Komura Shinobu were elected Assessors.

Investigations relating to the development of foreign trade, undertaken by the Tokyo Branch of the Japan Trade Association (*Nippon Boyeki Kyokai*) have just been brought to a conclusion. The members of the Investigation Committee assembled at the Seiyoken on the 16th instant, and the results of the investigations conducted by separate members were submitted for general discussion. The draft reports thus debated upon and corrected have been placed in the hands of printers.

The match manufacturers of Osaka, Kobe, Nagoya, Tokyo, and other localities, constituting the Japan Match Association, recently held a conference in Osaka. As a result of the discussions, the head-quarters of the Association, hitherto established in Tokyo, have been removal to Kobe. Mr. Takikawa Benzo was appointed Director of the head-quarters.

The quantity of rice exported during the year ending the 31st of October last, was 117,627 tons, valued at 7,967,584 *yen*. Of this quantity, nearly the whole was exported from Kobe, the only other place where the cereal was shipped being Shimonoseki, with only 12,237 tons, valued at 783,168 *yen*. The quantity exported from Kobe is classified as follows:—

	Quantity. Tons.	Value. Yen.
Uncleaned Rice.....	79,014.....	4,896,703
Cleaned Rice.....	28,376.....	2,287,713
Total	105,390.....	7,184,416

KOREAN NEWS.

SATURDAY, NOV. 16.

The last anniversary of the Emperor's birthday was celebrated by the Japanese in Sōul in a manner never witnessed there previously. The weather, rather dark and threatening on the preceding day, cleared up on the 3rd instant and became bright and warm. The whole settlement wore an appearance of unusual gaiety, abundance of national flags and paper lanterns being used to decorate each house-front, or suspended from ropes crossing the street at regular intervals. At eleven in the morning, the residents assembled in the newly-built higher primary school, which was fitted up in a manner suitable to the happy occasion. After the singing of the national anthem by the boys and girls of the school, the residents, marshalled in the enclosure, gave three cheers for the Emperor. The company then partook of a cold collation, after which they were entertained with dances on a temporary stage specially erected for the purpose, and by wrestling matches between amateurs. Meanwhile, fireworks were sent up from the top of Hwa-sŏng Hill (Japanese Castle Hill). The streets of the Settlement were filled with a crowd of Koreans, high and low, old and young. Toward evening, about eighty of the principal residents were invited to the Consulate where they were entertained by Consul Uchida. At seven, the party repaired in a body to the Legation to attend the ball. At the Legation, a number of distinguished personages had been invited to tiffin at noon, among them being the Korean Minister and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Ministers of the United States and of Russia, the British Consul-General, the German Consul, the French Diplomatic agent, other members of the diplomatic and Consular bodies, Count Inouye, Minister Komura, and other members of the Japanese Legation. The Korean Foreign Minister, Mr. Kim proposed the health of His Imperial Japanese Majesty, and thanks were given by Mr. Komura. The ball in the evening was attended by over a hundred persons, Korean, Japanese, and European and American. Among the Occidentals were the German Consul, Colonel Cockerill of the *New York Herald*, Mr. Greathouse, Colonel Dye, and others.

The Japanese Ambassador, Count Inouye, had an audience with the King on the 5th inst. He proceeded to the Palace in a palanquin specially sent from the Court, and was followed by Minister Komura, Mr. Inouye Katsunosuke, Secretary of the Foreign Department, Mr. Nagasaki Seigo, Confidential Secretary to the Minister of the Household and Chamberlain to the Emperor, and Mr. Kokubu, Interpreter of the Legation. The escort consisted of Korean and Japanese policemen. About two in the afternoon the procession left the Legation. At the Waiting Chamber, they were met by Mr. Li Saiben, Minister of the Household, and Mr. Kim Inshoku, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and several other high officials, and were served with champagne. Soon afterwards, on being ushered into the Audience Chamber, the Japanese Ambassador was greeted by the King in a particularly courteous manner. His Majesty repeatedly asked Count Inouye to be seated, but the latter continued standing throughout the interview. The Count presented to His Majesty the gifts with which he had been charged by his Emperor and Empress, namely a *suzuri-bako* (a lacquered box containing an inkstone, pencils, and other writing materials) from the former, and a book-case from the latter. There was also a present of a stationery box to the Crown Prince from the Imperial Heir Apparent of Japan. When Count Inouye had delivered a message entrusted to him by the Emperor, conveying expressions of sympathy and condolence for the unhappy occurrence of October 8th, the King seemed desirous of opening conversation with the Ambassador on various political topics. But the Count's mission being confined simply to the conveyance of his Sovereign's message of condolence, he retired from the royal presence without entering into any conversation with the King on subjects not immediately connected with the object of his mission. The audience did not last more than half an hour. The Crown Prince was not present on account of indisposition.

Concerning Count Inouye's influence in Korea, the *Choya Shimbun's* correspondent states that the mere mention of his name produces awe among the Koreans, not only in the capital but even in remote provincial districts. A certain Japanese recently travelling in the interior of the country is said to have completely intimidated some Korean rascals by telling them that he should report their evil doings to Count Inouye. The story may be somewhat exaggerated, but it is a fact that Count Inouye's name is now a household word in Korea.

By a recent change in the organization of the Army, the new Palace Guards and the Garrison Battalions are to be composed of men selected from the disbanded troops of the old Palace Guards and the *Kunrentai* Battalions. Those picked out from the old Palace Guards are now being drilled by two Japanese officers, Captains Fujita and Sakuma, preparatory to their final amalgamation with the former *Kunrentai* troops.

TUESDAY, NOV. 19.

The latest letters from Sōul agree in stating that the situation is unsettled and precarious. The principal source of danger is the Min faction, some of the leaders of which are said to be still hiding in a certain foreign Legation in Sōul. The Japanese correspondents refrain from naming the Legation, but there is no doubt that they refer to the Russian. Eight well known partisans of the late Queen are reported to be concealed there. The most distinguished being Li Hanshin (ex-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce), Li Inyo (ex-Police Inspector-General), Li Kanyo (ex-Minister of Education), Li Ka-ei (a Court Official), Gen Kotaku (ex-Commander of the Palance Guards) and Li Gakukin (a Court Official). These men are suspected of being engaged devising a plot to avenge the death of their patron, the late Queen, and ousting their enemies from office. According to a report very generally circulated in Sōul, they meditate the seizure of the King's person and his temporary detention in the Legation where they are hiding. Their scheme is so complete in detail, that the members of a ministry to replace the present are already nominated. The list, headed by Min Yong-chun, includes Li Inyo, Li Kanyo, An Keiju, Min Shoko, and so forth. The persons on whom the Min faction vow vengeance, are Kim Koshu (Minister President), Cho Giyen (Minister of War), Yu Kitsuyei (Acting Minister of Home Affairs), Ken Eichin (Police Inspector-General), and Cho Haku (Acting Minister of Justice). The Min politicians are watching for a favourable opportunity to carry out their plan of a counter-revolution, and as a means of preparing the way, are putting into circulation various rumours intended to excite the suspicion of the King as to the loyalty of the present Ministers. The latter, on their part, are said to be fully aware of the design of their enemies, and to be making preparations against an emergency. The Premier, Kim Koshu, and the acting Minister of Home Affairs, Yu Kitsuei, have apartments in the Palace and never pass the night outside, and His Majesty is always attended by Li Saiben, the Minister of the Household, so that none of the calumniators in the employ of the Min conspirators can find an opportunity to approach the throne. The Cabinet, it is also rumoured, is beginning to show signs of disagreement. Yu Kitsu-ei tries to throw the whole blame of the recent *émeute* upon the shoulders of Cho Giyen, who, in turn, holds the Commander of the disbanded *Kunrentai* troops responsible for the affair.

As to the absence of the members of the diplomatic corps from the ball given at the Japanese Legation in honour of the Emperor's birthday, the *Choya's* correspondent states that they did not attend lest they should have to join hands with the present Korean Ministers of State, whom they regard in the light of usurpers and bloody traitors.

A report from Fusan mentions that a Russian

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military surveying party, consisting of two officers and five men, arrived there by steamer on the 30th ultimo. They surveyed the principal places in the vicinity of the port, and as soon as passports could be obtained, they were to start overland for Sŏul.

THE LATE MR. YOSHIKAWA.

The funeral of Mr. Yoshikawa, late President of the Japan Mail Steamship Company, took place yesterday (21st inst.), the cortége leaving the residence of the deceased in Mukojima at 1 p.m., and proceeding to the temple of Kichijio in Komagome. A great concourse of friends and relatives assembled to pay the last tribute of respect to the deceased. Seldom indeed has a funeral ceremony of more imposing character been witnessed in Tokyo. The gifts of flowers were innumerable, their magnificence and the general costliness of the preparations suggesting the reflection that these rites are beginning to exceed the limits of reason in Japan. The attendance of foreigners was exceptionally large, and the great majority of them not only proceeded to the point of departure but also accompanied the procession on its long journey to Komagome. Mr. Yoshikawa Taijiro, whose death at the early age of forty-four is deeply lamented by the nation as well as by a large number of foreigners, was born in the family of a *Shin-to* priest of Nara. Losing his father while a boy, he came to the feudal capital of Yedo to pursue his studies at the age of about fifteen or sixteen, and matriculated into the private seminary of Kinoshita, a high official in the Government of the *Shogun*. His studies, however, were soon disturbed by the war of the Restoration, when his master, Kinoshita, like many of the retainers of the fallen House of Tokugawa, fled to the provinces of the North-east. Young Yoshikawa shared the dangers and privations of his master in his wanderings. He had imbibed so much of his master's zeal for the cause of the Feudal Government, that he endeavoured persistently to approach the person of an Imperialist General with a view to assassinate him. For that purpose, he assumed the disguise of a coolie, carrying about his sword and pistol in a straw bundle as if they were workman's tools. He did not, however, succeed in this object, and after the termination of the war, he returned to the new capital, then called Tokyo. Being without money and friends, he became a "student" in the house of a physician, the father of the present Dr. Ando Masatane, of Kayaba-cho, in the Nihonbashi District of the capital. A "student" in that sense meant a hanger-on, who, by working for the family, earned his board and utilized odd moments to qualify himself for the profession. But Mr. Yoshikawa had no taste for the healing art. In fact, like most young men of those times, he held the medical profession in hearty contempt, and devoted his leisure hours to writing political tracts and studying current political topics. Dr. Ando, himself having a political bent, did not rebuke his young disciple's inattention to the medical science. Yoshikawa, however, had to pay the penalty of his negligence. On one occasion, when his master and the rest of his fellow-students were absent, a messenger arrived from a certain well known patron of the physician, requesting an immediate visit. Mr. Yoshikawa tried to excuse himself, but the messenger would accept no apology, for the case was urgent. So he had to assume the airs of an experienced physician and repair to the house of the patient. His embarrassment on this occasion may well be imagined, for he knew nothing about medicine. But after examining the patient, he prescribed some medicine at random. Strange to say, the patient recovered in a few days, and the matter afterward became a standing jest among the disciples of Dr. Ando. Shortly afterwards, Yoshikawa entered Mr. Fukuzawa's school, the *Keiwo Gijuku*. It was so poor that being unable to pay the entrance fee, he had to work as an assistant accountant in the dormitory, thus obtaining the privilege of studying free of charge. After a year, he went to Wakayama with Dr. Matsuyama Toan to teach a school established there by the latter. In 1870, he again came to Tokyo and continued his studies at the *Keiwo Gijuku*. In 1872 he accepted a professorship in the English School at Hirosaki (the parent of the present *To-o Gijuku*), and in the following year, he was appointed an official of the 9th grade in the Department of Education. In April, 1874, he was promoted to degree grade in the scale of officialdom, and a few months later he received the appointment of Director of the English Language School of Nagoya. In 1877, that school having been abolished, he was transfered to the directorship of the Normal School in Sendai. In October, 1878, he entered the service of the Mitsu Bishi Steamship Company. Upon the amalgamation of that company with the Union Steamship Company in 1885, thus forming the present Nippon Yusen Kaisha, he joined the new company, and having served as manager of various branch offices, was appointed to the Board of Directors in 1817. The following year, he was promoted to the Vice-Presidency of the Company, and in March, 1894, he succeeded Mr. Morioka as President. In May, 1895, he was honoured by the Emperor with the fifth grade of the second class, and on the 13th of November, he was decorated with the 3rd Class of the Order of the Rising Sun in recognition of the services rendered by him as President of the Company during the recent war. On that day he breathed his last, the cause of his untimely death being disease of the lungs. In him Japan has lost one of her most talented and energetic leaders in the field of business.

THE HABIT OF WAR.

It is quite curious to note what a commonplace character has been imparted by habit to events that would have roused the Japanese public to great excitement a year ago. All the latest stages of the Formosa campaign have been treated with the utmost nonchalance. Nobody seems to have conceived the smallest forecast of disaster, and the bulletins, as they arrived, were conned with scarcely less respect than that accorded to quotations on 'Change, or reports of political squabbles in local assemblies. Yet the episodes of the fortnight, from Nov. 5th to Nov. 19th, deserved a great deal of attention. Two events are specially worthy of note. One occurred on the 19th instant, when a portion of the Mixed Brigade surrounded the village of Shoilan, where 3,000 Chinese troops were quartered. The affair differed from the general fashion of encounters between Japanese and Chinese, in the fact that no road of escape was left open for the latter. The fighting was consequently of a desperate character, the Chinese losing about 1,000 of their number and the Japanese 30. The Japanese, on the other hand, met with something very like a disaster at Tangkoisui, on the 14th of November, when a reconnoitring force, consisting of two compaines of infantry, marched into an ambush of five or six hundred Chinese, posted well under cover. The Japanese lost 94 men in killed and wounded, and had to fight for several hours before they succeeded in dislodging their enemies, who left only 30 corpses on the field. That must have been an exceedingly warm affair. The two companies can not have mustered more than 250 men, so that more than one man in every three was put *hors de combat*. Altogether, in the interval of 15 days, from the 5th to 19th (inclusive), the two Japanese columns, one advancing from the north, the other from the sea, fought fifteen engagements, large and small, and had a list of casualties aggregating 255, while the Chinese losses in the same time aggregated 2,300. Such a record certainly merits a good deal of attention, but the novelty of winning victories has entirely worn off in Japan, and we suspect that the Guards, despite their very arduous campaign, will not be received on their return with anything like the acclaim they deserve. It will scarcely be remembered that during the months while they lay comparatively idle, they had to encounter perpetually an enemy far more deadly than either the Hakkas or the Black Flags, and that they have left a very large percentage—some say one-half—of their numbers dead in Formosa.

METHODS OF QUOTATION.

The *Japan Gazette*, in a characteristically violent paragraph, accuses us of "disreputable conduct," of a "mean trick" and so forth, and concludes a very angry tirade with the words, "We can only regret that the man adopting these tactics still bears in the directories a title with which it is usual to associate the term gentleman." The basis of this attack is that we wittingly attributed to the *Japan Gazette* words that really formed part of an extract from the *Hongkong Daily Press*, and, contrasting them with editorial utterances of the *Gazette's*, convicted the latter of a flagrant contradiction. Probably no editor in the world would be knowingly guilty of the clumsy blunder thus attributed to us. It is impossible to suppose that the editor of the *Japan Gazette* believes in the justice of his own accusation. The quaint part of his angry charge is that he says:—"It is true we did not use inverted commas to mark the quotation from the *Daily Press*." That is to say, the *Japan Gazette*, according to its own admission, appropriated matter from the *Hongkong Daily Press*, published it in such a form that no reader could suppose it to be anything but the writing of the *Gazette* itself, and then flies into a passion and calls people ugly names because they read it as an editorial utterance of the *Gazette's*. "It is true we did not use inverted commas!!" How can the *Gazette's* readers possibly draw a distinction between original matter and quotations if the recognised method of indicating the latter is neglected? In order to expose the case clearly we quote the whole of the original paragraph from the *Japan Gazette*—an editorial paragraph, be it observed:—

> The fact that the shares of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank were unquotable on the London market on Friday last is, states the Hongkong *Daily Press*, indicative of the serious apprehensions that have been entertained of war with Russia breaking out. Reuter now informs as that "a Russian official communication declares that "the situation is tranquil and not calculated to in-"spire any uneasiness." But Muscovite official communications on international questions are not ordinarily to be accepted unreservedly. Several times Russia has declared that she did not intend to occupy such and such a place, and the declaration has been speedily followed by the actual occupation of the territory in question That language is given to conceal thought is a cardinal principle of Muscovite diplomacy, and if there was any fixed intention of making war on another power the execution of the intention would in all probability be preceded by some such declaration as that made in connection with the present crisis. On this occasion, however, the declaration may, we think, be accepted as correct, in so far as the decision rests with Russia herself. She will pursue her designs quietly but persistently, but they will not lead her into conflict with England unless England deems it necessary to oppose her by force of arms. If there is to be a fight it is England that will start it, not Russia. The responsibility is not one to be shirked if there be any real interference with British interests, but we fail to see anything in the present position, or in the designs attributed to Russia, to justify any serious apprehension of a breach of the peace.

According to the universally accepted rules of quotation, one sentence, and one sentence only, in the above paragraph can be attributed to the *Hongkong Daily Press*, and even that sentence may or may not be quoted verbatim. The sentence is:—"The fact that the shares of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank were unquotable on the London market on Friday last in indicative of the serious apprehensions that have been entertained of war with Russia breaking out." The whole of the rest of the paragraph must be read, can only be read, as an editorial utterance of the *Japan Gazette* itself. Not the remotest suspicion ever crossed our minds, or could cross the mind of an intelligent reader, that the remainder of the paragraph emanated from any source other than the *Japan Gazette*. It comes to this, then, that the *Japan Gazette* appropriated, without acknowledgment, editorial remarks from the *Hongkong Daily Press*, published them in such manner that they must be read as its own, and then became passionately indignant because they were so read.

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MR. OZAKI YUKIO.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio, the well-known Progressionist, delivered a lecture on the subject of "The Attitude of the Japanese toward Foreigners" at the Young Men's Christian Association of Tokyo on the 16th instant. In all his utterances on subjects connected with foreigners and foreign affairs, Mr. Ozaki has been noted for an attitude of very marked self-conceit and contempt toward alien races. But on the present occasion, he adopted an entirely different tone, showing himself not blind either to the defects of his own nationals or to the merits of foreign peoples. He strongly censured his countrymen for a conspicuous lack of steadiness in their notions about foreigners and foreign things, illustrating this assertion by a review of the history of Japan's foreign intercourse during the past three decades. At first, the attitude of the Japanese toward foreigners was characterized by hearty contempt and inveterate hatred. This was succeeded by a reactionary period, during which the Japanese went to the other extreme of worshipping Europeans and Americans, and regarding them as their superiors in every respect. But of late an opposite tendency has displayed itself, and the lecturer regretted to notice that his countrymen were now over-confident in their civilization and military prowess. He requested his youthful listeners to remember that the country's late victories were obtained over the Chinese, the most cowardly nation on the globe. Japan's strength must remained untested until she had fought with a European foe. The issue of such a struggle was at best very doubtful. Mr. Ozaki then proceeded to compare the state of morality in Japan and in the West, and the comparison, in his opinion, was not uniformly favourable to his country. He told his audience that the standard of morality was somewhat lower in Japan than in certain European countries, as, for example, England, where, to cite one out of numerous possible illustrations, no respectable family would admit Zola's novels into its library, whereas they were rapidly finding favour among his countrymen. Another circumstance to which he referred as an instance of want of social morality in Japan, was the marrying of women of questionable reputation into respectable families. He also told his listeners that their countrymen had much to learn from Europeans in matters of true courage and honour.

We (*Japan Mail*) are disposed to think that Mr. Ozaki's inferences, founded on the increasing circulation of Zola's novels in Japan, are somewhat superficial. The French author's works can not be called "immoral," in the true sense of the term. They do not in any single instance pourtray immoral subjects in an attractive guise. They are simply immodest. Zola's intention being to depict with absolute accuracy the lives led by certain classes of his countrymen and countrywomen, he necessarily unveils for his readers' inspection matter that finds no place in the thoughts or conversation of strictly modest people. It is impossible to suspect him of any evil purpose. On the contrary, one is compelled to perceive that the revolting portraits he paints are intended to arouse impulses of reform not to create instincts of imitation. There are to be found in every representative collection of Japanese novels (*kusasoshi* or *shosetsu*) many books infinitely more pernicious than anything written by Zola, because the Japanese author's immodesty—and in very truth Zola can give him no points—is associated with elements of humour and suggestions of pleasure that reconcile instead of deterring the reader. What makes Zola exercise an immoral influence upon many minds is that even to become familiar with the subjects he discusses is demoralizing to persons for whom such subjects have always been tabooed. But that ought not to be the case with the Japanese, who can be startlingly natural without any approach to immorality. To them Zola's works may be simply a very curious photograph of the manners and customs that disfigure the lives of certain classes of an eminently civilized Occidental people. However, the subject is too large to be exhaustively discussed in a paragraph. One word only may be added. The disfavour shown toward Zola's works in England is due, not simply to the general principle that all contact with pitch defiles, but also to the evident reflection that an author's sole excuse for unveiling the plague-spots of any social stratum among his nationals is the hope of educating reformatory impulses, and that outside nations having no practical concern with that hope, have no excuse for contemplating the plague-spots.

THE WAR SCARE.

We have been treated during the past few days to a very sensational war-scare. We have been told that "the majority of men have long foreseen that events were swiftly moving to a catastrophe;" that "it unfortunately can not be doubted that matters have reached a very serious stage," and that "great anxiety must prevail for many months to come." So far has the alarm been carried that detailed comparisons have been instituted between the fighting capacities of the British and Franco-Russian maritime forces in the Far East, very much to the disadvantage of the former, and Europe has been represented as trembling on the brink of a panic. A sudden change, however, has come over the spirit of this nightmare, and we can best illustrate it, perhaps, by direct quotation from the columns of the sensational journal that has been devoting itself to sounding the trumpet of war :—

Japan Gazette Nov. 13th.

In our experience of over a dozen years in journalism we never remember reading such constant and ominous forebodings. A friend, who well recalls the period preceding the Crimean War, declares that what occurred then is the only parallel his memory can recall to the present situation.

We should be glad if we could believe that all these things were mere journalistic froth. But France's offer of Bizerta to Russia is a very portentous fact — Bizerta which France promised by all that was honest in affairs diplomatic not to fortify! The recent decision of the French Government to annex Madagascar is contrary to the understanding arranged with Lord Salisbury. The secret Treaty concluded with China, by which she acquired territory then in dispute, was a direct challenge. As to England quarrelling with Russia over Turkey that would be neither new nor unexpected. Once England fought Russia on behalf of Turkey; on a second occasion she interfered to deprive Russia of the fruits of victory; is it then so improbable that Russi a may now side with Turkey in resisting demands which Turkey bitterly resents? On November 6th the British Cabinet decided that the time had come for action. Is it not possible that Russia has shown herself unwilling to co-operate, in other words that she is antagonistic? As to China the man must be blind indeed who does not see how Russia is menacing British interests. England's trade with China is greater than that of any other country, Russia's perhaps the least. Yet Russia controls Peking and, it is said, is about to take charge of the Customs. If the *Japan Mail* considers that in all this there is a conspicuous absence of any cause of quarrel, we cannot praise its perspicacity.

Japan Gazette Nov. 14th.

We fail to see anything in the present position, or in the designs attributed to Russia, to justify any serious apprehension of a breach of the peace.

There is a story told of an American editor whose Republican proprietor was suddenly changed for a violent Democrat. The new owner wired the editor, "Will you edit democratically?" The editor replied, also by wire:—"It's a d—d sharp turn, but I guess I'll take it." Somebody seems to have swept the *Japan Gazette* round an equally sharp turn in the interval between Nov. 13th and 14th.

Ma Sei-zui, a Chinese ex-prisoner at Osaka, who was sent back to China the other day, arrived in Osaka recently with the intention of teaching the Chinese language in that city. The kind treatment received by him while in exile induced him to return to Japan.

MESSIANIC PROPHECY.

It has always been our rule to open our correspondence columns to every writer having a fair case to state and stating it fairly. Holding, further, that religious topics have at least as full a right to occupy journalistic attention as any secular subject, we have followed that principle with regard to theological controversy. But there are times when editorial discretion ought to be exercised, in the interests now of the public in general, again of the theme discussed, and it appears to us that the present is such a time. Several writers, engaging in a controversy with regard to the truth of Messianic prophecy, have occupied a large space in our columns for some time past. At the outset we did not attempt, of course, to impose any limits, but it having now become quite plain that the discussion can lead to no results, either definite or useful, our duty to our readers forbids us to insert any more communications on the subject. We are the more induced to take this step when we observe how greatly the controversy threatens to be disfigured by irrelevancies and even personalities, and how imperfectly modern Biblical interpretation is represented by the solitary champion that the controversy has evoked on that side. We therefore beg our correspondents to accept this intimation and to refrain from addressing to these columns any further letters on the subject of Messianic prophecy.

A TALE OF THE NORTH PACIFIC.

Some strange stories were in circulation on Tuesday after the small schooner *Saipan*, belonging to Mr. J. Kernan, dropped anchor in the harbour. Six weeks ago she left here with a crew of twenty-two men on a voyage having for its ostensible object a few months' shark-fishing. On Tuesday when she returned there were only five men on board, including the Captain, Mr. Wilson. Even before the vessel sailed a tale had gone round that one of the crew, in answer to a question, had laughingly said that he was bound on a "fishing voyage in search of *awabi* and shell-fish," and "that he intended to obtain the quarry with the aid of a club—a seal-club at that." But this was dismissed as an idle jest. Nevertheless, one of H.M.'s cruisers, when putting into Hakodate a few weeks ago, inquired particularly after the whereabouts of a vessel of the description of the ostensible shark-fisher, and seemed disappointed at hearing nothing of her. Be this as it may, the *Saipan*, in quest of sharks or some equally fishy denizen of the Pacific, gradually sailed further north, and one day Robben Island—a place of strange histories so far as some residents in these parts are concerned—was sighted. This was on October 29th. A party of seventeen from the *Saipan's* crew landed there, presumably to stretch their legs. They were, Frank Peterson, a Guam hunter; James Mahoney, another hunter; John Ross, a cook; James Riley, James McCarthy, Steve Brennan, R. Sheehy, F. Hill, A. Winger, A. Andersen, H. Carlson, E. Larkin, Ned. Howe, Alex Le Ricke, K. Ericsen, C. L. Nelson and C. Campbell. The men landed, the *Saipan* sailed away, to return in eight days. When she came back she found that all of the men had disappeared. These are the facts so far as we can learn. A rumour was in circulation that the *Saipan* had seen a Russian man-of-war heading to the westward a day or so before reaching Robben Island, and there can be little doubt that the seventeen men, having been found within prohibited waters, have been taken by the Russian authorities to Vladivostock, there to give an account of themselves. It is said that when the men landed at Robben Island they found the huts of the Russian hunters all deserted, as if the men had left for warmer quarters; and that snow was lying in plentiful quantities on the Island before the *Saipan* started back on her voyage to Yokohama. It is freely asserted among the residents in the vicinity of Honmura Road that Saghalien will be the temporary, if not permanent, home of the lost seventeen for some time to come.

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THE ECONOMICAL ASSOCIATION.

The *Keizai Gaku Kyokai* held a meeting on the 16th instant. There were present Viscount Soga, Mr. Matsumoto Soichiro, Director of the Imperial Railway Bureau, Mr. Taguchi Ukichi, M.P., editor of the *Keizai Zasshi*, Mr. Minoura Katsunao, M.P., Mr. Yasuda Zenjiro, a banker, Mr. Shigeoka Kungoro, M.P., and others, a little more than twenty in all. The question for general discussion was the advisability of giving State subsidies to private railways. Mr. Minoura advocated the step within certain limits. Among the lines entitled, in his opinion, to State aid, he enumerated the Otaru-Hakodate, in Hokkaido, the Kofu-Hachioji, in the main island, and the Kumamoto-Kagoshima, in Kyushu. As to the manner of giving subsidies, he recommended that the basis of calculation be so much per mile instead of a percentage of the capital involved. The amount might vary, but, to cite an example, Mr. Minoura thought the rate in the case of the Otaru-Hakodate line should be about 2,000 *yen* per mile per annum during the first ten years. An exactly opposite course was advocated by Mr. Taguchi, who abhors all sorts of State subsidies in industrial and commercial fields. Supposing that the views of Mr. Minoura were adopted and a subsidy of 2,000 *yen* per mile granted to a railway 100 miles in length, that would mean a grant of 8,000,000 *yen* (?) in the course of ten years. Instead of squandering such a sum, it would be better policy to construct and maintain at State expense lines which, though of great public utility, could not be profitably taken up by private companies. In all other cases, he would recommend that the construction of railways be left to unaided private enterprise. Should the principle of State subsidies be once adopted, it would lead to the corruption of the Diet. He pointed, as an instance, to the Iron Foundry case, which had revealed corruption on the part of some members of the Municipal Council. The question was then debated at great length by several other members of the Association. But it does not seem that any vote was taken. After the discussion of this matter was over, Mr. Sakurada Sukesaku spoke on the subject of Luxury. Lastly, Mr. Taguchi delivered an interesting lecture on the Wars in the Eras of *Hogen* and *Heiji*—wars apparently between different Court Nobles but really between the great military families of Taira and Minamoto.

COUNT INOUYE AND THE FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES IN SÖUL.

If the *Kokumin Shimbun* be well informed—which seems to us very problematical—the Foreign Representatives in Söul have adopted a very emphatic course with regard to the recent *coup d'état*. After various meetings to consult, they deputed the United States Minister to act as their Representative. Proceeding to the Japanese Legation, he stated that as the responsibility of the *coup d'état* rested with the Japanese, it was expected that the Japanese Government would oblige the Tai Wön-kun to restore the administrative power to the King, and would take measures to restore the conditions existing prior to the *coup d'état*. The Foreign Representatives farther desired that the Japanese guard should undertake the duty of protecting the King's palace, and also of securing the tranquillity of the foreign legations and consulates. Count Inouye, our contemporary adds, is returning from Korea to consult the Tokyo Cabinet as to the policy to be pursued with respect to the Foreign Representatives' action. Whether he will go back to Korea is questionable. If he does not, a competent diplomat will be sent in his place. We greatly doubt whether reliance can be placed in this account. That the Foreign Representatives should convey such an intimation to Japan would be to give her a mandate in Korea, a step in which Russia is most unlikely to have concurred.

THE TOKYO IRON FOUNDRY CASE.

Three of the Water-works Standing Committee of the Municipal Council have been arrested in connection with the Iron Foundry case. They are Messrs. Yamanaka Rinnosuke, Takao Takuma, and Kazama Shinkichi. It is reported that the last named gave information to Hamano and others about their impending arrest, and recommended them to take immediate steps to destroy all incriminating documents. Simultaneously with the apprehension of these members of the Standing Committee, two officials of the Water-works Office, Messrs. Hotta Seikai and Imama Yasuhisa, were placed under arrest. The houses of these five persons having been searched, papers bearing upon the case were found and carried to the Court. It is rumoured that, as the preliminary examination progresses, more members of the Municipal Council will be apprehended.

The *Chuo Shimbun* declares that vain attempts were made by Hamano Shigeru to bribe Mr. Suyeyoshi Tadaharu, a member of the Municipal Council. The same paper also discloses some facts about the corruption resorted to by Amenomiya Keijiro. With regard to the details of bribery supposed to have been practised by the company extensively among the members of the Municipal Council, the books in which the items were entered were destroyed at the suggestion of Mr. Kazama Shinkichi, as stated above, but the *Chuo* thinks that it will be possible to learn every particular of the transactions by reference to the diary and account books of Mr. Abe Hikotaro, and urges the immediate seizure of these documents by the Court. Mr. Abe is known to be very particular in keeping a record of even the most trifling transactions with which he is connected.

The number of prisoners in this case has increased to thirty-seven. The excitement among the citizens of Tokyo is increasing, those in the ward of Kanda being the most purturbed.

As to the loss sustained by the City, the amount seems to be approximately 900,000 *yen*. Of this sum it is believed that about one-half will be recovered from the confiscated property of the principal offenders, Hamano and Amenomiya.

THE LIAOTUNG CONVENTION.

The following are the terms of the Liaotung Convention, recently concluded in Pekin, and ratified by the Emperors of China and Japan, as published in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* :—

Art. I. The Imperial Japanese Government hereby restores to China the possession of the territories ceded by China in the First Clause of the Second Article of the Shimonoseki Treaty of Peace; that is to say, territories lying to the South of Mukden city and the islands appertaining thereto.

Art. II. All fortified places, implements of war, factories, and State property within the said territories, shall be handed over by Japan to China in the condition that they retain at the time of the withdrawal of the Japanese troops in accordance with this Convention.

Art. III. The Chinese Government shall pay to the Japanese Government, by way of compensation, the sum of thirty million Kuping Taels in silver, within ten days afrer the conclusion of this Convention.

Art. IV. Within three months after the payment of the above sum, the Japanese Government shall withdraw all its troops from the above-mentioned territories.

Art. V. As a result of this Convention all the Articles in the Shimonoseki Treaty of Peace relating to the determination of boundaries and the accessibility of overland tradal routes shall cease to have any binding effect.

Art VI. The Chinese Government shall not inflict, or allow to be inflicted, any punishment whatever upon Chinese subjects who have had relations with the Japanese troops within the above territories during the war or during the period of occupation.

Art. VII. This Convention having been ratified by the Emperors of the contracting countries, the exchange of ratifications shall take place in Pekin within three weeks from the date of the Convention's conclusion; that is to say, by the 28th day of the eleventh month of the 28th year of *Meiji*.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* adds, that in order to carry out the article relating to the exchange of ratifications, the utmost celerity has had to be observed, and that Mr. Secretary Takasu has set out for Pekin bearing the ratified Convention, as well the commission conferring upon H. E. Baron Hayashi plenipotentiary powers for the purposes of performing the exchange.

THE NEW ALDERMEN FOR TOKYO.

The Tokyo Municipal Council's meeting on the 20th inst. was expected to be very stormy, and consequently a large crowd of spectators assembled long before the hour at which the proceedings were to be opened. The attendance of the members of the Council was also very good, there being present as many as forty-seven. President Kusumoto occupied the chair. The first business was to consider the propriety of the reason assigned by Messrs. Sudo Jiichiro and Matsuda Hideo for resigning their membership of the Council. Their reason was, that they believed the members of the Council were bound to resign in connection with the Iron Foundry case. The members of the Council found themselves in an awkward dilemma, for, if they decided that the reason was good and proper in the case of two of their fellow-members, it would follow that they were all bound to adopt the same course. On the other hand, should they come to the opposite conclusion, it would be tantamount to declaring that they held themselves free from all blame in relation to the affair—a declaration that must sound extremely anomalous in the mouths of men who, but a few days previously, had so strongly recommended Mayor Miura to resign for exactly the same reason. The dilemma was temporarily evaded by postponing the consideration of this thorny question. Then followed the election of a new Board of Aldermen, the former Aldermen having all resigned in connection with ths Iron Foundry case. In the course of a discussion on this subject, a tumultuous scene was caused by Mr. Suyeyoshi's ill-considered statement that the Council, since it no longer enjoyed the confidence of the City, was not entitled to exercise its function of electing Aldermen. He was severely rebuked, as he richly deserved to be, by his fellow-members, many of whom exhibited much anger. A motion to postpone the discussion of the question for two days having failed to receive the approval of a majority, the election of Aldermen was proceeded with. The total number of Aldermen is twelve, and their ordinary term of office is four years, one-half of the number retiring every two years. The Aldermen to be elected on the present occasion being required to serve out the remainder of the term of those that have just resigned, six of them have to retire on the 9th of June, 1899, and the other six on the 6th of June, 1897. The election of those destined to serve for the longer period, was first proceeded with, the ballot resulting in the return of the following persons:—Messrs. Yoshino Seikei, Matsuda Hideo, Sudo Jiichiro, Nisugi Hide, and Tomita Tetsunosuke, and Viscount Nagaoka Moriyoshi. The election of the remaining six resulted as follows:—Viscount Tani, and Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Gimbayashi Tsunao, Oku Saburobei, Tsuji Shinji, and Shiraishi Go. It is to be noticed that the Council, taught by the recent bitter experience, tried to choose Aldermen from the better classes of the citizens. Especially reassuring is it to find among the new Aldermen the names of such men as Viscounts Tani and Nagaoka, and Messrs. Tsuji Shinji, formerly Vice Minister of Education, Tomita Tetsunosuke, formerly President of the Bank of Japan, Gimbayashi Tsunao, ex-Governor of Tokyo, and Shibusawa Eiichi. The last named gentleman's election is significant, for he is known to have stoutly opposed from the beginning the contract with the Iron Foundry Company. Among other names noticed on the ballot papers were those of Marquis Ito, Count Itagaki, Mr. Ozaki Yukio, and Mr. Inukai Ki.

THE PICTURE EXHIBITIONS IN TOKYO.

The autumn exhibition of pictures in Tokyo, under the auspices of the Kyoshin-Kai, has just come an end. On the whole, a slight improvement was noticeable in the quality of the pictures and the choice of subjects, but it must still be confessed that the average Japanese painting of the present day ranks little higher

than a design for wall-paper. There are, of course, some noteworthy exceptions. Mr. Ogata Gekko's works, for example, show not only originality of conception but also delicate treatment and highly skilled manipulation. A picture exhibited by him on this occasion deserves to rank with the best productions of the Ukiyo-ye School. It represents a family group worshipping the sun as it rises over the roofs of a city through the fog of a summer morning. The composition of the work, the pose of the figures, and the mist effects are admirable. Some artists of the Kyoto School, also, as Mr. Nakajima Gekko, Mrs. Okada, and Mr. Koyama Tokichi, contribute paintings that happily relieve the general inferiority. It should be observed, too, that some of the most renowned painters of the day stand aloof from these periodical exhibitions. They seem to distrust either the competence or the impartiality of the Judges. We confess that, in their place, we should be deterred by similar scruples. Plainly the judges at this autumn exhibition see with eyes very unlike those of ordinary mortals. What they found to admire or commend in the majority of the paintings to which they awarded medals or certificates of merit, we have been unable to form the smallest conception. We shall not enter into this question in detail. It is enough to say that the kind of talent encouraged by these marks of distinction will never earn a reputation for Japanese artists in any foreign gallery. Possibly that comment would not disturb the judges at all were it brought to their attention.

The exhibition of pictures of the Japanese School was held in the rooms of the Fine Art Society, a place more or less suited for the purpose. Farther north the Uyeno Park, in one of the annexes of the Industrial Exhibition of 1890, a few water colours, paintings in oil, and crayons, were hung, forming the autumn display of the *Meiji* Fine Arts Society. The desolate character of the place and its general unsightliness were strongly suggestive of the difficulties against which Japanese students of Western pictorial art have to struggle. That they persist in their effort is worthy of all praise. Absolutely cut off from all the advantages enjoyed by their confrères in Europe and America; without patrons, without a market, and confronted by the opposition of those that ought to encourage them, they continue to work as though nothing disturbed their faith in the future. This fine patence promises to bear fruit. The water colours shown at the recent exhibition were on a distinctly higher level than any hitherto submitted for public criticism. Some of them, indeed, would have attacted notice in any European gallery. In oils, however, technical difficulties still seem to defy the strength of the Japanese artist. Thus, a picture of an exile seated on the sea-shore, by Mr. Watanabe Kuya, though full of poetical instinct and indicating, in some respects, talent of exceptional quality, was marred by crude manipulation. Similarly, a portrait of a girl by Mr. Ito Jumpachi would have been really admirable had the painter possessed fuller knowledge of technique. But in truth when we remember the circumstances under which these pictures were produced, we find no heart to criticise them, especially since the impression carried away from the two exhibitions was that Mr. Watanabe's "Exile" possessed elements of artistic greatness such as could not be found in the whole display of purely Japanese pictures put together.

CREDULITY AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.

The Times generally places such full reliance in its correspondents, and is so seldom deceived by doing so, that we can not greatly wonder at its implicit reception of the news recently telegraphed to it from Hongkong. Besides, we learn from telegrams in American journals that *The Times* speaks of its Hongkong correspondent as being in close relations with men competent to penetrate beneath the surface of things, and therefore considers that intelligence from him can not be disregarded. It is not easy to see, however, where the "penetration beneath the surface of things" was exercised in the case of the statement that Russia had concluded with the Cabinet in Pekin a treaty virtually securing to her the ownership of the Liaotung Peninsula. The news emanated from "some one" in Nagasaki, and was first published by the *Hongkong Telegraph*, from the columns of which journal it was transmitted over the wires to London. Thus none of the intermediaries, except the last, perhaps, was qualified to inspire confidence, and the intelligence itself bore such inherent marks of untrustworthiness that we, at this side, placed not the slightest belief in it from the outset. Yet, among the London Journals, the *Standard* alone seems to have possessed sufficient political acumen to conclude that the story could be at best nothing more than a *ballon d'essai* on Russia's part. All the others treated it seriously. Knowing, as we now know, that it was a mere canard, no special interest would attach to it, except in respect of the hypothesis that it was really devised by Russia as a means of feeling England's pulse, and in respect of the very marked expression of public feeling that it elicited in Great Britain. If Russia set the story going for the purpose of ascertaining how England would take it, she has received all the information she required. Nothing could have been more emphatic than the unaminity of the London journals' expressions on the subject. They all agree in declaring that even war with Russia would be an alternative preferable to letting her get such a hold upon China as to be in a position to strangle the commerce of Western nations with the Middle Kingdom. We have often insisted in these columns that Great Britain could not sit inactive in the face of Russian designs against Liaotung or Korea. It matters little which peninsula she acquires first, for if she held Korea she could easily possess herself of the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea, and thus obtain command of the land approaches to Liaotung. Field Marshal Nodzu showed, in the recent war, how readily that could be done. Russia in Korea would mean Russia at Port Arthur, sooner or later. We know now how such a conjuncture would be regarded by the British nation.

THE MAYOR AND THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF TOKYO.

The Municipal Council of Tokyo are behaving in a manner that seems very childish. At a meeting on the 16th instant, they decided, after animated debate, to wait upon the Mayor, Mr. Miura, who is at the same time Governor of Tokyo City, and advise him to resign his office. Before adopting this resolution, they unanimously agreed, in so far as they were themselves concerned, that it was not yet time for them to consider whether they ought to resign on account of the Iron Foundry case. The same argument that induced them to adopt this decision on their own part—namely, that their resignation at the present juncture would involve inconvenient results—ought to have applied at least with equal force to the case of Mayor Miura, especially as he was the first to expose the fraud. But the Municipal Council found no difficulty is persuading themselves that Mr. Miura's immediate resignation was a matter of absolute necessity. In conformity with this strange phantasy, they sent a deputation of fifteen members to wait upon Mr. Miura on the 18th instant, to advise him to resign his office at once. As might have been expected, Mayor Miura politely but firmly rejected the recommendation. Not only was there no necessity for such a step on his part, he said, but also he was bound to make arrangements for the settlement of the Iron Foundry affair. To resign his position would be contrary to his official duty and injurious to his personal reputation. The deputation, thus deservedly repulsed, had to withdraw, but not before they had given vent to their ill-considered feelings of umbrage. It is believed that in a few days the Municipal Council will pass a vote of want of confidence in the Mayor, in which case the Council will be dissolved and new elections ordered. Sober-minded citizens are thus led to fear that the unreasonable conduct of the Council may cause needless waste of time and money as well as excite regrettable ill-feeling between the citizens and their administrators.

CHINA NEWS.

The story recently circulated that the Governor of Kwangtung had died from the effects of poison administered to him and the other high provincial officials at a banquet on the 24th of October, turns out to be baseless. The truth is that the Governor, a man of 75, having obtained a month's leave to recuperate, shut himself up in his family residence within the *Yamên*, and his absence gave rise to the wild rumour of poisoning.

The following account of the *Kungpai* disaster is published by the *North China Daily News*, the information being obtained from the sole European survivor Mr. From, Third Engineer of the ill-fated ship :—

The *Kungpai* had been engaged conveying troops from Kinchou Bay, at the head of Liaotung Gulf, to Tientsin. She made two trips, each time carrying 1,100 soldiers and was about to make her third and last. Lying off the barracks in Kinchou Bay, she received some 800 men and waited for the remaining 300, who were detained by the tide

All went well till Monday (14th October) morning at 11 o'clock. At this time the second engineer, Mr. Wise, and the chief officer, Mr. Ljunglöf, were on watch. The 3rd engineer, Mr. From, and 2nd officer, Mr. Petersen, were off duty. Mr. From was asleep in his bunk when he was suddenly awakened and thrown out on the floor of his cabin and found everything knocked down. He looked at his clock; it was then 11 o'clock. An explosion had occurred and it appeared to come from forward. He rushed out on deck and looking forward, saw a hole in the deck on the port side, the same side his cabin was on, opposite the captain's room, and still further forward four more holes in the deck the edges of which were burning. A man came up through one of these holes and he must have been terribly burnt. Mr. From met Mr. Ljunglöf coming from forward and he said there had been an explosion and asked for steam to work the fire pumps. The engineer then went to the engine room and found the steam gauge showing 49lbs. steam pressure. The donkey pump was set going while Mr. Ljungloöf attended to the hose. Having supplied the steam, Mr. From returned to the deck, and went as far as his own cabin and saw the chief officer with the hose. Captain Soden had, prior to this, given orders to lower the boats, and the mate dropped the hose to obey the order, at the same time telling Mr. From that there would be another and a worse explosion. All this time cartridges were going off in the hold with an occasional shell, and while the Captain and mate were seeing to the lowering of the Captain's gig, the soldiers rushed into the boat when half lowered, and their weight broke the forward davit and the boat hung by the stern, with her bow in the water, Captain Soden being carried overboard as he had hold of the tackle at the time. Master Clements, the passenger, was also carried overboard, but he managed to scramble up on board again. Captain Soden, who was wounded in the head, the blood pouring down his face and neck, still held on to the rope, while the soldiers in the water held on to him. Mr. Ljunglöff, Mr. From, and Master Clements tried to pull the Captain on board, but the weight of the soldiers hanging on to him prevented their doing so. Mr. From then suggested that the mate should get another rope and heave it to the Captain from further forward, and he left apparently with this object, though he did not say so. A little before this the chief engineer, Mr. Graham, was standing on the engine room skylight walking from side to side, and the second officer and second engineer, further aft, had stripped to swim ashore.

While the two referred to above were holding the rope, a terrific explosion occurred forward, the ship was enveloped in smoke and Mr. From found himself knocked down and wounded on the head and hand. When the smoke cleared away young Clements had disappeared, so had the chief engineer, while the skylight the latter had been standing on was splintered to pieces and the rivets in the iron coaming of this skylight were all forced out; the 2nd officer and the 2nd engineer had gone too, though a Chinese survivor says they had got into a boat which apparently had been smashed by

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some of the falling wreckage. The Captain also was gone; the fore part of the vessel from the engine room bulkhead had disappeared, including all the cabins and more than half the ship. When soundings were taken afterwards there was deep water over where the fore part of the vessel ought to have been. The remainder of the vessel heeled over to starboard so that the mainmast was nearly parallel with the water. The funnel had been knocked out and it rested on the deck against what had been the mainstay; many of the soldiers were in the water, some dead and terribly mutilated; others alive but floating away with the tide and they were eventually drowned. After the remains of the vessel had heeled over it gradually filled and finally sank on an even keel. Mr. From and those who could made for the rigging, and as the vessel righted while going down, they climbed up out of reach of the water which they thought would come up to them, as they did not know how far she would sink. After being about ten minutes in the rigging, Mr. From saw the chief officer coming aft. He crawled upon the fallen funnel, and Mr. From called to him to come up on the rigging, but he said he could not because he had broken his leg. Mr. From then saw that he was bleeding profusely and tried to get down to him, but could not because there were so many soldiers below him. From loss of blood Mr. Ljunglöf grew weaker, so he tied himself to the stay against the funnel, but that broke, and he was dashed against the mast. He could not reply when called to, and died soon afterwards, but before this happened he drew a ring from his finger and threw it overboard. His body being lashed to the stay did not go overboard but was washed in and out with the waves as the weather was beginning to get rough. Whether he bled to death or died from drowning it is hard to say. The last time Mr. From hailed him he did not reply.

Fortunately there was no explosion of the boiler, but the weather got worse, and a thunderstorm and hailstorm added to the miserable plight of the poor fellows in the rigging, where they remained from 11 a.m. on Monday, till about daylight next day. During all this time there were at least twenty junks anchored in the vicinity, but no attempt was made by them to render any assistance to the perishing people, some of whom fell off into the water and were drowned, while others rolled off the top of the after cabin where they had sought temporary refuge. After being on the wreck for eighteen hours, a junk, bound in from sea, went to their aid. The junk lowered a boat and after reporting to the master returned and took the men off in batches of ten, for the boat was a small one. The junk then proceeded in shore and landed them. They were taken care of by the mandarin in charge of the barracks and he did what he could for them; he gave medicine to those who needed it and some clothes to Mr. From as he was hatless and bootless. The mandarin then despatched a telegram to Tientsin conveying the news of the catastrophe, the result being that the steamer *Irene* was sent round and she arrived at 11 a.m. on the 19th, having on board Mr. Kingsley of the Customs and a foreign-trained Chinese doctor. Mr. From and the remainder of the *Kungpai's* crew went on board and their wants were attended to.

A party landed to make all enquiries while others visited the wreck and made an examination. They found the boiler intact, though some of the pipes had burst, and the survey was made by four engineers. Many bodies were seen in the water, and the day before the *Irene* left the body of Captain Soden was recovered. It came up close to the wreck. The *Irene* left on the 25th for Tientsin where she arrived next day, and landed Captain Soden's body and the survivors of the crew.

According to one of the soldiers who was badly burnt they were smoking below, some tobacco and others opium. One of the men blew the tobacco out of his pipe and this falling on some gunpowder ignited it and caused the first explosion.

A very quaint incident is reported from the province of Honan. On the 18th of October the *Pekin Gazette* published a memorial from the Governor of that province stating that a formidable insurrection had just been quelled after four months of almost continuous fighting, in which twenty-five thousand troops were employed. But a foreigner living in the very district where the alleged rebellion took place, has written to the leading Shanghai paper declaring that the so-called insurgents were simply three or four robbers to capture whom a detachment of soldiers were sent. The meaning of the memorial, however, was that the Governor drew pay for twenty-five thousand men, together with war expenses, and obtained promotion for himself and all his zealous officers.

As the facts of the Whasang massacre come out, fuller and clearer evidence is obtained of the criminal deception and perfunctoriness shown by Chinese officials. The massacre took place before 8 a.m. on Thursday the 1st of August, and there is indisputable proof that telegraphic news of it reached the Viceroy in Foochow before nightfall the same day. Yet he said not a syllable about the tragedy to any of the foreign Consuls until Saturday morning, and even then his mouth was opened only by a visit from the United States Consul to whom the intelligence had come independently. Meanwhile, the Viceroy had sent off the Prefect of Foochow to investigate and report, and that official, after an inquiry lasting 5 days, reported that the whole affair had been nothing more than a conflict between two rival sects. Again, after the labours of the Mixed Commission had been interrupted by the obstructiveness of the Chinese, a large number of witnesses were privately examined by the English and American Consuls, Captain Newall and the Rev. W. Banister, with the result that the following facts were clearly proved:—

(1) On the night of the midnight march from the fastness, the *Liengkah* on watch in the village of Angchiong (through which the band passed on its way to Whasang) counted 289 armed men as they marched past to their work of plunder and murder. On the 9th of the moon (30th July) the day before this march, the same *Liengkah* had petitioned in person the Kucheng magistrate for soldiers to resist a rumoured attack on the chapel in their village. Had the soldiers been sent there would have been no Whasang massacre to stain the record of foreign intercourse with China. (2) After the massacre was over the murderers returned *viâ* the village of Twaikiang, about nine miles to the east of Whasang, where they halted and leisurely proceeded to cook their mid-day meal. No fear of pursuit or capture, no haste to escape but clearly a complete sense of security was present in their minds. The villagers counted over 130 of these men, who sat down to their dinner in the village or on the hill-side. Those were all armed, and carrying loot of different kinds and quantities. This number, of course, only includes the main body, who went in this direction, and takes no account of other scattered bodies of men who returned, as we know they did, to their own villages in other directions. (3) Later in the day, about the middle of the afternoon, this main body of men passed down the valley from Twaikiang to the village of Kasai and here again they were counted and many of them recognised, as they passed through the village, by two independent witnesses. There were 116 men carrying loot and arms. (The diminution in number was natural, as men were dropping off on branch roads for their own homes as they proceeded further from the scene of the outrage.) (4) It is proved beyond doubt that there must have been at Whasang, on the fatal 1st of August, at least 150 or 160 men, all engaged in one way or another in the terrible doings of that morning. Of these 45 had been convicted up to the present date, seven of whom had been executed. This left over 100 men still at large.

The difference between the 289 who passed out from the fastness on the night of the midnight march, and the 160 present at Whasang, would be accounted for by desertions, under cover of the darkness, through fear or compunction.

A feeling of much uneasiness continues to prevail in Chungking. Anti-foreign placards are frequently posted in the town, and the force of soldiers available in the event of a riot is very small. In Kiukiang, on the other hand, the only proclamations visible are those of the Emperor, the Viceroy Chang, and so forth, inculcating respect for foreigners. But even against these latter proclamations the complaint is made that while they publish information of the killing of many foreigners in Kucheng, they contain no word of regret nor any reference to the punishments inflicted on the murderers, and moreover they apply the disrespectful term *Yang-yen* to foreigners,

The list of punishments meted out to the Whasang murderers seems to have now attained its full dimensions. The notorious ringleader, "Butterfly," who was said to have committed suicide, fell into the hands of the authorities so soon as a reward of 500 Tls. was offered for his apprehension. He was executed, together with the four other ringleaders, at the public execution ground of Foochow on the 4th of November. Thus the number of men executed totals 26, and of the others convicted 6 were banished to Manchuria for life; 11 for shorter terms; 27 were sentenced to 10 years' imprisonment, and 4—the blacksmiths that forged the spears and swords—were condemned to be chained to a stone for three years.

The Yellow River is working its usual annual devastations. It has broken its banks near Ch'itung city in Shantung, and hundreds of square miles of country are under water. The gap is said to be two-thirds of a mile in width and a heavy stream is steadily pouring from it. The usual process of repair is going on vigorously. It is thus described by a correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

Huge square rafts of *kaoliang* stalks are made and launched from both ends of the broken dike. These rafts are securely anchored to the old embankment, and earth is tramped upon them by hundreds of men. When it sinks in the water a few inches, another woven sheet of corn-stalk (*kaoliang*) is placed on top and the work continued as before, until the raft is sunk to the bottom. Then another is launched in like manner, and so on till only a space of fifty feet remains unclosed. This work must be pushed on steadily day and night, or what is accomplished during the day will be undone by the water at night. Now comes the most dangerous part of the undertaking, to wit, stopping the final gap. Three river-junks are dismantled, lashed firmly together, two end to end, and the third overlapping the other two. These are floated from above the gap, being anchored at the shore end to the dike. The current carries this floating mass around till it closes the gap to the depth of the junks' draught. The pressure of the water holds the boats firmly against the new dyke, and as the boats are sunk in the water by loading them with earth, the newly made dyke is tested to its utmost, and if not properly constructed, will give way, to the imminent danger of hundreds of lives. To guard against this catastrophe huge ropes of *kaoliang* are stretched across the final gap and anchored firmly at the ends.

The flooded area includes seven counties (*hsien*), and only seven villages have survived in that district. The loss of life is stated to have been enormous.

It is difficult to discover whether Lanchou, the capital of Kansu, has really been captured by the Mohammedans or whether it still holds out. A telegram from Pekin, dated November 4th said that the place had fallen early in October. But the *North-China Daily News* of November 7th says that a telegram dated at Lanchou on October 23rd represented the city as not having yet been taken. One does not know what to believe. The latest news is that in addition to 12,000 Hunan troops already despatched to aid General Tang the special brigade of 12,000 men, organized during the war with Japan to protect Her Majesty the Empress-Dowager in the event of her being obliged to fly from Pekin to Hsian, is also to proceed to Kansu. It is further stated that a telegram sent from Hsian on the 8th of November describes both Kuyuen and Lanchou as still safe, and reports that General Tung has gone to Tiho to engage the Mohammedans.

It has been ordered that tribute rice shall no longer be sent through the Grand Canal, and that in lieu of grain hitherto forwarded by that route, money shall be sent. The Government expects to save about a million Taels a year by this change, which money will be spent on the new grand trunk railway between Chinkiang and Pekin.

The Newchwang correspondent of the *North-China Daily News* says of Mr. Mitsuhashi, an official well known and universally liked in this Settlement:—"Mr. Mitsuhashi, the Governor of this district, is an exceedingly able administrator. Since his arrival last April he has done all in his power to make things go smoothly, and has kept excellent order in the town.

Count Itagaki, the leader of the Liberal Party, returned to Tokyo on the 19th inst. from Oiso, where he has been staying since the 16th inst. Mr. Shirane, Minister of Communications, also returned to the capital from Oiso the same day. They took the train which was conveying Marquis Yamagata from Kyoto.

THE CABINET AND ITS POLITICAL SUPPORTERS.

WE observe that some curious assertions have been made in the press of this Settlement as to the significance of the *Jiyu-to's* impending announcement of a pro-Government programme. It is stated, for example, that the Premier will no longer be allowed freedom of action; that he has never consulted the other Ministers of State as to the alliance; that it is an alliance, not of the *Jiyu-to* and the Cabinet, but of the *Jiyu-to* and Marquis ITO and that Marquis ITO has become a member of the *Jiyu-to*. It would be difficult to display greater ignorance of Japanese politics than these allegations show. Marquis ITO, the compiler of the Constitution, has never deviated from the principle that the Ministers of the Japanese Crown are responsible to the SOVEREIGN only, and can not accept a mandate from the Diet. That such a man should became a member of a political party while holding the office of Minister President, is about the most unlikely incident conceivable—impossible would not be too strong an expression. Nor is it less extravagant to pretend that in consideration of receiving the support of the *Jiyu-to*, the Premier has agreed to accept his new associates' dictation in administrative and legislative matters, and has agreed without consulting his colleagues. There can have been no such agreement, for it would mean that the head of the Cabinet had deliberately renounced the obedience he owes to his SOVEREIGN'S direction, and had pledged himself to obey the dictates of a group of politicians. Indeed, the very term "alliance" is a misnomer. There is no alliance, in the ordinary acceptation of the word. The case is simply this—that the Liberal leaders have decided to openly avow themselves supporters of the Cabinet, in order to bring about such harmony between the Government and the Diet as shall secure the passage of measures nationally essential under the circumstances of the time. It is not to be imagined, of course, that the Liberals have adopted this attitude without some prospect of furthering the principles that form their own platform, as, for example, greater freedom of speech and pen, extension of the franchise, and so forth. The labourer is worthy of his hire, and moreover, the Government would not be consulting its own interests unless it gave to its supporters some means of justifying themselves to their constituencies. The Liberals should be helped to derive strength from this coalition, instead of being weakened by it, as they certainly would be did they totally abandon the pursuit of their party principles. Nothing could be happier for the country than the step they are about to take. It will effectually put an end to the vexatious strife that has existed between the Cabinet and the Diet ever since the latter's convocation. The Liberals will certainly be joined by the National Unionists, and these two parties, combined with the independent members already disposed to vote with the Government, will secure to the Cabinet a plurality of votes in the whole of the Lower House. Everybody capable of looking behind the scenes must understand that this fortunate consummation is due in great part to the intervention of Count MUTSU, himself a distinguished leader of the Liberals before his entry into the Cabinet. In truth the recent war has brought great changes in its train. It has not only induced a much wholesomer tone of public feeling toward foreigners by fully satisfying the people's morbid desire to assert themselves and to obtain international recognition, but it has also dwarfed to insignificant dimensions the vexatious issues that used to keep the Administration and Executive in a constant state of friction. As the *Jiji Shimpo* puts it, instead of a hot discussion about naval reform, we have now a unanimous cry for naval and military extension; instead of agitation inside and outside the Diet for reduction of the Land Tax, we have the most ardent advocates of that measure proposing to increase the people's burdens. The war has unified the nation, and diverted men's mind from petty party squabbles to Imperial interests.

THE MODERN MIRACLE-WORKER.

IT is certainly strange to read that ability to work miracles should be accredited by intelligent folk to a man living in the year 1895. Some pious people, perturbed by the fire of sceptical criticism through which the New Testament miracles have passed during recent years, go so far as to wonder that the Divine Power does not vouchsafe some repetition of these phenomena to recall the world from its mood of incredulity. Others laugh at the notion of subjecting such questions to the ordinary laws of physiology, inasmuch as the conditions of GOD-derived strength are not limited by any such considerations. Perhaps if JESUS alone had been a worker of miracles, the sceptics might be less obdurate. But in the days of the CHRIST and in the times immediately succeeding his Incarnation, persons for whom no claim could be advanced, over and above that of simple manhood, are stated to have cured the sick by mere laying on of hands, and in explanation of their power it has been asserted that absolute obedience to GOD, as they understood him, was sufficient to endow them with miraculous potency. The difficulty of this last contention is that it applies to men of modern, as well as ancient, times. If an ordinary mortal, living in the first or second century, could acquire miraculous power by conforming strictly to the self-denying principles of ascetic Christianity, an ordinary mortal in the eighteenth or nineteenth century should be able to repeat the experience with equal facility; nay, with greater facility, for are not the heirs of all the ages endowed with faculties of larger potentialities than were their comparatively rude forefathers? But the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries seemed about to close without any such comforting evidence, when suddenly there has appeared in Colorado a veritable healer of the sick by the laying on of hands. His name is FRANCIS SCHLATTER. Two years ago he was a shoemaker, when there came to him a kind of apostolic call. He obeyed it by travelling into the nearest desert, where he fasted 40 days and 40 nights. Then he began to heal people by clasping their hands, but as he declined to wear either head-gear or foot-gear, the unsympathetic police threw him into prison. While in durance he passed through the process of reincarnation and on emerging from jail performed some remarkable cures. Then he underwent a second fast of 60 days and 60 nights, and after a brief rest resumed his miraculous mission. Denver was the place chosen. Daily from nine o'clock in the morning until half-past four in the afternoon he stands in front of Alderman FOX'S house and shakes hands with thousands of people. The physical feat is in itself almost miraculous, seeing that it is performed day after day, that SCHLATTER is an old man, and that he remains bare-headed and bare-footed in all kinds of weather. His method is to grasp firmly the hand of the sufferer, utter a short prayer with face turned heavenward, and say, "Have faith and you will be made well." Incompatible with any supposition of deceit is the fact that he persistently refuses to accept presents of money or jewellry offered to him at all hours. He has no need, he says. "When the Father wants me to get anything, I get it." Portraits published in American journals represent him to be just such a man as an artist would choose for a CHRIST model. It all reads like a comedy, but that the man has performed wonderful cures seems to be unquestionable. His power, whether it be subjective or objective, has no immediately final effect: the cures are accomplished gradually. Prominent editors discuss his work in serious articles, and well-known divines declare from the pulpit their belief in his sincerity, sanity, and miraculous power. Possibly his case is only another instance of the now well-established efficacy of faith. But since the keen lens of American practical scrutiny has not reduced him to a chalatan, he certainly deserves attention.

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ANOTHER WORD ABOUT ANONYMITY.

IT is a wholesome editiorial rule never to interfere between controversial correspondents, and we must therefore preface with an apology the few words we are about to speak. As a matter of fact, we were originally driven from our position of reticence by a charge that directly concerned ourselves—the charge that we had permitted the same correspondent to write about the same subject over different anonyms. Had we permitted anything of the kind, we should have been guilty of a deliberate act of dishonesty, since such procedure on the part of a correspondent is intended to convey, and does actually convey, the impression that several persons—as many as the anonyms employed—support his position, whereas in truth he stands alone. Mr. McCALEB, referring to that matter, and to the comments evoked by it from ourselves and others, now alleges that his statement was not positive but only supposititious. Had such been the case, the accusation would never have drawn from us the strong protest that we felt constrained to utter. Mr. McCALEB'S *ipsissima verba* were:—"I request that before Mr. 'Secularian' attempt further objection to my letters, he either give me satisfactory reason, by private note, *for writing over an assumed name, changing with each succeeding letter*, or give his real signature." There is no trace of hypothesis about the italicized portion of the above sentence—italicized by us. It contains a direct and explicit accusation that "Secularian" was carrying on the controversy under various assumed names. We now readily believe that Mr. McCALEB intended, not to prefer a specific charge, but only to suggest a suspicion. His language, however, left no room for such an alternative.

As to the general question of anonymity, we may be permitted to say a word. To write to a newspaper anonymously is plainly permissible, in principle. There may be a thousand valid reasons which, while forbidding a writer to append his own name, do not in any way militate against his participation in a public controversy. The subject discussed may in itself furnish a strong plea for anonymity. The doctrines of a religious creed are eminently such a subject. In analysing their truth or error the personality of the analysts ought to be kept as far as possible out of sight. Moreover, when the creed in question is Christianity, and when the controversy is carried on among a community largely consisting of professed Christians, anonymity becomes doubly desirable, because, while a defender of the creed can count on the moral support of a majority of his fellows, its assailant exposes himself to all the intolerant discredit still attaching to "dissent." The days of martyrdom are past. There is no reason why a man should suffer for his faith or want of faith. Above all, there is no reason why the path to truth should be impeded by such obstacles as prejudice or persecution. But while admitting the propriety, and even the wisdom on some occasions, of anonymous controversy, there is a fundamental rule from which no writer over an assumed name should ever depart. It is his first duty to refrain from saying anything such as he would not say were he writing over his own signature. Anonymity becomes cowardice so soon as recourse is had to personalities. From that point of view we think that Mr. McCALEB has just cause of complaint, and has also a right to ask for the name of a correspondent that speaks of him as "a salaried defender of the Christian Religion," and charges him with championing it publicly because he wants to show to his Mission Board in particular, and to the world generally, how energetically he is performing his mission. No man is justified in imputing mean motives to another, above all when the imputation is made under the cloak of anonymity. The most pernicious classic in the English language is "JUNIUS' Letters." They violate all the rules of fair controversy. Such cowardly, vindictive, and scurrilous productions would not find a place in any respectable journal to-day, or if they did find a place, would bring universal contempt on the morals of their writer, whatever admiration their ability might command. "Secularian," we are persuaded, agrees entirely with that view, and we beg of him, should he seek further space in these columns, to observe more carefully the law we have here defined. Two wrongs do not make a right. If Mr. McCALEB set out by accusing "Secularian" of deceit, that does not justify "Secularian" in attributing mercenary or self-interested motives to Mr. McCALEB. One word more. Mr. McCALEB seems to have a somewhat confused idea of the journalistic rule that correspondents must furnish their own names if they seek to have their communications published. He appears to think that since editors require a correspondent to expose his identity as an evidence of good faith, every newspaper controversialist may demand as much of an opponent. Mr. McCALEB is perhaps unaware that with whatever disavowal of responsibility an editor may preface his correspondence columns, the law holds him rigorously responsible for their contents. Mr. McCALEB also forgets that unless correspondents furnish their own names to a newspaper, no means are available to check the flagrant deception of one correspondent's writing over several different *noms de plume* with reference to the same subject. He also forgets that newspaper columns can not be recklessly thrown open to every one and any one: some right of discrimination must be reserved to the editor. It would seem, finally, that he still entertains a lingering doubt as to the justice of our refusal to satisfy him by revealing "Secularian's" identity, and as to our warrant for insisting on the sufficiency of our assurance that "Secularian" and "Anxious Inquirer" are different persons. He is remarkably sceptical, but we must leave that matter as it stands.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN FROM AN ENGLISH POINT OF VIEW.

THE editor of the London *Spectator*, writing in the seclusion of his study in Wellington Street, conjures up phantoms that excite his imagination the more closely he scrutinises them. He used to be tormented by a vast yellow nightmare. The narrow-eyed Chinese were about to sweep in a resistless wave of ruthless and semi-savage invasion from end to end of Europe, and the hands on the clock of Western civilization were to be put back at least a cycle. That chimera has been completely exorcised. The *Spectator* seems to have forgotten it entirely, for it now speaks of China as "lying, a huge but feeble Power, at the mercy of any State that can land a moderate but effective army within her confines." In place of this Mongolian phantom, however, the *Spectator* is now oppressed by a vision of a deadly struggle between Japan and Russia. The bases of this dread are not very substantial. It assumes that Russia is about to occupy the Liaotung Peninsula, obtaining it by cession or lease from Pekin, and that with a Russian army at Port Arthur and Vladivostock, the Japanese cannot venture to leave any troops in Korea, which peninsula also will thus become a Russian possession. With these hypotheses, we have already dealt so fully that they need not be considered again in detail. If Russia contemplates the conversion of the Regent's Sword Peninsula into a basis of military operations, the realization of her project is certainly not imminent, and as for Japan's withdrawal from Korea, we know that she intends to recall only such portion of her troops as are not required to protect her lines of communication with Manchuria. We also know that Russia has not exerted any pressure to force Japan out of Korea and, therefore, that the vindictive wrath attributed to the Japanese by our London contemporary in consequence of that pressure has no existence in fact. Apart from these erroneous assumptions, however, there are one or two points in the *Spectator's* article that deserve brief notice. "The Japanese consider," says the *Spectator*, "that in the negotiation of the Treaty of Shimonoseki they were not only injured, but insulted by the Russians, who gave the Pekin statesmen assurances which enabled LI HUNG-CHANG to sign any proposal presented to him by Count ITO, knowing that Russia would prevent it from being carried

out. The Japanese think they were treated like children—as indeed they were—and have settled down into a cold rage to devise plans for obtaining full revenge." Now it happens that this analysis greatly misrepresents the sentiments of the Japanese. They do *not* think that when he ceded to Japan the Liaotung Peninsula and the northern littoral of the Yellow Sea, the Viceroy LI had received from Russia any assurance such as would render his concession finally nugatory. They have excellent reasons for not thinking anything of the kind, and by-and-by those reasons will doubtless be published. Meanwhile, the nation is not possessed by any fit of "cold rage" against Russia, nor is it devoting its whole strength to such military development as shall enable it to attack Russia off-hand. We need scarcely add that the appropriation of 25 million pounds sterling, supposed by the *Spectator* to have been made for the increase of the Japanese Navy, is a pretty large multiple of the real amount. In point of fact, Japan's mood at present, so far as we can judge, is neither revengeful nor aggressive. The great majority of her thinking men must recognise that the extension of her dominions into Manchuria would over-tax her present resources, and that it would not be easier for Russia to occupy Liaotung without controlling the Korean Peninsula, than it would be for Japan to control the latter while the former was in Russian occupation. Moreover, the broader side of the question presents itself very plainly to the Japanese. They can perfectly understand and sympathise with the mainsprings of Russia's action during the past year. For if Japan's safety compels her to oppose Russia's advance into Korea, Russia's safety equally dictates that she should resist the incursion of a war-like and ambitious race into territories marching with her own. In a word, Japan's reason for keeping Russia out of Korea is Russia's reason for keeping Japan out of Manchuria, and instead of revengeful fury against the Northern Power, Japan's sentiment is one, not indeed of acquiescence, but certainly of comprehension. Hence we are persuaded that this latest nightmare of the *Spectator's* will prove as visionary as has proved its Mongolian invasion of Europe. The irrepressible forces that push forward all growing nations seem more than likely to bring Russia and Japan into collision hereafter, but that Japan is eagerly waiting to fly at Russia's throat we do not in the least believe.

The following men-of-war are now at Yokosuka:—*Chinyen, Chinto, Chinhoku, Kongo, Tenriu, Fuso, Amaki, Takao, Takachiho, Naniwa, Tatsuta, Saikio, Musashi, Tsukuba, Itsukusima, Akitsu*, and *Yayeyama*.

A train which left Shimbashi on the 19th inst. at 9.55 p.m., was derailed between Yamakita and Gotemba, and four empty freight cars were smashed up, but no injury was done to persons or the track.

THE SAN FRANCISCO MURDER CASE.

FOR many months past California has been in a state of considerable excitement over a double murder that took place in San Francisco in April last. The whole affair is full of mystery, and the trial of the accused has already lasted several months and was not concluded when the last American mail left San Francisco. Nothing could be more sensational than the details of the crime. The victims were two young and beautiful girls. They were cruelly butchered in a church, and the supposed murderer was a constant attendant at prayer-meetings and other religious services, an assistant superintendent of a Sunday-school, and, according to published accounts of his life, had been one of the gentlest and steadiest of young men up to the time of the murders.

The first victim was Miss BLANCHE LAMONT, second daughter of the late Captain DAVID LAMONT, a resident of Dillon (Mont.) from 1881 until his death, two years ago. BLANCHE LAMONT was 21 years old, a graduate of the Rockford, Ill., Female Seminary and, subsequently, a school teacher. She went to San Francisco for a course of study in order to fit herself for the position of teacher in the Dillon public schools. She expected to go to Dillon early in June. She is described as a girl of considerable talent and promise. Miss LAMONT entered a Normal School as a special student two days before she was missed. The day on which the murder took place, April 3rd, she left that school at about 3 o'clock in the afternoon and at 3.15 was seen to go off in company with a young man, the supposed murderer, on a Powell-street car. She was again seen in the vicinity of the scene of the murder between four and five the same afternoon.

The first news that reached the San Francisco public was that Miss LAMONT had mysteriously disappeared, how or by what means no one had the least conception. But it was not long before her schoolmates came forward and asserted that the young man who went off with her was no other then THEODORE DURRANT, a medical student at the Cooper Medical College. From that time to the day of his arrest suspicion fastened on him. The body of the murdered girl not having been discovered, however, and DURRANT having circulated a rumour that Miss LAMONT had probably gone to the bad and would be found in some house of ill-fame, the public and the police could do nothing but wait for further disclosures. These were not long in coming. Saturday, April 13th, several ladies assembled at Emmanuel Church, Bartlett Street, a Baptist Church of which the Rev. Mr. GIBSON is pastor, for the purpose of trimming the Church for Easter. They had occasion to go to the library, and there certain Sunday school girls, three in number, who were helping to prepare the Easter decorations, found secreted in a small closet the body of a murdered girl, subsequently identified as MINNIE WILLIAMS. Deputy Coroner J. L. MCCORMICK was immediately sent for, and he thus describes what he saw:—"The body was lying on the floor, with the head to the north and one limb was bent up somewhat. The clothing was about up to the knee, showing the lower part of the limb. I saw a knife lying across the breast and a piece of a knife sticking out." The medical evidence of Dr. J. S. BARRETT, who performed the autopsy, given at the Corners inquest, was to the effect that death resulted from asphyxiation, caused by choking from the insertion of rags into the throat—into the larynx and trachea—(these rags were found in the throat when the body was examined by the Deputy Coroner); also by lacerated wounds of both wrists, the principal arteries of both being severed. The body was covered with wounds, but in the opinion of Dr. BARRETT most of these were inflicted after death. The Doctor produced evidence to show that MINNIE WILLIAMS had been ravished before being killed. The Coroner's Jury brought in a verdict of murder, and charged THEODORE DURRANT with the crime.

Evidence was forthcoming to show that on Friday afternoon (the 12th), DURRANT met MINNIE WILLIAMS when she arrived from Oakland, and was in her company later in the day. She was to have attended a Young People's Society meeting held on Friday night at Dr. VOGEL'S house, but did not appear there, and was not seen alone by any one who actually knew her after she had left a friend's house to attend that meeting. Her pocket-book or purse was found in DURRANT'S coat pocket. DURRANT had constant access to the church, having a private key by which he let himself in and out. He was allowed to remove books from the library at will, and the theory is that he met Miss WILLIAMS on her way to the meeting, and induced her, as he had, it is asserted, induced Miss LAMONT previously, to enter the Church with him in order to procure a book, and that, after committing the murder, he went on to the meeting, at which there is evidence to show that he arrived late.

The Detectives in charge of the LAMONT case were of opinion, after the discovery of the body of MINNIE WILLIAMS, that the body of BLANCHE LAMONT was secreted somewhere in Emmanuel Church, and on the Sunday morning before service time (April 14th), the missing corpse was found in the belfry of the church. To reach this spot the murderer had to climb higher than the roof of the Church. On the last landing in the tower is a little room 12 × 12 feet in size. For months before the murder it had not been visited, as was shown by the thick layers of dust

that covered the rough, boarded floor. On his way to this room the murderer had a long hard climb up a winding stairway only 2 feet in width. To drag a heavy body up this flight of steps was a feat that only a man of muscle and determination could accomplish. The murderer was evidently secure against interruption, for he must have spent hours in hiding the clothes of the unfortunate victim. The body was found in a perfectly nude state, and the girl's clothes had been so cleverly secreted in places accessible only to a man of great agility and daring that it took a dozen searchers two hours to find them. The corpse had received some respectful attention at the hands of the murderer. It was stretched out smoothly, face upward, the feet were propped on blocks of wood. The hands were folded across the breast and there was only a slight disarrangement of the head, which had fallen over on the left side. Marks of discoloration about the neck showed that the girl had been killed by strangulation. The marks appeared to have been left by a hand that had grasped the throat with great force, for on one side of the neck the flesh was indented. Slight blood-stains were found on some of the murdered girl's clothing. The manner in which the garments were rent gave evidence of a fierce struggle. The sleeve of a man's white shirt, rolled up tightly, as though it had been stripped off the arm, was also found. It was very soiled and had blood stains on it, but they were old. An old hatchet was also discovered in the belfry ; but there were no signs that it had been used.

The first intimation DURRANT received that he was to be arrested was contained in a message flashed by sunlight from Telegraph Hill to the squad of the National Guard to which DURRANT belonged. The squad was engaged at the time in signal exercises in the neighbourhood of Walnut Creek. This was on Easter Sunday (April 14th). DURRANT was then charged with the murder of MINNIE WILLIAMS on the previous Friday night. The other murder was not mentioned to the accused, as when the Detective who made the arrest left San Francisco the body of BLANCHE LAMONT had not been found. DURRANT, when arrested, was clad in what is called the fatigue uniform of the National Guards, and he expressed great anxiety lest he should not be able to re-clothe himself before going to prison. When he was told that he would be allowed to go to his home in San Francisco and exchange his uniform for every-day garments his mind seemed much relieved. So say the newspaper reports.

During the trial numbers of witnesses testified that up to the time of the murders they had known DURRANT and considered him to be quite incapable of committing the crime of which he was accused. But the evidence against him is of a damaging and circumstantial nature. To take the murders in the order of their occurrence, the following are the facts bearing on DURRANT'S alleged connection with BLANCHE LAMONT on April 3rd. He was identified by two schoolmates of Miss LAMONT as the man in whose company she went away in the tramcar when she left her school. According to the testimony of a person living in the district, a young woman dressed like Miss LAMONT and a young man of the same height as DURRANT were seen near the Emmanuel Church, about the time that DURRANT admits having entered the building, namely, 4.55 p.m. The witness saw the backs only of the two young people and therefore was unable to identify them, but the dress of the lady corresponded with that worn by Miss LAMONT on the afternoon of the murder. GEORGE R. KING, the organist of Emmanuel Church, made the following statement to the police on April 15th. "On April 3rd last, the day that Miss LAMONT was first missed, I strolled into the church by the front door at about 5 o'clock that afternoon, and the first thing I noticed was that the library door was open and a strong smell of gas impregnated the air throughout the building. I closed the library door and locked it, and then played the piano. This was in the lecture room. I had been playing, I should judge, some five or ten minutes when DURRANT came down through the back folding-doors. He came into the room with his coat off, in his shirt sleeves. His hair was mussed about and he looked quite pale and worn, and was somewhat nervous. I imagined that he might have been startled at my appearance there in the church. He said that he had been overcome by the gas, and that he had been upstairs fixing the gas fixtures. He said he was so overcome that he could barely come down the ladder. At this time he asked me to go out and get him some bromo-seltzer and I went to the drug-store to get him some. What he did during the time I went to the drug store I do not know. . . . . He drank a dose of the bromo-seltzer and it seemed to nauseate him. He then went into the other room and asked me how he looked, and I told him he was somewhat pale and that his eyes were a little congested. He then went into the ladies' parlor, where there is a mirror, to look at his face, and I afterwards found on a little shelf underneath the mirror a little clot of blood, as though he had wiped his finger on it. . . . . At about 6 o'clock we left the place and he walked a little way down Capp street with me. I do not remember whether he went back to the church or not when he left me." Then there is the testimony of the Pawnbroker, ADOLPH OPPENHEIM, who swore that on a day between April 4th and 10th DURRANT came to his store to offer for sale a ring, subsequently identified as that of BLANCHE LAMONT. Other rings worn by the poor girl on the day of her murder were wrapped in a piece of paper having two names inscribed on it —GEORGE R. KING (the organist) and PROF. SCHERNSTERN—and posted to Mrs. NOBLE, 200-21st Street, City, an aunt of the deceased girl. The penmanship of the address is said to bear a strong resemblance to that of DURRANT.

With reference to the murder of MINNIE WILLIAMS for which, however, DURRANT has not been tried, the pastor of Emmanuel Church, Mr. GIBSON, left the church at 7.30 on the night of the murder, so that the crime must have been committed between this hour and 9.30 p.m. when DURRANT appeared at the Church Meeting at Dr. VOGEL'S house. DURRANT asserts that he left home at 8 o'clock and went to Dr. PERKINS' office and from thence he walked direct to the VOGEL residence. In contradiction of this account, a witness, Mr. HILLS, testifies that he saw a couple answering perfectly to the description of DURRANT and MINNIE WILLIAMS enter Emmanuel Church by the side entrance at about 8 o'clock. DURRANT was not seen afterwards till he arrived at VOGEL'S house at 9.30, with his hair dishevelled and his clothes in a state of disorder. According to one witnesss his hands had blood marks on them. At any rate he asked leave to wash his hands. Attached to the coat that he wore that night were found 3 hairs. Microscopically examined, two of these hairs showed strong evidence of having come from the head of Miss WILLIAMS. The other hair was identified as that of the horse on which it was proved that DURRANT rode before reaching Dr. VOGEL'S house on the night of the murder. The purse that Miss WILLIAMS had when she left the house of Mrs. VOY, the person with whom she was staying at the time of the murder, was found in DURRANT'S overcoat pocket at his home. He says that he picked it up in the street.

DURRANT has many friends. They are doing their best to save him and he is defended by clever counsel. According to certain reports, there is evidence to show that many of his shrewd expedients to prove an *alibi* at the supposed time of the murder were elaborated by barristers who, without any real belief in his innocence, are unscrupulous enough to devise any means whatever of rebutting the strong case that the prosecution has made out against him. It has been attempted to prove that when the murder of BLANCHE LAMONT is supposed to have taken place he attended a medical lecture. Notes of the lecture have been produced in DURRANT'S handwriting. But it is asserted that he borrowed the notes from a fellow-student and drafted his own so as to agree with them. The roll was called on the occasion in question and he is marked as present, but this goes for little or nothing, as American medical

students are in the habit of occasionally answering for each other. There is considerable mystery attached to this part of the evidence, owing to the conflicting testimony of the medical students present on the occasion. DURRANT has been convicted of direct falsehood in several matters connected with Miss WILLIAMS. Altogether his case looks very bad. But in matters of law it is hard often to foresee by what deficient link in the chain of evidence a verdict appearing certain to lay eyes may be rendered legally impossible. The general impression produced by the published evidence is that DURRANT is guilty, but of the exact cumulative legal weight of the proved points we can judge only when the concluding speeches of Counsel and the Judge's summing up are before us, which will be within the next ten days. If not convicted on the LAMONT case, DURRANT will be tried on the charge of murdering MINNIE WILLIAMS, and, if the reports of certain San Francisco papers are to be credited, the evidence that the people's attorney can produce in this case will render the acquittal of the accused an impossibility.

DURRANT is a man of extraordinary coolness and presence of mind. With the exception of a slight pallor and nervousness displayed on the day of his arrest he has been perfectly calm and collected throughout the trial. Whether innocent or guilty, he is not a man of normal sensibility. His dress in court as he appeared day after day was a picture of neatness and propriety. He answered questions and explained the process of fixing electric burners with the nonchalance of one entirely unconscious of, or indifferent to, the fact that issues of life and death were at stake. But this proves nothing; nor is it new. The greatest criminals have always been cast in abnormal moulds. The nerve and determination enabling them to perpetrate deeds that chill the blood of ordinary mortals suffice to sustain them through the ordeal of a long trial and help them to look forward with almost absolute indifference to the most ignominious of deaths.

THE MINISTER PRESIDENT.

THE Opposition journals, among which we include the *Nippon* and the *Asahi*, persistently lend their columns to circulate rumours pointing to the speedy retirement of Marquis ITO from Office. They seize the opportunity to attack the Liberal Party also, pretending that the leaders of the latter have been, on the one hand, imposing terms by way of payment for their promised support of the Government, and, on the other, endeavouring to dissuade Marquis ITO from resigning. Political affairs are shrouded in so much mystery at present that we hesitate to deny or endorse any of these rumours. Our own impression is that no Cabinet changes of a radical nature are impending. Yet the inveterate nature of the reports current in Tokyo during the past three weeks forbids us to regard them as altogether chimerical. Probably the return of Count INOUYE to Tokyo will elucidate the situation, though we place little faith in the idea that his judgment is awaited as finally decisive. The only really disquieting element of the situation is that the Satsuma statesmen in the Cabinet may be unwilling to endorse any alliance with the Liberals, in which event the Government would have to choose between a split in its own ranks or an overwhelming Opposition in the next session of the Diet. We have already pointed out that with the support of the Liberals and the National Unionists, the Cabinet would command about 170 votes in the Lower House, so that all measures of importance could be passed without difficulty. There are objections, it is true, to any step such as would finally establish the principle of party government in Japan at this early stage of parliamentary institutions. But, on the other hand, the nation has arrived at such a crisis in its career that no effort should be spared to facilitate legislative efficiency, and if the Liberals and National Unionists, recognising that fact, are willing to lend their support to statesmen like Marquis ITO and Count MUTSU, statesmen that have proved their thorough competence to appreciate the country's needs and direct its progress to brilliant results, theoretical objections should not be suffered to exercise a deterrent influence. It is easy to understand that the Satsuma leaders might be unwilling to acknowledge any reliance upon political agitators' support for the consummation of a work already carried so near completion by a purely Imperial Cabinet. It is further easy to understand that personal considerations might weigh against the proposed alliance, since the entry of the Liberals and National Unionists into the Government's camp would reduce the Progressionists and their allies to a state of political impotence, not less unwelcome to Count OKUMA'S Sasshu allies than to the Count himself. But if party government is ever to be successfully introduced in Japan, there must be able leaders on both sides, and it would conduce infinitely more to the nation's best interests that Count OKUMA should lead an Opposition with a legitimatized status and a recognised future, than that his followers should obstruct all legislation for the sake of winning for themselves prospects and a position. The one thing required, as it seems to us, to secure for Japan the respect and consideration of Western Powers is that her national strength should cease to be frittered away by party squabbles. If Marquis ITO and Count MUTSU have that consummation within their reach, we doubt whether even the defection of some of their old Satsuma allies should deter them. A dozen times within the past three years we have ventured to predict that party government can never be safely inaugurated in Japan until a division among the Meiji statesmen distributes them between the two camps headed respectively by Count ITAGAKI and Count OKUMA. Neither camp, without the accession of such a contingent, can furnish competent administrative elements, or be regarded as a party seriously bidding for power. It seems as though no less an issue were now impending, and while every friend of this country must view with disquiet the severance of allies under whose guidance Japan has escaped so many grave perils and achieved so many notable results, no one can institute any reasonable comparison between the rupture of that alliance and its preservation at the cost of reverting to the legislative deadlock that effectually blocked Japan's progress up to the outbreak of the War with China.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsiblefor the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions their may choose to draw therefrom.]

MR. McCALEB.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I did not think that it would ever be required of me to again appear in print, but in a letter from the pen of our learned friend, recently published, he intimates that he has reasons to suspect that writers under assumed names are either ashamed of the positions they take, or are lacking in a due degree of sincerity in actually believing what they claim. As this is a mere matter of opinion, I will not discuss it, and as long as I observe with courtesy the rules of debate, nothing more can be asked of me. I am an ignorant man "rude in my speech, and little blessed with the soft phrase of peace." If my memory serves me, in a very interesting letter from Mr. McCaleb published a little while ago, he astonished us all by declaring that the coming of Jesus had been foretold seven hundred years before. The high authority making this announcement at once attracted attention, and feeling that all reading and labour of investigation had been in fault, I became an "Anxious Enquirer," and asked the question.

It is my pleasant duty to acknowledge the courteous reply, replete with quotations gathered from all parts of the Bible, tendered as proofs, of the truth of the prophecies. If Mr. McCaleb asserts that he clearly knows the quotations to refer to Jesus, he will have to measure his strength with some of the greatest intellects of the present century. The most profound thought has been devoted to the study of the Bible, and to the prophecies mentioned, with the result that it has been discovered that they are not prophecies at all, and are only passages relating to events that had happened, or were then passing among the Jews. As the Old Testament is purely historical, and anecdotal, this appears to be the true solution. So uncertain is Mr. McCaleb of his position that he writes "but I would by no means be understood as believing that this line of prophetic evidence relates to nothing but the names of Jesus." This is a fatal admission, and I feel sympathy for the learned scholar in the pitiable plight he has placed himself in; if one word of the Book of God is not true, or if one word is equivocal, or if anything in the Book is left to the imagination, then the whole structure must fall, and Mr. McCaleb with it. A feeling of disappointment crept over me, as I read the letter in reply to my inquiry: the same old platitudes were brought out, with skill and eloquence I admit, but not a new idea could I trace to controvert the one that my views had always been erroneous, and should be immediately changed. I am left in the same position I was before, but I

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will offer our friend once more a chance to set himself right. I will now ask him to point out a chapter, or even a verse, in the Bible where direct reference is made to the coming of a person, in seven hundred years, to fulfill a certain mission of which he was to be the vicarious sacrifice.

I do not want the gentleman's opinion, neither what he thinks, for I can do all that; I want the absolute truth. Surely if the Bible is the word of God, it is not a book of equivocation. Mr. McCaleb must either know that the so-called "prophecies" of the coming of Jesus are true, or that they are not: there is no middle ground for him to stand on: if they are true, then he must measure strength with the greatest intellects that the world has ever known, who say they are not true; and if he says that they are not true, then he is trifling with us, and it is right that we should ask him to retire at once to the town he came from. Some other vocation in life will be better suited to him.

To illustrate how great minds differ, I must refer to a letter from Mr. McCaleb, published some time ago, in which he reviewed Strauss. As I have mislaid it, unfortunately, I cannot quote from it, but in substance our learned friend says, that Strauss having written a mass of illogical matter, at last found himself unable to hold his ground, and had ignominiously to step down, his book passing to oblivion. Our friend Mr. McCaleb must have the strongest reason for making such a statement, and it will be interesting to many to read what Professor John Fiske, of Harvard, a most profound thinker and writer, has to say regarding Strauss:—

"The Life of Jesus published by Strauss when only twenty-six years of age, is one of the monumental works of the nineteenth century, worthy to rank as a historical effort along with such books as Niebuhr's History of Rome, &c. It instantly superseded and rendered antiquated everything which had preceded it; nor has any work on early Christianity been written in Germany for the past thirty years which has not been dominated by the recollection of that marvelous book. Nevertheless, the labours of another generation of scholars have carried our knowledge of the New Testament literature far beyond the point which it had reached when Strauss first wrote. At that time the dates of but few of the New Testament writings had been fixed with any approach to certainty; the age and character of the fourth gospel, the genuineness of the Pauline epistles, even the mutual relations of the three synoptics, were still undetermined, and as a natural result of this uncertainty, the progress of dogma during the first century was ill understood. At the present day it is impossible to read the early work of Strauss without being impressed with the necessity of obtaining positive data as to the origin, and dogmatic character of the New Testament writings, before attempting to reach any conclusions as to the probable career of Jesus."

As these two great minds are diametrically opposed, and both claim to be inspired, who is it that suffers? In the conflict it is the small minds that go to the wall!

I cannot help giving Mr. McCaleb a quotation from the famous letter of Henry Ward Beecher, dated Chicago, 1883. In giving his opinion of Christian Truth. He writes to Dr. Kennard:—

"My life is drawing to an end. A few more working years only have I left. No one can express the earnestness with which I feel that in the advance of science, which will inevitably sweep away much rubbish from the belief of men, a place may be found for a higher spirituality, for a belief that shall have its roots in science, and its top in the sunlight of faith and love. For that I am working, and shall work as long as I work at all. The discussion has begun. God is in it. It must go on. It is one of those great movements which come when God would lift men to a higher level."

Could the great preacher be wrong in his views of what God is educating us for? If he was, who will put him right, and show us the way?

I cannot help making another quotation, after which I must bring this rambling letter to a close. Renan, in his Life of Jesus sums up:—

"The love of God, charity, and reciprocal forgiveness were the whole Law of Jesus."

For Mr. McCaleb's guidance, I feel that it is right for me to declare that I believe in One God with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning, the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, the Source of Life, to which it eventually reverts.

I believe Jesus to have been the most gifted man that ever lived, whose insight into the needs of humanity enabled him to preach and practice a morality of the most benevolent kind. And as a celebrated writer says, "although similar systems of morality had been preached by Confucius, and by some of the Greek philosophers many years before, by the Quakers since, and by many good men in all ages, it has not been exceeded by any."

I beg to thank Mr. McCaleb again for his reply, and most sincerely regret that I am still compelled to be an

ANXIOUS INQUIRER.

Kobe, November 8th, 1895.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I am glad to notice that Mr. McCaleb has recognised "the impropriety of proceeding in such a haphazard way as the present;" but I regret that, with the best of intentions and in all sincerity of heart, he has again started in the wrong way. It is a fundamental principle of every properly conducted discussion as well as a general rule enforced in courts of law that "he who affirms must prove." The burden of proof as to any particular proposition lies on him who wishes the public to believe in its truth; in other words, it lies on the affirmative side until that side has established a strong presumption in favour of its propositions. Mr. McCaleb must, of course, open the argument and should, in doing so, not forget to give concise definitions. It is then, and then only, that "Secularian" or "Defender" can properly reply.

Yours very truly, EPSILON.

Tokyo, November 14th, 1895.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—If controversy is to be more than mere *flatus vocis*, it is before all things necessary to define terms. Mr. McCaleb's first proposition runs thus:—"Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God." By Jesus I understand him to mean a certain historical character, crucified in Jerusalem nearly nineteen hundred years ago. The term denotes, that is to say, one of those concrete objective entities that we call men. The relation of sonship and fatherhood is one that obtains between two of these concrete objective entities that we call men. In stating, therefore, that Jesus was the Son of God, Mr. McCaleb means, I take it, to imply that between God and Jesus there existed (or, if Mr. McCaleb prefers to use the present tense, exists) a relation similar to that which existed, for example between Charles I. and Charles II. Without for the moment inquiring too closely how far the analogy in this relationship of fatherhood is to be pushed, I am surely right in believing Mr. McCaleb to imply that God, like Jesus, has objective existence. A purely mental representation, corresponding to no outward reality, a griffin for example, cannot by any permissible stretching of terms be said to stand in the relation of fatherhood to an objective being. I regard it therefore, as implied in the terms of Mr. McCaleb's proposition that God is not a mere representation of the human mind, but is objective, an outward reality. But this implication appears to me at the very outset to demand proof.

Let Mr. McCaleb, then, give an exact definition of the meaning he attaches to the term God; let him prove the objective existence of a Being corresponding with the concept as defined by him; and then only will the terms of his challenge have any meaning to me. I need hardly say that in these post-Kantian days it will be idle for him to bring forward the arguments of the speculative reason in proof of the existence of a Supreme Being, the ontological proof, the cosmological proof, and the physico-theological proof, for I hold with Kant that such proofs are impossible. Nor need he bring forward the argument considered cogent by Kant himself that though we are not entitled to hold speculatively that any Supreme Being exists, yet a consideration of ethical relations lays us under a moral necessity to believe in a Supreme Lawgiver, for, with Sidgwick, I am "so far from feeling bound to believe for purposes of practice that I see no ground for holding as a speculative truth, that I cannot even conceive the state of mind which these words seem to describe, except as a momentary half-wilful irrationality, committed in a violent access of philosophic despair." Least of all need he appeal to Revelation, since the credentials of Revelation are disputed by the very nature of my doubts as to the existence of its supposed author. No, Mr. McCaleb must bring forward arguments of an entirely new character, and when he has thus made his position intelligible to me, I shall cheerfully proceed to an examination of the historical evidence he can bring forward to prove that "Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God."

To forestall possible criticism, I may say that it is as obvious to me as it will be to others, that my demands are a *reductio ad absurdum* of all controversy of this character. The difficulty of agreement in preliminary definition is one with which thoughtful persons in both camps are familiar, and is well exemplified in a suggestive letter by the Rev. T. S. Tyng which appears in the same issue of your paper with Mr. McCaleb's challenge. It is evident that Mr. Tyng and the writer of the article he criticises would find it difficult if not impossible to agree on a definition of the terms Christianity and the Christian Church; and yet in default of such agreement all discussion as to the nature of Christian teaching is utterly vain.

In truth, Christian thought and agnostic thought are in different planes, and lines drawn in different planes do not intersect.

Yours truly,

MAURICE EDEN PAUL.

Nagasaki, November 14th, 1895.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—"Secularian" could have saved himself the long and laboured attempt at identity by simply forwarding his card, a very simple and in no wise an improper thing to do. He says he is not somebody else; but he says this as *Secularian*, a name that is impersonal and represents nothing. It is impossible for him to identify himself under a name that *has* no identity. He says, I stated as a "positive fact," he changed his name. That is a mistake. It was only a supposition, as I have already explained, for I cannot be positive about any thing that pertains to this being called *Secularian*. It is a mere spectre; whether it be Marley's ghost of Dickens or one of Shakspeare's, or something else, I have no possible means of knowing. Yet I am expected to give to this "airy nothing" "a local habitation and a name," and deal with it as having flesh and bones when at the same time it has the magic power of vanishing away at any moment. It can wax bold and say anything it pleases and be responsible for nothing. The Christian is taught to "Cast not your pearls before swine lest they trample them under their feet and turn again and rend you." Now I am not saying or even intimating that "Secularian" is of that class, he may be a strictly moral and upright man as to that matter, but I have no possible means of knowing either the one or the other. "But the Editor knows who it is." So he says. But the Editor himself will not go upon such testimony as he expects me to receive. Although keeping a standing notice over the Correspondence column that he disavows all responsibility for the views that may be expressed therein, he nevertheless requires each to first send him his real name before he is permitted to appear over an assumed one. Nor will he in any case take their word for it that they write in good faith, for though he may believe it true he is wholly at their mercy for this fact and has no way of showing it to others. Suppose some correspondent should remonstrate with the Editor against giving his real name, and say, "If the Editor is not satisfied with my statement he will have to go unsatisfied, for I am not inclined to give proof of a thing I am abundantly able to show," I presume the correspondent would hardly, under such circumstances, be permitted to appear. Yet this is precisely what is expected of me, namely, to take the good faith of "Secularian" without the slighest evidence, save such as the Editor himself constantly refuses. This don't look fair. If people mutually carry on a correspondence under *noms de plume* I have no criticism to offer. But it will be remembered that my defence began with the Editor over my real name. Somebody (or something) assails me from Kobe not as a "fellow-man" but as a phantom, an impersonal something that can neither be identified or held responsible for anything it says. It don't look manly to strike from the dark. John says, "Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil. For every one that doeth evil, hateth the light, neither cometh to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that doth truth, cometh to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God."

But "the gospels are written anonymously." I am glad to see "Secularian" for once throw himself on the side of the inspired writers. If I were writing for a Christian, a sufficient answer to this would be that "it is not ye that speaketh but the Holy Spirit that speaketh in you," hence it was a matter of no special moment whether the author identified himself or not, as the Holy Spirit makes his own defence and the gospels carry their own proof. But as this would hardly satisfy an unbeliever, I answer further that it was no uncommon thing in that age for writers to omit both name, date, and place from their writings. The writers of the gospel narratives did not write over an *assumed* name. Editors do not usually sign their names, but they are so identified with their writings everybody knows who they are. So with the writers of the gospels, everybody understood who they were and their names were attached to their writings almost from the beginning. Be-

sides, they mutually refer to each other by name in such an artless way as to leave one without the slightest suspicion that they make any effort at concealment. And better still, one of these writers in the last public document he has left on record signs himself thus: I, JOHN, WHO ALSO AM YOUR BROTHER AND COMPANION IN TRIBULATION! I hope therefore "Secularian" may continue in company with these writers long enough to follow the same good example, and step down into the world of mortals and indeed be a "brother" and "companion" among his "contemporary fellowmen" and will help to bear the "tribulation" with which we have to do.

But then I must excuse him from identifying himself, since all he has at stake is a simple defence of truth while I am "a salaried defender of the Christian religion," and want to show my "Mission Board" in particular "and the world generally" "how energetically" I am "performing" my "mission." Now suppose I should grant this—what then? Well, it would only show that I prize a salary higher than Mr. "Secularian" values the truth. But this accusation is made with at least as much foundation as the objections to the prophecies, which are simply *none whatever!* While I am very far from saying there are not *many* in this country receiving salaries, who are nevertheless fully capable of defending the truth for its own sake, it so happens that I am able to inform my opponent that I have never yet received a salary for preaching the gospel. I came to this country without a pledge or a promise save from Him who says, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you;" and here I wish to add that it is a proof of the divinity of Jesus of no mean character that his promise has been made *remarkably* sure. Again, I have never had any connection whatever with "Mission Boards" nor received a cent at their hands; nor do I "stand" for any body under heaven save myself and the Lord. (A hint here to one Politico). I am entirely alone, save Him whom I serve, in this discussion, so far as backing is concerned. And now having delivered myself so fully to assure you that I myself, also am but a man, do come down I entreat you, from you secure hiding place, Dear "Secularian," and let us reason together as "contemporary fellowmen" indeed and in truth; for I assure you not a hair of your head shall perish. Especially do I deem your condition a precarious one since you say you are already better known as a myth than a man and are thereby in great peril, I fear, of that "social ostracism by a Christian community," which you so much dread. Knowing your exceeding fright at the board I had behind me for your chastisement, I can readily understand also how it was you took time by the forelock and "ostracized" me from the "social canons" (?) of your own fire side.

Before coming to the point at issue I wish to say a word or two further in regard to the geneaologies. Mr. "Secularian" shows an error of logic in asking me to give *proof* of my explanation that there are two lines of ancestry instead of only one. My friend made the affirmation that the geneaologies were contradictory. The burden of proof lies with him. I gave an explanation—one that is common to every royal house where the throne is inherited—by which they were not contradictory but perfectly harmonious. This, though there could not be the slightest proof shown in its favour, forever destroys the force of the objection; for before the objection that they are contradictory can have any force, it must be shown that the genealogies *could not to be otherwise;* for if there can be any other reasonable way than that which makes them conflict they are not *necessarily* conflicting. Were it my province to prove in this case, however, I am not without evidence. The reference to the caption over the chapters that every body knows to be no part of the Bible, all of which have very properly been omitted in the revised text, requires no notice. I must express surprise, however, at one who is so fully abreast of the age in everything else yet some three centuries behind in regard to the New Testament. This is a sufficient explanation no doubt for many of the errors into which my friend has fallen. But to the points at issue.

It will be noted that all that has been claimed for the prophetic names of Jesus has been conceded, save it seems that I did not make myself very clear to a "casual reader" in regard to the name, Christ, who would conclude that I meant to say that the word "Christ" actually occurs in the Old Testament. But I am pleased to see my opponent is so generous as to lift me out of this little ambiguity by saying it is "a fact of which the most superficial student of Christian apologetics is well aware." As my friend seems to have some preference for the Received Text I shall favour him with its rendering once more on this point: "Know therefore and understand that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to rebuild Jerusalem, unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seventy weeks." (Prophecy.) "The woman saith unto him I know that Messias cometh *which is called Christ.*" Jesus saith unto her I that speak unto thee am he." (History.) My opponent may continue to object as usual, but I see no room for further argument on the statement that Christ came in fulfillment of a certain line of prophecy that had long since gone before upon him, even concerning his name.

Again my critic misrepresents the prophecies in making it appear that they speak of Jesus "as coming to the Jews and for the Jews only." While the Jews as a nation were chosen as the channel through which God chose to bless the world, the blessings of the redemption in Christ were by no means to be limited to the Jews only. And in passing, I wish it to be noted that here is a very strong proof that the prophets spoke by inspiration. For it is next to an impossibility that a nation, with as much prejudice as had the Jews against other nations, would prophesy blessings upon those they considered dogs. But let us hear one of the prophets on this point: "And it shall come to pass in that day, that the root of Jesse, which standeth for an ensign of the *peoples*, unto him shall the *nations* [Gentile dogs] seek; and his resting place shall be glorious" (Isaiah, 11:10). Again, "And righteousness shall be the girdle of his loins, and faithfulness the girdle of his reins. And the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; and the calf and the young lion and the fatling together; and a little child shall lead them. And the cow and the bear shall feed, their young ones shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. And the sucking child shall play on the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put his hand on the basilisk's den. They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea," (Isa., 11; 5-9). A more beautiful passage and bolder figures could not be used to show that this root of Jesse was not to come to the Jews only but to all mankind. And not to go deeper into the Old Testament prophecies on this point, nor could the New Testament historians with all their prejudices against the Gentile nations, being under the influence of the Holy Spirit, evade the force of giving utterance to the same universal gospel. For this very same Mathew whom my friend would represent as forbidding the gospel to the Gentiles (in that he says, give not that which is holy to the dogs) closes his narrative in these remarkable words: "Go ye therefore and make disciples of *all nations*, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and low I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world" (Matt., 28:18.20). John, another Jew, no doubt against every fibre of his fleshly nature was also impelled by the some Spirit that moved the prophets to give utterance to the following: "After these things I saw and behold a great multitude, which no man could number, *out of every nation, and of all tribes and peoples and tongues*, standing before the throne and before the Lord arrayed in white robes and palms in their hands" (Rev. 7: 9.) Again Paul, another Jew, full of nation-prejudice against the Gentiles, was moved to quote the prophecy of Isaiah (Isaiah, 65:1) in the following remarkable language: "But Isaias is very bold and saith, I was found of them that sought me not [the Gentiles]; I was made manifest unto them that asked not after me" (Rom., 10:20). For one to ask therefore what benefit could the prophecies have to any save the Jews only shows that he has not the slightest acquaintance with their nature. I only wish I had space to do justice to this one feature of the prophecies.

In closing, I wish to call attention to my opponant's statement, "that the passages decribed as prophecies no more foretell the coming of Christ, than they foretell the coming of Confucius, Buddha, or Mohammed, Spinoza, Voltaire, or Paine, Compte, Huxley, or Spencer." If the gentleman can make good this remarkable statement I will give up the prophecies. I suggest therefore that he cease mere objections and bare assertions long enough to lay himself out in his next on this proposition and show to the world for once that this thing called prophecy has no reality whatever.

Most respectfully, J. M. McCALEB.

Tokyo, Nev. 15th, 1895.

AS TO THE PROPOSITION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—"Epsilon" evidently does not understand which way I propose to travel in saying I am headed in the wrong direction. I had no other thought than to take the affirmation of the proposition submitted. Thus far I have *logically* been on the negative, or defensive, but having to deal with interrogations and objections without proof, it has *practically* put me in the affirmative. If I am expected to produce all the proof, I prefer to proceed in my own way. Besides, it will doubtless be conceded by all that I cannot justly be expected to carry on a discussion with some half a dozen opponents, all writing from so many different points of view at the same time. I ask therefore that all agree to let some one take the negative of the proposition that we may be able to proceed in a more orderly manner and in a way that will be more profitable to all. Or if you each one *must* speak, if you will "have patience with me I will pay you all," or in the language of Paul "you may all prophecy *one* by *one*."

The proposition proposed (through my own fault in not giving a heading the Editor made me say "Challenge") exactly covers the ground under consideration: the first member—*Jesus in the Messiah the Son of God*—is the point "Secularian" denies; and the second—*He is our once Crucified but now risen Lord*—is denied, I believe, by the Editor; while the third—*He only is the Saviour of the World*—meets "Anxious Inquirer's" objection. The terms used have no peculiar sense from that commonly accepted by Christians. I take them in the exact sense the Bible uses them. The entire proposition, taken together, is about as plain as any definition that can be given of it. Hoping to receive a favourable reply to the above, I remain, most respectfully yours,

J. M. McCALEB.

Tokyo, November 4th, 1895.

P.S.—"Anxious Inquirer" is mistaken, I never at any time wrote a line of criticism against Strauss. J. M. M.

POSITIVISM AND THE DOCTRINE OF IMMORTALITY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In the communicated article in your issue of the 8th instant on the doctrine of immortality, there occurs a passing reference to an eminent Positivist writer which is so wide of the mark and so likely to mislead, that it ought not to pass uncorrected. Says the article:—

"When we examine the writings of poetic geniuses of the type of Goethe and Emerson, of philosophic mystics such as Hegel and Max Muller, or of the greatest modern Comtist, Frederic Harrison, we find that they all believe in some kind of immortality."

From this passage, taken along with the context, and from the concluding paragraph of the article, in which the Positivist doctrine of subjective immortality is referred to only to be dismissed as a misnomer unworthy of serious discussion, it is evident that the writer includes Mr. Harrison amongst the believers in objective immortality, that is to say, in the sort of immortality believed in by theologians and mystics and metaphysicians. Therein he is mistaken. I challenge him to produce from Mr. Harrison's writings a single passage which could justify so surprising a misapprehension.

And what does he mean by calling Mr. Harrison a modern Comtist? Considering that Comte died less than forty years ago, and that his fundamental discovery, the law of intellectual evolution, dates only from 1822, there could be no ancient Comtists. If his meaning is that Mr. Harrison is the greatest of living Positivists, then he is wrong; for that distinction belongs unquestionably to Comte's chief disciple and successor, M. Pierre Laffitte, Professor of the History of the Sciences at the Collége de France; a chair which, in view of his unrivalled competence in that wide subject, has been specially created for him by a decree of the Government of the French Republic. But why call Mr. Harrison a Comtist at all? He has publicly and explicitly repudiated the appellation; and so do Positivists in general, both in France and in England. Unlike Christians and Mahometans, the students of Comte's writings admit that the great teacher was fallible, that he made a few mistakes. Unlike Christians and Mahometans, who accept the doctrine because they reverence its founder, Positivists honour the founder because they accept his doctrine. They accept the doctrine not because of its source but of its substance and its method. To persist in calling them Comtists is therefore misleading.

I must add that a better general acquaintance

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with the substance and method of Positive doctrine would have saved the writer from the mistake of supposing that its leading English expositor could possibly be classed amongst "believers in the inherent immortality of the soul," whose belief "rests on feeling, intuition, aspiration, but not on reason." Baseless assertions of that kind are largely responsible for the misconceptions that prevail in the public mind as to the character of a system of thought which, while according its due place to the Logic of feeling, aims at replacing the decaying theological props of religion by a foundation of demonstrated scientific truth.

J. C. H.

Yokohama, November 13th 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—The school of modern materialism possesses many remarkable characteristics, of which not the least notable are an intellectual arrogance and a certainty of assumption in discussing grave and difficult problems, hardly in keeping with the modest motto of "Agnosticism." To this is sometimes added a strong tendency to distort and misrepresent opposed opinions in such a manner as to make them seem the merest travesty of what they really are, so that, this distortion once accomplished, the task of ridicule and refutation becomes one of the greatest ease. An article to which you have been pleased to accord a leading place in your columns admirably exemplifies the assertion.

It is replete with misrepresentation. Professing to be a review of the Doctrine of Immortality, it is really a severe attack on the whole subject, inculcating pure annihilation. But the misrepresentations are also specific. Treating them in the order in which they occur, we find in the first place the unconditional assertion that Bishop Butler maintained a belief in the immortality of brutes. "Consistently with the great doctrine of analogy which he elaborated with such logical acumen, he maintained that beings whose cause of birth and manner of birth bore an exact resemblance should alike be regarded as endowed with a nature capable of surviving death." Then follows a bit of pleasantry at "the Bishop's" expense. The entire question has importance only in so far as it may seem to impair the validity of Butler's magnificent argument from analogy. To such at least as have not studied the chapter on a Future Life, the assertion that it necessarily leads to belief in the immortality of brutes is *prima facie* evidence that the argument is visionary and unstable. But it is utterly misleading to say that Butler maintained the immortality of brutes as a necessary part of his system. It was urged against a portion of his argument that the same premises by which he posited human immortality would likewise establish a future life for brutes; the argument proved too much, and therefore proved nothing. Replying to this objection, Butler grants that brutes are immortal, and proceeds to show that even on this assumption his argument is not invalidated. Moreover, a large part of his reasoning is altogether untouched by any such objection.

We are told in the next place that "Wordsworth was expressing the views of a large number of Christian believers when he wrote" the beautiful lines beginning,

"Our birth is but a sleep and a forgetting."

Now these lines shadow forth the ancient doctrine of transmigration, or metempsychosis, a doctrine supported by "a large number of Christian believers." As a matter of fact, the statement is untrue. Origen adopted the theory, but the action of the Council of Nicea rendered it practically untenable. We find it surviving only in the writings of very few philosophers or theologians, whether ancient or modern. It is an exceptional belief, with extremely few adherents among Christians. Even Wordsworth himself, so confidently quoted, did not hold it as a sober tenet of faith. In his own account of the poem he writes: "I think it right to protest against the conclusion. . . . that I want to inculcate such a belief. It is far too shadowy a notion to be recommended to faith as more than an element in our instincts of immortality. . . . I took hold of the notion of pre-existence as having sufficient foundation in humanity for authorizing me to make for my purpose the best use of it I could *as a poet*." *

Misrepresentation of another type is found in the contemptuous reference to "men whose minds are accustomed to the idea of constant supernatural interference with the laws of nature"—men believing that "miracles may take place at any time." What reputable Christian theology so teaches? Intelligent Christians do believe in miracles, but they certainly do not believe in such as may "take place at any time," nor in any constant interference with natural laws. Such extraordinary phenomena demand the highest occasion, and occur only in times of supremest moment, as when God certifies his Son to men. Even John Stuart Mill has given the weight of his great name to what is really a dictum of common sense: God is a sufficient cause for miracles. And it is quite in accordance with law that the law-giver should reveal himself as superior to and working in his laws. Such books as Gore's "Incarnation of the Son of God," or Fisher's "Grounds of Theistic and Christian Belief," are plentiful, and none that have read them can honestly prefer such charges as those just quoted.

Again, is it not unjust to insist that the Church consigns to perdition men like Marcus Aurelius, Socrates, Confucius, and Shaka Muni? Different views have always been held of this subject, and always will be so long as speculative thought exists. The Bible is not clear in its revelation, except as to the great fact that all men are imperfect before God, and require in some way the application of the redemption of Christ. Knapp, among prominent theologians, writes:—"We may confidently expect, from the goodness of God, that since he has heretofore given so many nations only the light of nature, he will not make them miserable for the want of that higher knowledge of which they are innocently destitute." Only a short time ago, one of the oldest and ablest missionaries in Japan maintained in these columns that the "larger hope," as it is called, is entertained by many orthodox Christian believers. We are not here discussing the truth of any particular view; we desire merely to point out the injustice of representing the perdition of Plato as an essential element of the Christian faith.

Emerson is pitied for the feeble way in which he defends the doctrine of immortality. But even cursory students of the great poet and essayist know that it is very doubtful whether he was a believer in personal immortality at all. Query—Why does the reviewer choose for review only the "childish" and "illogical" arguments of poets and of doting editors, rather than the arguments of philosophers like himself?

But even the poets are perverted. The argument from activity, attributed to Goethe, is by no means based solely on emotion, or desire; "I shall always be active." It is really based on the law of continuity: everything now existing will continue to exist until some greater power destroys it. We have the powers of thought now, and upon the law of continuity will have them after death unless death can be shown to destroy them. There is an argument based on the Sensibilities, but it is rather different from that given by the reviewer.

Perhaps the most serious misrepresentation of all is the use of a long quotation from John Stuart Mill, for the purpose of gainsaying this doctrine of immortality, when the fact is that Mill allows the hope of a future life to be philosophically defensible.

Passing now to the consideration of the usual temper of agnostic writers, it would be difficult to find, even among the writings of bigoted theologians, a stiffer assurance than is contained in the following sentence: "It is only those who by the most careful and rigid mental discipline have accustomed themselves to regard with suspicion and mistrust any opinion based *solely* on emotion, that can estimate the value of the hackneyed arguments in favour of immortality at their true worth." Here again is a misrepresentation in the italicised assertion that the doctrine of immortality is based solely on emotion, whereas there are no less than six great arguments that are purely intellectual—summarily disposed of, indeed, by agnostic reviewers, under the ban of "intellectual sophistry." We are told, moreover, that such men as Pheracydes, Pythagoras, Socrates, Plato, Aristotle, Philo, Plutarch, Galen, Cicero, Plotinus, Augustine, Anselm, Abelard (*Intellige ut credas*), William of Auvergne, Albert Magnus, Thomas Aquinas, Occam, Bacon, Descartes, Spinoza, Malebranche, Leibnitz, Rousseau, Bocke, Hooker, Newton, Fichte, Kant, Schleiermacher, Schopenhauer, Lotze, Cuvier, Quatrefages, Hamilton, Reid, Calderwood, Fiske, Edwards, Porter, and McCosh—all these men (not poets), from ancient times to the present day, were believers in this foolish doctrine because they lacked the power to "estimate the value of the hackneyed arguments in favour of immortality at their true worth!" And never was there a cooler instance of "begging the question" than is found in the *ipse dixit*, "All that can be known bearing on the future of the human soul points to annihilation." Agnostics, claiming to know nothing of the future of the human soul, claim likewise to know "all that can be known." Such being the case, no amount of the "intellectual sophistry" of Plato, or Kant, or Fiske (the evolutionist); no amount of the pathetic "ardency of feeling" of poet and peasant the wide world over, "can induce them to believe in the doctrine of the immortality of the soul." Truly, there is but one God, and his name is Ego.

The arguments for immortality cannot be presented in any single number of a newspaper. Readers desiring to pursue the subject from a purely intellectual standpoint, will find an excellent handbook in the recently published "Evidences of a Future Life," by Prof. L. A. Fox, an American. Meanwhile it is interesting to note that Ingersoll, weak enough in the presence of death to exalt hope above reason, has beautifully said, on sundry occasions: "He who sleeps here, when dying, mistaking the approach of death for the return of health, whispered, with his latest breath, 'I feel better now.' Let us believe, in spite of doubts and dogmas and tears and fears, that these dear words are true of all the countless dead." At another time, "The heart will always say, 'Perhaps there is another life.'" "We, too, have our religion, and it is this: Help for the living; hope for the dead." Again, at the coffin of another, "Immortality is a word that hope, through all the ages, has been whispering to love." Again, over a dear friend, "He was afraid to do wrong, and therefore he was not afraid to die." Again, in Boston, over Horace Beaver, "He lived for this world; if there be another, he will live for that." Again, over Roscoe Conkling, "He entered the darkness, or dawn, we call death. Unshrinkingly passed beyond our horizon . . . to that vast realm of silence or of joy where the innumerable dwell." It is interesting to read, in the words of the most prominent agnostic now resident in Japan, that "Hope is stronger than reason."* It is passing strange to read the epitaph lately carved on the tombstone of Professor Huxley, in compliance with his own request:—

"And if there be no meeting past the grave,
If all is darkness, silence, yet 'tis rest.
Be not afraid, ye waiting hearts that weep,
For God still giveth his beloved sleep,
And if an endless sleep he wills, so best."

S.

Saga, Japan, Nov. 15th, 1895.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I have read with interest the communicated article on "The Doctrine of Immortality," which is in your weekly issue of Nov. 9th. Will you allow me space for comment upon it? The article commends itself to the reader for its good spirit, in spite of the almost unavoidable failings of an earnest advocate; those of understating the opposing views, and accusing all who see otherwise than the author, of being prejudiced. The author challenges purely rational defence of the doctrine in the light of nineteenth-century science. I am one of those who, bolder than Emerson, hold the logical demonstrability of the doctrine of immortality. I hold, besides many corroborative evidences, there are at least three distinct lines of syllogistic proof. Before proceeding to outline them, I could call your correspondent's attention to certain peculiarities of scientific demonstration often overlooked in controversy and apparently not very clearly before him. All the conclusions of pure science rest on hypothetical premises, and their statements necessarily include the word "if." (*E.g.*: The first proposition of Euclid: "If one right line meet another right line, the sum" etc.) The establishment of the premises has *in every case* to depend on observation of phenomena. It would be unscientific to adopt any other method in discussing the doctrine of immortality. Perhaps I may then be pardoned for proceeding to state three arguments for the doctrine according to the scientific method instead of criticising in detail, and necessarily at great length, the argument *against* it, which is not so stated.

I give below the three arguments in the hypothetical form, and follow each with a brief comment on the premises assumed. I give the three in ascending order. First argument:—1st syllogism: If all existing organs or forces possess (or are survivals from periods of such possession) adequate functions, and if the conscious ego is an existing force or organ, then it must possess (or have outlined the possession of), an adequate function and syllogism. If the conscious ego possesses (or has outlined, etc.) an adequate function; and, if the function of guiding the physical and intellectual man through a few decades of time is a function entirely inadequate to such an organ; then the conscious ego must have a function beyond this life. (See note.)

I do not imagine that any one in the light of nineteenth century science will question the first premise. Every organ of the human body, down to the useless *vermiform appendix*, is confidently assumed by science to have possessed a function. Nor do I expect any denial from your correspond-

* "Chita; a Memory of Last Island."

ent of the second premise regarding the existence of the soul.

Further, no scientist for a moment claims that the soul is a survival; quite on the contrary, it is claimed to be the latest product of evolution. The point where I anticipate denial is as to the inadequacy of mortal life to employ the full powers of the soul. It is a matter of observation, nevertheless (and universal observation at that). No man is content with his limited exercise of function. This discontent increases with the moral stature of the man.

Second argument. If the history of all organisms is cyclical, passing though successive periods of development, service, and decay, and if the conscious ego is organic, then it may reasonably be expected to complete a cyclical history. If so, and if no such complete cycle appears this side of death, then it may reasonably be expected beyond. (See note.)

Probably no rational person will deny the first premise. True, the violent interruption of the cycle in a vast number of individuals of every species gives some basis for belief in conditional immortality. But all observation shows that the interrupted cycle is the exception (however prevalent) to the universally accepted rule. As to the third premise, that the human cycle is always incomplete this side of death; that was what Gœthe felt, Socrates (or Plato) felt, and Jesus Christ (or the synoptic writers) felt and confidently affirmed. My own belief in intrinsic immortality rests on the additional fact that the higher the organism, the smaller the proportion of wasted individuals to perfected ones, and the conviction that the soul is the last and highest product not to be wasted. The argument I have reserved for the last appeals to me as the best among conclusive ones.

Third demonstration:—If the infinite is unchangeable, and if the infinite is capable of entering into relations, then these relations must be permanent and unchangeable. Consequently: if man is capable of conscious relations with the infinite; his consciousness must be permanent. Granted these hypothetical premises, and no one, I think, can question the conclusion. It is the Argument Christ used in Matt. 22: 30. Of course it is exactly in the premises that I shall be accused of begging the whole question. It was the denial of the second one that left Emerson in doubt. They are not universally conceded because not according to universal observation. Neither are the costly and ingenious experiments of distinguished biologists, or other scientists. They are open to all who will fit themselves to make them and interpret them. All are, however, not experts, and so many have to take their premises on testimony of the expert. I shall be accused of arrogance when I claim for myself and all Christians, however humble, the authority of experts. Nor is this begging the question. The experiments of myself and fellow Christians are open to all who take the trouble to comply with the condition of the great teacher, Jesus.

Neither the late lamented Pasteur nor any other teacher could carry about his apparatus or force his conclusions on those who would not follow. Jesus of Nazareth was under the same human limitations. He spoke "whereof he knew," and gave directions for all who would try the experiment for themselves. All who "will" to do God's will can test Christ's doctrines. Darwin could do no more for his pupils. If I do not believe Darwin's premises, it is my fault for rejecting his testimony (based on erroneous observation) and refusing to test it for myself. I, with your correspondent, prefer custom-made clothes, but modesty drives me at times to ready-made clothes as better than no clothes at all. So it is with some of my premises in matters scientific. I have never calculated the orbit of a comet, but I believe some have done, and that some are eliptical and finite while others are parobolical and infinite. On the other hand, I have traced enough of the curve of human relationship to God to believe it as infinite as the parabola. If some one else has not he has every right to say so. If he confines himself to his own lack of experience I have no right to pity him in any way that implies disrespect. Still I cannot help, as an honest seeker after truth, being sorry for a brother seeker who has not witnessed the phenomena I have, and I must reject his testimony as inexpert.

Yours truly,

SAMUEL C. BARTLETT, Jun.

Note:—These two propositions do not, strictly speaking, prove immortality, but merely the power of the normal human soul to survive physical death, which answer the only great presumption against immortality, and thus serves for proof. This insufficiency does not appear in the third proof.

Tottori, November 12th, 1895.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Apropos your article on Immortality; which I have just read, I would like to state a few facts and ask your explanation of them. I am not a philosopher, I have no logic or reason to explain them myself. I am not even a physician to have some theory of physical death, though I have seen many death-beds. But while I cannot explain I can not help but *believe*: believe in a "beyond" and also in the something we cannot see "above nature"—"the supernatural," the something "standing above" which is the true superstition. A something perhaps standing above and out of reach of the logicians and philosophers.

The facts are these. My father was a godly man, that is, he feared God, walked uprightly, loved righteousness and his neighbour. At the immediate time of his death, after a long life, there was nothing especial to note. It was not even one of those beautiful, joyous, triumphant deaths which one sometimes sees when Christians die. There were no last words or blessings. A few hours before his death he had roused to greet a neighbour, saying in a loud strong voice, "I soon shall go the way of all the earth." Then he relapsed into a stupor and from that time until he died 2 or 3 hours later, there was no word or sign from the spirit. There was apparently just a physical death, the gasp, the pallor, the convulsive tremor, at first the drawn and then relaxed features, the fluttering and then the quiet pulse. There was the heart absolutely motionless. It was just like the death of any animal such as might be seen by the roadside. He was placed in no undertaker's hands, only kindly, neighbourly hands performed the last offices which mortal can need.

But an hour or two after all this, when all was done and he was lying in the calm of death in the quiet of the bright, sunset hour in our country home, there came into his face a smile, not simply a calm relaxed passive smile, there were actually little smile wrinkles on his temples such as I never saw in his life except in his happiest, most exalted moments. His face was as if he had some glad, happy, blessed surprise.

Please tell me what it was, this strange smile, where did it come from? The physical man was certainly dead. I do not understand: but was not the soul in an active, conscious state, which had not yet so far forgotten or departed from the body, but that it left its impress or a "trailing cloud of glory," in its flight, on the face which was once its window? It was not our imagination, for we were not wrought up and nervously excited or benumbed by a shock in my father's death. He had been an invalid for years and we had expected it long. His death was "as when apples fully ripe fall, or as when a ship after a long voyage comes into harbour." Neither was it only we, his loving relatives, who saw and noted that strange smile, but the neighbours saw and remarked it. By the next morning it was nearly all gone, leaving just a happy placid expression. It seemed a fitting accident, but to loving hearts a token, when a few days later as we gave "earth to earth," while loving eyes were looking the last time on the familiar face, the clouds broke and the afternoon sun shone like a blessing across the silent brow. I may have no logic or reason for it, but I *believe* with every fibre of my being that sunset here promises a sunrise elsewhere.

Yours, etc., A DAUGHTER.

THE GOTEMBA LEPER-HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Many benevolent persons of Tokyo and Yokohama have kindly taken interest in the Leper-Hospital of Gotemba. They are, no doubt, desirous of knowing the present state of the work. In answer to their legitimate wishes, I consider it a duty for me to give them the following information.

My first intention had been to address these few lines to our generous benefactors at an earlier date, and appeal once more to their benevolence, but as other more pressing work demanded help at the time of the war between Japan and China, I was afraid to transgress the laws of discretion, by adding to preoccupations already so legitimate.

The Gotemba hospital numbers at present nearly 80 lepers, about 50 men, 20 women, and a few children: 27 patients have died in the course of the two last years. Happily they had all been baptized, and they died with the best dispositions.

Since two years Rev. Father Bertrand has taken up his residence in the hospital and manages its direction. Owing to his presence everything is kept in good order. A wise discipline assures morality and economy. I dare say that, in every respect, our patients are perfectly well provided for. The most tender care is bestowed on them during life, and especially at the approach of death. Indeed, they all claim to be happy.

Some patients feel much better after prolonged treatment. Two or three have even believed themselves cured; but such are exceptions. As a rule, the awful disease always gets worse. Healthy food, fresh air, and corporal exercise heighten the good effects of medical treatment.

Such lepers as can yet use their hands, and are not suffering too much, willingly take up some manual labour. Such occupations not only lighten, however slightly, the truly considerable expenses of the hospital, but furnish our patients with an agreeable pastime and healthy exercise.

Some of our patients go to try the mineral baths of "Kusatsu." Our benefactors are, no doubt, aware that "Kusatsu" is a village situated on the mountains of "Gumma-ken." It enjoys thermal springs of high temperature and well-known efficacy. Its hotels are, at the same time, bathing establishments. The lepers are excluded from the upper village, but they are allowed to frequent the lower parts of the place, and thither they flock in search of health.

Unfortunately our means do not allow us to help our lepers, in any way, to go and reside in "Kusatsu," although it is beyond doubt that the said springs bring about in the end a marked amelioration. The mountains of "Kusatsu" are covered with snow during a considerable portion of the year; and the support of numerous patients in such a solitary place, lacking in many things necessary for life, is too expensive for us at present. Our resources are all absorbed by the Gotemba hospital.

As our benefactors may readily ascertain for themselves, the hospital prospers more and more every day, owing not only to the increasing numbers of patients, but especially to the fact that the good administration of the work has been placed on a more solid footing. I therefore venture to beg our benefactors to have ever more confidence in the future of this work, which their charity has founded, and to continue favouring us with the help of their alms.

My dear patients and myself feel happy to be able to express to them in advance our most sincere gratitude.

P. VIGROUX, Miss. Apost.

November 18th, 1895.

Note.—The offerings may be addressed to *The Japan Daily Mail*; to Rev. A. Pettier, 80, Yokohama; to Rev. P. Vigroux, 35, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

SUNDAY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I would like to suggest to your correspondent Sho Shinomichi that it may be that the matter of keeping Sunday as a holy or holiday depends much upon the value one puts upon a man, not simply the physical man who needs the recreation (which word by the way means to re-create, not to amuse oneself simply) for his body. May it not depend upon his cognizance of the needs of the whole man, physical, intellectual, and moral, and upon what he considers his highest and noblest being.

Your correspondent speaks rather lightly of meditating and worshipping, as if the putting oneself into harmony with the Supreme Being were not the highest act of which the human being is capable, and from which he may get an uplift, an exaltation, a true recreation which shall make light and joyous and helpful all other and more prosaic days of the week.

He says that "the whole of one day out of every seven is too valuable to be spent in worshipping and meditation." I should not limit the keeping of Sunday to worshipping and meditation, but supposing it were thus to be limited, what more valuable than this would your correspondent suggest that man can do? Is it dancing and yielding to the "social stress?"

Keeping the Sabbath was evidently a part of Christ's religion, why should it not be of ours?

I am inclined to think that he takes the broadest view who considers the needs of his whole being, and that he who says it is nonsense to keep Sunday as a religious day, thus scoffing at the doing so, is in danger of becoming more bigoted than he who thinks of something else for Sunday beside pleasure in a social sense.

Yours truly,

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November 19th, 1895.

AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—As I see that you, not without good reason, decline to publish any more correspondence on the subject of "Chinese Characters," I shall of course say nothing more about it. Your reason I suppose to be that, as those readers who may have taken an interest in the discussion of that subject, will have come to their own conclusions long before, it would be mere waste of space to insert any more arguments respecting pseudo-arguments. The only thing I would still beg of you, as a last parting favour, is to give me the oppor-

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tunity of publicly acknowledging the throughout gentlemanlike manner in which that discussion was carried on on the part of the author, especially as evinced in the letter published in your issue of to-day. In this respect his "last word" will perhaps have been appreciated even by those to whom the subject in itself was of little or no interest.

I remain, Sir, your faithfully,

P. EHMANN.

Tokyo, November 15th, 1895.

A BILLION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—In your to-day's issue, in speaking of the wealth of the six richest men on earth, after giving the names and their possessions in dollars you tot it up 1,080,000,000, and then say—"think of it;" "over a billion of dollars." I think you have fallen into a very common error." A billion is a million of millions, or thirteen places of figures instead of ten as you have erroneously stated. In fact there has not been a billion of seconds since the birth of Christ. MAC.

November 14th, 1895.

[It depends upon the method of numeration. According to the French system, a billion is a thousand millions; according to the English, a million millions. We follow the French, or metric, system, whenever possible.—ED. *J.M.*]

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

BY JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, October 12th.

Although the provisions of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty have been for some time under the consideration of the various Australian Governments, there is a strong unwillingness on the part of each to take individual action, and recently Mr. G. H. Reid, the premier of New South Wales, received the following telegram from the Premier of South Australia:—"It occurs to us that Australasian relations with Japan are of such importance that it is desirable that they should be discussed by a conference of representatives of the Australasian Governments with a view to united action. We will be glad to hear if New South Wales will be able to take part in the suggested conference, and, if so, what time and place will best suit you. We think the Japanese Treaty might well be a federal question, and that the influx of Japanese into Northern Australia requires prompt federal consideration. We will esteem your early reply a favour. We are communicating with the other Australasian Governments." In reply, Mr. Reid stated that there could be no objection to the proposed conference, but, in his opinion, the matter was not one of great urgency, and might be effectually discussed when the different Australian Parliaments were in recess. Sir Edward Braddon, the Tasmanian premier, replied to the effect that his Government would be happy to join the proposed conference, considering that it was fully justified by the possibilities of a wool trade with Japan. The other colonies have answered in a similar spirit, but it is doubtful whether the conference will be held before the early part of next year. Hobart will probably be selected as the place of meeting. Meantime, the question is beginning to attract the attention of the colonial parliaments, and a few nights ago, in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly, one of the metropolitan members, Mr. Hogue, asked whether the New South Wales Government had received a communication, inviting them to take concerted action with the other colonies in regard to the commercial treaty between Great Britain and Japan. The subject of the treaty was to extend the trade relations between the mother-country and Japan; and while it would be well if the trade of the colony could be extended to that rising country, he was of opinion that they might have to pay too high a price for it, especially if the condition was to be free access by the Japanese to the colony. In reply, the Colonial Secretary said that nothing had been done in the matter. Commenting on this, the Sydney *Evening News* says,—"New South Wales is ready to deal with the question on its own part, but this will be very little use if Japanese are allowed to swarm into other parts of the continent, and the inducements towards allowing them so to swarm are of such force that it is possible that a pro-Japanese cry might be raised by, say, the same sort of people as have in Queensland succumbed to the temptations to employ Kanaka labour. The Japanese side of the argument was, when the treaty was published, stated with much ability by the London *Times*, stated in a way well calculated to appeal to 4,000,000 Australians growing more wool and more mutton than they know what to do with, and raising silver which they would gladly dispose of at a fair price to the 40,000,000 Japanese, who have been silver users from time immemorial, and are just beginning to awake to the comforts of wearing wool and the joys of eating mutton. According to the London *Times*, the Japanese Minister for Agriculture was thrown into an ecstacy by learning that mutton could be produced at 1½d. per lb. He at first would not credit the good news. The Japanese, added a *Times* writer, "regard mutton as one of their greatest luxuries; they also want wool, leather, and raw sugar." The idae of 40,000,000 of people regarding mutton as a luxury is one that will appeal pleasantly to the ordinary Australian mind. But there is another side to the picture. Japan, if willing to import mutton, will probably be anxious to export labour. The 40,000,000 people who have hitherto not had mutton enough to go round must be pretty crowded, and some of them who have not hitherto been able to get mutton may be desirous to emigrate to the land whence mutton comes, instead of waiting for mutton to come to them. This view about the danger from the surplus of the 40,000,000 people is the one we have held all along, and which we continue to hold, despite the recent interestingly stated views of Mr. Villiers on the subject: Everyone knows the trouble that the United States have had, and still are having, with imported non-European races, everyone knows how almost impossible it is for a working man, except a very skilled one, to compete in South Africa against the indigenous Kaffir element; everyone knows our own troubles here with the Chinese. One great advance that Australia has enjoyed is that it never had a native black race capable of pauperising the labour market. That advantage it would throw away if it allowed a yellow race with a strong Government behind it to establish a footing in force. The evil would be far worse than any native problem that has confronted other colonies. No new market for wool and mutton would compensate for it. If Australia got tired of the Japanese it could not restrict their immigration as it has that of the Chinese. Even before the late increase of the Japanese Navy competent authorities thought that Australia and Japan were destined to become the two great naval powers of the Pacific. The encountering of the second naval power in the Pacic might in years to come be so tough a job for local and Imperial forces that it will be well to keep clear of the causes of quarrel that would undoubtedly in time arise between a great Japanese cheap labour colony in Australia and the white workers. If Japan goes on progressing, and if Japanese be allowed here *ad libitum*, the question would doubtless some day come whether they or white men should own the country."

The above remarks very fairly represent the general tone of Australian opinion in the matter, but the other side is represented in a letter published in the same paper, in which the writer, alluding to some remarks made by Mr. F. Villiers to the effect that the racial question would not arise in Australia, as the Japanese immigrants would bring their wives with them, says:—"No doubt five or six millions of the surplus population of Japan (wives included) would be very glad of the opportunity of emigrating here, but I think Mr. Villiers has mistaken the racial question. Surely it lies not so much in the Japanese being absorbed by the inhabitants of this country (although this did not happen in the case of the Chinese; who did not bring their wives), as in the possibility of Japanese emigrants flooding the country until they form the largest part of the population, and by keeping themselves a distinct and separate race, become the dominant people in Australia. Already in Thursday Island they are ousting the white population through being able to obtain cheap labour from Japan. The result of the opening up of the country, especially Queensland, of which Mr. Villiers speaks, would be the formation of an entirely distinct Japanese colony, and their energy and activity being known, it is to be presumed that where they obtained an inch they would take a yard. The cry of Australia for the Australians may seem selfish to people of Mr. Villiers' opinions, but with the example of America before us, where the question of colour occupies such a prominent place, and what they are to do with negro and the Chinaman is pressing for attention every day, and leading to the racial riots of which we often hear, it is questionable whether the suggestion that was made some time ago should not be carried out, namely, that the colour line be all round Australia, three miles from the coastline. We can see how the Chinaman has driven out the farm labourer from California, and if the Japanese ever started emigration to Australia, there is a vague possibility of the suggestion that Japan should annex Australia being carried out. I think the majority of Australians are of the opinion that the Asiatic, no matter how energetic he may be, should be excluded, and Mr. Villiers's impression that it would be well for England to ally herself to Japan and offer her facilities for populating Australia with her surplusage, will not alter their opinion on the matter. The Asiatic question is the most pressing reason why the federation of Australia should be proceeded with, in order that the Federal Government should settle the matter once for all."

The *Queenslander* tells us that "the Japanese at Thursday Island are still in a tremendous ferment over their club. They are keeping the *Torres Straits Pilot* busy with their letters and advertisements; and now the latest development is the appearance of 'The Japanese Club,' with Mr. T. Satow, LL.B., as president. Mr. Satow, it will be remembered, was declared to be an enemy by a majority of the Thursday Island Japanese. He was deposed as president of the original club—during his absence in Japan—and new officers were appointed amidst much objurgation and dust. All this ran into money for advertising, to say nothing of ink for extensive murders of the Queen's English; and at this distance it looked very much as if the sea about Torres Straits would soon be dyed a reddish-blue-black with spilt blood and wrecked ink-pots. So there are two clubs now; both fairly heavy for use in a row. Naturally the large figured advertisement of Mr. Satow's club has roused the enemy. Be it observed that one side uses very good English—Mr. Satow and his satellites have evidently studied the language to some purpose; while the other simply revels in broken-backed sentences, mangled phrases, and long-tailed participles and adjectives wrongly placed. The following is the beginning of a protest of certain Japanese against the new club:—"On the June of this year Mr. Torajiro Satow and others, assembling only several tens of Japanese, personified as the representatives to the members of the perfect Japanese Club, beyond their power and Mr. Satow becoming the President, Mr. Sakurai the Vice-President in ordinary, Mr. Hayashi the Secretary, giving the names of officers to us, had advertised this into your newspaper.' That is the preamble. If our readers will stand on their heads the meaning may get clearer. The body of the protest runs:—'Having recognised this the false Club consisted of the most unreasonable meeting, unjust election and the action exceeding the power, we have repudiated his false Club entirely by its decision at the meeting of our hundred and several tens of men, holding the special general meeting of the Club by the vehement public opinion during the July last. On that occasion as they could not endure its assaults, Mr. Sakurai denominating as the agent of Mr. Satow, Hayashi and himself together, but the decision of the aforesaid general meeting, not regarding them as the officers of the Club from the first, rejected them immediately so that there was no reason to adopt them. Under such circumstances as we could not be silent in order to preserve our reputations so that he may have to utilise something with this, we hereby have to advertise the annihilation of his false Club and that we are not also its officers.' Signed by eleven Japanese."

Here the matter ends for the present. Meanwhile both the Queensland and South Australian Governments are considering how far, if at all, Japanese immigration to the northern shores of Australia should be permitted. In the South Australian Legislative Assembly, on July 31st, Mr. Walter Griffiths, junior member for the Northern Territory, moved that no further licenses for pearl-shelling purposes be granted to Asiatics or their representatives. This was opposed by the South Australian Government, whereupon another member, Mr. Grainger, proposed as an amendment that only electors of the province should be licensed as pearlers. A further alteration, suggested by Mr. Batchelor, sought to make it compulsory that the divers, as well as the owners of the boats, should be electors. Before any decision was arrived at the debate was adjourned until this week. In the course of his speech, Mr. Griffiths affirmed that the Japanese were rapidly shouldering Europeans out of the pearl-shelling industry, and in support of this assertion the following telegram was received by the members for the Territory from Messrs. S. T. Brown, George McKeddie, and Lionel B. Treherne:—"*Re* Asiatic licenses, prompt action necessary stop influx Asiatic boats from Thursday Island. One boat arrived; reliable information received that 20 other Japanese owned boats starting for here immediately and others to follow later. Thursday Island experience shows European proprietors cannot exist in competition with these people; if no restriction same result inevitable here. If strengthen your hands all Europeans here will sign petition. Matter vital importance to the country." This telegram was handed to the Colonial Trea-

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surer, and it was arranged that he should have a conversation on the subject with the two representatives of the Northern Territory, but it is doubtful whether anything will be done pending the holding of an intercolonial conference.

Local affairs, such as the startling developments in connection with the Dean case, have largely overshadowed outside topics, but public attention has not become diverted from the possibilities of Russian interference in Japanese and Chinese questions and the probable influence of the same on Australian interests. Among other papers, the Melbourne *Age* remarks:—

"China might have gone on for another thousand years in its old groove but for the disturbance caused by outside activity. The British, the Germans, the French, and the Americans have been successively worrying about trade and about missions. Japan revived the old war about Korea with such vigor that the giant Empire staggered under the well-directed blows, and finally, Russia comes in as the one particular friend on whom China is invited to lean. No one at St. Petersburg, we may assume, would pretend for a moment that the friendly offices of Russia to China are disinterested. Large accessions of Chinese territory may not be desired just now, but evidently the constant object of Russian solicitation, the acquisition of an open seaboard, is not lost sight of. The Japanese seem to have made up their minds that Russia will not be content with their evacuation of the Liaotung Peninsula and Port Arthur, but will finally insist upon their abandoning Korea in order that the Russians may take their place. Support is given to their supposition by the recent reinforcement of the Vladivostock garrison. Probably Japan will only retire from Korea as the result of an unsuccessful war with Russia, and even then it is quite likely that Great Britain will have something to say in the matter. Altogether there are the elements of a great international quarrel in the present state of affairs in the Far East."

The President of the Rockhampton (Queensland) Chamber of Commerce has received a lengthy communication from Mr. Douglas McTavish, who has been lecturing for some time on the subject of Japan and China, in reference to the advantages of trade with Japan. Mr. McTavish says:—"I may state at once, from personal knowledge acquired officially and authoritatively, that Japan's sole desire is to become a great commercial power. Public opinion, too, as expressed in all circles of society, and given utterance to by the native press, continually urges the extension of the empire's foreign trade, irrespective of war or any other influence; and the conquest of China, or the expansion of the power of Japan in China, is of secondary importance as compared with their designs, as well as their desire, to become an influential commercial country. In confirmation of this statement, I may adduce the fact that on the 7th of February of the present year the Diet—or Parliament—of Japan adopted the following resolution having reference to the extension of Japanese maritime communication. 'As it is essential to engage in the shipping business on those important routes—namely, Australian, European, and American, in order to develop the foreign commerce of Japan, competition must be stoutly and promptly met, and consequently it is essential that assistance be extended by the Government on account of such special routes. To open at once the three lines to Australia, Europe, and America, would require an outlay much larger than the resources of this country could at present afford. Therefore, the Australian line should be opened first. The House now suggests, that based on the foregoing considerations, the Government should complete a draft scheme and introduce it to the Diet for consent.' A Bill was accordingly prepared recommending the appropriation of 600,000 *yen* per annum—equal to £60,000—towards the immediate establishment of a 'Japanese-Australian service.' Now that the war has terminated—for the present at least—and the mercantile and the business portion of the empire have time to devote their energies and attention to the development, and the extension of its Pacific trade is Queensland's opportunity to secure a large share of that trade. The geographical position of this colony gives her an immense commercial advantage over the southern colonies of the Australian group, the first Australian port to touch at and the last to leave. Japan has never been keener or more actively and intelligently alive to what the people designate 'the maritime extension' and foreign trade than at the present time." After enumerating various Australian products for which a market might be found in Japan, Mr. McTavish says,—"Japan imports at the present time over £800,000 worth of woollen goods annually, and it goes without saying that Japan is in a position—with labour at from 2d. to 4d. per diem, unlimited working hours, and cheap motive power—to manufacture successfully for outside markets. The prospects of Australian wool, therefore, in the markets of Japan, are, at the least, promising. Australia can never hope to become a manufacturing country under its present wage and labour regulations and conditions; but Australia is the raw material and prepared raw products supplier of many countries—and especially will become so of this eastern portion of the world. Australia can—I mean more especially Queensland—supply many products which Japan is now importing in increasingly large quantities each year, and in the manufactured production of which working hours and the rate of wages are not of much account, for in all these cases nature is really the chief factor. The sole consideration now in international trade, in these times of keen competition, is for Queensland to keep, or endeavour to keep, its trade with Japan as nearly evenly balanced as possible, otherwise the rates of freight will paralyze the enterprise, and prevent its expansion in due course."

Mr. McTarish gives a lengthy list of Japanese commodities for which a market could be found in Queensland, and declares that a mutual trade can be established without accepting the conditions of the Anglo-Japanese treaty, of which he speaks in somewhat unfavourable terms. "That treaty, he says," however well it may suit Great Britain, and "the island empire," would be highly injurious to any colony accepting its terms, and we must not be willing to run risks, to which we are inevitably exposed, in order to gain the advantages of the Japanese markets. We can buy with the Japanese, we can sell with them, at a distance; but their free admission into Queensland must be resolutely opposed, and every Chamber of Commerce throughout Australia should debate the subject with that end in view. This question is one of vast importance and must not be postponed to the last moment, and then some hasty, ill-advised action be entered upon. There are too many Japanese in Queenland already, and many more manifest a strong inclination to come from their romantic ideas of what they call English liberty."

THE KOREAN COUP D'ÉTAT.

In the last number of the *Korean Repository*, we find the following editorial account of a part of the recent *coup d'étât* in Söul:—

At the time of the celebration of the mid Autumn Festival a row arose between certain troops in Söul and the Metropolitan police forces. On October 6th, a further encounter occurred which resulted in the defeat of the police forces, and the following day the patrol boxes and police stations were deserted, the city being virtually in the hands of the military. The troops who were raising the disturbance are a regiment which has been organized recently under the auspices of Japanese military officers, largely out of material which had been already trained under foreign auspices and had reached a degree of efficiency. They number over 1,000 men, and were in command of Colonel Hong, who, in 1882, rescued Her Majesty the Queen amid circumstances of the greatest danger, and being regarded as a loyal adherent of the Royal Family had risen to this high and responsible position. The trouble between these troops and the police naturally gave rise to some concern, but no inkling of the real truth transpired outside the ranks of the conspirators.

The Royal Palace was in the hands of the old guard under Colonel Hyön, who, in 1884, when Her Majesty's life was endangered, had assisted her to escape in a similar manner to Colonel Hong. This Palace Guard, however, had for a few days past had its strength shamelessly sapped as if in preparation for an evil deed. Men were withdrawn from the Palace and their numbers greatly reduced. Arms and accoutrements were taken away and inferior and useless weapons substituted, and the supply of ammunition reduced to *nil*. Thus His Majesty's defences were withdrawn at the time he needed them most. On the afternoon of the 7th the approaches to Her Majesty's quarters were observed to be open and unguarded,—a most unusual occurrence. Outside the Palace bodies of the troops who had been rioting were observed moving about, and marching from place to place in the vicinity of the Palace. Though no special significance was attached to it, the fact was noted and commented on inside the Palace.

The Palace is situated in the northern part of the city and consists of a large area surrounded by a fine wall 12 feet or so high inclosing a perfect labyrinth of buildings. About one third of a mile in from the main entrance, measuring in a direct line, lies a small lake or pond, back of which is a foreign residence often occupied by His Majesty, whose usual apartments are alongside but just beyond. Her Majesty the Queen's apartments are to the east of these buildings but immediately adjoining, and have still further to the east a pine grove of about five acres. Facing the lake but to the left of it are the quarters of the officers of the Royal Guard, all these buildings are close to the western outer wall of the Palace, which is pierced by a gate 200 yards below the lake, this gate being guarded by a squad of troops.

The approach to the main entrance to the Palace is *vid* a magnificent road a third of a mile long, 300 feet wide and flanked on both sides by the quarters of the various ministries of State. As you come out of the Palace, immediately to the right are large barracks now occupied by a battalion of Japanese troops.

Throughout the night of the 7th inst., some uneasiness was felt in the Palace, for the insurgent troops continued marching and countermarching until they could be found on all sides of the Palace. At 4 a.m. on the 8th, came the first serious alarm. The cry was raised that the Palace was being attacked, and the officers of the Palace Guard rushed from their quarters, most of them to His Majesty's residence, some of them to the various posts. Nothing, however, transpired at this time, but a body of Japanese soldiers were discovered outside the west wall of the Palace in the vicinity of the Gate near the little lake. The condition of affairs in the meantime was communicated to Col. Hong, who mounting his horse, hastened from the Palace to notify the Minister of War. When Hong reached the Palace on his return he found the main entrance surrounded by his troops massed in front of the Japanese barracks. What happened we do not as yet know in detail. The Colonel ordered the troops to disperse or return to their barracks. He was fired at, eight shots taking effect, and also cut up in a horrible manner with swords.

This was the signal for a rush on the Palace. The Gates were forced, the Guards fleeing without discharging a gun, and the white coated insurgent soldiers who had surrounded the Palace swarmed in from every direction. A small squad of Japanese troops, numbering possibly 15, soon made their appearance on the west side of the little lake close to His Majesty's quarters, and before them came a fleeing rout of Guards, Palace servants, and runners,—in fact the rout came flying from every direction. An attempt was made to rally the fleeing troops and about 120 massed themselves in a small alley-way. But they were too excited and scared to maintain order or to pay attention to commands. In the confusion, one soldier in loading his rifle had it go of accidentally, and this was the signal for a general fusilade, the soldiers firing promiscuously, the shots taking effect only on their own men, 7 or 8 of whom were either killed or wounded. Soon after the appearance of the Japanese troops on the west side of the lake another company was discovered approaching along the east side of the lake, followed by the rioting troops who now made their appearance for the first time and were accompanied by Japanese in civilian dress, many of whom were armed. Reaching the entrance to the immediate quarters of His Majesty, the Japanese troops took possession, stationing guards of their own men at all the approaches to His Majesty. The white coated Korean troops were drawn up in front of the enclosure containing the buildings in which the King was present, but were excluded.

Just at the beginning of the alarm, sounds as of the smashing in of a gate were heard in Her Majesty's quarters, and later on the reports of two shots were heard, but as to what really transpired, there are many conflicting reports. But a ready entrance had been found and a mad search for Her Majesty, the Queen, began. Ruffians, probably *soshi* who seemed to have joined the insurgent troops, led the way. The report is that they seized women by the hair of the head and dragged them about to make them lead the way to Her Majesty. But the bloody work was done in one of those two storied structures where it is now admitted the Queen had taken refuge. Here was found the Minister of the Royal Household, Yi Kyöng-jik, who was cut down and killed. In the upper storey a number of ladies were found, and the first one to be seized was the Crown Princess, who was dragged about by the hair, beaten, wounded with a sword, and thrown down the stairs. It was difficult to discover which one among the women was the Queen and in the hope of making sure work four women were brutally murdered. A Palace maid says one of them was Her Majesty, and that she was knocked down, trampled and jumped upon, and finally dispatched by the sword. For hours, even days, after the shocking news reached the foreign community, it was refused credence. It seemed too inhuman and

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devilish to be true. But this hope has proved baseless and it is now, Oct. 14th, generally believed that Her Majesty the Queen is no more.

Some time during the night, the guard of the Prince-Parent (the Tai Wŏn-kun) at the river were startled by a call to open the gates and admit a visitor. This was refused, when without any more ado a window was burst in and Japanese *soshi* sprang in amid the frightened guard. These latter were overpowered and an entrance forced in to the Prince-Parent's apartments. He soon appeared, accompanied by his visitors, and the rest of the party having deprived the police guard of their uniforms, dressed themselves in them and started for Sŏul. When they reached the Palace they were further accompanied by Japanese regulars acting as a guard of honour. The Prince-Parent was then installed in power and the two following proclamations posted in public places.

The first Proclamation reads as follows:

"At present the national power is endangered and the hearts of the people dissolve through the presence in the Palace of a crowd of base fellows. The abuses of the past are being revived. The laws are in disorder and the dignity of His Majesty is violated. The government stands in imminent danger and the people are in distress like unto a furnace fire. So the National Grand Duke is returned to power to inaugurate changes, expel the base fellows, restore former laws, and vindicate the dignity of His Majesty. He returns to power to insure national peace, and to quiet the alarm of the people. This is all; so this proclamation is published. Therefore all are exhorted to follow their ordinary vocations and feel no alarm.

8th Moon, 20th Day, (Oct. 9th).

Signed—Committee on National Independence.

The second Proclamation reads:

"Nowadays low fellows interfere with the royal glory, drive away men of integrity, substituting inferiority, so that that which would benefit the nation fails on the path to accomplishment. A nation of 500 years is run into danger in a single morning. I was born of the Royal Family and cannot bear the sight of such doings. I have now entered the Palace to aid His Majesty, expel the low fellows, perfect that which will be a benefit, save the country and introduce peace. Everyone should attend to their usual affairs and feel no alarm. Those who now interfere with me will have cause to repent of it.

Signed—National Grand Duke (Prince-Parent.)

His Highness still remains with His Majesty to help him guide affairs at this juncture.

We were awakened by the report of firing in the direction of the Palace about five a.m. This was the useless and disastrous fusillade of the remnant of the Palace Guard that attempted to rally near His Majesty's residence. We hastened to the vicinity of the Palace and found the great street leading to the main entrance crowded with people numbering fully 10,000. The great front Gate was guarded by Japanese troops, and more could also be discerned inside. A surging crowd of Koreans could be seen at the far end of the great rectangle just inside the Great Gate, and among them were some Palace women. Only two were permitted to pass out and they were wounded Koreans who were carried out by their fellows. About seven o'clock the guards were changed, the white coated fellows who had by this time cleared the Palace of the old guards, taking the place of the Japanese at the Gate, though the latter remained inside the Palace.

About 9.30 a.m. as we turned into the great Palace road leading to the main entrance, on a second visit to the scene, the crowd of Koreans appeared not to number more than 4,000. The first object to catch our eyes was a Japanese coolie dragging a cart on which was a mass covered with matting. Four infantry men with fixed bayonets guarded it, while just behind marched a platoon of infantry in heavy marching order. It was proceeding towards the southern part of the city. From time to time small bodies of Japanese troops passed us marching from the direction of the Palace, and when we arrived at the Main Gate we discovered that some of them came from the interior of the Palace, while others came from the barracks above alluded to as occupied by Japanese troops. The centre and the east entrance of the great Palace Gate were barricaded; at the west entrance a double line of the white coated Koreans kept guard with fixed bayonets. A constant stream of straggling Koreans was pouring out. They were probably the last of the old Palace Guard. They had thrown off their uniforms and hidden their arms; everyone of them as he came to the Gate was seized and searched before he was permitted to pass out.

The first of the diplomats to arrive at the Palace was Viscount Miura, who was soon followed by Mr. Waeber and Dr. Allen. They all had an immediate audience with His Majesty, who was found in company with the Prince-Parent. Throughout the morning of the 9th nothing of note happened. Rumours were constantly flying about, but the Korean people seemed to be impervious to any impression one way or the other. When interrogated they said it was a quarrel of the aristocracy, some of whom were getting killed and many others were fleeing,—it did not concern the people. Yi Wan Yong, Minister of Education; An Kyŏng Su, Minister of War; and Yi Yun Yong, Minister of Police; were dismissed from their posts, and the two latter ordered to be arrested. An Kyŏng Su was found and confined to his house; Yi Wan Yong escaped. For the offices thus made vacant Cho Heui Yŏn was returned to the War Ministry, and also ordered to act as Sup.-General of Police. Sŏ Kwang Pŏm, Minister of Justice, was ordered to act also as Minister of Education. A number of high officials sought safety in flight.

The *Official Gazette* of Oct. 11th, contained the following edict of deposition of the Queen. It is based on the supposition that she is still alive, but is unsigned by His Majesty. When this paper was presented for Royal signature, the king refused to touch it, very properly affirming he would rather have his hand cut off than affix his signature to such an edict.

EDICT.

It is now thirty-two years since we ascended the Throne, but Our ruling influence has not yet extended wide. The Queen Min introduced her relatives to the Court and placed them about Our person, whereby she made dull Our sense, exposed the people to extortion, put Our government in disorder, selling offices and titles. Hence tyranny prevailed all over the country and robbers arose in all quarters. Under these circumstances the foundation of Our dynasty was in imminent peril. We knew the extreme of her wickedness, but could not dismiss and punish her because of helplessness and fear of her party.

We desire to stop and suppress her influence. In the Twelfth Moon of last year We took an oath at Our Ancestral Shrine that the Queen, and her relatives and Ours should never again be allowed to interfere in State affairs. We hoped this would lead the Min faction to mend their ways. But the Queen did not give up her wickedness, but with her party aided a crowd of low fellows to rise up about us, and so managed as to prevent the Ministers of State from consulting us. Moreover, they have forged Our signature to a decree to disband our loyal soldiers thereby instigating and raising a disturbance, and when it occurred she escaped as in the Im O year. We have endeavoured to discover her whereabouts, but as she does not come forth and appear, we are convinced that she is not only unfitted and unworthy of the Queen's rank, but also that her guilt is excessive and brimfull. Therefore with her We may not succeed to the glory of the Royal Ancestry. So we hereby depose her from the rank of Queen and reduce her to the level of the lowest class.

Signed by
Yi Chai Myŏn, Minister of the Royal Household.
Kim Hong Chip, Prime Minister.
Kim Yun Sik, Minister for Foreign Affairs.
Pak Chŏng Yang, Minister for Home Affairs.
Shim Sang Hun, Minister of Finance.
Cho Heui Yŏn, Minister for War.
Sŏ Kwang Pŏm, Minister for Justice.
Sŏ Kwang Pŏm, Acting Minister for Education.
Chŏng Pyŏng Ha, Vice-Minister, for Agriculture and Commerce.

This edict has been revoked, however, by a further one issued the following day in which Her Majesty was "raised" to the rank of Concubine of the First Order. This was explained in the edict to be issued out of pity for His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, and as a reward for his deep devotion to his father.

Upon the news reaching Japan, the Imperial Government immediately and emphatically disavowed all knowledge of and connection with these deeds. It appointed Mr. J. Komura, Director of the Diplomatic Bureau, and also one other gentleman special commissioners, to proceed to Korea and with Viscount Miura thoroughly investigate the whole matter. The two Commissioners from Japan reached Sŏul the evening of October 15th. The Japanese Consular authorities have caused the arrest of fifteen *soshi* and hold them for investigation. An exodus we understand, under the circumstances, of certain characters, has taken place. It is hoped that none of the guilty are among them.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, November 14.

The Porte is calling out more reserves, and intends to occupy every strategic point in Asia Minor, and form two columns for the suppression of disorders.

The authorities at Woolwich have ordered the despatch to Accra of material for the Ashantee Expedition.

Later.

The Italian Squadron has been ordered to the Levant, possibly to join the British Fleet now at Salonica.

London, November 16.

The Chamber of Deputies has, by a large majority, passed a vote of confidence in M. Bourgeois' Cabinet.

Austria and Russia are sending war-ships to the Levant.

The Powers are about exchanging views, and the centre of discussion will be Vienna.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAMS TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, November 15.

The steamer *Bjorg* has been floated, and, being practically uninjured, she proceeded to-day on her voyage to Vladivostock.

Hakodate, Nov. 21, 9 a.m.

A fire broke out here at 2 o'clock this morning and twenty houses were speedily burnt, including a *Kwankoba*. No casualties are reported, but many persons had narrow escapes.

Kobe, November 21.

A collision occurred on Tuesday evening between the Nara train and the Fushimi electric car at the level crossing on the Takeda-road, near Fushimi. Several passengers were killed and many injured.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Osaka, November 20.

Rumour has it that orders were given on the 18th inst. to the Commander-in-Chief of the Japanese Forces in the occupied districts and the Commander-in-Chief of the Fourth Army Division, to withdraw their troops from the Liao-tung Peninsula.

Kyoto, November 20.

The 5.59 p.m. train from Momomi on the Nara Railway, collided with an electric car on the 19th inst. at the level crossing at Takeda, Kii District. The electric car was smashed to pieces, and three passengers were killed, five severely and 15 slightly injured.

Sŏul, Nov. 20.

An armed mob has been behaving in a violent manner at Kang-hwa-do and Hwang-ju, Kyong-kwi-do.

Hiroshima, Nov. 21.

Mr. Masujima Rokuichiro called yesterday on Viscount Miura, Messrs. Yamada Ressei, Tsukinari Mitsuru, Kikuchi Kenzo, Sase Kumatetsu, and Shiba Shiro, and will leave for Tokyo to-morrow.

The preliminary examination of the suspects will conclude in a few days. Messrs. Tanaka Kenzo, Shiba Shiro, and many others will be released.

Shimonoseki, Nov. 21.

Three Russian men-of-war arrived here this morning from the west, and left for the east at 2.25 p.m. It is supposed that they are proceeding from Vladivostock to Kobe, and called at this port merely to coal.

Saga, Nov. 21.

The special session of the Prefectural Assembly has been suspended by the Governor.

Hiroshima, November 21.

Mr. Hirayama Katsukuma, who was arrested in Tokyo, and has since been imprisoned here on suspicion of being connected with the Korean affair, was released from confinement last night.

Hakodate, November 21.

A destructive fire broke out in a *Kwankoba* at Nishikawa-cho at 2 o'clock this morning, by which 132 houses, and 10 sheds were destroyed, 4 houses and 4 godowns being damaged. The fire was extinguished at 4 o'clock.

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Osaka, November 22.

Messrs. Tanaka Ichibei and Miwa Chobei have resolved to contest the election of a successor of the late Mr. Awaya Shinazo, M.P. for the first district of this city.

A report has been received to the effect that the Japanese garrisons in the Liaotung Peninsula have begun to withdraw from the north-eastern boundary, the transfer of the territory to the Chinese commissioners having been made in that portion of the Peninsula. The troops are to be withdrawn without effecting a formal transfer of the Peninsula if the Chinese officials do not arrive at Haicheng or Fenghwang by the end of this month. The troops will leave on the 22nd inst., and reach Chinchow on the 13th or 14th prox. The staff of the Fourth Division leaves Haicheng on the 27th inst., and is expected to arrive at Chinchow on the 20th instant.

Shimonoseki, November 22.

Count Inonye, Mr. Nagasaki, private Secretary of the Minister of the Imperial Household, and party arrived here at 2 p.m. to-day by the *Nanyetsu Maru*. They put up at the Daikichiro Hotel.

Colonel Cockerill, correspondent of the *New York Herald*, arrived by the same steamer, and put up at the Fujino Hotel.

Hiroshima, November 22.

The *Matsuyama Maru* and *Taiwan Maru*, which were expected to arrive at Ujina yesterday afternoon with the Guards, have not been sighted yet, and fears are entertained of their safety.

Matsuyama, Nov. 22.

The Directors of the Nanyo Railway Company have decided to extend the company's line to Uwajima.

Moji, Nov. 22.

A Russian torpedo-catcher left here last night for the east.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 203.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to K B 5	1—K takes Kt
2—R takes Kt, mate	
	1—Q takes Kt
2—Q to Q 8, mate	
	1—Q moves
2—Kt mates	
	1—Q P moves
2—Kt to Q 7, mate.	

Correct answers from Digamma, W.D.C., Omega, J.D., E. J. King, and W.B.

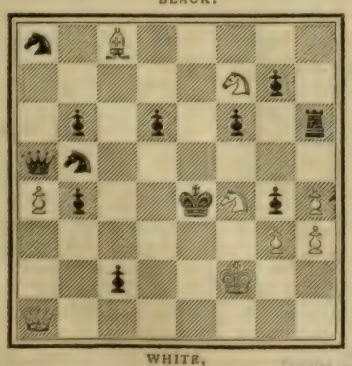
W.H.S., Kr., and others.—Your Key-move of B to Q 3 will not do. If Black replies Q to K Kt 5 there is no mate. B to Q 5 is a very tempting "try," as pointed out by W.D.C, but Q to K Kt 5 defeats that likewise.

Solution to No. 202 arrived from E. J. King after we had gone to press last week.

We regret to notice an error in our diagram of Problem 204, and reprint it now corrected. Time for solutions extended one week.

Problem No. 204.
By Karl Traxler.

BLACK.

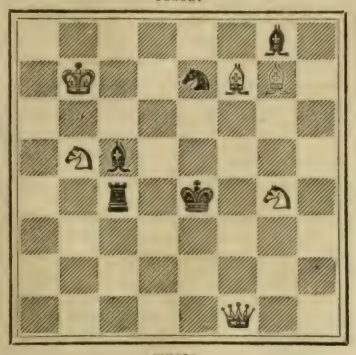


WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Problem No. 205.
By H. A. Wood.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

About a month ago a short match was begun in New York between N. Jasnogrodsky and M. M. Sterling (the champion of Mexico). We give two of the games, and look for the finals by incoming American mail.

Game No. 391.

P TO Q 4 OPENING.

WHITE. Jasnogrodsky.	BLACK. Sterling.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to Q 3	3—P to K 3
4—Kt to Q 2 (a)	4—P to Q B 4
5—P to Q B 3	5—Kt to Q B 3
6—P to K B 4	6—P takes P
7—K P takes P	7—B to Q 3
8—Q to B 3 (b)	8—Kt to K 2
9—Kt to R 3	9—B to Q 2
10—Castles	10—Castles
11—Q to K 2	11—Kt to K sq. (d)
12—Kt to B 3	12—P to K B 4
13—Kt to K 5	13—B to B sq.
14—B to K 3	14—Kt to K B 3
15—K to R sq. (c)	15—P to K R 3
16—Q R to K sq.	16—Q to K sq.
17—R to K Kt sq.	17—B takes Kt
18—Q P takes B (f)	18—Kt to Kt 5
19—B to B 5 (g)	19—P to Q Kt 3
20—B takes Kt	20—Q takes B
21—Kt to B 2	21—Kt takes Kt ch.
22—Q takes Kt	22—B to Kt 2
23—Q to Q 4	23—Q to B 4
24—R to Q B sq.	24—Q R to B sq.
25—K R to Q sq.	25—Q takes Q
26—P takes Q	26—R takes R
27—R takes R	27—R to B sq.
28—R takes R	28—B takes R
29—K to Kt sq.	29—K to B 2
30—K to B 2	30—P to Kt 3
31—B to Kt 5	31—K to K 2
32—K to Kt 3	32—B to Q 2
33—B to Q 3	33—K to B 2
34—K to R 4	34—P to K R 4
35—K to Kt 5	35—P to Kt 4
36—P to K R 3	36—K to Kt 2
37—B to K 2	37—B to K sq.
38—P to K Kt 4	38—R P takes P
39—P takes P	39—P to R 3
40—P to R 4	40—Kt P takes P
41—B takes P	41—K to B 2
42—B to K 2	42—K to Kt 2
43—K to R 4	43—K to R 3
44—P to Kt 5 ch.	44—K to Kt 2
45—K to Kt 3	45—K to B 2
46—K to B 3	46—K to K 2
47—K to K 3	47—K to Q sq.
48—K to Q 2	48—K to B 2
49—K to B 3	49—K to Kt 3
50—K to Kt 4	50—B to B 3
51—B to Q sq.	51—B to Kt 4
52—B takes P	52—B takes B (h)
53—K takes B	53—K to R 3
54—K to Kt 4	54—K to Kt 3
55—P to Kt 3	55—K to B 3
56—K to R 5	56—K to Kt 2
57—K to Kt 5	57—K to B 2
58—K to R 6	58—K to B 3
59—P to Kt 4	59—K to B 2
60—P to Kt 5	60—K to B sq.
61—K to R 7	61—K to B 2
62—P to Kt 6 ch.	62—Resigns.

NOTES BY JASNOGRODSKY.

(a) Lipke's variation; it prevents Kt to K 5.

(b) Not good. Black's intention was to force White to move Kt (Q 2) to B 3, followed with B to Q 3.

(c) Probably best.

(d) Preparation for P to K B 4, and for subsequently bringing his Kt to K 5. Besides, this is a little trap; if B takes P ch, K takes B; Kt to Kt 5 ch, K to Kt sq.; Q to R 5, Kt to B 3, and Black wins a piece.

(e) Preparing P to K Kt 4 after Kt to K 4.

(f) Better than B P takes B.

(g) Necessary to win time for the intended move, Kt (R 3) to B 2.

(h) The exchange of bishops is forced, otherwise Black's K P is lost.

Game No. 392.

Q P OPENING.

WHITE. Sterling.	BLACK. Jasnogrodsky.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 3	2—B to B 4
3—Kt to K B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Q 3	4—B takes B
5—Q takes B	5—P to Q B 3
6—Castles	6—P to K 3
7—Q Kt to Q 2	7—B to Q 3
8—P to K 4	8—P takes P
9—Kt takes P	9—Kt takes Kt
10—Q takes Kt	10—Kt to Q 2
11—Q to K Kt 4	11—Castles
12—B to Kt 5	12—B to K 2
13—B to R 6	13—B to B 3
14—P to B 3	14—R to K sq.
15—R to K sq.	15—Kt to B sq.
16—P to K R 4	16—Kt to Kt 3
17—P to R 5	17—P takes B
18—Kt to K 5	18—B takes Kt
19—R takes B	19—Q to R 5
20—Q to K 2	20—Kt takes R
21—Q takes Kt	21—Q to Kt 4
22—Q to R 2	22—P to K 4
23—R to Q sq.	23—P takes P
24—P to B 4	24—Q to Kt 5
25—R takes P	25—R to K 8 ch.
26—Resigns.	

Chess in the Colonies.

Game No. 393.

PONZIANI OPENING.

VICTORIA. Mr. Tullidge.	NEW SOUTH WALES. Mr. Jacobsen.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to B 3	3—P to Q 4
4—Q to R 4	4—P to B 3 (a)
5—P takes P	5—Q takes P
6—B to Kt 5	6—Kt to K 2
7—Castles	7—B to Q 2
8—B to B 4 (b)	8—Q to Q 3 (c)
9—Q to B 2 (d)	9—B to B 4
10—P to Q 3	10—R to Q sq. (e)
11—Kt to K sq.	11—Kt to R 4
12—Kt to Q 2	12—Kt takes B
13—Kt takes Kt	13—Q to Q 2
14—B to K 3	14—B takes P
15—Kt takes B	15—Q takes Kt
16—Q to R 4 ch.	16—Kt to B 3
17—Q R to Q sq.	17—P to Q Kt 4 (f)
18—R takes Q	18—P takes Q
19—K R to Q sq.	19—B to K 2
20—R takes R	20—B takes R
21—R to Q 5	21—K to B 2 (g)
22—Kt to R 5 (h)	22—K to K 3
23—P to Q B 4	23—Kt to K 2
24—R to Kt 5	24—P to B 3
25—R to Kt 8	25—R to Kt sq. (i)
26—Kt to Kt 7	26—B to Kt 3
27—R takes R	27—Kt takes R
28—Kt to B 5 ch.	28—B takes Kt
29—B takes B	29—P to Q R 3
30—K to B sq.	30—Kt to K 2
31—K to K 2 (j)	31—Kt to B 4
32—K to Q 3	32—Kt to Q 3
33—P to B 3	33—P to B 4
34—K to B 3	34—Kt to Kt 2
35—B to K 3	35—P to B 4
36—P to Q Kt 4	36—P takes P (e.p.)
37—P takes P	37—K to Q 3
38—P to Q Kt 4	38—P takes P ch.
39—K takes P	39—P to Kt 3
40—B to B 2	40—K to B 3
41—B to K 3	41—Kt to Q 3
42—B to B 2	Adjudicated a win for Mr. Jacobsen (k).

(a) We approve of this defence, which was introduced by Steinitz against Wisker in 1868.

(b) Inferior to 8. P to Q 4, to which Black replies with 8. P takes P (best), 9. P takes P. 9. Kt to K 4! with an even game.

(c) The right square is Q B 4 with the better position.

(d) He should have brought the Q home.

(e) Weak compared with castling, which would have given Black the advantage.

(f) Forced: any other move would give Black a very bad game.

(g) K should have gone to K 2 to protect the Kt next move.

(h) White misses his way; here R to B 5 must win at least a P.

(i) Black defends himself very cleverly.

(j) If B takes Kt Black should win by his majority of pawns on the K's side.

(k) The ending has been played with great accuracy by Mr. Jacobsen.

Game No. 394.

FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. A. Riley.	BLACK. T. Halloran.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 3
2—P to Q 4	2—P to Q 4
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to K Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—B takes Kt	5—B takes B
6—P to K 5	6—B to K 2

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Contributed by UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

7—Q to Kt 4	7—Castles (a)
8—B to Q 3	8—P to K B 4
9—Q to Kt 3 (b)	9—P to Q B 4
10—Kt to B 3	10—Kt to B 3
11—P takes P	11—B takes P
12—P to K R 4 (c)	12—P to Q 5 ? (B to Kt 5)
13—Kt to K 2	13—Kt to Kt 5
14—Kt to B 4	14—Kt takes B ch.
15—Kt takes Kt (d)	15—Q to R 4 ch.
16—K to K 2	16—P to Q Kt 3 (B Q 2)
17—Kt to Kt 5	17—B to Q 2
18—Kt to B 4	18—B to Kt 4 ch.
19—K to Q sq.	19—P to Q 6 ! (e)
20—Kt (Kt 5) takes K P	20—P takes P ch.
21—K takes P (f)	21—Q to R 5 ch.
22—P to Kt 3	22—Q to K 5 ch.
23—Kt to Q 3	23—Q to K 7 ch.
24—K to B 3	24—R to B 2
25—Kt from K 6 to B 4	25—Q to K 5
26—K R to K sq.	26—Q to Q 5 ch.
27—K to B 2	27—R to Q B sq.
28—Kt takes B	28—R takes Kt ch.
29—K to Kt sq.	29—Q to Q 7

White resigns.

(a) Up to White's seventh move the position is identical with the French defence game in the match Wallace v. Crane. The former now played 7. P to K Kt 3, which we consider inferior to castling.

(b) Here 9. Q to R 3 is to be preferred, for the reason that White can presently play P to K Kt 4 with advantage.

(c) Premature. He should have castled K R.

(d) White errs in trying to preserve his Pawn position. His proper game was 15. P takes Kt with a promising King's side attack.

(e) Well played.

(f) Badly judged. The P at B 7 was protection from attack. The K should have moved to B sq.

Chess in Havana.

Game No. 395.

TENNISON GAMBIT.

WHITE. A. C. Vanquez.	BLACK. F. J. Lee.
1—Kt to K B 3	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 4 (a)	2—P takes P
3—Kt to Kt 5	3—Kt to K B 3 (b)
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—B to Q 2 (c)
5—B to B 4	5—P to K 3
6—K Kt takes P	6—Kt takes Kt
7—Kt takes Kt	7—B to B 3
8—Q to K 2	8—Kt to Q 2
9—P to Q 3	9—B to K 2
10—Castles	10—Kt to B 3
11—Kt to Kt 5 (d)	11—B to Q 4
12—B to Kt 3	12—Castles
13—P to K B 4	13—R to K sq.
14—B to Q 2	14—B takes B
15—R P takes B	15—Q to Q 5 ch.
16—B to K 3	16—Q takes Kt P
17—Q to Q 2	17—Kt to Q 4
18—B to B 2	18—B takes Kt
19—P takes B	19—Q to B 6
20—Q to K 2	20—Q to Q B 3
21—B to Q 4 (e)	21—Q to Q 3
22—B to K 5	22—Q to K 2
23—P to B 4	23—Kt to Kt 5
24—B to B 3	24—Kt to B 3
25—Q to R 5	25—P to K 4
26—R to B 3	26—P to K Kt 3 (f)
27—Q to R 4	27—Q to B sq.
28—Q R to K B sq.	28—R to K 2
29—P to Q Kt 4	29—Q to Kt 2
30—R to B 6	30—R to Q sq.
31—P to Kt 5	31—Kt to Q 5
32—B to Kt 4	32—K R to Q 2
33—Q to K 4	33—Kt to B 4
34—Q takes K P	34—R takes P
35—Q takes Q B P	35—R (Q 6) to Q 2
36—Q to K 5	36—P to K R 4
37—B to B 3 (g)	37—Q to R 2
38—R (B sq.) takes Kt (h)	38—P takes R
39—R to R 6 and wins (i)	

(a) Mr. J. D. Séguin (*Times Democrat*) says that this variation of the Zukertort opening is the invention of Mr. O. M. Tennison, of New Orleans. It may be remarked that the Centre Counter Gambit 1, P to K 4, P to Q 4 may be similarly converted by 2, Kt to K B 3, P takes P 3, Kt to Kt 5.

(b) The tempting line of defence by 3 P to K B 4 is wholly unsound, e.g. (a game won by the inventor); 3....., P to K B 4; 4, B to B 4, Kt to K R 3; 5, Kt takes R P !, K takes Kt; 6, Q to R 5 ch, K to Q 2; 7, Q to Kt 6, R to R sq; 8, B to K 6 ch, K to B 3; 9, B takes B dis ch, Q to Q 3; 10, Q to K 8 ch, K to Kt 3; 11 Q to R 4 and Black resigned. In a match between Messrs. Miniati and H. Jones at Manchester, 1891, exactly the above moves were played except that from the last move the continuation was: 11 P to Q R 4, P to R 3; 12, P to Q 3, P to B 4; 13, Kt to Q 2, K to B 2; 14, Kt to B 4, Q to Q sq; 15, B to K B 4 ch ! and Black resigned. The last edition of Freeborough's Chess Opening points out that after 3....., P to K B 4; 4 B to B 4 if 4, Kt to K B 3, then 5, B to B 7 ch, K to Q 2; 6, Kt to K 6 ! wins (Séguin).

(c) To preserve the pawn, players may be advised to play 4, B to K Kt 5; 5, B to K 2, B to K B 4.

(d) Clearly the sacrifice of B or Kt either by B takes K P or Kt takes B P would be good. In the former case if P takes B, Kt takes K P attacking the Q and threatening Kt takes Kt P ch with a good attack left. In the latter case if Black replies K takes Kt, then Q takes K P ch., and it will easily be seen that Black must lose after Q to B 7 ch.

(e) White now gets his bishop into a splendid attacking position, and that attack proves irresistible, notwithstanding the pawn minus.

(f) This weakening move seems necessary in view of the fact that White threatens immediately R to R 3, followed by Q takes R P ch.

(g) Here the real threat is R (B sq.) takes Kt followed by R to Kt 6, a pretty finish if it had not been prevented.

(h) A very well played game (on both sides) is finished by a pretty move which leaves Black helpless.

(i) It may not be so clear that White threatens not merely to win the Queen, which is a mere detail, but at once Q to R 8 ch, followed by R takes Q mate.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Thursday, Nov. 28th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Nov. 29th.†
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov. 25th.‡
From Europe, via Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 24th.§
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 23rd.‖
From Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Nov. 27th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 1st.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 5th.

* *Evandale* left San Francisco on November 8th. † *Peru* left San Francisco on November 11th. ‡ *Empress of Japan* left Vancouver on November 13th. § *Saghalien* (with French and English mails) left Nagasaki on November 22nd. ‖ *City of Peking* left Kobe on November 22nd.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Nov. 24th
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Nov 25th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Nov. 26th.
For Europe, via Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Nov. 29th.
For Europe, via Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 30th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Wed'day, Dec. 4th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 6th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. Y. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 15th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, Dec. 18th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, R. Forsyth, 16th November,—Otaru, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 17th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Phentie, 17th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

R. R. Thomas, American ship, Nickols, 17th November,—New York, 47,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 483, Nagao, 17th November,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Lapage, 17th November,—Kobe 16th November, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,783, Morgan, 18th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 18th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pronto, German steamer, 632, Bohn, 18th November,—Newchwang, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Forfait (16), French cruiser, Captain Delor, 19th November,—Nagasaki.

Saipan, American schooner, 75, J. Kernan, 19th November,—North Pacific, Ballast.—J. Kernan.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 20th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 20th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anjer Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 21st November,—Hakodate 18th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 21st November,—Kobe 19th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, Kemp, 21st November,—Kobe 20th November, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Malacca, British steamer, 4,045, P. W. Case, 22nd November,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Nakao Masakiyo, 22nd November,—Hakodate.—Lighthouse Department.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Ekstrand, 23rd November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Musashi Kan (9), Japanese corvette, Captain T. Ito, 15th November,—Tateyama.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 16th November,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 17th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Java, British steamer, 2,733, F. N. Tillard, 17th November,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O S.N. Co.

Euplectela, British steamer, 4,100, Morris, 17th November,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 1,483, Webster, 18th November,—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Seirio Maru, Japanese steamer, 483, Nagao, 18th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 19th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,783, Morgan, 19th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 20th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, C. Anderson, 20th November,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Phentie, 20th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,183, Thomson, 21st November,—Kobe, General.—Cornes & Co.

Irene, German steamer, 1,630, R. Schnder, 21st November,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Ulysses, British steamer, 2,300, Lapage, 21st November,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 21st November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, R. Forsyth, 22nd November,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 22nd November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mofi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 23rd November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Java*, for London viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Laiken, Miss Stevens, Mr. and Mrs. Boscawen, Miss Taylor, Mr. A. C. Holder, and Mr. Goodison in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	MONTREAL.	ST. LOUIS.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	—	800	521	—	516	—	1,837
Hyogo	180	—	—	—	—	—	180
Yokohama.	169	263	—	200	—	260	892
Hongkong.	245	—	—	—	—	—	245
Foochow ...	211	5,085	1,282	1,601	—	1,172	9,351
Amoy	—	5,446	...	—	—	—	5,446
Total ...	805	11,594	1,803	1,801	516	1,432	17,951

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	—	383	—	383
Yokohama	—	1,154	—	1,154
Total	—	1,537	—	1,537

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Isis, British steamer, 1,588, Walker, 15th October,—Middlesboro', General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Malacca, British steamer, 4,045, P. W. Case, 22nd November,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, Kemp, 21st November,—Kobe 20th November, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 24th October,—Cardiff, Coal.—Langfeldt & Co.

Teviotdale, British steamer, 2,240, Gordon, 31st October,—Rangoon viâ Kobe, Rice.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 14th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 5th November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

SAILING VESSELS.

Anaconda, American schooner, 40, A. Lawson, 21st September,—Hakodate 13th September, Sealing Gear.—T. M. Laffin.

Arctic, British schooner, 40, J. B. Brown, 30th October,—North Pacific, 130 Skins.—Captain.

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Diana, American schooner, 74, Petersen, 5th October,—North Pacific, 50 otters and 5 seals.—Captain.

Golden Fleece, American schooner, 130, Hansen, 23rd September,—North Pacific, 396 Seals and Sealing Gear.—J. Kernan.

Josephine, American schooner, 16, Hansen, 17th September,—North Pacific, 7 Seals.—C. F. Fisher.

R. R. Thomas, American ship, Nickols, 17th November,—New York, 47,000 cases Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Retriever, American schooner, 75, H. J. Snow, 9th October,—North Pacific, 891 Seals.—T. M. Laffin.

Saipan, American schooner, 75, J. Kernan, 19th November,—North Pacific, Ballast.—J. Kernan.

Wm. H. Macy, American ship, 2,188, J. A. Amsbury, 23rd October,—New York 13th June, Oil and General.—T. M. Laffin.

MAN-OF-WAR.

Admiral Nachimoff (18), Russian flagship, Captain Kachiriininoff, 9th November,—Hakodate.

Baltimore (24), U S. cruiser, Captain Day, 15th November,—Chefoo.

Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Chouneur, 30th October,—Nagasaki.

Bobr (5), Russian gunboat, Captain Molos, 20th October,—Chefoo.

Forfait (16), French cruiser, Captain Delor, 19th November,—Nagasaki.

Isly (10), French cruiser, Captain Rivet, 31st October,—Nagasaki 28th October.

Olympia (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain J. G. Read, 9th November,—Honolulu 23rd October.

Pamiat Asova (14), Russian cruiser, Captain Schoukhnine, 1st November,—Hakodate.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A little business passing in staples, but nothing of any particular moment. Prices unchanged, but holders are firm and will probably be able to maintain their position in most lines. The wintry weather ought to help the Woollen men.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2 30 to 2 90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,.	1 90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,.	2 00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,.	0 75 to 0.90
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 90 to 3.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0 47½
Italian Cloth, 10 yards, 32 inches best	0 35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 26 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.45 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5 lb., per lb.	0 60 to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39 00 to 40 00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. , Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Some kinds move slowly, but the general market keeps dull. Buyers should be wanting more material soon.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.30 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	5.00 to 5.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.60 to 6.00
Tin Plates, per box	5.75 to 6.00
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

Strong market, but dealers do not follow it very readily. They have bought sufficient for present needs, and indulge the fond hope that fresh arrivals may make holders more pliable.

American	$2.10 to 2.15
Russian	2.05 to 2.10
Langkat	—

SUGAR.

Brown—Market strong at late rates and stock much reduced. White—Steady market with prices well maintained.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.50 to 4.80
Brown Daitong (New)	3.90 to 4.00
Brown Canton	3.80 to 4.30
White Java and Penang	6.40 to 6.70
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Another quiet week. Buyers are cautious, and holders begin to be rather anxious. Quotations nominally unchanged, but better could be done on nearly all lines.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	...Nom —
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	$940 to 950
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	840 to 860
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	740 to 750
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	850 to 860
Kakedas—No. 1	830 to 840
Kakedas—No. 1½	800 to 810
Kakedas—No. 2	780 to 790
Kakedas—No. 2½	760 to 770

WASTE SILK.

No particular change to note. Some few shipments are being made, but there is no life in the market.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$130 to 135
Noshi—Filature, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Oshu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	80 to 85
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Bushu, Best	140 to 145
Noshi—Bushu, Good	130 to 133
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	120 to 125
Noshi—Joshu, Good	70 to 75
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	60 to 65
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Dull Market, prices unchanged, but more or less nominal. The season is practically over, although retail order will dribble in occasionally for the next month or two.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Rates weakened towards the end of the week and close with a tendency to fall.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/2
— — Bills on demand	2/2¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/2¼
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2½
— — 6 months' sight	2/2⅝
On Paris—Bank sight	2.74
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.79
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 % p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	½ % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅝
— Private 10 days' sight.	72⅛
On India—Bank sight	192½
— Private 30 days' sight	195
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	53
— Private 30 days' sight..	54
— — 4 months' sight	54½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.22
— Private 4 months' sight	2.26
Bar Silver (London)	30⅜

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 30TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

On the 26th inst., at the Royal Naval Hospital, the wife of Surgeon MATTHEW O'REGAN, R.N., of a Daughter.

DEATH.

WARD-COLE.—On the 20th of October, at St. Ninian's, Bay Street, Brighton, Victoria, Australia, AGNES BRUCK-COLE, second daughter of the late Hon. George Ward-Cole, Commander in the Royal Navy, Member of the Executive and Legislative Councils of Victoria, Australia.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MARQUIS ITO is still at Oiso, where he is being treated for influenza.

THERE have been several small fires in Yokohama during the week.

THE coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberals is gaining favour in the provinces. The National Unionists' position in the matter is a subject of much comment.

A long-continued earthquake was felt in Yokohama on Thursday morning.

A RACE meeting at Kamakura last week was productive of some good sport.

THE Crown Prince is to spend the winter at Hayama, Kanagawa Prefecture.

OVER 500 gendarmes left Tokyo on the 26th inst. for Ujina, whence they proceeded to Formosa.

COUNT OKUMA, the Progressionest leader, is confined to his residence through indisposition.

THE twenty-third of November being the anniversary of the *Shinjosai*, was observed as a national holiday.

ST. ANDREW'S BALL, given this year on St. Andrew's Eve, passed off with much *éclat* in Yokohama.

IT is contemplated to establish a commercial and agricultural school at Akashi, Hyogo Prefecture.

PRINCE WI-HWA, of Korea, is still in Tokyo. He passes the time in visits to Government offices, etc.

THE students of the Wakayama Ordinary Normal School left the institution in a body on the 20th instant.

A BOAT was upset off Naoyetsu, Niigata Prefecture, on the 20th inst., and seven out of twenty-six passengers were drowned.

THE total amount of property now attached by the Court, in connection with the Tokyo Waterworks scandal is *yen* 1,425,700.

MR. MUTAGUCHI, President of the Hantan Railway Co., has resigned, his position being taken by Mr. Kajima Hidemaro.

THE transport *Sokoku Maru* left Kelung for Ujina on the 22nd instant with the final detachment of the Imperial Guards on board.

MARSHAL MARQUIS YAMAGATA, while conversing with Viscount Shinagawa, is said to have stated that he has no intention of entering the Cabinet.

IT is stated that Count Orfini, the Italian *Chargé d'Affaires*, has been promoted to Envoy Extraordionary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

ANOTHER attack has been made upon the Palace at Sōul by dissatisfied Korean soldiers. It was speedily put down and the ringleaders arrested.

TOKYO residents are contemplating the holding of a grand war celebration, as nearly all the soldiers belonging to the Tokyo Divisions have returned to the capital.

MR. DE SPEYER, the newly appointed Russian Minister to Korea, arrived at Yokohama on the 26th inst. by the French steamer *Saghalien*, and at once proceeded to Tokyo.

THE Miyagi Prefectural Assembly has decided to abolish the Ordinary Female Normal School, and to devote the money set apart for it to extending the Boy's Normal School.

No. 1 dock at Yokosuka, which is now occupied by the *Chin-yen*, will shortly be vacated to receive the *Yoshino*: the repairs to the bottom of the former are now completed.

DR. PAUL RITTER, acting Swiss Consul-General at Yokohama, having been promoted to the position of Consul-General, the Japanese Government has issued an exequatur acknowledging the promotion.

FIVE local political associations, named the *Kwanto-kai*, *Tohoku-kai*, *Hoku-shin*, *Kashu-kai*, *Tokai Jiusshu-kai*, and *Kwansai-kai*, belonging to the *Jiyu-to*, have acquiesced in the new policy of the *Jiyu-to* to support the Cabinet.

A PECULIAR case was before the United States Consular-General Court this week, in which a plaintiff sued to recover goods, or their value, alleged to have been parted with unlawfully by his landlord. In the opinion of the Court plaintiff did not establish his case, and the suit was dismissed with costs.

VICE-ADMIRAL ARICHI and Vice-Admiral Baron Inouye have been decorated with the Order of the Rising Sun, and the former has received an annual pension of *yen* 600, and the latter *yen* 500, in recognition of their distinguished services during the late war.

REUTER telegraphs:—The Congo Free State has paid to Great Britain six thousand pounds as an indemnity for the murder of Mr. Stokes. An American squadron is going to the Levant. Lebanon is in a restless state, and the Mussulmans in Damascus are equally incensed against the Christians and the impotent Government. The garrisons on the Dardanelles have been doubled, and a look-out and search-light have been placed on the island of Tenedos. H.I.M. the Czarina has given birth to a daughter, and both are doing well. The religious racial movement in Turkey is growing beyond the control of the officials, and the Christians everywhere in Armenia are in the greatest danger. There have been massacres in Kharput and the number of victims is said to be eight hundred. The buildings belonging to the American Mission have been burned down, but the missionaries have escaped. The massacres continue at various points in Asia Minor. The Armenian agent in Constantinople has wired to London imploring for help to end the carnage which is going on. There has been a great Arab rising at Yemen, where forty-five thousand Arabs armed with Martini-Henry rifles, have defeated the Turks three times. The situation with regard to Turkey on the 26th of this month was said to be generally improving. Armenia is quiet, and there is a better feeling on the bourses.

BUSINESS generally is quiet in Imports. Only a moderate enquiry has been made for Yarns, while Piece-goods, both Cotton and Woollen, are very dull. Dealers in Metals hold off the market, though prices are unchanged, except for Wire Nails and Tin Plates, which are decidedly lower without exciting much demand. Kerosene is strong, and there are no sellers at recent quotations. The fire in the Baku district has raised values here, and buyers, who recently had prices down to a low figure, but refrained from dealing, have now lost their chance, for no doubt Oil is wanted. The Sugar market is active, and, supplies of Brown being on a small scale, prices are advancing. Whites are in sympathy, and Refined follows suit, large sales of both having been made at a fresh advance. There is very little doing in Raw Silk, and though prices are lower the staple commands but small attention. With arrivals continuing, the stock is on the increase, and is now more than 17,000 piculs. There has been a small business in Waste for less money, and holders are desirous of moving the continually accumulating stock. Though the Tea trade is rapidly approaching the end, there has been rather more leaf taken during the past week, but the total does not amount to much. The export, however, included another shipment to the Straits. Exchange has been reported "unchanged" or "steady" most days during the past week, and there is no alteration to report at the close.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The political situation naturally engrosses journalistic attention. The rumours prevailing in the capital having been noticed in these columns from time to time, need not be again detailed. To many persons the situation evidently looks perplexing, and wears an aspect of decided mystery. For our own part, however, we find no difficulty in believing that the temporary deadlock is due simply to the Premier's persistent desire to retire from office on account of failing health. Marquis Yamagata and Count Kuroda have been consulted about the matter by the Emperor, but they are believed to have expressed their conviction that the juncture imperatively demands Marquis Ito's continued presence at the head of affairs. Such is undoubtedly the opinion prevailing among the statesmen of the older generation, and the Premier has been strongly pressed by the Sovereign to reconsider his resignation. In deference to the Emperor's earnest message, Marquis Ito has consented to return to the Capital and receive the Imperial commands in person, a promise he is prevented by influenza from fulfilling immediately. Thus stands the matter, and although the Premier does not appear to have positively renounced his intention of retiring, it is hoped in Tokyo that he may consent to sacrifice his private wishes on the altar of public interest, as he has done on several previous occasions.

* * *

Groping in the dark, it is not surprising that the metropolitan journals should sometimes be betrayed into singular attitudes when discussing the situation. Most of their articles on the subject seem to be wide of the mark, but one or two may be briefly noticed in order to show how the crises is viewed by vernacular journalists. The *Kokumin Shimbun* thinks it intolerable that the comparatively simple question of the Premier's resignation should be left unsettled so long. It advises the six elder statesmen, namely Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Saigo, Marquis Oyama, Count Inouye, Count Kuroda, and Count Matsukata, to assemble in Tokyo, and settle the matter by holding a conference in the presence of the Emperor. Such has always been the custom under similar circumstances in the past. When Count Matsukata tendered his resignation in August, 1892, a similar conference was opened at the instance of Marquis Ito, and was attended by the latter, by Marquis Yamagata, by Marquis Oyama, by Count Inouye, by Count Kuroda, and by the late Count Yamada. Why not follow the same course in the present instance? Such a step would be more decisive and better adapted to the needs of the situation than separate conference between Marquis Yamagata and Count Kuroda in Tokyo and Counts Inouye and Matsukata in Kyoto.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* censures Marquis Ito's conduct as unmanly and equivocal. According to that journal's information, the Premier secretly submitted to the Emperor his prayer to be released from office, and left the capital without acquainting any of his colleagues with his intention. He ought, says the *Jiji*, to have frankly communicated the design to his colleagues, and openly tendered his resignation. As to his motives, the *Jiji* is entirely at a loss to understand them. Some noise, it is true, is made about Ministerial responsibility in the matter of the Liaotung and Korean questions. But with the Liberals as his avowed friends and the possible support of the National Unionists, the Premier ought to feel perfectly secure. Does he, then, fear dissension in official circles? The *Jiji* is informed that there is not the slightest ground for any such fear. As to the alliance with the Liberals, that can never be the cause of Marquis Ito's resignation. Some say that the Premier is desirous of resigning, because he has obtained enough honours and served his country sufficiently. If so, the *Jiji* thinks that he has chosen a very bad time for carrying out his wish. He ought either to have resigned at the time of the condusion of the Shimonoseki Treaty, or to have waited till the end of the coming session of the Diet. Yet another explanation put forth by men that love to fathom mysteries, is that Marquis Ito is not really desirous of resigning, but that, by threatening to resign and compelling the other statesmen of the elder generation to solicit him to remain in office, he aims at strengthening his position *vis à vis* those statesmen. That theory is regarded by our contemporary as too subtle to be credited. The *Jiji* is confident that Marquis Ito is above such a clumsy artifice. Hence, after examining all the explanations put forth, our contemporary remains in the dark as before. It strongly urges the Marquis to be more frank and straightforward.

* * *

The *Nippon* severely criticizes the prevailing tendency in official circles to attach undue importance to compromise. In private intercourse compromise is an excellent thing, but in the conduct of public men nothing could be more undesirable. The statesmen of the clan Government are far from favouring compromise in their private intercourse, but in their public conduct compromise is their guiding principle. Whenever a new question arises, the first thought that occurs to the clan statesmen is how will it affect the harmony among themselves, and no scheme nor any reform, howsoever desirable in itself, has any hope of being adopted if it be judged prejudicial to the maintenance of union in the clan Government. This tendency to make harmony and compromise their first objects has been gradually increasing among the clan statesmen during the past fifteen years. It is not confined to the conduct of public affairs, but is also observable in the case of Ministerial retirements. Rarely does a retiring Minister assign the true reason of his resignation. Doubtless the motive underlying such reticence is that to avow the true reason might prejudice harmony among the clan combination. That tendency is the curse of politics in modern Japan. Public men ought to be frank and straightforward and opposed to compromise where public interests are concerned.

* * *

The coalition between the Liberals and the Cabinet, and the manifesto by which the fact has been proclaimed, continue to be discussed by the press. But we have already given the gist of the principal journals' comments, and no fresh points have since been brought out. Suffice it to say that the organs of the Opposition show increasing virulence in their denunciation of what they call the unconditioned surrender of the Liberals. The favourite practice of these bitter critics is to hunt up opinions expressed by individual Liberals in their days of opposition to the Government ten years ago, and to contrast them with the tone of the manifesto just issued. In this way it may well be imagined that ample material for ridicule and sarcasm is obtained.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi's* article on the Korean question is noticed separately. No other journal has yet discussed the matter since the occurrence of the latest disturbance in Sōul. But the course of events in the peninsula had for some time been attracting notice in Tokyo, where an impression prevails that the situation in Sōul is fraught with danger. Alluding to the precarious condition of the present Korean Cabinet, and to its conduct in connection with the affair of October 8th, the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Kokumin Shimbun* express their belief that there is no hope for the maintenance of Korean independence by the Koreans themselves. It had been supposed that the late Queen was the principal obstacle to the smooth progress of reform, and that her removal would prove the emancipation of Korea. But now that is no more, the task of reform is as hopeless as ever. The only possible conclusion is that the Koreans have not the capacity for independence. The *Nippon* also calls the attention of the Japanese Cabinet to the gravity of the situation in Korea. It notes with regret that the state of affairs in the peninsula is rapidly reverting to what it was before the commencement of the war last year. The Cabinet in Sōul is unstable, while the country is distracted by the raids of lawless depredators in various places. To complete the analogy, the people in remote provincial districts are said to be manifesting, at the instigation of the Min faction, a spirit of hostility against the Japanese. The *Nippon* fears that Korean affairs may at any moment invite the interference of a foreign Power, and urges the Government to keep vigilant watch over the course of events in the peninsula.

* * *

The Iron Foundry case still finds a place in press discussions. The affair is utilized by the Opposition papers as a weapon of indirect attack upon those in power. These journals most absurdly assert that men like Hamano and Amenomiya would have been unable to obtain a footing in society had they not been countenanced by persons in high official places and that consequently, those in office, though not directly concerned in the iron-pipe affair, must be held indirectly and morally responsible for it.

* * *

The *Jiji Shimpo* discusses in an interesting manner a question that has been raised in connection with the Iron Foundry case. Some scientific specialists have been found to be implicated in the affair, and men have begun to recollect that the corruption of educated specialists has been by no means a rare thing during recent years. It is noticed that instances of corruption are very infrequent among specialists the in administrative or judicial service, whereas those employed by private companies are not so free from the evil. Some persons explain this by saying that men employed as specialists in private companies regard themselves in the light of superior mechanics, in other words, that they consider themselves members of a class inferior to gentlemen, and behave accordingly. But the *Jiji* does not accept this explanation. It seems to endorse another theory, namely, that low rates of salary are principally responsible for this liability to corruption. Whatever be the correct view of the case, our contemporary considers it a matter of urgent necessity that measures should be taken to improve the moral standard of scientific experts. It suggests the establishment of an association presided over by a man of acknowledged probity and honour, the members of which should be kept under sound discipline, so that intending employers may know where to apply for men of good moral character.

* * *

The other questions discussed during the week are the method of employing the war indemnity, the question of railway extension and improvement, the establishment of industrial banks, and so forth. The *Hochi's* articles on the last mentioned question are specially interesting, and deserve independent notice.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE CAMPHOR MARKET.

SINCE our last remarks on the camphor trade, the market has undergone a considerable change. The consuming refineries in Europe apparently had been reckoning on supplies after the close of the campaign in Formosa flowing as amply as before the Japanese set foot on the island, and they consequently withheld their orders. The London syndicate, too, may have been guided by similar considerations, and this caused the market to decline somewhat rapidly by about 20 per cent., at which figure the Japanese would have been ready sellers if they could have found buyers. The same opinion doubtless prevailed in Hongkong as to the re-opening of Formosa's supplies after the close of the military campaign, as it was thought that supplies locked up through the closing of the ports would thus come forward. This state of affairs, however, lasted only a few days. Though it is estimated that about 1,000 piculs changed hands at comparatively low prices, yet the smallness of the offers and the timidity with which they were made at the lower rates must have convinced intending buyers at home that the prospect of large sup-

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plies in the future was delusive. The refiners are now preparing for the spring season. Local buyers, whose orders are beginning to come in, fail, it is said, to elicit offers from the Japanese, and already the decline in price has partly recovered. What the future of the market will be we shall probably soon know. As we pointed out when we last referred to the camphor market, the high prices which ruled up to a month ago have in no way increased the production of the article in Japan, while the recent decline has acted as a check on the producers. Furthermore, the reports of the speedy exhaustion of available trees gain in strength, and it seems that those who are fortunate enough to hold small stocks of camphor hold them tighter than ever and are not tempted by present quotations. Much speculation has been rife as to the probable course of events in Formosa, and it must be confessed that so far as positive information goes we are as much in the dark now as before. One thing, however, is certain—namely, that all the exertions of the Japanese merchants who went to Formosa with the object of getting at the hidden stores of camphor or to start distilleries have been doomed to disappointment, and nothing has yet appeared in this market. What at present arrives in Hongkong is limited to the production of those few Chinese who are in possession of unquestionable title-deeds and are permitted by the Japanese authorities to go on distilling to a limited extent.—*Kobe Chronicle.*

THE RECENT COLLISION AT WOOSUNG.

On the afternoon of Nov. 23rd, the *Hector*, inward bound from Japan, collided with the *Rohilla* at anchor at Woosung. It appears that the incoming vessel took a sheer and struck the P. & O. boat about amidships. The *Rohilla* has three of her plates cracked, but it is anticipated the repairs can be effected without the vessel going into dock. The *Hector* has her stem twisted to starboard about two feet above the water line extending a similar distance up, while the rivets are knocked out of the plates on the port side for several feet, and there is a hole in one of the upper plates. The *Hector* after the accident came up to Shanghai.—*North China Daily News.*

CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.

A carriage belonging to Messrs. Cobb & Co. in charge of a *betto* was the cause of a somewhat serious accident on Thursday evening. It seems that the pony, for some unexplained reason, took fright, and galloping away from No. 72, Bluff, was not stopped until he reached Yoshihama-bashi. A Japanese man was run over and sustained severe injuries to his leg.

FIRES IN YOKOHAMA.

At twenty minutes past two o'clock on Monday Supt. Morgin, of the Yokohama Fire Brigade, was called to a fire that had broken out at No. 124, Settlement. He took twenty men along with him, one hose-reel, stand-pipe, and a steamer. On arriving at the spot he found the fire to be raging in a kitchen in one of the tenements on lot 124, occupied by Mr. Engl. Nelson. The flames were extinguished with little difficulty. The origin of the fire is unknown. About ten minutes past 5 o'clock this morning another fire broke out, this time in a house at Ota, belong to Uchida Kinzaburo. The flames were subdued within twenty minutes. The cause of recent fire in the cook-house of No. 87, the Old Oriental Hotel, has been ascertained. Five Japanese beggars went there and lighted a fire to keep themselves warm. Two beggars, named Saito Yasugoro and Negishi Kakusaburo, have since been arrested and examined by the Kagacho police.

"SKETCHES OF TOKYO LIFE"

A dainty seasonable gift-book bearing the above title has just been issued by the Toraudo printing office, Yokohama. The author is Mr. Jukichi Inouye, a writer now well known to the foreign public for his exceptional command of easy, graceful, idiomatic English. The volume is profusely illustrated, both in colours as well as in black and white, and the subjects of the sketches have been well chosen. To the resident in Japan the book is very inviting, depicting as it does in a bright and attractive fashion scenes and sights familiar to every visitor to the capital: while to the larger public beyond the seas, who are ever ready to receive a souvenir from Japan, "Sketches of Tokyo Life" will be heartily welcome as an exceptionally dainty production. It is printed on soft Japanese paper from clear, fine type, and is put up in an illuminated cover. The book can be obtained from Maruya & Co. at the moderate price of $1.25.

CUSTOMS RETURNS.

The following is a summary of the Customs Returns for October, showing the foreign trade of the Empire for the month:—

	1894. SILVER YEN.	1895. SILVER YEN.
Exports	11,008,879,170	13,771,947,460
Imports	10,546,313,980	12,039,546,000

Total exports and imports	25,811,493,460
Excess of exports	1,732,401,460

CUSTOMS DUTIES

Exports	239,592,061
Imports	365,832,539
Miscellaneous	16,743,609
Total	622,168,209

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS TO AND IMPORTS FROM VARIOUS FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

	Exports. Silver Yen.	Imports. Silver Yen.	Total. Silver Yen.
China	1,137,424,300	3,837,775,880	4,975,200,180
Hongkong	1,500,446,040	727,820,850	2,228,266,890
British India	410,575,660	1,021,969,390	1,432,545,050
Korea	581,510,770	258,450,050	839,960,820
Russian Asia	172,991,310	242,407,060	415,398,370
Annam & other French India	1,703,360	48,299,520	50,002,870
Philippine Islands	5,481,070	35,364,350	40,845,420
Siam	1,086,850	—	1,086,850
Great Britain	681,505,360	3,302,962,590	3,984,467,950
France	1,853,763,040	402,106,130	2,255,869,220
Germany	233,579,510	1,101,239,260	1,334,818,770
Italy	443,824,910	1,907,560	445,732,480
Belgium	9,605,380	261,603,440	271,268,870
Switzerland	73,340,800	113,788,740	187,129,540
Austria	78,498,780	2,731,090	81,229,870
Russia	31,332,230	1,247,980	32,780,210
Holland	1,869,250	9,105,100	10,974,350
Spain	1,527,500	7,748,830	9,276,330
Turkey	137,970	4,611,680	5,991,390
Denmark	1,062,300	1,908,160	2,970,460
Portugal	—	761,340	761,340
Sweden & Norway	35,000	3,000	38,000
United States of America	5,968,938,950	568,402,620	6,537,341,570
Canada & other British America	165,127,200	1,675,860	166,803,060
Peru	—	394,500	394,500
Australia	112,369,590	53,758,030	166,127,620
Hawaii	16,080,590	—	16,080,590
Other Countries	22,110,150	31,412,950	53,523,100
Total	13,507,369,670	12,039,546,000	25,546,915,670

TOTAL VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS FROM AND TO EACH PORT.

Yokohama	8,950,444,310	5,090,827,890	14,041,272,200
Kobe	3,017,223,010	5,938,190,170	9,575,413,180
Osaka	198,141,020	293,040,000	491,781,930
Nagasaki	402,162,730	558,757,920	1,020,920,650
Hakodate	132,693,370	56,120,820	188,817,190
Niigata	588,810	3,335,090	3,923,910
Shimonoseki	136,075,660	66,666,800	202,742,460
Moji	108,677,000	—	108,677,000
Hakata	94,400	1,186,000	1,280,400
Kuratsu	12,756,000	—	12,756,000
Kuchinotsu	128,879,500	—	128,879,500
Idzugahara	930,930	1,216,490	2,147,420
Shishimi	647,320	2,250,200	2,897,520
Sasuna	440,690	1,672,570	1,513,360
Fushiki	4,020,300	5,744,140	9,754,440
Muroran	17,878,500	—	17,878,500
Otaru	300,000	537,900	837,900
Specie and Bullion	Exports 683,448,170	Imports 1,486,903,660	
Total			2,170,351,830
Excess of exports			803,455,490

VALUE OF EXPORTS AND IMPORTS BY JAPANESE MERCHANTS AND GOVERNMENT.

By Japanese Merchants	Exports	2,870,197,080
	Imports	2,732,367,750
Imported by Government		20,360,000

VALUE OF COMMODITIES IMPORTED INTO AND EXPORTED FROM JAPAN EACH MONTH THIS YEAR.

	Exports.	Imports.	Total.
January	12,704,459,990	9,862,419,680	22,566,879,670
February	8,633,963,380	8,239,136,430	16,873,099,810
March	9,638,333,280	9,939,847,600	19,578,180,880
April	8,498,406,610	9,974,473,310	18,472,879,950
May	9,740,349,470	11,021,372,740	20,861,722,210
June	10,129,046,020	10,989,848,710	21,118,895,620
July	10,564,333,980	9,396,601,750	19,960,935,730
August	16,240,954,390	11,820,847,080	28,070,801,470
September	13,299,210,350	11,509,187,320	24,808,397,670
October	13,772,947,460	12,039,546,000	25,811,493,460
Total	123,330,005,850	104,793,260,620	228,123,266,470

DR. GRACE AND THE "TELEGRAPH" TESTIMONIAL.

The *Daily Telegraph* announced on October 18th, the close of the National Shilling Testimonial to Dr. W. G. Grace. In forwarding to the foremost player of the popular game a cheque for 100,000 shillings, Sir Edward Lawson referred to the phenomenally comprehensive character of the list as indicative of the warm appreciation felt throughout the Empire of Dr. Grace's high and worthy qualities as a cricketer, and of the general love of those out-of-door sports and pursuits which serve to develop British manliness of mind and body. To this communication Dr. Grace has sent an appropriate and characteristic acknowledgment, in the course of which he says:—"To have attained proficiency in the national game has ever been a source of pleasure to me, but to be the recipient of such a recognition from my fellow-countrymen, both at home and abroad, as well as from very many not of our nationality, is an honour as unexpected as it is overwhelming, and one for which I am most deeply grateful. The expressions of personal kindness and goodwill contained in many of the letters which you have from time to time published have touched me more than I can tell you, and have, indeed, afforded me as much gratification as the practical tribute of the writers. I can only marvel at the prodigious number and generosity of my friends. I think and believe, with gratitude and pride, that I must have more than any other man ever possessed. May the noble game which has been such a source of happiness and pleasure to me flourish for ever, and continue to help to make our boys into good and manly men."

THE "GUTHRIE'S" UNFORTUNATE VOYAGE.

The steamer *Guthrie*, says the *Daily Press* of the 9th inst., left Australia with twenty-five Australian horses destined for Yokohama. Only seven reached this port. Rough weather was experienced and the poor animals had a dreadful time. One day five of them were hurled from their stalls on the starboard side over the winch, and they sustained such frightful injuries that they had to be shot. Thirteen others were also so badly cut and knocked about that they also had to be killed. The seven survivors, on arriving at this port, were taken to Mr. Kennedy's stables at East Point, where they will remain a week and then be sent on to Yokohama. The horses are the property of Mr. T. J. Burke, of Melbourne, and were very valuable. There was a four-in-hand team amongst them, also a pair of cobs, and five racehorses, and the others were of a mixed sort. Mr. Burke had received a special commission from the Japanese Government, and five of the horses were intended for the Japanese cavalry. They were of a similar class as those constantly being shipped to India.

* * *

The seven horses mentioned above arrived in Yokohama on Sunday, and are at present put up at Mr. Morton's stables, No. 118. They are fine animals, and lovers of the equine race should not lose the opportunity of seeing them.

KAMAKURA RACES.

The race meeting at Kamakura, conducted on Saturday and Sunday last in the interests of farmers and others in the vicinity owning ponies, afforded considerable amusement, and the peasants who thronged the place were no doubt considerably edified by the spectable. On Sunday a number of Tokyo and Yokohama residents, well known in racing circles, were on the ground and subscribed to several prizes, the contests for these being very keen. The course, which is laid out on the right hand side going towards the Hachiman shrine, encircles the lotus-pond, while on the left, under the shade of the ancient pines, the saddling and other preparations are carried out. A nice stand has been erected from which a good view of the racing can be obtained.

SHIPPING NOTES FROM SINGAPORE.

The British Consul at Batavia telegraphed to the Master Attendant at Singapore news of the destruction by fire of a British ship, supposed to be the *Avonia*, at sea, about a hundred and fifty miles south-west of Padang. A boat containing nineteen souls was launched from the vessel and has not yet been reported. Masters of ships passing in that direction are instructed to keep a good look out. The *Avonia* is of Windsor, Nova Scotia, 1,629 tons burden, and to third parties. The case came on for hear-

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was built in 1886. The telegram announcing the disaster gives the name of the ship as *Avouca*, but as there is no vessel of that name in Lloyd's list, it is probable that *Avonia* is meant. She was bound from Calcutta to Boulogne.—The Blue-funnel steamer *Menelaus* arrived at Singapore on the 13th inst., having in tow the Scottish Oriental steamer *Taichow*, whose piston rod broke while on a voyage between Bangkok and Hongkong. The injured vessel went to the Tanjong Pagar Dock to effect repairs. Captain Street, of the P. & O. steamer *Ravenna*, which arrived at Singapore on the 12th, reported that at 4.45 a.m. on the 10th inst. he observed signals of distress away to eastward, and standing by he stopped and communicated with the *Taichow*, which stated that her engines had broken down and asked to be taken in tow. At 5.48 he proceeded ahead to the Holt steamer *Menelaus*, bound for Singapore, and communicated with her, the *Menelaus* immediately proceeding to the assistance of the *Taichow* and taking her in tow. Captain Street stood by until he saw the *Menelaus* in company with the *Taichow*, and then proceeded on his way.—The master of the steamer *Wuotan*, which arrived at Singapore on the 11th inst. from Hongkong, reports having picked up three Swatow fishermen in distress sixty miles off Hongkong.

GAS ON THE BLUFF.

THE announcement made this week by the Yokohama Gasworks will doubtless be fully appreciated by Bluff residents for several reasons, foremost among which is the poor quality of the electric light and the uncertainty of its working properly. For private consumption gas will be supplied at the rate of *yen* 1.80 per 1,000 cubic feet, and for street lamps or lights at entrance gates the charge will be *yen* 1.89 per lamp per month. Gas stoves are said to be economical both for heating and cooking, and with coals at the present price residents on the Bluff may find it to their account to use gas for these purposes. It can hardly be hoped that gas lamps will immediately replace the wretched apology for an illuminant at present existing on the roads, but the time will doubtless come when the arrangement now in force will be put an end to unless better value be given for the money paid. The Electric Light Co. broke faith with Bluff residents at an early stage after the installation of their light by placing lamps on Daikan-zaka and after a time abolishing them, and persons who use that approach would do well to stop their subscriptions to the company until the lamps are replaced. The quality of Yokohama gas has lately much improved, and since the new mains were laid the supply has been full and constant at all hours.

RUSSIAN APPRECIATION.

THE Director of the Russian Steam Navigation and Trading Company has just issued to all the captains and officers of the fleet a printed circular embodying a report of the recent collision between the British Channel steamers *Seaford* and *Lion*. The circular calls attention to the splendid discipline, admirable obedience, and praiseworthy coolness and promptitude of the commanders, officers, and crews of the colliding vessels, thanks to which there was not only no casualty to life or limb, but the whole of the passengers' baggage and other effects were saved. After speaking in very laudatory terms of the "enlightened mariners" of England, the Director holds up this particular incident as an example to Russian seamen.

PONY AUCTION.

MR. JNO. W. HALL held his semi-annual auction of racing and other ponies on Wednesday afternoon at No. 61. The prices obtained must be characterised as fairly good for the backs and carriage ponies, while some that are likely to race fetched high prices. The prices paid were as follow:—Refugee $20, Blackamoor $76, Cœur de Lion $25, Yoshino $350, Yalu $50, Babel $240, Bicyclette $140, Tashika $65, Kinshu $25, Gaisen $260, Rastaquère $85, Varuna $50. Gem $110, Great Mogul $90, Braganza $57, Agate $75, Virginia $175, Minnesota $85, Zero $45, Cairngorm $20, Tantalus $60, Cuckoo $85, Rowena $21, Prophet $30, Abdalah $15, Nippon $50 Rokasen was withdrawn at $145, War Dance at $45, Kachidoki at $50, and an Australian horse at $270.

HUMBUGGING.

THE following, which we quote from an American newspaper, indicates the extent to which humbugging may be carried, and the tendency of some people to believe every advertisement they chance to read:—

Generally speaking, humbugs prosper in proportion to the absurdity which underlies them, and its self-evident character to a normal mind acquainted with the human system.

The following circumstance shows that it is impossible to write a testimonial so absurd as to make it impossible of belief:

The *Northwestern Christian Advocate*, of Chicago, at that time edited by the eloquent, shrewd, and witty Dr. Thomas M. Eddy, published without a signature an article headed Apropos of Ministerial Certificates, sent to him by a Western correspondent as a satire upon the ministerial certificates to an advertisement which declared that the remedy "had raised to life hundreds of persons who had been consigned to their grave by their medical attendants." This was the article, adapted in part from some English book of humour:

"*Dear Dr. Skinner*:—I am an old man, one hundred and twelve years old last September. For ninety-eight years I have been wholly unable to move, except when stirred by a lever and fulcrum. Hearing of your *Granicular Syrup*, I bought a bottle, smelt the cork, and find myself a new man. I can now run twelve miles an hour and turn sixteen successive double somersaults without personal inconvenience.

I may also state that one of my sons, a victim of consumption—on account of which he had suffered a great deal, both of his lungs having been entirely consumed—took some of the same invaluable remedy, and has entirely recovered, new lungs having been formed, and his chest having expanded twenty-one inches since last May. These results, dear doctor, I owe, under GOD, to your *Granicular Syrup*. Long may you live to mitigate the woes and assuage the griefs of your suffering fellow creatures.

"Gratefully yours, TIMOTHY STRETCHER.

"P.S.—I may also state that one of my neighbors, using a little of your *Thunder and Lightning All-Permeative Liniment* for a wound on his left leg, accidentally dropped a little on his right leg, which was a wooden one, he having lost the original member in the Mexican war. Judge of his surprise when in two weeks he found it covered with a fresh coating of white pine bark.

"STATE OF MICHIGAN, } ss:
COUNTY OF OAKLAND, }

"Personally appeared before me, WILLIAM GWYNNE, *Justice of the Peace*, the writer of the foregoing, the Rev. TIMOTHY STRETCHER, who is well known here, who deposes to the above-mentioned facts, and expresses a willingness to depose to as many more as may be thought desirable."

Some month afterward Dr. Eddy, in speaking of humbugs, informed some of his friends that he received various inquiries as to the genuineness of his testimonial, and in particular a letter from one of the largest cities in Illinois, running thus:—

Dear Doctor:—I have taken the *Northwestern Christian Advocate* since it was started. During that whole time I have been an invalid and have tried the different remedies advertised in that and other papers. I have generally found that for a little while they seemed to do me good, but afterward I was as bad, or worse, with heart, stomach, and lung symptoms, rendering life miserable. I have been much impressed with the testimonial of the Rev. Mr. Stretcher which appeared in your last number. It seems almost too much to believe. I have inquired at one or two drug-stores for the Granicular Syrup. One of them said he thought he had heard of it, but did know where it could be obtained. I looked through your paper for the advertisement, but did not see any. If you can give me the address of Dr. Skinner, or if you do not know that, if you can give me the address of Brother Stretcher, I would be very much obliged.

Dr. Eddy stated that he was at first inclined to think this letter a hoax, but, on reading it more carefully, concluded to write to the pastor of the brother, and found that he was a man of considerable intelligence in business matters, and that he really believed there might be something in the *Granicular Syrup* and the *Thunder and Lightning All-Permeative Liniment*, and had written in good faith.

JAPAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

THE Yokohama branch of the Japan Red Cross Society has resolved to send 1,000 *kin* (one *kin*=1⅓lb.) of tea to the wounded French soldiers in the Madagascar expeditionary army, and 500 *kin* of tea to the Spanish soldiers wounded in Cuba. The presents will be forwarded early next month.

NEW LIGHTHOUSE AT ACAPULCO.

THE Department of Communications and Public Works of Mexico has issued a notice to mariners which states that on the night of the 20th September last and thereafter the new light for the port of Acapulco will be exhibited. The lighthouse is on the island of La Raqueta, and is situated in lat. 16° 49′ 10″ N. and long. 99° 55′ 50″ W. of Greenwich. The illuminating apparatus is of 59 Carcel lamps intensity, showing a fixed white light of the fourth order. In fine weather the light should be visible from seaward 23 nautical miles viewed from a height of five metres above sea.

LABOUR IN JAPAN.

"HERE," says a London paper, "is a little incident which may advantageously be studied by the leaders of the labour movement of which we hear so much. A locomotive engine ordered for Japan was put on board ship in the U.K. at a cost of £1,550, and the expense of taking the engine to Japan, including duty (£77 10s.), amounted to £242, bringing the total cost of the British made machine to £1,792. That is one story; here is another. A similar locomotive was made in Japan from English designs, and in great part from material sent from England, but built by native foremen and workmen, her total cost being £1,349, against £1,792 for the engine built on this side. Now this may be the beginning of considerable change. If, as in the case of the locomotive engine built in Japan, the greater part of the material was exported from this country, and then handled by native labour at so great an economy of money, it is possible that this movement may be carried very much further, and it is one to which workmen should give their attention."

NEWS BY THE CANADIAN MAIL.

THE retiring Lord Mayor, Sir Joseph Renals, has been greatly criticised for giving an official banquet to Mr. Barney Barnato, the ex-circus tumbler, but now a multi-millionaire.—The U.S. elections up to the 7th inst. show that the Republicans are winning. The Republican State ticket has been elected in New York with a net gain of 20,000 votes. The new assembly will contain 99 Republicans and 51 Democrats: the Senate 35 Republicans and 14 Democrats and Independents.—Durrant has been convicted at San Francisco of murder in the first degree.

NAVAL NEWS.

H.M.S. *Porpoise* arrived at Hongkong from Yokohama on Wednesday, Nov. 13th, to make good defects. She will dock at Kowloon, coal, and take in stores. The flagship *Centurion* left Hongkong at 9 o'clock on Nov. 14th for Singapore and will return about the 8th December. H.M.S. *Pique* was inspected by the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Buller, on the 12th. She is coming to Japan. H.M.S *Undaunted* is expected to sail from Hongkong about the 19th or 20th inst. for Singapore, where she relieves the *Mercury*.

STOWAWAY WOMEN AT NAGASAKI.

THE Nagasaki *Shipping List* of November 23rd, says that Captain Schuldt, of the *Tai Yick*, discovered on November 21st no less than fourteen Japanese women stowed away on board that vessel, which was to leave for Vladivostock on the 23rd. They were found in various parts of the ship, and in one place no less than three were found in a large packing case. The matter was reported to the police, and the women, as well as a man who had been instrumental in "shipping" them, were taken into custody.

THE ITALIAN MINISTER.

TO-DAY'S *Official Gazette* says that Count Orfini, Italian *Chargé d'Affaires*, who has been promoted to Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, proceeded to the Palace yesterday to present his credentials to H.I.M. Emperor.

CORONATION OF THE SULTAN OF JOHORE.

THE coronation of the new Sultan of Johore, His Highness Ibrahim, took place on the 2nd inst. The Governor of the Straits and the heads of departments attended the ceremony and H.M.S. *Mercury* lay in the Strait.

J. DICKSON V. F. W. HOPPS.

AN action was heard in the U.S. Consular-General Court on Tuesday last, wherein the plaintiff claimed from defendant the sum of $425.24, alleged to be due for certain goods and fixtures wrongfully delivered by defendant

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ing on Saturday last, but was adjourned for the purpose of a further deposit of security for costs. On Tuesday evidence was heard from both sides, and the Court decided that plaintiff had not proved his claim, the action being consequently dismissed with costs.

THE RECENT COLLISION NEAR URAGA.

SUIT has been commenced in H.B.M. Court by the master and owner of the *W. H. Macy*, Captain Amesbury, to recover damages for loss sustained in the recent collision with the British steamer *Isis*, in Uraga Channel, on October 15th. Damages are fixed at $80,000.

THE "STRATHNEVIS."

ALTHOUGH the *Empress of India*, which arrived Monday, brought no news of the *Strathnevis*, now over 40 days out from Tacoma for Yokohama, hopes should not be abandoned. The *Empress* packets take a more northerly course to that on which the *Strathnevis* may be presumed to have drifted. The *Evandale* may perhaps bring us news of the anxiously awaited vessel.

SILK SHIPPERS PER STEAMER "HOHENZOLLERN."

	Raw. Italy.		Waste. Switz.
Siber, Brennwald & Co.....	15	.....	—
Sieber & Co.....	30	.....	—
Dell'Oro & Co.....	—	.....	281
Bavier & Co.....	—	.....	50
Total	45	.....	331

MARRIAGE ENGAGEMENT.

WE have received an announcement of the approaching marriage of Mr. Hermann Kessler, representative in Japan of Messrs. Siemens and Halske of Berlin, with Miss Hedwig Henle, sister of Mrs. Grasmann, who left Japan last June after several years' residence.

DR. E. BAELZ DECORATED.

ON WEDNESDAY'S *Official Gazette* states that Dr. E. Baelz, of the Medical College in the Imperial University, was decorated by the Japanese Government with the Second Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure on the 22nd inst.

THE ACCIDENT TO THE "EDGAR'S" BOAT.

We have learned from a gentleman who has just returned from Korea, who conversed with several eye-witnesses of the sinking of the *Edgar's* boat, some particulars of the nature of the accident. It appears that the boat was rowed from the shore, but slow progress was made on account of the high choppy sea, and wind, which came in strong puffs. It was then attempted to hoist the sail, but before this could be effected and the sheet got home and way got upon the craft, a strong gust overset her and she filled and sank through the height of the waves produced by a strong wind against tide. Assistance was immediately sent from an American man-of-war in her steam pinnace, but before this boat could reach the struggling seamen something went wrong with her machinery and she came to a stop, her crew being placed in the terrible position of seeing men drown before their eyes without being able to render the smallest assistance. The *Edgar's* boat has not been found nor any bodies recovered, which is probably due to the strong run of the tide at this place.

The *Hongkong Daily Press* has the following:—

The Commodore at Hongkong received the following telegram respecting the accident to the *Edgar's* pulling launch at Chemulpo, whereby forty-eight men were drowned:—

Landed for drill under the Gunnery Lieutenant.—Weather being quite fine at the time, started pulling back, but the tide being strong anchored and made sail, double reefs. About this time wind and sea increased, but no danger was anticipated in proceeding. Boat ran under and filled seven cables from ship. Prompt assistance was rendered, and twenty-three men were saved."

NAMES OF THE DROWNED.

The following list gives the names of those who were drowned:—

Gunnery Instructor—Bailey.
Second Class Petty Officers—Elton, Rieb.
Leading Seamen—Gilding, Cook.
Signalman—Burtenshaw.
Able Seamen and Ordinary Seamen—Chapman, Kay, Lininord, Fancott, Sobey, Gregory, Jennings, Johns, Hearle, Bowden, Hancock, Smith, Harrington, Nash, Murray, Devlin, Mahony, Manning, Sibley, Long, Greasley, Doran, Martyn, Black, Cook, Davies, Andrews, Harland, Gough, Avery, Webb, Moss, Cuttings, Pettit, Wille, Drake, Cunnington.
Boys—Twidale, Pratt, Hathway, Brown.
Bugler, R.M.L.I.—Warren.

The following extract from a letter written by the Captain of the *Alger*, dated November 19th, has been kindly placed at our disposal:—"Last Wednesday, the day of my departure for Söul, there blew, from 11 o'clock in the forenoon, a strong breeze which, being in the opposite direction to the current, produced a heavy sea and caused the loss of the *Edgar's* boat. The latter, having started in the morning with 71 men for musketry and gun practice, set out to return to the ship toward mid-day. She had the wind astern (her foresail being double-reefed), and the current against her, when, at a distance of 500 or 600 mètres from us, she sunk on an even keel. Three of our boats were immediately launched and arrived first at the scene of the catastrophe, but they were able to save only 9 sailors and an officer, whom they brought to the *Alger*, where they were taken care of all the afternoon. A Russian steam-launch saved a dozen. In brief, out of 71 officers and sailors that the boat contained, 48 were drowned, the 2 officers and 2 midshipmen being saved. Captain Henderson had gone to pass the day at Kanghoa. He came to thank me for saving and taking care of his men."

LAWN-TENNIS HANDICAP IN TOKYO.

A lawn-tennis handicap (doubles) was played on the 21st instant in Tokyo for prizes given by Captain and Mrs. Brinkley. Special interest attached to the contest, as it was the first played on a gravel court with back walls. Owing to various causes only six couples entered. The drawing and the handicapping were as follow, the games being 25 up:—

CLASS I.

Mr. Lowther
Miss Lowther
Mr. Paget
Miss Dening
..... Scratch.

CLASS II.

Mr. T. H. James
Miss Divers
Capt. Brinkley
Mrs. Pownall
..... Receive 7.

CLASS III.

Mr. Trevithick
Miss Tuck
.....Receive 10.

CLASS IV.

Mr. Vieugué
Miss Palmer
.....Receive 15.

Play commenced at 9.30 a.m. in beautiful weather, which continued throughout the day. The results were as follow:—

	Place.	Total Points.	Games Won.
Mr. Lowther..... Miss Lowther	1	125	5
Mr. Paget ..... Miss Dening	2	119	3
Captain Brinkley ..... Mrs. Pownall	3	114	4
Mr. Trevithick ..... Miss Tuck	4	113	1
Mr. Vieugué ..... Miss Palmer	5	105	1
Mr. T. H. James ..... Miss Divers.....	6	104	1

RECEIPTONS AT THE FRENCH LEGATION.

We are asked to state that Madame Harmand will be at home on Thursdays, from 3 p.m., commencing from the 5th of December.

MARQUIS ITO.

Concerning the condition of Marquis Ito, who, as already stated in these columns, is suffering from influenza, the following note appears in the *Nichi Nichi*:—"On the 25th inst. the Premier's condition retrograded slightly. In the morning he felt a chill, and at noon, his temperature was 37.7° C., his pulse 84, and his inspirations were 22. At 3 p.m., the temperature rose to 38°, and the pulse to 88, the inspirations remaining unchanged. Three hours later, the temperature fell to 37°, the pulse to 80, and the inspirations to 20. On that day the Marquis had a slight headache and a sense of weariness, but his bronchitis showed no sign of becoming worse, neither was there any indication of complications. On the following day (26th) he did not feel well, but his condition showed no particularly remarkable symptoms. That day he was examined by Dr. Ito, who had been sent down by the special order of the Emperor. Dr. Baron Hashimoto also saw the patient. The Marquis has since gradually improved, so that it is hoped that he may be able soon to return to the capital."

FOOT BINDING.

There has been so much discussion about the effects really produced by foot-binding and the pain it inflicts, that much interest attaches to the following address, delivered by Dr. J. H. McCartney at a meeting held in Chung-king, for the purpose of forming a branch of the Tien Tsu Hui, or Anti-Foot-binding Society:—

Dr. McCartney said that from his position as surgeon in the hospital he was constantly brought into contact with cases of injury from foot-binding. Many people imagined that there was no harm in foot-binding but, as a matter of fact, not only was a cruel injury done to the foot by this practice, but it resulted in many cases of female complaints which would not otherwise have occurred: no portion of the body could be cut off from the general circulation without ultimately inducing gangrene, and binding the feet certainly arrested the flow of the blood. As an illustration, he might mention one case in which he was called into a little girl. When he removed the binding he found both feet hanging by the tendons only, with gangrene extending above the ankles. Immediate amputation was at once necessary, but the unfortunate child will have to go through life without feet. The mother of the child was a confirmed opium-smoker, and her indifference had led to the result indicated. The two greatest curses in China were opium-smoking and feet-binding. Another case was an unmarried woman who had paralysis in both legs. She was treated by removing the bandages on her feet, by massage, and electric current. In less than a month she was able to walk. Her trouble was caused by nothing more or less than foot-binding. The Chinese know nothing of the physiology and anatomy of the human body, and this ignorance caused untold suffering to the women and children in China, and had nothing to recommend it but the dictates of a senseless fashion. In the case of foot-binding the women literally walk upon the great toe, or digital end of the metatarsal bone. Women with small feet are unable to stand still, but are continually swaying and taking short steps, like a person on tiptoe. He defied any Chinaman to tell him that there was not great pain and discomfort attending foot-binding. Chinese women were disinclined to confess pain. To do so would be *pu hao i-sözi*. Perhaps not many present had seen a deformed foot. The toes were turned in towards the sole, except the great toe, which was used to support the whole weight of the body. There was a space like that between the closed fingers and the ball of the thumb. This space did not touch the shoe and was consequently soft and tender. Perspiration gathered there and unless kept extremely clean, eczema would result and finally ulceration and mortification. He had had several cases of double amputation. From the time the feet were bound until death, they caused pain and were liable to disease. Not only did these serious local troubles exist but others occurred in the internal organs and in many cases affected the offspring. He had not the least hesitation in making this statement. He could not bring details before a meeting such as that, but he had cases in the hospital at the present moment, by which he could prove its truth. Moreover, foot-binding had a deleterious effect upon mental development. The unbound girls in the school were the brightest and happiest; they had no torturing pain to distract them, and would make superior wives and mothers. Any interference with the physiological functions of the human body was the cause of a pathologic condition, and in tracing the etiology of disease the custom of binding the feet was found to be a considerable factor.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

NOVEMBER 23RD.

That Marquis Ito has tendered his resignations seems to be incorrect, so far as the form is concerned. But it appears to be a fact that the Premier has orally made known to the Emperor his prayer to be released from official responsibilities. Indeed such a wish was expressed by him immediately after the conclusion of peace. It is believed, however, that on the 12th instant the Marquis renewed his request to His Majesty in a more serious and pointed manner. After his audience with the Emperor on that day, Marquis Ito, says rumour, attended the Cabinet but did not tell his colleagues anything about his intention of resigning. The same evening he went to Oiso, where he is still staying. After his departure from the capital, his colleagues began to suspect that something was wrong, and requested Baron Suyematsu to visit the Premier and sound his views. The Baron's visit made it plain that the Premier was bent upon resignation. This led, on the one hand, to the going of Mr. Shirane to Oiso, and, on the other, to great excitement among the Liberal leaders, some of whom at once repaired to the same place. As to whether the united remonstrances of his colleagues and the Liberals have prevailed upon Marquis Ito to reconsider his intended step, opinions differ, and for the present people evidently find it difficult to know what to believe. There is an impression, however, that the upshot of the crisis will be the appointment of Marquis Yamagata to the Premiership as Marquis Ito's successor, that the Yamagata Cabinet will have the support of both the National Unionists and the Liberals, and that Marquis Ito will render assistance to the Premier from without as the leader of the Liberal Party. This idea, too, must be received with caution.

We have already reproduced a note from the *Nichi Nichi* announcing the revival of close relations between the Cabinet and the National Unionists. The news is denied by the organ of that party, the *Chuo Shimbun*, which, in confirmation of its position, publishes a letter from Viscount Shinagawa. The epistle runs as follows:—

To the Editor of the *Chuo Shimbun*. SIR,—To-day being the thirty-seventh anniversary of the death of my master Sho-in (Yoshida Torajiro), I was reading his works before his picture hanging in the alcove of my house, when a certain visitor entering the room, asked me, in a tone of some excitement, whether I had seen this morning's *Nichi Nichi*. I told him that I had not, whereupon he informed me that it had announced an alleged coalition between the Cabinet and the National Unionists. The *Nichi Nichi's* statement, I may assure you, is most inopportune and ridiculous. At present the *Naikaku Maru* is being tossed now this way and now that, uncertain how to steer its course through the dangerous waters in which it is floating. To increase its difficulties its captain is on leave at Oiso on account of indisposition, and endless discussions are going on as to whether or not he has tendered his resignation because of inability to steer the ship of which he is captain. Under these circumstances, I am not foolish enough to imitate the example of the Liberals and offer myself as a servile tool of the Cabinet. Whoever may enter the Cabinet, it is not to be expected that things will be conducted in a manner entirely satisfactory to the National Unionists. I am, however, incapable of the baseness of forcing the National Unionists into a pit by converting myself into a blind follower of the Government. Fearing that the members of the Party in remote localities may be misled by the official organ, I beg you to insert this in your columns. Yours, etc.

Commenting on this subject, the *Chuo* remarks that, "should the Cabinet be really devoted to the interests of the country in co-operation with the Liberals, and should its policy be identified with that of our Party, then we would not hesitate to assist it; but should things turn out otherwise, we would not scruple to be foremost in attacking it." It thus appears that the attitude of the National Unionists is still dubious.

On the 20th instant, the Liberals of the North-Eastern Provinces, now staying in Tokyo, assembled in the Manyasu restaurant in Kobikicho. There were present Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Yamashita Chiyoo, Shigeno Kenjiro, Sato Shozo, Sugawara Tsutan, and about twenty others. They resolved to revive the North-Eastern League of Liberals. It is reported that perfect harmony prevailed at the conference, all present being evidently satisfied with the course pursued by the leaders of the Party.

Count Inouye's return is expected with a great deal of curiosity. Concerning his position in the political world, the *Hochi Shimbun* writes in an interesting but disparaging manner. His return, says our contemporary, is not likely to affect the political situation one way or another, for his political capacity is not half so great as is generally supposed by men that do not know him intimately. But he is pre-eminently noted for persuasive eloquence,—an accomplishment that the embarrassed Premier is now desirous of enlisting in his favour. However skilful the Count may be in the art of persuasion, the *Hochi* doubts very much whether he will venture to apply his gift to the hopeless task of extricating his friend from the present dilemma.

NOVEMBER 26TH.

An impression prevails in well-informed circles in Tokyo that there is now a fair hope of Marquis Ito's remaining in office. Marquis Yamagata, it is believed, has declined to enter the Cabinet at present, and no other person suitable for the post of Minister President being forthcoming, the Premier has decided to reconsider his intended step. The issue of the Liberal Manifesto at a date somewhat earlier than that originally indicated, is believed by some to be an additional proof that Marquis Ito is not about to leave office for the present at all events, the evident presumption being that the existence of the coalition with the Liberal Party depends upon his remaining in the Cabinet. To us it seems, however, that, even though he should resign—which, as we have stated, seems improbable—care would be taken to preserve intact the new relations between the Cabinet and the Liberal Party. If Count Matsukata came in, we might expect a coalition not with the Liberals but with the Progressionists. Under present circumstances, however, there seems to be little reason to anticipate his resumption of office. As to the rest of the elder statesmen, not even excluding Count Kuroda and Count Inouye, there is no reason to think that their advent to power would affect the arrangement with the Liberals. From the fact that Count Kuroda held office with Count Okuma some years ago, people seem to believe that should the former become Minister President, he would once more invite the Progressionist leader to accept a portfolio. But Count Kuroda is understood not to be averse to the Liberal alliance. Personally, too, he is at least as friendly with Count Itagaki as with Count Okuma. With regard to Count Inouye, it is true that the Liberals did not behave at all courteously toward him in the sixth session of the Diet. But there is no personal unfriendliness between him and the leaders of the *Jiyu-to*. Moreover, his strong public spirit and his close friendship with Marquis Ito and Count Mutsu, induce us to believe that he will not be unfavourably disposed to the Liberal Alliance. Thus, under present circumstances, whatever may happen there seems to be little likelihood of the political combination just announced being seriously endangered.

As to the attitude of the provincial members of the Liberal Party, there appears to be no necessity to modify the statement we recently made that they are unanimously in favour of an understanding with the Ministry. There are five local Liberal combinations, namely, the *Kwan-to Kai*, the *Kwansai Kai*, the *Tohoku Kai*, the *Hokushin-Hasshu Kai*, and the *Tokai-Juisshu Kai*. Of these three have already declared themselves in favour of the policy pursued at head-quarters. The other two are to hold a conference in a few days, and it is well known that they will adopt resolutions to the same effect. Even the Liberals of Echigo, who recently manifested a refractory tendency, are stated to be satisfied with the Manifesto just published. It is, consequently, believed that the numerical strength of the Liberal Party in the Diet will not be in the least affected by its coalition with the Cabinet.

NOVEMBER 28TH.

Count Inouye's delay in returning to Tokyo excites some impatience in the political world. Arriving in Kobe at midnight on the 24th inst., he proceeded to Kyoto in the afternoon of the following day, accompanied by Governor Utsumi of Osaka and Governor Furusawa of Nara. It is believed that the object of his journey to Kyoto was to confer with Count Matsukata on the political situation. A Kobe telegram, published in the *Nichi Nichi*, states that probably Count Inouye will stay in Kyoto and Kobe for some time, so that his arrival in Tokyo will not be before the end of the present month. The members of his suite, except his police guard, have all returned to the capital.

The monthly periodical (*Toho*) of the *Jiyu-to*, just issued, contains the following note:—"It is the avowed purpose of the Liberal Party to be guided in its conduct by constitutional principles, and to devote itself to the upholding of the constitutional system. In pursuance of that purpose we have just formed an alliance with those in power, in order to solve problems that have been brought into prominence by the recent war with China, thereby placing the country in a state of preparation for any turn that events abroad may take. Should the majority in the Diet refuse to approve our policy, an appeal will be made to the country, and we shall abide by whatever verdict the constituencies may be pleased to pronounce." Commenting on this note, the *Nichi Nichi* remarks that the Cabinet Ministers may not be able at the present moment to admit any necessity for dissolving the House of Representatives in the coming session, but that should the important measures introduced officially be rejected by the Diet, an appeal to the people will be the unavoidable consequence.

The Liberal Party's monthly periodical contains also the following note about the National Unionists:—"The National Unionists are manly politicians. They are not to be spoken of in the same breath with pick-pocket politicians that perpetually delight to act in a crooked and hypocritical manner, and are even given to womanly jealousy and envy. We had once the pleasure to encounter the National Unionists as political opponents, and we then recognized in them worthy adversaries. Now that no true patriot can be indifferent to the country's urgent call for the carrying out of various measures nationally important in view of the present situation, we are glad to learn that the National Unionists have decided to follow the same policy as ourselves. We call upon all lovers of the country to join in promoting the national interests."

In spite of the above statement, the National Unionist organ, the *Chuo*, continues to deny that any understanding has been effected with the Ministry. At the same time, it studiously avoids discussing the situation. Our impression is that opinions are divided among the members of the Party, and that the section immediately connected with the *Chuo* is disposed to defer declaring for either side as long as possible.

The Imperial News Agency of Tokyo is responsible for a report that Count Kuroda has consented, or is disposed to consent, to succeed Marquis Ito as Premier. He has, it is true, been approached on the subject, but according to our information, there seems to be little hope of his assuming the direction of affairs. The report appears to be a mere conjecture.

NOVEMBER 29TH.

Concerning the result of Viscount Hijikata's recent mission to Marquis Ito at Oiso, by command of the Emperor, contradictory rumours are circulated, some to the effect that the Premier positively declined to reconsider his resignation, and others in the sense that he returned a favourable answer. The best authority states that the Premier, while persist-

ing in his wish to be released from office, was so far touched by the Imperial message that he agreed, as soon as his physical condition should permit, to come back to the capital and wait on His Majesty. Hopes are entertained that he may finally consent to remain at the head of the Cabinet.

Much has already been written about the peculiar situation of the National Unionists. Their official organ, the *Chuo*, continues to deny that they have entered into an alliance with the Cabinet. Strictly speaking, our contemporary is no doubt right in contradicting the rumour. But there seems to be no doubt that the relations of the National Unionists with those in power are friendly. In view of an easily understood contingency, the National Unionists are probably anxious to preserve their apparent independence as long as possible. That contingency is the coming into power of their leaders in coalition with the Progressionist Party, in which event they might hope for a principal share of the "spoils." But anything of the kind seems at present as extremely improbable. The National Unionists will have to support the present Cabinet in opposition to the Progressionists and their allies.

A singular article in the *Choya Shimbun* throws some light upon the present attitude of the National Unionists. That journal, though not an avowed organ of the Party, is understood to be in strong sympathy with it. The tone of the article is certainly that of a regular organ explaining the situation of its party. It ridicules the fuss made about alleged friendliness on the part of the National Unionists toward the Cabinet. Their attitude, it says, has been friendly to the present Cabinet ever since the time of its organization. Unlike the Progressionists and others, they know how to distinguish policy from personalities. They will be ready to support the Military and Naval Bills in the next Diet, provided that the proposed measures are sufficiently extensive in scope. As to the question of the so-called "Ministerial responsibility," the National Unionists recognise the great unwisdom of sacrificing important national measures on the altar of party squabbles. From these statements we are led to infer that the National Unionists, though not, perhaps, entering into any definite understanding with the Government, will, on the whole, support it in the coming session of the Diet.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes with apparent confidence on the subject, but the gist of what it says is practically identical with the above, namely, that the National Unionists, while not pledging themselves to any definite alliance with the Government, will vote with it not only against any attempt to condemn it on account of the Liaotung or Korean question, but also in support of its important bills. Hence the *Jiji* concludes that the Cabinet will find itself supported by fully 170 members of the Lower House next session.

There is a rumour that the members of the House of Peers belonging to the association called the *Kenkyu-kai*, who have hitherto been the principal supporters of the Cabinet in the House, are opposed to the Liberal alliance. They are said to be consistent advocates of the theory of the Cabinet's keeping aloof from parties, and to be consequently indignant at what they call the apostasy of the Ministers of State. The rumour adds that this section of the Upper House will declare against the Cabinet in the next session, but such a conjuncture may be regarded as extremely improbable.

Now that the Liberal Party is in alliance with the Cabinet, and the co-operation with the National Unionists is more than probable, there there is no apparent reason why the various sections of the Opposition should not combine into a genuine political association. The subject, it is said, will be discussed so soon as the members of the Diet belonging to these sections shall have assembled in Tokyo.

As to the starting of a party organ in Tokyo by the Liberals, it is stated that the *Mesamashi* will be utilized for the purpose under the new name of either the *Tokyo Shimbun* or the *Aikoku*, the editor being Mr. Ebara Soroku. The first number is expected to appear on the 15th of December. It is a singular circumstance that the Liberal Party have hitherto been very unfortunate in journalism. They have never succeeded in producing a creditable sheet. In that respect, they are markedly inferior to the Progressionists.

"CENT. PER CENT."

It is plain that if a writer desires to discuss any question fairly on its merits, he will not think of publishing his arguments in a newspaper different from that containing the arguments of his opponent. "Cent. per Cent." is a writer without any consciousness of that elementary principle of honest controversy. He persistently attacks us in the correspondence columns of a local contemporary. Such a breach of the rules of ordinary courtesy and fairplay should disqualify him to be noticed. But for the sake of the subject in question, we refer to his latest letter, reproducing it in order that he may not himself suffer by the disingenuousness that he habitually employs against others :—

> The *Japan Daily Mail* publishes this morning an extract from the *Spectator*, commenting upon the greatly increased out-put of gold during the last twenty five years, which the Editor describes as "an interest-paragraph"—"by way of sequel to what we recently wrote on the subject."

It is also a "sequel" and something more, to the oft repeated assertion made in the same columns, of the insufficient and gradually decreasing supply of the yellow metal; one of the strong points of the bimetallists. It is also a "sequel" and something more, to the confident utterances of the great Austrian geologist, upon which, some few months ago, the Editor of the *Japan Mail* wrote a triumphant leading article. The great Austrian geologist said that the supply of gold was finished, it had all been dug out, and it was hopeless to expect any further discoveries. I ventured at the time to ridicule the pretensions of the great Austrian geologist to know what was in the bowels of the earth all the world over, as I laugh now at the ingenious, but so familiar trimming of the Editor of the *Japan Mail*, who has for some little time past been "selling for the fall."

If this means anything, it means that the *Japan Mail*, having for fifteen years been a constant advocate of bimetallism, is now building a bridge of retreat in consideration of the temporary ebb of bimetallic agitation. The *Japan Mail* is doing nothing of the kind. It remains as firm a disciple as ever of the bimetallic doctrines. What it has done of late is simply to note the fact that bimetallism is for the moment a dead issue owing to a return of prosperity in the West and to an unexpected increase in the output of gold. Every one can be a sceptic. Like "Cent. per Cent.," every one can "ridicule the pretensions of great experts." There is nothing to limit such a rôle except the boundaries of a man's own self-conceit. Further, there is always a possibility that chance happenings may justify general scepticism. With such eventualities intelligent bimetallists have nothing to do. For many years they have been faced by the facts of a supply of gold rapidly diminishing in proportion to the growing wants of the world, and of fluctuations in the gold-price of silver so severe that they reduced to mere gambling all transactions between gold countries and silver countries. The former calamity seems now likely to be remedied, but the latter must remain in pernicious operation. The general public, however, knowing little of the logic of the situation and conscious only of its effects, find that the tide of returning prosperity has taken the edge off their appetite for the radical bimetallic remedy, and no longer feel any desire to worry over a difficult problem that now appears to have become purely abstract. We have noted these things as matters of contemporary history. It is unfortunate that the world should be doomed to a fresh access of suffering before it recognises the monometallic error. But "Cent. per Cent." is satisfied. His blind ridicule of an eminent geologist has been vindicated by chance. That is enough for him. We should be surprised if it were not.

"THE NIGHT OF THE GODS."

A committee, including such names as those Mr. W. G. Aston, Mr. Arthur Diosy, Professor R. K. Douglas, Sir W. M. Conway and so forth, has been formed for a purpose that ought to command the sympathy and support of all educated men, namely, the bringing out of the second volume of "The Night of the Gods." We can not do better than reproduce the facts from a circular just issued by the Committee :—

> These volumes embody a vast amount of accurately recorded Folklore, Myths, and Symbols, which throw a new light on primitive religious beliefs and their origins; these have been collected from all parts of the world during many years of diligent research and patient industry, and bring into special prominence the mythology of the remoter East, which offers to the student an almost unknown and exceedingly rich harvest of historical knowledge.
>
> The author was a man of wide erudition and versed in many languages, who brought to the investigation of the subject, to which he devoted many years of an active life, a mind trained to administraive work, and the practical insight of of an experienced man of the world.
>
> Only the first volume has been published, but Mr. O'Neill had before his death, after a few days' illness in January last, finished the second volume. As his death has unfortunately left his widow without funds for publishing it, we have formed ourselves into a Committee for the purpose of its publication, our intention being to issue the two volumes provided the funds at the disposal of the Committee enable this to be done without involving the Committee collectively or individually in any liability whatever.
>
> We have taken this step because we believe that the loss of half Mr. O'Neill's book would be a calamity, as it would deprive students of the use of a large portion of the unrivalled collection of Greek, Latin, Celtic, Hindu, Syrian, Semite, Persian, Chinese, Japanese, and American Indian Mythology, Astronomy, and Symbolism collected and focussed by a traveller and scholar so keen-eyed, discriminating, careful, and devoted as Mr. O'Neill. We are convinced that the preservation and transmission to posterity of these researches, will, whether they agree with the author's conclusion or not, be permanently useful to all who wish to set before themselves and others a life-like picture of the hitherto obscure past.
>
> We therefore trust that all who are interested in these studies will give us what help they can, and enable us to make the completed "Night of the Gods" a permanent gift bequeathed to mankind as his own most fitting monument by its distinguished author.

The circular then proceeds to invite subscriptions and donations, the former to be paid to the publisher, David Nutt Esq., 270,-271, Strand, London, the latter to the Hon. Secretary, David Rowe, Esq., 241, Barry Road, Lordship Lane, Dulwich, London. Persons subscribing will be entitled to a copy of the two volumes for £1.16, if the money be immediately paid, whereas the cost will be £2 12s. 6d. if a promise only be given.

THE LATE WAR SCARE.

We learn from the *Rising Sun and Nagasaki Express* that the sensational news recently telegraphed from Hongkong to *The Times*, on the strength of intelligence sent to the *Hongkong Telegraph* from Nagasaki, had been circulating in the latter port for weeks before it found its way southward, and had been regarded by the Nagasaki folks with very little faith. Yet this extraordinary item, sent over the wires, not by the regular correspondent of *The Times* in Hongkong, but a person said to be "specially competent to look below the surface of things," was credited in London and evoked leaders from nearly all the principal English Journals. Our readers may remember that when publishing Reuter's telegram on the subject, we pointed out the inherent improbability, if not impossibility, of the arrangement said to have been concluded between Russia and China with respect to Port Arthur, and declared the story unworthy of a moment's credence. None the less it found journalistic believers in Yokohama, and is still spoken of as an unquestionable fact. So hard is it to check a falsehood once set roaming!

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE LIBERAL MANIFESTO.

The following is a translation of the Manifesto just issued by the Liberal Party :—"It has ever been our Party's aim and endeavour to nourish and perfect Constitutional Government, and consolidate the basis of a system of responsible Cabinets, thereby maintaining the dignity of the Imperial Family and promoting the welfare of the people. Several years have elapsed since the first convocation of the Diet, but the new system has not yet borne perfectly satisfactory fruit, and in consequence various undertakings of urgent national importance have still to be carried out, the Naval and Military defences of the country being also in a state of imperfection. Meanwhile, the foreign relations of the empire underwent such a rapid change that our country was suddenly called upon, in consequence of disturbances in Korea, to engage in hostilities with China. Notwithstanding the insufficiency of our resources and the imperfection of our armament, our arms were victorious, earning for the country the world-wide reputation of a powerful State. These victories, however, have increased the obligations of the Empire. Its foreign intercourse is now beset with perils and difficulties of a serious nature. Under the circumstances, it is matter of the most urgent importance that the Government and the people should be united in administering the affairs of the Country at home and abroad on the basis of a comprehensive and permanent line of policy. Being sincerely unwilling to mar the country's prospects by engaging in petty party contests, our Party decided upon a political programme adapted to the time, and made it public in July of the present year. We then declared that we should not hesitate to cō-operate with whatever persons might happen to pursue the same policy as ourselves, and might appear worthy of such cōoperation. In other words, we proclaimed our readiness to become the allies of any party, whether in office or out, that might be committed to a policy identical with our own. Confident in the beneficial influence that our disinterested patriotism would have upon the public mind, we approached those in power in a spirit of candour and frankness. These latter, on their part, being fully conscious of the requirements of the situation, were not slow to recognize the sincerity of our Party, nor showed themselves unwilling to adopt the wishes of the people, thus inducing us to recognize their genuine desire of perfecting the constitutional system, strengthening the foundations of the country, and properly managing the general affairs of the State. We have, therefore, decided to pursue hereafter the same policy as those in office, and to cōoperate with them in the management of State affairs, hoping thereby to further the progress of the country. Having been the first to advocate the introduction of a constitutional system of government, it is our Party's duty to see to its perfection. A careful survey of the condition of affairs at home and abroad fills our minds with awe and apprehension, making us desirous of devoting ourselves disinterestedly to the service of the country. We have, however, individuality and principles of our own. Of these we are resolved never to make a sacrifice. Being of the same way of thinking with those in power about the general condition of affairs, we do not now hesitate to follow the same path with them, for we are convinced that such a step is fraught with important and far-reaching consequences to the country."

DECLARATION BY COUNT ITAGAKI.

Simultaneously with the issue of the Liberal Party's Manifesto, the following declaration was made public by Count Itagaki, the leader of that party :—

"In discharge of my duties as leader of the Liberal Party, I take the present opportunity of making a declaration about the conduct of my Party, for I believe that such a step is but proper on the part of the chief of a political association. From the very nature of a political party, whose conduct is governed by the views of the majority of its members, it is not to be wondered at that steps taken by my Party, in its corporate capacity should sometimes be opposed to my sentiments as an individual. But the case is otherwise where important questions of policy are concerned. As to the step just taken by the Liberal Party, namely, its open coalition with the statesmen in power for the purpose of carrying out various measures required in the sequel of the late war, I cannot choose but believe that the party's action will be approved by all patriotic persons taking the trouble of considering the condition of things among the Powers of the world, and the future of their country.

"Society is a conglomeration of men actuated each by his own individual views. It is a device to secure, by means of combination, the common interests and happiness of the individuals of which it is composed. That its members should be stimulated by a proper degree of mutual competition is essential, for otherwise progress would be impossible. But it is at the same time truly important that competition should be tempered by the virtue of honesty. Without the moderating influence of this virtue, competition would degenerate into a rough contest, and improvement into destruction, society itself finally becoming undermined. Without the virtues of honesty and benevolence to soften and restrain the relations between the wise and the foolish, the strong and the weak, governing and the governed, the rich and the poor, society could never be assured of a harmonious existence, even for a single day. The comparative study of the histories of England and France cannot fail to produce on one's mind deep and important impressions. Is not Frenchmen's tendency to pass from one extreme to another the cause of their modern calamities? Democratic reaction against despotic government under Louis XIV. and XVI. ended in the opposite extreme of treason and anarchy, which in turn induced the imperialism of Napoleon. After the fall of Napoleon, the tyranny of Louis was followed by a violent and vindictive reaction which again led to a counter revolution. Thus one disturbance was followed by another, involving the fall now of the royal family, then of the aristocracy, and again of the democracy, and always inflicting intolerable miseries upon the people. Is not that an impressive warning for us? In England, on the contrary, although reactions have not been entirely absent from her career, she has been singularly free from extremes. Consequently, neither royalty, nor aristocracy nor democracy has experienced any crushing defeat, and the combined spirit of these different elements had led to the elaboration of a peculiarly smooth system of constitutional government. This may have been a result of accident. None the less, it is possible to derive useful lessons from the course affairs have taken in England.

"Let me illustrate my point by reference to the history of our country immediately preceding the Restoration. The clan of Mito was disturbed by movements and counter-movements of an extremely violent and vindictive kind, which led to the exhaustion of the clan's energies. In the case of the Restoration itself, that important political change was effected comparatively smoothly, and the career of the Imperial Government has been reasonably free from difficulties. The explanation is found in the fact that neither the Tokugawa family nor the different feudal clans were completely crushed, and all thought of revenge was removed from the minds of the people by the issue of the memorable Edict promising that the conduct of State affairs should be in conformity with the wishes of the people. All extremes are, from the nature of things, undesirable. Especially undesirable is unrestrained satiation of human passions, and among human passions the most prone to involve violence is the desire of victory. Our Party, therefore, though not hesitating to resist tyranny at the loss of life itself, ought to know that neither defeat nor victory should be pressed too far, and in a time of prosperity should have capacity to act with magnanimity and moderation. Such are my ideas about society, and such have been the principles governing my conduct in the past. In making this public avowal of my guiding motives, one of my desires is to call the attention of the public to the necessity of devotion to principles, without which it is impossible to maintain the morality of the political world.

"About 1883, when the Liberal Party was in its worst predicament, my mind already began to be troubled with thoughts of its conduct in the days of its future victory. Visiting Mr. (now Count) Soyeshima Taneomi, I spoke to him as follows :—'I am now denounced as a traitor and chief of a destructive party. But I have such confidence in the general course of events in the world that I entertain little doubt of the establishment of a Legislature in our country. Inferences drawn from the history of other nations make it conceivable that in the event of the opening of a Legislature, the people now oppressed by officialdom will seek to be avenged. Should things come to such a pass, who is to restrain the vindictive passions of the people, and make it possible to effect a smooth transition from the old to the new order? Evidently such a task is not to be expected from men rolling in wealth and blazing with official honours. I make bold to promise to Your Excellency that, should my life be spared till that day, you will find the present traitor transformed into a loyal subject." Afterwards, in the Spring of 1889, perceiving that the opening of the Diet was near at hand, I visited Osaka and delivered a lecture before an assembly of men of my own political views. I told them that, of the statesmen then in power, Count Kuroda appeared inclined to adopt the views of our Party; that though our Party had thus far directed efforts along the path of destruction, the continuance of the same policy when the Diet was about to be opened would impair the smooth conduct of legislative business, and might even lead to worse consequences; and I added that, such being the case, should the Government be found sufficiently devoted to the interests of the country, our party must not hesitate to cōoperate with it in the task of laying the foundations of the country's political system. I then came to Tokyo and had several conferences with Count Kuroda. I had previously had some share in bringing about the entrance of Count Goto into the Cabinet. But the object I had in view, namely, cōoperation with the Cabinet, having been frustrated on account of the question of Treaty Revision, I took leave of these statesmen and went back to my home in Tosa. The same views, however, have directed my conduct ever since those days.

"The conduct of our Liberal Party is not the result of mere accident. Men that devote their lives to the country should be disinterested, open hearted, and free from all petty considerations. In all cases they should be guided by their principles, neither stooping to power nor crushed by adversity, neither struggling for fame nor showing greed for riches; but always continuing constant, honest, moderate, and pure-hearted. Such has been the ideal always kept in view by the members of the Liberal Party. And such being their ideal, they did not hesitate even to sacrifice their lives and property for the sake of the principles of liberty and freedom and for the introduction of a constitutional system of Government as the only means by which the people might be united in the interests of the country. Thus their object has been, not to obtain honours or rewards, but simply to bring about the establishment of a perfect system of constitutional government, and to secure the permanent well being of the people. From that point of view, the establishment of the Diet must be regarded as the satisfaction of our wishes. Further, considering the fact that the Diet has been the means of uniting the people during the recent war, it may safely be concluded that the system, for the introduction of which we have toiled so hard, answers our purpose sufficiently well. Now, the recent war has revolutionized Japan's relations with the Powers of the world. The nation finds itself charged with grave responsibilities relating to measures dictated by the altered circumstances of the country. Hence our Party having decided to cōoperate with

whomsoever should agree with us on the subject of these national measures, the statesmen in power, moved by our sincerity, have expressed their willingness to move hand in hand with us. I have no doubt that this step on the part of the Liberal Party is justified alike by reference to the state of affairs abroad and by consideration of the country's needs at the present important juncture.

"Let me assure the members of the Liberal Party that, in view of our frank and open-hearted attitude toward those in power, the latter may doubtless be relied on to meet us in a corresponding spirit of candour and will promote the consummation of our principles and ideals. I earnestly hope that, in view of the present important juncture in the country's history, our fellow Liberals will prove true to their uniquely consistent conduct during the past twenty years."

THE LIBERAL MANIFESTO AND THE PRESS.

Two holidays having succeeded the issue of the Liberal Manifesto, many of the metropolitan papers have not yet had an opportunity to comment on the document, as for instance, the *Kokumin*, the *Mainichi*, the *Hochi*, the *Kokkai*, the *Chuo*, and the *Jiji*. Among those that have discussed it may be mentioned the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Yomiuri*, the *Nippon*, and the *Choya*. With the exception of the *Nichi Nichi*, these journals criticise the Liberal Manifesto in an unfavourable tone. On the whole, instead of looking at the broadest and most important aspect of the question, namely, its influence on the introduction of party government, these journals are disposed to treat it as though it were only an event of passing moment. They confine themselves to the task of finding fault with the language of the Manifesto.

The *Nichi Nichi* praises the Manifesto and Count Itagaki's declaration as clear in meaning and manly in tone. It also expresses satisfaction at the Liberal Party's disinterested devotion to the interests of the country and their freedom from all spirit of revenge. Having reproduced the substance of the Manifesto, our contemporary proceeds as follows:—"What we have thus far quoted will suffice to show how intensely patriotic the Liberals are and how devoted to the public interest. Their straight-forward manliness forms a significant contrast to the meanness of party politicians who, notwithstanding their co-operation in the case of some important questions, are still incapable of union into a single permanent combination." The *Nichi Nichi* next reproduces the essential parts of Count Itagaki's Declaration, and concludes in the following strim:—"Considering these statesments of Count Itagaki, side by side with the manifesto of the Party, it is easy to see that the present political alliance is not one of those combinations which, being effected for selfish purposes, are formed in the morning and dissolved in the afternoon. For that reason we find an absence of compromising conditions. Honourable combination is what true gentlemen value: combination for the sake of selfish motives is abhorred by them. Like true gentlemen, the Liberals have now frankly declared to all the world their alliance with the Cabinet Ministers for the sake of the urgent needs of the country. It is our earnest hope that this communion of hearts for national purposes between the Cabinet and the Liberal Party may last for ever."

The *Yomiuuri Shimbun* gives the Liberals credit for the courage displayed by them in openly proclaiming themselves friends of the Cabinet, and is candid enough to say that the step promises to secure the smooth introduction of a system of responsible cabinets. As to the Manifesto itself, however, our contemporary wonders at the ambiguity of the terms in which it is couched, and blames the Liberals for omitting to state clearly the nature of the policy in which they profess themselves to be in agreement with the statesmen in office. Why have they not been more explicit in the language of their Manifesto? Is it because they think it unnecessary to point out a policy the details of which are known to their colleagues; or is because, in their eagerness to effect a coalition with the Cabinet, they have not had leisure to think of their policy; or, again, is it because they fear that to reveal their true policy would provoke serious opposition in their own ranks as well as in the circle of officialdom? None of these reasons appears cogent, and our contemporary ends by avowing its utter inability to fathom the motives that suggested such strange silence with regard to vitally important points.

The *Nippon* condemns the Manifesto, calling it a gross attempt to mislead the public as to the real grounds of the alliance. According to the Manifesto, it would appear that the coalition is based on a consensus of views between the Liberals and the Ministers, both recognising the necessity of harmony between the Government and people and perfecting the constitutional system. But are not these purposes exactly what all the political parties desire? Had such things been the real points at issue, our contemporary believes that the Liberals would have acted more consistently by allying themselves with other parties opposed to the Goverement. The truth is that the Liberals have combined with the Ministry not because of community of ideas on these topics, but because they differed from the other parties in connection with the question of ministerial responsibility about the Liaotung affair. If they really mean that they have suffered themselves to become the supporters of the Cabinet because the latter is in favour of union between the Government and the people and seeks to perfect the system of constitutional Government, then the *Nippon* argues that their manifesto calumniates the other parties, whose opposition to the Cabinet, as they have repeatedly declared, is due precisely to the fact that its conduct seems prejudicial to any such harmony on the part of the nation as well as to the perfecting of the parliamentary system.

The *Choya* thinks the Manifesto too simple and too vague in its explanation of the reasons that have led the Liberals to form an alliance with a clan Government whose downfall had been their war-cry during ten years. The substance of the Manifesto may be reduced to one sentence, namely, that the statesmen in power have been good enough to appreciate the sincerity of the Liberals, and the latter, in return, have consented to support the former. Our contemporary regards this as extremely prejudicial to the reputation of the Liberal Party.

The Progressionist and other Opposition organs have just commented upon the Liberal Manifesto. As might have been expected, they denounce the so-called coalition, calling it unconditional surrender to the Cabinet on the part of the *Jiyu-to*. It will suffice to give the gist of the writings of the *Mainichi* and the *Kokumin*. The *Mainichi* is at a complete loss to discover the meaning of the manifesto. It regards the document as nothing more than a senseless attempt to apologise for unconditional surrender to the Cabinet. The so-called coalition, says the Progressionist organ, is by no means a new departure, for the Liberals have throughout been the supporters of the present Government since its coming into power. Thus the manifesto is simply an open proclamation of what has long existed in fact. The coalition of the Liberals with the Cabinet means their ignominous abandonment of the principle of responsible cabinets, for, so far as the *Mainichi* knows, the Cabinet has not changed its views on the subject, namely, that Ministers under the Japanese Constitution are not responsible to the Diet. Had this pernicious theory been really given up by the Government, not only the Liberals, but the Progressionists and other Opposition parties would have been ready to support those in power. In fine, the Liberals are violently denounced as traitors to the cause of the people and subservient tools of the Government.

The *Kokumin* looks back to the glorious history of the Liberals in 1881-2, and contrasts it with what it chooses to call the present moral death of that Party. In 1881-2, an important epoch in the history of the growth of popular power in Japan, the Liberals were the bulwarks of popular rights and freedom, and their leader, Mr. (now Count) Itagaki, was revered and even idolized by the nation as an upright, pure, disinterested, and consistent statesman. But where is now that Itagaki, who, when stabbed by a fanatical assassin, cried out, "Itagaki may die, but liberty lives"? Where are those young men of spirit and high aspirations that, but thirteen years ago, vowed uncompromising antagonism to clan government and declared that they would rather die than yield to the clan statesmen? The *Kokumin* recognizes that in the active field of politics combinations of former enemies and separations of friends are common occurrences. But such combinations and separations ought to be founded on well defined political reasons. In the case of the Liberals, our contemporary regrets to say that they have signally failed to assign any reason for their coalition with the existing Cabinet. Hence they must be declared to have made an unconditional surrender to those in power. The Manifesto says that the Liberals will henceforth cōoperate with the Cabinet Ministers in the solution of the various important problems now demanding national attention. But the *Kokumin* is unable to discover how these problems are to be solved, and what policy those in power propose to pursue. Nay, more, our contemporary even declares that the Government has no policy of its own, and proceeds to illustrate that bald statement by reference to the conduct of the Cabinet in connection with the Liaotung affair, the Pak incident, and the Korean question generally. The manner in which these problems have been dealt with shows, according to the *Kokumin*, that the Cabinet is totally devoid of any fixed policy in foreign affairs. That it is similarly destitute of a fixed policy in internal affairs, adds its critic, is evident from its vacillating conduct on the subject of the increase of the national armaments. Hence to pretend that the Liberals pursue the same policy as the Cabinet, is simply absurd. The coalition between the Liberals and the Ito Cabinet is a combination not on account of political principles, but on the basis of mere sentiment. That the Liberals have made such a combination proves that they have thrown to the wind their political principles, honour, and, in fact, everything that contributed to make them great in the past. "Their disgraceful conduct on the present occasion," concludes the *Kokumin*, "has completely blotted out their brilliant record of 1881-2. The Liberal party is dead, so is Count Itagaki. Both are morally defunct."

The Nationalist organ, the *Chuo Shimbun*, refrains from making any comment upon the subject. How are we to interpret its reticence? The most probable explanation is that the National Unionists are still undecided about the direction in which to shape their course.

FORMOSAN NEWS.

Peace has not yet been fully restored in Formosa, although Governor Count Kabayama has proclaimed its restoration. A telegram from the Head-quarter Staff, and to Ujina on the 24th instant, reports that a body of insurgents, about six hundred strong, having been discovered in an intrenched position by a reconnoitering party, two companies of infantry were sent against them. How this expedition fared, it is difficult to assertain from the message. We read, however, that a detachment from Major Kuwahata's command, having proceeded on a reconnoisance about 5 miles along the left bank of the Tamsui river, was surrounded by a large force of insurgents, and had to cut its way through them, with a loss of 3 men killed, 2 wounded and 2 missing, the enemy leaving 30 dead upon the field. Again, on the 17th instant, Major Kawagoye, at the head of two companies, attacked and captured an intrenchment of the rebels at Changwan, the Japanese having 5 men killed and wounded, and the enemy 20 killed. A sum of 2,500 *yen* was among the spoils on this occasion.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

KOREAN NEWS.

NOVEMBER 27TH.

On the day previous to his departure from Sōul, namely, the 15th instant, Count Inouye had a farewell audience with the King. His Majesty is reported to have expressed sincere regret at parting from the Count so soon. On this occasion, the Japanese Ambassador's escort consisted of ten guards under the command of a lieutenant, and the same number of constables under a police sergeant, specially sent from the Court. There was also in attendance a Korean official of the Household, Mr. Kim Shunki. It is reported that, after delivering a message of condolence and sympathy from the Emperor to the King of Korea, Count Inouye did not talk with the King on any political topics. The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent states, however, his diplomatic experience and great influence over the Koreans were employed by the Count during his short stay in Sōul for the purpose of devising a proper solution of the awkward situation in which the Korean Cabinet finds itself. Another correspondent hints that, what the Count personally saw and learned in Sōul appears to have induced him to modify somewhat the views he originally held about ex-Minister Miura's conduct, as well as the general object of the *émeute* of October 8th. Yet another writer surmises that the results of the conference of the Foreign Ministers held at the Japanese Legation on the 12th instant, led to the sudden departure of Count Inouye for home. But no explanation of this hypothesis is given.

Concerning the above conference, the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent mentions that it was held at the request of the Representatives of Russia, England, and the United States. In fact, it was attended only by these three diplomats in addition to Minister Komura. The subject discussed was the present political situation in Korea. As to the manner in which the situation should be dealt with, opinions were divided at the conference. Some thought that the disgrace of Cho Gi-yuen, Minister of War, alone would be sufficient; while others insisted that the punishment should be extended to several other personages. All, however, says the same correspondent, agreed in believing that the King was still a sort of prisoner in the hands of the Tai Wōn-kun, and that there was reason even to fear for the safety of His Majesty's person.

The uncertainty of the public mind in Sōul and in the provincial districts is said to be increasing. Proclamations are constantly placarded in the streets of the capital by some unknown malcontents, believed to be agents of the Min faction. The tenor of these proclamations is said to be mysterious and disquieting. Some of those posted in the country districts are intensely hostile to the Japanese. The general apprehensions produced by these street proclamations, are augmented by reports of constant appearances of parties of depredators in remote provincial districts. Some parts of the country are now being harrassed by what are called *kazoku* (fire-thieves), probably because it is their custom to pillage villages and set fire to the houses before retreating with their booty. Recently Captain Rito, I.J.I., met with a gang of these robbers on his way back to Sōul from Chol-ju, where he had been drilling a battalion of Korean troops. He was proceeding in a palanquin, in the vicinity of Mok-chōn, when he heard a tumult ahead. Emerging from the palanquin, he perceived that his Korean interpreter, who had been walking in advance of him, was surrounded by a large gang of ruffians. The interpreter fired his pistol in the air to frighten away his assailants. Seeing the Japanese officer rapidly advancing to the spot, some of the robbers walked up to him and demanded his business in travelling through the country. Captain Rito's answer was to fire a pistol, and this seems to have had the desired effect, for the ruffians desisted from further interference and suffered the Japanese officer and his interpreter to pass on. They, however, peremporily commanded Captain Rito to take a certain circuitous route to Sōul and to keep perfect silence about their mustering in force.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo's* correspondent states that the Korean Minister of Education recently issued a notification, announcing the opening of four primary schools in Sōul, explaining the importance of popular education for the progress of the country, and strongly advising the citizens of the capital to send their children to these schools. The proclamation further mentions that at these schools, boys and girls will be taught Confucian morals, national history, geography and literature, arithmetic, foreign history, and so forth.

The *Hochi's* correspondent reports that the Korean Government has decided upon the establishment of a French school, and that a French instructor has already been engaged. So far as its finances allow, it is said to be the Government's intention to establish schools for instructing Korean youths in German, Russian, and Chinese.

The ceremony of opening the new buildings of the primary school in the Japanese Settlement of Sōul, took place on the 12th instant. Among the Korean guests invited on the occasion, were Mr. Kim Shunki, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Mr. Kim Keika, Governor of Sōul. Mr. In Chiko delivered a speech in Japanese on behalf of the Korean guests.

The sudden arrest and almost immediate release of Min Yong-chun, are said to have considerably lowered the prestige of the present Korean Cabinet. As to the cause of his release, various rumours are circulated in Sōul, all unfavourable to those in power. At the time of his apprehension, great consternation was produced among his followers, many of whom at once sought the protection of a certain foreign legation. They are said to be still staying there.

According to a report from the Japanese Consul at Ninsen, the average yield of rice for the whole Kingdom is computed to be 80 per cent. of the crop of a normal year. The harvest has been poorest in Kyōng-kwi-do, in some parts of which, as for instance, Pha-ju, Ko-yang, and so forth, the yield is only from 50 to 60 per cent. of an ordinary year. In Chung-chhōn-do, Wang-hai-do, and Phyōng-an-do, the crop has been about that of a normal year; while a more than ordinarily good crop has been obtained in Chol-la-do and Kyōng-sang-do. The decrease of the harvest in Kyōng-kwi-do, is owing to drought in May and June, and to inundations in July and August.

NOVEMBER 29TH.

The following telegrams were published by the *Yomiuri Shimbun's* extra yesterday afternoon:—

"Sōul, November 28th, 7.20 a.m.

"The lately disbanded Palace Guards attacked the Palace this morning just before dawn, and fired into the Palace."

"Sōul, November 28th, 10.15 a.m.

"The disbanded Palace Guards attacked the Palace last night, but were repulsed by the *Kunrentai* troops. The ringleaders of the Palace Guards were Li Hanhin (?) and a certain American missionary. Kan and eleven others have been arrested. The foreign Ministers repaired to the Palace on hearing of the disturbance."

The *Chuo's* extra had the following:—

"Sōul, November 28th, 9 a.m.

"A plot has been discovered, that Li Hanshin, who is staying at the Russian Legation intends to surround the Palace with 300 ruffians. To provide against the threatened danger, the Premier Kin Koshu, in concert with Cho Giyen, is collecting troops."

It is singular that the *Chuo's* correspondent makes no mention of the reported attack on the Palace, and it is also inconceivable that he should have been ignorant of the affair had it really taken place. Yet the *Yomiuri's* telegram is very explicit. There seems, however, to be some mistake about the matter. Perhaps the *Yomiuri's* correspondent may have been a little "previous" in sending the news of the actual disturbance. The Li Hanhin mentioned in his telegram as a leader of the Guards that attacked the Palace, is doubtless the same person whose name is given in the *Chuo's* telegram as Li Hanshin. The latter, we believe, is the correct spelling.

THE JURY SYSTEM.

In the pages of the *Popular Science Monthly* Dr. Crothers discusses the working of the jury system in the United States. Dr. Crothers' point of view is naturally that of a medical man, but he by no means confines his remarks to the medical aspects of the subject. He is in entire agreement will the large class of writers and thinkers that regard the whole jury system of British, Colonial, and American Courts as sadly needing reform, if not demanding its abolition. The following is the gist of the article: It is often maintained that the judgment of 12 impartial and honest men is far more trustworthy in the majority of cases than the opinion of one trained man. But any one acquainted with the history of the working of the jury system is aware that the ideal jury, the body of thoroughly competent and unbiassed men, does not exist. The majority of the men chosen to serve on juries are entirely unaccustomed to weigh evidence, and owing to the unfavourable surroundings and conditions in which they find themselves, are often unable to exercise even common sense. In a noted trial at Hartford, Conn., out of a panel of 100 jurors, twelve men were selected, after searching inquiry. Five of them were farmers, who worked hard in the open air and who were quite unaccustomed to sustained mental effort of any kind. Of the rest of the jury one was a blacksmith, two were mechanics, one a horse-dealer, one a groceryman, one a retired farmer and trader, and the last an ex-railroad man who had no business. Though the case had been discussed in the papers for weeks before the trial, these men all swore that they were unacquainted with its details. For ten days the jurors were confined from 5 to 6 hours a day, listening to arguments bearing on a most subtle question, namely, the mental capacity and motives of the maker of a will. Of course they disagreed. Even if they had reached a unanimous verdict, its wisdom and justice would have been a matter of accident. This jury is typical of hundreds of juries called together every week in the United States. It is a well known fact that the majority of men that serve on juries have no qualification whatever for the task of sifting and weighing evidence. In theory the purpose of selecting a jury is to secure men of honesty, intelligence, and courage to reach unbiassed conclusions in accord with facts. In practice men possessing some defect or weakness that can be taken advantage of by one side or the other are chosen. Each counsel is interested in selecting "men he can handle readily." So that the real qualifications for jurymen would seem to be availability, credulity, ignorance, and the possibility of personal influence by persuasion, flattery, and appeals to some personal bias. It is asserted, and with truth, that the best men evade jury duty. A jury is required to pass judgment on motives and the capacity of mind, to analyse conduct, to determine the bearing and significance of a vast number of isolated facts, to know the application of law to the case under consideration. When making a feeble attempt to do its duty, it is called upon to listen to the passionate appeals of opposing counsel and then is frequently further bewildered by the minute distinctions drawn out by the judge in his summing up. The judge charges the jurors that if they shall find such and such conditions, they are to bring in such and such a verdict, and if opposite conditions another verdict. After hearing this charge they are usually in such a state of hopeless mental confusion that they either arrive at no verdict at all, or what is more common, to make an end of the business, agree to any theory that is propounded by one of their leading members and return a verdict accordingly.

These facts are universally acknowledged, but it does not occur to most people that in a large number of instances the unfavourable hygienic

and other conditions in which jurymen are placed are fruitful sources of haphazard verdicts. Even supposing that men have a fair amount of intelligence and thorough honesty of purpose, they are taken frequently from a life spent in the open air, with an abundance of exercise, and shut up in a close, badly ventilated Court-room, and are obliged to sit in one place for five or six hours during the day. In cases of capital crime they are housed in the same hotel at night and have changed diet, changed sleeping rooms, imperfect exercise, and all this combined with severe mental strain, lasting a week, ten days, or even a fortnight. Intelligent and sound reasoning is impossible to such men under these conditions. It frequently happens that after the first day the jury become quite listless, and are only aroused to life when flattered by Counsel. Every lawyer can tell a number of curious stories of the many devices used to influence juries. It is safe to say that as a rule they do not listen to half of what is said. That has often been proved by watching the surprise they show when the Counsel or the judge alludes to points of evidence been previously discussed or to the testimony of witnesses. The following case, Dr. Crothers tells us, is thoroughly representative of what is constantly occurring in various parts of the United States.

"The case was murder, in which an intricate chain of circumstantial evidence pointed to one of three men as guilty. The jury was composed of five farmers, four mechanics, and three merchants. Nine of them were active muscle workers, living in the open air most of the time, and three were actively engaged in-doors. The trial lasted eleven days. The jury were boarded at a hotel, and had no exercise except walking to and from the hotel to the Court room three times a day. Four of the jury complained of dull headache. On the fourth day five of the jury had attacks of indigestion, with pain and nausea. One had chills on the night of the same day and was given quinine freely. Two men had attacks of what was called rheumatism, consisting of pain and stiffness of the muscles, and a physician was called. Eight suffered from insomnia. All suffered from bad feeling and dizziness while in the Court room."

This may be a very exceptional case, but Dr. Crothers, has nevertheless, furnished abundant evidence to show that, in addition to the evils inherent to the jury system, there exist in the present method of choosing and employing jurors the most insuperable obstacles to its efficient working.

THE "BRITISH TRADE JOURNAL" IN JAPANESE.

The second number of the *British Trade Journal* in Japanese (*Eikoku Shogyo Zasshi*) is lying before us. It is a well translated and well printed reproduction of the English periodical, and is to be issued every three months in Tokyo. Besides the advertisements, which occupy the greater part of the publication and which doubtless are the principal object, the text contains more than twenty pages of closely printed matter dealing with commercial and manufacturing subjects. In the leading article, the editor dwells upon the extremely hopeful position of Japanese commerce. Even without the late war with China, the industrial and commercial development of Japan was destined to be rapid and promising, and the victories obtained by her troops on land and sea have furnished an additional means of introducing her to the world. Whether the unique advertising influences of the war will be turned to full account, depends upon the activity of the Japanese in taking advantage of the present splendid opportunity. In order to play their part with success in the world's struggle for commercial and industrial extension, they must enter on their new career with a spirit of liberality and moderation, and be ready to conform with the customs and principles prevailing among great commercial nations of the West.

BALL AT THE FRENCH LEGATION.

His Excellency the French Minister and Madame Harmand gave a ball at the Legation in Tokyo yesterday. A spacious *salon de danse*, capable of being removed and erected at pleasure, has now been added to the accommodation of the Legation, its ample dimensions well suited to the hospitality for which the Representatives of France in Japan have always been famous. Three French vessels of war and three Russian, including the Flagships of both nationalities, being now in Yokohama, a large number of officers were invited, and their rich uniforms added greatly to the picturesqueness of the scene. Dancing began shortly before ten o'clock, and after an ordinary programme had been rapidly completed, a cotillion was commenced. With exceptionally pretty favours, capital music by the Band of the *Bayard*, and very spirited leading, this, the chief feature of the evening, proved a marked success, and was kept up without flagging until far into the small hours of the morning. There was no set supper, the *buffet* being kept open continuously from half-past eleven. The guests included all the Ministers of State now in the capital, the members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique and Consulates, a number of Japanese high officials, and the leading residents of all nationalities in the capital. We need scarcely add that nothing was wanting of the graces and skill of arrangement characteristic of French hospitality.

DEATH OF MR. KEITA GOH.

It is with the greatest regret that we announce the death of Mr. Keita Goh, Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Goh had not enjoyed good health for nearly two years. Last spring he suffered from an attack of typhoid fever, the effects of which he never thoroughly shook off. At the beginning of this month he was confined to his house with influenza, but all anxiety on that account had disappeared when typhoid fever again made its appearance, and in his debilitated condition he offered but a feeble struggle against the disease, succumbing finally at 5.30 o'clock on the afternoon of the 21st instant. Mr. Goh was the son of a wealthy *Samurai* of Nagasaki who devoted a large part of his fortune to providing a modern education for his children and sending them abroad to complete their studies. In 1876, he entered the French School in Kyoto, subsequently proceeding to Tokyo and afterwards to China. He then visited London in the suite of Mr. (afterwards Viscount) Mori, and returning home in 1885, was sent to Belgium at public expense to study science and the French language, acquiring an exceptionally accurate knowledge of the latter and considerable distinction in the former. In 1892 he became Private Secretary to the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, which office he held at the time of his death. He had received numerous Decorations from Foreign Sovereigns, and in October of the present year the Emperor of Japan bestowed on him the Sixth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun. He died at the early age of 38. Few Japanese officials have ever been so popular among foreigners. His charming manners, his fluent use of the French language, and his unfailing readiness to render kind offices could not but make him beloved. His loss will be severely felt at the Foreign Office, where, in the department of social intercourse, his graceful tact and faultless taste showed to excellent effect. Had his life been spared, a brilliant future certainly lay before him. A few years ago Mr. Goh married the only daughter of the celebrated scholar, Mr. Kanda Kohei. The sympathy of a wide circle of sorrowing friends goes out to his bereaved wife and children.

PEKIN NEWS.

NOVEMBER 20TH.

The 3rd instant, very evil weather in Tokyo, was bright and calm in Pekin. In the morning the Japanese residents assembled at the Legation and did obeisance to the pictures of the Emperor and Empress. In the evening, a banquet was given at the Japanese Legation in honour of the auspicious occasion, the guests being the members of the Corps Diplomatique in Pekin. All the Foreign Representatives were present. Colonel Denby proposed the health of His Imperial Japanese Majesty, and congratulated the Japanese Minister on his elevation to the peerage. Baron Hayashi replied in English. The Netherlands Minister then proposed the health of the doyen of the Diplomatic Corps, Colonel Denby. The entertainment is said to have been eminently successful.

On the 28th ultimo, the departing British Minister and his wife were entertained at dinner by Baron Hayashi. Besides the principal guests, there were present Sir Robert and Lady Hart, Colonel and Mrs. Denby, the sons and daughters-in-law of these gentlemen, and a few others.

The *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent states that there is a rumour in Pekin that Herr von Brandt is returning to China, though for what purpose it is not known.

NOVEMBER 29TH.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* Pekin correspondent states that, true to his prediction, Earl Li, is steadily recovering political ascendency in the capital. His most powerful enemy, Weng Tung-ho, is said to have given up, or at least suspended, his opposition to the Viceroy. This changed attitude on the part of Weng is ascribed to a discovery made by him since he assumed the direction of the Empire's foreign affairs, namely, that it is one thing to sit at a distance and criticize the conduct of others, and quite another thing to manage affairs with the Representative of foreign Powers. Weng is said to have of late left the control of business of the Tsung-li Yamên in the hands of Earl Li. Concerning the methods of the Earl, the same correspondenr mentions an interesting fact. At the conferences with Baron Hayashi on the subject of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, the great Chinese statesman is reported to be entering with his own hand all corrections and additions in the draft stipulations, never leaving such work to his secretaries. He also seems to have all the articles of the draft treaty by heart, and the power of memory manifested by him in this and other ways is stated to be subject of wonder and admiration to all attending the conferences.

The *Wan-kuo-kung-pao* (Universal Intelligence) of Pekin is said to have published in a recent issue a memorial addressed to the throne by Wang, lately special Envoy to the Court of St. Petersburg. The memorialist urges the importance of introducing reforms in industrial, military, financial, and political spheres. The progressive sentiments prevailing throughout the document are the fruit of Wang's recent travels in Europe. He commences by discussing the urgent necessity of constructing railways, arguing the matter from military, as well as commercial, points of view. In his opinion, three lines should be built first, namely, roads connecting Tientsin with Kwachou (?) on the Yangtse, Hankow with Szechuan, and Shanghai with Canton. Secondly, the question of military reforms should receive immediate attention. On this subject he recommends, first, the sending of a large number of intelligent young men to Europe to study matters relating to arms, ammunition, tactics, and military organization; secondly, the re-modelling of the military system of the Empire after the fashion of European countries: thirdly, the creation of a corps of 40,000 men as a necleus for the new army; and fourthly, the building of powerful men-of-war. His third contention is that the present system of military and civil service examinations is open to severe criticism, as being entirely out of touch with the times. Wang recommends that the system be modified so as to include modern

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science among the topics in which candidates are examined. Fourthly, he points out the paramount importance of establishing colleges for instructing promising youths in the sciences and arts of the Occident. China is not entirely destitute of educational institutions of the kind. She has one in Pekin, a few in Tientsin, two in Canton, one each in Fukien, Hu-peh, and Chinkiang. The scope of these should be extended, and new colleges should established at other principal towns throughout the Empire. Fifthly, financial reforms occupy the attention of the memoralist. The first step that he urges is the issue of paper money to facilitate business transactions. In order to prevent forgeries, he recommends the importation from Russia of a certain kind of paper with designs in the texture. *Apropos* of the subject of finance, he advises that habits of simplicity and frugality should be enjoined upon the people, aud that in future to squander money on the construction of shrines, temples, and other unproductive edifices, should be prohibited. Sixthly, encouragement should be given to commerce and industry. In China, says the memoralist, literature has been respected as a superior calling, while commerce and manufacture have been dispised as ignoble. He exposes the fallacy of this view, and calls attention to the importance of encouraging commerce and industry side by side with literature. Special stress is laid upon encouraging the export of tea and silk, and developing vineyards in the provinces of the north-east. Seventhly, the mining industry is considered under a special heading. Wang states that, while in Europe, he was told that half the mineral wealth of the world is in China. But this vast treasure remains still in the bowels of the earth. He recommends that Occidentals should be allowed to work the mines, on condition that, if the undertaking prove profitable, the privelege be repurchasable by the Chinese Government. In this way the profits may be secured to China, while the losses would be borne by foreigners. Eightly and lastly, Wang urges the appointment of a single responsible Minister of Foreign Affairs. The present collegiate system at the Tsung-li Yamên relieves every one of responsibility for the foreign affairs of the couutry, the consequences being extremely prejudicial to the interests of the Empire. Reorganization of the Foreign Office in Pekin in the sense recommended is declared to be a matter of supreme importance. He also advises the appointment of a separate and able Minister to each of the European countries. The present system of accrediting one Minister to several Courts at once, is, in his opinion, productive of various evil results, the principal among which is that other Courts where the Minister does not happen to be residing, Chinese diplomats have to be contented with a position inferior to that accorded to the representatives of "such petty states as Turkey, Greece, and Japan."

As to the Mahommedan rebellion in Kansuh, the Japanese correspondents agree that things are rapidly assuming a very serious aspect. Five battalions of Imperial troops have joined the rebels, and Viceroy Yang, of Kansuh, is reported to have committed suicide. The whole province is now believed to be in the occupation of the insurgents.

CHINA NEWS.

NOVEMBER 23RD.

The Rev. Gilbert Reid, whose recent appointment as the missionary member of the Szechuan Commission led to some controversy, has made his mark in China. Mr. Reid's direct *raison d'être* in China is the commonly heard reproach that Christian Missionaries obtain access to the lower classes only. His purpose is to reach the literati and the higher officials, and he seems to have been remarkably successful, for already he has made the acquaintance of sixteen prominent members of the Administration and has established communications with 58 out of the 60 chief men in the Government. He has been received by Prince Kung, by Wêng Tung-ho, who is regarded as the most powerful member of the Government after Prince Kung, and with Sun Chia-nai, of whom he speaks as "probably supreme of all the high officials in virtue and integrity." Mr. Reid is an excellent Chinese scholar, and is able to carry on social intercourse successfully. He sent to each of the twelve leading censors a letter covering a carefully prepared document on the needs of China; he then called on them in Chinese garb and finally he invited them to dinner. Four times they came to share his hospitality and listen to his words of wisdom. Not the least interesting fact is his financial management. He has a stipend of $60 a month, out of which he managed to contribute $295 to the funds of his mission during the first year of work; he moreover earned for the mission $425.52 by newspaper work, and his total expenditure for the year, including his own salary, was $935.30. He takes his meals with his Chinese teacher at a cost of ten cents per diem, and at the end of the year he had a credit balance of $1,350.

The choice of a site for the Japanese settlement at Soochow has not yet been definitely made. The Japanese commissioners want one place and the Chinese local authorities offer them another. The question has been referred to the Governments of the two countries.

Measures to centralize the Chinese administration are in progress. The telegraph has already accomplished much in that direction. Railways would accomplish more. The latest steps are the transfer of the directorship of the North-China Railway at Tientsin to Government officials, and the transfer of the control of the Kiangnan Arsenal from the Viceroy of the Liangkiang to the Grand Council of War in Pekin.

A serious military *émeute* in *posse* was checked at Kiukiang in the early days of November by the exertions of Taotai Chêng. Orders had been received to disband three-tenths of the garrison, but the soldiers objected. They proceeded, in the first place, to visit all the *yamêns* in the city, carrying joss-sticks in their hands. That was in the nature of a peaceful protest against the contemplated measure. The Taotai thereupon promised to petition for a postponement of the disbanding on the unusual pretext that a strong force of troops was required to guard the missionary chapels during the winter. But the soldiers, learning subsequently, that the original order was about to be carried out, seized a Colonel and were about to tear him in pieces when happily the Taotai appeared upon the scene and induced them to desist by pledging himself to intervene on their behalf. Military discipline is virtually an unknown quantity in China.

The members of the American Chêngtu Commission, instead of riding in official chairs on the way to Szechuan, are travelling in common mat litters, and are said to have been very inadequately received and lodged by the local officials *en route*.

NOVEMBER 27TH.

Our readers are aware that a newspaper was recently started in Pekin, and that its contents were found to be not only admirably progressive in spirit, but also remarkably outspoken. Some mystery attached at first to the origin of this new and interesting departure, but the facts are now clearly established. The *Wan-kuo-kung-pao*, or "Universal Foreign Intelligence," was conceived and inaugurated by a new club, of which the leading spirit is a Hanlin named Kang Chang-su, a native of Canton, who, some years ago, fell under official displeasure owing to the heretical character of his commentaries on the classics, especially the Confucian Analects. Denounced at that time to the Throne and his writings placed under a ban, Kang now finds himself in favour, owing to the sudden development of progressive ideas in the sequel of the late war. Associated with him in the new club are many men of note—Yuan Shihkai, the well known ex-Minister to Korea; a Secretary of the Grand Council; a grand-nephew of the Imperial Tutor Weng; son of the late Marquis Tsêng; and nephew of Prince Li; the eldest son of the Viceroy of Nanking, and some fifteen others of high literary rank, or belonging to great official families. Among the honorary members are such men as Wang, recently special envoy to Russia, one or two eminent Generals and so forth. The Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has given to the club a sum of Tls. 5,000, the second of the Imperial Tutors has given it a house rent free, and the Senior Imperial Tutor, President of the Board of Revenue, intends to procure for it an annual allowance from the Board, and has ordered printing machinery for bringing out the books by means of which the Club hopes to diffuse a knowledge of Western civilization and literature among the Chinese. It looks to be a very hopeful movement, but genuine reform in China can scarcely be expected so long as the present dynasty reigns.

The execution of the "Butterfly," "Long Finger Nails," and three other ringleaders of the Whasang assassins, took place at Foochow on the 7th November. Two executioners performed the work of decapitation, and so great was their celerity and accuracy that from the time the first sword was lifted until the fall of the fifth head, the interval was only twenty-two seconds.

The steamer *Nanking* was wrecked on the morning of November 14th while attempting to make the northern entrance of the Chefoo harbour. She missed the channel and struck a reef just before a northerly gale began to blow. The crew were all saved, but the ship became a total wreck. It is said that, having lost two of her propeller blades, she had sought permission to enter Port Arthur, but the Japanese refusing, she made for Chefoo. It is scarcely credible that any such refusal was given.

The neighbourhood of Hangchow seems to be in an unquiet condition. There is talk of Vegetarian bands organizing in various places with the intention of attacking the Christians.

The policy of disbanding troops all over the Empire is producing serious trouble. The men naturally demand some bonus to enable them to reach their homes, but in few cases is any attention paid to the demand. In Kiukiang there is a strong apprehension that the soldiers may sack the city unless they get what they ask. They profess unwillingness to injure foreigners, but the Kolao Hui, always ready to join in any disturbance, have put out placards against everybody in general and foreigners and officials in particular.

The officials at Wenchow are again displaying their contempt for treaty obligations. It may be remembered that, some time ago, they employed physical force to compel a man to sign a document promising that no more Christian services should be held in his house. After his release from confinement, he returned home and the services were re-commenced. He was again arrested and thrown into prison, no attention being paid to his perfectly valid excuse that he had let his house to the mission by which the services were performed. The remonstrances of the British Consul seem unavailing.

There is a rumour that official permission has been obtained by a Chinese syndicate to work the petroleum deposits in Szechuan and Hupeh.

It is feared at Newchwang that in the interval between the Japanese evacuation and the Chinese re-occupation, life and property will not be safe. The Chinese officials are foolishly unwilling to resume charge of the place until the Japanese have entirely taken their departure. H.M.S. *Rattler*, however, has "docked" there for the winter.

The Rev. James Stewart, rector of Stukeley, in Hants, has died from the shock of hearing that his daughter was murdered at Whasang.

THE presentation of prizes to successful exhibitors at a competitive exhibition of carved objects in Uyeno Park, Tokyo, took place on the 27th inst. in the presence of Viscount Enomoto, Messrs. Kuki Ryuichi, Mayeda Kenjiro, and several others. Messrs. Namikawa Sosuke, Kano Natsuo, Murata Ichiya, and Fumiya Takijiro. Miss Sakurai Ito-ko, and the Tsukiji Type Foundry received silver medals.

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THE LIBERAL SPIRIT OF COMMERCE.

Mr. Consul-General Jernigan writes in the ollowing strain in his Trade Report, as epiomized by United States' Journals :—

Prior to the treaty there were 25 Chinese ports at which Western ships could call, but only 15 ports were open to the call of Japanese ships.

"To this larger number," says the report, "three new ports have been added by the terms of the treaty —Chungking, Soochow, and Hangchow—making in all 28 open to commerce, and giving to Western nations, having the 'favoured-nation clause' in their treaties with China, the equal right, with Japan, to enter the new ports with their ships, and to Japan, now having the 'favoured-nation clause' in the treaty with China, the right to enter with her ships all of the 28 open ports."

While the merchants of Europe and America were free to trade in the interior of China, Japanese merchants were confined to the open ports. The imports of Japanese merchants were subjected to heavy imposts in passing into the interior, while the goods of Western merchants had simply to pay transit dues amounting to one-half of the sum levied by the Customs. But there is one provision of the treaty which exempts the merchandise of Western merchants from an additioual charge, for, although free to carry goods in the interior on the payment of comparatively small import duties, they were required to pay heavy transit dues when they desired to store goods in the interior. This inconvenience the new treaty removes.

Consul-General Jernigan calls attention to the fact that the most important provision of the new treaty is that which makes it free to carry on manufacturing industries. He says :—"This provision virtually opens China to new enterprises, and the kindred provision relating to the free import of machinery, may be accepted as fully explanatory of the article contained in the commercial treaty between China and Western nations being the first definite statement as to machinery, which, in the past, has been imported under the name of commodities. Only a few years ago, when cotton gins were sent from Japan to Shanghai, the Customs authorities objected, on the ground that China did not allow foreigners to engage in manufacturing industries in the interior, and, therefore, the importation of machinery for manufacturing purposes could not be permitted. About this question there can be no more doubt, and machinery, as well as other merchandise, can be imported."

It is noticeable that in the settlement of the difficulties between Japan and China "the liberal spirit of commerce was recognised as a potential and essential factor in the friendship of nations." Mr. Jernigan states that a decided opening has been made in the opposing wall of Chinese conservatism, and that in consequence a widening market may be expected for Western productions.

It must be confessed that Japan has very little reason to be satisfied with the appreciation extended to her efforts in the general cause of trade. Had she consulted her own interests only she would certainly have refrained from inserting in the Shimonoseki Treaty a clause securing for all nations the privilege of carrying on manufacturing industries in China. So long as such industries could not be started, China constituted a huge market lying at Japan's very doors and virtually open to Japan only, for it is manifest that with all the outer nations on equal terms, Japan would enjoy immense advantages in offering her own manufactures to the Middle Kingdom. But from the moment that it became possible for Europeans or Americans to organize and carry on industrial enterprises in China, from that moment Japan must find herself exposed to keen, if not invincible, competition. Careless of that consideration, however, she stipulated for the general liberty in question, the result being that almost immediately half a dozen foreign companies were started in Shanghai for the purpose of spinning cotton yarns, which meant, of course, that the cotton-manufacturing industry in Japan was to receive a heavy set back in its infancy. Nor did Japan obtain even the poor solace of public recognition. In the prospectus of the first manufacturing enterprise started in Shanghai—the Ewo Cotton Mill—instead of acknowledging that the enterprise had been rendered possible by Japan's action in the Shimonoseki Treaty, the framers of the document went out of their way to declare that they owed the privilege to the exertions of the British Representative in Pekin. On what grounds they made such an allegation remains to us a complete enigma, but assuredly it was not calculated to show that Japanese liberality was appreciated. In the same way we have men like Herr von Brandt composing brochures and penning articles to prove that Japan's selfish aim is to crush all Occidental trade in the Orient and monopolize the whole market for herself. We do not think that any German publicist has a valid title to upbraid other nations for want of commercial liberality, neither can we detect many traces of the spirit of free competition in the crusade that Herr von Brandt and Mr. Hesse-Wartegg have sought to organize against Japan. At any rate, if in the commercial treaty that she is now on the eve of negotiating with China, Japan originally entertained any idea of securing further tradal privileges for all nations, we should imagine that her recent experiences will induce her to pause.

FUNERAL OF MR. GOH.

The funeral of Mr. Keita Goh took place on the 22nd instant, the cortége leaving the residence of the deceased within the compound of the Foreign Office and proceeding to the temple Seisho-ji, near Atago-yama. Owing to an unfortunate oversight, notice was not given to foreigners, and thus numbers of persons who would most readily have attended, were prevented either by want of information or by a feeling of doubt as to the desire of the relatives. The Japanese attendance, however, was very large, and the display of flowers sent by sympathising friends was striking and beautiful.

We take this opportunity of supplementing our previously published brief notice of the deceased gentleman's career. Mr. Goh was descended from the little colony of Chinese scholars that took refuge in Japan after the fall of the Ming dynasty. He represented the ninth generation. Losing his father at the early age of three, he was brought up by his mother, who survives him. In Nagasaki and afterwards in Kyoto, he studied French and other subjects, his fellow-students being now Professors in the Imperial University or legal luminaries. Sent in 1875 to study in Pekin, he acted, ten years later, as interpreter for Count Ito during the negotiations that ended in the Tientsin Treaty, and after his return to Japan, was sent to Belgium to study law. It would be difficult to find in the ranks of officialdom, a more competent and highly educated man.

A MISSIONARY ON JAPAN.

At the recent meeting of the Church Congress in Norwich, the Rev. George Ensor read a paper on "Missions to the Japanese." We take this *résume* of it from the *London and China Express* :—

After dealing at length on the various creeds held in that country, he asked what had all the creeds of Japan in their separate or conspiring streams of philanthropy done for the ignorant aborigines of the northern isle of Yezzo. He had conversed with its inhabitants twenty years ago, and at that date through all their land no Buddhist shrine nor Confucian temple received the strange worshippers, nor did the State creed of Shinto ever dream of condescending from its dignity to their need. No priest instructed and no teacher taught them. The vaunted mission spirit of Buddhism found there no encouragement of royal Asoka to encourage, or lucrative revenue to enrich. To day the language of the Ainu was studied in the libraries of European learning through the pages of Mr. Bachelor, the representative of the Church Missionary Society. But better, infinitely far, than the classification of its declensions was the inclusion of those who employed it within the gates of the Christian Church. In the year 1891, only nine had been baptised of these strange savage people; last year 400 were ranked under the banner of the King of Grace. But it might be submitted that after all, Christianity might exercise but superficial influence over the people of Japan. It might be contended that the desire of culture, and a sensitiveness to the public opinion of the great people of the Occident, might have stimulated Japan to adopt the livery of a creed associated with the prestige of the dominant races of the world. It might be urged that the late war gave ghastly disclosure of the savage character and condition of the Japanese. It might be contended that the tale of rapine and massacre told in the annals of that campaign threw lurid and significant lustre on the unregenerate temperament of that people. Admitting, for argumentative purposes, that the tale with all its horror be absolutely true, what did it all prove? It showed that the Japanese army and people, with yet but a most limited percentage of Christians within them, too few to exercise but a minimum of restrictive and temperating influence, were guilty of crimes that found most adequate and respectable parallels in the Franco-German war of 1870. But even in a field so unfavourable for their exhibition, there did appear in the late war illustrations of the sanctifying and softening influence of the Christian faith. It was delightful to mark the readiness with which Japanese soldiers received copies of God's Word on their departure from their country for the front. One of the lady workers of the Church Missionary Society received a letter from four of these soldiers, saying that the four met daily for the reading of the secred book.

It is a great pity that Christian missionaries so often display want of accuracy in discussing the affairs of the nations among which they work. One Bishop Corfe is enough to discredit the Christian Creed in the eyes of the whole Japanese nation. Of course, we do not dream of comparing the spirit that animates Bishop Corfe with that displayed by Mr. Ensor. The latter is evidently a kindly, large-hearted man. But why does he not inform himself thoroughly before he speaks? No man acknowledging the most elementary dictates of justice could allude to the late war as having given "ghastly disclosure of the savage character and condition of the Japanese," or could talk of "the tale of rapine and massacre told in the annals of that compaign" as proving the "unregenerative temperament of the people." Once only in the whole course of the war did the Japanese troops behave cruelly, and on that occasion the fact that they were maddened by terrible provocation is established by the kindly demeanour of the very same men in previous fights. As for rapine, there was never a serious charge of the kind. Under any circumstances, conceding the worst about Port Arthur, it is surely most unfair that the otherwise uniformly irreproachable conduct of the Japanese forces should be effaced by one solitary excess perpetrated under the pressure of strong provocation. Mr. Ensor does not intend to commit such an injustice, we are confident. But his method of stating the case is unfortunate, and nothing could be less judicious than his suggestion that whatever clemency and self-control the Japanese soldiers displayed during the war were due to the "sanctifying and softening influence of the Christian faith." That is certainly not the way to make Christianity popular in Japan, for every Japanese Buddhist, knowing that he follows a creed not less charitable and careful of life than Christianity, can not but be deeply offended by Mr. Ensor's suggestion.

THE TOKYO FINE ARTS SCHOOL.

We are pleased to learn from the *Journal Officiel de l'Exposition* that the Tokyo Fine Arts School has, at the Thirteenth General Exposition at Bordeaux, obtained what the French call *un diplôme d'honneur*. As this distinction is the hightest that can be gained, and has not been awarded to any other institution of the same kind, we congratulate the Minister of Education as also the Director of the Fine Arts School, Mr. Okakura Kakuzo, on this noteworthy success. The jury, containing members of many different nationalities, has no doubt highly appreciated the effective organization given by this country to instruction in the fine arts, and we trust that the Imperial Diet in its approaching session will not curtail the appropriations necessary for the preservation and further development of the national art of Japan.

CHAMPAGNE.

Considering the huge silver prices that we in the East have to pay for our champagne, the following paragraph from a home paper contains matter that is at once intelligible and aggravating :—

Bad news comes from the champagne district. The grape gatherers are dejected, and did not keep their annual festival with as much gaiety as usual. The cause of the depression is attributed to the indifferent vine harvest. Mildew, frost, and then the long drought, damaged the grapes. In some districts, however, notably Ay, the *récolté* is better than in others, but there is a second cause of trouble to the people of the Champenois country who live by the vine. The sales of their produce are effected with a good deal of difficulty, owing to the fact that wine merchants have too much champagne in stock, and cannot get it off their hands quickly enough to warrant fresh purchases. During the ten years from 1882 to 1892 the average number of bottles in the shops and cellars of the dealers in champagne wine amounted to 70,000,000. In 1893 this figure was increased to 86,000,000. Last year the number amounted to 184,000,000. In 1894 the export trade also declined, only 16,000,000 bottles being sent abroad, as against an average of 18,000,000 for eleven years

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SIR NICHOLAS O'CONOR.

SIR NICHOLAS O'CONOR has achieved the exceedingly difficult feat of leaving the East amid a chorus of approval. Not often has any British Representative to the Chinese Court added such a page to his record. Generally Her Majesty's Minister has become an object of detraction and censure before he takes his departure from Pekin, and if any voices are raised in his defence at the last hour, they are those of personal friends. At one time it seemed as though Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR'S fate would be no exception to the common rule. The local politicians, whose exclusion from the control of the British Administration alone holds England back from the Empire of the world, began to be very busy with his name a few months ago. But the high qualities that he displayed in times of exceptional difficulty imposed silence upon those that have no language but abuse, and elicited hearty praise from all sober observers. It would not be difficult, we imagine, for the British Representative in China, even though he did not possess the capacities of Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR, to win the support of his nationals. He need only devote a few months in every year to personal intercourse with them. The average Britisher wants to see his Minister, wants to shake hands with him, and, above all, wants to be tactfully deluded into the pleasant fiction that the Legation thunder-bolts are all forged at the open ports. It is so to a great extent in Japan also, though the conditions existing here render Ministerial seclusion more difficult, and therefore more offensive, than in China. No more striking example could be adduced than the case of the late Mr. FRASER. A truer-hearted gentleman, an abler official, and a more earnest toiler in his country's interests, never presided at any Legation. But because a singularly reserved disposition led him to shun society, he became the victim of coarse and unjust slanders. Sir NICHOLAS O'CONOR found little leisure to visit his nationals in the settlements. No British Representative in China will ever find time to foster his own popularity in that manner until the era of railways dawns for the big, unwieldy Empire. But he did not fail to utilize every means of supplying the deficiency, so that a marked feature of his career in Pekin was the supply of materials for intelligently judging it that he managed to place within reach of his nationals at the open ports. His removal from Pekin is emphatically a loss to the East, and we sincerely trust that in choosing his successor full account will be taken of the large problems likely to come up for solution in the course of the next few years. There is a measure of assurance in the fact of his transfer from Pekin direct to St. Petersburg, since his new post will probably afford opportunities for utilizing to the best purpose the special knowledge that he carries from the Orient, and we may therefore infer that Her Majesty's Government intends to keep close watch over the contingencies likely to arise out of the present situation in the Far East.

THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LIBERALS AND THE CABINET.

THE *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* professes to be in a position to give the text of an agreement said to have been concluded between the Cabinet and the Liberal Party. The document runs thus:—

Art. I.—The Liberal Party will support the present Cabinet to the best of their ability in the approaching session of the Diet, and should it happen that the "Responsibility Party" (*i.e.* the politicians claiming that the Ministry ought to resign on account of the Korean *coup d'état*), obtaining a majority, offer serious obstacles to the passage of Government measures, the Government shall recognise its responsibility and dissolve the House of Representatives.

Art. II.—In the general elections after the dissolution, the Government shall openly support the Liberal candidates.

Art. III.—Should the Liberals nevertheless fail to find themselves in a majority in the new House, the Government, recognising its responsibility, shall resign, thus establishing the precedent of party cabinets.

Art. IV.—After the resignation of the Cabinet, Marquis Ito will enter the Liberal Party, and will assist that Party in measures of administrative reform.

The *Asahi* declares, without any reservation, that the above agreement has been concluded between the Ministry and the Liberals. It adds that the covenant meets with very little opposition in the Cabinet, and that Marquis SAIGO, though formerly leader of the National Unionists, is an assenting party. We find some difficulty in believing that the Ministry have pledged themselves to any hard and fast conditions, especially to a distinct promise that the system of party cabinets shall be recognised by them in certain eventualities. At the same time, it is beyond all question that the combination now openly formed between the Government and the Liberals means nothing less than a Ministerial recognition of the principle of party government, and that, for all practical purposes, the system may now be said to have come into existence. It is not surprising, human nature being what it is—that the Progressionists and the other sections of the Opposition should throw a great many ugly epithets at the heads of the Liberals under such circumstances. There exists only one intelligible issue between the Government and the politicians not in power, namely, the question of party cabinets. Many as are the sections composing the Opposition, their lines of demarkation are ultimately personal, and were the problem of party cabinets removed from the field, there would remain nothing to fight about until new programmes could be evolved. The Liberals have now succeeded in introducing the much desired, but greatly overrated, system, and have succeeded, at the same time, in obtaining results infinitely advantageous to their own credit and strength. For instead of following the destructive policy that constitutes the unique weapon of the rest of the Opposition—a policy plainly most mischievous to the nation's best interests at present—they have accomplished their object by amicable agreement with the Cabinet, and under circumstances that bring their patriotism into strong prominence. For it is impossible to deny that every sound principle of patriotism dictates union between the people and the Administration at this juncture of the country's career, and that men subserving the needs of the empire to a problem of domestic policy in such a time as the present, must be either deficient in patriotism or conspicuously wanting in the sagacity of statecraft. Moreover, the Liberals by their opportune measure of conciliation, have virtually drawn into their camp several of the most experienced and talented statesmen of the empire, thus securing for their Party the elements without which it could never have been a practical candidate for administrative responsibility. Such success could not fail to rouse sentiments of fierce envy and disappointment in the breasts of politicians whom this arrangement relegates to a limbo of long powerlessness. Hence we find the organs of the extreme wing of the Opposition casting in the teeth of the Liberals reproaches too illogical to be dictated by anything short of blind anger. They call the Liberals servile tools of those in power, taunt them with having made an unconditional surrender, sneer at them as morally defunct, and revile them for leaguing themselves with clan statesmen. Considering that the Liberals have attained the sole result for which they fought so long, the notion of twitting them with unconditional surrender, or indeed surrender of any kind, is pure silliness. And considering that every statesman in Japan is a "clan statesman," not excluding Counts ITAGAKI and OKUMA themselves, any reproach attached to that term is childish. If the organs of the Opposition desire to be understood as seeking to banish perpetually from the administration all the men that have made modern Japan, they can only expect to be laughed at. If they entertain no such mad project, then their talk about "clan statesmen" must be merely the froth of senseless anger. Japan has often been said to be a country of surprises for foreign observers. Perhaps it is. But for one thing experience has taught us to look in every Japanese emergency—compromise. By compromise a score of seemingly lost situations have been saved during the past fifteen years, and by compromise an easy bridge is now thrown across a chasm that threatened to widen for many coming days between the Government and the people. This consummation completes the quincunx of great *Meiji* issues. In the centre stands the promulgation of the Constitution, and on the four corners, the resumption of specie payments, the revision of the Treaties, the war with China, and the introduction of party cabinets.

JAPANESE CASE SUFFIXES.

ANDERSON, in the "Pictorial Arts of Japan," London, 1886, says: "The most favoured opinion on the origin of the Japanese refers them to the same parent stock as the Chinese and the Koreans." This view is apparently countenanced by ethnological data as well as by the geographical relations of Korea and parts of the Chinese coast south of Japan. Moreover, Mr. ASTON'S comparison of the Korean and Japanese languages has demonstrated that the two tongues resemble each other closely enough to justify the conclusion that they come from a common source. "Here," says ANDERSON, the "supporting arguments stop and other difficulties confront us." ANDERSON also says that a Japanese author, about A.D. 1800, suggested that the Japanese were a colony of the Hiung Nu. That is a bold suggestion, because the Hiung Nu were only known to the Chinese as the ruling power in Tartary from the third century before CHRIST, and the current tradition of the MIKADO'S dynasty reaches back to the seventh century before CHRIST. The whole argument is not presented by Mr. ANDERSON, who has done so much to illustrate the æsthetic triumphs of the Japanese. The philological proof is stronger than he supposed. In comparing the languages of the main-land with Japanese, Mr. ASTON stopped with Korean. There is a like resemblance between Japanese and each of the Tartar languages. For instance, the Japanese plural in *nado* is *teul* in Korean, *nar* and *ner* in Mongol, and *lar* in Turkish. The palace of Beglar Beg is the palace of the Beg of the Begs, a title of the SULTAN. Beg is the Chinese *pek*, a feudal title equivalent to Earl in feudal Europe. Here we have precisely the same plural in use all the way from Tokyo to Constantinople. The Turkish language has case suffixes like the other languages occuping Tartary, Korea, and Japan. It places the verb at the end of the sentence, and its syntactical rules all show that it belongs to the same great Asiatic family with which these languages are associated and of which they are the chief members.

HOFFMANN counts six cases only in the declension of Japanese nouns. The student may, however, with advantage regard the cases of nouns in Japanese as nominative, genitive, dative, terminative, accusative, ablative, instrumental, locative, and comitative. That number will be sufficient. He must have a nominative because *ba* and *ga* follow the noun. *Ba* has now become *wa*. It is the Mongol nominative *ber*. It is the demonstrative 彼 *pi*, just as *ga* is the demonstrative 其 *git*, the *qui*, "who" of Latin. A relative pronoun is never anything but a transformed demonstrative, and this is true also of interrogative pronouns, as *quis?*

The genitive *no* is also Mongol. It is connective in the Japanese *otoko no ko*, "male child." It is possessive in *hito no me*, "eye of men." In modern Mongol, spoken North of the Great Wall the genitive is *nei* or *in*. In books it is *un*. Without doubt it is a transformed demonstrative, and may be identified with *so*, *sore*, *ano*, *nani*, *dare*, etc. These pronouns, by ready interchauge of *n*, *d*, *t*, *s*, with each other, have but one root, of which they are the modern forms. In modern Europe *der*, *die*, *das*, *this*, *that*, are some of the recent western forms of the same primæval demonstrative. The dative takes *ni*, as in *nanji ni zeni wo ataberu* (modern, *atayeru*) "to give money to you." Here *wo* is the sign of the accusative. It is the Mongol *i* which is used in the same way. The terminative tense is formed by *be (ye)*, *ni*, and *made*. The ablative is formed by *yori* and *kara*. The comitative tense is marked by *to* or *tomoni* or *to tomo*, "with, in company with." The instrumental is expressed by *yori*, *motte*, and *ni yorite*. Among these case particles, verbs are mixed. Thus *yoriru* "approach, lean upon," if used in the manner of the instrumental, takes the participial suffix *te* and follows *ni* "upon," which is a locative. The language is still in the agglutinative stage, and struggles against increase in the number of cases. *Motte*, our "bear," and the Latin *fero*, becomes causative with the added syllable *se*, as in *motase* "make to carry, lean upon, rest against." The same root is also to lift in *motage*, "raise up." This special force is given to the root *mot* by adding *ge*. Evidently if the same root means "lift, carry, and take" it is the putting forth of the hand that is the original from which these senses are derived. This is the same verb we have in *mitto*, "to send," for example. The root is the same. The people that migrated over the continent had one vocabulary at first. We find the same roots used in forming grammatical laws which are peculiar to each nation. Japanese is much older than Latin. It belongs to the mesozoic age, so to speak, if we suppose primæval speech to be eozoic, the Chinese language to be paleozoic, and the Indo-European to be neozoic. There is no advantage in denying that the roots (eozoic) in Latin (neozoic) are one with the Japanese (mesozoic). The Japanese race came from the continent at a certain date after wandering in Asia, as the Mongols wander now. The wandering habit of life broke up all special love for monosyllabism. Agricultural nations reveal a tendency to use changes of tone to mark new meanings in roots. The polysyllabic structure of Japanese shows that the nation was nomad for a very long time before it was agricultural.

It is necessary to state this principle here, because the case suffixes are in several instances Tartar. The ablative *yori* "from" is in Mongol *ese*, *asa*, *eche*, "from." In Manchu it is *chi*. In Welsh it is *oddi*, and in Chinese 自 *dzi*, "from." In Welsh and Chinese it precedes its noun. On this fact may be based an argument to show that, long ago, somewhere in northern Asia the Japanese for a long period lived as wandering shepherds like the Tartars now. They betray in case particles an early generic connection with Tartar races They would not have had the same mode of declining nouns unless they led the same nomadic life. In some way not yet fully explained nomadic life led to the postponement of the verb. Every case suffix is a verb, and so the transposition of the verb caused by change of residence being both Japanese and Tartar, these races must have been neighbours. What are nations now were tribes long ago, and ethnology and philology both point to original unity.

For every phenomenon there is a cause. The letter *h* is dropped in France and in England because speakers of French conquered England in the 11th century. This was the cause of the weakening of *h* in England. The Romans used *tus* as a case particle for the ablative in adverbs because their ancestors were once in Asia. For this suffix is the same with those mentioned above. The ablative in Sanscrit is *āt* in the masculine and *ayah* in the feminine. In Persian *āz* is "from," and it precedes the noun just as *oddi* in Welsh and 自 *tsï* in Chinese precede the noun. Thus the same word is a preposition in Chinese, Persian, and Celtic, all of which races are agricultural, and a postposition in Latin, Sanscrit, the Tartar languages, Korean, and Japanese, which races are, or probably were, nomadic in their mode of life. It becomes clear in this way that the case suffixes in Japanese are originally verbs, and the verb took its place after the accusative at the end of the sentence through the action of causes springing out of nomadic life. The chief cause is rhetorical. Nomads listen to story tellers. Sentences are formed with the gerund construction. The indicative mood is avoided till the end arrives; neither the tellers of the tale nor the listeners are at all eager to finish their calm interest in the narrative. The postponement of the indicative under the action of such causes led to the postponement of the verb in Tartar and Japanese syntax, as the result of the peculiar life of Tartary and Siberia. It took place in former times when the climate there was warmer than it now is. In the primæval period the verb could stand nowhere but between the actor and the object of the action. This syntax suits the market and the ordinary business of the family. But for long conferences, religious, political, and romantic, another syntax was felt to be convenient. It is that of the Tartar and Dravidian nations, and the Koreans and Japanese have not yet been able to free themselves from this rehetorical bondage.

JOSEPH EDKINS.

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SHINTO SHRINES AND PRIESTS (SHINKWAN).

THAT Shinto is not a religion in the strict sense of the term is generally agreed, even the disciples of the cult themselves admitting it. The conclusion is at once arrived at when we observe that the tenets of Shinto are practically devoid of that essential feature of all religions, the doctrine of a future life. The Shintoists themselves regard the matter from a different standpoint. In their eyes religion is synonymous with Buddhism, which they despise as an institution established chiefly for imposing upon the weak minds of the vulgar. To them religion is a humbug, and of course they deem it a desecration to degrade their own cult to such a rank. They claim for Shinto nothing more than that it is a special mode of duly reverencing the divine ancestors and other illustrious personages of the realm, and for perpetuating their memory. By the common people, however, Shinto is regarded in the light of a religion, though differing more or less from their idea of Buddhism. This by the way, however. The purpose of our article is not to discuss abstruse theological points, but to give some facts relating to Shinto.

The gradation of shrines may be first dealt with. Shrines are divided into four official grades, viz., State shrines (*kwanpei-sha*), provincial shrines (*kokuhei-sha*), prefectural shrines (*fuken-sha*), and district and divisional shrines (*go-son-sha*). State and provincial shrines are in turn subdivided, the former into three and the latter into two classes. State shrines are chiefly dedicated to the so-called divine ancestors, that is to say, to the mythical beings said to have flourished in the Age of the Gods (*Jindai*), a few also being dedicated to certain Emperors, courtiers, or imperial vassals of distinction. To the last category belong KUSUNOKI MASASHIGE, HIDEYOSHI, IYEYASU, and others. It will thus be seen that the more remote, and consequently the more mythical, the personages, the greater the veneration in which they are ostensibly held. Judged from the pantheistical tendency of the Japanese people, it might be expected that a large number of Emperors would have been deified. But such is not the case. Of the 128 Emperors that have sat on the throne of Japan, only two, OJIN and KWAMMU, are sanctified, and even of these two the apotheosis of the latter did not take place until this year, and may be referred to a wholly accidental cause.

Between a State shrine of the first grade and a divisional shrine, there is of course a vast difference in standing, but it does not necessarily follow that the deity worshipped in the one is of greater importance than the deity worshipped in the other. Very frequently both are dedicated to the same *kami*, the distinction of rank being due simply to the repute in which the shrine is held, or to its locality, or to some other independent causes. Consequently, a deity apotheosized in one place in a State shrine of great magnificence may be worshipped as a comparatively insignificant being in another. The *Daijingoo* at Ise is the shrine of the highest importance in Japan, but a *Daijingoo* under the alias of *Myojin* is to be found in almost every nook and corner throughout the country. The number of deities is immense: statisticians do not enumerate them, nor would there be any profit in doing so. But the deities, or rather the shrines, that enjoy any considerable measure of popularity, are comparatively few, not more than ten in all. They are the *Daijingoo* (Ise), the *Taisha* (Izumo), the *Hachimangoo* (Kyoto), the *Temmangoo* (Hakata), the *Inari* (Kyoto), the *Kasuga* (Nara), the *Atago* (Kyoto), the *Kompira* or *Kotohira* (Sanuki), the *Suitengoo* (Tokyo), and the *Suwa* (Shinano). Branch shrines of these eleven are found in great abundance, one or two existin gin the pettiest local division. With the exception of the first three, the shrines are all named from the places where they are situated. The *Hachimangoo* is dedicated to the Emperor OJIN, and the *Temmangoo* to SUGIWARA MICHIZANE, but all the others commemorate prehistoric worthies known to Shinto or Japanese scholars only. The majority of even the well-educated classes areentirely ignorant about these Shrines, though of course they are obliged to know something of the greatest Japanese deity, *Amaterasuomi-Kami*. As to the common people, they confidently believe that *Nasuga*, *Atago*, and so forth are all names of deities; they even believe that foxes are really worshipped in the *Inari-jinsha*. Inari-yama, where stands the first and most important shrine of *Inari*, is a famous haunt of foxes, and these animals thus came to be considered ministering servants of the deity *Inari*. Foxes, then, being a necessary accompaniment of *Inari*, the common people, by process of synecdoche, were led to regard them, especially white foxes, as supernatural beings to which shrines are specially dedicated. Even greater confusion exists in other cases; that, for example, of the *Suitengoo*. No one can tell who is worshipped there, though the Shrine is one of the most popular and highly venerated in the empire.

A word may be said about the income of shrines. This, as might be expected, differs considerably. The Great Shrine of Ise naturally stands at the head. Its total income is believed to be some 40,000 *yen* annually. Next come the *Kompira* of Sanuki and the *Taisha* (or Oyashiro) of Izumo, each enjoying about half of the above income. The income is derived from offerings of coin and the sale of amulets (*ofuda*). The above are all State shrines, but there are others that possess no less income, though very much inferior in rank. *Suitengoo* in Tokyo is a good example. The Though a shrine of no definite official grade, its popularity is such that its net takings are said to exceed 10,000 *yen* a year. A peculiar feature of this shrine is that it is the private property of Count ARIMA, ex-Lord of Kurume, and stands in the precincts of his residence in Kakigaracho. It is believed that the income his lordship enjoys from this sacred source is more than enough to defray all his ordinary expenses.

The special functions assigned by the common people to the above-mentioned shrines are various. For example, the *Suitengoo* is believed to give protection against shipwreck and every evil incidental to water; against burglary, and even against the perils of parturition. The *Kompira* also represents a deity guaranteeing men against shipwreck. Sailors are for the most part devout believers in these two shrines. Then the *Inari* has power to secure efficacy for prayer, while the *Taisha* presides over wedlock. The total number of shrines in Japan amounts to 193,476, of which about seven parts are ungraded, that is to say, shrines which from various causes are excluded from the pale of official classification. The *Shinkwan* (Shinto priests) total 14,766, being thus at the rate of one for every 13 shrines. With Buddhism the case is different, the temples and priests aggregating respectively 108,000 and 55,000 in round numbers, that is to say at the rate of about one priest to two temples. The comparative paucity of *Shinto* priests is explained by the fact that a shrine requires the service of its ministering priest once or twice a year only, and thus one priest can undertake the service at quite a number of shrines. As shrines are officially graded, so are priests; namely, into *Chokunin*, *Sonin*, and *Hannin*. Only the head of the "holy officials" ministering at the Great Shrine of Ise is a *Chokunin*, a rank held by Vice-Ministers of State, Chiefs of Bureau, and local Governors in general. The presiding officials at State and provincial shrines come next in rank, while the *Shinkwan* of subordinate shrines are lowest. A certain official stipend is allowed to priests of *Chokunin* and *Sonin* rank. It varies from 100 to 33 *yen* per month. But as they are permitted to appropriate more or less of the income of the shrines with which they are connected, the actual amount accruing to most of them is at least double of the fixed salary. *Shinkwan* are appoined both by examination and nomination. Sons of priests, whose forefathers held the post for ten generations consecutively, are eligible without any examination. A candidate not boasting such a genealogy has to be examined in certain specified subjects relating to Japanese history, rites and ceremonies, and so forth. The examination is held every year both at the Home Department and in prefectural offices.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMAN.

IN a recent number of the *Popular Science Monthly* appears an article by Professor G. T. W. PATRICK, University of Iowa, which gives the results of modern anthropological researches bearing on the psychological peculiarities of woman. The writer has confined himself to points on which investigators agree, and claims that the facts given are established beyond dispute. We give a short *résumé* of Professor PATRICK'S essay.

Various theories are held concerning woman's peculiarities. It has beensaid that she is a stunted or inferior man and represents arrested development. Again, it has been asserted that she is a grown-up child; that she belongs to the child type. While accepting the latter theory, others have maintained that the child type is in truth the race type, and represents greater perfection than is attained by man, whose natural characteristic is senility. Finally, it has been said that throughout the whole animal world, where artificial circumstances have not interfered with nature, the female is superior to the male in size and vitality, and more truly represents the essential qualities of the species.

Psychology is now studied in connection with physiology. Although in such a discussion as this, the peculiarity of the female nervous system is a subject meriting more attention than any other physical peculiarity, as a basis for the physiological and psychological difference between man and woman, the following additional facts may be stated. Woman, among all civilised races, is shorter and lighter than man, except in America, where at the age of 13 or 14 girls are both taller and heavier than boys of a corresponding age. Her height relative to that of man is as 16 to 17, and her weight as 9 to 10. Her form is more rounded and graceful, less bony and angular, having relatively more fat and less muscle. Owing to peculiarity of structure, woman is less erect than man. The greater length of the first finger as compared with the third, common among women, is rare in men. It is said to give grace to the hand and to be an instance of higher evolution, not being found among apes or savages. As shown by the dynamometer, women's strength is at the most not more than two-thirds of that of man. Woman's lung capacity in proportion to her size is much less than that of man, and the amount of carbonic acid expired is relatively less. There is great difference in the blood: that of women containing a larger percentage of water and a lower specific gravity. As compared with man, woman is anæmic. The pulse-beat is from 8 to 12 per minute faster than that of man.

The following differences have reference to birth, death, and disease. Statistics show that in Europe and America 105 boys are born to every 100 girls. The proportion in other countries is said to be about the same. The excessive mortality of males, however, begins with birth and continues throughout the greater part of life. Notwithstanding the decimation of women incident to the child-bearing period of their lives, they are found, whenever a computation is made, to be considerably in excess of men. This is not the result of accident, but is due to the greater power that women possess of resisting disease when encountered, or to an entire absence of liability. Women endure surgical operations better than men, and recover more easily from the effect of wounds. They grow old less rapidly and live to a greater age. Among centenarians there are twice as many women as men. Women retain the use of their limbs longer; their hair becomes gray later, they suffer less from what is called crabbed old age; their sight, hearing, and memory are better in their declining years than those of men; in fact in every way they are more hardy than men and possess a larger reserve of vitality. A mass of evidence collected by European authropologists shows that all kinds of variation from the normal type, montrosities and the like, are much less common in women than in men.

The long disputed questions about woman's brain have been partially solved. Woman's brain is of less absolute weight than man's, but that is of little importance. Relative to the weight of the body there is nearly perfect equality between the sexes, the difference, if any, being in favour of women. But as a test of mental capacity the relative size of different parts of the brain has to be considered. The lower centres as compared with the hemispheres are larger in the female brain. The frontal region and the occipital lobe are larger and the parietal lobe smaller than that of men. It is now considered that the size of the parietal region is second to none in importance in testing intellectual capacity.

The above facts go far to support the theory of the infantile character of woman. A large proportion of her physical characteristics are also infantile traits. The rounded form, larger proportion of fat, percentage of water in the blood, rapid pulse-beat, and the preponderance of the lower brain centres—all these are distinctively infantile marks.

To come to psychical differences, comparing average men with average women, contrary to the general notion, statistics collected by Italian and English investigators go to show that woman's sensibility is less keen than that of man. In touch, taste, sight, hearing and sensitiveness to pain, her susceptibility is said to be not so refined and delicate as that of man. But Professor PATRICK questions the soundness of this opinion. American investigations go to show that women have a finer sense of taste than men, but that men are superior in delicacy of smell. Yet tea and wine tasters are almost always men. HAVELOCK ELLIS, who has studied this subject thoroughly, holds with GALTON that on the whole women have less sensibility than men and that it is their greater affectability or nervous irritability that has given rise to the popular notion of their finer sensibility. In colour-blindness, however, there is a marked difference in favour of women. Three and a half per cent. of men are colour-blind, while not more than four-tenths of one per cent. of women are thus defective. None of the popular explanations of the difference are at all adequate.

Accurate observation and experiments go to show that men are superior to women in manual dexterity. To cite one case only, in the cigar and cigarette trades in English manufacturing centres, large numbers of women are employed, but are set to the coarse and lower grades of work, men being required to make the finer grades of cigars and to fold the narrow margins of the cigarette papers.

Coming to purely mental differences, in perception woman is quicker than man. She has a rapid unreasoned perception. But her perception of details is less accurate than that of man and she is more liable to be biassed by her feelings and wishes. Hence women as a rule make poor critics. Men are fond of the abstract and women of the concrete. The different mental habits of the sexes may be shown by requiring 50 men and 50 women to write as rapidly as possible 100 words without time for thought. In the women's list will be found more concrete terms than abstract, words relating to a whole rather than a part, the particular rather than the general, and association in space rather than in time. In respect to memory repeated tests show that girls are superior to boys. In reasoning of the quick associative kind women are superior, but in slow deductive and inductive reasoning they are inferior to men. They lack logical feeling; inconsistency does not shock them. Analysis is distasteful to them. Hence the plodding analytical work of science has been mostly performed by men. In language women are more apt than men. Girls learn to speak earlier than boys. An uneducated woman expresses herself more intelligibly than an uneducated man.

Women are more alike than men, more normal as it were. They are conservative in their instincts, are not easily persuaded to relinquish traditional methods and opinions. Women are much more excitable than men; their nervous tissue responds rapidly to every stimulus and their emotions are less easily concealed than those of men. Sympathy, pity, and charity are stronger in women than in men, and women are on the whole more generous. In morals there are a few well-marked distinctions. Male criminals are in excess

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of female by about six to one. But certain forms of crime, such as poisoning and infanticide, are more common among women than among men, and when they do become criminals women are often more cruel and depraved than men, specially when one of their own sex becomes an object of hatred. Their altruism is stronger, but their veracity is far inferior to that of man. Deception and ruse have become a habit of thought and speech with civilized women. She is more religious than man. Faith is natural to her and often leads to credulity.

Many of the peculiarities we have been considering seem to support the theory of women's representing arrested development, but it must not be overlooked that in some respects, such as, for instance, her moral qualities, woman represents a higher evolution than the male sex can boast of. In humanity, philanthropy, conscientiousness, fidelity, self-sacrifice, modesty, and patience, as well as in her lesser disposition to crime, woman is further from the savage than man. The same may be said of such mental qualities as grace and refinement. It is perhaps correct to say that woman's purely intellectual development when compared to that of man has been retarded.

The advocates of the theory of woman's arrested development lay great stress on the proofs of the truth of the theory furnished by feminine taste in the matter of dress. The origin of dress, as is well known, was the desire to adorn the person not to protect it. The savage spent time and money and underwent a large amount of physical discomfort for the sake of display and adornment. Bright coloured feathers, glossy skins of animals, beads, shells, and shining stones. nose rings, and earrings figured largely in the dress of our ancestors. The hair was left uncut and tied in fantastic shapes. No feeling of inconvenience was allowed to interfere with the consistent following of the one principle of adornment. Dress in those early days, in addition to its function of enhancing personal charms, acted as an evidence of the wealth of the wearer, In the course of evolution, as far as man is concerned, dress has steadily advanced from display to utility. But in the case of women hardly any development has taken place. In their head dress, their flowing robes, their long hair, their love of striking colours, feathers, bright stones, and shells, they resemble their savage ancestors. Even mutilation of the body or distortion is still common among certain classes of women, such as piercing the ears, constriction of the waist, and pinching of the feet. A survival of the primitive custom of leaving parts of the body exposed for the sake of display is seen in ladies' evening dress. Another case of retardment of development in women is seen in the tendency to make dress a symbol of the wealth of the wearer or the wearer's family. Among men it is quite impossible to judge of a man's wealth by his attire, but the same cannot be said of his wife and daughters.

Professor PATRICK thus sums up the results of his inquiry:—"The matter, in fact, reduces itself probably to this: that woman, like the child, represents the race type, while man represents those variable qualities by which mankind adapts itself to its surroundings. Every woman is, as it were, a composite picture of the race, never much worse nor much better than all. Man is, as it were, nature's experiment, modified to reflect, if possible, the varying conditions of his environment. If superiority consists in adaptation to present environment, then man is superior; if it consists in the possession of those underlying qualities which are essential to the race—past, present, and future—then woman is superior. · · · · May it not be that woman, representative of the past and future of humanity, whose qualities are concentration, passivity, calmness, and reserve of force, and upon whom, more than upon man, rest the burdens and responsibilities of the generations, is too sacred too be jostled roughly in the struggle for existence, and that she deserves from men a reverent exemption from some of the duties for which his restless and active nature adapts him?"

MARQUIS ITO.

THE *London and China Express* editorially discusses Marquis ITO'S position with more insight than is usually displayed by Western journals with regard to Japanese affairs. Having referred to the odium that has fallen on LI HUNG-CHANG, our contemporary says:—

> But in the exact degree that Li's shield is blurred, that of the Japanese Premier should shine out more brilliantly. For all the disasters have redounded to the glory of Japan; and precisely in so far as Li is blamed should Ito be glorified. So far from that being the case, however, he is said to be, at present, one of the most unpopular men in the country. Unstable and unreflecting, the popular mind has chosen to overlook the great sum of success, and to hold him responsible for the disappointment involved in the retrocession of Liao-tung; condemning him, in fact, for an act of wisdom and courage greater, perhaps, than the conduct of the campaign. As a patriot, Ito will probably be hurt; if he were a philosopher he would pursue his way with contempt for the traditionally uncertain breeze. If he is not murdered *more Japonico*, he will probably live to see it blow another way; like the Duke of Wellington, who, being escorted home one day by a cheering crowd, turned and pointed to the windows of Apsley House which the crowd had smashed a few days before.

We think that the London journal is misinformed when it describes Marquis ITO as "at present one of the most unpopular men in the country." It may fairly be stated, we believe, that the bulk of the nation recognise Marquis ITO'S great services, and are more than content that he should remain at the head of the Administration. But there stand always opposed to him a powerful combination of politicians, headed by the Progressionists, who seek every possible means of discrediting him, not for his own sake, nor because they consider that the nation's interests are unsafe in his hands, but because they regard him as the leader of the Imperial interpreters of the Constitution; that is to say, the leader of the statesmen whose reading of the Constitution is that it holds the Ministers of the CROWN responsible to the CROWN only, and does not recognise that they owe any responsibility to the Diet. In a word, all the advocates of party cabinets stand opposed to Marquis ITO. Their sole aim is to pull him down, and they watch eagerly for an opportunity to effect their purpose. By these politicians an outcry was raised about the retrocession of the Liaotung Peninsula. Any close reader of their various utterances on the subject must have perceived how carefully they avoided suggesting that Japan might have defied the three European Powers and retained her territorial acquisitions in Manchuria in despite of Russia, Germany, and France. That was not their contention by any means. They were too astute not to perceive that armed opposition to a combination of three great Western Powers would have meant annihilation for Japan. Their point was simply that Japan's compulsory surrender of all the territories actually conquered by her armies, having come upon the nation with cruel bitterness in the very hour of victory, must, in the nature of things, have brought some descredit on the statesmen in power, and they sought to utilize popular disappointment as a means of driving these statesmen out of office. In that they failed, for the Liberals and the National Unionists having refused to endorse their contention, they found themselves powerless to raise any national echo of their own comparatively feeble outcry. But even before failure was absolutely assured, a new weapon offered itself in the shape of the Korean *coup d'état*. There they seemed to stand on more solid ground, since the Cabinet that had appointed Viscount MIURA might fairly be held in some degree accountable for his egregious blunders. But once again the Opposition have been foiled by the attitude of the Liberals. These latter enjoy exceptional access to the true inwardness of Korean politics, one of their most eminent leaders, Mr. HOSHI TORU, having spent many months in the Korean capital and been an actual witness of the events of October the 8th. Acting on the information thus acquired, they have not only stood aloof from the Opposition's agitation, but have even made open declaration of a resolve to cöoperate with the ITO Cabinet. Thus the most serious and strenuous efforts of the Opposition to foment popular agitation against the Ministry have failed, and under such circumstances it can not be just to allege that Marquis ITO is "one of the most unpopular men in the country." If the true sentiment of the people could be sounded,

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there would be found, we think, only one cause of umbrage against Marquis ITO, namely, the fact that he was himself the dispenser of honours in which he largely shared. It is fresh in the memory of our readers how strongly he protested against his own promotion to the rank of Marquis, and how nearly a Cabinet crisis was precipitated by the incident. Yet we doubt whether the nation has ever been fully persuaded that the distinction thus received by the Premier—a distinction most richly deserved—really owed nothing to the Marquis' initiative. There lingers in many people's minds a sentimental objection to the whole affair. But it is a paltry matter after all, not destined to remain long in the thoughts of the nation. A trustworthy index to Marquis ITO'S popularity is the present attitude of the Liberal Party toward his Cabinet. If he remains in office, he will find himself the first Japanese Prime Minister that ever faced the Lower House with an overwhelming majority of supporters among the members. It was undoubtedly his intention to retire from the Cabinet immediately after the conclusion of peace with China. The Liaotung question deferred the execution of that design, and compelled him to continue in power until this new and threatening problem was solved. Then when the LI-HAYASHI Convention was signed and China had paid the price agreed upon for the rendition of the Peninsula, he would certainly have consummated his project of resignation had not the attitude of the Liberal Party brought him face to face with an incalculably important problem of domestic politics. Assuredly, had he been able to resign immediately after the ratification of the Shimonoseki Treaty, he would best have consulted his own personal interests. That opportunity lost, there remains no conceivable reason why he should now go out of office. On the contrary, nothing seems more fitting than that, as head of the Administration, he should direct and control the crowning of the constitutional edifice whose foundations he himself prepared.

BASEBALL.

U.S.S. "OLYMPIA" v. YOKOHAMA.

A game of Baseball was played on Saturday afternoon between a team from the U.S.S. *Olympia* and a shore nine, the "battery" being, however, composed of men from the U.S.S. *Baltimore*. The Navy at the outset took a decided lead, and playing better together, won by an innings and eight runs, although at one time it seemed as if the Yokohama team would hold its own. Edwards distinguished himself by his fine batting powers, making two clean home runs. The following are the scores :—

"Olympia."	Pos.	Runs.	Out.	Yokohama.	Pos.	Runs.	Out.
Mr. Fenelon ...	c ...	4 ...	1	Mr. Guthrie ...	p ...	3 ...	1
Mr. Standley...	1b ...	3 ...	2	Mr. Bain	3b ...	0 ...	3
Mr. Monoghan	2b ...	3 ...	1	Mr. Ellis	rb ...	1 ...	3
Mr. Brice.....	p ...	4 ...	2	Mr. Tilden ...	2b ...	3 ...	1
Mr. Davidson.	cf ...	3 ...	2	Mr. Townsend	c ...	2 ...	1
Mr. McKelvey.	rf ...	3 ...	1	Mr. Abel	ss ...	2 ...	2
Mr. Doddridge.	3b ...	1 ...	2	Mr. Gibbens...	2b ...	1 ...	3
Mr. Church	ss ...	2 ...	2	Mr. Edwards ..	lf ...	2 ...	0
Mr. Kindleberger	lf ...	1 ...	2	Mr. Lias.....	cf ...	0 ...	4
Total.....	— ...	24 ...	15	Total.....	— ...	16 ...	18

Innings.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
"Olympia"	5	4	1	8	6	-	-	-	-	24
Yokohama	1	0	2	7	6	0	-	-	-	16

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsiblefor the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions their may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE PROSPECTS OF POSITIVISM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Your correspondent J.C.H. is little aware how unfortunately he exposes the failure of Positivism to gain any hold on the minds of even the intelligent public. The writer of your article on the "Doctrine of Immortality" rashly assumed that he knew something about Positivism. Your correspondent writes to show into what grievous errors he had fallen, and asserts that "a more general acquaintance with the substance and method of Positive doctrine" would have saved him from his mistakes. No doubt it would, but it is just this "more general acquaintance with their doctrines" that the poor Positivists sigh for in vain. The public mind is so lamentably indifferent to them, and when it does get hold of something, that *something* turns out to be a misconception after all. And yet it is this system which, in the grandiloquent words of your correspondent, "aims at replacing the decaying theological props of religion by a foundation of demonstrated scientific truth." Well, it hardly seems equal to the task at present, but perhaps the decaying theological props of religions will last us for a little longer.

Yours, NIL DESPERANDUM.

Tokyo, November 21, 1895.

JAPAN AND AUSTRALIA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My mission to Japan and the Far East as a Commissioner of the South Australian Government, and as the representative of producers and manufacturers in South Australia, is, of course, entirely unconnected with politics. Anything, therefore, that I may advance in this letter is entirely on my own responsibility.

But the letter of your Australian Correspondent in your issue of to-day, and fugitive paragraphs and extracts which I have seen in newspapers published in Japan, impose upon me the duty of asking you to allow me to say a few words on the subject.

Great Britain has properly allowed the self-governing colonies to decide whether they will accept this treaty which comes into force in 1899; but they must arrive at a decision within two years of the date when it was signed by the high contracting powers.

At the present time all the Parliaments of Australia are in session and each is occupied with the "burning question" of the hour. There is no probability of either of the Parliaments seriously discussing the Treaty question during the current sessions. The Premier of South Australia has invited the Premiers of the other colonies to meet in conference in the recess and this will no doubt secure the postponement of parliamentary debate until next year. In the meantime, questions will be asked in Parliament, answers will be given by Ministers—not many of them, it is to be hoped, so wide of the mark as that of the Hon. J. H. Want, the Attorney General of New South Wales, who said the Japanese who went to Honolulu went as slaves—articles will be written on party lines in newspapers, and many absurd things will be said in foolish speeches made by uninformed men. This is to be expected.

It is, of course, idle to conceal that the most popular political cry in Australia is: "Australia for the Australians." But that cry is not the expression of racial conceit or colour antipathy merely or chiefly. It is mainly economic. It is the vehement assertion by the working-men in possession that they do not want in their country any manual toilers who will reduce their rate of wages, or lengthen their hours of labour. They are afraid that Asiatics will do this, and, like Phinehas in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," they stretch out both hands and cry to the lower wage-earning race: "Friend, thee isn't wanted here."

For my own part I have been and am in favour of South Australia accepting the treaty, and I am confident that all the Colonies would be wise to avail themselves of its provisions. My experiences and the information I have gathered since I have been in Japan confirm my conviction.

Australia contains an area of about 3,000,000 square miles, and has only about 3,250,000 white inhabitants. It possesses over 120,000,000 sheep, millions of cattle, and hundreds of thousands of horses. It is essentially a producing country of gold, silver, copper, tin, lead, wool, wheat, meat (alive, frozen or canned), tallow, wines, brandy, oils, fruits, &c. All its surplus products are exported. It is in need of markets. It can purchase back the manufactures from its staples.

Japan is a densely peopled country, with a people who possess great manufacturing skill, who with a low rate of wages—which is still a "living wage" as my inspection of many manufactories conclusively proves—is in want of staples, and is able to compete successfully with nations older in this form of civilization.

Common sense and community of interests alike suggest that Australia in the South Pacific Ocean and Japan in the North Pacific Ocean are both of them destined to play an important part in the history of the Eastern Hemisphere,—should join hands and cultivate the friendliest reciprocity.

His Excellency the Minister of Commerce and Agriculture has given me a copy of the Report of the Foreign Trade of Japan during 1894. I have taken out the following figures relating to the major imports. The three chief ports, Yokohama, Kobe, and Nagasaki, in 1894 imported 15,000,000 catties of flour, nearly £750,000's worth of general provisions, nearly 1,000,000 catties of hides, 700,000 catties of hoofs, 1,500,000 catties of leather, 2,500,000 catties of lead, 1,500,000 catties of wool, 170,000 catties of soap, 140,000 catties of tallow, &c. These are all products of Australia.

Then Japan has for Australia rice, tea, matches, silk, cotton, and woollen-fabrics, porcelain mattings, lacquer ware, artistic curios, &c. Here is the bases of trade for both with mutual advantage. The manufacture of wool offers a splendid investment to Japanese capitalists and would furnish remunerative work for a very large number of operators. Japan wants, also, a better breed of cattle and horses. Australia can supply both. Two nations having such profitable avennes for trade should cultivate each other. All the Chambers of Commerce in Australia are in favour of the Treaty. All the chief producers desire it. It is to be hoped that a majority in the Parliaments will vote for its adoption.

If through dread of cheap labour and dislike of alien races Australia excludes herself from manufacturing nations, like a pot-bound plant it will wither from the roots upwards.

I said these things in effect before I left Australia. I write them here in Japan, and I shall repeat them with the accent of a proved conviction when I return to Australia.

I am, &c.,

J. LANGDON PARSONS,

Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, Nov. 21st, 1895.

A FEW WORDS IN CONCLUSION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—I wish, in the first place, to thank you for the undue amount of space accorded me in your columns lately, and to apologize to the public generally for appearing before them so often. And further, since there seemed but little probability of bringing matters to any sort of systematic order worthy the theme at issue, I commend your wisdom and justice in calling a halt. Justice to you demands that I add also that I have not the slightest doubt as to the correctness of your statement in regard to Mr. "Secularian" not having changed his name. My last criticism was from an entirely different point of view. It is further due Mr. "Secularian" that, though the coincidence of both men writing from the same place, in the same style and raising the same point of objection, led me to suppose they were only one man under two names, I release him from the supposition. I am sorry I must still remain at sea as to which one he is. Although you do it through no sort of disrespect, I must confess I don't very well like to be styled a "Champion." It conveys the imagery of the bully in the carnal combats rather than a follower of the meek and lowly Nazarene. I only mean to "contend earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints." Whether you are correct in saying I am not in harmony with writers on prophecy generally, I shall not take space to consider. I would warn all against following me or any one also in this matter. There is a book in the world, however, commonly called the Bible that is quite an old book and makes great pretensions as to its origin and mission that is worthy a thorough investigation as to its contents. If I have stimulated a single soul unto this end I am amply repaid; for I am sure no one can sit down with this book with an earnest desire to know its contents and a willingness to give it a fair trial upon himself, but what will be benefited when he is through. This book originated somewhere; let us suppose with bad men, but it is all against bad men, they would hardly have written thus against themselves; then we cannot say it came from the Devil, but it is equally against him; then it is the production of good men but *only* men; this cannot be, for they say it came

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from God and good men cannot lie; therefore—but I leave others to work out the conclusion.

Most respectfully yours, J. M. McCALEB.

12, Tsukiji, Tokyo, November 23rd, 1895.

RACING.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I see that the Committee of the N.R.C. have published a programme of what they consider should be followed at the next Spring Meeting, which differs considerably from previous ones and should produce some interesting racing. The most prominent class in this programme appears to be the Australian horses, and of these there should be fourteen, with the five to arrive, but it is very doubtful if more than 9 or 10 will face the starter at the next meeting. The thorough-bred horse will now be able to race on the Negishi course with the half-bred, and therefore it is very necessary that the scale of weights should be properly adjusted so as to be more in keeping with the difference made at home for age, thereby bringing young and old nearer together; for at the present weights the young horses have no chance.

This no doubt will be gone into by the new committee at the beginning of the year when the programme is definitely decided upon by them; that now published can, of course, only be a skeleton one. The Queen's Plate weights, which were sanctioned by the Jockey Club some time ago were, for two miles:—

Age.	In May.	In Oct.
3 Years	7.11	8. 8
4 Years	9. 7	9. 7
5 Years	10. 0	9.11
6 and Aged	10. 2	9.11

The weights suggested about the same time by experienced men in England were:—

A three-year-old should give a two-year-old—

Over five furlongs, in the Spring ..... 2st.
Over six furlongs, in June ..... 2st.
Over six furlongs, in Autumn .....A few lbs. less.

A four-year-old should give a three-year-old—

Over one mile, in the Spring ..... 23lbs.
Over a mile-and-a-half, in Autumn ..... 20lbs.

Older horses over both these courses should carry 5lbs. to 7lbs. more than the four-year olds.

The Australians are not likely to figure much in the programme after a meeting or so on account of the price, the difficulty of obtaining them, and the apparent unevenness of the animals sent; therefore every encouragement should be given to owners to prevent them parting with the above mentioned country-bred horses for non-racing purposes, as is so often done now, just as they are getting strong and useful, for these and the China ponies will have to keep up the racing here.

Yours, etc., T.

25th November, 1895.

SUNDAY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It seems proper that I should say something in acknowledgement of the suggestions rendered by your correspondent to me in the *Mail* of the 21st. In my last letter to you, I observed the Sunday problem from a chiefly material point of view, seeing man as a physical man. I did so, not indeed because the physical man was the most important on its virtue, but, because the physical man goes always a long way toward moulding the moral and intellectual character in him.

It seems almost idle now-a-days to insist on keeping Sunday strictly, as the devout, but narrow-minded and ignorant, people tell us to do. The practical question is whether we should still pretend to do so. To pretend to do so and not do it is only to familiarize the people with deception—it has no effect other than to weaken their moral character. Again, if in Christian countries, museums and galleries, etc., were closed on Sundays, it would be, no doubt, a great loss in the intellectual education of the labouring masses, who constitute by far the greatest part of humanity. Thus speaking morally and intellectually, the throwing over of bigotry about Sunday seems most desirable.

It was neither my intention nor desire to speak lightly of meditating and worshipping, as your correspondent charged me. From the standpoint of one who considers it proper to sacrifice a whole day in meditating and worshipping, his conclusion was, of course, very natural. His objection to my saying that the whole of Sunday was too valuable to be spent in worshipping and meditation, lies on his own misunderstanding. I meant merely that the whole day can be more advantageously spent than in devoting one's self totally and exclusively to worshipping and meditation. It is not the question whether there was a more valuable thing to do than worshipping and meditation. If he truly believes there is no better way to spend the whole Sunday than in exclusively worshipping and meditating, he falls in blunder of self-contradiction in stating that "I should not limit the keeping of Sunday to worshipping and meditation."

Keeping the Sabbath was probably a part of Christ's religion, as your correspondent stated. On that ground he pertinently asks: "Why should it not be of ours?" Does he not recognize that society is constantly changing? A religion which exists within society, can not but obey the rule of the social evolution. It has to be interpreted according to the needs and circumstances of society. It has no earthly use otherwise. Although keeping the Sabbath was a part of Christ's religion, why should it be of ours merely on that account? Pure religion, as I conceive, does not include such a thing as the keeping Sunday as Sabbath. There is no reason why we should dress in a certain way, just because Christ did so dress himself ages ago.

If your correspondent desires to keep Sunday strictly, it would be perfectly well; by no means, have I any objection to offer, provided that he does not disturb others who may wish to attend the church in the morning and visit a museum or an art gallery or attend dancing in the afternoon. Worshipping in the morning and dancing in the afternoon are perfectly harmonious to the true spirit of religion.

I return thanks for the kind suggestions of your correspondent, and if his opinion differs from mine I wish he would not be loath to say so clearly and show us his ground.

Yours truly, SHO SHINOMICHI.

Tokyo, November 24th, 1895.

A PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Mr. McCaleb's rejoinder which appeared in your issue of the 19th inst. has so little in it that calls for reply from me, that I think I should have let pass his latest exhibition of word-twisting had it not been for the editorial comment appearing in the same issue. I must say that, after the display Mr. McCaleb has given of his complete untrustworthiness in the matter of quotation or the attribution of meanings, I am somewhat surprised that the charge he brings against me should have been credited without reference to what I actually did say, which certainly cannot bear the offensive meaning Mr. McCaleb is pleased to read into it, and which you have emphasized editorially.

Mr. McCaleb had said that anonymity was to him a "reason of suspicion" that "the writer is either ashamed of his position or lacking in a due degree of sincerity in believing what he claims." I contested the reasonableness of such a view, and pointed out in effect that the imputation of insincerity might with far greater plausibility be retorted on the other side, as "the writer who attacks what he believes to be established error gains nothing save the satisfaction that he is performing a simple duty in the general search for Truth." I then asked, "Is it exactly the same with Mr. McCaleb? Presumably he is a salaried defender of the Christian religion, and naturally desires that his Mission Board and the world generally should know how energetically he is performing his commission." Mr. McCaleb, with his constitutional incapacity to deal straightforwardly with quotations, leaves out the word "presumably," substitutes "mission" for "commission," and twists the sentence from its interrogative sense into a positive accusation. I think, Sir, that you will admit, on reference to the context of my letter, that the remark was a perfectly fair retort to the implied accusation of insincerity by my opponent, as it went to show that if imputations of this sort were to be thrown about, they were likely to apply with far greater force to Mr. McCaleb's side than to the writer's. Mr. McCaleb proceeds to inform us that he has never yet received a salary for preaching the gospel; that he "came to this country without a pledge or a promise save from Him who says, "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things shall be added unto you," and that this "promise has been made *remarkably* sure." The words "all these things" must by the grammatical construction refer to "salary" in the preceding sentence, which it would further appear from the sentence following has been made "remarkably sure." What Mr. McCaleb means, therefore, by this process of denial and affirmation in the same breath I cannot say. The ordinary straightforward meaning to be attached to Mr. McCaleb's assertion that he had never yet received a salary for preaching the gospel would be that he was working here on his own means, and if this be correct, he is quite justified in urging it as proof that he is not in a position to be swayed by conscious or unconscious motives of self-interest. I must altogether demur, however, to the implication conveyed both in Mr. McCaleb's letter and in the editorial columns that there is anything disgraceful in receiving a salary of sustenance for performing religious or any other propagandist work in which a man may be engaged, so long as he is sincere, though of course there is always the danger of conscious or unconscious bias thereby induced. "The labourer is worthy of his hire," and if people at home like to spend money in sending one of their number to propagate their religion, there is nothing wrong either in the giving or the receipt of such money. The trouble in the present instance arose from the imputation of motives by Mr. McCaleb, against which the retort made, showing that the charge would with greater plausibility lie on the other side, was, it seems to me, perfectly justifiable. But as you have stated—under what I believe to be a mistaken idea of what I did say—that in the circumstances of the case set forth by Mr. McCaleb he has just cause of complaint, and has a right to ask for the name of the correspondent in question, it seems that I cannot but meet such an editorial remark by dropping the *nom de plume* of "Secularian" and appending my name to this letter, as I have not the slightest desire to evade full personal responsibility for anything I have written.

Yours truly, ROBERT YOUNG.

Kobe, November 21st, 1895.

AN EXPLANATION.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have been informed that some Swiss newspapers containing an account of a lecture on the Eastern question, which I have held at Zurich last spring, have found their way to Tokyo. These accounts most justly aroused the ire of all true lovers of the Island Empire, for they contain somewhat unmeasured expressions and sweeping condemnations in regard to Japanese merchants and industrials in general.

I myself felt very much annoyed, and in consequence of my personal remonstrance both newspapers in question published on the second day after my lecture rectifications which, unfortunately, seem *not* to have found their way to Tokyo.

In order to put matters right, I herewith beg to enclose a copy of the *Zurich Post* of May 9th containing this rectification with the most respectful request to publish the appended translation in your most esteemed paper. A similar, though shorter, notice also appeared the same day in the *Zuricher Zeitung*:—

TRANSLATION.

In regard to our account of the lecture of Herr von Hesse-Wartegg before the Commercial Association, we (the Editor) add, that this account gives *approximatively* the sentences of the lecturer, and that *these sentences of course refer to the ways of a portion only of Japanese merchants* dealing with Europeans. Some of them in their naively Eastern views, may not even consider imitating European goods and trade marks as anything wrong. Regarded as a nation, Herr von Hesse-Wartegg *characterizes the Japanese* in his articles similarly to his fellow travellers *as thoroughly courteous, hospitable, intelligent, and chivalrous, standing on a far higher level of culture and intelligence than the Chinese.*

These words approach much closer my true sentiments in regard to the highest civilized and most advanced nation of the East. True, I have described the competition of Japan on the Eastern markets as dangerous to European trade, but is it not in itself the highest possible compliment to characterize this most ancient race with the most recent European culture as a dangerous rival of the Industrial Great Powers of Europe?

I venture to hope that this letter will to some extent dispel the unfavourable impressions created by unauthorized and incomplete newspaper Reports, for nothing could be further from my mind than to throw indescriminate blame at a nation for which I entertain great and well founded admiration.

I am, Sir, most respectfully yours,

ERNEST VON HESSE-WARTEGG.

Lucerne, Switzerland, October 11th, 1895.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—With other readers, I am much indebted for the summary given in to-day's *Mail* of Prof. Patrick's article in the *Popular Science Monthly* on the Psychology of Woman. Allow me to refer briefly to one particular, wherein a somewhat remarkable exception to a general rule appears to exist in Japan.

Among the differences between the sexes in various parts of the world, it is stated that, in

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numbers, women "are found, whenever a computation is made, to be considerably in excess of men." Undoubtedly this is true in Europe and America. In the United States, migration from the Eastern States to the newer country in the West, on account of the larger number of men who leave the old settlements to go westward, causes a disproportion; the great excess of women in New England, for example, being contrasted with a possible temporary excess of men in portions of the Pacific States and Territories. Utah has managed to avoid this, by its hold upon women under the influence of Mormon ideas; making plurality of wives a part of the religion of the people, until lately this has been surrendered on grounds of political expediency.

Chamberlain, in his well-known book, "Things Japanese," under the head of Population, cites the official statistics of this empire for 1889, to the effect that, at the close of that year, the population of Japan consisted of 20,246,336 men and 19,825,684 women; being more than 400,000 *fewer* women than men. Without acquaintance with the statistics of China, India, Peru, &c. I have not met with such an account of the population of any other country. Only a speculative attempt at an explanation of this state of things is, so far as I know, possible; I will not occupy space with further allusion to it now.

With regard to Professor Patrick's conclusions, while ready to accept many of them, one may hesitate on some points; especially as to the distinction proposed which marks the feminine mental (as well as bodily) constitution as *infantile*. Another view of sexual difference appears to me to be more conformable to nature. Naturalists, within recent time, have come to recognize more and more, amongst animals, and even amongst plants, the predominance in the female sex of vigour and endurance in all that belongs to nutrition and reproduction; as distinguished in animals from motor activity, and, in birds, at least, ornamentation. The facts quoted from Professor Patrick agree well with this, as applied to men and women; and, along with them, we have the greater intellectual robustness of men, compared with the more abundant emotional warmth of women.

I refrain from amplifying these suggestions; but must be permitted to adhere still to Tennyson's holding in the Princess:

> For woman is not undeveloped man,
> But diverse.
> * * * * *
> Yet in the long years liker must they grow;
> The man be more of woman, she of man;
> He gain in sweetness and in moral height;
> Nor lose the wrestling thews that throw the world;
> She mental breadth, nor fail in childward care,
> Nor lose the childlike in the larger mind;
> Till at the last she sets herself to man,
> Like perfect music unto noble words.

H. HARTSHORNE.

Tokyo, November 24th, 1895.

CONCERNING THE LANGUAGE OF JAPAN.

In connection with the discussion now going on over the question of possible changes in the Japanese language made desirable or necessary to fit it to express the life of the people of Japan in the new career upon which the people have entered, the following extracts from the opening chapter of a forthcoming book, "An Introductory Course in Japanese," by Professor Clay MacCauley, of Tokyo, are of interest, especially in the glimpses they give of the changes that have taken place time and again in the language in past centuries to adapt it to new conditions in the national life. Whether or not Professor MacCauley's speculations concerning the merging of the present written language into the Colloquial, the latter expanded by the enlarging experience of the people, and, by this absorption of the written language, more refined and yet more enriched, are well grounded, events must decide. Whether or not the Japanese syllabary, independently of Chinese ideographs, can be made to meet the demands of the growing language is also a question that time only can really answer. Meanwhile, however, intelligent discussion of these problems is of deep interest and is worthy of note.

Professor McCauley says: The signs of the times, as the present writer sees them, indicate the rise of colloquial Japanese to the dignity of being distinctively the language of Japan. The signs of the times also point to the polite form of the dialect of Tokyo as the instrument of chief effect in shaping the development of the Colloquial towards its culmination as the literary, scientific, official, as well as popular, language of the whole people. Indeed, the Tokyo dialect is already so much the standard of the Japanese spoken language, that, in using it, a speaker can be understood by ordinarily educated persons in any part of the empire; a fact not true of the user of any other of the many dialects of the people. Besides, the Tokyo dialect is now the standard language of instruction in thousands of the public schools, the medium for debate in Parliament, the means of communication from the lecture platform and in the columns of the popular newspapers, magazines, and books with which daily the printing press teems. Within one generation, that is since the Imperial Restoration of 1868, this greater revolution, this change in the expression of the Japanese intellectual life, has been begun and has been directed into the course it will in all probability take.

The Japanese language at the present time seems to be passing through a period very like through which the English language passed in the Fifteenth Century, soon after the "Wars of the Roses," and the strengthening of the power of England's king by the establishment of the royal House of Tudor.

In the fall of the Shogunate and the accompanying arousing of the people from their feudal lethargy; in the breaking down of the barriers erected about the empire; in the restoration of the Emperor to a real sovereignty; and in the removal of the Imperial throne to Tokyo,—a general national transformation was initiated. In the course of this change language has been radically affected. As, before the wars of Lancaster and York, among the numerous dialects of England, that of Kent and Surrey had a slight lead and, over them all, Latin reigned as the language of the clergy and the learned, so, in Japan, before the Restoration, the dialect of Kyoto had a little precedence over the other dialects of the people, and the Chinese language controlled whatever literature the priests and scholars put forth. The parallel seems to have followed the further progress of events in both countries. By the victory of the Tudor House in England the power of the nobles decreased. The barons were deprived of their armed retainers. Commerce began to be of great importance. The artisans' guilds were weakened. Trade and traders grew in popular esteem and increased in wealth. The Caxton printing press, the first in England, was then set up. Its publications were distributed throughout the kingdom, becoming thereby the main channels for Modern English, of which the Midland, or London, colloquial was the fountain-head. The full parallel has not yet been drawn, but, in large part, England's Fifteenth Century history has been repeated in Japan, in the present age of Meiji. Events look prophetic of a substantial repetition in Japan of the remaining events of the English Renaissance. As Latin fell into disuse in England, except as a treasury of words for service in the maturing colloquial there, so has Chinese fallen in Japan. As the dialect of Kent gave way to that of London, so has the dialect of Kyoto yielded to the colloquial of Tokyo. The rest will probably come to pass in good time. The matured Tokyo colloquial seems destined to become the dominant force directing the language, —literary, scientific, official, and social—of Great Japan, in a not very distant future.

A glance at linguistic history in Japan.—As far as is known, the Japanese people of prehistoric times were not a writing people. They used a language of course, but they had no means of communication with one another other than that of spoken speech. Certainly, there are no remains of written Japanese dating earlier than at some time late in the first seven Christian centuries. Tradition reports, that at about the opening of the Christian era, under the Emperor Sujin's reign, a regular intercourse between Japan and Korea began; that, as Chinese literature had already become widely known in Korea, many Korean immigrants into Japan, and Japanese travellers returning from Korea, brought with them a knowledge of Chinese writing. Japanese tradition affirms positively, that towards the close of the Third Century, the Emperor Ojin's son was placed under the care of a Chinese tutor and was taught the Chinese Classics. About a hunded years afterwards, at the opening of the Fifth Century, it is claimed that national records were made by a body of historiographers, adepts in Chinese writing. As the Sixth Century opened, large numbers of scholars, — men of science, teachers of literature, physicians, and the like,—came into Japan from Korea and took important positions under the Government. So far as there was any literature in Japan then, they were its creators and guides. No attempt was made to express in writing the language of the country.

It was at the middle of the Sixth Century that Buddhism gained a permanent position in Japan. With its priests came in full energy the varied influence of Chinese civilization. The life of the Japanese people rapidly changed under the working of the new forces. Chinese literature and the Buddhistic creed set in motion a radical national transformation. In art and in industry, the people were advanced to a position never before reached by them. Before long there were Imperial officers appointed especially to care for education. Public schools were opened. At Kyoto, a university was organized. The topics of the course of education, however, were in the main those of China, taught in the language of China. Education did not have for its object much beyond the training of candidates for public office. Culture meant, chiefly, knowledge of the Chinese Classics. But, through the extended education, a large number of the Japanese people became skilled writers of Chinese.

Then it was that a new movement in writing was made, which, in time, became an influence of very great importance in the development of the Japanese language. In the Seventh and Eighth Centuries, numbers of writers attempted to express the meanings of Japanese words by the use of synonymous Chinese characters, arranged sometimes in the Chinese, sometimes in the Japanese, order of speech. With Chinese ideographs so manipulated, the two great repositories of ancient Japanese historical tradition, the *Kojiki*, 712 A.D., and the *Nihongi*, 720 A.D., were composed. But the task of giving Chinese equivalents for Japanese words was a labour of immense difficulty. So then, as the needs of literary expression rapidly became greater, Japanese writers gradually began to use the Chinese ideographs, without much reference to their Chinese meanings. They used them chiefly for their phonetic values. The *Manyoshu*, a collection of poems appearing about the middle of the Eighth Century, shows the way over which the transition that was made from the old Chinese writing, to writing by means of what are now known as the *Kana* syllabaries, passed. In the *Manyoshu* the Chinese characters were written in full, but, in the main, their phonetic values for rendering the Japanese words were considered.

But this device for expressing the Japanese language did not last long. The work of writing down the selected Chinese ideographs was too difficult for common use. Gradually, consequently, only the main strokes of the ideographs were copied. At length only simple remnants of the original Chinese characters were left, to be written as representatives of Japanese syllables. In this way, at last, the first Japanese syllabary came into being, the *Katakana*, the remnants of forty-seven Chinese square characters, which had been chosen as the signs with which to represent Japanese sounds and words. The *Katakana* is said to have been perfected in 757 A.D., by a scholar and statesman of the Nara Era, Kibi-no-Makibi. The other syllabary, the *Hiragana*, is said to have been perfected by the marvellous priest Kobo Daishi, in 834 A.D., soon after the opening of the new age for Japan which followed the transfer of the Imperial throne from Nara to Kyoto, in 794 A.D. The *Hiragana* consists of abbreviations of quite a large number of cursive forms of Chinese characters. The *Hiragana* syllabics are not so simple to read and not so easy to write as the syllabics of the *Katakana*, but, as the cursive Chinese ideographs had become the scholarly script of the Japanese in the Seventh and Eighth centuries, the prestige of these ideographs was transmitted to the *Kana* formed from them. That prestige has remained to the present day, making the *Hiragana* much more popular than the simpler *Katakana*, when *Kana* syllabies are needed in writing the Japanese language.

When the Tenth Century opened, the Japanese people thus had, at last, been provided in the two syllabaries with fairly adequate instruments for writing their own language. But, strangely, even then the homage yet paid to Chinese learning prevented the adoption of the syllabaries as the national means for literary expression. Many writers, like whom are some men even of the present day, ambitious to be esteemed scholars in eminence, continued to use Chinese ideographs and Chinese words. The *Kana* were accepted chiefly by women, and were relegated by men to a secondary place in literature. As it turned out, however, through the Tenth, and during the first part of the Eleventh Centuries, while the Kyoto Court was becoming degenerate through luxury and effeminacy, a succession of female writers, with the *Kana*, appeared, whose works, for example the *Genji Monogatari* of Murasaki Shikibu, and the *Makura no Sōshi* of Sei Shōnagon, were of such excellence that they are now valued as standards for the study of pure Japanese. These works embody the native language, spoken by the refined

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and Court circles of the time in which they were written. Especially is the *Genji Monogatari* a classic of the Japanese cultured colloquial used at the close of the Tenth Century.

But the promise then made for the *Kana* and for the spoken language of Japan did not reach fulfilment. A great political revolution occurred in the Twelfth Century, which, for hundreds of years afterwards, almost wholly put a stop to the development of literature; which, certainly, effectually checked the growth of any literature in the language and writing of the people. Japan became a battle-field for great clans, struggling for supremacy under the Emperor. With the military ascendancy everywhere, letters, as a popular accomplishment, decayed. What literature came into being was created and directed almost exclusively by priests who were then, and, for a long time afterwards, the only guardians of learning and letters in the empire. Whatever of general or popular interest had been aroused in letters during the preceding three centuries died away. The people were burdened with the overhard tasks of war. Literature remained in the care of the priests. But the studies of the priests were chiefly in Chinese. They added Chinese words and phrases, in large numbers, to the language as written. They neglected the colloquial of the country more and more. In fact, they made of Japanese literature, what has been styled an "almost unreadable chaos of mixed Chinese and Japanese."

It was in this way, and during this period of civil wars, that the gulf, which in after centuries lay, and down to the present day has lain, between the so-called "Written Language" and the popular speech or "Colloquial," was opened. This separation between the two forms of expression grew wider as the centuries passed. The colloquial, for literary use, became increasingly neglected and degraded. The language, as written, grew more and more an alien thing to the warriors and to the peasants, who constituted an enormous majority of the population of the war-stricken empire.

No change for the better for Japanese literature took place until towards the close of the Seventeenth Century. A hundred years previously the whole empire had lapsed into a state almost anarchic. Feudal Germany was not more completely disintegrated. But, with the close of the Sixteenth Century, arose the mighty Tokugawa Shogunate, under which political recovery speedily took place. Then, following the political prosperity, under the fifth of the Tokugawa Shoguns, a period of literary revival and achievement was started so vigorous and rich in its way, that it is now called the golden age of Japanese literature,—the age of Genroku (1688-1703). That revival was not so much a revival of Japanese literature and the furtherance in literature of the popular language, as the study of the profound and admirable Chinese literature of the Confucian School of the *Sung* dynasty; a dynasty which had fallen before the Mongol Kublai, in the Thirteenth Century.

The two events of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries, however, which most bore upon the course of affairs leading up to the present political and social condition of the Japanese people, were the achievements of the school of historians gathered under the patronage of the Prince of Mito, grandson of Iyeyasu, and the complete amalgation, at last, of Chinese words and Japanese linguistic forms into a standard literary language. The influence of the historical school of Mito, though a revival and popularization of the ancient records, of Japanese imperialism, of the Shinto religion, and of the old Japanese literature, was to prepare the way for the complete breaking up of the Shogunate in the present century. The further effect of the work of the writers coming forward in the literary revival,—especially the novelists—was to do away wholly with foreign forms of expression in literature, and to make a really representative, or standard, Japanese literary language. In the Fourteenth Century, Urabe Kenkō, author of *Tsure-sure-gusa*, "Weeds of Idleness," had produced for literature, in the form first spoken of, a work which yet remains a classic of almost pure old Japanese. It was a work in which Chinese words were, in fact, set into Japanese forms of speech, without violence to the Japanese modes of expression. At the close of the Eighteenth Century, the novelist Bakin, chief among many writers whose works were widely read and exercised a powerful popular influence, perfected this endeavour to make a wholly successful incorporation of Chinese words into the Japanese sentence. At about the same time the old Japanese Classics underwent a radical critical investigation and comment, under the study of such men as Kamo Mabuchi, Motoori Nobunaga, Hida Harumichi, and others. These scholars did great service in helping onward the elaboration of what has long been known as the Standard Written Language of Japan.

Thus it came about, that at the opening of the Modern Era in Japan there was in existence, recognized at last, a standard Written Language. It was a language which in form was purely Japanese. The Chinese elements in it did not affect its idioms or construction. Its Chinese constituents had become, just what the Greek and Latin elements are in English, merely parts of the vocabulary. Its Chinese words were presented, it is true, in their Chinese forms, that is, as ideographs, but they were regarded only as imported words; they took position and underwent inflection by the use of Japanese particles, like any Japanese words. They contributed only their meanings to the Japanese sentence. There was still, at the opening of the present era, some literature for the Japanese people written in the Chinese language. Official documents, specially, were modelled after Chinese documents and were largely charged with Chinese idioms. But, this notwithstanding, Japanese literature at the opening of the present era, was almost as a whole embodied in a language distinguished by the dominance in it of Japanese forms over all the materials of which the sentences were composed.

But, during the past thirty and more years, the whole language of the country has been undergoing notable changes.

The Written Language, has, so far, not been much changed except by enlargement of vocabulary. Many new Chinese terms have been added to it to meet some needs arising from the incoming civilization of the West; many European words have been incorporated into the written speech. The Chinese words have been appropriated in their Chinese forms; the European words have been put into writing, as far as their sound can be reproduced, by means of the syllabaries, the *Katakana* syllabics being as a rule used for this purpose. A farther important recent change in the Written Language has been a steady increase of the use of the *Kana* syllabics, placed alongside the Chinese ideographs, to give to the less educated readers either the proper pronunciation or the Japanese meanings of the ideographs.

But the linguistic change of greatest moment in the new era of Japan is, not so much one that is taking place in the "Written Language," so named, as one operating on the language of common speech. The Written Language and the Colloquial were separated centuries ago. The latter was excluded from service in honoured literature, and gradually lost its earlier grace and excellence. The former became more and more the luxury of the Court writers and of the learned classes. It gradually became refined almost wholly beyond the use or comprehension of any but a very small number of the people. The Present Era, however, is, above all else, the era of the whole people. It is a portion of the growing democracy of the New Age which is advancing around the world. Feudal aristocracy is gone now in Japan, as in the West. A new era with new needs has come to the East as well as to Europe and America. The people have become the heirs of all that once was the privilege of only king and noble. Law-making and its administration, science, art, commerce, general industry, and the like, have been taken in charge by the people. Education and literature are conducted for every one now, not for the privileged few. These being the facts characteristic of the New Age, a necessity has for years been increasingly felt in Japan for the simplification and the popularization of language embodied in written form. The Japanese language written in its present form is an aristocratic appurtenance. Existing side by side with the language spoken by a people but lately released from serfdom, and now inspired by the free individualism of the Present Age, it is glaringly out of place, unless it may be so modified as to be adapted to the wants of the new times.

It is the judgment of the writer that this necessary modification has already been begun, and is to be carried far forward in a future not very distant. The Japanese Colloquial has already made its rising power felt in literary expression. For more than the decade past, all newspapers, whose object has been to gain circulation among the former lower millions of the empire, have been compelled to put their reading matter, in large measure, in Colloquial phrasing; to print the Colloquial extensively in the *Kana*; and to interpret their appropriated Chinese ideographs by means of *Kana* as side syllabics. With the use of moveable type and printing presses, many books in fiction, science, biography, travel, etc., have, for some time, now been printed in the spoken language. Moreover, the numerous varieties of the *Hiragana* syllabics,—once over four hundred,—have been reduced, as metal type, to comparatively few standard characters. In the common schools of the country, now more than twenty-five thousand in number, attended by more than three millions of children, also in the thousands of private schools as well as in the Middle and Higher Middle institutions, the students are studying numerous branches of modern science. These are yearly becoming too much busied with their studies to pay proper attention to the forms of the ideographs of the standard Written Language. Besides, they receive whatever instruction they get in the cultivated, expanding Colloquial. The commercial and industrial growth of the nation has associated with it many societies, in all which business discussions are carried on in the Colloquial. In many of these societies, reports of business and other papers are rendered in the language of common speech. The lecture platform is the place whence, daily, thousands of addresses to the people, in a refined Colloquial are made. The number of the lecturers who change their addresses from the original Colloquial into the Written Style before publication, is steadily decreasing. And of the highest importance is the fact, that the speeches and debates taking place in the Houses of Parliament, also reports of the proceedings of the courts of the country, now appear in print and are put upon record, practically as they were spoken. The Government's official notices, although still put forth in the Written Style, have in the country districts *Kana* translations laid along their margins. In yet other ways the fact is made clear, that the contemned and neglected Colloquial has, by the necessities of the times, become a decided force in Japanese literature.

No insurmountable obstacle to a yet farther advance of the Colloquial to the dignity of being the language of Japan, seems to be in the way. Rather is it likely that democratic Japan will, as time goes by, put aside most that is distinctive of its mediæval Written Language, along with other of its aristocratic, feudal legacies, and elaborate for both literature and for oral intercourse one language,—the Tokyo Colloquial, refined, adorned, and dignified with much that is worth saving from the discarded written speech of the past, and enriched with new verbal creations, and appropriations from other languages fit to express the growing needs of the new life of the people.

Further, a simplification of the language seems to be a necessary consequence of the development of the Present Era. The great majority of the people, even now, have not time for a mastery of the large number of Chinese ideographs which have been incorporated into the Written Language along with the adopted Chinese words. Much less will the great majority of the people have leisure sufficient for this work in the near future. Many Chinese ideographs will, of course, for a long time remain in all writing and print, but the present prospect is, that for the Japanese people as such, the *Kana* will more and more become the main body of their language as written. Compared with a generation ago, the books, magazines, newspapers, pamphlets, &c., to-day printed wholly in the *Kana*, or in *Kana* mixed with Chinese ideographs having *Kana* side translations and transliterations, are enormously great in number and excellent in literary worth. Many educationists are beginning to recognize the fact that school pupils can not become proficient writers of a really serviceable list of Chinese ideographs and at the same time master the curriculum of studies necessary for them to gain more than an elementary acquaintance with the modern sciences and industries. One or the other effort must at length give way. It is hardly probable that the learning of ideographs will push aside the modern educational curriculum. Especially is this not probable, since a simple syllabary is at hand which can easily be so modified as to express all that is necessary or desirable in the literature of modern science, art, industry, politics, religion, and philosophy.

To some persons, this opinion may seem far from predicting the course events will take, but those who are familiar with the facts, know that the domain of the *Kana* is daily widening, and that no insuperable difficulty lies in the way to making *Kana* the instrument for embodying in writing the whole intellectual life of the people. Conservative impulse; fancy for a greater show of learning; the love of artistic grace which has long made the writing of Chinese ideographs one of the fine arts in Japan; and the ability to write the ideographs which scholars of mature years now possess,—chiefly these are especially strong reasons for resistance to the prospective acceptance of the *Kana* as the instrument for writing Japanese. But even these reasons will scarcely be able to withstand long the necessities accompanying the maturing of modern civilization in the country. Economy of time for the student, and for the man of business; economy of capital and labour in the printing office which now must carry thousands of founts of type for unnecessary Chinese ideographs; the de-

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mands of the lower classes for information and literary diversion which they can not gain from books offered to them made up of ideographs they can not understand; these, and other reasons, will in all probability secure, as time goes on, a recognition of the excellence of the *Kana*,—will go a long way towards making the *Kana* at last the one vehicle for Japan's written and printed thought.

IN H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq., Judge, and a Jury.
Wednesday, November 27th, 1895.

HENRY CLARE V. THE NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

This was a claim for $1,500 brought by Henry Clare, a late employé of the stevedoring firm of Messrs. Helm Bros., against the Northern Pacific Steamship Company for damages alleged to be sustained by him through falling through a hatchway of the Company's steamship *Victoria*, the same being left open at an hour when it should have been, he claimed, closed.

Mr. A. B. Walford appeared for the plaintiff, Mr. J. F. Lowder representing the defendant Company.

The following jury was sworn:—Messrs. G. K. Dinsdale, Jas. Radigan, John Walter, Geo. Watt, and Jas. Dodds. The rest of the jurymen summoned and in attendance were then discharged.

Mr. Lowder applied for leave to amend paragraphs 2 and 3 in the answer filed. In the 2nd paragraph the amendment was to strike out all the words following "or others," and substituting "as it was in use for the stowage of a deck load of coal and sacks." In the 3rd paragraph the amendment was to substitute for "necessarily," "in the usual and ordinary course of things."

Mr. Walford had no objection to the amendments, and the same were granted.

Mr. Walford—May it please the Court and gentlemen of the jury, this action is a claim for damages for injuries which plaintiff claims were caused through the negligence of the defendant Company. The petition of the plaintiff states first the nature and circumstances of the accident and the particulars of the claim. The answer which the defendants file denies liability. Having read the petition and answer, Counsel said that the general nature of the issues would be apparent to the jury. From the statements made in the petition it would appear that the safety and convenience of the passengers were held by the defendants' company as a secondary consideration—the passengers' promenade deck was actually used for the stowage of deck cargo, and had beside a coal-bunker hole in the starboard side. The promenade deck, he would explain, was the after portion of the upper deck of the *Victoria*. He made the statement so that the jury should understand that the deck was in fact the main-thoroughfare which any person would use in passing along the deck to the officers' stairway. About the centre of the promenade deck was the hatchway which was left open—this was forward of the captain's captain, and any person wishing to go forward of the captain's cabin would have to pass along the promenade deck and right by the hatch, assuming that they did not fall into it. The deck, as the answer now affirms, could not be used as a promenade, it being hampered by sacks of coal. But it was necessary, the defendants' state, that they should keep the deck open for the use of the ship, and therefore a line of sacks was laid down as a pathway between the coal, the sacks of coal being piled up on each side. There was then a path over the sacks: that pathway was directly in line with the hatchway.

At this point plans of the starboard side of the *Victoria* were produced by Mr. Lowder, and put in subject to proof, the other side having no objection.

Mr. Walford continuing said that from point A on the plan, the hatchway, the line of sacks was marked as running along, and continued to the fore part of the ship. This was the position on the night of the 27th July. That night was dark, and there was no guard and no light near the hatchway, though it lay in the main pathway of the ship. Half-a-dozen persons might have fallen through the open hatch and no one would have known that they had disappeared. That was not the state of things one would expect to find on a passenger ship. The question of the security of passengers was dealt with by Anderson on Torts, and Counsel cited a passage in which the obligations of steamship owners in respect to passengers, their security, etc., was laid down. Fortunately, he continued, on passenger ships coming to this port, the duty to passengers was clearly recognized. Plaintiff, however, was not a passenger, but on going aboard the ship it was only reasonable for him to suppose that ordinary precautions had been taken on board to prevent accidents; in fact, he could not expect to find more dangers than lie in the ordinary line of travel, The promenade deck was a most unusual place, at any rate, to find a hatchway. Cargo was generally taken aboard over the sides of the ships, and coal in ports situate in the sides of the ship. No one could be expected to find a coal hatchway in the promenade deck. For these two reasons, therefore, it was very necessary that the hatchway should have been particularly guarded. If you ask me why the hatchway was uncovered at that time of night, 10 p.m., I can not tell you. The defendants first said in their answer that it was "necessarily" so as they were taking in coal; but when we discovered that no coal had been taken on board that day, and in fact none was taken on board till the next morning, they amended their answer. I suppose they will tell you that it is customary to leave hatchways open on the passengers' promenade deck at night, and people are aware of such a useful custom. I am going to bring evidence to show that Messrs. Helm Bros., were engaging in lightering cargo to the ship. At eight o'clock Clare relieved another man and went off to the ship. Clare had never been on the ship before, and had no idea of the hatchway. The man he relieved did not warn him. When this man left the ship he noticed that the hatchway was open, unlighted, and unguarded. But it was no business of his to mention the fact to any one, and he himself gave the hatchway a wide berth. Plaintiff went on board the *Victoria* at ten o'clock at night for the purpose of seeing if the officers would receive any more cargo that night. The ship was advertised to sail at 10 o'clock next morning, but this line is not particular for an hour or so. Clare went aboard the ship and at the gangway he saw the quarter-master. He asked him where the Chief Officer was, and was told that he was to be found forward. He proceeded in that direction, and when he got in line with the officers' stairway he heard voices, so he went below. Here he found a man named Smith, a stevedore, and of him he inquired whether any more cargo was to be taken on board that night. Smith replied that he did not know and referred Clare to the Chief Officer. Clare returned to the deck by the officers' stairway. He turned round to continue his search, expecting, as was customary, to find the officers of the ship around the hatches. The deck was in total darkness when Clare stepped on to the pathway of sacks. This pathway was quite level and he proceeded to walk along it. Taking one extra step forward he stepped into the hatchway and fell. Fortunately he did not fall right through. His right side struck heavily on the iron combing, and one leg fell down the hole, the other across the opening. He lay there for a few moments until he recovered from the dazed condition consequent on his fall and the fright which the accident had caused him. Then he pulled himself up and clung to the side of the ship. Having recovered somewhat he managed to get back to the quartermaster, whom he told of the accident that had befallen him. The quartermaster at this pointed further aft to the Chief Officer, who was sitting down talking to some lady passengers. On the Chief Officer coming foward Clare made his complaint, and asked him why no light had been placed at the hatchway. The Chief Officer said that he had no light to put there. Then Clare asked him why he had left the hatch open, and the Officer replied that he had men working below. That was no reason, for if the hatch was required to be opened for purposes of ventilation, then a grating should have been placed over it. At all events the hatchway should have been guarded and lighted. Counsel then gave a sketch of the evidence which plaintiff would give relating to his subsequent steps in the matter: as to his making a claim for damages, etc., his illness, and subsequent discharge by Messrs. Helm Bros., from their employ. The reason for his discharge from their service they explained by saying that Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill, had threatened to take away their work from Messrs. Helm unless Clare was dismissed.

Mr. Lowder—Do you mean to prove this?

Mr. Walford—I shall not call Helm, but that is the statement made. Continuing, Mr. Walford said that the jury would observe the damages asked for were not placed at a fanciful figure. The plaintiff had had to incur medical and legal expenses, he had suffered the loss of a month's salary—but these were small matters. He asked for compensation for personal injuries sustained. He had had to endure much suffering, and was still in a semi-invalid state. These things were not easily calculable nor did they offer themselves for computation. But he asked the jury to place themselves in Mr. Clare's position, laid up in bed, grievously wounded, living on milk and a weak diet, suffering intense pain, going about since in a semi-invalid state. They had not only to consider the pain and suffering endured, but all the circumstances of the case, including the whole conduct of the defendants round about the case. If the jury deemed that his presentation of the case was correct, then they would be acting quite right if they added something to the damages as a punishment for the defendants. If the case were proved, as he hoped to prove it, then they would have strong reasons to mark their disapproval of the conduct of the defendants, They would be asked to find that the defendants had been guilty of negligence of the grossest kind, having left a trap open into which some one must have fallen. Secondly, if they found that the defendants had been guilty of negligence of the grossest kind, it followed that the defence set up is not a truthful defence, and that again entitles us to compensation, while the fact must not be lost sight of that the defendants had put the plaintiff to every possible inconvenience and expense in bringing his suit. He would refer the Court to *Indermorne* v. *Dames*, *Heaven* v. *Pender*, and *Thomas* v. *Quartermain*. The case came thoroughly within *Indermorne* and *Dames*.

Henry Clare, the plaintiff in the action, sworn, deposed—I have for many years been engaged in shipping matters. In July I was in the employ of Messrs. Helm Bros. Mr. Heldt is also in their employ. It is necessary for us, in the discharge of our duties to go on ships in the harbour to consult with the officers: we superintend the delivery of cargo on ships. On the 27th July the defendant's ship *Victoria* was in harbour. She was receiving cargo for an outward voyage. She was advertised to sail on Sunday morning, July 25th, at ten o'clock. About ten o'clock on the Saturday night I went on board. I was superintending the delivery of cargo from Helm's lighters then laying alongside the ship. I went aboard the ship to see how the cargo was being delivered, and to ask the Chief Officer if he would take more cargo that night. I had never been on board the ship before. I went up the gangway and at the top I found a quartermaster. I asked him where the Chief Officer was. He said, "Forward," pointing in that direction. As I proceeded forward I heard a voice coming from the main deck, below. Thinking that the Chief Officer might be below I went down the officer's stairway to that deck. There I encountered Mr. Smith, a stevedore. I asked Mr. Smith about sending more cargo off that night. He said he did not know, and advised me to see the Chief Officer. With that I came on deck again. I turned to the left to go forward, on the starboard side. I got on to some coal sacks lying flat, and walked forward on the sacks. All of a sudden I stepped into an opening, and came down with a crash on to my right side on the iron combings on the fore part of the hatch. I put out my hands, as I felt myself falling, to save myself. The blow knocked me breathless for the time. One leg was down the opening, the other across the hatch on the after combing; one arm over the forward combing. I was frightened lest my strength should give way altogether; as it was failing and I should fall through. I had no breath to call out. After a minute or two I crawled up and clutched the stanchion of the ship's rail to pull myself up. I leaned over the rail to recover. I felt blood running down my side, and I placed a handkerchief there to stop the flow. I remained leaning over the rail for a couple of minutes to recover strength. It was a dark night, and cloudy. I saw no light at all about the hatchway; there was no guard round it and the deck was not lighted so far as I could see. I have never seen a coal-bunker hatch in such a position on the deck before, nor any hatch at all on the promenade deck of a ship. Cargo hatchways are to be found amidships. Passenger ships, in my experience, are coaled through the sides. Coal-bunkers generally run to the flooring of the stoke-holes, some twenty to thirty feet. The usual protection for open hatchways at night is a guard and lamp; the lamp being generally fastened to the guard. Stanchions are placed at the four corners of the hatch, with cross bars running round. Coal-bunkers are open when the ship is coaling, and if it is required to keep them open for any other purpose, they are covered with a wooden grating. The ship was not receiving coal when I went aboard. When I recovered strength to walk aft I did so. I told the quartermaster what had happened. With this the Chief Officer, who had been sitting aft with some ladies, came forward, and I informed him of the accident. He was in uniform. I asked him why he had the coal-bunker hatches off, and then said that I had fallen down there. He said that he had men working down there. Then I said, why don't you put a lamp there? He said he had no lamps in the ship. I then pushed to Smith, who was standing close by and asked him to take me ashore, as

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I was suffering much pain. As I was leaving the ship the Chief Officer told the quartermaster to put the hatch on the coal-bunker. The Chief Officer then decided not to take any more cargo on board that night. I went ashore in Smith's launch. We landed at the *hatoba*, and there I met the ship's doctor and a gentleman from the office of Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill. I told the doctor what had happened. I said I was going up to Wright's Hotel to get some brandy. Then he said we had better all go there. We went, and on arriving at the hotel I showed the Doctor my blood-stained shirt and wound. He said that I had received a nasty blow, and it was a wonder that I had not broken my ribs. After another rest, I went and knocked off my men at the *hatoba*. Then I went home to bed. Next morning when I awoke, I felt sore, sick, and in pain. I had to get out, however, to attend to shipping the balance of the cargo. The balance of the cargo was shipped off by nine o'clock that morning. Then I went round to Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill's offices, defendant's managers, to lodge a complaint before the ship sailed. Mr. Thomson said he was very sorry, and asked where the light was. I said that there was no light. He said he would go abroad and see about the matter, and advised me to see Dr. Munro, and get a certificate from him. Any claim that I had against the company I was to send in, and he would forward it to the proper quarter. I then went again to the *hatoba* to be present in the event of any dispute about the cargo. I remained there till the steamer sailed, about 5 o'clock. In the meantime I called on Dr. Munro. I saw him about 12.30. He stripped me, sounded me, and advised me to get home to bed as quickly as I could. I told him I would do so, but I wished to see the *Victoria* sail first. My employer being sick, I was responsible for the cargo. I was feeling very sick and in great pain: this increased during the day. After I had seen the steamer sail, I went home and to bed. I stayed actually in bed for 15 or 16 days, and was confined to the house for one month. I was under medical treatment all the time. I should not have gone to work then, but my employer sent for me. I took nothing but milk all the time I was laid up. I was feeling pain across the side and round the shoulder blades. I had never suffered before from such a pain. I have never been treated before for any affection of the lungs or liver; I have always enjoyed good heath before. The doctor came to see me often. I have felt pain ever since the accident. I have not been the same man since. I feel pains still down the right side extending to the thigh, and over the lung: I suffer more especially in wet weather. I sent in my claim to Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill, on the 6th August. [The claim was here put in as well as the reply of defendants.] The claim was for $1,000 and medical and other expenses. I sent in the medical certificate of Dr. Munro, certifying to the nature of the wound received.

The certificate was handed up to the Bench, and upon reading it, His Honour said the Latin name of the wound was sufficiently bad enough.—(Laughter.)

Witness, continuing—The reply of the defendants agents was as follows:—

> We beg to advise you that you were not on board the steamer *Victoria* in our employment, and, therefore, it will be necessary for you to represent the matter through the firm or individual by whom you were employed, then stating why you were on board. It is quite true that you advised the writer (Geo. Syme Thomson) on the morning of the 28th that you had had an accident on board the *Victoria*, and that you required further medical assistance, although you had been examined by the doctor of the ship, and on enquiries being made on board no person was aware of anything having happened.

Upon this I sought legal advice. I received no salary during the month I was laid up. My salary was $85 a month. Dr. Munro's bill for attendance upon me during this period was $36; the apothecary's account for medicine during that time was $11.65. I am not now in Messrs. Helm's employ. I was dismissed by them at the end of October, having notice to leave at the beginning of the month.

Mr. Lowder objected to any question being put as to the reason of plaintiff's dismissal.

His Honour thought that it was a fair enough question.

Mr. Lowder—The evidence of the employer would be the very best evidence.

Mr. Walford—I do not intend calling Mr. Helm.

His Honour (to Mr. Lowder)—Do you press the objection?

Mr. Lowder—I do, very strongly.

His Honour (to Witness)—Did your master give you a reason for dismissing you?

Witness—He did, he said that he had nothing personally against me.

His Honour—I think I will allow the question, but I will take note of the objection.

Mr. Lowder—Thank you, Sir.

His Honour (to Plaintiff)—Well, what was the reason your master assigned for dismissing you?

Witness—He said, if you bring this case into Court, Mr. Thomson does not wish you to have anything more to do with any ships or cargo of his, and I must discharge you. If I don't discharge you, Thomson will take his business away from me, and their business is a third of my business, and that is what I can't afford to lose. I thanked him, and left.

Mr. Walford—That concludes my examination of the witness.

Mr. Lowder—My cross-examination will take some time, and as it is past twelve o'clock, I think we had better adjourn for lunch.

The Court then adjourned till half-past one o'clock.

Upon resuming,

Mr. Lowder opened his cross-examination by inquiring the age of plaintiff.

Plaintiff said—I am in my fortieth year. I first went to sea in my eleventh year. I first went to sea as a boy in one of Her Majesty's training ships. I was at sea for ten years regularly, in various capacities. I had arrived at the position of Second Officer when I left off going to sea. I left the sea when I was about twenty-three years. Since then I have been more or less engaged in the shipping business, and have been on ships of all kinds. This is my present calling, or was before I was discharged. I am intimately acquainted with ships. I have not been on board the *Victoria* since the accident; I had never been on her before that. I knew she had a promenade deck. By turning up *Lloyd's Register* I learnt that she is a promenade-decked ship. I can not say how long the deck was. *Lloyd's Register* did not give me the length of the promenade deck. I do not know of any ships that carry passengers and no cargo. I should say that it is unusual for the promenade deck of a ship carrying passenges to be blocked on the eve of her departure from port. I should say it would be unreasonable for the promenade deck to be blocked on such a night, or at such a time. It did not occur to me that a deck blocked with coal-bags was not for the time being available as a promenade. I had to go forward for business and had to go over the coal. I do not think it was silly of me to go forward. I had business to attend along the decks. I came up the officers' staircase on the starboard side, turned to my left and went forward in an ordinary manner. I walked on top of the bags of coal. I could not see any passage between the coal. I stepped into the hatchway and struck the combing. I can not remember what side of the hatch I struck. I walked over the coal, not down a narrow passage. I do not know the height of the combing. I did not stumble against the combing. I can't say how many bags thick the coal lay on the deck. I stepped up on to the coal-bags from the deck. The deck was clear at the head of the officers' stairway. How high I had to step on to the coal I could not say. I stepped from the top of the coal into the hatchway. It was dark and I did not see the hatchway, so I cannot give any idea of its size. I cannot say whether the model in Court represents the coal-bunker hatchway. Assuming the model is correct in measurement, I should say that had there been a light I should have seen it. It was perfectly dark on deck in the direction in which I was proceeding. I was feeling my way along with my feet. It was not my business, a stranger on board the ship, to ask for a light. A light ought to have been there. I did not notice any light of 16 candle power shining out of three port-holes in the officers' stairway. I was in perfect darkness. The gangway up the ship's side was lighted. There was a hatchway in the vicinity of the gangway, but I saw only a quartermaster at the gangway. I do not recognise the Chief Officer in Court. I recognise Mr. Brown, the stevedore. I did not see either at the hatchway. I should deny that they were there; I should deny that they were leaning over the rail, or that I spoke to them there. I did not lean over the rail with them either. The quartermaster with whom I spoke was on the gangway. In my letter of claim to the agents I said that I fell down the coal bunker hatch: I did not go to the bottom, but I fell into the hatchway. I do not say that I fell to the bottom when I said I fell down the hatch. A letter was written by Messrs. Helm Bros. at my request, to the steamer's agents, in which they use the expression "fell down the hatch."

His Honour did not see that this was very material. Did Mr. Lowder wish to suggest that the plaintiff did not fall to the bottom?

Mr. Lowder—The suggestion arising out of my cross-examination is that he gave one account of the accident immediately after it is alleged to have occurred, but gave another account of it when making out his petition. That is the point I wish to make to the jury.

Cross-examination continued—I consider that the statement contained in my petition is a fair description of the state of the deck on the night of the accident. A stevedore was on board the ship to stow the cargo and my duty was to deliver the cargo into the ship. The stevedore took the cargo from the lighter. I went off on board the ship in a steam-launch, and from that went up the gangway. I asked the Chief Officer of the ship whether he would take any more cargo that night. I did not see Mr. Brown, the stevedore, on board the ship. I did not know he was there. I spoke to Mr. Smith about the cargo. I walked along the *hatoba* the next day when the British Minister was welcomed. I was feeling excruciating pains at the time. I have never had an accident of this kind before. I received £20 from a public company for a shock received in a railway accident. I received this without any action being brought. I recovered from the shock of that accident in a couple of days. Had I been able to see the hatch I could have avoided stepping into it. I did not see anyone working at the hatch opposite the gangway. I asked the quartermaster for the whereabouts of the Chief Officer. I imagined I had fallen into a coal-bunker hatch from coal being upon the deck. I imagine that Mr. Thomson would send my claim along to Hongkong.

Re-examined—There might be a reflection from the light in the port-hole of the officers' gangway. But this could not light the deck. Nautically speaking, all such lights should be screened, as they dazzle the eye-sight.

To His Honour—I am out of employment now. I have no employment in view, nor has any been offered me.

Neil Gordon Munro, M.B., C.M., Edin., sworn, deposed—I remember the plaintiff coming to me on the 28th July last. He had a large bruise on the right memur, from the fourth to the eighth ribs, and another on the front of the left thigh. The bigger one was larger than the palm of my hand, 4½ inches. I think such a bruise could have been caused through falling down on to a sharp iron bar. Plaintiff complained of weakness and shock from the blow, but principally of pain. He complained of pain of the bruise and pain internally also. I advised him to rest, the force of the blow having been sufficient to cause some internal injury, although there was no external fracture. I advised him to go to bed. I saw him the next day. He still complained of pain. His stomach was very bad, and he had a slight tenderness over the stomach. I found on examining him the day after, inflamation of the capsule of the liver. That is caused nearly always by external injury or by spread of inflammation of the abdominal organs. These symptoms would undoubtedly arise from a blow received from a fall. Inflammation of the capsule of the liver is rather a painful complaint. Plaintiff complained of pain in the right shoulder blade, a reflex pain. The plaintiff was confined to his bed for about two weeks. He was in the house for nearly a month. I had to put him on milk diet. He was in pain all the time for the first week or two. After this he continued to complain of pain, though it decreased. It occurs periodically when the weather changes. I tested his lungs also, and found some symptoms, but I do not attach any importance to it. Any disease of the internal organs might possibly be caused by a blow. The other day I tested his lungs and found them rough, but I would not connect it with the accident. His liver is now all right. He still complains of pain; and it is quite possible that the result of the blow is to make him more susceptible of weather changes. I have attended him once before for a slight influenza cold. I examined him yesterday. He is complaining of an occasional want of movement of his right leg, but I think it would not be easy to establish any connection between this symptom and a blow. He was not quite so robust when he left the house after his accident as he was before.

To the Court—I do not think he is quite so well as he was before, but I really could not give you an opinion on the point.

William Smith, in the employ of Messrs. Martin & Co., as head foreman of stevedores, sworn, deposed—The night of the 28th July was very dark. I was working on the *Victoria* on that night. I was on the deck after dark. I know the position of the coal bunker hatch on the starboard side. Some ships have coal bunkers on the deck. I do not know much about passenger ships, so I cannot say whether it is usual to have coal bunker hatches on deck. When the *Victoria* arrived there were sacks of coal strewn about the deck. She had them on the deck when she left port. There was a pathway left between the coal bags. It went a few paces forward of the coal hatch. This pathway led to the ship's rails. The

width of the passage was about two to three feet. It was wider nearer the hatch. The pathway along the rail was about two feet. The bags were piled up from four to five deep. I think when I was on the ship between seven and eight o'clock there was no light or guard around the hatch. There was only the combing around. There was only a dead-light on the deck, that in the stairway. The combing is about twelve to fourteen feet in height and a sack of coal would be about the same. The dead-light in the port-hole was about four feet away. You could see through the port-hole. The light would not strike the hatch: it would throw a light on the rail. I was on board again about half-past nine or ten o'clock. I did not go forward again to see the hatch. The ship was not receiving coal between the hours of eight and eleven.

Mr. Lowder—We admit there was no coaling going on at the time.

Witness continuing—The ship took in coal next day. I could see the hatch between seven and eight o'clock quite well; there was sufficient light then. I saw the plaintiff on the main deck that night. He asked me if any more cargo was required, and I told him he had better see the Chief Officer. I saw him next near the gangway on the upper deck. He came from forward, and said he had fallen into the hatch. He held his side as if he had been hurt. The quartermaster was standing by at the time. There was no other light on the deck forward save that in the stairway and the one on the gangway. I did not see the Chief Officer come up. I don't remember seeing him, after Clare had complained of the accident. Clare and I went ashore together. At the English *hatoba* we met Dr. Freeman, of the *Victoria*, and another. I saw Clare open his shirt in Wright's Hotel, and I saw the red bruise on the side. I do not remember seeing blood.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—I saw the light in the officer's stairway. I do not know whether there were any galley lights about.

Charles Heldt, foreman in the employ of Messrs. Helm Bros., sworn, deposed—I superintend all the business afloat. I have to keep in touch with the officers of the ship. I remember the *Victoria* being in harbour of the 27th July. I keep going backwards and forwards between the ships and the shore in the lighters. I know the position of the coal-bunker hole on the *Victoria*. It is not the usual place for such a bunker hole. I have been connected with ships for 40 years. I have only seen a bunker-hole in a similiar position on one other ship. Sacks of coal were piled up on the deck when the ship came into port. Any one coming along the deck had to pass along a passage left between the coal and the rail. Then the officers' stair-case was reached. Then a narrow passage runs along, followed by a passage over the coal, two bags high. I was there by day and also by night and do not remember any passages other than those mentioned. Any man knowing the ship would walk along the side of the rail rather than encounter the hatchway. The bags were a little higher than the combings of the hatchway. The bags were highest amidships, and sloped down. Walking along on the coals a man would come to the hatch. I left the ship the first time just as it was getting dark at a quarter past eight. The hatchway was then open. There was no guard and no light hanging up. There was no light except in the officers' stairway. The light was above my head, and would be thrown straight out to the rail, and was about fourteen inches wide. If it was higher it would throw a reflection on the deck. The hatchway is about two or three steps forward of the light. I did not notice whether it cast any light on the deck, having no occasion to observe it. The hatchway was dangerous through not being closed. The night was dark and cloudy. I was relieved by Mr. Clare that night. When I want to find the chief officer I either go to his room or to the quartermaster. He might be found at either of the cargo hatches. There were two cargo hatches forward of the coal bunker. I did not see any coal taken in that day. Clare came ashore and told me of his accident. I went aboard the ship again that night, but I could not say whether there were any lights near the hatch or not.

Cross-examined by Mr. Lowder—I passed the hatch at eleven o'clock and gave it a wide berth, passing along the rail. I took good care not to go anywhere near to it. I did not notice any lights coming from the galley or the engine-room after dark.

Mr. Walford said this completed the evidence for the plaintiff.

Mr. Lowder said when the case was opened, and his learned friend sat down, the impression left on the minds of the Court and jury was that here was a passenger ship with a promenade deck; that the plaintiff walked along this ship's deck without meeting any obstacles until he came to the hole down which he fell, fell into, or slipped, and so met with his accident. The statements elicited in cross-examination, however, show that this deck was occupied by a deck-load of coals, and that it was impossible to get forward unless one climbed over the coal. Therefore it was no longer a promenade deck, and plaintiff met with his accident through climbing over the coal. My case is this: that the plan lying before you, though not drawn to scale, is to all intents and purposes, correct. That there were three bright electric lights of 16-candle power each, in the passengers' stairway, also that there were more lights in the engine-room, 17 all told, and that the lights shone through the sky-light. I will also bring evidence to show that the port-holes of the stairway were open, not closed; also that there were galley lights hung up, and that their concentrated effect was such as to throw a distinct light on the hatchway where the accident is said to have taken place. I shall call two witnesses to prove that an experiment was made with all these lights on board the ship on the 14th of this month, when it was judged that the atmospheric density was about the same as on the night in question, and that the hatch was then seen distinctly. They were induced to make this experiment in order to prove that they could see with the aid of those lights the position of the hatch most distinctly. Counsel then referred to other evidence he intended bringing in rebuttal of the plaintiff's evidence in regard to what took place on board the *Victoria* on the night of the 27th July. He said that he would prove that 50 to 60 people passed the hatchway on that particular night, yet none fell in save one person, and that was the plaintiff. He would first seek to demonstrate that the plaintiff was not on board the steamer by invitation but by permission; that duty did not call him on board, as he could have obtained the information he wanted elsewhere. He would then ask the jury to answer the question as to whether the plaintiff did step into the hatchway, and would bring evidence to prove the state the deck was in at the time and the structure of the combing around the hatchway. He would show them that in order that plaintiff should fall down the hole it would be necessary for him to climb up on to the coal. Then they would have to answer the question whether plaintiff was in the vicinity of the hatchway by invitation or his own accord. He would bring evidence to prove that plaintiff was not directed to go forward as he stated he was. The legal contentions in the case would be illustrated by *Mason* and *Langford*, *Walker* against the *Midland Railway Co.*, *Caut* v. *Olyett*, *Balch* v. *Smith*, *Ivy* v. *Hedges*, *Gautred* v. *Edges*. He would next contend that the risk was usual, and that against such risk plaintiff's common experience should have induced him to be on his guard. He had been connected with ships all his life, and he ought to have known that on board every ship were pitfalls. He should surely have taken greater care on such a dark night. In support of this proposition he should cite *Wilkinson* and *Perry*, a dark staircase case. The next point he would make was that defendants owed no duty to plaintiff to keep a cover on the hatch—*O'Niel* v. *Everest*. Then he would ask them to find whether it was a duty from defendant to plaintiff to answer the paragraph in his petition alleging wrongful negligence on their part. He should contend that plaintiff had notice of almost prohibition of passage, through the coal being on deck. Other cases in point were then noted as to be cited when Counsel would address the Court in his final speech, and he concluded by saying that if the jury found that they could not discover that on the part of the defendants there had been an absence of reasonable and sufficient care, then the verdict must be in their favour.

Alexander Gove, Chief Officer of the steamship *Victoria*, sworn, deposed—I was on board the ship on the night of the 27th July. The plan in the Court is fairly correct: the hatch in front of the gangway ought to be farther aft. There were two lights in the passengers' gangway and two in the smoking-room: they were 16-candle electric lights. They would show forward right through two port-holes in the house over the stairway. There was an electric light also at the gangway, showing forward. In the engine room there were 17 lights. All would be showing through the sky-lights: the flaps of the sky-lights were up. The next light is in the officers' stairway, next to this come two in the galley. These would show through the skylight. The top of the skylight is about 12 feet from the deck. The house over the officers' stairway is ten feet from the deck. The lights would be reflected, as it were, round about the hatch. These were all the lights that would be seen. The distance from the passengers' stairway to the corner of the engine-room was 82 feet. From the same point to the hatch would be 115 feet. The passage between the rail and the coal was piled four bags high, about four feet, no higher than the height of the rail. Any one walking on the coal would strike his head on the skids of the boats. The coal was stowed neatly, four bags high all along. There was a clean deck left along the passages between the coal, and there is no truth in the statement that two bags of coal were placed along the passages bringing them level with the combings of the hatchway. To get on to the coal one would have had to climb four feet—that is the reason why a passage way was left. This was not the first time we had carried a deck cargo of coal on a voyage such as that we were starting. The passages are always left in this manner, and people have never complained of the coal before. The model of the hatchway in Court is correct. It is three feet square and fifteen inches from the deck I considered the deck was sufficiently well lighted for anyone passing along to see and notice the hatch. I recollect this because that night I went along to the Second Engineer and had a light put up to light up the forward part of the wheel-house, to light the hatches there. I had taken notice of the coal bunker hatch and seen that it was sufficiently lighted. After the plaintiff had complained of his accident, I went forward, thinking something had gone wrong with the lights. I saw everything was all right, so I left the hatchway as it was before, with the hatch off. I gave no order to the quartermaster to go forward and put a cover on the hatch. If I had given such an order I should have told the quartermaster to tell the bo-sun to order the sailors to put the cover on. I should not ask the quartermaster to do it.

To the Court—I did not tell the plaintiff that I had men working under the hatch. I had no such conversation with him.

Witness, continuing—There were two other lights that could have been turned on outside the officers' stairway, but they throw too much light on the deck and are seldom used. They would throw light aft. The diameter of the port-holes in the officers' stairway is about 16 inches. They are about 5 ft. from the deck. They were open.

The Court then adjourned till 10.30 to-morrow.

THURSDAY, November 28th, 1895.

The hearing of the case was resumed at 10.30 o'clock this morning.

The Chief Officer of the *Victoria* again entered the box, and was examined by Mr. Lowder. He said—The port side of the *Victoria* was heaped with coal, as was the starboard side. Everything was in the same condition as to lights, coal, stowage of coal, hatches, and passages through the coal: everything was exactly the same. The sacks were laid on the flat sides, and packed in square blocks. The sacks consisted of straw matting. They formed a regular rampart, or bulwark, or barricade straight up and down. We were working cargo at No. 4 hatch and at No. 2. The coal was taken on board at Moji, and there stowed on deck. We stopped at Kobe, and were there at night time. We had many passengers on board, forty or fifty steerage, and some cabin passengers. We must have been working cargo at night in Kobe. Many people came off from the shore at Kobe at night, and no accidents took place. The lighting of the deck was exactly the same as on the night of the 27th July. Four gangs were working the four hatches on the night of the 27th July. There must have been fully 100 coolies aboard. They frequently passed and repassed the coal-bunker hatch, but no accident was reported. There were other men beside the coolies on board that night; the foremen of the stevedores and the office people. Up till 10 o'clock that night no loose coal had been put on board. There might have been a few stray pieces of loose coal lying on the alleyways. Not any quantity, as the passages were swept. The coal-bunker hatch was left open as we were expecting coal alongside at any minute. It was a very common thing for the hatch to be open. On the night of the 14th November I made an experiment with the same lights as were lighted on the night of the accident. It was dark and clear as on the night of the 27th July. Any one coming along the deck could see by the reflection from the lights the position of the hatch, and whether it was open or not.

His Honour—Were there any coal sacks there then?

Witness—No, Sir. The presence of coal sacks would not have made any difference in the light falling on the hatch. The inside of the hatch is painted white, the outside brown. Intersecting the hatch diagonally was a guy attached to the funnel. It was a wire guy. This guy was made fast to the covering board of the hatch, at the level of the deck. This guy passed across the

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hatch. The guy would be about six inches or a foot above the combing at the outside corner, and three feet six inches at the opposite corner; over the top of the combing. I cannot see how the plaintiff got into the position described in his evidence. I do not see how he could get into that position without coming into contact with the guy. If he threw his arms out he must have encountered the guy. I cannot see how he could get one leg over the after part of the combing, as the coal was piled up to the after part of the hatch; it was four sacks high there. He must have fallen right on to the guy if he had walked on the top of the coal. If he had approached down the middle passage he might possibly have fallen, still in throwing out his arm he must have touched the guy. He was bound to touch it. It is quite the correct thing to have coal-bunker hatches on the spar deck of steamers. The German mail hatches are similiar to ours, though her combings are not so high as ours, and so is the P. & O. *Malacca*, now in harbour. I have been in other vessels with similiar hatches. The reason for having this kind of hatch is this; in bad weather it would be impossible to take in coal through the sides. All ships that I have been on have either a round hole or a square hatch through which the coal is shot through the upper deck down to the bunkers. I saw the plaintiff arrive on board the ship at 10 o'clock on the night of the 27th July. I was close to the gangway, in uniform. The quarter-master was sitting at the fore corner of the hatch on the starboard side tallying silk. Plaintiff did not speak to the quarter-master. He did not speak to me. He spoke to Mr. Brown, the stevedore. Brown was alongside me. There was plenty of light to enable plaintiff to see us distinctly. He never asked me, after the accident, whether I would take any more cargo in that night.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford—I never saw the plaintiff before the night of the 27th July. I was the right person to ask about bringing cargo on board. After the accident I went and looked at the hatch. Clare simply told me that he had fallen down the hatch. I did not believe that the man had fallen down at all. If he had fallen down the hatch he would not have been able to get up again without assistance. He told me he had hurt himself, but I did not think he had hurt himself. His hand was held to his side certainly. I said that he ought to be very careful when he went aboard a strange ship. That was the only remark that passed between us. Helm's lighters were alongside the ship, and we worked cargo all night. We were taking cargo in and stowing it. The coal was not piled up in a slanting position against the deck house. There was a flat top to the coal everywhere as nicely as it could be stowed. The coal did not slant anywhere, nor did they form steps. A man could not possibly walk on the top of the coal without striking his head on the boat skids; there were three boats and six skids. There was a break at the hatch, and no boat there. The skids are about seven feet from the deck. The hatch would come between the second and third boats. There would be a skid on a line with the after part of the officer's stairway. If there had been two sacks of coal he could not have got on them without hitting his head.

Mr. Walford thought that it would be very possible to avoid hitting his head. It was a matter of opinion.

His Honour—That is a fair comment on the evidence.

Witness continuing—The coal was piled to the height of the ship's rail. The passages between were made at Moji. I always took the passage when I passed along. Coal bunker hatches are usually placed in the upper deck. I do not call the part of the deck where the hatch was placed, the promenade deck. We do not like to see the passengers so far forward on the deck as this hatch. Our upper deck runs from stem to stern, and the passengers are supposed only to use a portion of the deck set apart for them. The hatch was not in the part of the deck that the passengers were supposed to use. The *Australian* on which I have served had hatches of a similiar kind. All vessels have always side-ports for coaling. We often coal over the top of the ship; and we did so this voyage because our ship was deep with cargo. I saw Mr. Thomson on board the ship on the 28th July. He did not ask me about the accident.

Arthur Thomas Brown, sworn, deposed—I am a stevedore for Messrs. Martin & Co. I have seen plaintiff before the night of the 27th July. On that night I saw him come on board the *Victoria*. I was leaning over the starboard rail at the after gangway. The chief officer was also there. The quartermaster, was near, tallying silk. He was sitting on th hatchway. Plaintiff spoke to me: I do not remember his speaking to the quartermaster or the Chief Officer. It was light enough for him to see the Chief Officer and to speak to him if he wished. He could not help noticing the two stripes on the Chief Officer's arm. I passed the coal bunker hatch on the night of July 25th, very often. I passed along both passages, whichever I was nearest to. The passages were clear of coal. I could see the hatch distinctly going forward, from the reflection of the light. I could see it distinctly as I passed it. There was sufficient light to see whether the cover was on or off. The inside of the combing was coloured light. Anyone who could use his eyes would notice the hatch. In my opinion anyone who fell into the hatchway must have been very careless, and not looking to see where he was going. The coal was stowed breast high. It was the same height on both sides. I think plaintiff knew in whose employ I was. As far as I can remember, he asked me if we could take in all the silk that night. I told him I thought we could manage it all that night.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford—I first heard of Mr. Clare's accident three weeks after, when I met him. I did not express surprise to him to hear that he had been on board the *Victoria*. I was not in the hold when Clare came aboard. I could not very well pass over the coals, and I never passed over them. They did not slope down anywhere, and were breast high.

Frank Harry Tovey, Third Engineer of the *Victoria*, sworn, deposed—I was acting as Second Engineer on the night of the 27th July. I remember receiving an order from the Chief Officer that night, to put a light in the forward bracket of the wheel-house. In doing so I passed by the starboard coal bunker hatch. The cover was off at the time. There was sufficient light to enable any one passing to see whether the cover was on or off. There was no brilliant light, but sufficient to enable one to see there was a hatch there. The deck load of coal was four bags deep; the same height all over. There was no loose coal, or coal in sacks in the passage marked on the plan. I walked on the deck: there was nothing between the deck and the sole of my boot. Next morning I passed through the passage, and it was then in the same condition. It did not occur to me that the hatch was insufficiently lighted for strangers coming on board. It is always lit in exactly the same way as it was that night.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford—Owing to the Second Engineer being ill he was left at *Victoria* that voyage. It was my duty to attend to the electric lights. There was nothing wrong with them that night.

The Chief Officer was recalled to prove that the quartermaster who was working at the after hatch on the night of the 27th July was not on the ship now. He left the ship at *Tacoma*, that voyage.

Antonié Jose Correa, sworn, deposed—I am in the service of the Agents of the defendant Company at Yokohama. I was on the *Victoria* on the night in question. I went on board after dinner and remained on board till ten o'clock. I passed the coal bunker hatch on the starboard side. I had no difficulty in passing along. I walked along on the side of the ship, the rail-passage. I did not take any notice of the hatch when I passed. There was no danger in it to me. I cannot say whether it was open or closed.

Cross-examined—I know the *Victoria* quite well.

To the Court—I went on board when she arrived in the morning.

The Court then adjourned till half-past one o'clock.

Upon resuming, Mr. Geo. Syme Thomson was called and sworn. He deposed—I represent Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., in Yokohama. I have no power to act for the defendants otherwise than as agent. On the 4th November I caused a letter to be written by Mr. Lowder to the Counsel for the plaintiff. I saw plaintiff on the 28th July. He informed me that the ship's doctor had seen him, and that the doctor had not examined him properly. He said he was a poor man and wanted further medical assistance. I then told him to go to Dr. Munro, and get that gentleman to write to me upon the extent of his injuries. This was to be at my own expense individually. Before that he had suggested my inspecting the injuries he had sustained, and that was the reason I sent him to Dr. Munro. Paintiff said that he thought he had a claim on the Company. I told him that was a different matter, but if he had a claim on the Company and it was a just me, he should be fairly dealt with. I mentioned I had no power in such a case without reference to the proper authorities. Then he sent in his claim. I referred the claim to Hongkong, and as a result I offered $400 as full settlement without prejudice, in no way admitting liability. That was not accepted. This offer was made a week after the petition was filed, November 4th.

The letter was put in, and read as follow:—

A. B. Walford, Esq. 4th November, 1895.

Dear Sir,

CLARE v. THE N.P.S.S. Co.

In reply to your letter of the 2nd, I am instructed to say that Monday, the 18th inst., will be a convenient day for the trial of this action.

As regards the plaintiff's assumption that the defendant company are a partnership, and your consequent request that as they have not appeared individually you may be furnished with the names of the members of the partnership, I have to say that Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill, and Company, who are the agents of the Company in Yokohama, and by whom I am instructed, are not in possession of the information asked for. They are defending the action as agents; and the only reason why the petition was not objected to for want of jurisdiction in Her Majesty's Court for Japan to entertain it, was that in the case of the plaintiff they were unwilling to take advantage of a technicality, which would have the effect of depriving him of a local remedy for an alleged injury of which there is a possibility of the defendants being found liable. You may assure your client that Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., as agents for the defendants, hold themselves responsible for the payment of all damages and costs he may succeed in recovering against the defendants.

Yours truly, J. F. LOWDER.

Mr. Lowder then read the following extract from plaintiff's testimony of the previous day:—"He said, if you take this case into Court, Mr. Thomson does not wish you to have anything more to do with any ships or cargo of his and I must discharge you. If I don't discharge you, Thomson will take his business away from me, and their business is a third of my business, and that is what I can't afford to lose. I thanked him, and left." Is that a correct statement, assuming you spoke to to Mr. Helm.

Witness—That is not an accurate statement, assuming that I spoke to Helm.

Cross-examined by Mr. Walford—I told Mr. Helm that I would not have Mr. Clare go on board our steamers in future, or have anything to do with our steamers. I said nothing about his remaining in Helm's service. I wrote to Hongkong about his claim when next we were writing, and the answer was much delayed.

Re-examined by Mr. Lowder—I had had several conversations after Mr. Helm's return to work, that I should require his permission to speak about, but the result of them was that it made me come to the conclusion that it was not advisable for me to have Mr. Clare going on board our steamers.

Mr. Lowder—That is my case.

Plaintiff, recalled by the Court, said—I went forward by the starboard side to the officer's stairway. Coals were piled up on each side of a passage way leading to the stairway from the gangway. Going forward I found no passage way, and I got up on to the coal. I could not say how far the coal extended forward, but the coal began well aft near the gangway.

Mr. Lowder, in addressing the Jury, said that he should not have taken the trouble to occupy their time with the evidence just given by Mr. Thomson had he not considered it necessary to remove from their minds any prejudice that might have been conveyed to them in the opening remarks of his learned friend who appeared on the other side—that plaintiff had been unfairly treated by the defendant Company, and that he had been driven by them to the great cost of bringing a lawsuit. The evidence just given proved that it was precisely the other way about, that the defendant had been driven to defend the suit, although as agents they had no obligation to appear in a suit brought against the principals. But defendants did not wish to take advantage of a technicality against the plaintiff. Also it had been gathered that the defendants has offered the plaintiff a solatium of $400, which he might have received without the Company admitting any legal liability. Of course, in making this offer it must be clearly understood, there was not any liability admitted by the Company. Their offer was rejected and the case proceeded. The evidence just tendered would, he felt confident, lead the jury to the conclusion that the plaintiff had been very fairly dealt with by the defendant Company, and that they did not come into Court to evade any of their liabilities. In fact they were driven into Court by the plaintiff; it was not the defendants that had driven the plaintiff there. Proceeding, Counsel said that he was willing to admit that plaintiff went on board the ship on business that affected both defendants and plaintiffs.

His Honour—Common business.

Mr. Lowder—Yes, from the evidence, common business.

His Honour—I believe it was so.

Mr. Lowder—That business, I now contend, might have been concluded at the top of the gangway of the ship. At the head of the gangway plaintiff met Brown, the stevedore, and the Chief Officer. He went on board the ship to ask a question as to whether any more cargo would be received on board that night, and the Chief Officer was the person who could give the information that plaintiff required—whether he would ship any more silk on board that night.

His Honour—Was it silk?

Mr. Lowder—Helm's lighters were conveying the cargo to the ship, and plaintiff was in their

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employ. The business that plaintiff had in hand when he boarded the ship was with the Chief Officer, and the application plaintiff had to make was to be made to him. Now the evidence of Brown was that both he and the Chief Officer were standing near the gangway when plaintiff came on board, but that plaintiff, although there was quite sufficient light to enable him to see the Chief Officer, did not speak to him nor ask him a question. Instead, according to the defendants' evidence, he asked Brown as to whether any more cargo would be taken on board that night. According to plaintiff's own statement he saw the quartermaster at the gangway and was told by him to go forward. He asked the jury, on the evidence given for the defendants, to answer the question, whether in their opinion the business plaintiff had in hand could not have been transacted and finished at the top of the gangway? Plaintiff was doubtless justified in going on board the ship, but as the business on which he came could have been finished at the top of the gangway, Counsel held that he was not justified in going forward along the deck. Whether the business of the plaintiff could have been concluded where he (counsel) suggested it could have been, was a question for the jury to decide. Then the question arose, was the business upon which the plaintiff went to the ship concluded? The Chief Officer denied that the question as to more cargo being received was put to him by the plaintiff, and therefore, as he was the only man who could give the information required, plaintiff must have left the ship without concluding his business. The question then arose, how important that business was in his own mind? The next question was, did the plaintiff step into the hatchway and sustain the injury that he says he did. In his (Counsel's) mind he did not think it possible that the accident could have occurred as plaintiff says it did. When he told the Chief Officer of his accident he said that he "fell down" the hatch, when speaking to the agent of the company he said "fell down," and when a letter was written to the company by his employers, at his request, they wrote that he had fallen down the hatch; yet when he prepared his petition for the Court he describes the accident as having occurred through his "stepping into" the hole. If plaintiff's own evidence is to be believed he climbed up on to the coal and then tumbled in. There was, therefore, some amount of deliberation about the matter. In plaintiff's last piece of evidence he says that there was coal piled up from the gangway, leaving a passage in between. The defendants' evidence showed that the coal stopped with the engine room. If the plaintiff's recollection of such a simple fact as this is not to be relied upon, then I ask you whether you can place more credence on other parts of his evidence? He seems to have suffered from peculiar eyesight that night, for he observed coal where no coal was, and going further forward did not see a hatchway that by any ordinary person could easily be seen. If, then, you believe the evidence the defendants have placed before you, and you are not satisfied that plaintiff has made out his case, the argument need go no further. The next point I am coming to is a point at law, was plaintiff in the vicinity of the hatch by invitation or permission. If there is a duty owing to a person who, being on certain premises by permission, meets with an accident, those duties only extend to such a part of the premises to which customers have need of access for the prosecution of their business. This is the principle of law laid down in a case I shall shortly cite. If plaintiff had no need of access to the place where the accident is alleged to have taken place, then no obligation exists on the part of the defendants to protect him from the accident he met with. He says that the deck was dark. If that was so then the question I submit to you is, it would be unreasonable to suppose that anyone invited him to go on in the dark; and if he did do so, he went on at his own risk. The mere fact of the coal being there raises the presumption whether such obstacle was not sufficient to act as a warning to him that if he did go over it he might stumble, that he might stumble at every step and be very likely to meet with an even worse accident than that which did befal him. The question is, are defendants liable? and I ask you to find that they are not, because plaintiff was not invited to go where he did. In support of this contention, Counsel quoted from the judgment delivered in *Walker* against the *Midland Railway Company*, where the proprietors of the hotel were not held responsible for plaintiff's husband opening a door leading into a dark passage, in mistake for a closet, proceeding down the passage for 17 yards, and then falling down a lift-shaft, whereby he was killed, the ground taken being that he was not invited to go there, and the place was not in use by the visitors to the hotel. The case of *Mason* and *Langford* was also cited. Proceeding, Mr. Lowder said these cases related to the question, was plaintiff there by invitation or permission; if by permission there was little or no obligation held towards the plaintiff by the defendants. If he was there by invitation, then their duty was simply to exercise ordinary care, not extreme care, but usual care. The fourth general question to be answered was, was the risk run by plaintiff an unusual risk, I submit that it was not. I submit to you that if falling down the stairs of a house is an ordinary accident, then falling down the open hatchway of a ship is quite an ordinary risk, and one which ordinary experience would induce one to shun, just as one shunned falling down a household staircase. I submit that in this case there was no unusual covert danger. Having quoted the case of *Indermorne* and *Danes*, which went on appeal to the House of Lords, Counsel asked the jury to find whether they considered that the hatchway on the *Victoria* on the night of the 27th July presented an unusual covert danger, or was it one of the usual dangers to be met with on board ship. He hoped the jury would not be led to attach too great importance to the word "trap" used by the Counsel on the other side, and he quoted a decision bearing on the meaning of the word in its legal sense. The next question submitted was, could the plaintiff, by using ordinary care and caution, avoid the accident? And after this, the general question, had the plaintiff on this point made out his case, had he proved it to the satisfaction of the jury? Plaintiff himself had proved notice of warning, because he said he could not go forward without climbing on to the coal. The evidence as to the sufficiency of the lights had been overwhelming: there was quite sufficient to enable anyone to see the hatch. The witnesses Smith and Heldt, though it must be acknowledged that they were acquainted with the ship, said they could see the hatch and noticed no cover over it. There was sufficient light according to other witnesses for them to see the hatch. Then they had the evidence that the coal had been taken on deck at Moji, after which the ship proceeded to Kobe, and scores of people passed the hatch, backwards and forwards, and none ever fell in. Now we pass to the question, was there then any contributory negligence on the part of plaintiff himself. Could he have avoided stepping into the hatchway? Every other person seemed to have been able to avoid falling into it, and there is only one conclusion to draw, that plaintiff did not exercise that same care and skill. Summing up the whole argument, the questions that the jury had to answer were—was there joint interest in the business between the plaintiff and the defendants when plaintiff was on the spot; was he there by invitation; also was there lack of reasonable care displayed by defendants, and was there reasonable care on the part of the plaintiff. All these questions would have to be answered in favour of the plaintiff before they found for him.

His Honour—And damages? What have you to say about them Mr. Lowder?

Mr. Lowder—In regard to damages, gentlemen of the jury, the plaintiff claims for various things, and puts in a doctor's bill for $38, loss of a months' salary $85, chemist's bill $11, or say something like $150. In my opinion the offer that was made to plaintiff by the defendant was a very liberal one; he was not entitled to it, and I hope you will remember that it is he who has put the defendants to the expense of defending this action at law, though really they need not have answered his petition at all.

Mr. A. B. Walford then rose to close the pleadings for his client. He said that with regard to the question of damages that Mr. Lowder had finished his remarks with, the offer of the defendants was made after they had compelled plaintiff to bring the action, and after the petition was filed. However reasonable such an offer may have been before the action was commenced, it was too late and quite inadequate now. The jury would, if they believed his client, find a fair compensation for the pain and suffering he had endured and for the hardships to which he had been put. It was totally unreasonable to expect that plaintiff could wait from the 28th July till the 28th Sept., before receiving an answer to his request: two months was an unreasonably long delay. It was to be regretted that there were some discrepancies in the case. It was, however, a common experience to find that two persons when asked to describe an event that both had witnessed, could not give the same relation of it. But we always try to think that when men enter the witness box and take the oath they speak the truth about the matters demanded of them, according to their best belief at the time. I hope I shall be able to show that the evidence given in this case does not vary in any material respect. Whether Clare questioned Brown or the quartermaster first was not material in the circumstances of the case. It was not very material whether there was a pathway between the coal from the gangway to the officers, stairway, whether there was a path through the middle, or along the side by the rail. These are matters in which two people differ. It is not very material whether plaintiff recognised the Chief Officer standing near the gangway when he came up, or whether he asked the Chief Officer personally whether he would receive any more cargo that night. He came aboard for that purpose, and somehow gained the information he wanted. He did not know the Chief Officer by sight, and only recognised him after the accident by the two bands on his sleeve. It would be very natural under the circumstances of the accident that he should not remember seeing the quartermaster tallying at the hatch. Counsel then pointed out that the original answer filed in the case by the defendants, bore out the statements of Clare as to the coal on the deck and the absence of passages.

Mr. Lowder said the answer was filed before he had had an opportunity of seeing the *Victoria's* officers. When they came in and he learnt further particulars, he amended his answer accordingly.

Mr. Walford continuing said that it was quite immaterial whether plaintiff used the expression "fell down" or "stepped into." It was a mere inaccuracy of expression in his mouth and meant the same thing. It did not affect his claim. He told the defendants' officers of the nature of his injuries, which the doctor had subsequently described to them. He asked the Jury to obliterate all these small descrepancies from their minds as they really were of no consequence whatever. There were some maters, however, of great importance that he desired to draw their attention to. As to the reason why plaintiff went forward on to the coal after coming out of the officers' stairway, he did not agree with the suggestion of his learned friend. It was quite clear that plaintiff came on board to ask him about receiving more cargo that night. He put a question of this kind to Brown, and then left him to go elsewhere, this is the defendants' story. Plaintiff says he saw Smith on the lower deck, who advised him to go and see the Chief Officer, and it was after he had left Smith and was engaged in seeking the Chief Officer somewhere else, that the accident happened. He went aboard on business to see the Chief Officer. There is no other reason suggested.

His Honour—I think that is admitted.

Mr. Lowder—But the business could have conducted at the head of the gangway.

Mr. Walford—And I say that he also went forward for the same purpose. There is unfortunately a conflict as to whom plaintiff first spoke, but this is immaterial and not important. It is also immaterial whether Clare obtained the information about the cargo from the Chief Officer. He was much agitated after his fall, and got the information somewhere, it may have been from Smith. He knew before he left he ship that no more cargo was required and so released his men. He at any rate accomplished his object. Turning to the question of lights, Counsel said that lights proceeding from the stairways, galley and engine room, though they might cast a reflection around, were clearly insufficient for lighting up the deck. Indeed the lights shining through the port holes were obstacles if anything to a stranger going alone the deck. All the evidence in regard to the lights had been given by the officers on by men who had been on the ship before. They knew where the hatch was situated and took care to avoid it. If Clare had known that it lay in his path he might have avoided it as well. It would have been far more necessary, too, to place a light where the coal began than to reflect a light on to the vicinity of the hatch. Clare, he contended, did what he thought was right, when he went forward in search of the Chief Officer. No man had to forsee the negligence of another man, and Clare had no right to forsee that there would be no light at the hatchway. There was nothing analogous between this case and the cases quoted by his learned friend. A ship's coal-bunker hatchway with its cover off, could not be compared with a staircase in a house. Everyone knew that there was a staircase in the house, but no one knew where a ship's coal bunker would be placed. Knowing where the staircase was, people were naturally on their guard, but the case was different with an unlighted unguarded hatchway. Passing on to another point in the case, Counsel said the other side had not suggested that plaintiff was a trespasser. Even if he had been a trespasser he would have had right of action, because the deck of a ship was a private thoroughfare; persons had a qualified right of way over the decks of

HATHITRUST DIGITIZED BY GOOGLE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ships. Addison and Pollock on Torts were then quoted, and Counsel argued from them that plaintiff occupied the position and had the rights of a licence. If he was on the ship on joint business he must have a right of action, and this, he contended, carried him right through in his search for the Chief Officer. Having cited *Indermorne* and *Dames*, Counsel said that plaintiff had no opportunity of knowing the existence of the danger, and that he quite conceived it possible for plaintiff to have fallen as he described, notwithstanding the guy stretching diagonally across the hatch. He asked the Jury for a finding on a question of fact, that Clare was not able, coming out of a brilliantly lighted place —the officers' stairway—on to deck where no light was, to see any pathway leading forward. He took what appeared to him the right way forward, slipped into the hole and fell and met with the injuries he complained of. Counsel asked the jury further to find that the hatchway was not lighted and imperfectly guarded; that the deck was not lighted save by light reflected from lights from port-holes or from below the level of the deck; that the plaintiff went forward in the ship on business in which both the defendants and himself were interested, and that the plaintiff had cause against the defendants.

His Honour said that he would sum up to the Jury at 11 o'clock the next day, and the Court adjourned.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, November 26.

The situation with regard to Turkey is generally improving. Armenia is quiet, and there is a better feeling on the bourses.

(From the "N.-C. Daily News.")

London, November 15.

The Congo Free State has paid to Great Britain six thousand pounds as an indemnity for the murder of Mr. Stokes.

November 16.

An American squadron is going to the Levant. Lebanon is in a restless state, and the Mussulmans in Damascus are equally incensed against the Christians and the impotent Government. The garrisons on the Dardanelles have been doubled and a look-out and search-light have been placed on the island of Tenedos.

H.I.M. the Czarina has given birth to a daughter, and both are doing well.

November 18.

The religious racial movement id Turkey is growing beyond the control of the officials, and the Christians everywhere in Armenia are in the greatest danger.

There have been massacres in Kharput and the number of victims is said to be eight hundred.

The buildings belonging to the American Mission has been burned down, but the missionaries have escaped.

November 19.

The massacres continue at various points in Asia Minor.

The Armenian agent in Constantinople has wired to London imploring for help to end the carnage which is going on.

There has been a great Arab rising at Yemen, where forty-five thousand Arabs armed with Martini-Henry rifles have defeated the Turks three times.

(From Tonkin Papers.)

Paris, November 5.

The programme of the Cabinet, read in Parliament, announces that the Southern Railway inquiry will be re-opened. Measures in favour of labour and the creation of a Colonial army are also announced. The Cabinet will remain faithful to foreign alliances. The assistance of the Right and the Collectivists is rejected.

The reception accorded by Parliament to this programme was reserved, except on the part of the Radicals.

Paris, November 9.

Complete accord exists amongst the Powers as to the attitude to be observed with regard to Turkey and the Armenian affair.

France will advance the departure of the squadron paying the annual visit to the Levant.

(From the "Siam Observer.")

London, November 5.

M. Bourgeois, the new French Premier, made a statement as to the policy of his Administration in the Chamber on Monday. His programme includes:—

The imposition of an income tax; succession duties on a sliding scale; maintenance of France's foreign alliances, which had, he said, restored the balance of power in Europe; the creation of a Colonial army; military and naval reforms.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Shimonoseki, Nov. 26.

The *Atago Kan* passed here towards the east this morning.

Söul, Nov. 25.

The Cabinet have agreed to persuade the Tai Wön-kun to withdraw from the Palace. Affairs now wear an extraordinary aspect.

Hakodate, Nov. 25.

The sailing ship *Soriu Maru* was wrecked off Rebun on the 14th inst., while returning from Saghalien. Twenty-six of her crew were drowned.

Kelung, November 24.

Vice-Governor-General Viscount Takashima, of Formosa, left here for Kobe to-day at 5.30 p.m. by the *Yokohama Maru*.

Söul, November 26.

Mr. Komura, Japanese Minister, and other Representatives proceeded to the Palace to-day.

Kyoto, November 26.

Count Inouye arrived here last night, and put up at the Yoshitomi Hotel. He had an interview with Count Matsukata. Count Inouye will leave for Tokyo to-morrow.

Kobe, November 26.

The suite of Count Inouye have left for Tokyo, but the Count will return here from Kyoto and then go on to the capital.

Osaka, November 26.

The election of an M.P. for the first district of the City, takes place on the 28th inst., and a severe contest is expected between Messrs. Omiwa Chobei and Tanaka Ichibei. The latter is expected to win.

Söul, November 26.

The Foreign Representatives held a conference at the U.S. Legation yesterday.

Hiroshima, November 26.

The *Mikawa Maru* and *Asagao Maru* arrived at Nishima last night with some of the Guards.

Shimonoseki, November 26.

The *Ninsen Maru*, with a detachment of the Guards, passed here towards the east this morning.

Söul, Nov. 26.

Cho Gi-yen, Minister of War, and Ken Ei-chin, Superintendent General of the Metropolitan Police, have been dismissed, their positions being given to Li Do-sai and Kyo Shin respectively.

A Royal Ordinance has been issued to the effect that the dethroned and murdered Queen is restored to her former position, and the Royal Ordinance dated August 22nd is annulled.

The King has also issued an Ordinance that the officers and soldiers of the Palace Guards were not guilty of causing the late disturbance.

Mr. Komura, Japanese Minister, and other Representatives proceeded to the Palace to-day.

Söul, November 27.

The King personally interviewed the officers and men of the Palace Guards, and told them they are guiltless, and encouraged them to be more loyal. The soldiers are now more contented.

The present reforms were effected by the Korean Government on its own initiative. On the night of the 25th inst. the King asked all the Foreign Representatives to be present at the Palace on the 26th. When the latter proceeded to the Palace on the appointed day, the King told them of the reforms, and the Foreign Representatives seem satisfied with the promise of a strict enforcement of the reform measures. It is understood that measures for the best settlement of the Söul disturbance have been partly arranged in the above scheme of reforms.

The Tai Wön-kun is still at the Palace. The reforms are said to have been chiefly planned by Gyo In-chu. The newly appointed Minister of War is now staying in his native place, and Gyo is acting as War Minister.

The punishment of Cho Gi-yen and Ken Ei-chiu does not go beyond their dismissal, and they have not been arrested. Cho is staying outside the castle, and Ken at his own residence.

Li Shu-kai, a military inspector, was arrested this morning.

Li Do-sai, the new Minister of War, is the man who was exiled to a distant island in connection with the disturbance of 1884, and since became Governor of Chol-la-do, which position he lost some time ago. Kyo Shin, the new Superintendent General of the Metropolitan Police, is an ex-Governor of Shin-ju.

Fusan, Nov. 27.

The Russian ironclad *Vladimir Monomach* and two other men-of-war arrived here yesterday, and will leave for Nagasaki to-morrow.

Aomori, November 27.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha's agency will be opened here on the 1st prox.

Fukushima, November 27.

The Fukushima Liberals have agreed to accept the manifesto of the *Jiyu-to* issued in connection with the coalition with the Cabinet.

Söul, November 27.

The Tai Wön-kun will leave the Palace and proceed to his own residence.

Cho, Minister of War, has been dismissed for his carelessness, in not knowing of the escape of Gu Han-zen and Li To-ko, Commanders of the *Kunrentai*.

Ken, Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police, has been dismissed for having neglected to arrest criminals connected with the Söul disturbance.

Hiroshima, November 27.

Colonel Kusunose, Major Umayabara, and Captain Rito, who have been detained at the Gendarmery Office, were to-day removed to the Military Prison.

The *Sakata Maru*, *Ninsen Maru*, and *Sokoku Maru* have arrived from Formosa.

Söul, November 28.

At 2 o'clock last night a portion of the Royal Guards belonging to the late Palace Guards attacked the Paalce, but were driven back by another portion of the Guards belonging to the late *Kunrentai*. Li Do-ketsu, ex-Commander of the garrison at Phyong-yang, and two other officers, five soldiers, and four assassins provided with swords were arrested.

The late Palace Guards divided into two parts, and a company attacked the police office near the Eastern Gate, and wounded a few constables. The other party proceeded to the Palace direct. They intended to enter the Palace through the Keishunmon Gate. About ten men, who crossed the fence, were arrested. The soldiers belonging to the *Kunrentai* discovered the plot before it was put into execution. Despite thorough knowledge of the plot the commander feigned as if he were associated with the plotters, and promised to take part in the attack. The conspirators discharged three shots as a signal, but the *Kunrentai* soldiers did not answer, and instead suddenly attacked the rebels, who were soon defeated.

Before commencing the attack upon the Palace two soldiers belonging to the Royal Guards visited the Japanese Legation, and presented a letter, in which it was stated that as they intended to effect some reforms they requested that no Japanese guards be ordered out to put down the disturbance. Mr. Komura, Japanese Minister, refused the request, and promptly proceeded to the Palace. The gate was not opened then, and he was not admitted till about one hour after. He immediately interviewed the King.

The cause of the disturbance has not yet been ascertained, but it is not likely to have any connection with the ex-Minister of War.

Later.

It is said the object of the attack was to murder Kin Ko-shu, Yu Kitsu-ei, and others, the plot being arranged by Li Do-ketsu.

Kyoto, Nov. 28.

Marquis Yamagata arrived here yesterday

from Tokyo, and had an interview with Count Inouye. The Marquis at once left for Tokyo.

Ujina, November 28.

The *Taiwan Maru*, which left Takow on the 16th inst. and the arrival of which has been delayed for some days, entered Nishima to-day with 143 officers and men of the Guards and 130 horses.

Söul, November 28.

The Japanese guards had no connection with the disturbance. They did not proceed to protect the Palace during the attack, as they were not called on to render assistance.

The name of the American missionary connected with the disturbance is Andervit (?).

Osaka, November 29.

The parliamentary election in the First District of this city has resulted in the return of Mr. Tanaka Ichibei, who obtained 200 votes against Mr. Omiwa Chobei's 147.

Nagasaki, November 29.

The British cruiser *Caroline* has arrived here from Shanghai.

Söul, Nov. 29.

A conference of various Foreign Representatives was held to-day in connection with the new disturbance.

The fact that three foreigners were connected with the riot is not established.

The death of the Queen has been officially announced, and a Royal ordinance has been issued to the effect that a State funeral will take place; and that Koreans shall wear mourning for one year.

Two or three other Americans took part in the disturbance besides Underwood, the ringleader of the disturbance.

The wife of Underwood is a doctor, and she made frequent visits to the Palace to see the Queen while the latter was still alive.

Underwood is a schemer, and is equally notorious with Mr. Okamoto Ryunosuke, a Japanese now under arrest at Hiroshima in connection with the former Söul disturbance.

The disturbance of yesterday morning occurred between 1.30 and 3 o'clock.

Hiroshima, Nov. 29.

It is said that a Court Martial will be opened in a week to examine the officers connected with the Söul disturbance.

BISSET & CO.'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, November 25th, 1895.

Our to-day's wire from Hongkong reads as follows:—H. & S. Banks 185 per cent. premium Sellers; Hongkong Lands $68.50 Buyers; China Fires $89 Sellers; H. & W. Docks 141 per cent. premium; H. & K. Wharfs $48.50 Sellers, Douglasses $66 Buyers; H. C. & M. Steamboats $36 Sales; Punjoms $5 Sales; Raubs $4 Buyers; Balmorals $2.52 Buyers; Nationals $29 Sellers; Indo-Chinas $58 Sellers; Straits $25.50 Sellers; Unions $197.50 Sales and Traders $73 Sales. It will be noted H. & W. Docks have risen from 137 per cent. premium, whereas H. & K. Wharfs, which were not offering under $50 on the 22nd, current have resumed their old quotation of $48.50. In other stocks no great material change is apparent, but from the above quotations, it must be admitted that the tone of the market is firmer, although rates have not maintained their nominal quotations of a fortnight past.

Locally, business has been brisker, and sales of Iron Works have again been effected at $120, ex the dividend to be due on the 30th current; Club Hotels have changed ownership at $55, and at this rate a small lot might be had: Brett & Co.—Shares have been parted with at $3; Oriental Hotels have been placed at $115; H. & K. Wharfs have been done locally at $48 and H. C. & M. Steamboats have found a purchaser locally at $36. Yokohama E. & I. Works are still in demand, as also Japan Breweries and Grand Hotels at quotations.

Yokohama, 27th November.

Yokohama Engine & Iron Works have again been placed, and $125 and $130 have been paid for them, ex the dividend to be due on the 30th instant. More shares might be wanted. Club Hotels have also changed hands, at $55, but at this rate shares are not offering. Oriental Hotels Founders' Shares are in demand, and $125 might be paid.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

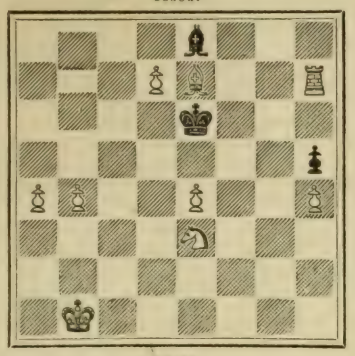
Solution of Problem No. 204.

As notified last issue, this is withheld for a week; to give solvers a chance of correcting their ideas upon the fresh diagram.

Problem No. 206.

By H. F. L. Meyer.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Hongkong Chess Club.

We are glad to note from our Hongkong exchanges that the season has opened well with an inter-club match between "City and Suburbs." We give some clippings which may interest our readers. If only Hongkong were nearer to us there might be a chance of some match-play between our Japan Clubs and those of China, but correspondence-games at such a distance would be a source of weariness in the extreme in these *fin-de-siècle* days:—

The first inter-club match of the Hongkong Chess Club was played recently in the Club Room, Hongkong Hotel. There was a large attendance of members, with a few visitors, who found most of the games interesting. Amongst the visitors was Madame de Kontski, who played several games against the Hon. Secretary of the Club, Mr. H. E. Pollock. Madame de Kontski is a very strong player, with the true chess instinct, and Mr Pollock found her a worthy opponent.

The evening's match was between teams representing the City and the Suburbs. It was thought that the teams divided fairly the strength of the Club, but the result of the play would seem to indicate the invigorating mental effects of extra-mural residence, the Suburbs winning substantially by 10 games to 4.

A pleasing feature of the match was the appearance of a number of Parsee gentlemen, who will make a good showing in the international contest. Chess being, according to tradition, a Persian or Indian game, it is most appropriate that they should come to the front in this manner.

CITY.		SUBURBS.	
H. M. Bastos	1	G. Piercy, Jun.	0
B. L. Batliwara	0	J. W. Pidgeon	1
E. Bischoff	0	The O'Gorman	1
L. F. Carvalho	0	T. H. Reid	1
B. J. Commissariat	0	J. S. Ruchwaldy	1
A. P. Guterres	0	H. E. Pollock	1
Consul Hunt	0	C. S. McKinley	1
C. A. M. De Jesus	1	R. H. R. Burder	0
J. A. Jupp	0	H. S. Cooke	1
R. M. Mehta	0	T. Cowen	1
E. J. Moses	1	G. T. Crook	0
W. H. Purcell	1	W. C. Barlow	0
E. Seina	0	D. McDonald	1
Dr. J. C. Thomson	0	M. J. Danenberg	1
	4		10

Majority for the Suburbs, 6 games.

Hastings Congress.

Game No. 396.

A finely played game, taken with notes from *The Field*.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. S. Tinsley.	BLACK. Mr. J. Mieses.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—B to Q 3	3—P to K 3
4—Kt to K B 3	4—P to Q Kt 3
5—Castles	5—B to Kt 2
6—Kt to K 5	6—P to K Kt 3
7—Kt to Q 2	7—B to Kt 2
8—P to Q Kt 3	8—Kt to K 5
9—P to K B 4 (a)	9—P to K B 3
10—Kt to Kt 4	10—P to K B 4
11—Kt to K 5	11—Kt to Q 2 (b)
12—Q Kt to B 3	12—Kt takes Kt
13—Kt takes Kt	13—B takes Kt
14—B P takes B (c)	14—Q to K 2
15—P to Q R 4	15—P to K R 4
16—P to R 5	16—P to R 5
17—B takes Kt	17—Q P takes B (d)
18—Q to K 2	18—P to K Kt 4
19—P to B 4	19—Castles Q R (e)
20—P takes P	20—R P takes P
21—R to R 2	21—K R to Kt sq.
22—B to R 3	22—Q to R 2
23—P to B 5	23—P takes P
24—P takes P	24—R to Q 6 (f)
25—Q to Q B 2	25—Q to Q 2
26—B to B sq.	26—P to B 5
27—P takes P	27—P takes P
28—B takes P	28—P to K 6
29—Q to B 4	29—R to Q 7
30—R takes R	30—P takes R
31—R to Q sq.	31—R takes P ch.
32—K to B sq.	32—Q to B 3
33—Q to Q 3	33—B to R 3 (g)
Resigns.	

(a) A variation of the Stonewall development. Better would have been to get rid of the Kt at K 5 with 9. P to K B 3.
(b) Black gained a move by the manœuvre of attacking the Knight first instead of playing P to K B 4 at once.
(c) If 14. Q P takes P, Black could have forced an open file easier with 14.....P to K Kt 4. at an opportune moment. Herr Mieses treated the opening well in taking off the Kt at K 5, in order to get a king's side attack, although he remained with bishops of different colour.
(d) In conformity with the plan.
(e) Quite safe, the B at Kt 2 being sufficient protection.
(f) To prevent 25. P to B 6, B takes P; 26. Q to R 6 ch, &c.
(g) A brilliant final attack, a fine game altogether on the part of Herr Mieses.

The age of the oldest of the competitors was separated from the age of the youngest by a gap of more than 40 years. Bird, the sole sexagenarian, is 64; Steinitz is 59, Blackburne 58, Tschigorin 45, Pollock 36, Von Bardeleben 34, Tarrasch 33, Marco 32, Mieses 30, Janowsky, Lasker, Teichmann, 27, Walbrodt 24, and Pillsbury 23.

Gunsberg speaks of Tschigorin as possessing a power of application and concentration unequalled by any other player. This strength is his weakness, as it stands to reason that the effort which such play requires cannot be sustained, even by the strongest chess constitution, day by day for four weeks. Lasker, while he has not the power of endurance and intensity of application of the Russian, has a much clearer sight of the board, a sound business-like judgment of position, and a fine appreciation of opening or developing strategy. Some of his victories were achieved by very fine play of that character. Pillsbury rather combines some of the qualities of both players. He can play for position like Lasker, and he can hold on grimly to an attack like Tschigorin.

Of Steinitz as he appeared at play, the *Chess Player's Chronicle* gives the following word picture:—"He is in the corner close to the window, surrounded by a crowd. He does not like it, and he takes no trouble to conceal the fact. He has a young opponent who is making an unexpected stand. It is the old champion's turn to play. He takes up his card, and, putting it close to his eyes, calculates how much time he may safely allow himself for the next five or six moves. Then his head makes a dive for the clock. He has ample margin. A gentleman passes between the table and the light. Herr Steinitz sniffs. On 20 occasions, at least, he has asked people to go round the other way. Another spectator stops, and his shadow falls right across the board. The chess master sighs, and with an injured air proceeds to pile up chairs across the public way. Then he sets to work again. He does not give one the impression that he is thinking out combination after combination. Perhaps his expressionless face has something to do with it, otherwise the massive forehead speaks clearly of the brain-power behind. His opponents always appear to be using up their powers to no advantage. At first they press him closely, but attack after attack fails, and, like a lion, Herr Steinitz waits his time. His method is made up of the agglomeration of small advantages."

Chess in Tasmania.

A match was recently played by telegraph between Hobart and Launceston, the former team winning. We give one of the games.

Game No. 397.

THE BISHOP'S OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. Toplis (H).	BLACK. Mr. F. Powell (R).
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—B to B 4	2—B to B 4

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3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to Q 3
4—Castles	4—Kt to K B 3
5—P to Q Kt 4	5—B takes Kt P (a)
6—P to Q B 3	6—B to B 4 (b)
7—P to Q 4	7—P takes P
8—P takes P	8—B to Kt 3
9—P to K 5	9—P takes P
10—B to Q R 3 (c)	10—B takes P (d)
11—Q to Kt 3	11—Q to Q 2
12—Kt takes B (e)	12—P takes Kt (f)
13—R to K sq. ch.	13—K to Q sq.
14—B to K 7 ch.	14—K to K sq. (g)
15—B takes B P mate.	

NOTES.

(a) Black would do better to decline the gambit. By accepting it he gives White a good attack on the lines of the Evans.

(b) Too accommodating. The Bishop should be played to Rook's fourth. Then, if 7 Q to R 4 ch, 7 .....P to Q B 3, and Black is tolerably comfortable.

(c) The correct move. Black must not be allowed to castle.

(d) Black has no good move at this point. A similar position occurs in a weak defence to the Evans, and a comparison of the positions is an instructive study.

(e) 12 Kt to Kt 5 also leads to a win for White. The text move, however, is stronger.

(f) Of course, if 12..... Q takes Kt, 13 B takes P ch, K to Q sq; 14 R to Q sq, &c.

(g) Black might have made a longer fight by giving up his Queen for Rook and Bishop.

GAME No. 398.

A short and lively rally :—

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—Kt to K B 3	3—P to Q 3
4—B to B 4	4—P to K B 3 (a)
5—Castles	5—Kt to K 2 (a)
6—Kt to Q B 3	6—B to Kt 5
7—P to K R 3 (b)	7—B to R 4
8—Kt takes P	8—B takes Q
9—B to B 7 mate.	

(a) Of course inferior, or such combinations as White here makes would be impossible.

(b) It is necessary first to drive the Bishop. If Kt takes P at once, the reply is Kt takes Kt.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 30th.*
From America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Nov. 30th.†
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 1st.‡
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 10th.§
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co	Tuesday, Dec. 3rd.‖
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Dec. 5th.¶
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 8th.**
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 23rd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Dec. 25th.

* *Evandale* left San Francisco on November 8th. † *Peru* left San Francisco on November 13th. ‡ *Ansona* left Kobe on November 29th. § *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on November 21st. ‖ *China* left Hongkong on November 26th. ¶ *Empress of India* left Hongkong on November 27th. ** *Ozus* (with French mail) left Hongkong on November 29th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Victoria, B.C.	per O. R. & N. Co.	Wed'day, Dec. 4th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Dec. 6th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 7th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 7th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 14th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 15th.
For America	per O. & O. Co	Wed'day, Dec. 18th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 23rd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 27th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 23rd November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 23rd November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 16th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 24th November,—Hakodate 22nd November, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 25th November,—Yokkaichi 23rd November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 25th November,—Vancouver, B.C., 12th November, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Repton, British steamer, 1,890, Jack, 25th November,—Kobe 23rd November, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Gembu Maru, Japanese steamer, 386, Yamanouchi, 26th November,—Nemuro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 26th November,—Kobe 25th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Le Gall, 26th November,—Marseilles 13th October, Hongkong 17th November, Shanghai 21st, Nagasaki 22nd, and Kobe 25th, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, P. Wettin, 27th November,—Hongkong 21st November, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 27th November,—Kobe 25th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 28th November,—Yokkaichi 27th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 28th November,—Yokkaichi 27th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Erato, German steamer, 1,926, Osterman, 28th November, -- Hongkong, General. — Simon, Evers & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 28th November,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 28th November,—Kobe 27th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 24th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 25th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pronto, German steamer, 652, Bohn, 24th November,—Newchwang, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 25th November,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Ekstrand, 25th November,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 644, McIvor, 25th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, G. A. Lee, R.N.R., 25th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 26th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

City of Peking, American steamer, 3,128, J. T. Smith, 26th November,—San Francisco viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,439, Bailey, 26th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, Kemp, 27th November,—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Afghan, British steamer, 1,439, R. Barton, 28th November,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Malacca, British steamer, 4,045, P. W. Case, 28th November,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hohensollern, German steamer, 2,376, P. Wettin, 29th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 29th November,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 30th November,—Nagasaki, General.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Saghalien, French steamer, 2,580, Le Gall, 30th November,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *City of Peking,* from Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. John Gallagher, Mr. T. J. Burke, Mr. B Harker, Mr. S. Rosenthal, Mr. R. Masujima, Miss Cook, Mr. F. H. Tanner, Mr. Th. de Berigny, Mr. E. J. des Cours and servant, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill, child, and amah, and Mrs. Silver Hall in cabin; 7 passengers in steerage. For San Francisco :—Capt. W. G. Bentinck, Mr. A. E. McGlew, Rev. and Mrs. E. N. Fletcher, Mrs. P. H. Wheeler, and Rev. and Mrs. W. Lane in cabin; 2 passengers and 39 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan,* from Vancouver, B.C. :—Mr. J. Abronsohn, Mr. Bavier, Rev. and Mrs. R. L. Boyd and child, Mr. J. H. Cocksedge, Mr. C. B. Cousens, Mr. Frank Davis, Mr. Wm. Dennis, Miss Vivia Divers, Mr. Chas. Dunne, Miss Drear, Sir Grame Elphinstone, Miss Fields, Mr. K. Fukushima, Miss Fox, Miss Garnett, Mr. W. L. Germaine, Miss Hamilton, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Harmon, Miss Ella Hayward, Mr. B. Hatzfield, Mr. J. Holliday, Mr. G. Hosokawa, Rev. T. J Hudson, Mrs. R. O. Irish and child, Mr. and Mrs. O. D. Jerauld and child, Miss Julius, Mr J. Kebe, Dr. and Mrs. Little, Dr. and Mrs. Lyall, Miss Mackie, Mr. T. Mezoshima, Mr. T. Mitchell, Miss Neilson, Rev. Metsuye O, Mr. Onizuka, Miss Paynton, Mr. R. Rankin, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Robinson and children, Mr. Herbert de Stern, Mr. W. Takashima, Mr. Peter Taylor, Mr. Albert Tholehun, Miss Tristram, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Weir and child, Mr. David Wood, and Miss Young in cabin; 5 passengers in second class, and 31 Japanese and 429 Chinese in steerage.

Per French steamer *Saghalien,* from Marseilles viâ ports :—Mr. and Mrs. de Speyer, child, and 2 servants, Mr. and Mrs. Dubuffet, Mr. Schutz, Mr. Williams, Mr. Scott, Miss L. Pitter, Mr. Bergé, Mr. Revest, Mr. Nicolaï, Mrs. G. Stewart, Mr. Marshall, Mr. and Miss Colgan, Messrs. Philipson, Goetz, Donald, Bachia, Chaffant, Mills, Thomas, Calmard, Durand, Cratin, Dupuy-Dutemps, Hervé, Outin, Vinsot, Douxami, Durand, Capromier, Ferronière, Levreux, Gandry, Dr. Cauvet, Mrs. Fizenko and family, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Sale, Messrs. Ducrot, Ges Yanny, and Benney in cabin; 3 Japanese, 3 Chinese, 2 second mates, and 26 seamen in steerage.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern,* from Hongkong :—Rev. H. Pitts-Tucker, Mr. Pitts-Tucker, Miss Pitts-Tucker, Miss E. Johnstone, Mr. Merian Zaeslin, Mr. Ernst Kramer, Mr. J. W. Rosener-Mang, Mr. J. Murakami, Mrs. Otora Muisati, Mr. Wai Kwan, and Mr. Gen Yue in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona,* for Hongkong viâ ports :—Messrs. W. Dickinson, T. J. Smith, W. H. Crawford, E. R. Burdon, E. H. Leaf, C. J. Connell, H. A. Pierson, G. H. Warford, A. S. Harper, H. A. Shenton, L. L. Smith, Rowe, H. C. Williams, P. Moore, L. Spalding, D. F. Curtin, P. A. MacDermott, J. J. Dillon, A. L. Silly, A. T. Woodward, C. Fromgold, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Brown, Mr. and Mrs Hamilton and child, Mr. W. A. Longdon, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Chick, Mrs. A. C. Williams, and Mr. R. Slater in cabin; 7 Europeans in third class.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan,* for Hongkong viâ ports :—Mr. D. F. Curtin, Mr. J. H. MacDermott, Mr. J. J. Dillon, Mrs. Dangerfield, Mr. Dangerfield, Mr. Wm. Tatley and Miss E. Tatley, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Perry, Mr. J. Lewis, Mr. H. Lewis, Colonel E. N. Gilman, Miss A. W. Greeley, Miss H. A. Greeley, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. How, Miss Lionberger, Miss L. How, Mr. and Mrs. D. S. Grant, Miss S. B. Scott, Mrs. King, Mr. and Mrs. P. T. Barlow, Master E. Barlow, Master S. Barlow, Miss Lena Richards, Rev. J. A. Ely, Mrs. E. P. Ahl, Miss F. Pomeroy, Mr. L. D. Ahl, Mr. J. T. Spaulding, Captain Tresidder, Mrs. M. Tirrell, Mrs. A. Tirrell, Mr. C. Konigsberger, Mr. E. Konigsberger, Colonel W. Romanoff, Lieut. E. Romanoff, Mrs. C. F. Taylor, Miss S. M. Taylor, Mr. A. H. Swayne, Miss V. Swayne, Mr. E. Parsons, Miss L. S. Parsons, Mrs. Bergot, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Nelson, Lieut. J. A. Calhoun, Mr. C. R. Lindenberg, Mr. Thos. Lindenberg, Rev. T. Madeley, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hatch, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Boscawen, Miss H. Taylor, Mr. F. Ravetta, Mr. S. Hancock, Mr. Jim Po, Mr. L. G. Macnair, Mr. Pow Fong Choo, Mr. A. Kong, Mr. F. Dietz, Mr. R. A. Munster, Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Morse and child, Colonel and Mrs. Rochefort and Miss Daunt, Mr. Daunt, Mr. Briscoe, Mr. McGiffin, Mr. P. Shutz, Mr. D. Watkins, Mr. Wm. Owens, Mr. W. P. Jones, C. B. Spivey, Mr. J. McCarthy, Mr. W. V. Lamb, Mr. K. Makino, Mr. E. W. Brown, and Mr. E. Learned in cabin; Mr. J. M. G. Pereira, Miss Pereira, and Mr. Tatsuki in second class, and Messrs. Chong Bing, Yu Choi Yuen, Chen Soon Hung, Yung Jun Loong, L. K. Yong, Long Foo, and Ah Sing in steerage.

Per American steamer *City of Peking,* for San Francisco viâ Honolulu :—Captain J. F. Allen, Captain Bentinck, Mr. Geo. M. Booker, Mrs. W. H. Clarke, Mr. Eugen. Einaigl, Mrs. M. E. Field, Rev. F. H. Chalfant, Rev. and Mrs. E. N. Fletcher, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Harrison, Bishop E. R. Hendrix, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Kendall, Rev. and Mrs. W. Lane, Miss Layton, Mr. F. Malutin, Mr. A. E. McGlew, Rev. Chas. Mills, Mrs. F. B. Morgan, Mr. G. M. Morris, Mr. C. A. Monkovsky, Mr. P. L. Neyts, Mr. M. Prasturskiewicz, Mr. S. Rosenfeld, Mr. and Mrs. E. Suhr, Mr. Karl Stelzl, Lieut. J. H. Shipley, U.S.N., Mr. Y. S. Sun, Mr. Henry P. Umbsen, Mrs. P. A. Wheeler, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Wilder, and Mr. Norwood C. Young in cabin.

Per British steamer *Malacca,* for London viâ ports :—Rev. J. M. Wilbur, Rev. Dr. H. A. Tupper, Mr. T. H. de Berigny, and Mr. R. H. Smart in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohensollern,* for Hongkong viâ ports :—Messrs. Charan, E. B. Reynolds, K. Watanabe, and Miss Walter in cabin; 5 Europeans and 4 Japanese in third class, and 3 Chinese on deck.

Per French steamer *Saghalien,* for Shanghai viâ ports :—Lieutenant Malcor, Captain Gouy,

INTERNET ARCHIVE
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Commander Vacquier, Messrs. Humbert, Lèvy, André, Gilbrin, Audouin, Dumoulin, R. Weiss, Libouban, E. L. Descours, M. Matsuda, Roth, J. Guggunheim, V. L. Boeck, T. Davenport, A. Cotin, A. Nebolsine, Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Kilborn and child, Miss Kondo Kane, Miss K. K. Najima, Miss Carazza, Mrs. R. Hoyle, Mrs. L. Bastien, Mrs. and Miss Asse, Rev. John R. Hykes, Messrs. B. Tolmoffkim, H. J. Owen, L. T. Corke, O. Sashichi, Ch. Hogan, A. R. Fergusson, Kato Yatâro, S. Yasuro, and B. Rosenthal in cabin; 6 seamen and 2 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 204 bales; Waste Silk, 226 bales.

Per American steamer *City of Peking*, for San Francisco viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	OMAHA.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	540	989	689	616	473	404	3,711
Hyogo	186	321	2	200	—	—	809
Yokohama.	728	501	344	265	—	95	1,933
Hongkong.	265	—	—	—	—	—	265
Total ...	1,919	1,811	1,035	1,181	473	499	6,718

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	186	—	186
Hongkong	—	388	—	388
Yokohama	—	1,076	—	1,076
Total	—	1,650	—	1,650

Per British steamer *Malacca*, for London viâ ports:—Waste Silk, 35 bales.

Per German steamer *Hohenzollern*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 45 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 331 bales.

Per French steamer *Saghalien*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 127 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 221 bales.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A very quiet week again. Beyond a moderate enquiry for Yarn, nothing much has been done—Shirtings, Fancies, and Woollens all in the "doldrums" again. Quotations unchanged but week.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 36½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.35
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches..	1.90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches..	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.32
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	7.75 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches..	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.40

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.26 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 21 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.32
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches ..	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. , Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Dull and unprofitable, dealers holding off. Quotations nominally unchanged, except for Wire Nails and Tin Plates: both of which are decidedly lower.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, 1 inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.50 to 5.90
Tin Plates, per box	5.60 to 5.70
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.63

KEROSENE.

Market very strong, with no sellers at quotations. The fire in the Baku district tends to raise the price of Oil, and buyers find out (too late) that they have missed their opportunity.

American	Nom. $2.50
Russian	Nom. 2.50
Langkat	Nom. 2.30

SUGAR.

Brown—Market active with small supplies: and prices show a fresh advance. White—Ordinary sympathises with Brown, and for Refined a better tone is apparent, large sales having been made with prices in favour of Importers.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$1.70 to 5.00
Brown Daitong (New)	4.00 to 4.10
Brown Canton	3.90 to 4.50
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 7.00
White Refined	6.25 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Dull market and small trade. Prices are reduced, but even then quotations are more or less nominal and better terms could be obtained. Stock increasing and is now 17,500 piculs.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den. ..	Nom $930 to 940
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	830 to 840
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	830 to 850
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	810 to 820
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	820 to 830
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers.....	780 to 790
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750 to 770
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers.....	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	Nom.
Kakedas—No. 1	820 to 830
Kakedas—No. 1½	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Some business doing as prices decline. But the trade is far from general, and holders are not moving nearly as fast as they would like to do.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Good	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Rather more done at last quotations, including a further shipment to the Straits. But there is nothing worthy of note in the trade which is more or less comatose.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has been very steady.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅞
— — Bills on demand.....	2/2
— — 4 months' sight	2/2⅛
— Private 4 months' sight ...	2/2⅛
— — 6 months' sight ...	2/2⅜
On Paris—Bank sight	2.74
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight ...	2.79
On Hongkong—Bank sight.....	1% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	191
— Private 30 days' sight.....	193½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	53
— Private 30 days' sight..	54
— — 4 months' sight	54½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.21
— Private 4 months' sight...	2.26
Bar Silver (London).....	30 11/16 @ ¾

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13, Walbrook,

London, England.

Railway & Tramway Material.

Machinery.

Iron & Steel Bridges & Roofs.

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A 1 and A B C Codes.

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June 8th, 1895.

Apollinaris

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"More wholesome than any aerated water which Art can supply."

THE TIMES.

SOLE AGENTS:

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

YOKOHAMA.

August 3rd, 1895.

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ATKINSON'S
WHITE ROSE.

"The Sweetest of Sweet Odours."
Delightfully and delicately fragrant.
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.
ATKINSON'S IS THE ONLY GENUINE.
Perfume, Toilet Powder, Soap, Tooth Powder, Sachets, & all other specialities with this "charming" odour, of all Dealers throughout the World & of the Manufacturers—
J. & E. ATKINSON, 24, Old Bond St., London.

May 4th, 1895. 1y.

THE GREATEST WONDERS OF MODERN TIME

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.

PERSONS suffering from weak or debilitated constitutions will discover that by the use of this wonderful medicine there is "Health for all." The blood is the fountain of life, and its purity can be maintained by the use of these Pills.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER, in his work entitled "The Nile Tributaries in Abyssinia," says—"I ordered the dragoman Mahomet to inform the Fakir that I was a Doctor, and I had the best medicines at the service of the sick, with advice gratis. In I short time I had many applicants, to whom I served out a quantity of Holloway's Pills. These are most useful to an explorer, as, possessing unmistakable purgative properties, they create an undeniable effect upon the patient, which satisfies them of their value."

SIMPLE, SAFE, AND CERTAIN.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT

Is a certain remedy for bad legs, bad breasts, and ulcerations of all kinds. It acts miraculously in healing ulcerations, curing skin diseases, and in arresting and subduing all inflammations.
MR. J. T. COOPER, in his account of his extraordinary travels in China, published in 1871, says—"I had with me a quantity of Holloway's Ointment. I gave some to the people, and nothing could exceed their gratitude; and, in consequence, milk, fowls butter, and horse feed poured in upon us, until at last a tea, spoonful of Ointment was worth a fowl and any quantity of peas and the demand became so great that I was obliged to lock up the small remaining "stock."

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BALANCE SHEETS of Assurance, Banking, Manufacturing Shipping, Trading, and Trust Companies, are fearlessly and impartially criticised in "MONEY."

August 3, 1895

THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
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IN BOOK FORM.

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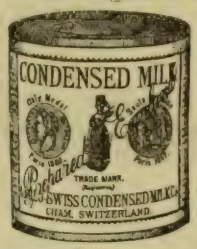

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"NAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same: and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 7TH, 1895.

MARRIAGE.

At Port Said, on the 3rd inst., EDWARD G. FREYER, of Beirut, Syria, to ANNA S. FRENCH, of the Methodist Episcopal Mission, Nagasaki, Japan.

DEATHS.

On the 26th ultimo, at Walthamstow, England, MARY, relict of the late C. GILLETT, in her 78th year. (By Telegram.)

At San Francisco, on the 2nd instant, D. C. STONE. (By cable.)

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

NOTIFICATIONS have been issued by the War and Naval Departments to the effect that no presents or subscriptions to the Army and Navy will be received after the 10th inst.

MARQUIS ITO still remains at Oiso, under medical care.

PRINCE WI-WA, now in Tokyo, is paying keen attention to military studies.

MR. IIDA SABURO, President of the Hyogo Prefecture Assembly, is dead.

THE University sports passed off satisfactorily last Saturday. The weather was bitterly cold.

THERE is still no news of the steamer *Strathnevis*, that left Tacoma on the 8th of Oct. last.

THE British schooner *Arctic* is to be sold by order of H.B.M. Court, to pay the wages of the crew.

H.I.H. PRINCESS KUNI YOSHI-KO gave birth to a daughter on the 23rd ult., and the little Princess was named Yuki-ko.

MAJOR-GENERAL SATO, who formerly declined to accept the Mayoralty of Hiroshima, has now consented to fill the post.

THE marriage arranged between the daughter of Marquis Yamagata and the son of Mr. Funakoshi took place on the 1st inst.

SOME residents at Hakodate and Ezashi have agreed to construct a railway between the two towns at the estimated cost of *yen* 1,200,000.

AN electric railway is projected between Suzuhawa and Omiya *vid* Yoshiwara in Suruga Province, at an estimated cost of *yen* 2,500,000.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha's chartered steamers *Anger Head*, *Port Adelaide*, and *Ingo*, are to be released on the 5th, 7th, and 13th inst. respectively.

THE Authorities have decided to connect Etoro, Chishima, telegraphically with Nemuro, and the estimates are to submitted to the next session of the Imperial Diet.

MR. HATTORI TETSU, with the support of the Japanese residents at Fusan and Ninsen, intends to start a newspaper at Fusan. The paper is to be printed in Korean characters.

COUNTS KURODA and Inouye will, it is said, be promoted to the rank of Marquis; Viscount Takashima to Count, and Major-General Kawamura to Baron in two or three days.

THE sale of a political novel, "Japan after the War," just issued, was prohibited by the Authorities a few days ago. The author of the work is Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu.

A JAPANESE coolie was arrested this week on suspicion of committing an armed burglary at Ishikawa, Yokohama. He has since confessed to another burgrary with violence at Honmoku.

PRIVATE theatricals are announced both in Tokyo and Yokohama. In the capital "Kind to a fault," and "He's a lunatic" will be played: in Yokohama "Plot and Passion" is to be presented.

A SUBTERRANEAN chamber, measuring 12 feet square and 6 feet deep, has been discovered at Uraga, Miura District, Kanagawa Prefecture, and part of three human skeletons, some swords, and eighteen copper images have been found there.

SEVENTY-ONE Japanese fishing vessels engaged in the Saghalien fisheries this year. They included 2 steamers, 21 sailing vessels built in accordance with foreign principles, 47 Japanese sailing ships, and one boat. Fish caught totalled *yen* 330,000 in value; the expenditure amounted to *yen* 202,000, leaving a profit of *yen* 128,000.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR attended the disbanding of the reserve troops of the Imperial Guards, and dismissal of the time expired men, which took place on the Aoyama Parade ground on the 30th ult.

THE Yokohama Commercial School is in such a satisfactory condition, the number of students gradually increasing, that the present premises are insufficient for the needs of the pupils. New school buildings will be constructed at a cost of over *yen* 20,000.

REUTER telegraphs:—There have been fresh massacres at Aintab Marask, a town in Syria some sixty miles to the North of Aleppo. The Sultan has appointed a Special Commission to report day and night upon the result of the measures adopted to restore order in Anatolia (Asia Minor). The insurgents have defeated the Turks in Crete. The situation in Asia Minor is improving. The French Chamber has voted unanimously credits for increasing their Consulates in China. The Italian Budget shows a surplus of eight million *lire*, and there has been no increase of taxation or of the national debt. Sir Philip Currie, British Ambassador to Turkey, has returned to Constantinople. A state of anarchy prevails in Central Albania, where the Chiefs are defying the authority of the Porte. A telegram from the correspondent of *The Times* at Sebastopol states that the Russian Fleet in the Black Sea has been recommissioned, and that the troops at Odessa are ready for active service. There are fifty foreign men-of-war assembled in the Levant, of which eighteen are British. The situation in Turkey generally is improving, affairs in Asia Minor are quiet, and there is a better feeling on all the Bourses. The Porte has consented to the doubling of the foreign guardships at Constantinople. A detachment of Foot Guards is going to Ashantee. The French Minister for Foreign Affairs has announced in the Chamber that Madagascar henceforth is a French possession. After an excited debate the Chamber approved of this by a majority of three hundred and sixty-seven votes. The Sultan is still unyielding, and the position reveals a critical state of affairs.

THERE is not much to be said about the Import trade. Yarns continue in moderate demand, the market hardening somewhat, but Cotton and Woollen Piece-goods of all descriptions are difficult to move. The Metal market is very quiet, and quotations are more or less nominal, Wire Nails being parted with for less money. The Kerosene trade is very much at a standstill. Early arrivals here cannot be large, and sellers now command their own figures, but in the absence of business quotations are entirely nominal. The Sugar market is strong, prices for all kinds being on the rise, and a good trade continues. After a spell of quiet in the Silk trade, concessions were made by holders that enabled buyers to go into the market, and a fair amount of business has been put through during the week. Buying, however, was far from general, and the chances are in favour of an attempt to again put up prices on the strength of recent transactions, and another period of inactivity intervene. The Waste Silk trade continues dull, and the approach of the New Year has induced a desire on the part of large holders to be moving. The Tea trade is quiet, with prices unchanged for the small amount of leaf on offer. Further export by Chinese has been made to the Straits, on a small scale, but the season is practically at an end. Exchange has fluctuated little during the week. The latest move in silver was a slight rise, but no alteration took place in the rates of exchange.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The political situation and the Korean affair have been the principal topics of discussion in the vernacular press during the week. The situation remains undecided. Rumours of contradictory tendencies continue to be published by the papers, the impression produced by perusing these endless stories being one of utter bewilderment. Instead of helping to a correct understanding of the position of affairs, these rumours are decidedly calculated to make confusion worse confounded. Papers of the highest standing, like the *Jiji* and the *Nichi Nichi*, wisely refuse to lend their columns to the ventilation of the worthless stories daily concocted at the offices of a score or more news agencies in Tokyo. But as to the rest, they exercise little discretion in the choice of news, political news especially, supplied by these establishments. Many of them usually make things still worse by publishing in addition whatever their reporters may be pleased to evolve from their imagination on a slender basis of questionable information obtained from sources still more questionable. The sum total of the trustworthy intelligence obtainable from these rumours is that the situation is undecided and that some time may elapse before anything definite will become known.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi's* article on the situation, saying very frank things about the Premier, has already been reproduced independently. More then any other utterance it seems to have induced a large section of the public to conclude that there is but slender hope of Marquis Ito's re-considering his intended resignation. Had there been any good chance of the Premier's remaining in office, the *Nichi Nichi*, so think some people, would not have written in such an outspoken manner; for of all the statesmen in power, Marquis Ito has always been most respectfully spoken of by that paper. Such at least is the inference drawn from the article by the Progressionist organ, the *Mainichi Shimbun*. Commenting on the uncertainty of the present situation, the *Mainichi* remarks that the deadlock is owing entirely to the difficulty of finding a suitable successor to Marquis Ito. With regard to the *Nichi Nichi's* strong exhortation to the members of the present Cabinet to settle the question among themselves, the Progressionist organ observes that the plain meaning underlying that exhortation is that such a successor should be found for the post of Premier as shall not require any reorganization of the Cabinet. According to the *Mainichi's* idea, the younger disciples of Marquis Ito, who form a powerful coterie in official circles, and who are understood to be represented by the *Nichi Nichi*, are now exerting themselves to secure a change in the *personnel* of the Minister President in such a manner that the Cabinet shall remain in all other respects the same; that they shall be able to continue to exercise great, though indirect, influence over the conduct of national affairs, and that they shall in this manner have an opportunity to raise their official status and increase their personal weight. In short, these young politicians are represented to be using those now in Ministerial positions merely as trustees to hold office until they themselves shall think fit to enter upon the enjoyment of their heritage. Regarding the situation from this selfish point of view, the organ of this powerful coterie of young officials, says the *Mainichi*, is taking much pains to pursuade the present Ministers of State to hold together and choose a successor to Marquis Ito from among themselves. It is no wonder that, thinking in this way, the Progressionist organ should strongly criticise the *Nichi Nichi's* article. The *Mainichi* is indignant that young officials should think that no other men of sufficient qualification to undertake the carrying on of the administration can be found. It is customary, says that journal, for official apologists to attach undue importance to personal weight, but they seem to forget that weight is easily acquired as the natural result of occupying a high official position. While the great Okubo was in the Cabinet, none of the statesmen said to possess weight now had any consequence. "And, indeed," avers our contemporary, "Marquis Saigo is known to have made the following observation:—'The death of Okubo threw us into great consternation. But necessity left us no choice, and we soon found that we could get on tolerably well without him.' Is it real ability that has raised the present Ministers to their exalted positions? When Marquis Saigo led the National Unionists, did he distinguish himself from other politicians by any conspicuous display of intelligence? The final fall of the clan system is already in sight. The new and the old elements are struggling with each other. But now that the establishment of the Diet has given the people an opportunity to assert themselves, it is impossible to form a strong Cabinet except on the basis of the people's support and confidence. Politicians are merely dreaming, therefore, that continue to be dazzled by the fading halo of the clan statesmen. The spirit of the times is decidedly against the continued exercise of power by the old elements. The final victory of the new generation over the old is but a question of time."

* * *

The position of the younger politicians in the Government engages the attention of the *Kokumin Shimbun* also. It remarks that a prevailing evil in the Government is that young administrative officials are allowed to exercise great influence in State affairs of the highest importance. Not infrequently the conduct of business in a department of State is entirely in the hands of a few secretaries, and it is even reported that some subordinate officials exercise vast influence in the Cabinet. Rumour alleges that sometimes the policy of the Government is secretly settled between a few of the Ministers and these younger officials, and that the rest of the Cabinet are contented with a report from what may be called the inner Council. These young officials are noticed to be busying themselves in connection with the question of a change of Minister President. The evil, says the *Kokumin*, has reached an intolerable point, and something must be done to keep these presumptuous officials within the proper bounds of their functions.

* * *

In connection with the supposed change of Minister President, the *Kokumin* propounds a curious theory. In its opinion, the statesmen actually in power ought to hold themselves aloof from the question of succession to the Premiership, leaving the settlement of the problem to the statesmen that are out of the Cabinet, as Counts Inouye and Matsukata, Marquis Yamagata, and Viscount Takashima; and they ought, further, to follow the example of their chief and tender their resignation. The Minister President, in our contemporary's opinion, is the representative of the whole Cabinet, and consequently when he resigns, the rest of the Ministers ought to adopt the same course.

* * *

This extraordinary doctrine is traversed by the *Nichi Nichi*. The Premier, says our contemporary, is desirous of retiring from office, but he has not yet tendered his resignation. Meanwhile, the situation is discussed in various ways, the articles on the subject being, for the most part, wide of the mark. Then referring specially to the *Kokumin's* writings, the *Nichi Nichi* remarks that, with the solitary exception of France, there is no country in the world where the Cabinet is bound to resign when its chief retires. Such is certainly not the practice followed in Prussia, whose constitutional system is very similar to that of Japan. Even in England, the practice does not obtain. When Mr. Gladstone retired, for instance, the Cabinet remained unchanged. Supposing for argument's sake that such a practice were common in Europe, the Japanese Constitution is positively against it. According to the Constitution, the Ministers are held directly responsible to the Emperor and the Emperor only. In this respect there is no difference between the Minister President and other Ministers of State; they stand exactly on the same plane. Consequently, the Ministers of State are not bound to identify themselves so completely with the Premier as to resign when he resigns. It is also absurd to maintain, as the *Kokumin* does, that when the Premier has tendered his resignation, the question of finding a successor should be settled, not by the other Ministers, but by some statesmen out of office. When Count Matsukata resigned in the summer of 1893, a number of statesmen out of office did indeed settle the question, but on that occasion, those in power were incapable of deciding the matter among themselves and the statesmen out of office were specially ordered by the Emperor to assume the task. That is an altogether exceptional case, and does not apply to the present state of affairs. Our contemporary has also something to say about the *Mainichi's* remark that the Cabinet, in order to be strong, must stand on the basis of popular support. If they mean to be responsible for what they say, the Progressionist organs, says the *Nichi Nichi*, ought not to deliver themselves in that fashion, until their Party shall have obtained a majority in the Diet. Having scarcely one-fourth of the Diet definitely on their side, they are without any right to demand that the Cabinet should be supported by the majority in the Diet.

* * *

Many of the articles on the Korean question have already been noticed under special headings. But one or two since published may be briefly reviewed. The *Nippon* thinks that the time has not yet arrived to despair of reform in Korea. It is a little too early to speak or think of the annexation or partition of Korea. But if the work of reform is to be continued, Japan is the country most fitted to be entrusted with the task; and the Power most unsuited for the purpose is Russia. Let Russia once have things her own way in the peninsula, and the *Nippon* has no doubt that she will at once proceed to annex the country. Under such circumstances, our contemporary declares that Japan should continue her task of regenerating the peninsular kingdom. The Russians are also strongly censured for their supposed opposition to the reformatory efforts of Japan in Korea.

* * *

The *Nichi Nichi* is not yet in a position to make any definite observations upon the affair of the 28th ultimo, for it has not yet received any letter from its correspondent in Sōul. But judging from what it has thus far been able to learn, our contemporary thinks it tolerably safe to say that the disturbance was an act of revenge by the party turned out of power through the *coup d'état* of October 8th, and that a few Americans were connected with it. As to the real cause of the disturbance, however, the *Nichi Nichi* declares that it is very difficult to find out the truth. By some persons, the affair is ascribed to foreign instigation. If Colonel Cockerill is to be believed, continues our contemporary, it seems to be untrue that a large number of Koreans took refuge in the Russian Legation. There may have been one or two Korean refugees there, but the bulk of the refugees seem to have found asylum in the American Legation. The *Nichi Nichi* is perfectly aware that the American Minister was not to blame for allowing these men to remain in his Legation, but if it be true that some Americans assisted the conspirators, and if those conspirators be the refugees in his Legation, he cannot be held entirely free from blame. The *Nichi Nichi* further regards it as singular that, if the conspiracy were known to the Korean Cabinet beforehand, it was allowed to develop into an overt act. Was it the Sōul Government's object to let the conspirators strike the blow, so that there might be an opportunity of crushing the Cabinet's foes effectively? Our contemporary then goes on to point out the absurdity of the journals that call upon the Japanese Government to take diplomatic action against Russia and the United States. So far as Russia is concerned, the *Nichi Nchi* believes that her subjects in Sōul did not participate in the

recent disturbance. Not so fortunate seem to have been the Americans, and it may be presumed that the Washington Government will not fail to take due steps. Meanwhile, the proper course for the Japanese Government is to keep quiet and offer advice to the Korean Cabinet about the manner in which the situation is dealt with. As to those contending that the Japanese Cabinet ought to resign, so that its successor may have a free hand in conducting diplomatic negotiations with Russia and America, they are reminded that it having been clearly established that the Cabinet was not in any way connected with the affair of October the 8th, there is no occasion for its resignation, even though it were necessary—which is not the case—to carry on such negotiations with the above two Western countries. In conclusion, the *Nichi Nichi* repeats what it stated in a former article, that the state of affairs in the peninsula demands a speedy and final settlement of the Korean question, and that although it does not advocate a Russian alliance, it is confident that Japan and Russia, one of these days, will together take the initiative in the solution of the problem.

* * *

The general foreign policy of the country, the increase of its armaments, treaty revision, and the city improvement scheme in Tokyo, have been the other questions discussed during the week.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE RECENT OUTRAGES AT MOILIM.

THE *China Mail* is informed that the claims of the Basel Mission for the destruction of that mission's property at Moilim, near Swatow, have been settled in full by the Chinese Government. Some months ago, it will be remembered, shortly after the massacre at Hwasang, the report was wired to the *China Mail* that the Moilim mission station had been attacked and looted by a band of rebels, who had overrun the district and put the officials and soldiery to flight. Fortunately, the Rev. Mr. Kammerer and his wife and family had been warned, in common with the other German missionaries working in this district, to come down to Hongkong, otherwise there might have been loss of life. As soon as the outrage became known, German cruisers were despatched with all possible speed to Swatow, the German Government and the German officials in China set to work in a business-like way, and the result has been a speedy settlement of all claims, the pacification of the disturbed district, and the return of the missionaries to their posts. Nearly a month ago, the German Consul at Swatow (Mr. Streich), accompanied by the Rev. G. Reusch, Hongkong, and the Rev. J. Leonhardt, Nyenhangli, visited Moilim, and found that the actual damage was not so serious as at first reported by the Chinese. The estimate made was $994, and a cheque for that amount was received from the Chinese on Friday last. Mr. Reusch reports that the people of Moilim were not concerned in the incipient rebellion. The rebels were "outsiders," who have since dispersed, after looting some rich Chinese houses. A reward of $500 has been offered for the arrest of the leader. Mr. and Mrs. Kammerer left Hongkong the other day for Moilim.

THE COMING PERFORMANCE.

As will be seen from our advertising columns, our local amateurs have another piece almost ready for presentation. Unlike their recent attempts, the present play is more ambitious, being, so far as we remember, a very powerful drama from the pen of that admirable dramatic author, Tom Taylor. We congratulate the management on their choice, and feel sure that the more or less historical characters of *Fouché*, the Minister of Police; *Demarets*, Head of the Secret Department; *de Neuville*, the Royalist; *de Cevennes*, the fop, and last, though not least, the beautiful *Marie de Fontanges*, all of whom are entrusted to old friends, will be properly rendered. We also hear of at least two new appearances (one a fair *débutante*), of new scenery, and new dresses. Altogether, we may look forward to a dramatic treat, and feel sure that a bumper house will reward our amateurs for all their pains, and help to build up a fund which is to be devoted to new scenery and theatrical properties for future use.

ACCIDENT ON THE "SAGHALIEN."

AN unfortunate accident, says the *Hiogo News*, happened on board the M.M. *Saghalien* shortly before her departure hence on Monday morning. The Rev. John A. Hyke, an American Missionary bound for Shanghai, was standing on the deck watching the intake of cargo when something in one of the slings carried away. The falling block caught the Rev. gentleman in the back and knocked him on to the Pier. He was speedily conveyed to the Hospital, and it is hoped that nothing more serious than a shock has occurred. But to an elderly and rather portly gentleman such a shock is sufficiently serious, and he may be detained for some days.

HONOURING A BRAVE POLICEMAN.

A SHORT time ago, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, a policeman (of the military police) at Canton was wounded by a kidnapper, and died from his injuries on the 14th Nov. All the shops in the ward to which he belonged, the ward consisting of seven streets, contributed towards the cost of his funeral, which was on a grand scale for a man of his social standing, and each shop sent a man to join the procession following the coffin, which was carried several times round the streets of the ward. The father of the dead man, the girl he rescued, and the mother of the girl, attended in mourning. The mother of the deceased received a present of $400 from the ward, all the shops contributing. The circumstances of this case are altogether unusual. Two policemen attacked four armed kidnappers, and the deceased, though mortally wounded, secured his man. The action of the ward also deserves mention. The representative of the ward insisted on the arrested kidnapper being photographed to make sure that he did not succeed in purchasing his release and the substitution of some other man at the execution, as is often done.

THE EFFECTS OF A GREAT DROUGHT.

As a result of the great drought in New South Wales, the atmosphere in Sydney is recently stated to have been so obscured by smoke from countless bush fires that only a dull reddish light came from the sun, and incoming ships had the greatest difficulty in sighting the entrance to Port Jackson. On the Blue Mountains Bush there were fires in every direction. Dante's Glen, one of the sights of the mountain health-resorts, has been completely ruined by fires. In the Hunter district the fires have been terrible, and a mail-coach was fired that attempted to run the gauntlet of a flames. The whole south coast district seems to have been aflame.

THE M.M. COMPANY AND ADEN.

A PARIS journal states that the Minister of the Colonies has succeeded in inducing the Messageries Maritimes to change its port of call from Aden to Jiboutil, the French port on the African coast. According to this information, from the beginning of this month (December) only one of the M.M. steamers will continue to call at Aden out of the five which previously called there. If this statement is true, it is pointed out that the new regulation may have far-reaching consequences, and proves once more the revived activity of France abroad. Jiboutil, it is said, is a much larger port and much easier of access than Obok, and has, besides, the superiority over the English port of Aden of being sheltered from the winter monsoons, which render navigation in the Red Sea so difficult.

MESSRS. LANE, CRAWFORD AND CO.'S EXHIBITION.

THE exhibition of toys and goods suitable for Christmas presents, usually made by Messrs. Lane, Crawford & Co.—the Whiteley's of the Far East as they have aptly been termed—is this year more replete than ever with novelties, and will well repay a visit from every member of this community. Mechanical toys, the product of a scientific age, abound: but to many a wee body in petticoats the dolls will afford the greatest attraction, so fair, tall and stately, or short and homely, but altogether companionable are they. For the boys many an array of tin soldiers and other martial toys are waiting for the order to march and take up position on the parade ground or battle-field of the theatre-royal-back-nursery. To the tastes of children of a larger growth will be found the large stock of new leather goods—these are of exceptional worth and offer a tempting selection. For the hosts of other good things on view we reiterate the firm's invitation to our readers, to speedily pay them a visit, for all wishes and desires are to be accommodated.

PROMOTIONS AND DECORATIONS.

LIEUT.-GENERAL YAMAZAWA and Major-Generals Nagayama and Kawamura were yesterday promoted to the rank of Baron. Major-General Kawamura was also decorated with the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite and the Second Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Lieut.-General Yamazawa receiving the Order of the Double Rising Sun. Lieut.-General Viscount Takashima received an annual pension of *yen* 740. Major-General Hishijima and Sakai had decorations of the Fourth Class of the Golden Kite conferred on them, and Major-Generals Tamura and Okubo received the Medium Cordon of the Rising Sun. Mr. Sannomiya, Grand Master of Ceremonies, was decorated with the First Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, and Mr. Nagasaki, Private Secretary of the Minister of the Imperial Household, the Third Class of the Order of the Rising Sun.

AN INGENIOUS THIEF.

A YOUNG Japanese named Takagi Yasukichi, was arrested by the police on Monday afternoon with a quantity of white sugar, about 40lb., on his person. The ingenuity displayed by Takagi, in any other path of life, might have led to something substantial. His *modus operandi* was as follows:—In an old coat he had sewn four long bags, lengthwise, over which he wore another coat. Every morning when the coolies went off to work on a ship in harbour, he attached himself to the gang, and under pretence of work went into dark corners were he would broach bags of sugar or anything else that could be conveniently removed. Then with unblushing effrontery he would leave the vessel and boldly walk through the Customs compound, and so on to the habitat of a receiver of stolen-goods.

THE "COPTIC'S" LAST VOYAGE.

THE O. & O. *Coptic* made no report as to cholera being on board when she arrived at San Francisco on the 12th November, though as she came from "infected ports," she was put into short quarantine on arrival. The *Coptic* made a wonderful run from Honolulu, reaching San Francisco from there in six days and two hours. She was sixteen days out from Yokohama. She reached Honolulu on November 5th, and left there November 6th. She spoke the United States cruiser *Olympia* bound for Yokohama in latitude 31.55 north, longitude 172.19 east.

IMPORTANT TO SHIPMASTERS.

WE are informed that the Nagasaki Dock is now free from Government control. Applications for its use may be made by letter or telegraph, and will receive immediate attention.

THE JAPAN RED CROSS SOCIETY AND FOREIGN ARMIES.

THE following note appears in the *Official Gazette* of Tuesday:—"Hearing that the armies of France and Spain, now campaigning in Madagascar and Cuba respectively, are suffering from sickness on account of uncongenial climate, the Red Cross Society of Japan, in view of the fact that these two countries are

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signatories of the Geneva Convention, and as a mark of sympathy with the suffering armies, has forwarded to them separately, through the medium of their respective Ministers, a certain quantity of black tea produced in Japan."

THE PANAMA AND NICARAGUA CANALS.

A HOME paper, referring to the present condition of these works, prints the following:—"A special meeting of the Incorporated Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool was held at Liverpool on Thursday (Oct. 10), when Mr. A. R. Colquhoun, M.I.C.E., delivered an address on "The Prospects of the Nicaragua Canal." Mr. Charles M'Arthur presided. The chairman stated that Mr. Colquhoun had just returned from a special mission on which he had been sent by *The Times* to Central America to inquire into the respective merits of the Panama and Nicaragua Canals. Mr. Colquhoun stated that of all the schemes for interoceanic communication that Nicaragua Canal was the only one at present in practical existence. The Panama scheme was, he said, *in extremis*. The Nicaragua Canal Company was formed a few years ago, and in 1893 the financial panic in the United States stopped the work. The Company then wanted money and applied to the United States Government, and there was now a Bill which had passed the Senate by which the U.S. Government would give a guarantee on the whole work, and retain an interest of seven-tenths of the whole stock, and, amongst other rights, have the right of appointing ten directors out of fifteen. That Bill would go before the House of Representatives early in the next Congress and probably pass. The Canal being then under the control of the United States, it was, he said, most important that this country should see that the waterway was neutralised. The Nicaragua Canal was, Mr. Colquhoun said, indisputably the very best of the interoceanic projects in Central America. It was immensely favoured by nature: by utilising the huge inland sea of Lake Nicaragua and the river San Juan, the distance between the Atlantic and Pacific, 169 miles, was covered by making an artificial canal of only about 16 miles. The passage of the Canal was estimated to occupy 28 hours. The cost was put down at 20 millions sterling, but he considered that estimate too low, and was of opinion that 30 millions would be nearer the mark. He calculated that about the year 1905, assuming that the Canal would be commenced next year, there would be seven million tons of goods passing through it. An effect of the Canal would be increased facilities of trade with South-western China, which offered the finest possible market for English goods. He believed that the Canal would render greater service to the new world than the Suez Canal does to the old; that will bring Japan, China, Australasia, and part of Malaysia nearer to the Atlantic cities of the United States than they are now to England; that it would benefit America in an infinitely greater degree than it would Europe, which would only use the Canal for trade to the Pacific littorals and the South Sea Islands; and that it would stimulate the shipbuilding trade, and develop the naval power of the United States. The Canal, Mr. Colquhoun stated, would enable America to offer the most serious rivalry to Britain's commercial supremacy that she has yet encountered. A special meeting of the Chamber was afterwards held, when Mr. Colquhoun gave an address regarding Indo-China. Referring to the preceding statement by Mr. Colquhoun that the Panama scheme is *in extremis* a different story is told by Sir Henry W. Tyler in a letter to *The Times* from Panama. Sir Henry says that the original proposal has been abandoned and that it is at present proposed to construct two large dams, one on the rock, 570 yards long and 165 yards wide at the base, and 38 yards high, across the Upper Charges river before the Obisco runs into it, and the second, with rock sides, 473 yards long, 220 yards wide at the base, and 27 yards high, across the bed of the Lower Charges river after it is joined by the Obisco. Two large lakes are thus to be formed, the upper lake for supplying the higher and especially the southern portions of the Canal with water, and the lower lake mainly for purposes of the Canal navigation. There are to be ten locks so as to enable the Canal to surmount a summit of 160 feet above sea level. The object of these altered proposals is to employ the waters of the Charges river as a useful ally in providing water at all seasons for a Canal passing over higher levels, in place of attempting to divert its channel. Sir Henry says that there does not seem to be any insuperabe difficulty in doing this, all that is required being six years of time and £20,000,000 sterling. Fifteen miles of the Canal from the Atlantic end at Colon and four miles from the Pacific at Panama are practically complete, except that some additional dredging will be required, the depth on the Colon sections, it is stated, varying from 23 to 28 feet, except at a bar formed near the Atlantic mouth at Mindi. Sir Henry Tyler is convinced that if the present proposals are carried out the work can be made a success, and the estimate of £20,000,000, he says, appears to be a fair one. He adds that the financial combinations connected with the new Company in France are no doubt sufficiently powerful to provide the necessary funds if they are convinced that the work can be completed for such a sum."

A CANINE RAILWAY TRAVELLER.

THE following story is thoroughly Australian. There is no country in the world where dogs and horses are so worshipped as in Australia. Bob's history was extracted from an Adelaide paper and sent to the *Spectator* a few months ago:—

"It is but seldom that we feel called upon to record the death of a member of the canine family, but the demise of 'Bob,' the well-known railway dog, will be mourned by many of our rising youth, and evoke a sigh from the travelling public and railway employés, among whom 'Bob' was a great favourite. It was customary for 'Bob' whilst spending a few days in the city to pay frequent visits to Mr. Evan's butcher shop in Hindley Street for meals. On Monday afternoon he was given his third meal by Mr. F. J. Preston, an employé of Mr. Evans, when shortly afterwards, about 3.10 p.m., he barked at a passing dog, and then, with a pitiful whine, fell dead. He was about seventeen years of age, and had only a few days ago returned from a trip to Broken Hill. Mr. L. M. Tier has claimed the body of the dog, and Mr. Nathan, in accordance with a promise made some months ago, will stuff it. A correspondent some time ago wrote the following interesting particulars about 'Bob's' life:—"There is only one privileged individual in the province permitted at all times to use the Government railways without payment, and, further, without a pass. Even the late Chairman Smith has been asked for his ticket, and the importunate porter would take no excuse; but 'franked' on all lines, and on engine, in van, or carriage alike, the one constant traveller, who acts as though he believed the railways were made for him, is our hero. You may meet him to-day on the Serviceton line, and next week at Oodnadatic. He is well known in the Adelaide Station, and his friendly salute is often heard from the open window of a carriage on the Port line, as he enjoys a suburban trip. He is always welcome in the porters'-room, but his favourite place is on a Yankee engine; the big whistle and belching smokestack seem to have an irresistible attraction for him. His acquaintances on all lines are numerous and he often engages in such lengthy salutations that the train by which he has been travelling starts without him; but he is never left behind, as he has a perfect knowledge of how to mount a train in motion. He is not particular as to how far he goes in any given direction. He has set out for a hundred-mile trip, but suddenly changed his mind and also his engine at a roadside station, and come straight back again. He lives on the fat of the land, and he is not particular from whom he accepts his dinner. All the members of the staff contribute willingly to his needs, and he reciprocates those good offices by refusing to reply to any appeals from the ordinary public. It is very clearly establi-hed that his sympathies are with the waymen, though he is not on the committee of the mission.'"

"I had the honour of the aquaintance of 'Bob,' the Railway dog, and I must say that he was one of Nature's canine gentlemen (writes Hugh Kalyptus), always self possessed, dignified without hauteur, friendly without being familiar, and courteous, inasmuch as he would always rise when addressed, pay attention to what was said to him, and never treat any one superciliously, as I have seen many bipeds do. 'Bob' made no difference between fustian and broadcloth. He was what I call a well-balanced Democrat, making no invidious distinctions, but treating all classes with courtesy, born of a correctly cast character. I have seldom seen a man with a more marked character than 'Bob.' Although a notability, he never seemed conscious of it, but would walk the platform of a station anywhere between here and the end of the railway system in a calm self-contained style, like a person who had travelled much, accepting the greetings of his various friends as with the air of an equal, and it mattered not to him whether a lord, a statesman, or a mere member of the mob patted his head, he wagged his tail and walked on his wise way. 'Bob' had a capital memory, and woe betide the person who treated him discourteously—he would cut him dead the next time. On one occasion an official employed no one of the stations of the Northero line, being a little lax in the liver, had the presumption to kick 'Bob' out of his way as he lay sunning himself on the platform waiting for a train. 'Bob' never got out at that station again. He cut the station and its official dead; and, if he had a legacy to leave, it would not be the man's name that would be mentioned in 'Bob's' will. I remember once in the course of a several-hundred-mile bicycle trip I struck a wayside station, and was entertained by 'Bob' with all the cordiality with which a gentlemanly dog of confirmed character greets one whom he knows to be a firm friend of his race. He took a great interest in my faithful 'Tyler' bicycle, and, sitting down at my side, sedately watched every detail of the cleaning up, oiling, and other incidental operations. The work appeared to secure his approval, and he gravely walked round the machine three times, examining all the parts, and, as nearly as a dog could, said 'That's all right; she'll do now,' and he politely accompanied me to the ticket-office, watched the booking process, and saw the bicycle safely disposed in the van. I thought it very kind and attentive of him; he had evidently often seen the engine in the same light.

MESSRS. GOODENOUGH AND CO.

THE last few days of Messrs. Goodenough & Co.'s clearance sale are announced, and should be freely taken advantage of by those wishing to obtain books, and leather and fancy goods at low figures. The percentages given vary from between 50 to 25 per cent., and bargains are on view on every hand in the spacious store.

THE L C C. AND THE MUSIC HALLS.

A LONDON telegram, under date October 25th, says:—The London County Council, by the casting vote of the Chairman, has reimposed the old restrictions upon the Palace Theatre of Varieties, but has removed by a majority of 17 the restrictions placed upon the Empire Music Hall, where a similar entertainment is given.

CAPTAIN LANG.

CAPTAIN W. M. Lang, R.N., has been begged to undertake the reorganisation of the Chinese Navy, and we understand that he will undertake it at the request of Lord Salisbury, if the very fullest powers are secured to him, but on no other terms.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

THE DISAPPEARING "MEXICAN."

MEXICAN dollars, says the *Daily Press*, are rapidly disappearing from the Hongkong currency. In a collection of 161 dollars in silver made by a shroff in the ordinary course of business, and which may be taken as a fair sample, the number of the different coins was found to be as follows:—British dollars 51, *yen* 108, Mexicans 2, total $161.

THE DUKE OF ORLEANS.

ACCORDING to a London telegram appearing in the Australian press, the Duke of Orleans, head of the French Royalist party, has been made co-respondent in a divorce suit, Woolston *v.* Woolston, which is before the Divorce Court in London.

THE NEW JAPANESE CABLE SHIPS.

CAPTAIN ALLEN, with Chief-Engineers Mino and Kataoka, and a full complement of officers and men, are leaving by the P. & O. *Ancona* next week for England, says the *Hiogo News*, to take delivery of the new cable-laying steamer and to bring her out to this country.

COURT MOURNING.

AN extra of the *Official Gazette* published yesterday states that mourning will be observed at the Japanese Imperial Palace during the seven days, commencing the 5th inst., for the death of the Queen of Korea.

DEATH OF MR. EUGENE FIELD.

MR. EUGENE FIELD, the well-known American poet, journalist, and essayist, died at his residence in Chicago on Nov. 4, from heart failure.

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THE "NICHI NICHI" ON THE SITUATION.

The *Nichi Nichi* strongly criticises the delay in solving the deadlock occasioned by Marquis Ito's intended resignation. As to the probable reasons of the step contemplated by the Premier, our contemporary writes as follows:—"Why does the Marquis desire to leave office? Is it on account of sickness? We have not yet heard it stated that he is afflicted with any malady sufficiently important to incapacitate him for discharging his official functions. His sense of public duty as the first Minister of the Empire ought to prevent him from retiring on account of a slight indisposition. Does he think that some responsibility dictates resignation? The Premier, we have no doubt, must be confident that, in all matters relating to the recent war he followed the course conscientiously believed by him to be best for the country. It is true that the choice of a Minister to the Korean Court did not bring any credit to him. But if that fault be fairly chargeable against him, he has no right to resign at his own convenience. Or again, does he think that the present is the best opportunity for him to leave office? It is true that a body of political friends has been gained for the Cabinet, but the management of these new friends cannot for the present be entrusted to other persons. Moreover, the Diet has already been convened for its ninth session. Can this, then, be called a good opportunity for the Premier's resignation. The only other adducible reason is that his resignation at this juncture might have the beneficial result of moderating the hostile attitude of the Opposition parties, thereby promoting the easy passage of various important measures in the coming session. But to expect any such result would be to weave a rope out of sand. Further, is it not already clear that both the Liberals and the National Unionists will not lend their aid to frustrate measures of paramount national importance at the present juncture? Another circumstance that ought to be remembered is that, should the Marquis retire now, the political connections of the statesman appointed his successor might necessitate changes in the *personnel* of the majority of the Ministers, and consequently reverse the relations with political parties. Marquis Ito is a man of sound judgment and profound intelligence, and must have some good reason for resigning. But we fail to discover any such reason." The *Nichi Nichi* then quotes a passage from an article in which it discussed the organization of the Cabinet by Marquis Ito in the summer of 1892. The passage runs as follows:—"Men say that Count Ito is apt to evade responsibility in connection with any difficult question. We shall not pronounce an opinion as to the justice or injustice of that allegation. But all that know him assert that, notwithstanding his conspicuous ability to shape far-seeing schemes and policies, the Count is prone to become tired before attaining the end of a journey. That is a grievous fault in a statesman charged with the supreme direction of affairs. Will he be able to combat his fatal propensity during the life of the present Cabinet? In welcoming him to office, we cannot but offer him this piece of advice." On the evening of the same day that this article appeared, the editor called on the Premier at the Imperial Hotel, when, judging from the Count's conversation, he (the editor) had the satisfaction of concluding that his advice had not been needed. And since that time neither repeated crises in domestic politics nor grave diplomatic complications have deterred the Premier from devoting his whole energies to the direction of affairs. His uninterrupted application to public duties has doubtless injured his health, but the *Nichi Nichi* was entirely unprepared for his resignation at a time when the programme of domestic and foreign policy planned by him is just in sight of being satisfactorily carried out. Our contemporary has no hesitation in saying that Marquis Ito is now acting in a very erroneous manner. It would not lament his intended resignation so profoundly, were Japan rich in statesmen fit for the post of Minister President. But just at present there is a dearth of such statesmen. The *Nichi Nichi* does not mean to say that the Japanese Cabinet should be governed by parties, yet, at the same time, it would not disapprove the appointment to the Premiership of a statesman having the support of a majority in both Houses of the Diet. From that point of view neither Count Okuma, nor Count Itagaki, nor Viscount Shinagawa are qualified for the post. In conclusion, our contemporary advises the Ministers of State to pursuade the Premier, if possible, to reconsider his resignation, and if there be no hope of that, to consider the question of finding a suitable successor. There is no necessity that a change of Minister President should be followed by changes in the rest of the Cabinet. At all events, the affair should be settled without loss of time.

THE SHARE MARKET.

An extraordinary appreciation has of late taken place in Shares throughout the country. The market remained comparatively stationary during the first half of the month of November, but a general upward tendency began to manifest itself from about the 20th, and since then the movement has gone on so rapidly that fears of a violent depreciation are now entertained. The following table will give an idea of the situation:—

	Paid up.	Closing price Nov. 28th. Yen.	Closing price Nov. 1st. Yen.	Appreciation. Yen.
War Bonds	(100)	104.30	102.20	2.10
Ryomo Railway	(50)	80.40 (2nd)	80.80	5.60
Sanyo Railway	(30)	63.20	54.40	8.80
Kansai Railway	(47)	77.30	68.80	8.50
Do (Newshares)	(47)	74.80	61.10	13.70
Kyushu Railway	(41)	73.43	63.30	10.10
Do. (Newshares)	(13)	35.70	30.40	5.30
Kobu Railway	(45)	148.00	141.00	7.00
Tanko Railway	(50)	104.00	102.30	2.50
Sangu Railway	(50)	96.00	77.00	19 00
Kawagoye R'way	(50)	74.00	71.00	3.00
Hantan Railway	(50)	59.00	54.40	4.60
Bo-So Railway	(50)	63.40	59.70	3.70
Nippon Yusen Kaisha	(50)	106.40	93.20	13.20
Tsu-un Kaisha	(40)	35.50 (2nd)	32.80	2.70
Tokyo Tramway	(50)	325.00 (5th)	295.00	30.00
Teikoku Shogyo Ginko	(20)	44.90	44.10	.80
Tokyo Danto Kaisha	(45)	74.50 (8th)	62.50	12.00
Hokkaido Seima	(50)	61.80	57.50	4.30
Nippon Orimono	(50)	53.30	47.70	5.60
Tokyo Spinning	(50)	68.00	65.10	2.90
Shimozuke Spinning	(35)	37.50 (3rd)	34.00	3.50
Kanegafuchi Spinning	(50)	73.60	68.10	5.50
Tokyo Bourse	(25)	60.80	60.20	.60
Tokyo Stock Exchange	(50)	700.50	463.50	237.00

The above figures refer to Tokyo. Even more extraordinary is the Osaka record. The following table shows the rates of appreciation in that city:—

	Closing price. Nov. 28th. Yen.	Closing price. Nov. 1st. Yen.	Appreciation. Yen.
Sanyo Railway	65.50	54.45	11.05
Kansai Railway	79.05	69.70	9.35
Kyushu Railway	74.70	63.90	10.80
Chikuho Railway	108.55	99.40	9.15
Teikoku Shogyo Ginko	46.80	44.80	2.00

Especially noteworthy has been the appreciation of the shares of the Osaka Stock Exchange, which, quoted at a little over 400 *yen* at the beginning of the month, rose on the 28th to the extraordinary value of 840 *yen*. A later telegram states that, on the 29th ultimo, they were quoted as high as 1,000 *yen*, the closing price for the day being 980 *yen*. According to the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, from which we take these statistics, the present upward movement originated in Osaka and from thence spread to the capital. This accounts for the difference in the quotations between Tokyo and Osaka, as shown in the following table:—

	Tokyo closing price. Nov. 28th. Yen.	Osaka closing price. Nov. 28th. Yen.	Difference. Yen.
Sanyo Railway	62.20	65.50	2.30
Kansai Railway	77.30	79.05	1.75
Kyushu Railway	73.40	74.70	1.30
Teikoku Shogyo Ginko	44.90	46.80	1.90

Is the movement healthy, what causes have combined to bring it about, and how long and how far will it continues—such are the questions asked by everybody. On this topic, the *Shogyo* writes as follows:—"Various causes have combined to bring about such a state of things in the share market. Among remote causes may be mentioned, (1) a general anticipation that the transfer of the indemnity from London to Tokyo must produce a plethora of money in the market; (2) a general supposition that industries of all sorts will become more and more profitable; (3) a belief that the different diplomatic questions having been almost settled, the market will for some time be free from political disturbances; and (4) the fact that the extremely hopeful state of the shares of new companies has reacted upon the shares of the old. Of the immediate causes, we may mention two, namely: (1) large purchases of some particular shares for speculative purposes, not only leading to appreciation of these shares, but, at the same time, powerfully affecting the quotation for others; and (2) increased facilities in obtaining advances of money which have enabled speculators to effect large purchases. But various as the minor causes may have been, the abnormal fluctuation is principally the result of speculative operations by stock-jobbers, who have skilfully taken advantage of the general tendency to a boom." Holding the above view, our contemporary is confident that a violent reaction is inevitable.

THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The commercial section of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce held a conference on the 2nd inst. from 5 p.m. There were present Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Oku Saburobei, Amenomiya Ryotaro, Ota Nobuyoshi, Kobayashi Kihei, Kato Tokuzo, Ginbayashi Tsunao, and a few others. The subject of discussion was the report of a special committee appointed to investigate the question of direct trade with foreign countries, at the request of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. The report is said to have been adopted at the meeting. It embraced various interesting topics, but only the barest headings under two of the subjects are mentioned by the vernacular press, namely, the causes that retard the development of direct foreign trade, and the measures that should be carried out for the promotion of such trade. The causes that impede the development of direct foreign trade are numerated as follow:—

1st.—Imperfection of the credit system.

2ndly.—The high rates of interest in Japan as compared with those ruling in the west.

3rdly.—The ignorance of the Japanese merchants engaged in direct trade as to the condition of commerce abroad.

4thly.—Want of uniformity in the quality of Japanese manufactures and frequent deterioration of manufacturing processes.

The measures to be carried out for the promotion of the growth of direct foreign trade are as follow:—

1st.—An increase in the number of Consulates, and the exercise of more care in the appointment of Consuls.

2ndly.—The establishment of a greater number of banks so as to increase financial facilities.

3rdly.—The education of men so that they shall be well acquainted with the conditions of commerce in foreign countries.

4thly.—Extension of the Clearing House system.

5thly.—The foreign purchases of the Government should be placed, as far as possible, in the hands of Japanese merchants, and the official procedure proscribed on such occasions should be simplified.

6thly.—Extension of the steamship service.

7thly.—The establishment of commercial museums, so as to enable Japanese merchants to become acquainted with manufactures of all sorts.

8thly.—Measures should be adopted to secure uniformity in the quality of manufactures and to prevent the evil of deterioration.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

NOVEMBER 30TH.

The situation is to be settled on the return of Marquis Ito to the Capital, but at present the date of that event is uncertain. There seems to be little change in his condition. No faith is to placed in the rumour that the Premier's hesitation to return to the Capital is caused by his desire to have a conference with Count Inouye before leaving.

As to Count Matsukata, it is reported that, after a visit from Count Inouye, he left Kyoto for his villa at Mikage, where he purposes to stay for some time. The fact that he keeps away from the Capital at this juncture is regarded as a sure proof that, in whatever manner the present political deadlock may be finally settled, there is little chance of the Satsuma-Progressionist combination's coming into power.

Concerning the attitude of the National Unionists, the *Choya* publishes another article. It writes in this strain :—"The Liberals have become a Ministerial party. Though not binding themselves to blindly follow the dictation of those in power in every trifling case, it goes without saying that they will identify themselves on all occasions with the Cabinet in opposition to other parties. Neither is there any doubt that the Progressionists, the Constitutional Reformists, the Ote Club, and the Financial Reformists will combine to attack the Government on the question of Ministerial responsibility. Standing between these hostile camps, the National Unionists alone remain firmly devoted to their own policy. They do not, like the Liberals, surrender to the Cabinet after sacrifice of party principles; neither do they join the combination of parties in Opposition that are so unmindful of the gravity of the present juncture as to devote their whole attention to the question of ministerial responsibility. The National Unionists are now in the position of umpires between the Government and the Opposition. They are masters of the situation. The time has come for them to achieve their long cherished political objects. · · · · · Under these circumstances, they ought to be careful in shaping their conduct; they should not abuse their unique position and become the laughing stock of the public. · · · · · We hope that the National Unionists will remain true to their principles and refrain from taking any hasty and ill-considered step."

DECEMBER 5TH.

Recently a very absurd story made the round of the press in Tokyo and Osaka. It related to alleged secret trips by Marquis Yamagata between the capital and Kyoto, his supposed object being to confer with Count Inouye who was then staying in Kyoto. The simple truth is that no such journeys were made by the Marquis. He has all the while been staying comfortably at home in his residence at Meijiro in the suburbs of Tokyo. Why such an absurd story found its way into print is perplexing. A plausible explanation is offered by the *Nichi Nichi*. According to its information, Mr. Tsuzuki Keiroku, Director of the Engineering Bureau in the Home Department, visited Kyoto, arriving there late on the night of the 26th ultimo. He put up at a hotel usually frequented by Marquis Yamagata, but as soon as he reached the hotel, he went out and visited his father-in-law, Count Inouye, with whom he had a long consultation. Early next morning, he left Kyoto for Tokyo, so that he had not even to give his name to the hotel-keeper. Our contemporary thinks that he must have been mistaken by some servants of the hotel for Marquis Yamagata.

Now that Count Inouye is back in the capital, people feel certain that the situation will be settled without much loss of time. Rumours continue to be circulated about the probable outcome, but they are mere suppositions, not worthy of notice. For example, certain newsmongers try to make the public believe that the relations between Marquis Ito and Count Inouye are decidedly strained in consequence of a breach of faith on the part of the Premier in connection with Korean affairs. Hence, they say, the Count's choice of the over-sea route from Kobe to Yokohama, thus avoiding the chance of meeting the Premier at Oiso. Nothing could well be more far-fetched.

THE LATEST KOREAN TROUBLE AND THE JAPANESE PRESS.

Some of the Japanese newspapers are very much exercised over a report that certain Occidentals were implicated in the unsuccessful *émeute* of the 27th instant. They take it for granted that the object of the conspirators was to pull down the present Government and avenge the death of the late Queen. Had not the attempt been frustrated by the courage and presence of mind of the Palace Guards (the former *Kunrentai*), some Tokyo papers believe that the conspirators would have perpetrated acts of inhumanity and brutality at least as execrable as those of October 8th. The *Kokumin Shimbun* is one of the journals that lay special stress upon the participation of Western residents of Sōul. The hard strictures, says our contemporary that the Europeans and Americans pronounced against the Japanese on account of the affair of October 8th, must now be directed against those that then pronounced them. The *Kokumin* goes on in this fashion denouncing the foreign participators in the latest trouble on account of crimes with which they *might* have been connected had their plans succeeded. It then calls upon the home Governments of these foreigners to deal strictly with the delinquents, just as the Japanese Government is doing in the case of its subjects suspected of implication in the disturbance of the 8th of October. In conclusion the Tokyo journal directs attention to the gravity of the situation in Korea since the 27th ultimo, and wonders how the Japanese Government is going to deal with it.

The *Nippon* is angry at the supposed singular indifference of its countrymen about the situation of affairs in the peninsular kingdom. Such was not their attitude last year, when they did not hesitate even to accept war on account of Korea. They are recommended to direct serious attention to Korean affairs, for the situation is distinctly critical.

In another essay, the *Nippon* discusses at some length the conduct of the Russians in Korea. If recent reports from the peninsula may be trusted, some Russians in that country are behaving in a manner calculated to prejudice the peace of the East. Our contemporary regrets this all the more, because, in its opinion, Russia and Japan are destined to be very good friends, and because it entertains a genuine sympathy with the Russian people. The *Nippon* then enters upon a somewhat tedious review of the treatment that Russia has received from some Powers, especially England, in connection with Turkey. Whenever Russia manifested any effective interest in the miserable lot of the oppressed Christians in the Sultan's dominions, England was on the scene to prevent her from carrying out her intentions whatever they may have been. The *Nippon* thinks that her own irritation at this repeated interference and opposition on the part of England ought to enable Russia to appreciate the feelings with which her antagonism to Japan's civilizing efforts in Korea will be felt by the Japanese. Our contemporary hopes that Russia will be governed in her diplomatic relations by the Confucian motto "Never do to others what you would not have others do to you." Moreover, in the case of Turkey, England—continues the *Nippon*—may have good reason to oppose Russia's policy, for the occupation of Constantinople by Russia would imperil the Indian Empire. No such justification exists for Russia in the case of Korea, for it is not Japan's object to annex the peninsula. Our contemporary fails to understand how Japan's reformatory efforts in Korea can be prejudicial to Russia. If Russia really entertains any suspicion about Japan's Korean policy, she must be astonishingly ignorant of Japan's history and geographical position. The *Nippon* is aware that the conduct of the Russians in Sōul may not necessarily represent the ideas entertained in St. Petersburg, but it presumes that they would not wittingly act in opposition to the wishes of their home Government. Should they be allowed to continue the same attitude of hostility to the Japanese, our contemporary fears that the unpleasant feeling created among its nationals by Russia's interference in the matter of Liaotung, will be increased so much that the peace of the East may once more be disturbed. So far as Liaotung is concerned, the *Nippon* believes that, although enraged at Russia's conduct, the Japanese are not implacable, inasmuch as the acquisition of Liaotung was not the principal object of their war with China. But the case is different with Korea. There the Japanese will never tolerate any interference with their reformatory and civilizing efforts. The *Nippon*, therefore, advises the Government in St. Petersburg and the Russians in Sōul to be careful last they precipitate a disastrous crisis.

The *Kokkai* calls attention to the critical condition of affairs in Korea, and strongly censures the Government's present inaction. The Government is not merely inactive: it is also said to be inclining more and more toward a policy of abstention and neutrality. "It is true," says that journal, "that Korea lies outside the strict limits of Japanese sovereignty, but from the point of view of national interests, the peninsula may be regarded as within our own territory. Our supremacy in Korea once destroyed, it will be difficult for us to maintain our power in other regions. It is not too much to say that the destiny of the Empire is bound up with the solution of the Korean problem. The turn that affairs are taking in Korea cannot but precipitate a crisis in which the problem with have to be solved in a decided way. We do not know the views entertained by the Powers of Europe, especially Russia. But Japan must have ideas of her own and must be prepared to carry them out at whatever hazard." Then alluding to the report that the Representatives of the Foreign Powers in Sōul have asked Japan to undertake the guarding of the Palace and the protection of the Foreign Legations and Consulates, the *Kokkai* urges the Government to accept the responsibility and make sure Japan's position in Korea.

THE KOREAN QUESTION.

Commenting on the latest disturbance in Sōul, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* alludes to the singular coincidence that Count Inouye's departure from Korea has, for the third time, been followed by an *émeute*. It then proceeds in the following strain :—"Japan will not refuse to take upon herself the task of protecting Korea, with the concurrence of the Powers concerned. But to treat Korea as an independent State, and at the same time afford her pecuniary and administrative assistance for an indefinite period, would over-tax Japan's patience. With a royal family, the members of which are perpetually quarrelling among themselves, and with a people of patriotism and public spirit, nobody can foresee when, or whether at all, Korea will be able to give effect to her independence. Japan single-handed has endeavoured to promote the progress of the peninsular kingdom by advice and active assistance by stationing troops there, and by despatching thither functionaries of the highest standing. In short, she has exhausted all the methods suggested by humanity or dictated by necessity. But the only results of her endeavours have been a mere transfer of power from the Mins to the Tai Wōn-kun, from the Tai Wōn-kun to the Queen, and from the Queen to Ministers of State whose mutual feuds are unending. That is not to be attributed to any want of exertion or zeal on the part of Japan. The whole blame rests on the Korean Court and the Korean people, who are destitute of the qualities essential for ensuring the success of any reformatory programme. The time has now come for Japan to adjust a new policy with regard to Korea. It is all very well

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to say that Japan must for ever uphold the independence of the little Kingdom, and afford perpetual assistance to secure the attainment of that end. But being destitute of all the qualities making for independence, the Koreans themselves are bent on bringing their country into a hopeless abyss of degradation and disorganization. When things come to such a pass, Japan will spare no pains to protect her national rights and interests as well as the personal safety of her subjects in the peninsula. Should it appear necessary for the attainment of that purpose, she will not hesitate, paying, of course, due regard to the interests of third parties, to adopt prompt and decided measures. As the first Power to recognize Korean independence, as Korea's deliverer from the yoke of China, and as the possessor of by far the largest number of settlers in the peninsula, Japan is bound by right and interest to watch Korea's destiny with the keenest vigilance and to be on the alert to take any resolute step that the return of events may indicate as advisable. The United States and Russia, too, have always shown themselves zealous for Korean independence. In addition to these two Powers England and France are concerned in the destiny of Korea, the former on account of a comparatively small number of her nationals and the latter in consideration of a few missionaries. Without the concurrence of these Powers, it will be impossible to ensure a complete solution of the Korean problem. The task of taking the initiative devolves upon Japan or Russia, as being the parties most interested in the matter. The removal of this cause of disquiet in the East ought to be effected with the mutual consent of Japan and Russia, the two countries principally responsible for the maintenance of peace in the Orient. Supposing Korea to be incapable of maintaining her independence, the question as to how to deal with her must in all essential points be settled by these two Powers. Both Russia and Japan are sincerely desirous of securing the independence of Korea, but the time has come to consider the problem on the assumption that this mutual wish can not be realized. Not that the question is to be solved in direct connection with the latest disturbance in Söul. But seeing that the recurrence of such disturbances is not favourable to Korean independence, it is to be earnestly hoped that the Government will make no more delay in considering the problem practically. Perhaps the statesmen in St. Petersburg have already made up their minds on this matter. Will it be wise for the statesmen in Tokyo or Oiso to be behind hand?"

This is a remarkable article. We do not, at the moment offer any comment on it, because we are unable to say how far it represents official opinion. But we enter a strong protest against one of the *Nichi Nichi's* assertions, namely, that Japan and Russia are the two Powers chiefly concerned in preserving the peace of the Orient. If our contemporary intends to limit this proposition to the Korean question, we have, indeed, no protest to make. But where the general problem of Eastern tranquillity is concerned, British interests are far more deeply involved than Russian, and any attempt to exclude the British Government would not only be most unjust, but would also ensure failure.

THE "NICHI NICHI SHIMBUN."

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has again been enlarged, this being the third time that an improvement of that nature has been effected since the journal came under its present management. The dimensions have now been increased about three inches both in length and breadth, the actual measurements of the page being 21 by 16 inches. Thus, although the number of pages has been decreased from 10 to 8, the net gain in space is represented, by 12,000 words, the total number of words in each issue being over 100,000. The success of the *Nichi Nichi* under the present management has been so marked that it has now by far the largest circulation of all the great Tokyo dailies.

DILETTANTEISM IN TOKYO.

Collectors of art objects are certainly a race apart. We are told that the sale of Mr. Santo's collection, which has just taken place in Tokyo, realized over twenty thousand *yen*. The *pièce de résistance* was two pairs of screens painted by the celebrated Okyo. It would be more correct to say "sketched" than "painted," for the peacocks and floral accessories chosen by the great artist for the subject of the decoration, were simply dashed in, with the slightest *soupçon* of colour—so simple and so slight that had the two pairs been combined into one the result would scarcely have accorded with the furniture of any Western salon, however æsthetic. A purchaser developed sufficient ardour to pay 3,770 *yen* for these screens. We believe that it was Marquis Mayeda, formerly feudal chief of Kaga. It is pleasant to see the wealthier nobles of Japan coming forward to preserve for their country the comparatively small remnant of artistic treasures that have not been swept into the westward-setting tide. But of course the impulse develops some eccentricities. For example, a "connoisseur" paid 40 *yen* for a little specimen of so-called "*Shiro-Bizen*" ware. The *Bizen* faience of former times, the faience in which we find such admirable examples of modelling, was of two varieties; one, incomparably the finer, of light slate-blue with pipe-clay-like *pâte* and showing the highest technical skill; the other, having russet-red *pâte*, of palpably coarser grain and distinctly inferior workmanship. The former, called *Ao-Bizen* (blue *Bizen*), always rare and deservedly admired, commands great prices; the latter *Aka-Bizen* (red *Bizen*), is comparatively common and sells for a fraction only of the *Ao-Bizen's* figure. Tradition says that *Shiro-Bizen* (white *Bizen*) also existed. We have seen one or two specimens that may have been genuine. Even supposing that they were from the kilns of the 16th or 17th century, they could have no real value except in the eyes of an antiquarian, for they lacked all the qualities that constitute artistic beauty or technical merit. But many collectors suffer from an inexplicable mania: professing to look for "things of beauty," they are at least equally attracted by things that are simply rare or unique. They want to have a specimen such as no one else possesses, though it be absolutely worthless for its own sake. That is about as thorough a perversion of first principles as could be conceived. An old object of art—we exclude the antiquarian or the historical point of view—is valuable, not because of its age, but because it dates from a time when technical skill reached an eminently high level in the production of that particular class of object. No sensible connoisseur should be pleased to learn that his *Kang-hsi* vase of five-coloured porcelain belonged to the *Wan-li* era, for he ought to know that the younger period produced much finer work in that class than the older. The criticism is especially true in Japan. Many, very many, objects of modern Japanese art industry stand on a far higher plane than their prototypes of the 18th or 17th century. Yet the modern work acquires greatly added value in the eyes of many collectors if it be dirtied, discoloured, and otherwise disfigured to simulate an object that it actually surpasses. *Shiro-Bizen* is a case in point. We do not believe that a work of real merit was ever produced in *Shiro-Bizen*. If a score of specimens have survived, they owe their survival to accident, not to excellence. But there is a vast deal of modern *Shiro-Bizen*. Its manufacture is one of the simplest things on record. Given a stone-ware figure, or group of figures, from any kiln, no matter where, and given an intelligent coolie or abigail with a supply of pumice stone: the specimen can very quickly be transformed into antique *Shiro-Bizen*, with a smooth glossy surface and beautifully fine pâte. It costs about 3 or 4 *yen*, and may sell for 40 amid a stimulating *entourage*. Perhaps this is one of Nature's dispensations for preventing the undue accumulation of money in a few hands.

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

The vernacular press is very persistent in declaring that a number of Koreans found refuge within the compound of the Russian Legation after the *coup d'état* of October the 8th. The *Jiji Shimpo* gives the names of the principal among these refugees:—

I Fwen-chin, formerly Minister of Agriculture and Commerce.
I Wan-nyou, formerly Minister of Education.
I Yun-nyon, formerly Chief of Police.
I Hyo-chin, formerly Commander of the Guards.
I Fun-tak, formerly Colonel of a regiment of the Guards.
I Tsai-yong, formerly Minister to America.

In addition to the above, the *Jiji* says that there are some twenty others, civil and military officials of rank, and it calls attention to the fact that not a single refugee is concealed in any other foreign Legation. We can not say anything as to the truth or falsehood of this story, but in view of the close friendship formerly existing between the Queen and the wife of the Russian *Chargé d'Affaires*, we find nothing incredible in the hypothesis that men whose lives are in danger at the hands of the Queen's assassins should take refuge in the Russian Legation. To give them a continued asylum there would certainly be an unwarrantable interference with the country's domestic politics, were really an independent State in question, but what code of diplomatic rules is to be applied to a Kingdom like Korea?

There is of course some excitement about the foreigners said to have been implicated in the recent disturbance in Söul. The *Mainichi Shimbun* alleges that the American spoken of as principally concerned was Mr. Underwood, husband of Mrs. Underwood who had attended the Queen regularly. We were not aware that Mrs. Underwood acted in the capacity of physician to Her Majesty, though she certainly had access to the Court. Dr. Annie E. Bunker was the last foreign lady, so far as we know, to prescribed for the Queen. However that may be, the *Mainichi* gives Mr. Underwood's name, describing him as a keen politician, and adding that two or three other Americans were associated with him. The same journal published a telegram from Söul, dated the 29th ultimo, 1.10 p.m., to the effect that three foreigners were actually seen directing the rioters that attacked the palace. The *Tokyo Asahi* declares that not merely American citizens, but also members of the Russian Legation were implicated. It finds nothing strange so far as the Russians are concerned, since their interest obviously suggests the overthrow of the present administration; but the collusion of Americans demands a special explanation. The *Asahi's* view is that these Americans had ingratiated themselves with the Queen and obtained permission not only to work the mines in Chyonshan-do, which are Crown property, but also to handle all the gold dust collected in the country. After the death of the Queen, however, and the dispersal of her partizans and relatives, the Government perceived the unwisdom of granting such concessions to a foreigner, and to avert the defeat of his valuable expectations, the American stirred the recent *émeute*, hoping to overthrow the Government and put the Bin (Min) family into power. This tale can scarcely be credited side by side with the story that Mr. Underwood was the person.

THE LATEST KOREAN TROUBLE.

There can no longer be any doubt that the Korean capital has been the scene of another political *émeute*. At first the telegrams received in Tokyo presented some perplexing features, but it is now certain that on the morning of the 28th of November an attack was made upon the palace by partizans, apparently, of the Min faction. The affair took place at 1.30 a.m., and the principal actors were the old palace-guards. They were accompanied by a number of Korean adventurers, or hired roughs, the whole making a band several hundreds strong. They divided

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into two parties, of which the one approached the palace from the "Shinsei" (Japanese reading) gate, the other from the Hokusho gate. It seems to have been a tumultuous kind of assault, some climbing over the enclosure fences, some breaking in the gates. The alarm was rapidly given, and before the rioters could gain a firm footing within the grounds, they were met by five companies of the new palace guards. Whether anything like a resolute fight ensued, the accounts give no explicit information. It is merely stated that the defence was skilfully conducted; that a Colonel in command of a battalion, two Captains, and five privates, armed with swords, confronted the rioters and took four of them prisoners, the rest being driven out in confusion. Flying apparently in great disconfiture, one band of the rioters made their way to the barracks of the old guard, the remainder dispersing in all directions. Order was thus completely restored. The ringleader in the disturbance is said to have been Li Fwanchin(?), and it is added that no Japanese had any connection whatever with the affair. Rumour has it, however, that a foreigner was concerned.

It is becoming something like a fatality that the moment Count Inouye turns his back upon Korea, troubles break out. This is the third instance. When the Count returned to Tokyo in July, he had been but a short time in Japan before news came of the Pak Yong-ho affair, and he was obliged to hasten back. In September he once more left Sōul, Viscount Miura taking charge of the Japanese Legation. Every one remembers only too well what then occurred. And now we have the third case. Hardly has Count Inouye set foot in Japan when a fresh *émeute* is reported from Sōul. Does it not seem as though he alone were capable of preserving order in the miserable little Kingdom? Never once during his stay there was the public peace disturbed. Conspiracies were hatched, indeed, but some how or other their discovery always preceded their maturity. It is a pity that the administration of Korean affairs can not be placed entirely in Count Inouye's hands. This dark cloud on the horizon of the Orient's tranquillity would then be dispelled.

Yesterday evening the *Chuo Shimbun* published an extra to the following effect:—"The Korean Government, yielding to pressure exercised by the Minister of a certain country, have decided to place the Tai Wŏn-kun in confinement, to restore the late Queen to her rank, to give her a public funeral, and to arrest and punish Yu Fongchyon and others, now fugitives in Japan." The telegram adds that seven Russian men-of-war are in Korean waters. One item of this intelligence is obviously incredible, namely, that relating to the arrest and punishment of political refugees in Japan. Whatever pressure might be exercised upon the Korean Government, they could give no pledge of the kind, since their power to carry it out would depend entirely on Japan. For the rest, we have always understood that the Japanese Representative in Sōul is urging the desirability of revoking the decree by which the murdered Queen was deposed, and of giving her a public funeral.

THE TELEPHONE SERVICE.

It is reported that the Government intends to introduce in the next session of the Diet a Bill for connecting some of the principal cities by telephone. The estimated expense is put at 10,000,000 *yen*. To test the practicability of the plan, a staff of experts were despatched along the Tokaido. A few days ago they effected connection between Tokyo and Nagoya, and the experiments conducted by them gave extremely encouraging results. They thence proceeded to Osaka, and the first junction between that place and Tokyo was completed a few hours after midnight on the third instant. The results of the experiments carried on at Osaka have not yet been made known, but it is supposed that they were entirely satisfactory. The staff of experts will next proceed to Kobe, which appears to be the extreme point of telephone connection contemplated by the present scheme.

THE RECENT WAR SCARE.

Early last month this community was tormented by a spurious war scare. Intelligence arrived that Consols in London had fallen from 2 to 3 per cent., and at once a clamour was raised that the doors of Janus had been thrown open and that the world would presently be in arms. There was no apparent reason for such alarm. Neither in Europe nor in Asia could any calm observer detect signs indicating an immediate outbreak of war. For our own part, we deprecated apprehension, and expressed the opinion that the sudden fluctuations in Stock-Exchange quotations was due to a collapse of the South African mining mania. In truth it passed all credence that had the fluctuation been connected with a prospect of immediate war, the consequence alone would have been sent across the wires and the cause left unmentioned. Thus intrinsic evidence as well as extrinsic pointed to the absence of any ground for a war scare. But the agitators by whom the scare had been started became indignant at the notion of their bogey's discredit. They declared, among other things, that a crisis on Change could not depreciate Consols, since good securities always rise in value when bad fall. It is interesting to find such inability to differentiate a general principle from a special case. From the investor's point of view it is certainly true that any incident tending to discredit doubtful stocks, tends also to enhance the credit of established securities. But a much larger question than that of investment is involved in a crisis like that produced recently by the collapse of South-African shares. Thousands of people, having purchased these shares as a pure speculation, were working in differences only, and when the shares fell sharply, it because necessary for these nominal holders to realize a part, if not the whole, of any available securities they possessed in order to cover the widening margin of the shares. Under such circumstances, a fall in the price of Consols is generally the result, these being the form of security most easy to realize. But while this explanation suffices to account for the immediate phenomenon of a sharp fluctuation in the best kind of stocks, it is not by any means impossible that had Europe been pervaded by a stronger sense of general tranquillity, the fluctuation might have been averted or diminished. We know now that it was an alarmist and extravagant view to interpret the fall of Consols in the beginning of last month as an indication of an immediately impending outbreak of war, but the sensationalists may at least plead that Europe was then in a panicky state, and that Southern Africa might have been trusted more readily if Eastern Europe had not been so equivocal. A clever review of the situation is given by Mr. Harold Frederic in a letter addressed to the New York *Times*, dated in London on November 9th:—

Measured by the Bourse thermometer this has been the most depressed, dolefully unhappy week Europe has known for years. London's local record of a sinking market and a scared public is no doubt attributable largely to the coincidence of a collapse in the mining boom. Terrible tales are afloat here to-night of to-day's calamities in the city, which are the worst of the week, and the gloomiest forebodings of the settlement of the tragedies next Tuesday. Undoubtedly, too, Paris is heavily involved in this mining trouble, and with her that purely French institution, the Ottoman Bank at Constantinople. A furious rush to get ready money at any sacrifice of good securities may be held to account for the drop of three points in Consols, that erring barometer of the British situation, but Berlin, Frankfort, and Vienna are only slightly related to this particular area of cyclonic disturbance, and they have been just as violently shaken.

The truth is, I believe, that though London men think it is Africa or Australia that ails them, it is really apprehension of a European war which started their trouble. Grossly inflated mining values have crumpled cruelly in all directions, but they would not have done so if the panicky notion of foreign embarrassments had not unnerved the market. Business closed here to-day, and on the Continent as well, with everybody's thought turned toward the Guild Hall, where, by a dramatic chance, Lord Salisbury is to make a speech in the very middle of a more critical financial and political situation than any that the Old World has experienced since 1878.

REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF CHINESE IN FORMOSA.

In the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find a transcript of Regulations just issued by the Commander-in-Chief in Formosa for the control of Chinese immigration to that island. They are to take effect from the 1st of next month (January). We translate them:—

Art. I.—At the following places Chinese subjects coming to Formosa may land:—Keelung, Tamsui, Anping, and Takow.

Art. II.—Any Chinese subject visiting Formosa for purposes of trade or private business, must be provided with a permit or a certificate from a Chinese principal local official, showing his place of registration, his occupation, his age, and his object.

Art. III.—Any Chinese subject visiting Formosa on Chinese official or Governmental business, must be provided with a document in the nature of a pass from the Chinese Government.

Art. IV.—Any persons carrying a permit or a certificate from a Chinese principal local official must undergo an examination at the hands of the Local Officials of the place where he desires to land in Formosa, and must obtain their written permission to land.

Art. V.—For the better preservation of public tranquillity in Formosa, no Chinese subject belonging to the labouring class, or not having a fixed occupation shall be allowed to land.

Art. VI.—With the exception of persons holding a certificate from the local officials of the Governor-General's *Fu* in Formosa, or from a Japanese Consul in China, no Chinese subjects originally resident in Formosa who travel to and fro between that island and China, shall be allowed to land or take up their residence without a permit or a certificate from a Chinese principal local official.

Art. VII.—With the exception of the persons referred to in Articles III. and VI., Chinese subjects that have obtained permission to land in Formosa shall not be entitled to reside in any place other than those enumerated in Art. I., and any one desiring to pass beyond the limits of such places into the interior of Formosa, must apply for a passport to the local officials of the Governor-General's *Fu*.

Art. VIII.—The Regulations shall go into operation from the 1st day of the 1st month of the 29th year of *Meiji* (January 1st, 1896).

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The general meeting of the shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha took place in the Hall of the Young Men's Christian Association, Tokyo, on the 30th ultimo. Mr. Kondo Rempei, President of the Company, was in the Chair, and there were present 1,179 shareholders, representing 145,607 shares. The report on the business and financial condition of the company during the first half of the present year, read by a clerk, was passed unanimously. Then followed the election of two auditors, to fill vacancies caused by retirement. At the instance of Mr. Iida, of the Household Department, who was present as representative of the Director of the Bureau of Imperial Property, Messrs. Abe Taizo and Arishima Takeo, formerly Director of the Customs at Yokohama, were unanimously chosen. Among other matters discussed, may be mentioned the reduction of the number of Directors from thirteen to eight, which is the actual number, and the despatch of a letter of condolence to the family of the late President Yoshikawa in the name of the whole of the shareholders. What specially deserved attention was the question of opening a European line. In introducing this subject for discussion, President Kondo observed that the extension of steamship lines to Europe, America, and Australia had long been a desire of the company's, but that deficiency of funds and other circumstances had hitherto prevented its consummation. Of course, in opening such lines, the company must be aided by the State, for without such assistance it would be impossible to maintain the service. Mr. Kondo was happy to be able to say that the necessity of extending steamship service to foreign countries is now fully recognized by the nation, and that, consequently, the much needed State subsidy would be forthcoming at no distant date. But the company having now realized large profits by chartering ships to the Government in connec-

tion with the war, he proposed to utilize part of the fund thus obtained for the purpose of immediately opening a line to Europe, one steamer being started from each end per month, and six steamers being used on the line. Mr. Kondo did not state what was the port of destination in Europe. He was confident that the required State assistance would be forthcoming in due course of time. Of the profits accruing from the ships requisitioned by the Government, 2,250,000 *yen* were to be employed on the new line, as would also be the profits derived from the same source during the current period. The proposal was unanimously approved by the assembly. The financial statement for the period under consideration was as follows :—

INCOME.	Yen.
Freight	2,972,236.815
Passengers	238,484.740
Ships hired out	29,054.785
Ferry boat receipts	1,277.510
Balance of interest	48,578.803
Miscellaneous receipts	276,122.910
Navigation Subsidy	9,700.000
Government Subsidy	440,000.000
Total	4,015,452.564
EXPENDITURE.	
Office expenses	329,870.917
Traffic expenses	741,514.841
Ship expenses	2,050,346.562
Losses on exchange	893.662
Miscellaneous losses	2,904.885
Interest on debt, etc.	66,392.014
Total	3,455,833.281
Profit	759,629 283
Brought forward	198,202.915
Total	957,832.198
To depreciation of buildings	9,768.753
To the Reserve fund	41,301.065
Rewards to Directors	7,850.000
Dividend (10 per cent. per annum).	440,000.000
Carried over	458,912.380
RECEIPTS FROM SHIPS REQUISITIONED BY THE GOVERNMENT.	
Brought forward	1,378,373.556
During the present period	2,363,921.834
Total	3,742,295.390
Reserve fund	252,397.963
Extra Dividend (5 *yen* per share)	880,000.000
Rewards to Directors & Auditors	58,000.000
Rewards to other servants of the Co.	300,000 000
Extra Reserve	2,251.897.427

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND THE ARMSTRONG COMPANY.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that Lord Armstrong and Company of England have entered into a provisionary contract with the Japanese Government for the establishment of a steel foundry in Japan on the following terms :—

1st.—The material shall for the present be imported from England.

2ndly.—Of the workmen to be employed, 20 per cent. shall be brought from England and 80 per cent. shall be Japanese.

3rdly.—When a new arm is invented in England, it shall be manufactured at the works in Japan.

4thly.—For a stated number of years, the Japanese Government shall give a fixed subsidy to the Company.

5thly.—On the expiration of the period during which the Company receives a subsidy, the works shall be sold to the Japanese Government.

The *Hochi* further states that a bill relating to the subsidy will be submitted to the Diet next session. We need scarcely observe that this piece of intelligence, in so far as it ascribes any definite action to the Government, must be erroneous. The Ministers of State are not in a position to make any such agreement without the previous consent of the Diet. It is possible, however, that some *pourparlers* may have taken place in the sense indicated. The measure suggested would be most judicious on Japan's part.

THE RECENT KOREAN DISTURBANCE AND FOREIGN PARTICIPATORS IN IT.

Concerning the circumstances leading to the disturbance of the 28th ultimo, and the alleged participation of some foreigners, the *Jiji Shimpo* has obtained the following information from certain individuals that came to Tokyo, leaving Korea at different dates between the *coup d'état* of October 8th and the incident of November 28th :—The fall of the Min faction, in consequence of the political revolution effected by the Tai Wŏn-kun on the 8th of October, caused grief and disappointment not only to Min Yonchun and his relatives, but also to various other persons. In proportion as the combination led by Kim Koshu and Yu Kitsu-ei increased in unity and strength, men outside that combination gradually lost influence in the Cabinet. Even the clever An Kei-ju felt himself so insecure that he had to resign. Under these circumstances, with the exception of the faction led by Cho Gi-yen, who entered the Cabinet shortly after the *émeute* of the 8th October, all the political cabals, Pak's partisans inclusive, were discontented with the Cabinet. But the party most bitterly hostile to those in power were the men that had fled with their lives to the Legations of Russia and the United States. Bent upon schemes of revenge, these persons solicited the assistance of the Russian and American Representatives. That was the reason why the two Ministers began to interfere in the domestic affairs of Korea. As to such a departure by the American *Chargé d'Affaires* from the traditional policy of his government, its appears that he acted at the instance of his nationals in the employ of the Korean Government, especially General W. McE. Dye and Colonel F. J. H. Nienstead, military instructors of the old Palace Guards. These officers enjoyed the confidence of the Queen, and were allowed to live in the Palace. In spite of their boast to Her Majesty that whatever force might be brought against the Palace, the troops trained by them would be able to diperse the assailants without any difficulty, they had the mortification of witnessing the utter discomfiture of their men by the *Kunren-tai* soldiers on the 8th of October. To add to their disappointment, when the amalgamation of the Palace Guards and the *Kunren-tai* troops was afterward effected, it was discovered that the former, namely, the troops drilled by the Americans, were far inferior in military training to the *Kunren-tai*. In consequence of these circumstances, they were at one time in danger even of being dismissed by the Korean Government. They escaped that fate, however, and were allowed to remain in the Korean service in the capacity of Military Advisers. But they received very cold treatment from the Government, and longed for the return of the Min to power. They found a strong coadjutor in the person of their countryman, General Le Gendre, who was Adviser to the Household Department in the days when the late Queen was at the zenith of her power. The General had been in China and Japan since the Formosan affair of 1874. At first he went to Korea in the interests of Li Hung-chang, but subsequently he adroitly assumed the rôle of a Japanese partisan. Finally, however, appreciating the influence of the Queen, he ingratiated himself with Her Majesty, and consequently lost credit with the Korean Government at the *émeute* of October 8th. He was also greatly disturbed on account of the very doubtful fate of the mining privileges that he had been instrumental in obtaining from the Korean Court. Under these circumstances, he joined General Dye and Colonel Nienstead in scheming for the restoration of the Min. These Americans were not the only parties concerned in the attempt to restore the Min ; the Russians were equally interested in so desirable a consummation. Simultaneously with the escape of certain Min partizans to the American Legation, whither they were conducted by Americans, Li Hanshin, Li Gakukin, and a few others took refuge at the Russian Legation. The refugees in these two Legations communicated with each other, and induced the Russian and American Ministers to bring pressure to bear upon the Korean Cabinet to punish the parties responsible for the incidents of October 8th. This led to the resignation of Cho Giyen and the Metropolitan Police Inspector-General, as well as to the retirement of the Tai Wŏn-kun. As for the *Kunren-tai* troops, they were declared to be free from blame, but their officers, Wu Hanzen and Li Toko, as well as several individuals not connected with the troops, namely Li Denkwai and eight others, were arrested. This conduct on the part of the Cabinet caused much discontent among the factions out of power, and the state of affairs thus produced in Sŏul seems to have been considered by the refugees in the foreign Legations as a unique opportunity for carrying out their scheme."

The *Jiji* does not vouch for the correctness of the above story, but states that the facts contained in it may serve to explain in some measure the connection that certain Americans had with the recent disturbance.

THE APPROACHING CELEBRATION IN TOKYO.

It has already been announced that a ceremonial on a large scale will be held in Tokyo at Shokonsha, Kudan, from the 15th to the 19th instant. The *Asahi Shimbun* says that on the 15th the spoils taken in the war will be exposed ; on the 16th, the Emperor will visit the Shrine at 10 a.m., and the Empress at 11 a.m. ; the Naval Band will play, and there will be fireworks and various other performances ; on the 17th the Military Band will play, and there will be horse racing, fencing, and fire-works ; on the 18th the programme will be wrestling, and day and night fire-works ; and on the 19th there will be a *No* performance. The number of dead, of the Military and Naval services, on whose account masses will be said, is 1,500, those of the Guards Corps that lost their lives not being included. The visit of the Emperor and Empress to the Shrine will be a most unusual event.

AMATEUR THEATRICALS IN TOKYO.

We are glad to be able to report that the residents of Tokyo and Yokohama may look forward to a performance of amateur theatricals in Tokyo. As was the case last year, several of the leading ladies in the capital are interesting themselves keenly in the preparations, and excellent casts having been arranged and good pieces selected, success may be confidently predicted. The proceeds are to be devoted to charity. We invite attention to the fact that the 19th and 20th of December are the days chosen for the performance.

JUDGE THURMAN.

Many of our readers will read with regret the following paragraph :—

Ex-Senator Allen G. Thurman fell from a sofa in his library last Friday and suffered injuries which have become very serious. He cannot possibly recover. On Tuesday he was so much better that he wished to go to the polls to vote, but on the advice of his physician he did not. On Wednesday he was much worse, and yesterday he fell into a stupor from which it is altogether likely he will never recover. His son, Allen W. Thurman, said at noon that there was little hope that he will live more than a few days, and death may occur at any time.

All 11 o'clock the condition of Judge Thurman was somewhat improved. The members of the family have retired, leaving the distinguished patient in the care of his nurse. Dr. Whittaker, his physician, saw him at 10 o'clock, and will not call again to-night unless sent for. He does not now think there is immediate danger of death. Judge Thurman is sleeping quietly. His pulse in regular, but weak. His condition is that of collapse, and the physician says it is altogether improbable that he will survive long.

No bones were broken by the fall, and the only wound noticeable is a slight abrasion over the hip bone. In a young person the accident would have been trivial.

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THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION OF TOKYO.

The Young Men's Christian Association of Tokyo is doing excellent educational work not only by means of English classes taught in the evening but by frequent lecture meetings at which addresses on religious, scientific, and literary subjects are delivered by the foremost men in the respective departments. Last Saturday evening a lecture meeting was held specially in connection with the English classes and for the benefit of the students of the English language. The speakers were Professor Chappell, of the Awoyama Seminary, and Mr. Henry Satoh, one of the best English scholars in Japan. Professor Chappell spoke on the Advantages of the Knowledge of English. He alluded to the large and ever increasing percentage of the world's population using the English language, and dwelt upon the wealth of thought embodied in English literature, not ommitting, at the same time, to mention the fact that by studying English the student obtains access not only to the choicest thoughts of the English-using thinkers but also to those of all countries of the world, modern and ancient. He also called attention to the prevalent tendency among Japanese students of English to be contented with merely gaining a general idea of the contents of works, ignoring the garb in which the thoughts are dressed, without a thorough mastery of which it is impossible to understand those thoughts in their proper light. The lecturer also offered some other excellent suggestions and advice, but we fear very much that the number of those among his youthful audience who could follow him sufficiently well to profit by his address was extremely small. Popular as is the study of English in this country, the standard of thoroughness has not kept pace with the rapid dissemination of a knowledge of that language. Indeed, it is a recognized fact that the standard has positively fallen. That is a necessary consequence of the changes that have taken place in the educational system, changes in themselves good and inevitable, but affecting very seriously the position of English literature in Japan. Formerly, from the moment a student entered the middle school till he graduated from the University, his education was conducted almost wholly in English; the text books used were entirely English; lectures were delivered in English, and a large number of the instructors and Professors were either English or American. Thus he could not but become tolerably proficient in the use of English and acquainted with some of the best British or American authors. But during the last ten years, a complete change has taken place. Instruction is now given entirely in the Japanese language, the text books are in the mother tongue, and the instructors are all Japanese, with the exception of a few in the University and some of the principal Colleges. As for English, it is still retained in the curriculum, but its place is merely secondary, only a few hours per week being set apart for its study. English has thus become a purely linguistic study, and the consequence has been marked deterioration in the general proficiency of the students. From personal experience, we should think that, fifteen years ago, Professor Chappell's excellent speech would have been understood fairly well by at least one-half of the audience, but in the present instance the number understanding it could probably be counted on the fingers of one hand. We of course exclude the officers of the Association and a few invited guests.

Mr. Satoh's speech, as might have been expected, was a complete success. From the beginning to the end, the audience was kept in good humour. He judiciously interspersed his address with witty and piquant personal anecdotes and illustrations. Of the many valuable hints and counsels given by him, we may mention the more important. He strongly denounced the universal tendency among Japanese boys to attempt to read difficult books. It not infrequently happened that a boy who had just finished his third Reader set himself to attack Macaulay's essays or even Carlyle's works. Mr. Satoh ridiculed this most pernicious conceit on the part of Japanese students of English. He also pointed out the common mistake of ignoring the value of the so-called *hensoku* style of translation, in which every word of the original is faithfully rendered into Japanese. This method of literal translation necessarily involved violence to the purity of the Japanese language. Imperfect as it was, however, Mr. Satoh regarded it is the only method by which the meaning of English sentences could be correctly conveyed to the student in the early stages of his progress. The lecturer had something to say about the manner in which grammer is taught and studied. Ordinary Japanese students had a fairly good knowledge of English grammer, but paid little attention to the practical application of their knowledge. That was as much their our fault as their teachers'. On the subject of practice, students were strongly recommended to form the habit of thinking in English as far as possible. They were also advised to talk to themselves as a means of training. We may quote one more point mentioned by Mr. Satoh, namely, that in every school the lowest class in English is entrusted to the care of inferior instructors. That he strongly criticized as a serious mistake. The bad habits of reading and pronunciation acquired by beginners under incompetent instructors, were very difficult to correct afterwards. Consequently, beginners should be placed in charge of the very best teachers.

THE SAN FRANCISCO MURDER.

Although Durrant has been found guilty of the murder of Miss Blanche Lamont, under the circumstances recently described in our leading columns, the pronouncing of sentence was deferred until November 22nd, in consideration of a plea advanced by Durrant's counsel that he purposed moving for a new trial and needed time to prepare the affidavits. Some sensation was subsequently caused by an announcement in the San Francisco *Examiner* that, during the trial, one of the jurors had visited Emmanuel Church, where the murder took place, and made investigations on his own account. That, of course, would have invalidated the finding of the jury. But the juror, Mr. Horace Smyth, declared publicly that he had not done anything of the kind. It seems not unlikely, however, that his verdict was admittedly influenced by a point not raised in court—namely, that Durrant could not have effected the alleged repairs of the gas fittings in the interval of two or three minutes while King was playing the piano. Durrant swore that the playing of the piano had commenced when he began his work on the burners, and that when he finished and entered the library, King was still playing. King, on the other hand, swore that he played for only two or three minutes. The *Examiner* published an interview with Juror Smyth, in which the latter was represented as explaining this discrepancy in full, and adding that he had himself gone to the church and practically tested the time needed for doing the repairs. Mr. Smyth, as we have said, denies having gone to the church, but does not say whether the time question influenced him, and an objection may possibly be raised on that score. It is now alleged, with apparent confidence, that Miss Minnie Williams, whose murder also took place in Emmanuel Church, possessed some knowledge of Blanche Lamont's fate, and was consequently put out of the way by Durrant. But such a theory seems quite untenable. If Minnie Williams had the smallest suspicion of Durrant's murderous doings, it is out of the question that she should have accompanied him to the church, as she was seen to do. Apparently there is at present no intention of undertaking judicial proceedings in the case of Miss Williams. If Durrant is finally condemned for murdering Miss Lamont, the facts of his having been seen to enter Emmanuel Church in company with Miss Williams just before the time of her assassination, and of her purse having afterwards been found in his pocket, will be considered a sufficient explanation of her tragic end. He has only one life to give, though he may have taken two. Meanwhile, he retains his wonderfully calm demeanour. It is related that on the day when sentence should have been pronounced, in the natural order of things, he "smiled kindly and quietly to those he recognised in Court, spoke with his father and his counsel, and for the rest remained as passive as ever."

"THE TIMES" ON THE PARIS EXHIBITION OF 1900.

If an article in *The Times* on the above subject is to be taken as an indication of the State of public feeling, the Western world is growing wearied of giant exhibitions. Hitherto they have been worked on an ascending scale of magnificence, and it is asserted that as Paris eclipsed herself in 1889 and Chicago eclipsed Paris in 1893, Paris is resolved to eclipse Chicago in 1900. Since by far the most attractive feature of these Exhibitions is, not the number and variety of the exhibits, but the lighter entertainments provided for the motley crowds that attend them, and since the French are unrivalled in the art of inventing and gracefully carrying out new and fascinating methods of amusing the public, they will have little difficulty in beating all the great spectacles of the kind the world has ever witnessed. *The Times* speaks of the Exhibition as an impending incubus little less onerous than an impending war. The original object of such displays has been entirely obscured by an alien element of public amusement. "Sir Henry Cole," says *The Times*, "the originator of the first Great Exhibition, very soon found that industrial exhibitions pure and simple were unremunerative. Sir Philip Owen made them pay by grafting on them a large element of incidental entertainment. The graft has now entirely overshadowed the parent tree. 'The industrial exhibits,' says Sir Henry Trueman Wood, speaking of the French Exhibition of 1889, 'were there of course. They were the ostensible object of the whole organization. Really their chief use was to lend an air of respectability to what without them would, have been a raree-show of the highest class. 'The play's the thing,' might have been the motto of the last French Exhibition, and still more of the 'World's Fair at Chicago. . . . . The open secret of the whole affair was the love of amusement native in man. A whole section of the great park was devoted to amusements pure and simple. There was hardly a savage people whose habits were not illustrated for the benefit of visitors."

This is nothing new; the shows of the middle ages began in business and ended in amusement. But the thing worth noting is that in modern times, while in no way differing from the ancients in their love of pleasure, men's minds are so impressed with the importance of business that they prefer forms of pleasure that have a business air given to them. In visiting an Exhibition men persuade themselves that their chief object is to study art and industry, while in reality they only aim at enjoying themselves. *The Times* concludes its observations on this subject by recommending that the French should neglect the industrial element altogether and devote themselves to the task of providing entertainments for the world of character and dimensions that shall surpass all hitherto attained. The would result in an Exhibition worthy of the end of the century which witnessed the birth of the institution, and would be a preparation for further pushing of the logic of the situation to the point of the abandonment of exhibitions, altogether, which, *The Times* considers, would be by no means a subject for regret.

The number of visitors admitted to the Tokyo Library during November last was 5,245, by whom 2,016 foreign and 30,299 Japanese and Chinese works were inspected.—*Official Gazette.*

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

DANCE ON BOARD THE "ISLY."

The officers of the French ship *Isly* gave a dance on the 30th ult. Boats were waiting to take off the guests from the English Hatoba at 1.30 p.m., and from the Railway Canal an hour later. The shore guests were limited, for the most part, to young ladies, only a very small modicum of chaperons being invited, and these, as far as possible, dancing ladies. The ship was converted into a most comfortable ball-room by skilful use of canvas and bunting, and refreshments were served in the principal mess-room below. The ladies—who numbered about twenty, only two residents of Yokohama and and some seventeen or eighteen from Tokyo being present—were conducted on arrival into a charmingly arranged cloak-room, where each received a bouquet of roses tied with a streamer on which the name of the ship was embroidered in gold. Dancing commenced shortly before two o'clock and continued, with very brief intervals, until six, by which time a programme of twelve dances with four extras had been completed. The sea was a little rough at the time of putting off from the shore, but the boats returned over perfectly calm water in full moonlight. Nothing could have been better devised or more hospitable than all the arrangements, and the dance will long remain a delightful reminiscence of the *Isly's* visit to Yokohama.

TIR FÉDERAL DE WINTERTHUR SUISSE.

4 au 11 Août, 1895.

Nombre de célles (targets) 200
Distance..... 300 mètres.
Nombre de cartouches brulées... 1,528,388

Les dix premières coupes en argent ont été gagnées en moyenne en 24 minutes (100 bull's eyes, ou 4 cartons—bull's eyes—en moins d'une minute).

Le tir rapide avec les nouvelles armes à répétition a donné comme résultat 24 coups dont 23 touchés en quarante secondes.

Nombre de visiteurs arrivés par les "Railways," a atteint le chiffre de 206,877 personnes.

Le plus fort transport a été celui du dimanche 4 Août 40,052 personnes.

Aucun accident à déplorer pendant toute la durée du tir.

La valeur des prix offerts a atteint la jolie somme de francs 196,739.58.

Couronnes et prix distribués aux plus adroits tireurs:—

Couronnes de laurier	72
Couronnes de chêne	165
Médailles argent	4,677
Médailles d'or	41
Coupes en argent	482
Montres en argent	919
Montres en or	384

Les armes employées étaient les anciennes armes Vetteili du calibre 10m/m. 4, avec lesquelles il a été brulé que 48,440 cartouches, et les nouvelles armes à répétition modéle 1889, du calibre 7m/m. 5, avec lesquelles il a été dépense 1,479,948 cartouches.

Les descendants de Guillaume Tell ont à cœur de maintenir leur réputation de tireurs en pratiquant le tir à la cible avec les armes les plus perfectionnées, car la Suisse est la première nation qui depuis 1855, a adopté l'unification de calibre et le plus réduit 10m. 4. La première qui ait armé ses troupes de fusils à répétition du calibre 10m/m. 4 depuis 1868, et la première enfin qui ait adopté, depuis 1889, un fusil à répétition du calibre réduit 7m/m. 5 calibre, qui ne doit être abaissé plus bas, sinon on dépasse le but, comme dans la chanson, et les hommes blessés par des balles de calibre inférieurs, ne seront pas mit hors de combat.

Quant aux charges de cavalerie les balles d'un calibre inférieur à 7m/m. 5, seront sans grands effets, ce que démontreront les prochaines guerres?—*Communiqué.*

ATTEMPTED ROBBERY WITH VIOLENCE.

A daring attempt at robbery with violence took place on Friday morning, between three o'clock and half-past at No. 1,504, Nakamura, the house being in the occupation of a woman named Koyanagi Riki. The burglar effected an entrance through the *amado* of the upper storey, and coming to the room where the woman was sleeping, awakened her, and at the same time called for the servant maid to come up. He then ordered the servant maid to obtain the keys of the bureau, at the same time theatening the mistress of the house with a short sword. Having obtained the keys, the burglar took his sword between his teeth and knelt down with the object of opening the drawers. Seeing this, Riki clasped the man round the arms and waist from behind, at the same time calling for help. The man resisted, and in the course of the struggle that ensued, the woman received several wounds, none of which were, however, of a dangerous nature. The first wound was from the left eye downwards, about one inch in length, another was through the left nostril to the bone, and there are some scratches round her nose: she had a slash across both forearms, another across the mouth, and a deep wound on the right biceps. After extricating himself, and inflicting the last wound, the miscreant decamped. Information was at once given to the police who were soon on the spot, and the woman was attended by a doctor, who pronounced that she was in no danger. The burglar is said to be a thin-faced man of a florid complexion, short-cut hair, high nose, small eyes, 5ft. 2in. in height, and 22 or 23 years of age. The locality is very lonesome, and although there are foreign houses on the other side of the hill and some Japanese huts close by, the dwelling itself is isolated, consequently the woman's cries could not be heard.

The Ishikawa Police are to be congratulated upon having effected the arrest of the burglar who broke into the house of Koyanagi Riki on Friday last and wounded her so severely. It would seem that the man, after wounding Riki, rummaged her bureau and escaped with a bundle of silk crape clothes and *obi*, but inadvertently left a patch torn off his *haragaki* during the struggle. The coolie class only wearing garments of this description, inquiries were made, with the result that the man, Suzuki Yoshimichi, was discovered as the perpetrator of the dastardly assault. He was employed on the tank oil reservoir at Hiranuma, where he is well-known. Last night at 9 o'clock the police caught their man at No. 53, Bandaicho, Sanchome, the residence of another coolie, named Hagiwara Hamataro, where the sword also was found together with some clothes which he had not yet pawned. It is to be hoped the young man will receive his deserts.

ANOTHER ARMED BURGLARY IN YOKOHAMA.

Information has been given us by the Bluff Police that about 2 o'clock on the morning of the 30th ult., a burglar armed with a drawn sword entered the house of one Ishida Hachiyemon, a carrier by profession, at No. 1,405, Honmoku, Yokohama. After binding Ishida and his wife the man, who, upon identification, turned out to be the cousin of Ishida, obtained *yen* 12.70 in cash and some clothing valued at *yen* 130, with which he decamped. The sword was discovered by the police near the house about 9 o'clock next morning, and the burglar, named Suzuki Yomoshichi, aged 24, was arrested on the night of the 1st inst. in a house at Bandaicho, Sanchome, by the Ishikawa Police, who were on the track of the miscreant, who wantonly wounded the woman Koyanagi Riki. The story of his arrest we have already furnished. When questioned by the police, Suzuki confessed to having robbed his cousin, but so far has made no statement relative to the other attempted robbery with violence, although there is presumptive evidence that he is the perpetrator of both crimes. The clothes pawned by him belonged to Ishida, and not Koyanagi Riki, the statement that they belonged to her being incorrect, as he obtained no booty at Ishikawa, presuming he is the same man.

THE "EVANDALE'S" CARGO.

THE arrival of the chartered steamer *Evandale* is anxiously expected in Yokohama. The following items regarding her cargo may prove of interest. San Francisco, remarks a newspaper of that city, is not as big as New York or Boston, or Philadelphia, but she occasionally reports a large transaction in the commercial line that would be considered worth noting, even in those cities. There was cleared from this port on the 6th November the steamer *Evandale* for Hongkong with a cargo valued at over $1,000,000. This is not the first time that such a thing has been recorded in that trade. It has happened two or three times each month of late. The total, of course, includes the specie as well as other produce. More specie has been sent out on other steamers, but it is doubtful if a greater value of produce was ever put aboard a China bound vessel from this port. At least, we cannot call to mind a more valuable cargo of that nature. The produce was valued as follows, to which we append the specie:—

To China	$209,960
To Japan	88,868
To other markets	4,196
Total	$303,024
Specie	740,823
Total	$1,043,847

The cargo included 30,699 bls. flour valued at $89,529, together with 26,660 lbs. ginseng, valued at $107,970, and 804,667 lbs. cotton, valued at $56,322. These three lines of freight account for $253,831 of the total, leaving less than $50,000 for a score or more of other articles.

THE MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN FRANCE.

Concerning the recent change of Ministry in France, correspondence from Mr. Harold Frederic in the New York *Times*, dated London Nov. 9th is interesting:—

The French Radical Ministry has not been incontinently thrown out, as Paris expected, perhaps only because the expected so rarely happens there. Although there is no apparent reason why it should not die next week or the week after, it has set sternly to work as if it were to live for ever.

The boldness of its move in seizing control of the civil service, sweeping out old officials on all sides and appointing its own people, seems rather to have taken the Parisian breath away.

The papers cannot keep track of the procession of Prefects, secretaries, directors of departments and the like who are flitting into private life, propelled by the Radical boot. Hardly Washington itself ever witnessed a more peremptory clearing out.

It is certainly a very brave game which is being played, not to say desperate. While offices are being seized and the whole administration is being vigorously radicalized, the air is kept vibrating with reports that not only the Southern Railway scandals are to be probed to the bottom, but new excavations are to be ruthlessly pushed into the old Panama pie and fresh skeletons are to be unearthed. Furthermore, heavy stress is now laid on the Radical doctrine that legislators must have no dealings with finance, and as a spectacular earnest that this means business, Senator Christophle has been pushed out of the direction of the Credit Foncier, and Paris is agog with rumours that other similar sacrifices even more surprising are to follow. This display of fierce energy by a Ministry which represents only a minority in Parliament and could be kicked out today as well as not is not mere histrionism either.

It is informed by an extremely shrewd knowledge of the French character and a courageous reliance on the maxim that "history repeats itself." If the Chamber summons nerve to defeat the Ministry the plans are all readly for a prompt dissolution and appeal to the country on the ground that moderate republicanism and conservatism alike mean corruption, bribe-taking, and infamous betrayal of public trusts. Lockroy and Cavaignac are piling up proofs of wholesale venality in the naval and war offices, much more for campaign than for departmental service. They and their colleagues do not try to maintain a difficult balance among the hostile groups in the Chamber, they defy it to put them out, and assume the air of rather welcoming than otherwise the prospect of fighting the thing out before their constituencies.

INTERNET ARCHIVE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

JAPAN'S CRITICS.

IT may be that psychologists will some day explain why a tendency perpetually exists among a considerable class of European writers in the East to attribute all the actions of the Japanese to motives so very deep and so very wicked that one scarcely knows which is the greater marvel, the exceeding acuteness of the critic or the abominable immorality of the criticized. We ourselves long ago abandoned further attempts to analyse this metaphysical problem, since the only conclusion we could come to was the obviously untenable suspicion that the critics reproduced on paper a likeness of their own depraved fancies. In everyday life it is a sound and almost invariable rule that the habit of attributing evil motives to another springs from the evil heart of the attributor himself, but it were rank heresy to pretend that any such rule can apply to the strikingly astute writers who discern the vices of the Oriental so sharply and describe them so graphically. Be the mainsprings of the criticism ever so abstruse, however, it is sometimes interesting to note the workings, as, for instance, in the case of the recent *coup d'état* in Söul. After the murder of the QUEEN, her royal husband's grim old custodian, who estimates life precisely at the cost of taking it, submitted for his son's signature a document perhaps the most farcical and contemptible ever framed for kingly signature. Therein the SOVEREIGN of the faction-torn peninsula was made to confess that, though long aware of the wickedness of his Consort, and correspondingly desirous of getting rid of her, she really had been too much for him, and only now was he in a position, by the kind aid of a band of cut-throat rioters, to desist from the pernicious courses into which his wicked, though weaker, half had forced him. Such a confession, made *coram populo*, must have rendered any Sovereign ridiculous, and that would not have been an unwelcome result to the TAI WÖN-KUN, for the "Prince-Parent's" reported purpose is, not to fix more tightly on the throne the son now occupying it, but to re-place him by a grandson. To the credit of the KING'S manhood it is alleged that he refused thus to introduce himself to his subjects as an uxorious weakling, administering his kingdom in obedience to feminine caprice, and refused further to pronounce his wife guilty of absconding from his side when she had been dragged from it by brutal assassins and deposited, a hacked corpse, in the bottom of a well, for to that supremely absurd judgment also the document would have committed its signatory. The King of KOREA has been forced to face many crises in the course of his wretched reign, and the moral qualities displayed by him have never been such as to prepare the public for the courageous self-assertion he is said to have displayed on this latest occasion. For the reputation of humanity, however, let us give him all the credit that his friends attribute to him, since it is at least an officially affirmed fact that the monstrous proclamation did not carry his seal. Nevertheless, it went out as his own, and as his own must have been read by his subjects—a Royal Proclamation telling them in plainest terms that never yet was State ruled over by such a shameless weaking. There followed, then, the climax of the farce. The poor puppet was invited to declare himself "Emperor." Content with the inferior title of "King" so long as his masterful wife drove him hither and thither at the beck of her naughty caprices, his exultation at being untied from her petticoats impelled him to soar immediately to the lofty position of "*imperator*." His spouse lying dead in a well, he had recovered manhood and must perforce celebrate the magnificent occasion by dubbing himself "Emperor." Now what does all this indicate? Does it not indicate one of two things: either that the temporary controllers of the situation in Söul devised an admirably subtle programme for humiliating the KING before his people, converting him into a universal object of disdainful ridicule, and depriving him of all warrant to reign; or that they were themselves the clumsiest, least artistic, and most incompetent tyros in statecraft that ever directed a *coup d'état*? If we accept the former explanation, it forces us to the conclusion that some at least of the Söul politicians combine extraordinary subtlety with great daring; if the latter, we arrive at a fact noted by every close observer of the Korean nation, namely, that the conspicuous trait of its so-called "leading men" is absolute lack of all the moral attributes essential to administrative competence. One would certainly suppose that the very last idea occurring to any intelligent observer would be to charge the Japanese with dictating such a proclamation, or suggesting such a burlesque as the KING'S assumption of an Imperial title. Yet those are precisely the accusations that Japan's critics preferred against her, and continue to prefer, although it is established that the degradation and dethronement of the murdered QUEEN never had Japanese approval; that HER MAJESTY is now to be posthumously restored to her place of honour at the instance of the Japanese, and that the KING'S assumption of the title of Emperor was prevented mainly through Japanese interference. The critics have gone a good deal farther, however. It is not enough that the leading Shanghai newspaper should express astonishment at anyone's denying Viscount MIURA'S deliberate complicity in the assassination of the QUEEN. The same paper actually publishes correspondence alleging that the whole *coup d'état* was planned by the Japanese Government; that Count INOUYE, having found his own methods end in failure, purposely returned to Japan in order to leave the field free for recourse to a policy of violence; that Viscount MIURA was selected and sent to carry out that policy, and that the arrest and criminal trial of the Viscount, of the Commandant of the Legation Guards, and of some forty other Japanese officials and civilians, is simply a ruse on Japan's part to blind the world's eyes to her true procedure. Such obviously extravagant attempts to blacken Japan's reputation are to us as unaccountable as the fact that a respectable newspaper lends its columns for their circulation. Is there some special pleasure in caricaturing Japan and trying to prove her politicians and people the wickedest and most unscrupulous of human beings? Are Great Britain's popularity and prestige enhanced in the East by such startling exhibitions of prejudice and unfriendliness on the part of English journals? We do not understand. Some new doctrine of metaphysics must be invented to fit the circumstances.

SHIPS AND ORDERS.

A JAPANESE correspondent, who has not taken the trouble to establish his identity, sends us a communication from which we gather that he is interested in the country's purchases of war-ships, and that he objects strongly to the giving of any orders to French builders. We cannot, of course, afford publicity to such anonymous correspondence, but we take the opportunity of pointing out that all rumours as to orders having been already placed abroad must, in the nature of things, be erroneous. The Japanese Government is not in a position to give any orders whatever until the sanction of the Diet has been received, which cannot be before January. As to the contention that the umbrage caused by France's coalition with Germany and Russia to deprive Japan of the fruits of her victory, should make the nation revolt against purchasing ships in French dockyards, we can appreciate the sentiment, but cannot endorse its wisdom. Japan should procure what she wants wherever it is most cheaply and conveniently procurable. To restrict her own choice of ship-builders because she has been harshly treated by this nation or by that, would be merely to impose a fresh penalty on herself. Certainly Englishmen will not endorse anything of the kind. British manufacturers and industrials do not ask that their rivals should be handicapped by political prejudices: they prefer a fair field and no favour. In impartial competition they are prepared to meet all comers, and if they are honestly worsted, it is our pride to think that their defeat is productive not of resentment but of renewed effort. The Japanese must be well aware that never once since this empire opened its ports to

foreign commerce has British diplomatic interference been exercised in the interests of individual British merchants. Official pressure to promote private business is absolutely opposed to the traditions of the British Government, and though Englishmen in their dealings with foreigners lack the suave persuasiveness, the tact in trifles, and the seemingly gratuitous courtesy that sometimes give victory to their rivals, they have always held their own, and have never owed success save to straight-forward enterprise and the genuine merits of their work. It would be idle to pretend that the same statement applies to other nationals. In China and in Japan diplomatic goodwill has been so often reduced to the level of a commodity exchangeable for commercial or industrial favours, that we can not be in the least surprised if the Japanese and Chinese have learned to think that the withdrawal of their custom from the merchants or mechanics of a particular nation is a legitimate means of resenting diplomatic unfriendliness on the part of that nation's Government. It is a pernicious creed and an unwise. Tradal liberty is converted into infamous license when the merchants of a nation sell military implements and munitions to a country actually engaged, or about to engage, in war with their own. But the disgrace there is on the part of the seller, not on that of the buyer. For the latter there should be only one rule—to purchase in the most favourable market. Japan's experience has now been sufficiently extended to enable her to choose confidently between the shipbuilders of the various nations, and she owes it to herself to get the best possible value for her money without attempting to purchase, at the same time, the imaginary sympathy of any nation, or to resent by illegitimate means the unsympathetic action of any Government.

AN OBJECT LESSON.

THE correspondent of the *New York Herald* in Japan has inadvertently furnished one object lesson that must be very entertaining to a shrewd observer like himself. So long as he spoke well of Japan in the columns of the journal he represents, and so long as he advocated her claims to be considered something more than a semi-barbarous Asiatic State, his writings elicited sneers and contemptuous criticism from the "watch-dog" journals of Yokohama. But on his return from Korea he addressed to this journal a letter containing some pretty strong expressions about the news sent to Japan by representatives of Japanese newspapers in Söul. Indeed, he went so far as to say that "for first-class, downright, thorough-going lying, he had never seen anything to equal the alleged Korean news translated from the vernacular press of Japan during the past eight weeks." Immediately he became, in the eyes of the "watch-dogs," a witness to be lauded and credited. His writings favourable to the country and its people had never been quoted, but only ridiculed by these Cerberi that stand at the extra-territorial gates. But the very instant that he penned a letter containing a sweeping indictment of Japanese journalistic correspondents, that letter was quoted in full by the growlers, and was declared to have "a sincere ring" about it, while its writer was pronounced to be progressing in his education. Incidents of this kind are prettily suggestive. They have a significance not easy to mistake.

As to the Japanese correspondents, Colonel COCKERILL only echoes what we ourselves have often written, though never in terms quite so uncompromising. It can not be said that Japanese journalism has yet evolved either the correspondent or the reporter as such persons are known in the West. These Söul correspondents, for example, what class of men are they? With the exception of, perhaps, three at most, they are half-educated lads; youths that have gratuated at one of the Middle Schools, and seeing no prospect of getting higher in the educational scale, or being without means of doing so, have adopted any vocation that keeps the wolf from the door. The emoluments they receive for their work in Korea do not exceed 20 *yen* per month plus their expenses. How can it be supposed that such men have access to trustworthy sources of information? None of the Legations is open to them, not even the Legation of their own country. They are obliged to be content with picking up such scraps of news as may be drifted within their reach by interested rumours or the babble of the streets. That they deliberately invent baseless stories, we do not believe. That they elaborate and ornament any items they receive is very probable. We greatly doubt, therefore, whether Colonel COCKERILL'S accusation of "straight lying" is deserved by them. In the matter of wild nonsense and monstrous assertions diametrically opposed to the truth, there is not one of them that can hold a candle to the Korean correspondent of the *North-China Daily News*. Yet no one thinks of charging the latter gentleman with "first-class, downright, thorough-going lying." We conclude merely that he is an exceedingly gullible and silly person, who swallows every fragment of intelligence coming his way without the smallest discrimination, and that, being known as a *gobe-mouche*, mystery-mongers are fond of "filling him up." From Colonel COCKERILL'S point of view, the correspondence forwarded to Tokyo by Japanese reporters may well appear contemptibly wide of the mark. The representative of the *New York Herald*, from the moment that he enters Söul, finds himself a *persona grata* at the United States Legation, and therefore also at the Russian Legation, the friendly relations between the two being of the closet character. He can also count on easy and frank intercourse with the officials of Japan, and, indeed, all the intelligent and prominent men in the capital, of whatever nationality, are ready to give him the benefit of their experience. In what light can a correspondent with such opportunities, a trained journalist with such a status, regard a poor, struggling Japanese youth, ignorant of the world, cut off from sources of knowledge, forced to contribute something to the newspaper that employs him, and driven to pick up food for his pen by the highways and byways?

JAPANESE ART PRODUCTIONS.

DR. ERNEST HART, an assiduous and capable exponent of Japanese works of art, read last May, before the Society of Arts, a paper on "Japanese Art Productions." *The British Architect* of Sept. 27th gives the following epitome:—

Fine art industries have made great progress in the last twenty or thirty years. From 1850 to 1875 there was a period of relapse, especially where the encouragement given by Government was indirect. This is shown at the present time in a striking manner by the excellent results of private initiative, whilst the pressure exercised by Government gives results, which if not *nil* are mediocre. As for example, the foundation of the Bijitsu-gakko, or Fine Art School, where the only art trades taught are lacquer work, ivory, casting, &c. The pupils are apprentices, and are modest and sincere, but they have not yet fully justified the high expectations with which the school was started.

We must not omit to mention the great progress in arts of European importation, such as photography, printing, photo-chromo lithography, etching, wood-engraving, &c. By the side, however, of the comparatively slow progress of artistic trades, the industry in common articles has made such immense strides that the European and American markets are being inundated with low-priced goods, while really artistic productions can with difficulty find an entry into Europe, and consequently scarcely obtain at present, fair prices. It is probably because the prices of modern artistic articles are relatively high, while fine old artistic specimens are proportionately very low, that the highest modern Japanese art has not yet had a fair chance. In short, the excessive importation into Europe of cheap modern *camelotterie*, and the low price of beautiful old articles, are the two chief causes of the want of success of Japanese modern art industries in the European markets. Witness, for example, the heavy losses, speaking from a commercial point of view, of the Japanese section at the Chicago Exhibition. The exhibit was one of great beauty, and produced at great cost, but it was found impossible to obtain the prices asked for the exquisite art objects shown, most of which were, therefore, returned to Japan.

The most beautiful modern articles of art industry remain, as a matter of fact, in Japan, and will not come into Europe until they have attained a certain antiquity. In ten years' time old pieces of art work will be worth ten times what they are to-day, and, consequently, works of modern art, which are as yet only looked upon as artisans' work, will begin to be eagerly sought after in Europe, and will attain an immensely higher level of appreciation and of price.

As a last word, I would say, discourage cheapness in Japanese art, discourage grotesqueness, discourage the constant effort which is now being made to palm off modern forgeries by appending to them ancient names. Ask for the best from Japan, and you will get it, for there are there artists, art workmen, and art lovers, who, as of old, lovingly delight to produce perfect work in charming arts.

While there seems to be much truth in this account, there are also some points inviting criticism. For instance, Dr. HART, speaking of the period between 1850 and 1875, implies that the indirect encouragement given by the Government to art was partially responsible for its decadence, and adds that, even at the present time, official aid produces results which, if not *nil*, are mediocre. These two assertions cannot be endorsed. As to the first, Japanese art owed its excellence in pre-Restoration days mainly to the munificent patronage of the feudal chiefs. The artist or the art artizan, if his name was not borne on the roll of some Daimyo's *pension-*

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naires, could always be sure of finding ready patronage when he produced any good work, for the rivalry existing among the various fiefs, and the custom of sending to the Shogun's Court presents illustrative of local skill, made the officials of each Daimiate look eagerly for artistic or technical talent among their feudatories. All this gradually ceased as the disturbances culminating in the Restoration acquired force and influence, and after the rendition of the fiefs and the final centralization of the Government in 1873, art ceased for a time to enjoy official patronage or aid of any kind. We are, therefore, quite at a loss to understand what Dr. HART means by the "indirect encouragement given by Government between 1850 and 1875." Probably he is erroneously reported. Not until after 1875 did the Government find leisure or means to make any effort in the cause of art, and the method adopted was to lend capital to a private company, which not only gave direct employment to art artizans, but also made suggestions to local artists and purchased their productions for export abroad. This measure did not prove financially successful, but the causes of its failure were not directly connected with its conception. There can be no doubt that it effected, in great part, the object contemplated by the Government, namely, to open the markets of the West to modern Japanese artworks of the higher types. Had the duty of establishing touch with Europe and America been left entirely to export merchants at the open ports, only the cheapest and crudest art-products would have found their way westward, and since the fall of feudalism had temporarily checked the home demand, artists and art-artizans would have been entirely without a market for progressive efforts. The Government, foreseeing this, acted wisely in lending aid to the *Kosko-gaisha*, which, though it did not itself carry on business for a long term of years, opened routes of incalculable value to others, and furnished standards that remain useful even to the present time. Thus we are entirely at issue with Dr. HART'S estimate of the effects of Government aid to art in the decade succeeding the Restoration. As to the Tokyo Art School, again, we think that he is mistaken. He appears to imagine that the curriculum of the school is deficient, whereas, in point of fact, every Japanese art industry is taught there. He appears also to be of the opinion that the School has not justified the expectations formed of it. Well, it certainly has not, in the matter of pictorial art, but that it has well discharged the chief function of an art school by sending out a number of graduates, several of whom give promise of making their mark, is an established fact. After all, however, it is most unfair to measure the Tokyo Art School by the full standard of such an institution's capacities. Its grant from the Treasury is a mere pittance, and it has no pretensions whatever to be regarded as a national place of education.

There are yet others of Dr. HART'S statements that we cannot think consistent with facts. No expert collector could possibly endorse his assertion that "modern artistic articles are relatively high, while fine fine old artistic specimens are proportionately very low." The very opposite is the truth, according to our experience. To no branch of art products does Dr. HART'S description apply unless it be to specimens expressly manufactured and doctored to simulate age. Many of these, indeed, are far cheaper than any corresponding example of good modern work, but of course there need be no discussion of such deceptions. Old specimens, comparable either technically or artistically with the finest modern productions, would command four or five times the price of the latter. But no such specimens come into the market, for the simple reason that they do not exist. With few exceptions, the modern art work of Japan stands on an immeasurably higher level than the ancient. Moreover, *pace* Dr. HART, beautiful modern articles of art industry do *not* remain in Japan, and are *not* kept out of the Occidental market until they "attain a certain antiquity." It is true that many fine pieces being purchased by the Imperial Household—which devotes a very large sum annually to encouraging art by acquiring its products—and by noblemen and private gentlemen in Japan, remain at home. But a number, very many times larger, are perpetually exported to Europe and America—especially America—where they pass into the hands of wealthy collectors now fully alive to the really wonderfnl excellence of Japan's modern art productions Finally, the financial failure made at the Chicago Exhibition must not be taken as a fair test of modern Japan's capacity. A most unfortunate mistake was perpetrated on that occasion. The Japanese Commissioners seem to have imagined that if the art products of their country were offered at the prices current in Japan, they would be relegated by the public to the rank of decorative furniture. To avoid that contingency they marked the specimens with figures that deterred the great body of purchasers. Thus, a few things only were sold in the Fair, the majority returning to Japan, with the exception of a small proportion which, having been reduced, under various protests, to their proper prices, subsequently found places in museums or great collections. This action on the part of the Commissioners was not entirely without warrant, for among the phenomena of the time there are in truth collectors that derive much guidance from the price of an object. The cheaper it is, the less disposed are they to esteem it, and the more they pay for it, the greater their pride in its acquisition. But to appeal to such buyers is miserably unworthy of any artist, and for their sake to sacrifice one of the prominent recommendations of Japanese art products, is suicidal foolishness. An artist must wait until the public verdict fixes the prices his productions are entitled to command. It is not for him to proclaim a high estimate of their value. Japan can offer to the world articles of the greatest beauty at prices that defy foreign competition, and in the interests of her own enrichment and progress, she ought to profit by her capacities. Three things above all others are calculated to close the markets of the West to her: the first is the wholesale production of radically inferior objects for export to Europe and America; the second is the manufacture of spurious antiquities, an imposition that ultimately disgusts the most enthusiastic collectors; the third is the factitious raising of prices with special reference to foreign buyers. A tendency to all these vices exists in Japan to-day.

THE CHINESE IN FORMOSA.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL COUNT KABAYAMA'S recently issued regulations for the control of Chinese visiting Formosa suggest the question, what steps does Japan intend to take with respect to the Chinese already settled in Formosa. Will she suffer them to remain there, as subjects of her own, or will she adopt measures to ensure their return to China? That this is a matter of immense importance, no one can doubt. Japan does not wish, and can not afford, to expose her territories to a deluge of Chinese. She is already suffering from a redundant population, increasing at a rate that theatens to outstrip its available means of subsistence, and the problem will be quickly complicated if she permits herself to be inundated by a race like the Chinese, whose low scale of living and insanitary habits render them undesirable adjuncts to any community. The treaty formerly existing between China and Japan did not contain a most-favoured-nation clause. Hence, even when throwing open her whole territory to Western trade and residence under revised treaties, Japan would not have been exposed to any inconvenience from Chinese claims to similar privileges. But when some millions of Chinese become her subjects, and are allowed to live within her dominions, as is now the case with the Formosan Chinese, are they to be differentiated against, and are their privileges of free travel and residence as Japanese subjects to be specially restricted? If so, the Diet must be invited to pass a law on the subject. For in the 22nd Article of the Constitution we find it provided that "Japanese subjects shall have the liberty of abode and of changing the same within the limits of law;" a privilege concerning which the Commentary says:—"After the Restoration, with the abolition of all the

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different clans, the liberty of fixing or of changing one's abode has been recognised, and every Japanese subject is now free to fix his residence, either permanently or temporarily, to hire dwelling-places, or to engage in business, at any place within the boundaries of the territory of the Empire." Assuming, even, that a law is duly enacted depriving Japan's Chinese subjects in Formosa of the privileges enjoyed constitutionally by all the rest of her subjects, and thus excluding them from Japan proper, are we justified in believing that the development of Formosa can proceed satisfactorily with a mixed population of Chinese and Japanese, the former greatly preponderating? One must be very sanguine to entertain any such hope. The Chinese have never coalesced with any people among whom they settled. They have invariably remained a race apart, segregating themselves in their own settlements and preserving their own costume, habits of life, and fashions of intercourse. They will not coalesce with the Japanese in Formosa. It is contrary to all experience to expect that the two peoples will combine harmoniously in developing the island's resources. Moreover, the fact that much of the most productive land is already held, and that a major part of the best industries is already monopolized, by the Chinese, will deter Japanese of enterprise and capital from seeking to employ the former or invest the latter in the island. If Formosa is to become what the world now expects it to become, and what Japan is bound to make it, not merely for the sake of the place itself but also for the sake of her own reputation, the Chinese population ought to be eliminated as far as possible. The present is the time for taking such a step. Every month that it is deferred adds to the difficulty. We can see nothing to prevent the Japanese Authorities from having the property of the Chinese duly assessed, and buying them out. The fifth Article of the Shimonoseki Treaty says :—

> The inhabitants of the territories ceded to Japan who wish to take up their residence outside the ceded districts, shall be at liberty to sell the real property and retire. For that purpose a period of two years from the date of the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act, shall be granted. At the expiration of that period, those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories, shall be deemed to be Japanese subjects.

This article does not secure any right of perpetual residence to the Chinese. It merely provides that Chinese hitherto resident in Formosa shall have liberty to sell their property and remove to their own country within the space of two years; and that persons failing to avail themselves of that liberty, should not be entitled to claim any status other than such as the Japanese Government may choose to confer on them. Hence, if at the expiration of two years, a large number of Chinese be found remaining in Formosa, it will be competent for Japan to place them on the same footing as ordinary Chinese subjects visiting her dominions under the provisions of the treaty of friendship and commerce now in process of negotiation. In other words, she may order their removal into settlements, and exclude them altogether from access to the interior of the island. We entertain no doubt whatever that two years' experience of the task of governing a mixed population of such incongruous races, and two years of the perpetual complications that must inevitably attend the development of the island under such circumstances, will drive the Japanese Government to take that course when the time comes. But it will then be a course involving much hardship, and certain to bring odium upon the Japanese. It appears to us, therefore, that the most magnanimous and prudent plan would be to assess the property of the Chinese residents at once; to proclaim that any one desirous of selling out at the assessed price, will find a purchaser in the Japanese Government, and to announce, boldly and definitely, that all persons declining to avail themselves of this privilege within two years, will be placed on the footing occupied by Chinese subjects generally within the dominions of Japan. There need be no difficulty in finding money for such a purpose. The thirty million taels just paid by China for the retrocession of Liaotung, could scarcely be better employed. As to the nature of the investment from a national point of view, little doubt can be entertained.

THE RESOURCES OF JAPAN.

A RECENT number of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* contains an interesting and elaborate article on the above subject. It is well worth careful attention, on account of the valuable statistics it contains with reference to the remarkable development now taking place in every department of the national resources. Promising as is Japan's career as a military power, her growth as a peaceful power, says our contemporary, is still more promising. That she has been able to send out altogether nearly 300,000 troops, and spend over 150 million *yen*, without the loan of a single *sen* from abroad, without the slightest depreciation of her convertible notes, and without any disturbance to the commerce and industries of the land, proves at once the soundness of her public finances and the extent of the country's resources.

The writer then proceeds to review, under separate headings, the progress made by Japan in the fields of commerce and industry. He begins with the growth of population, for, although population is not in itself wealth, it is one of the factors essential to the production of wealth, and its increase has, in this respect, important bearings upon the resources of a country. The increase of population during the twenty-two years from 1872 (the date of the first official census), to 1893 inclusive, is shown in the following table :—

Year.	Population.	Rate of increase over the preceding year.
1872	33,110,825	%
1876	34,338,367	3.7
1880	35,929,023	4.6
1884	37,451,727	4.2
1887	39,069,691	4.3
1891	40,718,677	4.2
1893	41,388,313	1.6

Thus the increase during this twenty-two year period was more than twenty-five per cent. During the same period, the increase of population in England was a little over twenty per cent., while in France, during the twenty years from 1872 to 1891, it was barely over six per cent.

Japan being in a state of transition from an agricultural to a manufacturing country, it would not be strange were the cultivation of land left comparatively neglected. But in point of fact, considerable improvements have been effected in this field also. The following figures relate to the area of land under rice, barley, and wheat in the respective years named :—

Year.	Area under rice: Cho.[1]	Percentage of increase.	Area under barley and wheat. Cho.	Percentage of increase.
1880	2,563,460	—	1,432,344	—
1884	2,605,720	1.6	1,485,779	3.7
1887	2,637,069	1.2	1,591,374	7.1
1891	2,757,132	4 5	1,713,655	7.8
1893	2,769,478	0.4	1,744,010	1.7

During these fourteen years the area of land under rice increased 8.4 per cent. and that under barley and wheat 21.7 per cent. In order to estimate properly the significance of such increases, it must be borne in mind that land formerly devoted to the cultivation of these cereals has in many districts been converted into mulberry plantations and tea gardens, so that the work of reclamation has really been going on at a much more rapid rate than would appear from the above figures.

The writer in the *Kokumin* then refers to the rise in the value of land as a sign of its improved productive capacity. The statistics quoted by him on this topic are too incomplete to be of any practical value, for he only mentions two isolated cases, namely, in Chiisagata Gun in the Province of Shinano, where a *tan* (about ¼ of an acre) of land for the cultivation of mulberry trees, quoted at 30 *yen* in 1885, rose to 60 *yen* in 1895; and in Omuta in the Province of Chikugo, where a *tan* of building ground, valued at 40 *yen* in 1885, rose in the succeeding ten years to 160 *yen*.

The following statistics show the increase in the production of some of the principal agricultural products :—

RICE.

Year.	Quantity Produced. Koku.[2]	Rate of Increase or Decrease.
1880	31,359,326	%
1884	26,349,833	— 18.5
1887	39,999,199	+ 51.8
1891	38,123,548	— 4.8
1894	39,372,254	+ 3.3

[1] A *cho* is equal to about 2½ acres.

[2] *Koku* = 5.31 bushels. *Kwamme*=8¼ lbs. Av.

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BARLEY AND WHEAT.

Year.	Quantity Produced. Koku.	Rate of Increase.
1880	12,503,063	%
1884	13,105,841	+ 4.8
1887	15,823,144	+ 20.4
1891	18,078,373	+ 14.0
1894	19,812,411	+ 9.5

SWEET POTATOES.

Year.	Quantity Produced. Kwamme.	Rate of Increase.
1880	308,376,789	%
1884	362,086,828	+ 17.4
1887	561,146,176	+ 55.0
1893	567,360,069	+ 1.1

The rate of increase in the production of rice during the fifteen years here tabulated was 25.5 per cent., while that of barley and wheat during the same period was 58.5 per cent. Sweet potatoes increased as much as 84.2 per cent. These figures show that the increase in the production of the staple articles of national food keeps pace with the development of the population.

As to the production of silk cocoons and tea, the following table shows the rate of increase during the fifteen years ending 1894:—

COCOONS.

Year.	Quantity Produced. Koku.	Rate of increase per cent.
1880	597,932	—
1883	771,239	28.9
1887	1,219,060	58.1
1891	1,580,240	29.0
1894	1,800,747	13.9

TEA.

Year.	Quantity Produced. Kwamme.	Rate of increase. per cent.
1880	3,206,361	—
1883	4,787,483	49.3
1887	7,011,221	46.4
1891	7,096,398	1.2
1894	7,690,365	8.3

Concerning the figures relating to 1894, it should be noted that they do not include those for three Prefectures from which reports were not received. In fifteen years, the production of cocoons increased by 300.2 per cent., and that of tea by 240.3 per cent.

Passing to manufactures, the principal occupation of the nation in future, the writer gives the following figures as to the number of manufactories and the quantity of steam and water power employed for manufacturing purposes:—

Year.	No. of Manufactories.	Steam. Horse-power.	Water. Horse-power.
1883	84	1,383	365
1892	1,203	28,500	4,772
1893	1,163	31,165	4,142

Year.	Manufactories. per cent.	Steam. per cent. Rate of Increase.	Water. per cent.
1883	—	—	—
1892	+132.1	+1,946.0	+1,207.4
1893	3.4	— 9.3	— 15.2

Thus, during eleven years, the number of factories increased by 1,384.5 per cent. the steam power by 2,226 per cent. and the water power by 2,134.8 per cent. As for the increase since 1893, the writer thinks that it must have been enormous. It should be noticed that the above figures relate only to private undertakings, whereas some important factories are under the control of the Government. Of the development of factories since 1893, the most remarkable feature, perhaps, has been a growing tendency to make use of water power. One example may be cited: a water mill in the city of Kyoto is producing a motor force of 2,000 horse-power. The tendency to utilize water power promises to increase at a still more rapid rate in the next few years, there being at present a large number of projects for pressing into the service of industry the principal water-falls, lakes, and rivers.

How fast Japan is being converted into a manufacturing country may be seen from the increasing importation of machinery of all sorts—machinery for mining purposes, for paper mills, for printing, for sawing, for tailoring, for spinning, for weaving, and so forth. The amount of money paid by Japan for imported electro-motor apparatus alone during the five years ending 1894, totalled 1,160,000 *yen*.

The progress of the cotton spinning industry has been very remarkable. The increase of spindles has been as follows:—

Year.	Spindles.	Rate of increase per cent.
1886	65,420	—
1887	70,220	7.3
1891	353,980	404.4
1894	663,749	87.5

Thus the rate of increase during nine years has been 1,014.6 per cent. It is expected that there will be an increase of about 100,000 spindles during the present year.

The growth of the production of fabrics of all sorts and cotton yarns has been as follows:—

Year.	Fabrics. Tan.*	Yarns. Kwamme.
1883	2,331,860	78,793
1885	8,275,436	—
1887	36,377,394	1,165,073
1891	48,209,974	7,679,938
1893	56,319,059	—
1894	—	14,365,688

That is to say, an increase of 2,415 per cent. in eleven years in the case of woven stuffs, and of 18,230 per cent. in the case of cotton yarns.

The writer next considers the rapid progress made in the manufacture of porcelain, *shippo*, glass ware, umbrellas, matches, and mats. But the figures quoted serve indirectly only for the purpose of illustration, since they relate to the silver value of these articles exported. Statistics on this subject would have been more properly considered under the heading of trade. Somewhat out of place as they are, however, we reproduce them here:—

Year.	Porcelain. Yen.	Shippo Yen.	Glass. Yen.	Umbrellas. Yen.	Matches. Yen.	Mats. Yen.
1885	695,269	23,471	4,700	1,768	188,402	935
1887	1,321,901	39,497	18,871	26,856	3,384,296	36,896
1891	1,480,411	59,225	103,940	161,504	8,029,932	656,323
1894	1,484,853	95,803	258,957	746,068	13,843,022	1,965,493

Iron being one of the principal materials of manufacture, the following figures showing the import of pig iron tell an interesting tale:—

Year.	Quantity Catties.	Rate of increase. %
1872	50,781	—
1876	1,106,609	2,178.3
1880	8,828,834	795.3
1884	9,772,065	10.7
1887	10,890,868	11.5
1891	20,317,914	86.5
1894	61,081,416	200.5

The quantity imported thus increased by 12,023.9 per cent. during twenty-three years.

As to companies and manufactories, their total number at the end of 1893 was 4,152. The dates of their establishment are as follow:—

Date of establishment.	No. of Companies and Manufactories.
1868—1870	44
1871—1875	161
1876—1880	339
1881—1885	689
1886—1890	1,465
1891—1893	1,454
Total	4,152

With the growth of industries, the cost of labour has gradually risen. By way of illustration, the writer quotes the following statistics showing the wages of female hands employed in cotton mills:—

Year.	Average wage per diem. sen.	Rate of Increase per cent.
1889	8.1	
1890	8.2	1.2
1891	8.3	3.4
1892	8.9	7.2
1893	9.4	5.6
1894	10.2	8.5
1895	10.9	6.7

The rate of increase in seven years has been 37 per cent.

The development of foreign trade next engages the attention of the writer in the *Kokumin*. The following table shows exports and imports since 1872:—

Year.	Exports. Yen.	Imports. Yen.	Total. Yen.	Rate of increase %
1872	17,026,647	26,174,814	43,201,462	—
1876	27,711,527	23,964,678	51,676,206	19.6
1880	28,396,386	36,626,601	65,021,987	25.8
1884	33,871,465	29,672,646	63,544,112	d. 2.3
1887	52,407,681	44,304,251	96,711,932	52.1
1891	79,527,272	62,927,268	142,454,540	47.3
1894	113,246,086	117,481,955	230,728,041	61.9

During twenty-three years, the increase of exports has been 666.1 per cent., that of imports, 448.4 per cent., and that of the total trade, 534 per cent. A noteworthy feature of the foreign trade during recent years, is the gradual increase in the export of manufactured articles. During the five years from 1890 to 1894 inclusive, the export of manufactured articles nearly trebled, and that of half manufactured articles doubled, whereas the export of raw material made but slight increase. On the other hand, the imports of raw material for manufacturing purposes is increasing rapidly.

Another interesting fact about the foreign commerce of the country is a rapid increase in the volume of transactions with Asiatic States, the South Sea Islands, Hawaii, and Australia, as may be seen from the following figures:—

Year.	Asia, South Sea Islands, &c. Yen.	Australia. Yen.
1873	4,786,006	—
1876	4,764,053	—
1880	6,550,603	179,645
1884	7,590,199	246,020
1887	12,183,487	535,082
1891	21,292,883	757,101
1894	32,307,556	1,098,065

The volume of trade with Asia, Hawaii, and the South Sea Islands thus increased during twenty-two years by 675 per cent., and that with Australia during fifteen years by 610 per cent. The increase of Japan's commerce with these countries certainly deserves the attention called to it by the *Kokumin*, since it is especially indicative of the success of Japan's competition with Occidental nations.

The writer next reviews the development made by Japan in facilities of trans-

* 1 *Tan*=10⅔ yards.

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port and communications. He recalls the serious difficulties experienced by the country in conveying a small expeditionary army to Formosa in 1874, and in striking contrast adduces the fact that during the late war an army nearly thirty times greater than that sent to Formosa was carried and maintained over sea. The following table shows the increase of steam shipping :—

Year.	No. of Steamships.	Tonnage.
1872	96	23,364
1876	159	40,248
1880	210	41,215
1883	390	45,350
1888	524	81,066
1891	607	95,588
1893	680	110,205
1894	461	163,996
1895	517	321,522

The rate of increase during twenty-four years has been 538.5 per cent. in the number, and 1,376.1 per cent. in the tonnage, of steamships. The writer hopes that the day is not far distant when he shall have the pleasure of making a tour round the world in steamers owned and commanded by his countrymen.

Railways have also developed rapidly, as shown in the following table :—

Year.	Mileage open for traffic.
1872	18
1876	64
1880	98
1884	249
1887	593
1891	1,712
1894	2,094
1895 (beginning of October)	2,220

The rate of increase was 12,333.3 per cent. in twenty-four years, and 375.5 per cent. in the last nine years. There being now a railway mania, not many years will elapse before the country is covered from end to end with a network of iron roads.

The following table shows the increase of postal matter :—

Year.	Postal matter, Letters, etc.	Parcels.
1872	2,510,656	—
1876	36,106,866	—
1880	74,590,182	—
1883	107,902,029	—
1888	164,594,650	—
1891	249,199,154	—
1894	370,314,072	1,808,707

An increase of 14,753.5 per cent. during twenty-three years is not a bad record.

The following figures relate to the telegraphic service :—

Year.	No. of Offices.	Length of wires, etc.	Messages.
1872	29	34	80,639
1876	100	2,214	631,825
1880	195	4,484	2,128,201
1883	312	5,916	2,418,301
1888	250	7,581	2,885,513
1891	435	9,113	4,674,341
1894	719	11,178	7,852,738

Thus, during twenty-three years, the rate of increase was 2,479.3 per cent. in the number of offices, 32,900 per cent. in the length of wires, and 9,738 per cent. in the number of messages transmitted.

The telephone service was but lately introduced and is still in a state of infancy. Yet statistics show that it is coming into more and more extended use :—

Year.	No. of registered users of Telephones.	Length of Wires.
1890	225	258
1894	2,748	1,831

Turning to the condition of the economical world, the writer first gives us the following table, showing the capital and reserve funds of the various banks :—

Year.	Aggregate capital of Bank of Japan, Specie Bank, and National Banks. Yen.	Reserves of do. Yen.	Capital of private banks. Yen.	Reserves of do. Yen.
1884	52,536,100	3,710,500	19,421,600	—
1887	60,338,851	12,143,376	18,896,061	—
1891	63,201,100	20,896,971	19,796,820	5,459,802
1894	73,166,100	27,432,961	33,895,550	3,455,644

It thus appears that during the past eleven years, the aggregate capital of the Bank of Japan, the Specie Bank, and the National Banks increased by 39.3 per cent. and the reserves of the same by 742.1 per cent. In the case of private banks, the capital increased during the same period by 74.7 per cent. but the reserves decreased considerably, which latter fact is accounted for by the conversion of the reserves into capital. At the end of the present year, the capital of the private banks, including the savings banks, had increased to 58,760,000 *yen*.

Not only has the capital of banks increased, but the method of monetary transactions has gained greatly in smoothness and convenience, as may be seen from the following statistics relating to bills exchanged at the Tokyo Clearing House (*Tegata Kokansho*):—

Year.	No. of bills.	Value—Yen.
1888	25,289	12,281,948
1891	52,527	67,595,423
1894	172,189	185,597,497

The volume of currency is not necessarily an indication of the wealth of a country. But when the volume increases, as it is doing in this country, in spite of, and simultaneously with, a constant improvement in the credit system, the fact must be taken as a proof of the growth of business transactions. The volume of specie and paper money in circulation has increased as follows :—

Year.	Yen.
1887	199,038,363
1891	248,966,765
1893	283,396,779

The growth in the yield of the principal taxes is considered separately, but for the sake of convenience, figures may be collected into the same table as follows :—

Year.	Customs—Yen.	Tax on *Sake*.—Yen.
1872	1,596,595	16,270
1876	1,958,874	1,911,639
1880	2,636,589	5,511,335
1884	2,547,704	14,068,132
1887	3,763,630	13,697,723
1891	4,723,471	15,560,435
1893	5,881,024	[5]+15,730,803
1895	[5]6,300,000	[5]17,386,913

Year.	Tax on Tobacco. Yen.		Income Tax. Yen.
1872	—		—
1876	244,148		—
1880	29,288		—
1884	1,294,315		—
1887	1,244,002	(1888)	1,012,376
1891	1,844,861		1,058,441
1893	1,895,530	(1894)	1,103,402
1895	[5]2,904,422		[5]1,287,535

Thus the customs duties quadrupled in twenty-four years. In the case of the tax on *sake*, a mere comparison of figures at both extremes of the table does not convey a correct idea of the development of the brewing industry, for the rate of taxation underwent several modifications. The latest change occurred in 1882, when the rate was increased to 4 *yen* per *koku*. Since then the total tax collected shows an increase of 10 per cent. The same observation applies to the tax on tobacco, the rate of which was last modified in 1888. During eight subsequent years, the yield of this tax increased by 14 per cent. As to the income tax, it was first imposed in 1887, and in spite of great defects in the mode of collection, the yield has since increased 20 per cent.

In conclusion, the writer offers a few observations on the present prosperous condition of his country. During the short period from January to the beginning of October of the present year, the following projected investments of money were announced :—

	Yen.
Banks	14,265,000
Railways	59,105,000
Companies	12,251,000

The present commercial and economical activity is sound and healthy, in the writer's opinion, but he apprehends that the tendency may attain such dimensions as to involve a severe crisis.

The essay concludes in the following strain :—"These statistics and statements may be incomplete in many respects, but they are not entirely without value as materials for forming an idea of the present economical position of the country, and for solving the problem whether or not Japan's resources warrant her in entering upon a policy of expansion. Instead of being satisfied with merely contemplating the supposed greatness of our shadow, we must coolly and accurately examine our actual stature by the application of a statistical measure. . . . . In endeavouring to impress our countrymen with a proper sense of their national resources, it is not our desire that they should be satisfied with the present degree of progress. The increased self-confidence that a survey of the country's recent progress cannot fail to foster, should further stimulate the spirit of enterprise and adventure."

[5] Estimated amount. +This figure refers to the year 1894.

LETTERS FROM FORMOSA.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WITH THE JAPANESE ARMY.)

Taiwanfu, Formosa, Nov. 20th.

There is a great deal of discussion regarding the method of escape adopted by Liu Yung-fu, the Black Flag Chief. It is stated by some that he was in the boiler-room of the Douglas steamer *Thales*, and was shovelling coal with a vengeance, when the Japanese made their rigid inspection; that he was disguised as a woman and carried a baby at his breast, and when the Japanese appeared was endeavouring to give it food while the youngster yelled and kicked; that he was concealed in a box covered with coal, placed in one of the bunkers; and again that he did not go in the *Thales* at all but was aboard a junk. These are only a few of the many explanations offered for his mysterious disappearance. Opportunely, I have at hand a letter, which I quote, from one of the leading Chinese of Amoy, who possesses his own method of accounting for Liu's escape. "Liu Yung-fu escaped," he says" from Anping on the 20th of last month by paying the captain nine thousand dollars, whereupon

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he was concealed aboard the merchant ship *Thales*. Arriving at Amoy on the 22nd, he came at once to the Ho-sing-ho hotel, where he stayed three days, then, together with his son and about twenty-five officials, he went through Chio-ma by land to Chang Choo-foo, the capital, reaching there on the 27th and quartering at the Ko-sing-quan hotel. The owner discovering the identity of his famous guest, notified all the Yamêns in the city of his arrival, and many leading officials called, but Liu refused to receive them. It seems that Liu's visit to this city was to meet an old friend and supporter, named Chia-chi-mung, a very wealthy man who owns much property in Formosa and formerly spent much time there; for immediately upon arriving a message was sent to this man, who came at once and was received. The two friends had a long conversation regarding the recovery of Formosa and the avenging of the deaths of the Chinese there. After the meeting, Liu left the city for Annam, going overland, and after a few days reached Canton. Five German men-of-war were in Amoy Harbour on September 21st. One of them left and went to Quemoy, which is near Amoy, and after examining the island closely and making careful surveys, placed stakes and flags to mark the boundary of the territory they intended to turn into a settlement. Our Chinese officials, although informed of the proceedings, made no attempt to drive them away, nor would they even protest. The Germans informed us that many of the China ports were going to be besieged by the European countries at once, and that eventually China would be divided up among the foreigners. If this is true what will our nation do? Indeed, China is in great danger! Will not Japan interfere and help us in our trouble?"

On the 14th, H.E. Viscount Takashima, Commander-in-Chief of the Army in Formosa, and Lieutenant-Governor of the island, left Tainan-fu with all his staff, and with his departure the Expeditionary Army as a whole ceased to exist. General Nogi's Second Division will remain to garrison the southern part of the island, and so long as active operations are needed at the outposts or occupied stations, their rule will be supreme at such places. At the main towns or cities the Prefects and Sub-prefects have taken charge, and will act so long as there is no call for military interference, but the numerous minor civil officials, who will be eventually distributed over the country, have not been appointed yet, and will not be until all military occupation has ceased.

As soon as the telegraph line is constructed to the South of the Island, *i.e.* to the South Cape Light, and meteorological information can be obtained speedily, a great boon will be conferred on mariners, and hosts of other interested persons, for then approaching typhoons can be rapidly reported all over the surrounding seas and places by the Observatories at Shanghai and Hongkong. This has been long desired, and urged on the Chinese but, of course, with no result, beyond perhaps derisive wonder.

There seems to be some trouble in the Customs at Anping. This is admittedly from no want of goodwill on the part of the officials, who, on the contrary, the foreign merchants inform me, seem most anxious to do all they possibly can, but as they have adopted the old Chinese tariff and regulations both in Anping and Taipeh-fu, which are quite new to them, they seem unable to get the offices into smooth running order.

Taipehfu, Nov. 23rd.

Ocean trips have several times been made with small boats specially constructed for the voyage, but a sail for long distances by ordinary small open fishing boats has not often been recorded. As the Chinese neglected the North Formosa fisheries, the Japanese authorities decided to engage fishermen from Japan and bring them with their boats and tackle to Formosa. Mr. Ota, of Japan, who is interested in placing this profitable resource in the hands of his countrymen, arranged with a leading fisherman who engaged over 60 men with 12 boats. It was the intention to convey these people and their boats to Formosa on board a transport, but upon learning this, these hardy fishermen made a decided objection, considering the proposition a slight upon their ability as sailors, and requested permission to make the voyage in their own boats. The little fleet of 12 boats, the smallest 25 feet and the largest 40 feet in lenght, piloted by a veteran fisherman who had been chosen Commander, sailed away from their native village near Shimonoseki on the 13th of October, at 1 p.m. At eight in the evening of the same day they arrived off the island of Tsushima, which is to the westward of Japan. From thence to Okinawa, Loochoo Group, occupied two days and one night, and Yayeyama was reached two days and one night after. From Yayeyama to Kelung, Formosa, their destination, one day and one night, and the 12 boats arrived in harbour together. Thus only five days and three nights were occupied in sailing 800 miles, which for such craft as fishing boats is exceedingly good work. This is the actual sailing time, as stoppages of several days were made at each of the Loochoo islands named, and it was eighteen days from the date of departure in Japan before they arrival at Kelung. Only a common pocket compass and a roughly drawn chart were possessed by the commander, who depended more upon his knowledge of the direction of the currents, which were watched very closely, than observation of anything else. The wind was not feared, although it blew very strongly when nearing Formosa, and the sea was exceedingly rough, but the currents, which run very strongly to the north of Formosa, caused them some apprehension. The little craft were fitted with three masts, carrying sails 3, 6, and 8 to 9 feet wide. When the wind was very strong and the sea rough the small sail only was used, this being set forward, but when the wind was fair and steady every stitch was spread. On their arrival they were cordially welcomed by the Japanese, and the Governor presented 200 *yen* to be distributed among them. Six of the boats remained in Kelung, and the arrival from them of 5,000 pounds of fish at Taipeh-fu one day this week, shows that they are not idle and that fish are plentiful. On the arrival of the other six boats at Tamsui, to engage in the fisheries there, the 36 men comprising the crews were publicly thanked and complimented by Mr. Kitamura, of the Civil Department, on behalf of his chief, Mr. Okubo, who was then absent. During his remarks he said: "We in Tamsui were previously informed of your intention to make this trip, and while admiring your courage, we, knowing the roughness of the sea to the north of this island, feared for your safety. But, yesterday, when we saw your boats sailing into the harbour and recognized their familiar form, we cheered your safe arrival. Besides an exhibition of your skill and courage, as a practical illustration of what may be safely accomplished in small boats, your trip is of great value. May your efforts at the Formosa fisheries be as successful as your trip from Japan, which has given your native province reason to be proud of you, and caused all to admire your bravery."

The three-masted ship *Inaho Maru*, which was totally wrecked in Kelung harbour on the 12th was owned by the Yusen Kaisha and chartered by the Government, upon whom the loss will fall. She was of 440 gross tonnage, but was old and of not much value. Her cargo consisted of railway material, a portion of which may be recovered.

On the 19th, upon the invitation of Governor Count Kabayama, the leading Japanese officials, members of the Red Cross Society, War Correspondents, and Chinese connected with the Government, met in the afternoon at the Governor's house to bid farewell to General Takashima, formerly Commander-in-Chief of the troops in Formosa, and to celebrate the advent of peace throughout the island. A speech was made by the Governor, in which he thanked General Takashima for his assistance in Formosa; the Guards Division for their services, having been engaged in the field for five months, during which time they were exposed to much disease; the members of Red Cross Society, who volunteered for the service and rendered most valuable aid when many of the Army Medical Corps were incapacitated; and the War Correspondents who, although not inured to the privations of a soldier, being attached to the Army, shared its hardships and followed through the dangers of disease and battle to the credit and honour of their profession. On a permanent stage that stands in the compound of the Governor's house, an entertainment was given which lasted from 3.30 in the afternoon until 7.30 at night, consisting of Japansee songs, dances, and four comedies produced by amateur actors, which were followed by a Chinese professional theatrical performance, and closed with Chinese music by a large troup of "Sing-song" girls, who were engaged for the entertainment of the Chinese guests. Among those present were:—Generals Takashima, Oshima, Murai, Nakamura, and Surgeon-General Ishizaka; Admirals Tsunoda, Tanaka, and Hishima; Colonel Kagiwara, Chief of Gendarmes; Colonel Ijichi, Chief of the Second Division Staff; Colonel Tanabe, *Aide-de-camp* to the Governor General; Colonel Kodama, Chief of Engineering Corps; Mr. Mizuno, Chief of the Civil Department; Mr. Kabayama, D.C.L.; Mr. Okubo, D.C.L.; and many others higher officials; Mr. Li and his assistants, of the Chinese Department, and ten Japanese and one foreign correspondent.

The savages, during the last few weeks, have killed fourteen Chinese and wounded three others in the north-central districts. The bodies were all headless when found with the exception of one.

KOREAN NEWS.

DECEMBER 3RD.

Some of the letters just received by the metropolitan papers from their correspondents in Söul, are dated a few days before the last disturbance. From these letters, it is evident that the people in the Korean Capital were completely ignorant that anything in the nature of a counter-revolution was in immediate prospect. But it seems to have been understood that the political situation was far from settled. The Cabinet was torn with disputes about the punishment of the men implicated in the affair of October 8th. The Premier, Kim Koshu, and the acting Home Minister, Yu Kitsuzei, are represented as having been in favour of bringing Cho, Minister of War, to justice, but Cho, backed by the soldiery and the police, was stubbornly opposed to the arraignment of any of the principal participators in the *émeute*. A neutral section of the Cabinet were attempting to arrange a compromise between the contending factions.

Concerning the selection of a Consort for the King, it is the general opinion in Söul that the choice will ultimately fall upon a relative of Kim Koshu, the Minister President. But the decision not having yet been made public, there is some competition between the different rival political factions to obtain the much covetted distinction. It is feared that the disappointment and chagrin of the unsuccessful parties may place serious obstacles in the path of the smooth conduct of public affairs.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes interesting figures about the condition of public finance in Korea. According to the Budget for the coming year, now under consideration by the Cabinet, the estimated revenue is as follows:—

	yen.
Land tax	1,059,595
House tax	210,816
Miscellaneous taxes	17,786
Tax on ginsing	105,000
Customs duties	429,882
Coinage of subsidiary pieces	300,000
Miscellaneous income	100,000
Total	2,132,079

As to the expenditure, there are three programmes, the respective totals being 4,398,965 *yen*, 4,336,758 *yen*, and 4,059,725 *yen*. According to the last programme, the two Departments of Education and of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works would be abolished, and the

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affairs at present managed there would be transferred to the Home Department. This scheme, however, being very unpopular among the Korean Ministers, is said to have little chance of being adopted. Perhaps the second draft, with a total of 4,336,758, may be finally chosen. In that event there would be a deficit of 2,204,679 *yen*. How to meet it is a question apparently unsolvable by the Korean Cabinet.

Here is a story illustrating the financial difficulties of the Korean Government. A provincial garrison in Chol-ju was organized about two months ago, but the officers and men have not received a single *sen* of their salaries from the Central Government. It is stated that they appealed to the local Governor and succeeded in obtaining some provisions from him, but the Governor's stock was soon exhausted, and the troops are now in a very miserable condition, so that many desert rather than remain and starve. Originally it was the intention of the Government to maintain the garrison with money saved by disbanding part of the newly levied troops in Sōul. But the disbanding of the latter has not yet been carried out, owing to apprehensions of disturbance by the dismissed soldiers. So the garrison in Chol-ju has to starve.

The *Nippon's* correspondent remarks, with much show of anxiety, that the increasing return of Chinese merchants to Sōul is steadily imperilling the commercial supremacy of the Japanese. The encroachment of the Chinese is specially noteworthy in the importation of shirtings.

The *Nichi Nichi's* Ninsen correspondent states that more than 200 Chinese arrived there by the *Sagami Maru* which entered on the 8th ultimo. These were principaly itinerant traders bound for the interior of the country. As to the alleged inroads of Chinese merchants in the shirting business, the writer differs from the *Nippon's* correspondent. The Chinese, he says, have imported a considerable quantity of shirtings, but are complaining of a want of demand for the article. That is accounted for by the increasing popularity among the Koreans of cotton goods from the province of Mikawa in Japan, and also by a growing tendency among the people to weave their own wearing apparel from cotton yarns imported from Japan. The Mikawa cotton goods are said to be most in demand in Gensan and its vicinity.

DECEMBER 4TH.

Sōul correspondence just published in the *Chuo Shimbun* describes the disturbance of the 28th ult. It is stated that the conspiracy had been known not only to the Korean Cabinet but to some Japanese residents of the Capital for more than ten days beforehand. Its progress had been daily reported to the Cabinet by a certain Korean, who, under the disguise of an enthusiastic follower of the Russian Party, had access to the Russian Legation and was even admitted to the conferences of the conspirators. We may observe here that the *Chuo's* correspondent does not make direct reference to either the Russian Legation or the Russian Minister, but there being no mistake about his meaning, we do not adopt his thin disguise. According to the reports of this Korean spy, the secret conferences at the Russian Legation were attended by the Russian Minister, by Dr. H. N. Allen, Secretary of the American Legation, by General W. McE. Dye, by General Le Gendre, and by a few Koreans who had been staying at the Legation since the *émeute* of October the 8th. Chief among these Koreans was Li Hanshin, ex-Acting Minister of Agriculture, Commerce and Public Works, one of the three favorites of the late Queen. It is also stated that some Court officials and Privy Councillors occasionally attended the conferences. The *Chuo's* correspondent does not seem to know exactly what was discussed at the meetings, but he alleges, with an air of absolute confidence, that the object of the plotters was, on the one hand, to bring strong diplomatic pressure upon the Korean Government to remove the Tai Wŏn-kun and several Ministers of State that had been connected with the affair of Oct. 8th, and, on the other, to collect a sufficient number of armed supporters from the disbanded Palace Guards who were known to be in a state of intense discontent.

In compliance with the recommendation of the Japanese Minister, the Korean Cabinet resolved to adopt part of the punitive measures demanded by the Foreign Ministers. Accordingly, on the 26th, Cho Giyen, Minister of War, Ken Eichin, Metropolitan Police Inspector General, and other high officials were dismissed from office. At the same time, the Foreign Ministers were invited to the Palace at 2 p.m., and were addressed by the King at some length. In the course of his speech, His Majesty is reported to have declared that having discovered that some officials had exceeded their instructions on the occasion of the affair of Oct. 8th, the Cabinet had been ordered to deal properly with these delinquents; that the reform of abuses in the Court and Cabinet—the conduct of which had been entrusted to the Tai Wŏn-kun—having been for the most part carried out, His Royal Highness would be requested to retire into private life; and that the whereabouts of the late Queen would be searched for and should she be found, she would be treated with due honour. The Foreign Ministers, says the correspondent, unable to find fault with the King's speech, had to retire reluctantly, and to confess themselves satisfied with what they had heard from the Throne.

Meanwhile, the military part of the conspirators' scheme having been completed, it was decided to carry the plan into execution at midnight on the 27th ultimo. A body of the disbanded Guards, 250 strong, destined to attack the Palace, was placed under the command of Li Dotetsu, formerly commander of the garrison at Phyŏng-yang. Under him were Nan Banri and Li Keiko, also former officers of the Phyŏng-yang garrison. While this body of troops was proceeding, in the dead of night toward the Palace, escorting the leaders of the conspiracy, smaller parties of armed ruffians attacked the police offices and kept the constables engaged, so that they might not be able to hasten to the assistance of the Palace Guards. When the conspirators arrived at the Eastern Gate of the Palace, in full confidence of being joined by the Palace Guards,—for one of the officers of the Guards had pretended to be in sympathy with them—the Gate was flung open and they were suddenly and rigorously fired upon and charged by the Guards (the former *Kunren-tai* troops) so that they fell into great confusion, and fled in all directions, leaving behind them several officers, Li Dotetsu, Nan Banri, Li Keiko and others, prisoners in the hands of the Palace Guards. Among those that fled with their lives, four or five, according to the correspondent, were Occidentals. A reason assigned for the presence of these foreigners is that their assistance would have been needed in dressing the King and the Crown Prince in European clothes to expedite their conveyance from the Palace, which, it seems, was one of the objects of the conspiracy. As to the Chief Korean plotter, Li Hanshin, the *Chuo's* correspondent believes that, having been disowned by the Russian Minister for some public reason, he must have fled to a remote place.

The Japanese Minister repaired to the Palace at 4 a.m., in response to the King's invitation. He was soon followed by the other foreign Ministers. In the afternoon of the same day, Mr. Komura again had audience with the King for some hours. Things were perfectly quiet in Sōul when this letter was written, some time on the 28th ult.

A few days previously to the disturbance of the 28th, An Keiju, a former Minister of War, who had been staying of his villa near Ninsen, came up to the Capital, and a great deal of suspicion is said to attach to his movements.

The *Chuo's* correspondent state that the object of the American Missionaries, who were implicated in the recent trouble, was personal and not political. The late Queen, he says, was in secret an enthusiastic believer in Christianity, and her death has been a severe blow to the cause of Christian propagandism, both morally and financially, for she was a munificient contributor to the Church. The correspondent states that he learned it from a certain American gentlemen.

The examination of the prisoners, says the same writer, has elicited facts implicating in a most disagreeable way a certain distinguished person who made a great fuss about the *émeute* of October 8th. He further alleges that this personage has telegraphed to a another "certain person" who is now staying in Japan to come over with all haste. It is not difficult to identify the originals of these allusions.

We (*Japan Mail*) reproduce this story with all reserve.

CHINESE NEWS.

DECEMBER 3RD.

The *North China Daily News* writes thus editorially :—

In a private letter from Sōul we are told that Mr. Waeber and the other Foreign Representatives have evidence that leaves it a matter of no doubt that Count Inouye is the real author of the plot which culminated in the murder of the Queen of Korea, and that Viscount Miura was only a scapegoat. Farther, that this is the same plot which was entrusted by Count Inouye to Pak Yong-ho to carry out, while Inouye went for a short trip to Japan, but which at that time miscarried. On both occasions the attempt was made shortly after Count Inouye's departure.

"A private letter from Sōul" is poor authority on which to base such a charge. We venture to say that not a man in Japan, whether foreigner or Japanese, believes, or could be persuaded, that Count Inouye was guilty of the villainy attributed to him, and we further venture to say that the story about Mr. Waeber and the other Foreign Representatives' having obtained evidence of Count Inouye's complicity is a pure fiction. Altogether the line taken by the leading Shanghai Journal in this matter is very singular. It seems unable to comprehend that Viscount Miura, though privy to the plot for restoring the Tai Wŏn-kun to power and driving the Bin faction out of the Government, may have been entirely innocent of any design against the Queen's life. It further alleges that the Japanese Cabinet is now anxious to "whitewash" Viscount Miura. There is not a tittle of evidence to prove anything of the kind. Viscount Miura is undergoing a criminal prosecution, and will receive whatever punishment the Codes prescribe for the crime of which he may be found guilty. We recommend the *North China Daily News* to exercise more judgment with regard to its intelligence from Korea. Ever since the war between Japan and China commenced, our Shanghai contemporary has been rendered a public laughing-stock by its blind insertion of ludicrous items sent by its correspondents in Korea.

An attempt to open coal mines in the Ch'unan district of Chekiang province has been temporarily defeated by an outcry about the stereotyped *fengshui*.

The survey of the proposed line of railway between Shanghai and Soochow has been actually commenced. Perhaps the era of railways is at length about to dawn for China.

The Rev. G. John having just returned from a nineteen days' trip in Tienmen and Kingshan, reports that he found the people everywhere thoroughly friendly. To repeated inquiries as to whether any objection existed to the opening of chapels and the residence of Christian propagandists, the invariable answer was that the doctrine preached being good, no objection could possibly exist. Messrs. John and Bonsey lectured to thousands, had to deal with "immense crowds of people that had never seen a foreigner before," and baptised 101 persons, yet they never experienced the smallest rudeness or obstruction anywhere. They attribute the people's amicable demeanour entirely to the absence of any anti-foreign attitude on the part of officials or literati, and they place on record the conclusion that "whenever and wherever foreigners have trouble in China, it may be taken for granted that the officials, or gentry, or both, are at the bottom of it."

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With regard to the Mohammedan rebellion, the *Peking and Tientsin Times* writes:—

Notwithstanding intelligence of an alarmist character, the most authentic information we can gather indicates that this formidable insurrection is slowly evolving into a spent force. Two salient facts, in the midst of much confusing rumour, have come to light. Lan-chow is not only unoccupied by the rebels, in spite of persistent reports to that effect, but a telegram, received from a foreigner within the city, informs us that it is not even seriously threatened, and no particular concern is felt. About Sining, on the other hand, grave fears are entertained. The city appears to be closely invested and a siege in progress, two foreigners—Mr. and Mrs. Ridley—being inside. Even in this extreme western region, however, where the rebels forces appear to be strongest, we are told the Mohammedans are quite willing to come to terms. There is every appearance that the Kansuh Rebellion will prove itself unable to accomplish anything; and, that being the case, the sooner it is ended the better. This in fact is the worst feature of revolution in China. It is not a crisis but a long interlude of chaos. The constant references in the Chinese Classics to alternative periods of order and disorder, of rule and no rule, are true to the facts of Chinese history. So that a rebellion may be capable of setting all government at defiance for two or three miserable generations of bloodshed, rapine, and general waste, in fact,—to use the hackneyed term—"Imbroglio," yet be unable to permanently establish itself. An equilibrium of incompetence is liable to be reached, in which neither party can make good its claim, and the issue is indefinitely postponed. For all we know this would have been the case, but for foreign intervention, with the T'aiping Rebellion. Let us be thankful that no such miserable state of things is threatening us at present.

DECEMBER 4TH.

The *Kungping*, while carrying 1,500 soldiers from Tongku (a place on the Peiho a little west of Taku) to Hukon at the entrance of the Poyang Lake, barely escaped the same fate that overtook the *Kungpai*. As her troops were debarking, an explosion of powder took place between decks. Fortunately no harm was done, but it appears that the Authorities, untaught by the *Kungpai* disaster, had shipped a quantity of explosives with the soldiers.

The Mohammedan rebellion seems to have been at length fairly brought under control. Disputes between the insurgents, and the peacefully disposed Moslems have greatly weakened the strength of the uprising, and a very large force of Imperial troops are said to be busily exterminating the Mohammedans of Hsining, burning and razing the mosques. Terror is reported is have fallen on the whole Moslem population.

Intelligence points to steady improvement in the demeanour of Chinese officials toward the Christian missionaries. It is alleged that the great Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has placed some of Mr. T. Richards writings in the hands of certain eminent scholars, with the intention of presenting the books to the Emperor after they have undergone slight alterations. From Wuchang also comes news of a tendency among the officials to associate with the missionaries.

There is a movement in Shanghai to start a voluntary contribution to the support of the British Navy. The idea is based on the fact that Her Majesty's subjects in Shanghai pay no taxes and are yet dependent upon the naval protection of the mother country.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsiblefor the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions their may choose to draw therefrom.]

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Permit me to say that the amount of misinformation touching Korean affairs which finds its way into the press of Japan is appalling. In your issue of to-day you quote from the *Jiji Shinpo* the names of six Koreans—members of the late Queen's party—who are enjoying sanctuary in the Russian Legation in Soul. Of the names given I recognise four as belonging to ex-Korean Officials who are enjoying the protection of the American Legation in Sōul. I saw these men the day after they entered the American compound. They were there when I left on the 16th of November. So far as I could learn, there were no Korean refugees in the Russian Legation after the *émeute* of October 8th. I heard of one Russian refugee who asked for protection, was denied, and who left the country. His name was Sabbatine. To endeavour to create the impression that the Russian Legation became the favourite resort of the discarded officials of the Korean Government after the revolution of October 8th, merely because the wife of the Russian *Chargé* was a friend of the Queen, is a pretty piece of business, the more so as there is not a particle of truth to base the charge upon. I wish to add that the six Korean refugees in the American Legation compound entered there on the morning of the day when the Queen was murdered, and the villainous Tai Wōn-kun seized the palace and usurped power, during the absence of Dr. Allen, *Chargé d'Affaires*. He found these men in the Legation upon his return from the palace—whither he went to gather the facts touching the overthrow of the Government—and he did not turn them out. As an American I endorse his action. Let me add that for first-class, downright, thorough-going lying, I have never seen anything to equal the alleged Korean News translated from the vernacular press of Japan during the past eight weeks.

Respectfully yours,

JOHN A. COCKERILL.

December 2nd, 1895.

A CORRECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—My attention has just been called to a serious error in the print of my letter in you weekly issue of November 23rd.

I had no thought of charging Mr. Darwin with "*erroneous* observation." Quite the reverse: I wished to call attention to his "enormous observation," an observation so wide as to demand the respect and credence of many intelligent minds unable to know the facts at first hand.

Yours truly,

SAMUEL C. BARTLETT, JUN.

December 3rd, 1895.

SUPPLEMENTARY CONVENTION BETWEEN JAPAN & GREAT BRITAIN.

Whereas, by the Protocol signed at London, on the 16th day of the 7th month of the 27th year of Meiji, it was agreed between the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the Government of Her Britannic Majesty, that the *ad valorem* duties of the Tariff annexed to the aforesaid Protocol should, so far as might be deemed practicable, be converted into specific duties by means of a Supplementary Convention, to be concluded between the two Governments within six months from the date of that Protocol, and

Whereas, this period was extended by subsequent arrangement:

The High Contracting Parties have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries to conclude a Convention for this purpose, that is to say:

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Marquis Saionzi Kimmochi, Junii, First Class of the Order of the Sacred Treasure, His Imperial Majesty's Minister of State for Education and Acting Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, and Her Britannic Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India, Gerard Augustus Lowther, Her Britannic Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires;

Who, having communicated to each other their respective Full Powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon and concluded the following Articles:—

1.—The Tariff annexed to this Convention shall be substituted for the *ad valorem* Tariff annexed to the aforesaid Protocol of the 16th day of the 7th month of the 27th year of Meiji; it shall be subject to all the stipulations contained in Article I. of that Protocol, in so far as these are applicable, and it shall come into force one month after the exchange of the ratifications of this Convention.

2.—The specific duties established by the Convention shall be subject to triennial readjustment. Such readjustment shall be based on the difference between the average of the two quarterly rates of exchange adopted by the Japanese Customs during the six months ending the 30th day of the 6th month of the 27th year of Meiji, and the average of the rates of exchange adopted by the Japanese Customs for the four quarters preceding that in which each successive period of three years expires.

The schedule of readjusted duties shall be published by the Japanese Government three months in advance, and shall take effect immediately upon the expiration of the said period.

It is understood between the High Contracting Parties, that the operation of this stipulation shall be subject to the acceptance of a similar arrangement by the other Powers with whom Conventional Tariffs are now being negotiated by Japan.

3.—The quarterly rates of exchange mentioned in the preceding Article are the rates determining the comparative values, as entered in the quarterly tables published by the Japanese Department of Finance, of the present Japanese silver *Yen* on the one hand, and of the English Pound Sterling on the other.

4.—The present Convention shall have the same duration as the Treaty and Protocol concluded on the 16th day of the 7th month of the 27th year of Meiji, of which it is a complement.

5.—The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Tokyo as soon as possible, and not later than six months from the present date.

Done at Tokyo, in duplicate, this 16th day of the 7th month of the 28th year of Meiji.

[L. S.] MARQUIS SAIONZI.

[L. S.] GERARD AUGUSTUS LOWTHER.

ANNEX (TARIFF).

NO.	ARTICLES.		DUTY.
1	Caoutchouk, manufactures of	*ad valorem.*	*Yen* 10 per cent.
2	Cement, Portland	100 Catties.	0 065
3	Cotton yarns, plain or dyed	do.	4.180
	Cotton tissues:—		
4	Drills	Sq. Yard.	0.016
5	Duck	do.	0.053
6	Handkerchiefs in the piece	do.	0.011
7	Prints	do.	0.012
8	Sateens, plain, figured or printed, brocades, Italians and figured shirtings	do.	0.017
9	Shirtings, dyed	do.	0.013
10	Shirtings, gray	do.	0.006
11	Shirtings, twilled	do.	0 011
12	Shirtings, white or bleached	do.	0 010
13	T-cloths	do.	0.009
14	Turkey red cambrics	do.	0.012
15	Velvets or velveteens	do.	0.041
16	Victoria lawns	do.	0.006
17	All other sorts of pure cotton tissues, and all tissues of cotton mixed with flax, hemp, or other fibre, including wool, the cotton, however, predominating in weight, not specially provided for in this Tariff	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
	NOTE.—It is expressly understood that ready-made clothing and other made-up articles are not included under the heading of Cotton Tissues.		
18	Glass, window, ordinary:—		
	(*a*) Uncoloured and unstained	100 Sq. Ft.	0.302
	(*b*) Coloured, stained, and ground	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
19	Hats, including also hats of felt	do.	10 per cent.
20	Indigo, dry	100 Catties.	12.953
	Iron and mild steel:—		
21	Pig and ingot	do.	0.083
22	Bar and rod, exceeding ¼ inch in diameter	do.	0.261
23	Nails, including spikes, sprigs, tacks, and brads:—		
	(*a*) Plain	do.	0.573
	(*b*) Galvanized	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
24	Pipes and tubes	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
25	Plate and sheet	100 Catties.	0.296
26	Rails	do.	0.129

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27	Screws, bolts and nuts, plain and galvanized	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
28	Sheet, galvanised, both plain and corrugated	100 Catties.	0.740
29	Tinned plates :—		
	(*a*) Ordinary	do.	0.691
	(*b*) Crystallized	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
30	Wire, and small rod not exceeding ¼ inch in diameter	100 Catties.	0.503
31	Wire, telegraph or galvanized	do.	0 256
	NOTE.—By the term "mild steel" as used in this Tariff is understood mild steel manufactured by the Siemans, Bessemer, Basic or similar processes, and approximating in value to iron of the same class in this Tariff.		
32	Lead, pig, ingot, and slab	do.	0.316
33	Leather :—		
	(*a*) Sole	do.	5.690
	(*b*) Other kinds	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
34	Linen yarns, plain or dyed	100 catties.	6.527
	Linen tissues :—		
35	Canvas	Sq. Yard.	0.047
36	All other sorts	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
	NOTE.—It is expressly understood that ready-made clothing and other made-up articles are not included under the heading of Linen Tissues.		
37	Mercury or quicksilver	100 catties.	5.048
38	Milk, condensed or desiccated	doz. 1lb. tins	0.123
	and proportionately for tins of other weights.		
39	Oil, paraffin	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
40	Paint in oil	100 Catties.	1.304
41	Paper, Printing	do.	1.163
42	Saltpetre (nitrate of potash)	do.	0.490
43	Silk faced cotton satins	*ad valorem.*	15 per cent.
	NOTE.—It is expressly understood that all other mixed tissues of cotton and silk, and of wool and silk, where the cotton or wool predominates in weight, are to be classed for duty under Nos. 17 and 61 of this Tariff respectively.		
	Steel (other than mild steel :—		
44	Ingot	*ad valorem.*	5 per cent.
45	Bar, rod, plate, and sheet	do.	7½ per cent.
46	Wire, and small rod not exceeding ¼in. in diameter	100 Catties.	1.819
47	Sugar, refined :—		
	(*a*) No. 15 to No. 20, inclusive, Dutch standard in colour	do.	0.748
	(*b*) Above No. 20, Dutch standard in colour	do.	0.827
	Tin :—		
48	Block, pig, and slab.	do.	1.992
49	Plates	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
50	Wax, paraffin	100 Catties.	0.544
51	Woollen and worsted yarns, plain or dyed.	do.	9.169
	Woollen and worsted tissues, pure or mixed with other material :—		
52	Alpacas	Sq. Yard.	0.075
53	Blanketing and whipped blankets, in plain weave	100 Catties.	7.458
54	Buntings	Sq. Yard.	0.031
55	Cloth :—		
	(*a*) Wholly of woollen or worsted yarn, or of woollen and worsted yarns, such as broad, narrow, & army cloth, cassimeres, tweeds and worsted coatings	do.	0.093
	(*b*) In part of woollen or worsted yarn and in part of cotton yarn, such as pilot, president, and union cloth	do.	0.039
56	Flannels	do.	0.044
57	Italian cloth	do.	0.029
58	Long ells	do.	0.036
59	Mousseline de laine.	do.	0.021
60	Serges :—		
	(*a*) Where the warp is worsted and the weft woollen	do.	0.056
	(*b*) All other kinds	*ad valorem.*	10 per cent.
61	All other sorts, pure or mixed with other material, the wool, however, predominating in weight, not specially provided for in this Tariff	do.	10 per cent.
	NOTE.—It is expressly understood that ready-made clothing and other made-up articles are not included under the heading of Woollen and Worsted Tissues.		
62	Yarns, all sorts, not specially provided for in this Tariff	do.	10 per cent.
	Zinc :—		
63	Block, pig, and slab	100 Catties.	0.451
64	Sheet	do.	0.928

WEIGHTS, MEASURES, AND COINS.

The catty mentioned in this Tariff is the Japanese weight. It is equal to 600 grammes of the metric system of weights, or 1.32277 lbs. English avoirdupois weight.

The pound is the English avoirdupois weight

The square yard and square foot are the English Imperial surface measures.

The *Yen* is the present Japanese silver *Yen* of 900 fineness and 416 grains in weight.

RULE FOR CALCULATING AD VALOREM DUTIES.

Import duties payable ad valorem under this Tariff shall be calculated on the actual cost of the articles at the place of purchase, production, or fabrication, with the addition of the cost of insurance and transportation from the place of purchase, production, or fabrication, to the port of discharge, as well as commission, if any exists.

RULE FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF TISSUES.

In determining the dutiable width of any Tissue the Customs shall discard all fractions of an inch not exceeding half an inch, and shall count as a full inch all fractions exceeding half an inch.

NOTE.—It is understood that selvedges shall not be included in the measurement of Tissues.

BASEBALL.

This match was played on Friday afternoon and resulted in an easy win for the *Olympia*.

"Olympia" U.S.N.	Pos.	Runs.	Out.	Yokohama.	Pos.	Runs.	Out.
Mr. Menahon	C...	5	3	Mr. Reamey	SS...	3	3
Mr. Standley	1B...	5	2	Mr. Edwards	3B...	8	3
Mr. Church	SS...	4	3	Mr. Abel	P...	0	4
Mr. Dodridge	2B...	7	0	Mr. Tilden	2B...	1	2
Mr. Probert	3B...	6	1	Mr. Gibbens	RF...	1	3
Mr. Frazier	LF...	3	3	Mr. White	LF...	2	2
Mr. Davidson	CF...	3	3	Mr. Bain	SS...	2	5
Mr. Eckhardt	P...	2	3	Mr. Liss	CF...	4	0
Mr. McKelvey	RF...	3	4	Mr. Ellis	C...	2	2
Total		58	32	Total		27	27

INNINGS.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
"Olympia"	8	2	4	6	5	0	13	—	—	38
Yokohama	3	1	0	4	3	0	6	—	—	17

ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

Scotsmen the world over, always hold high carnival on St. Andrew's day, and when their chivalry in the cause of the fairer sex impels them to hasten the celebration by a few hours, so that the limits of the Sabbath are not encroached upon, they will begin on St. Andrew's Eve and carry the fun and frolic along just as merrily. The songs, sayings, and sentiments of the motherland came to the lips of the members of the Yokohama St. Andrew's Society just as readily, and their hospitality was just as profuse this year as on previous occasions, even if they did not beat the record, and the ball sped along with more than usual jollity. Over eight hundred and fifty invitations were issued, and nearly all accepted, so that at one time there must have been over seven hundred people within the walls of the Public Hall. Everything had been done to give the greatest possible amount of space, but during the earlier part of the evening a good of crowding was necessarily the order of the dancing. Flags were used freely in the decorations, and red cherry blossoms. Heraldic shields and four splendid antlered heads of deer were suspended on the walls, while the red lion rampant and St. Andrew's silver cross were to be met with everywhere. The stage was laid out as a cherry grove, and cosy nooks, under Japanese thatched roofs, were set up in the corners of the room. Pot plants and palms were grouped tastefully about the dancing and drawing rooms. The ladies entered by a special passage to the right of the main entrance and then proceed to the large hall from the green-room. The gentlemen were accommodated with a smoking and card room up-stairs as usual. A great and long needed want was met through the erection of permanent lavatories, to which access was had through a special door-way under the staircase. The decorations and general arrangements were superintended by Mr. Ure, the hon. secretary, Mr. Coutts, and other members of the committee; and especial praise must be given to Mrs. Hutchison, who, having been so successful in her share of the decorations last year, volunteered her aid on this occasion and rendered great service.

Dancing commenced at half-past nine o'clock to the strains of the Town Band, the following being the programme :—

MARCH.

1.—Highland Schottische.	11.—Polka.
2.—Polka.	12.—Caledonians.
3.—Waltz.	13.—Waltz.
4.—Caledonians.	14.—Reel.
5.—Waltz.	15.—Lancers.
6.—Highland Schottische.	16.—Highland Schottische.
7.—Lancers.	17.—Waltz.
8.—Waltz.	18.—Waltz.
9.—Reel	19.—Waltz.
10.—Waltz.	20.—Highland Schottische.

AULD LANG SYNE.

The floor was excellent. Just before the first reel commenced the glass in the great chandelier of the main hall cracked by reason of the great heat, and a few dances later the light had to be turned off here completely. This, though causing a considerable darkening of the room, was in the main a boon, for the temperature fell appreciably, rendering the dancing all the more enjoyable. At midnight supper was put on the table by the Club Hotel; after this dancing was resumed and kept up, through the aid of many "extras" till a late hour this morning. Only one Scotsman appeared in kilts, but we understand his example will be extensively followed next year, so great was the impression produced. After the ladies had gone home, a second supper was discussed by the stewards, the members, and their guests, and the cock had "crawed" and the day lang since dawned ere some of them dragged themselves away from the tasting of the "barley bree."

UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC MEETING.

The annual athletic sports of the Teikoku Daigaku Undokwai took place on Saturday afternoon last on the playground of the Imperial University. The day was fine, but a strong north wind which swept across the ground made the atmosphere intensely cold, nevertheless the students and their friends entered into the spirit of the affair with great vim. Some foreign ladies and gentlemen were on the ground, but they could scarcely be said to have been enjoying it to the full, in spite of big overcoats, etc. Two records were broken, throwing the Cricket Ball and High jump. There was a large number of spectators, and a band was in attendance. Appended are the details :—

100 YARDS RACE.

Mr. Takata. | Mr. Inouye.
Mr. Ishiwara. |

Twelve ran. A good start was effected, but Takata soon forged ahead and eventually won by about 4 yards, dead heat for second place. Time, 10.9 seconds.

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL

Mr. Takata. | Mr. Hirabayashi.
Mr. Osumi. |

Eight entries. This was won by Takata with a throw of 90 yards 2 feet 9 inches, which beat his previous record of 81 yards 2 feet 9 inches for which he was given a special prize last year.

LONG JUMP.

Mr. Shimomura. | Mr. Tomita.
Mr. Midzuno. |

Six entries. This was won with a jump of 16 ft. 2 in. Last year the winner cleared 16 ft. 8 in.

220 YARDS RACE.

Mr. Ishiwara, 10 yds. | Inouye Ki, 10 yds.
Mr. Inouye K., 10 yds. |

Twenty entries. About fifteen boys were placed in one line, which prevented the scratch men getting through. Eventually Ishiwara won by 2 yards. Time, 27.8.

THROWING THE HAMMER.

Mr. Ota. | Mr. Watanabe Y.
Mr. Ishiwara. |

Six entries. This was won with a throw of 88 yards 3 ft.

ONE LEGGED RACE.

Mr. Kawaguchi. | Mr. Atsuki.
Mr. Ando. |

Fifteen entries. The competitors had both legs tied together with their hands pinioned behind

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their backs. A great deal of amusement was caused by this, the boys being quite helpless and unable to recover if they tripped and rolled ingloriously on the ground.

HIGH JUMP.

Mr. Ishiwara.	Mr. Enomoto.
Mr. Kamo.	

Eight entries. This was the most interesting event of the day, and was won by Ishiwara with a jump of 5 ft. 2 in. which Kamo failed to clear although his jumping was decidedly neater and cleaner than that of the winner, who had great luck in his favour. Last year's best jump was 4 ft. 11 in. This record will be hard to beat.

440 YARDS RACE.

Mr. Takata.	Mr. Kinoshita.
Mr. Oda.	

Fourteen entries. This was won somewhat easily by Takata in 1.00¼.

POLE JUMP.

Six entries. Mr. Kamo won with a jump of 8 ft. 10 in. which was very much below the record, 9 ft. 8 in.

BOY'S RACE.—Sons of Professors.

Master Fumichi.	Master Hozumi.
Master Yamakawa.	

This race took place while the pole jumping was in progress. The winner ran in very good style, and should develope into a sprinter.

MOMBUSHO SCHOOLS RACE.—400 YARDS.

Six started, three representing the First Higher School and three the Industrial School. The three Industrials were outpaced from the start.

GAKUSHI RACE. 220 yards.

Mr. Tomita.	Mr. Okamatsu.
Mr. Ibukiyama.	

This was won easily by Tomita. Good race for second place. Time, 31.1.

HALF MILE.

Mr. Kinoshita 20 yds.	Mr. Iki 20 yards.
Mr. Inouye Ki, 20 yds.	

Twenty-two entries. Again the scratch men could not get through, and after a good race between the three placed, Kinoshita won, all out, by about a yard. Time, 2.25¼.

TUG OF WAR.

This was again won by the Chiu Gakko, the Daigakko boys not pulling with the same union as their opponents. Prize tub of *Kaki*.

PROFESSOR'S RACE.

Mr. Okada	Mr. Tanakadate.
Mr. Kikuchi.	

This was won after a good race by Professor Okada.

OBSTACLE RACE.

Mr. Saigo.	Mr. Miura.
Mr. Ban.	

Twenty entries. The race was once round the ground. The boys had first to go through a ladder, then jump a single hurdle, followed by a bullfinch, and over a girdiron. They then crawled through a net, followed with a handover hand ladder, through hoops and long bags, over a fence, under another large net and finally carry home a bag of rice. Saigo negotiated the course well ahead of the others but almost lost the race through being unable to shoulder the rice bag.

At the conclusion of the Sports, the prizers, which consisted of a lot of useful articles, were presented to the boys.

AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

BY JOHN PLUMMER, M.J.S.

Sydney, October 29th.

The intelligence of the alleged treaty between China and Russia has proved an unwelcome surprise in Australia, where it is generally regarded as the percursor of serious troubles, for which the colonies are far from being prepared. Australian sympathy has been with Japan from the first, and it was hoped that the new nation would prove the real barrier to Russian ascendency in the Pacific, but it is now feared that the vast naval and military resources of the Russian Empire will be found irresistable in the long run. But much will, of course, depend on the attitude of Germany and the Triple Alliance, and Australians, naturally enough, are impatient to learn what will be the policy of the great European Powers. The *Sydney Morning Herald*, commenting upon the cabled utterances of the London *Times*, says:—"When the English press, usually so calm and self-contained in discussing foreign policy, receives in this mood an announcement from abroad it means a considerable change in public feeling. Probably they would not be so sore in England but for the dealing of Russia with the indemnity loan recently raised in Europe by China. The profit of that large transactions was secured by the Czar's Government for the Czar's subjects, though France supplied most of the money required. But the rumour went that the security which Russia got was control of the Chinese Imperial Customs so admirably managed by Sir Robert Hart, and this, it was feared, would imply the hampering of British commerce. These fears, taken with the chagrin of Russia's diplomatic and financial successes, have led to a condition of annoyance in England, from which the new irritation gains much of its energy. There are other causes. English policy in the Far East has been ill-disposed to the southward march of Russia. We took Port Hamilton lest Russia should occupy it as a harbour free from the ice of Vladivostock; we retired from this port on the understanding with China that no other Power should ever get it. One journal in London now advises that the place should be re-occupied. By the construction of railways and the securing of anchorage in Port Arthur, justly regarded as one of the strongest places in the world with a capable defending navy, Russia virtually carries her southern frontier into Japanese waters."

Continuing in the same strain, the *Herald* remarks that:—"There are in these changes two unwelcome features for England. One is that the era of railway construction in China may fall into the hands of Russian contractors and manufacturers; the other, that the naval budget of England will be increased by the greater naval potentiality of Russia. Broad considerations of this nature are apparent, but in the absence of exact particulars as to the terms of the supposed treaty and its consequent disturbance of British interests it is profitless to speculate. The fact remains, however, that the British press, as well as the press abroad, recognises that a serious situation has arisen. The trade of England with the Far East is so important that the risk of interference will not be tolerated calmly. Russia may have attained her objects by means quite unexceptionable. Events just following the Japanese war—such as the apparent leaning of England towards Japan, and the intervention of Russia to reduce the demands of the conquering Power—may have given the Czar's Minister at Pekin a diplomatic base on which to work with great effect. But the English people will not accept a condition of things, however created, by which their trade interests will suffer while their expenditure for naval and, perhaps, military defence will be largely increased. Whatever the exact nature of the tension, the instant it becomes a serious business for England it becomes a serious business for us. In case of hostilities the two Empires will make war upon each other wherever opponents can be found, at Vancouver or Sydney or at Port Arthur or Hongkong. We may cherish the agreeable opinion that Russia will find her hands too full to permit of her ships wandering to these coasts, but in time of war the Empire stands together, and we, in common with its other members, would have to take our risk. In this view of the case we may hope that the course of diplomacy will be able to settle whatever matters may be in dispute owing to the new treaty, if treaty there be. If it is not competent for negotiation to settle the question, there is comfort in the reflection that, having regard to Japan's interests in the supremacy of the Far East, and to the transferred relations of the European Powers there, England is by no means likely to have to guard her interests alone. Japan by her treaty with China sought no selfish advantage, but threw open to all the world such privileges as she won. Russia, if not misrepresented in the terms of the new treaty, puts things on a basis so different that the nations having a commerce in the Far East will have to look to their own affairs. However circumstances may decide the present difficulty, it is abundantly evident that the Eastern Question has shifted farther east than ever before. Not in Armenia or on the Bosphorus only, but in Korea and the Japan Seas, the nations are watching one another, arms in hand."

The *Sydney Daily Telegraph*, on the other hand, sees nothing very alarming, so far as Australia is concerned, in the situation. Asking its readers to regard the position calmly, it says:—"As for the wild talk about Australia and Vancouver, it will not bear examination. Russia already possesses a naval port in Vladivostock, some five thousand and odd miles to the northward of Sydney, and some seven thousand miles to the westward of Vancouver, and though Port Arthur is a much more convenient base, it is but a few hundred miles nearer Australia and about the same distance further from Vancouver; and if we could not tolerate a Great Power within a fourth part of the world's circumference of our shores, our hold upon Australia would be weak indeed. It would even be different if Russia held an important coaling-station upon a contiguous island in the Southern Pacific. But she does not hold one, and Australia's interest would only be affected were Russian domination in the Chinese ports to affect our supplies of tea or interfere with the trade we carry on with the treaty ports. That is, we consider, a wholly improbable contingency. Our trade in no wise competes with that of Russia in the Chinese markets, nor for that matter does the Indian trade, and it could only be said of the commercial relations of Great Britain with China, which last year were represented by about nine millions sterling, imports and exports combined, that they would clash with the Russian trade to an insignificant extent. Thus, the ruination predicted is probably a nightmare. The real trouble of this treaty is that it reduces the distance of Russia from Pekin by about two-thirds, while it places Korea and Manchuria wholly in the hands of Russia. To Japan it constitutes a serious menace; to China it means subordination; and possibly the effect in India, should hostilities ever arise with Great Britain, might be a material consideration. But what is, and has been, the secret of the unrest displayed by Russia in all modern times? Here is a vast Empire, with territory second only to that owning allegiance to Great Britain, and with a population of 129 millions, yet with all her outlets to the trade of the world, practically at the mercy of other nations. Her enormous coastline on the Arctic Ocean is valueless. Her outlet to the Baltic is icebound for many months in each year, and a fleet can shut her in at any time. Her Black Sea outlet lies under the guns of the Turk, and her ports on the Northern Pacific are icebound in winter, while in the summer much of the interior is impassable. Can she be shut out indefinitely from access to the world's great highway? The point further arises whether, if two contiguous and sovereign nations enter into an agreement of this nature affecting their own territories, the other Powers have the right to interfere. That China has apparently sold her birth right to a hard and domineering taskmaster is probably true. That Russia will become a much greater Power in the Pacific is evident. But that she will become a more hostile Power as her strength in the Northern Pacific is consolidated is doubtful, for the realisation of her ambition and her needs might well have an opposite effect. We do not view these Russian encroachments upon China with the alarm which they have evidently caused in London. That Russian diplomacy is tortuous must be acknowledged; but, at any rate, they are an advance upon those of China."

It need scarcely be added that of the two papers, the *Herald* most closely represents Australian opinion, which regards the Russian occupation of Port Arthur as a serious danger to Australian interest in the Pacific. One of the New South Wales country papers, the *Maitland Mercury*, the oldest provincial journal in Australasia, thinks there is no reason for serious alarm. Adopting the views lately put forward by the London *Spectator*, to the effect that Russia, with open ports, is more valuable to the power which commands the sea, than is Russia with ice-closed harbours, the *Mercury* says that "the disadvantage of an angry feeling between England and Russia will not be all on the side of England. If we do not trust her, if we do not come to an amicable arrangement, we shall on the other hand "regard her as unreasonably and dangerously hostile," and be compelled "to fortify ourselves against her enmity by favouring every force that would tend to act as a makeweight against her influence." There is, for example, that Anglo-Japanese alliance possible; there is a re occupation by England of Port Hamilton at the toe of Korea possible; and however much the Russian may affect to despise the Japanese Power, the junction of Japan and England would discount largely the value of Russia's present insidious move. It is said that the Russian position at Port Arthur is a menace to the Australian trade. But England and Japan in alliance would give England a post of vantage in the island of Formosa, in which Japan has just succeeded in quelling Chinese resistance to her authority. On the whole, therefore, and pending the receipt of further intelligence respecting the Russo-China treaty, we may conclude that Russia gains less by it than she might have secured by honest action, and by friendly compact with England."

A cablegram to the effect that Japanese public feeling was largely in favour of an alliance with Russia has occasioned considerable perplexity in Australia. On this point the Melbourne *Age* remarks that:—"Not the least curious amongst the new developments in the East is the rumour that Japan favours an alliance with Russia. The motive

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is not very apparent. Russia was chiefly instrumental in robbing Japan of the fruits of her victory, and she is known to covet Korea. Russia is, in fact, the one serious danger to Japanese interests, so that a Russo-Japanese alliance would be apt to be of the character of the union between the lion and the lamb. The value of a good understanding with Great Britain is to Japan enormous. The English have no territorial ambitions in the Far East. They wish to trade freely with the many millions of the Chinese Empire, and Japan wants to do the same. Russia, on the other hand, seems to have formed ambitious schemes in relation to China as a result of the inadequate resisting powers of the Chinese. Russian diplomatic intervention in China has been incessant since the conclusion of the war, and it looks as if Ministers at St. Petersburg meditated the establishment of a sort of protectorate over the Mongolian Empire. The very fact that *The Times* writes a furious article on the duplicity of the Russian Government in connection with the recent treaty is evidence of the alarm experienced in English commercial circles in relation to the Anglo-Chinese trade. Great Britain is not given, like the French, to "go to war for an idea," but is usually ready enough to fight for the shop, and it must be admitted that there is an ever increasing danger to the peace of the world."

One direct result of the treaty will be the imparting of increased strength to the federation movement in Australia. Mr. Reid has already introduced the Federal Enabling Bill into the New South Wales parliament, and should it be adopted by that body, the other colonies will speedily follow, thus making a united Australia one of the possibilities of the present generation. Major General Hutton, the new South Wales military commandant, declares that the Russian occupation of Port Arthur will make Australian military federation a vital necessity. Lord Brassey, the new Governor of Victoria, has spoken in a similar strain, but the difficulty consist in the want of practical knowledge of other than purely local affairs evinced by many of those entrusted with the work of colonial legislation.

The intelligence that six of the leading Japanese ports, including Tokyo, the Japanese capital, are to be immediately thrown open to the world's trade, has produced a most favourable impression throughout Australia, and greatly encouraged the advocates of a free trade policy. A writer in the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* says:—"The purpose of the Japanese to throw open their chief ports free to the commerce of the world is one that will be hailed with general satisfaction. Those who believe in their hearts that it is a good thing to be allowed to swap a horse for a cow if you think you are a gainer by such a transaction, are in a majority all the world over. Even though it happens that a good many of them think they can profit by preventing others from having this right, and call themselves protectionists, they still want to buy in the cheapest market and sell in the dearest. In practice, almost every protectionist is the most advanced freetrader who could be found on the surface of the globe, so far as his own dealings are concerned, and doesn't pay a farthing more than he can help for anything he purchases. Even the professing pretectionists will be glad in most parts of the world that Japan is opening her ports. It will mean a new market for what other countries have to sell. As that is the main consideration with protectionists, and as their policy destroys their own home market, their should be rejoicing among them at the appearance of Japan, enriched by Chinese taels, appearing as a purchaser. Especially in the matter of raw products like wool, of which the Japanese becomes a great and cunning manufacturer, will the difference of his buying make itself felt. And freetraders everywhere will be as glad of the opportunity of buying what they want from Japan as protectionists will be of selling her what they dont' want."

At the same time, the possibilities of a rapidlly increased trade between Australia and Japan give fresh interest to the probable results of the conference of Australian premiers, to be held early next year, to discuss the provisions of the Anglo Japanese treaty. There is a growing feeling that, under the changed condition of political affairs in the East, Australia should be extremely cautious in the adoption of any legislation of a character unfriendly to Japan. This feeling is significantly expressed in the following remarks from the *Wagga Wagga Express*, one of the leading provincial journals in New South Wales:—"Japan is no longer the nonentity as far as Europe is concerned; but is a power with all the resources of European civilisation at its command, and with the forty millions Russia has helped her to get represents a standing that all statesmen and politicians of Australia will have to reckon with. If the Japanese are told that their subjects shall not land in Australia, but will have to be content with the disabilities under which the Chinese at present labour, they will, simply, not stand it, and in such case what can the Australians do? Are they to be like so many little parish councillors fighting amongst themselves, or is it their intention to apply themselves to the grand question, and, like Canada, bring about a federation? Apparently there seems to be little short of an overwhelming power in the newly acquired strength of Japan, and Australians will wake up to the fact that there is a something beyond their burning questions, compared with which local political matters are as a flea-bite. Australians and their parliaments should open their eyes to the fact that their, comparatively, parochial questions are not all the matters of importance which claim their attention when the consideration of their being the makings of a nation is on the *tapis*. If they do not put their house in order, they may be suddenly confronted with the disabilities of wasted opportunities and neglected chances of welding themselves into a power by by which they may even defy Japan."

Sydney, October 30th.

Notwithstanding the official denial of a secret treaty between Russia and China, people here believe that an arrangement of some kind or other has been effected, whereby Russia will practically have the free use of Port Arthur, to the exclusion of other powers. Sir Henry Norman, Governor of Queensland, on being interviewed yesterday, prior to the arrival of the cablegram denying the existence of the alleged treaty, said he had no information on the subject beyond what had appeared in the press. With regard to that, he said that in the first place he did not credit the report that any such treaty had been entered into. In the second place, he thought it unlikely that such a treaty should have been made between two nations like China and Russia. And in the third place, he held that if a treaty had been made, it could not have the same effect as if it had been made between Russia and any European nation. Sir Henry added that he believed fuller information would discredit the statement which had appeared. So far, Sir Henry seems to have been a true prophet. In the evening, he was entertained at the Londoners' Club, Brisbane, when, responding to the toast of his health, he said "he regarded it as an absolute certainty that before all those present were dead, Australia would have to resist an attack. It was impossible, in the present state of the world, for a great, prosperous, and growing country like this, with, comparatively speaking, no army, and no navy, to expect immunity in the event of war. He was sure the manhood of England, Ireland, and Scotland, and especially the manhood of Londoners, would induce them to take up arms to resist any such attack, and that they would not submit tamely. Trained troops were required, and, as a consequence, money must be spent liberally and well. Without England, Australia was powerless; but England, with the colonies united, might possibly stand against the world as she did before. It was not to be supposed that England would be alone in the world. He presumed she would have some friends, particularly the United States. While on a visit to the States, and after a conversation with some leading men there, it had struck him (Sir Henry) that if England and the States were joined together, the world would find the combination a very hard nut to crack. He trusted that there would not be war very soon, but they should be prepared for it." The idea of an alliance between Great Britain and the United States, alluded to by Sir Henry Norman, is beginning to be freely discussed in both countries, and may possibly lead to something practical in the direction indicated.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before R. A. MOWAT, Esq., Judge, and a Jury.

Friday, November 29th.

HENRY CLARE V. THE NORTHERN PACIFIC STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Upon the Court reassembling, His Honour at once proceeded to sum up to the jury. He prefaced his remarks by observing that all cases of negligence, or alleged negligence, were as a rule difficult to decide. It was not so much owing to the circumstances of the case as the application of the law to the facts of the case. He thought that the present case was no exception to the rule. He congratulated all parties concerned in it that the case was placed before a jury for decision, for owing to its peculiar nature it would certainly be more satisfactory to have a verdict from five unbiassed men than the opinion, or conclusion, that one mind would come to. In the case before them, the plaintiff Clare, claimed $1,500 from defendants as compensation for personal injuries and pecuniary loss which he alleged was caused by the negligence and unlawful carelessness of the defendants. In this case they had accordingly two grounds upon which to proceed. They had first to ascertain whether the defendants were guilty of negligence, and secondly, what was the amount of damage that the plaintiff had sustained. If, after a careful consideration of the evidence, they decided against the first point, and therefore against the plaintiff, then they need not go further. If they were with him on the first point then they would go on to consider what they should award him, and they would award such compensation as they thought just. They had, consequently, only two points to consider, to find whether or not the defendants were guilty of negligence as alleged in plaintiff's petition, and secondly, if they found that was so, what damages they should award consequent upon that neglect. A third point might arise in connection with this last question, and that was the question of contributory negligence: in other words, whether the plaintiff was not himself to blame. That was really a question for the defence, for the law did not require the plaintiff to prove that he was contributory to the accident, the burden of such proof lay on the defendants. It was, however, hardly possible to exclude this question from the case, as one question involved the other, and would have to be considered in order to arrive at a right conclusion. The defendants, they might find, may have been negligent; but if the plaintiff himself could have avoided the danger through the exercise of reasonable care on his part, then the defendants' negligence would not be the only principal or operative cause. But plaintiff had not to prove that he was negligent. Having further discussed this point, the learned Judge said, that if joint negligence was proved, and the jury found that plaintiff on the one side and defendants on the other were equally negligent, then the plaintiff could not recover. Having made these general remarks, he would pass on to the questions of law that might arise. The basis of the plaintiff's case rested on the obligation or duty of the defendants towards the plaintiff. What then was the duty that the defendants were alleged to have neglected to perform? Here we come to a question of law. I will state it in this way. Shipowners, like the defendants in this case, are bound to keep in a reasonably safe condition, such parts of their vessel as a person being on board on lawful business in which both he and they have an interest may under all circumstances reasonably resort to. It also followed that plaintiff must display a reasonable care himself. The jury would have to say whether the open hatchway here constituted a danger to the plaintiff, whether the defendants did all that was reasonable by having it lighted and properly guarded, and then whether plaintiff was guilty of a want of care in approaching it. These were all questions of fact. Passing on to review the evidence given in the case, His Honour said that there was a good deal of discrepancy in the statements made in the course of the evidence. But then, as Mr. Walford had truly observed, this was to be expected; and again, as Counsel had urged, many of these discrepancies were not material. He would ask them, therefore, to put them out of their minds when considering their finding, and they need not discuss them either in favour or not of some of the conflicting statements being more accurate or fuller than others. For a moment he would again repeat to them the rule of the law given before. Then turning to Mr. Lowder, his Honour asked if he was satisfied with that exposition of the law.

Mr. Lowder—Perfectly.

His Honour—Then I will not say more about that here. I thought that yesterday you urged that plaintiff ought not to have gone beyond the gangway and that the duty owed him by the defendants did not extend beyond that place.

Mr. Lowder—That there was less duty beyond that place.

His Honour—(to the Jury)—It was urged by Counsel for the defence that because plaintiff went on board the *Victoria* and might have observed some one in uniform near the gangway, he was to be expected to know that this was the Chief Officer, and that he ought to have ascertained from him there the information he required in regard to sending off more cargo that night, and that he ought to have gone no further along the deck. He, the Judge, did not so limit the plaintiff. Plaintiff had said that he was engaged in the shipping of the cargo, that he went on board to ascertain whether any more cargo would be taken on board that night, and for that purpose, I take it, he was quite at liberty to go forward to any of the hatches where cargo was being worked. Plaintiff's story is that when he inquired of the quartermaster where the Chief Officer was the quartermaster pointed forward. His Honour therefore thought that it was too narrow a construction of plaintiff's rights

HATHITRUST DIGITIZED BY GOOGLE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

to say that they stopped short at the gangway, when, according to his own evidence, he had obtained none of the information he required. Of course the accident happened further forward, but his Honour thought, that supposing it had not happened and plaintiff had been met at the spot where he said it occurred, his presence there could not reasonably have been objected to, and that he could have gone forward without challenge. He thought that plaintiff was clearly entitled to go where he was at the time in the ordinary discharge of his duty. The case of *Walker* v. *The Midland Railway Company* was then referred to, and, continuing, his Honour expressed the opinion that he had sufficiently shown from that, that the law sufficiently covered the plaintiff at the place where he was. In fact, in his mind, the plaintiff was perfectly justified in being where he was. He was even prepared to go so far as to say that even if plaintiff had seen the Chief Officer near the gangway and had asked him the questions regarding the cargo, and had received replies, that he would still be entitled to go forward in the discharge of his duty. His Honour did not attach much importance to the point raised by Mr. Lowder in regard to the use of the expression by plaintiff of "fallen down" the hatchway, when describing it to the Chief Officer and others, and to using "stepped into" in the petition to the Court. The correct expression would be perhaps, very nearly fallen down, he fell into and very nearly down the hatchway. The point was immaterial, however. Turning to another suggestion, inferred he thought by Mr. Lowder, that plaintiff had not been hurt at the hatchway at all, the jury must remember that he himself was the only person able to tell them about the accident. The man was unquestionably hurt, and he thought that the jury would find that he was hurt there at the hatch. Turning again to other discrepancies in the evidence, his Honour said the only point that was material was the state of things in and around the hatch on the night of the 27th July. He thought that before a sound conclusion could be reached by the jury, they must make up their minds as to which of the two descriptions was to be accepted. Referring first to the stacks of coal and how they were arranged, plaintiffs story was that there was no passage left between the coal, that it stretched from the deck house to the rail, and that he had perforce to go over the coal in order to get forward. One of plaintiff's witnesses also said that there was no passage there, and that when he passed he had to go along the side of the ship. His Honour then minutely pointed out the difference in the statements of the officers of the ship as to the coal being piled four sacks high all over alike, with a passage through the middle and one at the side, how this was corroborated by Brown, the stevedore, and the engineer, and that the plaintiff's evidence was different in regard to the piling up the coal, his side claiming that it sloped from the deck house to the rail. The jury must decide which of the two versions was correct, that of the officers, who had seen the coal taken in at Moji, testifying to it being in the same position at Kobe and here, and that the ship left Yokohama with the coal still undisturbed on the deck; and that the plaintiff was a stranger to the ship, and went on board first at night. Now one wants to know why a passage was left in the coal, and the Chief Officer stated that it was left so that they could work coal through the hatch: they required a clear space round the hatch for this, and according to the sketch in Court this space was left. That answer therefore was quite sufficient, and explained why the passage-way was there quite naturally. On the whole, it must be concluded by the jury, he thought, that there was a passage-way left through the coal, although plaintiff, who went on board the ship after dark, failed to perceive it. Having reviewed all the evidence on the point, his Honour said that the question was very important, and he would tell them why. The defendants were under the obligation to light or guard this place, where there was danger. It was for the jury to decide whether the light provided was sufficient. If they believed the ship's account, they had a barricade of coal four feet in height which would confront any person going forward. If they were satisfied that this was so, they would probably come to the conclusion that plaintiff would not require further protection if he had gone along the passage-way, which he said he did not. For anyone going along the passage could not have fallen into the hatchway: he certainly could not have stepped in, for to do so he would have had to turn to the left and lift his foot over a fifteen inch combing, and then supposing he had fallen, he would have encountered the guy. That was the reason for attaching importance to the question as to what was between plaintiff and the hatchway; was there coal or not? Now then, if they adopted the evidence of plaintiff and his witness Held, there was no passage-way, and there was only coal two sacks high between him and the hatchway. Then the jury would have to consider the other question as to whether there was a guard at the hatchway: how was it lighted, and did the defendants, in any way discharge the duty cast on them to provide sufficient light for the place? The evidence as to the lights they had heard. He had little to say on that point. The lights in the passenger's stairway might be ruled out of the case, for if the coal extended from the aft part of the hatch then no light at the passengers' stairway could light up the hatchway. Then as to the engine-room lights, the jury would by their own experience be able to judge as to how much they would count. In regard to the galley lights it was just about the same. It had been pointed out in evidence that these would cast a light over the rail. Then as to the light from the officers' stairway? These were five feet high above the deck inside the house: the coal was said to be stacked up four feet high from the after part of the hatch, and the jury would not expect to find that they threw much light over the hatchway. Of course the people of the ship said that the hatch was, in their opinion, lighted sufficiently well. That might be so. If one knew where a thing was, it was not very difficult to find it. After alluding to the fact that the Chief Officer has caused a light to be hung up at the wheel house, to aid the men working at the hatch near, his Honour said that the Chief Officer's attention had evidently been drawn to the matter of lights, and he had thought that the hatchway did not require any lighting. Another point to which the Judge drew attention was to the statement of the Chief Officer that when plaintiff told him of the accident, he thought that something had gone wrong with the lights, and that if the lights were all right the accident should not have occurred. He therefore went forward to see, and finding that the lights were as he left them he came back. His remark to the plaintiff when told of the accident was: "You ought to be very careful when you come aboard a strange ship." The Chief Officer did not think that plaintiff had fallen through the hatch.

Mr. Walford—He was under the impression that Clare had gone down the path, and therefore did not provide in his mind for the contingency of his having gone over the sacks of coal.

His Honour—That did not occur to him because he regarded the sacks as being four feet high all round. So in his mind it was impossible to get there, and he did not think it possible for him to have fallen from there. The Chief Officer's remark that one should be very careful when going on board a strange ship, embodied a very sound principle, though perhaps was not one that you might have expected him to make if anything had gone wrong with the lights.

Mr. Lowder—It was after making this remark that he went forward.

His Honour—That is the second point I shall have to put before the jury.

Mr. Lowder—The remark was made as a natural sequence of events.

His Honour—Quite so.

Mr. Lowder—I had misunderstood your Honour's intention.

Mr. Walford—There is one point that I raised, that I should like your Honour to mention to the jury, and that if the passage through the coal was not lighted so far as the plaintiff was concerned it was the same as if it did not exist.

His Honour—Well, it is a question of course whether a man should see a thing.

Mr. Walford—It is a question of lights.

His Honour—The jury will take all the circumstances of the case into consideration. It is to be presumed that when he found the coal that he would naturally expect to find a passage-way, and upon this depends how much attention he was paying to the matter. Accordingly, if the jury thought that there was a passage way through the coal, it was a very extraordinary thing that the man did not see the passage way. Of course he had just come up from below, and his eyes might have been full of light, so that he did not see it, and he proceeded forward before he got himself to rights. After reviewing the evidence given as to the lights, the learned judge said the question which the jury had to answer in regard to it was whether the was sufficient light on deck to enable the plaintiff to see the hatch. The witnesses for the ship, it must be remembered, were familiar with the ship, which plaintiff was not, and the jury were now asked to decide whether there was light sufficient to discover the hatchway, that is assuming that his version as to the quantity of coals around it was the correct one. The jury would next have to consider whether or not his going forward was warranted from a man who had to take, as other men have to, a reasonable care for himself. The suggestion put forward by the defendants is that upon meeting with the coals, plaintiff should have been brought to a standstill, and that he should have at once considered that was not a place for himself to be. Then it was for the jury to consider whether that circumstance ought to have warned him that he could not proceed along there with safety. There was nothing urgent or pressing in his business, and he might have gone and tried the other side of the ship: he might have gone below on to the main-deck and proceeded forward in the direction he wanted, as well along that deck as along the spar deck.

Mr. Walford thought not so.

His Honour—I think it rather unusual to interrupt a judge so often.

Mr. Walford—I beg your pardon, Sir.

His Honour—I am putting these questions to the jury as they have been raised in the course of argument, and I say that the question they may have to consider is whether he could not have gone down to the main deck. I don't say that he should. I am putting these questions to the jury plainly and dispassionately for them to consider. That was one of the arguments used on one side, and if Mr. Walford had addressed himself to it, which he did not, I should have placed his argument before the jury also. There was every reason why the plaintiff should have taken extra care, to "go slow," and see what he was about. He had laid before the jury, he thought, all that was needful of the evidence, having carefully read over his notes of it, and had recalled to their minds the points he considered essential. The facts of the case were what they had to deal with, and the inferences suggested were the inferences they had been asked to draw. He would therefore leave the case in their hands. Assuming that they believed the plaintiff's story, they would, in considering their verdict, have to decide what damages they would award. They would have to award in that case what they considered to be fair compensation. The claim put in was for a month's salary, a doctor's bill, an apothecary's bill, altogether something like $130. After that it was hardly a question of estimate, the only practice they had to go upon was their own experience and judgment in the matter. The medical evidence was then reviewed briefly by His Honour, who remarked that plaintiff still complained of pain. It was usually the case in such accidents that these pains continued to go on till a jury's verdict was given. Plaintiff had told them how that he had received compensation for a shock some years ago, and that he recovered within two days. I hope, continued his Honour, that in a few days from now that plaintiff will be feeling as well as he did before the accident. The jury had to hold the balance fairly between the two parties of they found that plaintiff was entitled to compensation. The first point they had to consider was: was there negligence on the part of the defendants, negligence in the sense he had explained to them; secondly, was there negligence on the part of the plaintiff, that is, contributory negligence, such as he had referred to: if there was such contributory negligence then plaintiff could not recover. So if they answered the questions in his favour, the first affirmatively, the secured negatively, they would have to say what damages plaintiff was entitled to.

Mr. Dodds, one of the jury, had not properly understood what his Honour had said about the hatchway? Was it guarded on two sides, or was only one side left unprotected; that is passangers could pass down the passage alongside the hatchway.

His Honour—If the plaintiff had walked along the passage it is difficult to see how he could have got down into the hatchway. He would not raise his foot fifteen inches to step over the combing and then fall in. That would be the only way he could have got in by the passage.

Mr. Dodds thanked his Honour and the jury retired.

At half past twelve o'clock the jury returned, when the foreman, Mr. G. K. Dinsdale, said:—We find that there was negligence on the part of the defendants, but that there was no negligence on the part of the plaintiff, and damages are awarded as claimed.

Mr. Walford—And the verdict carries costs?

His Honour—Yes. The gentlemen of the jury are thanked for the care and attention they have given to the case, and are discharged.

(IN ADMIRALTY.)

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq., Judge,
Monday, December 2nd.

A CAUSE OF WAGES AGAINST THE "ARCTIC."

This was a cause of wages instituted by John Kelly, Juan Lucero, and Martin Kjarr, against

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the owner of the schooner *Arctic*, whereof J. B. Brown is at present master. The amount of the claim was $1,063.06, to which $300 was provisionally added as estimated costs.

Mr. G. H. Scidmore represented the plaintiffs, the nominal defendant (Captain Pyne) appearing in person.

Mr. Scidmore said plaintiffs shipped on board the *Arctic* in April last on a voyage to the North Pacific Ocean, the Behring and Ohkotsk seas, for pelagic sealing, the voyage not to exceed a term of ten months and the men to be discharged at Yokohama. The vessel returned to this port on the 31st October, and the men applied for their wages. The master gave them their accounts, but said he could not pay them as unfortunately he had no funds to meet their claims. The suit was accordingly entered in the Court.

George Kircher, Usher and Marshal of the Court, sworn, deposed to arresting the British schooner *Arctic* on a warrant issued by the Court. He proceeded on board on the 13th Nov., read the original warrant to John Kelly, who was on board in charge, and affixed the certificated copy to the main-mast, of which he made due return to the Court. An advertisement was issued and a citation given to all parties concerned in the case, during six days. He took a rough inventory of the articles seized on the vessel.

To the Court—The vessel is still in my custody. The petition was read to the Master, J. B. Brown, on the 15th November, and a copy affixed to the main-mast. On the 25th November, the notice of hearing was given and affixed.

John Kelly, sworn, deposed to signing on the articles of the *Arctic* for 50 *yen* a month. The articles began on the 6th April, and he went on board the next day. He was still on the articles, for when he applied for his wages, after the vessel's return to port, the captain gave him an account of wages, but said he had no funds. His claim was for $363.35, less advances of $11.75, leaving $338.58 due up to date of filing the petition. The captain paid him his skin-money ($1 a skin) $44, but did not pay any of the wages due. The captain said the schooner would have to be sold before the wages could be paid.

To Captain Pyne—For the last seven days I have slept ashore, but I go aboard by day to help pump the vessel out. Before the vessel was arrested, three boats and five guns belonging to Captain Brown were taken away. I do not know where they have been taken to. They were taken ashore during my absence. The chronometer is not aboard, the Captain having claimed it as his property. I had no money advanced to me in Yokohama. I owe Kernan $167 for board and lodging, which is still due. The advance made at Hakodate is included in the deductions entered in the claim.

Juan Lucero, a Spaniard, sworn, deposed that his claim was for $197.13. His wages were $18 (gold) per month. When he applied for his wages the Captain gave an account of them, but did not pay him.

Martin Kjarr, a naturalized American, deposed to shipping for $40 (gold) per month. When he applied a for his wages he could not get them. His claim amounted to $521.30, at the time the action was filed.

Mr. Scidmore said this was the case for the plaintiffs. He had hoped to have been able to have produced the Captain, but unfortunately he had left town last Tuesday by the American steamer. He now asked that judgment be given in accordance with the prayer of the petition, that unless funds be forthcoming the vessel, its apparel, furniture, and tackle be sold by public auction, etc.

Capt. Pyne said that the Captain of the *Arctic* was the charterer and paid him so much a month for the use of her for a certain time.

His Honour said that he was afraid this did not absolve the owner from paying the wages of the crew. The crew were entitled to recover their wages from the owner, master, or the ship. Judgment would have to be given in favour of the plaintiffs unless the necessary funds were forthcoming.

Capt. Pyne said that if he had had the skins he could have paid everybody. He was not able to pay now.

It was agreed between all parties, on the ground of saving expenses, not to have an appraisement of the ship.

Mr. Scidmore having read the final prayer of the petition,

His Honour gave judgment for the plaintiffs with costs; the ship to be sold by public auction after being advertised for 14 days in one foreign and two Japanese newspapers: the proceeds to be paid into the Registry; and the costs of said to be a first charge upon the same; the plaintiffs to be discharged from the ship.

CONVENTION BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN FOR THE RETROCESSION OF LIAO-TUNG.

SIGNED AT PEKING, NOV. 8TH, 1895.

His Majesty the Emperor of China and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, desiring to conclude a Convention for the retrocession by Japan of all of the Southern portion of the province of Feng-tien to the Sovereignty of China, have for that purpose named as Their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:—

His Majesty the Emperor of China, Li Hung-chang, Minister Plenipotentiary, Senior Tutor of the Heir Apparent, Senior Grand Secretary of State and Earl of the First Rank, and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, Baron Hayashi Tadasu, Shoshü, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary; who, after having communicated to each other their Full Powers, which were found to be in good and proper form, have agreed upon the following Articles:—

Article I.—Japan retrocedes to China in perpetuity and full sovereignty the Southern portion of the province of Feng-tien, which was ceded to Japan under Article II. of the Treaty of Shimonoseki on the 23rd day of the 3rd month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsü, corresponding to the 17th day of the 4th month of the 28th year of Meiji, together with all fortifications, arsenals, and public property thereon at the time the retroceded territory is completely evacuated by the Japanese forces in accordance with the provisions of Article III. of this Convention, that is to say, the Southern portion of the province of Feng Tien from the mouth of the River Yalu to the mouth of the River An-ping, thence to Feng Huang Ch'êu, thence to Hai Ch'êng and thence to Ying K'ou; also all cities and towns to the south of this boundary and all islands appertaining or belonging to the province of Feng Tien situated in the eastern portion of the Bay of Liao Tung and in the Northern part of the Yellow Sea.

Article III. of the said Treaty of Shimonoseki is in consequence suppressed, as are also the provisions in the same Treaty with reference to the conclusion of a Convention to regulate frontier intercourse and trade.

Article II.—As compensation for the retrocession of the Southern portion of the province of Feng Tien, the Chinese Government engage to pay to the Japanese Government 30,000,000 Kuping Taels on or before the 30th day of the 9th month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsu, corresponding to the 16th day of the 11th month of the 28th year of Meiji (November 16th, 1895).

Article III.—Within three months from the day on which China shall have paid to Japan the compensatory indemnity of 30,000,000 Kuping Taels provided for in Article II. of this Convention, the retroceded territory shall be completely evacuated by the Japanese forces.

Article IV.—China engages not to punish in any manner nor to allow to be punished those Chinese subjects who have in any manner been compromised in connection with the occupation by the Japanese forces of the retroceded territory.

Article V.—The present Convention is signed in duplicate in the Chinese, Japanese, and English languages. All these texts have the same meaning and intention, but in case of any differences of interpretation between the Chinese and Japanese texts, such differences shall be decided by reference to the English text.

Articles VI.—The present Convention shall be ratified by His Majesty the Emperor of China and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at Peking within twenty-one days from the present date.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Peking this 22nd day of the 9th month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsü, corresponding to the 8th year of Meiji (November 8th, 1895.)

[L.S.] LI HUNG-CHANG,
Minister Plenipotentiary, Senior Tutor of the Heir Apparent, Senior Grand Secretary of State, and Earl of the First Rank.

[L.S.] BARON HAYASHI TADASU,
Shoshü, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary.

PROTOCOL.—In view of the insufficiency of time to effect a formal exchange of the ratifications of the Convention between China and Japan signed this day respecting the retrocession of the Peninsula of Feng Tien, before the date named in the said Convention for certain stipulations thereof to take effect, the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of China and the Government of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, in order to prevent the possibility of delay in putting into execution the several provisions of the said Convention, have, through their respective Plenipotentiaries, agreed upon the following stipulation:—

The Governments of China and Japan shall within the period of five days after the date of this Protocol, announce to each other through the undersigned, their respective Plenipotentiaries, that the said Convention has received the approval of His Majesty the Emperor of China and His Majesty the Emperor of Japan respectively, and thereupon the said Convention in all its parts, shall come into operation as fully and effectually as if the ratifications thereof had actually been exchanged.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the same and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at Peking this 22nd day of the 9th month of the 21st year of Kuang Hsü, corresponding to the 8th day of the 11th month of the 28th year of Meiji (November 8th, 1895).

[L. S.] LI HUNG-CHANG,
Minister Plenipotentiary, Senior Tutor of the Heir Apparent, Senior Grand Secretary of State, and Earl of the First Rank.

[L. S.] BARON HAYASHI TADASU,
Shoshü, Grand Cross of the Imperial Order of the Sacred Treasure, Grand Officer of the Imperial Order of the Rising Sun, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary.—*Tientsin and Peking Times.*

CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HIOGO AND OSAKA.

The report by Mr. Consul Enslie on the Foreign Trade of the Hiogo Consular District for 1894 has approached quite heroic dimensions. It extends, with the tables, to well over 100 pages, and under the circumstances we cannot attempt to give the report in full in our usual way. We have, therefore, extracted the most interesting portions from this monument of Consular energy, the portions omitted being more of a detail nature and of extracts from journals in Japan, which have in some instances been already noted. We have taken some liberties also with the order of the subjects so as to group them more together.

The trade for the year under review compares with that of 1893 as follows:—

	1894.	1893.	Difference.
Imports...	£6,601,721	6,411,528	+ 190,193
Exports...	3,133,222	3,316,861	— 183,639
Total...	9,734,943	9,728,389	+ 6,554

This return is based on instructions under which the Mexican dollar is, for the purpose of trade reports and returns, taken at the approximate average rate ruling during the year; the result is very misleading, as the volume of trade fluctuates month by month from 1 to 3 and $4,000,000. What the trade for 1894 has been is, however, correctly shown by the following statistics taken from the Customs returns:—

	1894.	1893.	Difference.
Imports...	$60,870,472	47,755,021	+13,115,451
Exports...	29,781,127	25,887,699	+ 3,893,428
Total...	90,651,599	73,642,720	+17,008,879

This return gives a very clear idea of the growth and present volume of trade and shipping in this district and that of Kanagawa (Yokohama). These tables disclose:—1. In 1874 and 1884 the import trade of this district was respectively $11,000,000 and $10,400,000 less than that of Yokohama, whereas in 1894 it was $10,400,000 in excess. In other words, this branch of the trade has increased here more than tenfold during the past twenty years, that of Yokohama threefold. 2. Since 1884 the import trade here has increased upwards of $50,000,000, that of Yokohama rather more than $30,000,000. 3. The export trade here has increased sixfold since 1874, that of Yokohama in a rather less ratio. 4. Since 1884 the export trade here has increased fourfold, that of Yokohama in a less degree, notwithstanding a very large and exclusive business in silk and silk manufactures, amounting in 1884, in round figures, to $55,000,000. 5. The total foreign trade here was more than eightfold that of twenty years ago; in Yokohama the increase was rather more than four times.

Ten years ago the business transacted here was

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five-twentieths of the entire foreign trade of Japan, whereas in 1894 it was eight-twentieths. The expansion in the volume of shipping is equally remarkable. In 1884 it was only one-fifth of the entire foreign tonnage of Japan; in the year under review it was one-third.

TRADE GENERALLY.—The returns would seem to show that the war has not in any way injuriously affected trade, the sole reason is that the inevitable effects have not yet been seriously or generally felt. That some branches of business have, however, suffered, is beyond dispute. Osaka has, in this respect, undergone heavy losses: up to the end of June last the increase of the foreign trade of that city was very large, but since then the decline has been very marked. That Hiogo (Kobé) has been more fortunate is to be accounted for by the fact that the foreign trade of Osaka is almost exclusively in the hands of Chinese.

Figures notwithstanding, there can be no doubt that the trade in imports has been seriously affected in consequence of a certain tightness in the money market which has unsettled Japanese trade; the interruption of the ordinary means of communication with the interior by the constant movement of troops has also greatly interfered with business generally. On the other hand, the demand for special goods was great, and foreign ships were extensively chartered and sold, greatly to the benefit of those who desired to dispose of old stock.

IMPORTS.

EXCHANGE.—Commenced under sufficiently favourable conditions as regards stocks and forward contracts, the year had barely opened ere the unwelcome problem of exchange movements once more presented itself. From January till March the record of this restless factor was one of persistent decline, and it is hardly too much to say that the first 4 or 5 months of the year were practically consumed in the efforts of the market to adjust itself to the constantly shifting value of the dollar. When it is remembered how largely "forward" transactions on a sterling basis have become the rule of late, the discouraging effect produced on native buyers by this unlooked-for depreciation can be readily imagined, nor has later experience in the same direction softened the recollection of losses thereby incurred.

While it would be absurd to suppose that foreign importers have entirely escaped the penalties attaching to incessant fluctuations in silver (being as a matter of fact frequently compelled to share the losses of their customers), it is certain that owing to the growing prevalence of gold currency purchases, Japanese have suffered considerably from this cause.

Consisting chiefly of staples such as cotton, rice, and sugar, it is not surprising when the progressive tendency of this district as a consumer of raw products is remembered, that the total increase in the import trade of the year (amounting roughly to $16,000,000), should be largely accounted for under this branch.

To a country with Japan's distinct proclivities towards development of home industries such a result is almost bound to continue, although it has undoubtedly been materially contributed to during 1894 by the extraordinary disparity in the relation of silver to gold. In connection with this propensity for the extension of manufactures, it is a significant fact that in spite of greatly enhanced cost as compared with previous years, statistics of plant laid down continue to show a steady increase. Cotton—undoubtedly the principal manufacturing staple so far employed—alone shows an enlarged consumption of over 30 per cent., equal to more than $4,000,000, the only other article occupying a parallel position being rice, the increase in which runs very little short of the same percentage.

ON THE OUTBREAK OF WAR fears of immediate stagnation, however, were soon dispelled by the demand that almost immediately arose for various and numerous articles of import required in connection with hostile operations abroad, a recovery in exchange to the extent of 10 per cent., and early tidings of initial successes gained by the Japanese forces, also contributing individually to the re-establishment of confidence. While it must be admitted that the activity engendered has so far gone a long way towards mitigating the depressing influence of the war in other branches of the import trade, evidence of the existence of such depression has been by no means altogether lacking. Time, moreover, has yet to prove whether the worst is not still to come.

Statistically speaking, the situation of the market compares favourably with former years, and in addition to having proved a valuable safeguard during 1894, the general lightness of stocks may be reasonably expected to exercise a similar influence in sellers' favour should demand during the next few months undergo any marked improvement.

RAW COTTON.—The cotton-spinning industry in Japan has continued to extend itself, and the present number of spindles amounts to upwards of 540,000, in addition to which several new mills are in course of construction, whilst still more are being planned. The importation of the raw material has, of course, been enhanced in proportion to the above increase, and the total is much in excess of last year. Bombay cotton again forms the bulk of the import, amounting to 105,700 bales against 87,500 bales during 1893.

With regard to raw cotton, the amount imported in 1884 was, in round figures, 6,000,000lbs., as against 160,000,000lbs. in the year under review.

CONCERNING KEROSENE OIL, it is worth noticing that the wells at Yechigo are now turning out about 150,000 gallons monthly. A great change will, in the near future, come over this trade in the Far East when the petroleum wells, already almost exclusively supplying Singapore, get into full working order.

The importation of clocks and watches is rapidly decreasing, and the Japan factories will at an early date, be able to supply the entire demand.

The same may be said of glass and glassware, hats and caps; in fact hats and caps made in Japan are now being exported in steadily increasing quantities.

EXPORTS.

The export trade of this district continues to expand, the statistics showing an increase of four millions as compared with the previous year. Much of the increase is no doubt due to the low price of silver, declining exchange having facilitated operations, which otherwise would not have been possible. On the other hand, however, the market value of goods has usually risen in proportion to each fluctuation in sterling, and the native seller has alone reaped the benefit. The war has had scarcely any appreciable effect upon the homeward export trade as yet. Exports of Japanese produce to China have, however, been seriously affected, and whilst some of this business has passed into Japanese or foreign hands, much, formerly managed exclusively by Chinese, has doubtless been entirely checked.

TEA.—The season opened earlier than usual, and although at first it seemed certain that the crop would be a large one, subsequent unfavourable weather had the effect of curtailing the yield.

Returns obtained by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce show that the tea plantations throughout the country covered, at the close of 1893, 157,847½ acres, and the following is published in the *Official Gazette* as the areas and quantities of the principal districts:—

	Acres.	Lbs. Production.
Shizuoka	28,267	14,207,408
Miyé	11,137	4,796,442
Kioto	7,652	4,494,341
Fukuoka	5,022	3,042,041
Nara	5,105	2,614,717
Gifu	4,382	2,574,175

RICE.—The year cannot be regarded as a very satisfactory one owing to the shortage of the crop in 1893. Total export amounts to only 68,000 tons as against 91,000 last year. The 1894 crop is very large and has been well harvested, but the official report is not yet published. A serious drawback to the export of Japan rice to Europe has been want of uniformity in the quantity and quality sent, and the consequent impossibility of giving any fixed quotation in the market.

COPPER.—The downward tendency of exchange rates, with its occasional fluctuation, has naturally come very much into play with this valuable article, but as a rule a drop in exchange came simultaneously with a decline in copper values at home, and prices on this side have not therefore shown very rapid or wide fluctuations. The export figures keep pace with former years, viz.:—1894, 7,100 tons: 1893, 7,000 tons; 1892, 7,100 tons; 1891, 7,000 tons.

The export to Europe has increased, whilst the exports to India and other countries shows a falling-off. A special feature of the year is that direct exports by Japanese, to Europe as well as to India, show themselves more conspicuously.

CRUDE CAMPHOR.—A material reduction in business as compared with former years is the chief feature, which may be attributed to the ever-growing production of Formosa and also to the gradual improvement in the quality of the latter.

A feature of remark was the formation of a guild amongst the native sellers, with the declared object of establishing a much needed reform in quality by introducing certain new and uniform delivery terms, which came into force in July. Though it can hardly be said that the contemplated reform has shown itself in the quality of subsequent shipments, there is no doubt that the new delivery terms have done away with a great deal of the trouble and disputes previously existing. It remains to be hoped that, in face of the Formosa competition, the Japanese will before long see the wisdom of improving their quality up to its original standard of many years ago.

VEGETABLE WAX.—The export during 1894 shows a very considerable increase on that of the previous year, amounting to about 40,200 piculs, against about 28,000 piculs in 1893, and prices, in spite of the constant falling of exchange, have rather gone lower than what they opened with at the beginning of the year.

ANTIMONY.—The home markets have been keeping very dull, and in sympathy with them business here has also been very slack at cheap figures.

YARNS.—Preparations for the commencement of an export trade to China were greatly stimulated by the abolition in July last of all export duty on Japanese manufactured yarn, and for a time resulted in shipments to that market being pushed briskly forward. Since the outbreak of the war, however, inquiry from the other side has fallen off almost entirely.

FLOOR MATTING.—The rapid progress made in the manufacture of this article is more and more noticeable each year, the export for 1894 amounting to over 277,000 rolls of 40 yards each, against 227,000 rolls in 1893. The chief demand comes from New York, and the quantity carried to that port by sailing vessels alone amounted to over 170,000 rolls, being an average of over 12,000 rolls per vessel, which shows what an important factor as regards freight this industry has assumed in the trade from this port. New designs of matting are being constantly invented by the Japanese, while the workmen are very ready to execute orders based on patterns received from foreign countries, so that the number of styles now available to the exporter is almost unlimited.

A return shows the export trade of Japan in several of the principal articles of Japan make. As there is in many cases a distinct tendency towards rapid increase, the matter concerns foreign manufacturers considerably. The custom-house statistics for 1894, from which the enclosed table has been compiled, disclose the following exports of Japanese-made manufacture to various foreign countries:—4,718,491lb. of cotton yarn, valued at $955,530; 546,091 hemp and cotton floor-cloths, valued at $1,134,073; 34,861 hats and caps at an average cost of $1 43c. each; 13,843,022 gross of matches, at 27.5c. per gross; 1,487,392lb. of washing soap at 18.4c. per lb.; 18,460 pairs of boots and shoes, at an average of 75⅝c. per pair; 1,960,661 umbrellas of European shape, at an average cost of 33c. each; 2,062,697 bundles of straw plaits, at a custom-house value of $743,399.

BANKING FACILITIES.—In the report on the trade of 1893 it was stated that foreign banking arrangements were entirely insufficient. There is now every prospect of improvement, another institution, the Chartered Bank of India, Australia, and China having opened an agency under one of its own officials. In the interests of the steadily increasing importance of this district, destined to be a very large trading centre, it is, however, recognised as necessary that Kobe should, in its banking arrangements, be independent of other ports.

Boycotting continues to be practised, but with indifferent success, it is said. It is to be hoped that the unwisdom of such combinations will be speedily realised. Quite recently a Japanese was boycotted by a guild because he had sold goods to a firm against which, to quote the expression used by a Japanese newspaper containing this information, with full particulars and names, the association was "waging war."

The Custom House warehouse, shed, and pier accommodation, and the facilities for landing and embarking passengers continue to be in the same extremely unsatisfactory condition referred to in previous reports. It is, however, proper to state that this condition of things is not due to any indifference on the part of the authorities, a Bill for general harbour and wharf improvements having been recently thrown out by the Diet. The position is an exceedingly unfortunate one, it hampers trade very seriously, and affects Japanese to a far greater extent than foreigners.

PUBLIC WORKS.—The harbour improvement scheme is hanging fire for the present, but people continue sanguine that something will be done in that direction at no very great distance of time.

The electric railway, mooted some months ago, to run throughout the whole length of the city, is not making much progress, and the opposition it has encountered does not seem to lessen. The scheme for the removal of the Kobe station in order that the present site may be used for building purposes has been referred to a special committee; altogether the business is too large an

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order to offer any reasonable prospects of present success.

Some progress has been made in regard to the Water-works; this is a matter of dire necessity for the 160,000 people residing in the city.

The works in connection with the proposed diversion of the wide but extremely shallow water-course between Kobe and Hiogo, and the scheme for the cutting of a canal through the south-east point off Hiogo, have not advanced beyond the preliminary steps referred to in the last report.

Great progress has been made with the Osaka Water-works, and it is expected that they will be opened towards the end of the year.

FREIGHT.—The period under review has not been marked by any great fluctuation in the rates of homeward freights, although the quantity of cargo shipped has largely increase. The war with China has induced an unusual demand for foreign steamers. Almost all the larger vessels owned by native steamship companies have been requisitioned by the Government for the transport of troops, and their places have been supplied by the charter of foreign ships. In addition, fourteen steamers have been purchased at this port, at an aggregate cost of $1,341,000.

During the past ten years the total shipping of this place has increased four fold in tonnage, that of Yokohama has nearly doubled. The tonnage of British ships here is five-fold the amount of ten years ago, that of Yokohama is two and a half times more. The increase in German tonnage is considerable, so is that of French vessels. American shipping is again on the increase, though at one time much reduced, owing to transfer of mail line and steamers to Japanese.

Formerly the coaling of ships took place here, but of late years this work has been more and more generally done at Shimonoseki and Moji, until vessels have now entirely ceased to take coal here.

In connection with British interests generally, and those of shipping in particular, the two ominous signs of the future are that Japan coal is being used in large and increasing quantities, and that shipowners and directors of companies find it greatly to their advantage to have the periodical repairs and overhauling of ships' boilers and machinery carried out at one or other of the ports of Japan and China, owing to the high scale of wages which the British workman demands and insists on having. These are weighty words uttered by the Chairman of the China Mutual Steam Navigation Company.

THE SILVER QUESTION SOLVED.—While on financial matters, it is not altogether inappropriate to refer to what a writer in the *Nippon* (a Tokyo journal) says about the rehabilitation of silver. He urges the authorities to avail of the present humbled condition of China to make Japan chief of an Eastern Asia Silver Union. China is to be ordered to coin silver; this, it is calculated, would drain off at least 20,000,000 ounces from the market. Then the United States is to be called upon to restore the Silver Purchase Bill, and the writer further says that the Indian Government would readily join in the general scheme. Irrespective of the attitude of such petty countries as Singapore, Hongkong, Cochin-China, Java, Tongking, the Philippine Islands, Siam, and Korea, whose attitude, however, cannot be questioned, Japan, China, and India could amply control the whole matter.

If, therefore, a definite amount of silver were to be coined, as in the Latin Union, the annual amount required would be 59,000,000 ozs., and the fall in silver would thus be arrested, even before actual coinage commences, as the price of that article is apparently regulated by the demand in oriental countries. The United States having been induced to purchase silver, the annual demand would equal its production, and be as follows:—

	Ounces.
The Eastern Asia Union	59,000,000
Purchase by the United States	54,000,000
European countries	30,000,000
Other countries	10,000,000
Total	153,000,000

Such are, briefly, the views of the anonymous Japanese financier for the solution of a question which is puzzling the whole world.

EMIGRATION of the lower classes, under Government supervision, continues to increase. Considerable batches of labourers are still being constantly sent to Hawaii. A scheme for sending trained young men to Siam is being matured. Guatemala is also stated to be a promising field. Then, too, the agent of an emigration society established at this port is leaving for North Borneo to inquire into matters, and, if possible, make necessary arrangements. The Fiji Islands scheme has not been a success, so far. In the near future the Brazils will in all probability be a great field for emigrants. Canada and Australia have also, to some extent, been made use of as outlets for a portion of the labouring classes.

THE COTTON SPINNING INDUSTRY.

The increase in the leading industry in Japan has been extraordinary.

The first spinning mill was erected in 1863, and had 5,456 spindles. There were in Japan:—

	Mills.	Spindles.
At the end of 1883	16	43,700
At the end of 1888	24	88,140
On June 30th, 1892	35	324,800
On June 30th, 1893	37	345,470
On December 31st, 1894.	47	—*

The 40 mills returned as being at work at the close of 1894 have 513,936 spindles going, and give employment to 29,455 female and 8,444 male operatives, working in day and night shifts, per month from 12 to 31 days of from 21 to 24 hours. The average wage of the male operative is c.17·61 and that of the female c.9·62. In 5 Osaka mills the lowest and highest wages paid were c.4 and c.55. This industry was during the latter half of 1894 in an unusually depressed condition. There has evidently been a great falling off in the profits of the various companies, and, taken as a whole, last year's proceeds of all the spinning mills were only one-half of those realised in 1893, when this industry enjoyed great prosperity.

In the report for 1893 mention was made of the care taken by the directors of one of the spinning mills of the girls in their employ, of their savings bank system, and of the gratis medical attendance furnished to the sick. It should now be placed on record that the Osaka Cotton Spinning Company deserves credit for being the first to start an educational system for its operatives. Rules were recently drawn up for the instruction of the hands in writing, reading, arithmetic, sewing, &c., and they have been handed in to the authorities for approval. It appears to be the intention to confine this privilege to operatives living at the premises of the company. It has also been decided to defray the funeral expenses of any deceased boarding operative, and to give a trifling gratuity to his relatives.

During the course of this year a branch of the Kanegafuchi Mills, with 50,000 spindles, is to be opened, and a rumour has been current for some time past that a new company is to be started in Osaka for the manufacture of certain higher counts not at present produced in Japan.

In last year's report reference was made to a combination entered into between the Cotton Spinner's Union and the Japan Mail Steamship Company for the purpose of carrying on the cotton trade with Bombay, the chief object being to obtain raw cotton at a cheaper rate of freight. The success of this enterprise, which took effect from November 1st 1893, is readily gauged by the fact that in 1894 that firm petitioned the Secretary of State for India against the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, who had previously been, and still are also running a regular line of steamers between Bombay and Japan. It is stated on excellent authority that some of the arguments used during negotiations, such as the plea that parties of a kindred race should join hands to the exclusion of Europeans, were quite in keeping with the sentiments and principles which dictated the appeal referred to above. It is an established fact that this combination, in itself a perfectly legitimate enterprise, has been anything but a success for some of the parties concerned. The Japanese soon discovered the little game of their would-be friends, and the latter found that running steamers did not agree with their bank account. The spinners, on the other hand, have been supplied with cotton under conditions far less favourable than those hitherto existing and by which they purchased cotton as and when required, instead of having as at present to pay for a whole cargo on arrival. Since the above was written the partnership with the enterprising Indian firm has come to an end, and the Japan Mail Steamship Company now run the necessary steamers without its assistance.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Here is a story by Tom Ochiltree, the famous Texan, of one of his recent ocean trips: "I was coming across, and a very good sort of a Britisher used to sit with me in the smoking-room. I tried all my best jokes on him, and he never cracked a smile. At last I got angry and I said: 'I don't think an Englishman could see a joke if you fired it at him out of a gun.' And then that blessed Englishman stood up on his hind legs and said: 'How can you fire a joke out of a gun?'"

A TRAGEDY ON THE "HANKOW."

TWENTY CENTS FOR A MAN'S LIFE.

Just after luncheon on Friday afternoon, between half-past one and two o'clock, Lee Fong, the chief saloon boy on the steamer *Hankow* (Captain Orr), now lying in Yokohama harbour, quarrelled with Chan Pat, the chief cook, over the exchange rate of an American gold dollar, lost by him at *fan-tan* gambling with the cook. The boy in the course of the dispute, which raged over only 20 cents, seized a knife and stabbed the cook in the calf of the leg: then the cook caught the knife and cut the boy a terrible gash on the outer side of the left thigh. So severe was the hemorrhage that within two minutes the boy was dead from exhaustion. The officers of the ship were on the spot as quickly as possible, but of course could do nothing to save the boy's life. On the facts being reported to H.B.M. Consulate, Mr. J. Carey Hall went off and conducted a Board of Trade enquiry into the circumstances. The evidence led was as follows:—

William Ehrhardt, First Officer of the *Hankow*, sworn, deposed—I first heard of a quarrel between the Chinese before lunch. I went to the boys' cabin and told them to keep quiet. They stopped quarrelling and I went to lunch. After lunch, about 2 o'clock, or a little before, I went along the alleyway and heard a shriek. Opening the door of the boys' cabin I found the chief cook and the chief saloon boy engaged in a struggle. The two were handling a knife between them. The saloon boy then spoke to me, saying that he had been killed—he was dying then. Both men were retaining hold of the knife. I went out of the room to get assistance, and then went back and seperated the men. In the meantime, the saloon-boy was all but dead, only a few gasps being left in him as we took him out on deck. We tried to staunch the bleeding of the wound, but in vain. The knife I now produce was taken out of the chief cook's hands.

The weapon was an ordinary butcher's sheep-cleaning knife, and was stained with blood.

To the Consul—The affray took place in the boys' room. The cook had no right to be in the boys' room. The chief boy sleeps in the saloon, and the cook has a seperate room, along the same alleyway. In quelling the row in the boys' room, before lunch I did not enter the room. There was squabbling going on and high voices were heard. I should think three at least were taking part in the quarrel then. I surmise that the cause of the quarrel was the usual one—a gambling dispute. I have had to stop the cook from gambling in the sailors' forecastle: he was holding the bank then. This was four or five days ago. He was then gambling with the Chinese passengers. I know that gambling is common among the Chinese boys on board. I do not think the Chinese crew go in for it much, as they have not enough money. When I saw the men after lunch the saloon-boy was lying in a pool of blood. When the boy said that he was being killed, the cook called out, "He is killing me." I did not try to separate them until I obtained assistance, as the men looked dangerous.

Peter A. Miller, Second Officer of the *Hankow*, sworn, deposed—I was standing on the fore-deck some time between half-past one and two o'clock, when the Chief Officer requested me to at once give assistance in stopping a quarrel. I followed the Chief Officer at once, along the starboard alley-way, until I got to the Chinese boys' room, where I could see that a quarrel was going on. I immediately rushed in, and found the European donkey-man inside. I saw the Chinese cook and the first saloon boy lying in blood on the floor. At a hurried glance I saw that the first saloon boy had got the worst of the affray. On examining both of them (by eyesight) as they lay upon the floor, I saw the handle of a knife sticking out of the cook's hand. Waiting an opportunity, I seized his wrist, and with my other hand wrenched the knife from him. The room being too small to allow me to see what injuries had been sustained, with the assistance of the third officer, I got the chief cook out on deck, and then the saloon boy. On taking the boy on the fore-deck, I looked to see where his wound was, and not finding it on the upper part of his body, I took the knife, which I kept possession of, and ripped up the left leg of his trousers, at once discovering the fatal wound. About a minute elapsed from the time that I saw the wound, until the man was dead. I was then sent ashore by the Chief Officer for assistance.

To the Consul—I surmise the cause of the quarrel was gambling. The boys generally gamble at *fan-tan*. I have seen the boys go down among the Chinese passengers, and I surmise it is for the purpose of gambling, though I have never actually seen them at it. When I went into the

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room the cook was slightly leaning over the body of the first saloon-boy. The cook's hand was working underneath the body of the boy, and I now surmise that he was turning the knife in the wound. The boy was past speaking when I arrived: the cook may have said something, but of that I would not be certain. I saw some blood on each side of the cook's head. The donkeyman was in the room before I got there, and there were several Chinese boys in their bunks. I identify Loo Chun as being there.

Thomas Charles Thorp, Third Officer, sworn, deposed—I had just gone into my room after lunch, when I heard a scuffle through the bulkhead. I ran out on deck and round to the boys' room. I went into just behind the donkeyman. I found the cook and the chief saloon boy lying in a pool in blood, the cook having his hand on the handle of a knife. The boy was holding on to the cook's wrist by his right hand. The knife was sticking out at right angles to the boy's thigh, the cook was leaning over the boy's body. The boy said, in English, "This man stab me," and then the Second Officer entered and passed in front of me, so that for the moment I could not see further. The Chief Officer then ordered us to take the men out on deck: we did so, the cook being brought out first. On going back for the boy I found him lying flat on his side on the floor of the room. The donkey man said, "He's dead." We lifted the boy and carried him out on deck. I could not identify any of the boys that were in the room at the time. I know nothing of the cause of the quarrel, and have never seen the two men together before.

Thomas Kiernan, the donkeyman, sworn, deposed—At twenty minutes to two o'clock I was in the mess-room having my dinner, when I heard a row. I said to the Chinese mess-room boy, "Whats' up, cards again?" He said, "Nothing, only a bit of a row." With that I heard a shriek. I jumped from the table and ran out. The boy ran before me, and when I got to the boys' door, the Chief Officer was just going in. I followed in and the first words the cook sang out were: "He killee me, he killee me." The Chief Officer turned out to go for more help. I saw a knife in the boy's hand, and the cook's hands were round the boy's wrist. I saw the blade of the knife at the end of the boy's sleeve. I directed Mr. Miller's attention to the knife when he came in the moment after, and he took the knife out of the three hands: I could not see which hand it was in. The men were sitting huddled close together when I first saw them, the boy being under, and falling to the deck with faintness. The men were close beside the bottom bunks. Blood was around them and all over the knife.

Loo Wah Kang, cautioned, said the quarrel between the cook and the saloon boy arose through gambling, the men disputing as to the rate of exchange of an American dollar. The saloon boy said, the exchange is $1.80, and the cook said no, it is $1.60. Witness was in the room when the fight occurred, lying in his bunk. He did not see the blow struck, but saw the two men grasping each other. He entered the room about a quarter to two o'clock that day, and found the cook and the boy squabbling. Witness went straight to his bunk and laid down. Both the men then called out for assistance, but witness did not see who possessed the knife or first used it. He never saw the saloon boy use a knife like that shown him. This knife belonged to the kitchen. The cook was in the habit of going into the boys' room for a chat. *Fan-tan* was sometimes played on board, and this quarrel arose out of it. The boy had lost the American dollar to the cook and the cook asked him to redeem it at the rate of $1.80, but the boy was only willing to redeem it at $1.60, so the dispute was between the difference in exchange.

Wong Ming, a mess-room boy, cautioned, deposed—While the men were quarrelling I was in the mess-room. I saw the fight. The cook and the boy were facing each other, and the dispute was about the exchange of an American dollar. The boy asked the cook to sell him the dollar back, or return him 20 cents, to make up the difference of exchange, which was fixed at the time of the gambling. The cook, in reply, said: I cannot do it, for the exchange was fixed at $1.60; now you may find on our arrival at Yokohama the exchange should be $1.80. You wish to redeem the dollar at $1.60, but I cannot allow you; for instance, if the exchange at Yokohama is $1.40, you will not make up the difference to me. Then the boy asked the cook to fight. The cook said that there was no use in fighting, and left the room with the intention of going ashore. Soon after he returned to the room and said that the boat-hire was too dear, the wind blowing so hard. Then the boy demanded the exchange of the dollar again, or else a challenge to fight. The cook said: "If you went to fight, come out of the room, and fight on deck." Then the boy, leaving his seat, drew a knife and cut the cook on the leg. The cook then took the knife away from the boy and stabbed him with it on the leg. The boy then cried out for assistance and the other Chinese boys sent for the Chief Officer. Then the officers came into the room and the boy died. He was quite sure the boy struck the first blow. He did not see where the boy obtained the knife. The boy was sitting on his bunk when the cook entered the room. Witness did not know to whom the knife belonged. The cook was the first to get up from the bunk before the blow. He was stabbed in the calf of the right leg. The boy was stabbed on the outside of the left thigh. The cook got on to the boy while putting the knife into him.

Tang Wang Yeh, cautioned, deposed to hearing the sounds of the quarrel, but did not see the stabbing.

The inquiry was then adjourned till 10 o'clock on Saturday morning, for the production of Dr. Swann's testimony as to the cause of death.

The cook was then arrested and placed in custody.

James H. Swan, doctor of the *Hankow*, sworn, said:—I have examined the corpse of the deceased, Li Fong. The cause of death was hemorrhage from the femoral artery of the left leg, caused by a deep incised wound, about 4 inches long, extending from above downwards and inwards on the outside of the left thigh about the bottom of the upper third. I have seen the knife (produced). This is just such a knife as would have produced the wound. Death must have resulted within, at the outside, five minutes after the infliction of such a wound. I have examined and dressed the wound on the cook's leg. It is a clean incised wound, an about an inch long, in the calf of the leg, downwards and upwards, merely incising the muscle. It is not dangerous. It is a clean cut, such as would be inflicted by a knife.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 1.

The Sultan is still unyielding, and the position reveals a critical state of affairs.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, Dec. 2, 3.30 p.m.

Judgment has been delivered in H.B.M. Consular Court at Kobe, by Mr. Enslie, in the case brought by Etsu Genjiro, of Sakai-machi, against Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, for $304.92, for the non-delivery of nine bales of cotton shipped at Shanghai per steamer *Dardanus* in March last. The petition alleged that 700 bales were shipped, and that only 691 bales were received. The defence was that only 691 bales were shipped. Judgment was for plaintiff, the value of the nine bales being computed at the market value prevailing in March last.

(FROM THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY.")

Hongkong, November 28.

Mr. Poon Pong, an influential Chinese gentleman, and resident of Hongkong, died yesterday. He was one of the capitalists of the Colony, and part-proprietor of the *Hongkong Telegraph*. He was only fifty-seven years of age. The cause of his death was diabetes.

(FROM THE "COMMERCIO.")

Madrid, Nov. 21.

On the Bourse to-day the rumours of an early peace in Cuba became more accentuated, although, up to the present, Senor Canovas del Castillo states that they are without foundation.

(FROM THE "COURRIER D'HAIPHONG.")

Paris, November 11.

M. Doumer has conferred with a number of bankers with the aim of arresting the fall on the Bourse, caused by the decline in mines and in Turkish securities. The bankers are examining measures to restore confidence.

November 12.

The panic on the Bourse is stemmed.

The squadron has sailed for the Levant.

The news from Armenia continues bad.

At Cairo, Felmny replaces Nubar, whose health has obliged him to resign.

November 13.

M. Poincarré is appointed Vice-President of the Chamber, and M. Carnot, Secretary.

The Chamber is discussing the reform of the succession duties.

The situation in Turkey shows signs of improvement.

November 14

The question of the Southern Railways has been taken up again: no statesman is implicated.

M. Rousseau has landed at Marseilles.

November 15.

M. Guieyesse and the members of the Cabinet were at the station to receive M. Rousseau, who was to visit the Minister in the afternoon.

The Chamber has voted by 347 to 87 an Order of the Day expressing confidence in the Ministry, and declaring that it will await the modification of the law against anarchist conspiracies.

November 16.

M. Rousseau has discussed with M. Guieyesse the questions that prompted his voyage home. He wishes to return to his post as soon as these questions are resolved. A decree charges M. Rousseau, following on his election as Senator, with a temporary temporary mission as Governor of Indo-China.

Arton, arrested at London, has been brought before an English Court; he refuses to speak.

M. Rousséau has conferred with Col. Archinard on the subject of the situation in Tongking

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Hiroshima, Dec. 3.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Fifth Army Division yesterday gave orders to the Judge Advocate department to examine the military deportees, and their trial will shortly commence, although no formal request is made for the opening of a Court Martial.

Hiroshima, Dec. 5.

Mr. Asada, attendant in the Court of H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, arrived here last night to receive the Prince, the Commander of the First Brigade, who is expected to shortly arrive here from Formosa.

Major-General Baron Oshima and Mr. Mizuno, Chief of the Administrative Office in Formosa, arrived at Ujina to-day by the *Kaijo Maru*.

Nagasaki, Dec. 5.

The Saseho naval dock was formally opened to-day with great ceremony.

The British gunboat *Pigmy* has arrived here from Shanghai.

Kanazawa, Dec. 5.

The Prefectural Assembly to-day passed a proposition to construct a military harbour at Nanao.

Ninsen, December 5.

A foreign man-of-war left here at 2.15 p.m. to-day for Chefoo. It is stated that In Chi-ko and other persons who were connected with the latest disturbance, were on board the ship.

The following telegram, dated at Taipeh on the 29th ult., dispatched by Governor-General Count Kabayama, reached Head-quarters, Tokyo, yesterday.

The Yamaguchi battalion reached Seiseisho, on the left bank of the Tongkong, on the 28th. The rebels of the district soon dispersed and their leaders seem to have fled to the mountains; other of the insurgents mingled with the peaceful inhabitants. The Yamaguchi troops were to inquire into the condition of Kokosui and Haishiroto.

A telegraph wire has been conducted for the use of the Yamaguchi battalion, and a telegraph office has been opened at Seiseisho.

A telegraph wire is being conducted between Horyo and Koshun.

The following telegram, dispatched by Governor-General Count Kabayama at Taipeh on the 30th ult., was received by Head-quarters yesterday.

Whereas the scouting party of the Yamaguchi battalion was dispatched to Kokosui on the 29th ult. the inhabitants of the district surrendered all warlike instruments as a sign of their obedience to the Japanese.

The Yamaguchi battalion proceeded to Kokosui on the 30th ult. leaving some men in the neighbourhood of Seiseicho.

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 204.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q R 6	1—Q takes B
2—Q to K sq. ch.	2—K moves
3—Q mates	
	1—K to B 4
2—Q to K R sq	2—Anything
3—Q or B mates	
	1—P to B 8 (Q)
2—Kt takes P ch.	2—Kt takes Kt
3—B to Q 3, mate	
	1—P to B 8 (Kt)
2—B takes Kt	2—Anything
3—B or Kt mates.	

Correct answers from Shogi, J.D., Omega, and Kt.

W.D.C. and Kt. found a "cook" on our first diagram, commencing Kt to Kt 5 ch., but this does not work in the problem as reprinted.

One or two solvers sent a solution beginning Q to K B sq., but Black's reply P to B 8 (Kt) stops this.

Solution of Problem No. 205.

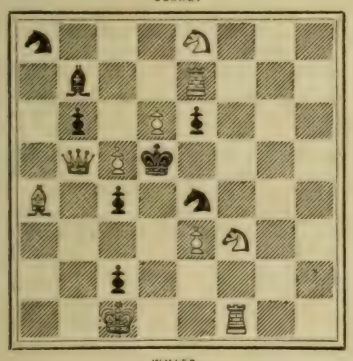
WHITE.	BLACK.
1—Q B to Q 4	1—B takes Q B
2—Kt to Q 6, mate	
	1—R takes B
2—Kt to B 3, mate	
	1—B takes K B
2—Kt to K B 6, mate	
	1—R to Kt 5
2—Kt to K B 6, mate	
	1—Kt to Q 4
2—B to Kt 6, mate.	

Correct answers from W.D.C., Shogi, J.D., Digamma, Kt., Omega, W.H.S., and E. J. King

Problem No. 207.

By Walter Pulitzer.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Yokohama Chess Club.

CHAMPIONSHIP.

The drawing for the December round is as under:—

Griffin *versus* Mendelson.
Wollheim *versus* McIlwraith.
Tennant a bye.

Y.C.C. Club Tournament.

A Handicap tournament starts this month. Entries to be in by the 16th. Play commences Thursday, 19th. Each player to contest two games with every competitor. All games to be finished by 29th February, 1896.

Four classes, with progressive odds as under:—Scratch; P and move; P and two moves; Knight.

Tokio Chess Club Tournament.

This is getting down to narrow limits now; the leaders being Mason, Dun, Pownall, and Walz. The final duel will probably be between Mason and Walz some time before New Year.

Gunsberg writes as follows in the *St. James's Budget* of 4th October:—

The St. Petersburg Match Tournament.

PILLSBURY'S EARLY PLAY.

The St. Petersburg Chess Club have now issued the formal invitations to the first five prize winners at Hastings to contest the contemplated tournament at St. Petersburg in November. The proposal is that each player shall play four games with every other, each man thus playing sixteen games in all. The club pays all expenses, and also offers to the players a remuneration in proportion to the games they win. Up to the present Steinitz is the only player who may be definitely relied on to keep Tschigorin company. Tarrasch has positively declared that he would not play, Lasker has not yet definitely accepted, and Pillsbury is very doubtful.

I came across a game played by Pillsbury when the latter was still comparatively unknown to fame, and could not have been more than twenty years of age. With much curiosity I played the game over to look for traces of coming greatness in this early effort, also to see to what extent his style of play had altered. I was much surprised at finding that the game was one which really might have been played at Hastings, and would have been considered a fine specimen of Pillsbury's style. This furnishes us with one more example of the fact often demonstrated, that the player is at his best in his first youth; his style is then formed, and all subsequent play and experience does not affect him to any great extent. He may acquire self-reliance, greater freedom from mistakes, more self-restraint, and greater powers of endurance both mentally and physically; but all this will not affect his style of play, and, in particular, his imaginative faculties will not benefit by experience—in fact, the reverse is likely to be the case. In the appended game Pillsbury adopts the safe queen's side opening, showing that even at that early stage this *début* was most suited to his style. He developed his pieces in a simple manner, but so effectively that he succeeded in making his opponent move his king. Having done that, he does not precipitate an attack, but continues the pressure on the queen's side, by playing 14—P to Q Kt 4, and 15—Q to R 4, &c., in the most approved Philistine fashion. He then plays a very fine move of 17—P to Q 5, and on his opponent being compelled to play P to K 4, he finishes the finely conceived attack in masterly manner, though assisted by a mistake on the part of his opponent, with a move of 18—Kt to R 4.

Game No. 399.

Game played by Pillsbury at Buffalo, U.S.A.:—

WHITE. Pillsbury.	BLACK. Farnsworth.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—Kt to B 3	4—P to Q Kt 3
5—B to Kt 5	5—B to Kt 2
6—R to B sq.	6—Q Kt to Q 2
7—P to K 3	7—B to K 2
8—P takes P	8—Kt takes P
9—Kt takes Kt	9—B takes Kt
10—B takes B	10—K takes B
11—B to Q 3	11—P to K R 3
12—Castles	12—R to K sq.
13—P to K 4	13—B to Kt 2
14—P to Q Kt 4	14—R to B sq.
15—Q to R 4	15—Q R to R sq.
16—B to Kt 5	16—P to K B 3
17—P to Q 5	17—P to K 4
18—Kt to R 4	18—P to R 3
19—Kt to Kt 6 (ch.)	19—K to B 2
20—B takes Kt	20—K takes Kt
21—B takes R (ch.)	21—Q takes B
22—Q takes Q (ch.)	22—R takes Q
23—R takes P	23—Resigns.

Chess in America.

(FROM THE "N. Y. TRIBUNE," NOV. 6.)

Pillsbury gave a most extraordinary performance of simultaneous play at the Franklin Chess Club, Philadelphia, on Wednesday evening. He played fifteen games of chess and seven games of checkers simultaneously, and finished all the games under four hours, with the following results:

He won eleven games at chess, lost two to S. Warren Bampton and F. W. Doerr, and drew two with J. P. and M. Morgan reepectively.

At checkers he won five games, he lost one to Mr. Finck and drew one with Mr. Gallagher.

Appended is a fine game, as contested on even terms between Pillsbury and the local player, Herm. G. Voight, at the Franklin Chess Club, Philadelphia, on Tuesday night:—

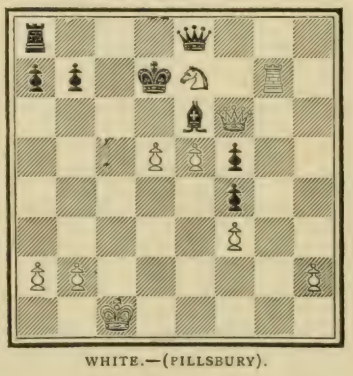
Game No. 400.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

WHITE. Mr. Pillsbury.	BLACK. Mr. Voight.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to Q 4
2—P to Q B 4	2—P to K 3
3—Kt to Q B 3	3—Kt to K B 3
4—B to Kt 5	4—B to K 2
5—P to K 3	5—Castles
6—Kt to B 3	6—Kt to K 5
7—B takes B	7—Q takes B
8—Q to B 2	8—P to K B 4
9—B to Q 3	9—P to Q B 3
10—Kt to K 5	10—Kt to Q 2
11—Kt (K 5) takes Kt	11—B takes Kt
12—P to B 3	12—Q to R 5 ch.
13—P to Kt 3	13—Kt takes P
14—Q to K B 2	14—P to B 5
15—P to K 4	15—Q to R 3
16—R to K Kt sq.	16—Kt to R 4
17—Castles	17—Kt to B 3
18—P to K 5	18—Kt to K sq.
19—R to Kt 4	19—P to K Kt 3
20—Q R to Kt sq.	20—Kt to Kt 2
21—B takes Kt P	21—P takes B
22—R takes P	22—Q to R 2
23—Q to Kt 2	23—R to B 2
24—Q to Kt 5	24—K to B sq.
25—R to R 6	25—Q to Kt sq.
26—Q to R 4	26—R to B 4
27—R to B 6 ch.	27—K to K sq.
28—Q to R 6	28—K to Q sq.
29—R takes Kt	29—Q to K sq.
30—R takes R	30—P takes R
31—Q to B 6 ch.	31—K to B sq.
32—P takes P	32—P takes P
33—Kt takes P	33—B to K 3
34—Kt to K 7 ch.	34—K to Q 2
35—P to Q 5	35—Resigns.

Following is the pretty position when Voight had to resign the game:

BLACK.—(VOIGHT).



WHITE.—(PILLSBURY).

This has been a bad week for Showalter. Of the three games played in his match with Lipschutz he lost two and drew one, and the present score in the match is 3 to 1 in favour of Lipschutz, one game being drawn.

Showalter, in speaking about the games played last week, had the following to say: In the third game I have given away a certain win by the offer to exchange queens in the first place, and my blindness in placing a rook in such a position as to lose this valuable piece. Had I played R to Q 6, instead of exchanging queens, my adversary would not have had a satisfactory answer at all. Of course, I am utterly disgusted with myself, and the less I say about it the better.

"Neither can I say much about the game played on Wednesday. Lipschutz selected the same defence which I used to play against him, 3...P—Q B 3. Contrary to usual play, I played 4 P—K 4 in order to get a quicker development of my forces. I did succeed in gaining time, but the wholesale exchange of pieces and an equally good position of pawns on either side had to lead to a draw.

"The fifth game, as you know, was conducted on similar lines to the third game. Lipschutz however, never gave me a chance of neutralizing the strong position of his passed pawn on the king's file by means of advancing my queen's and queen's bishop's pawns. He played this game wonderfully throughout, and he really deserved to have won the game. Following is the full score.

Game No. 401.

FIFTH GAME—RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Lipschutz.	BLACK. Showalter.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—Kt to B 3
4—Castles	4—P to Q 3
5—P to Q 4	5—P takes P
6—Kt takes P	6—B to Q 2
7—Kt takes Kt	7—P takes Kt
8—B to Q 3	8—B to K 2
9—Kt to B 3	9—Castles
10—P to K B 4	10—R to K sq.
11—Q to B 3	11—R to Kt sq.
12—P to Q Kt 3	12—P to Q 4
13—P to K 5	13—B to B 4 ch.
14—K to R sq.	14—Kt to Kt 5
15—Q to Kt 3	15—B to Q 5
16—B to Q 2	16—P to K B 4
17—P to K R 3	17—Kt to R 3
18—Q R to K sq.	18—R to K 3

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19—Kt to K 2	19—B to Kt 3
20—Q to B 3	20—R to K Kt 3
21—B to K 3	21—Q to R 5
22—B to B 2	22—B takes B
23—Q takes B	23—Q takes Q
24—R takes Q	24—P to B 4
25—Kt to Kt sq.	25—K R to Kt 3
26—Kt to B 3	26—Kt to B 2
27—Kt to R 2	27—P to Kt 3
28—P to K Kt 4	28—Kt to R 3
29—P takes P	29—Kt takes P
30—Kt to Kt 4	30—Kt to Kt 6 ch.
31—K to R 2	31—K to R 4
32—P to B 5	32—P takes P
33—B takes P	33—B to K 3
34—B takes B	34—R takes B
35—R to B 5	35—Kt to Kt 2
36—R to B 6	36—P to K R 4
37—R takes R	37—Kt takes R
38—Kt to B 6 ch.	38—K to R sq.
39—Kt takes Q P	39—Kt to Q 5
40—R to K B sq.	40—R to K sq.
41—R to B 7	41—R takes P
42—Kt to B 6	42—Kt to B 6 ch.
43—K to Kt 3	43—Kt to Kt 4
44—R takes P	44—R to B 4
45—P to K R 4	45—R to B 6 ch.
46—K to Kt 2	46—R takes Kt
47—P takes Kt	47—R to B 4
48—P to Kt 6	48—P to R 4
49—K to R 3	49—R to B 6 ch.
50—K to R 4	50—R to B 6
51—K to Kt 5	51—Resigns.
2 hrs. 36 m.	3 hrs. 5 m.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per O. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 7th.*
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 10th.†
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 8th.‖
From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 17th.¶
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 15th.
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 23rd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Dec. 25th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 2nd.

* *Evandale* left San Francisco on November 8th. † *Coptic* left San Francisco via Honolulu on November 21st. ‖ *Oanus* (with French mail) left Nagasaki on December 5th. ¶ *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on November 30th. The English mail is onboard the steamer *Anamor*.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per P. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 7th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 8th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 14th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 15th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, Dec. 18th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 23rd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 27th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Jan. 3rd.
For Victoria, B.C.	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 4th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 30th November,—Kobe 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 30th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 22nd November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 1st December,—Hakodate 29th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, R. Forsyth, 1st December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 1st December,—Yokkaichi 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 2nd December,—San Francisco 13th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 2nd December,—Kobe 30th November, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Kubota, 2nd December,—Kobe 1st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lady Furness, British steamer, 2,662, Tregarthen, 2nd December,—Kobe 30th November, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Bonnington, British steamer, 1,976, Leighton, 2nd December,—Shinagawa 2nd December, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 3rd December,—Yokkaichi 2nd December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 3rd November,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Strabury, 3rd December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 20th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Rhosina, British steamer, 1,692, Herriman, 3rd December,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Hokushin Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 4th December,—Kobe, General.—Captain.

Iser, British steamer, Burgoyne, 4th December,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 5th December,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 5th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 27th November, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,359, West, 6th December,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Pectan, British tank-steamer, 3,890, Hockins, 6th December,—Kobe 4th December, Petroleum.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Port Adelaide, British steamer, 1,783, Morgan, 6th December,—Moji, Coal.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anger Head, British steamer, 1,826, Motyer, 6th December,—Kobe 4th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,439, Bailey, 6th December,—Weather Bound.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 7th December,—Kobe 5th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Repton, British steamer, 1,890, Jack, 30th November,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Bayard (24), French flagship, Captain Fortin, 2nd December,—Nagasaki.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 2nd December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Baltimore (24), U.S. cruiser, Captain Day, 3rd December,—San Francisco.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 3rd December,—Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Erato, German steamer, 1,926, Osterman, 3rd December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Bonnington, British steamer, 1,976, Leighton, 3rd December,—Moji, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathdee, British steamer, 1,678, R. Forsyth, 4th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 4th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,439, Bailey, 4th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,163, Kubota, 4th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokushin Maru, Japanese steamer, 735, S. Oka, 4th December,—Shinagawa, Ballast.—Captain.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 4th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhosina, British steamer, 1,692, Herriman, 5th December,—Victoria, B.C., and Portland, Or., viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 7th December,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. Pomeroy, H. Goldman, T. C. Daniel, and Millwood in cabin.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from San Francisco:—Messrs. L. G. Stevenson, A. H. Butler, and E. de Bavier in cabin. For Shanghai:—Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Brockleman in cabin. For Hongkong:—Rev. and Mrs. E. McBerney, and Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Robb in cabin.

Per British steamer *China*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. E. W. Rutter, Mr. E. W. Fairley, Mr. Wm. Crawford, Mr. S. Komor, Mr. R. J. Kirby, Mr. Chang Pai Man, Mr. T. Suzuki, Mr. M. Ito, Miss C. L. Brown, Rev. D. C. Green, Rev. and Mrs. Noyes and child, Rev. H. B. Newell, Miss Parmele, Rev. W. W. Curtis, Miss Bradshaw, Mr. S. Hideshima, Mr. K. Kobayashi, and Mr. Y. Kobayashi in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mr. H. W. Grantley, Mr. J. V. C. Crawford, Mr. E. C. Dalton, Mr. Harrell, Rev. A. H. Bradford, Rev. J. L. Barton, Mrs. M. Wheeler, Miss C. Richards, Commander R. E. Impey, Miss A. G. Watters, Rev. and Mrs. Johnson, Mr. W. P. Ellison, Rev. and Mrs. Jas Cook, and Mr. T. B. Cunningham in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. Graham, Miss Lee, Miss Cora Ferris, Messrs. W. Cope, H. E. Peiget, A. Sheffield, H. A. J. Macroy, W. G. Ward, E. Rogers, D. Goldman, Rev. and Mrs. Shaw and child, Messrs. E. Stücken, B. Roth, B. Hatzfield, and F. Davies in cabin; 10 passengers in second class, and 123 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Hankow*, from Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—Miss J. Roberts in cabin; 50 Japanese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki:—Miss E. Bohn, Mr. P. W. Rosener Manz, Mrs. Otoa Murasati, and Mr. E. de Bavier in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Stanley L. Beale, Dr. A. H. Copeman, Miss A. Dudley, Commander Wm. M. Folger, Mr. W. Graham, Mrs. W. Graham, Mr. F. W. Horne, Mrs. F. W. Horne, Dr. E. H. Horsey, Colonel M. Hunsiker, Mr. H. A. J. Macray, Mr. Murai Yasukata, Mrs. Murai Yasukata, Mr. R. C. Ross, Mr. A. Sheffield, Mr. E. R. Smith, and Mr. Walter S. Ward in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong	4	—	—	—	25	29
Calcutta	—	—	—	10	—	10
Amoy	—	—	2,811	—	—	2,811
Foochow	748	—	994	268	—	2,010
Shanghai	3,419	1,514	1,927	129	—	6,989
Colombo	—	—	—	54	—	54
Yokohama	1,491	—	—	50	—	1,541
Total	5,662	1,514	5,732	511	25	13,444

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hongkong & Canton	50	—	50
Shanghai	635	—	635
Yokohama	911	6	917
Total	1,596	6	1,602

REPORTS.

The American steamer *Peru*, Captain D. E. Friele, reports:—Left San Francisco the 13th November at 4.10 p.m.; experienced strong N.W. and S.W. winds across. Arrived at Yokohama the 2nd December at 2.25 a.m.

SHIPPING IN YOKOHAMA.

STEAMERS.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 30th November,—Hongkong viâ ports, 22nd November, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Iser, British steamer, Burgoyne, 4th December,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Isis, British steamer, 1,588, Walker, 15th October,—Middlesboro', General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Lady Furness, British steamer, 2,662, Tregarthen, 2nd December,—Kobe 30th November, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 24th October,—Cardiff, Coal.—Langfeldt & Co.

Pectan, British tank-steamer, 3,890, Hockins, 6th December,—Kobe 4th December, Petroleum.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 3rd December,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

MEN-OF-WAR.

Admiral Nachimoff (18), Russian flagship, Captain Kachiriminoff, 9th November,—Hakodate.

Bobr (5), Russian gunboat, Captain Molos, 20th October,—Chefoo.

Forfait (16), French cruiser, Captain Delor, 19th November,—Nagasaki.

Isly (10), French cruiser, Captain Rivet, 31st October,—Nagasaki 28th October.

Olympia (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain J. G. Read, 9th November,—Honolulu 23rd October.

Pamiat Asova (14), Russian cruiser, Captain Schoukhuine, 1st November,—Hakodate.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

A dull week; nothing moves except Yarn, which finds a moderate sale, the market hardening a little as Exchange declines. In Grey Cottons, Grancies, and Woollens, not a single transaction with the solitary exception of a few hundred pieces of T.-Reds at easier rates.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38¼ yds. 39 inches	$2 30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38¼ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.30
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0 16 to 0 22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.75
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0 75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1 75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2 90 to 3.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0 30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0 25 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0 22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.55 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0 40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3lb, per lb	0 60 to 0 75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36 00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39 00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

Market very quiet. Quotations nominally the same, with the exception of Wire Nails which have declined yet further.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ½ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	3 20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.40 to 5.80
Tin Plates, per box	5.60 to 5 90
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

Prices are nominally unchanged, with no sellers. Prospective arrivals are very small, and the Baku fires or floods or both will stop shipments being made from Batoum for at least two months. Consequently buyers here must pay up if they want Oil.

American	Nom. $2.50
Russian	Nom. 2.50
Langkat	Nom. 2.30

SUGAR.

Brown—The market continues its upward course; Manila sorts being especially strong. White Refined—Good trade and prices firm at quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.80 to 5.25
Brown Daitong (New)	4.30 to 4.35
Brown Canton	4.20 to 4.75
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7.10
White Refined	6.30 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

After a long period of inaction and increasing stocks, sellers have reduced prices to a point which has once more brought buyers into the market. Stock had grown to 19,000 piculs before the move began. Even now buying is by no means general: and if holders begin to fancy that they can raise their pretensions, the trade will stop again.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	$900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 805
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	810 to 815
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 840
Kakedas—No. 1	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 1½	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Market quiet, but dealers have not yet come down sufficiently to induce business. They seem a little more anxious as the end of the year draws nigh, and may perhaps gather in plenty of dollars yet if they are wise.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Good	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Quiet market and small doings. The export by Chinese to Singapore continues; but the season generally is moribund. Prices unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has only fluctuated slightly during the past week.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/16
— — Bills on demand	2/1 3/4
— — 4 months' sight	2/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/2 1/4
— — 6 months' sight	2/2 3/8
On Paris—Bank sight	2.71
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.76
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1% p.
— Private 10 days' sight	1/8% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71 1/8
— Private 10 days' sight	72 1/8
On India—Bank sight	189
— Private 30 days' sight	191 1/4
On America—Bank Bills on demand	52 1/4
— Private 30 days' sight	53
— — 4 months' sight	53 3/4
On Germany—Bank sight	2.19
— Private 4 months' sight	2.24
Bar Silver (London)	30 9/16

BISSET & Co.'s SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 4th, 1895.

Hongkong Lands, we hear by wire, are wanted in Hongkong at $68.50, and H. & K. Wharfs and Douglasses are offering at $48.50 and $55.50 respectively. With a firm offer, China Mutual Ordinary £5 paid up might be placed at that port to-day at £2.10, and Straits at Shanghai at $25.75 for January delivery. These quotations show an improvement in the above stocks, the last quotations by wire for Hongkong Lands being $68.50 sellers, Wharfs $47.50 sellers, Douglasses $51.50 sellers, and Straits $25 nominal. Indo-Chinas have been placed in the Colony yesterday at $56.75.

Club Hotels might be placed at $60. Iron Works are quieter, and we now quote them $130 ex div., steady: The Company paid yesterday an Interim dividend of 10 per cent. for the half year to 30th November, and the Club Hotel 3 per cent. Interim for the six months ended 30th September.

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A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"VAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 14TH, 1895.

BIRTH.

At Kobe, on the 9th inst., the wife of the Rev. C. B. MOSELEY of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

At Christ Church, Yokohama, by the Rev. E. Champneys Irwine, M.A., WILLIAM COPE, of Shanghai, to EMILY MARY, youngest daughter of the late J. Colgan, of Shanghai.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Autumn athletic meeting of the Y. C. and A. C. passed off successfully on Saturday last.

A SUBSCRIPTION list has been opened for the widows and orphans of the men lost by the *Edgar* accident.

A HIGHLY entertaining dramatic performance by local amateurs was given on Thursday evening in aid of the funds of the Amateur Theatrical Association.

A PAPER manufacturing company is being promoted at Kumamoto with a capital of *yen* 250,000.

THE resignation of Mr. Hasegawa Naonori, a member of the House of Peers, was accepted on the 7th inst.

YINGKOW was transferred by the Japanese Military officers to the Chinese commission a few days ago.

H.I.H. PRINCE KOMATSU proceeded to the Palace on the 6th inst. and had an interview with H.I.M. the Emperor.

MR. YOSHIDA YOSAKU, Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Berlin, was ordered on the 7th inst. to return home.

THE Photographic Society exhibited on Friday evening a number of magnificent lantern slides from the United States.

COUNT OKUMA, who has been confined to his residence through an attack of influenza, is now quite restored in health.

THE Yokohama residents propose to erect a monument to the memory of the Yokohama soldiers killed in the late war.

A DRAMATIC performance in aid of charity is announced to take place at the Teikoku Hotel on Thursday and Friday next.

THE work of doubling the Tokaido Railway will be divided into sections, and will be given to different contractors through public tender.

THE Okayama Radicals have passed a resolution accepting the *Jiyu to* manifesto relative to the coalition between the Cabinet and the Party.

INFORMATION has been received here that the steamer *Strathnevis*, long over due from Tacoma, has lost her propeller and is making for her port of departure.

THE preliminary examination of Lee Fong, a boy belonging to the British steamer *Hankow*, for the murder of Chan Fat, the cook, took place on Friday morning.

IT is stated that H.I.M. the Emperor has decided to visit the Yasukuni Shrine, Kudan, Tokyo, on the 17th inst., and H.I.M. the Empress the following day.

H.I.H. PRINCE KANIN has accepted the post of Superintendent of the Chigaku Kyokai, which position has been vacated through the death of H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa.

MARQUIS ITO is on the fair way to recovery, and is expected to return to the capital in two or three days. It is said that the Marquis is now determined to retain his present position.

THE Japanese war-ships now at Yokosuka, will assemble at Shinagawa during the grand festival of the Yasukuni Shrine at Kudan, Tokyo, and the seamen will attend the ceremony.

THE Authorities propose to confer decorations on the Shinto and Buddhist priests who accompanied the Japanese forces during the late war and rendered valuable services in taking care of the remains of soldiers.

MR. KATO JIKO, a Buddhist priest who accompanied the Imperial Guards to Formosa, has applied to the Imperial Household Department for permission to erect a bronze statue of the late H.I.H. Prince Kitashirakawa either at Uyeno or at Kudan. It is stated that his request will be accepted.

THE new buildings of the Tokyo Club, which are now being constructed on the site of the late City Office, will be completed in March next, and the completion of the work will be celebrated during the flower season.

IT is stated that a Chinaman who decamped with *yen* 100,000 belonging to a Netherlands firm at Singapore, has arrived in Yokohama, and the Japanese police have been are asked to arrest the man.

VISCOUNT NOMURA, Minister of Home Affairs, gave a banquet on the 6th inst. at his official residence to members of the Public Works Council. The series of meetings of the Council concluded the same day.

IT is said that a leading official and an expert of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce will be sent to England to purchase machinery, if a bill for the establishment of a steel foundry passes the Diet.

A SPECIAL general meeting of the Kawagoye Railway Co. took place on the 9th instant, at which it was decided to extend the company's line from Kawagoye to Tokyo, and to raise *yen* 1,460,000 for the expenses of the additional work.

THEIR Imperial Majesties the Emperor and Empress have been pleased to grant *yen* 350 towards the relief of the sufferers through the great conflagration that occurred at Unimura, Kita-takagi District, Nagasaki Prefecture, on November 11th. Their Majesties have also granted *yen* 200 to the Hogoku Gikai, of Kobe, an orphanage and free medical institution for the poor.

THE first graduation ceremony of the Sanitary School, Tokyo, established by the Japan Sanitary Association, took place on the 9th inst., at which certificates were presented to thirty-nine graduates. During the course of the proceedings a congratulatory adress was read by Count Hijikata, Minister of the Imperial Household, and Mr. Matsuoka, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, and Mr. Nagayo, Chief of the Central Sanitary Board, also spoke.

A GARDEN party was given at the residence of Prince Tokugawa at Sendagaya, Tokyo, on the 8th inst. to a large number of military and naval officers, who formerly belonged to the Bakufu. Among those present were Viscount Enomoto, Vice-Admiral Baron Akamatsu, and Major-General Baron Kuroda and Yabuki. Prince Tokugawa first gave an address of welcome, to which Major-General Baron Kuroda replied on behalf of the other guests.

THERE is not much to be said about the Import trade, the market being more or less disorganised by the fall in exchange, this applying in particular to Textiles and Metals. In Kerosene there is nothing doing, as holders are firmer than ever, and from present appearances Oil is likely to be dearer before it is cheaper. The Sugar market is firm, and all sorts are well held, buyers offering for considerable parcels at a slight reduction on present rates, but the concession is not forthcoming. A moderate business was being done in Silk, but as exchange declined holders raised their prices, with the result that transactions hung fire, and then rates became nominal through lack of business. No change in the Waste Silk trade. There is nothing of interest to report in the Tea trade, and only a dribble of business is now done. Exchange fell day after day, but rates have risen again ¼ and are now firm.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The metropolitan journals are gradually settling down to the belief that Marquis Ito has consented to reconsider his intended resignation, and that he will remain in office at least until the conclusion of the coming session of the Diet. It is expected that the Premier will return to Tokyo about the 20th instant. Some curiosity was caused during the week by a rumour that Marquis Saigo had tendered his resignation. That the report was entirely without foundation has already been stated in these columns.

* * *

Will the present alliance between the Cabinet and the Liberal Party lead to the inauguration of a system of Government by Party? That very interesting question is apparently considered difficult to answer. The Liberals reply in the affirmative. Their belief constitutes, indeed, one of the principal topics in the speeches of their leaders and in the editorials of their organs. But a section of the Opposition journals affect an attitude of contemptuous scepticism. It being the cue with these journals to represent the alliance as an unconditional surrender of the Liberal Party to the clan statesmen, they cannot consistently express any hope that what they call an "ignominious capitulation" will prelude what they have always called an immense reform. None the less, the general tone of the Opposition papers indicates belief that the inevitable outcome of this open coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberal Party will be the inauguration of a system of responsible Cabinets. In that sense we interpret an article on the subject in Sunday's issue of the *Mainichi Shimbun*. The Progressionist organ discusses the different nature of the bases on which a clan Government and a parliamentary Government rest. What is the distinctive charateristic of a clan Government? Does it consist in the personality of the men composing the Cabinet? Is it a clan Government because men of certain clans occupy Ministerial posts? These questions are answered in the negative. The term "clan" attaches to a Government, not because its members belong to certain clans, but simply because it derives support from clan elements. Thus, even if the present Cabinet contained no Choshu or Satsuma representative, it would still be a clan Government so long as its members owed their positions to the aid of clan influences. On the other hand, a Cabinet may consist entirely of Choshu and Satsuma men and yet be a constitutional Government, if these statesmen depend upon the support, not of clan elements, but of the whole people. "Consequently, if the present Cabinet resigned and if Marquis Ito still enjoyed the confidence of the people, there would be nothing wrong in his again returning to office. Or if Count Kuroda, for instance, enjoyed the confidence of the country, he ought to form a Cabinet. A Cabinet organized in this manner should no longer be denounced as a clan Government, even if its members belonged to some of the powerful clans. It is our great political object to introduce a system of responsible cabinets and thereby to secure the perfection of the constitutional system. We count it a matter of perfect indifference who may occupy official positions, if only clan influence be swept away, and the Cabinet he made to stand upon the support of the people in general." Reading between these lines, it seems plain that the *Mainichi* anticipates the day when its Party will find themselves hand in hand with a group of statesmen whom that journal and others of the same class have been in the habit of attacking as *Hanbatsu seijika*.

* * *

There is an impression in certain quarters that the majority of the so-called clan statesmen are in a state of indecision as to the wisdom or expediency of introducing a system of Party Government. These statesmen are assured by the *Jiji Shimpo* that no danger need be apprehended in taking such a step. By the late war the younger generation proved its capacity for conducting a campaign according to modern principles. By analogy, it may be supposed that the younger generation is equally competent to undertake the political business of the country. The political education of young Japan has been going on without interruption during the past twenty years or more. The statesmen of the elder generation may think that the younger politicians are inexperienced. But the latter are already past forty, and are in the prime of life, apparently fit for any post of responsibility. In respect of age and experience they are fully qualified to take part in the Government of the country. To withhold from them any longer the prize for which they have struggled during so many years, the prize that they are already entitled to receive, would be an act of gross injustice and might even be attended with serious consequences. Moreover, even if the gate be opened for them, there is in the *Jiji's* opinion, no danger of their completely dislodging their elders from the sphere of pubic trust. The only result of introducing a system of Party Government would be to divide the elder statesmen into two hostile camps, and to assure to them, for some years to come, the direction of State affairs in common with their younger followers. The *Jiji* strongly urges the members of the present Cabinet, now that they have obtained the support of the Liberal Party, to conduct themselves exactly as English statesmen would do under similar circumstances. If they fail to obtain a working majority in the next session of the Diet, they should appeal to the country, and in the event of the verdict of the constituencies proving unfavourable, they ought to resign in favour of their opponents. Such is the only right and logical course of action open to them.

* * *

The report that the Imperial Government has made a declaration to the foreign Powers of its willingness to take concerted action with them in regard to the Korean question, has evoked strong protest from the metropolian press. We have already noticed that a violent article on this subject brought the *Nippon* under the ban of suspension. Other papers are discussing the question in an equally angry and excited tone. The voice of dissatisfaction is swelled even by the *Jiji Shimpo*. In obvious allusion to a recent article on this subject in the *Nichi Nichi*—reproduced in these columns at the time—the *Jiji* observes that, of late, some writers have begun to advocate the adjustment of the Korean question in concert with a neighbouring Power. It is not altogether unreasonable, that the recent turn of events in the peninsula should have prompted a wish for a speedy settlement of the problem. But to deviate from the course hitherto pursued by this country by admitting any other Power to a share in the work of educating and protecting Korea, would be, in the *Jiji's* opinion, extremely rash and unwise. Like a skilful nurseryman who knows how to wait for the growth of his trees with patience and perseverance, Japan should never be in a hurry about the responsible task she has assumed in Korea. Japanese statesmen should look at what England is doing in Egypt. Notwithstanding the constant and provoking opposition of her neighbour across the Channel, England goes on performing her work in Egypt steadily and patiently, paying no attention to what the French are saying or doing about the matter. Whatever pressure France may bring to bear upon her, England never declares to any other Power her willingness to share the duty of guiding Egypt. Such, in the *Jiji's* opinion, should be the policy of the Japanese Government in Korea. Having taken Korea out of the hands of her former guardian, Japan is bound by all the principles of justice and humanity to assume the guidance and education of her ward. The task may involve expense and trouble, but in any event, Japan, for the sake if her dignity, if nothing else, ought never to abandon Korea to her fate.

* * *

The *Kokumin* discusses the subject in a lengthy article. It quotes the Declaration of War, and points out that Japan's object as stated in that document being to undertake the guidance and regeneration of Korea single-hand, she would be abandoning her original position should she now intimate to any other Power her readiness to take concerted action about the settlement of the Korean question. If it was Japan's object to settle the question in concert with other countries, why were not steps taken to make a communication in that sense to the other Powers either at the commencement of the war or upon the conclusion of the Shimonoseki Treaty? Whatever may be the consequences of the step, Japan ought to stick to the course originally decided upon. To abandon it at the present moment, is a step that no Government having the dignity of the country at heart could take, consequently, in spite of some rumours, our contemporary can not bring itself to believe that the object for which so much precious blood and treasure have been expended is to be given up by the Government.

* * *

The *Kokkai* acknowledges that when the interests of the country require it, a policy once decided upon may be changed or abandoned. But it cannot believe that her interests require Japan to give up her original policy of undertaking the regeneration of Korea on her own responsibility, in favour of a policy based on joint action with other Powers. Report, however, alleges that the Government has decided upon such a change of policy. The Government must have good reason for taking so important a step, but the *Kokkai* fails to discover it. Our contemporary refrains from censuring the Government in any decided manner, but should it turn out that this grave step has been taken for no adequate cause, the Tokyo journal promises that the public will not spare the Cabinet.

* * *

The dissolution of the Municipal Council of Tokyo has attracted a great deal of attention. The *Nichi Nichi* strongly criticises the childish conduct of the former Muncipal Council in connection with the iron-pipes case. If anybody be blameable, it is certainly the Municipal Council which, in utter disregard of sense and experience, approved the contract with the Iron Foundry Company; which further, distrusting the Aldermen, created the standing Waterworks Committee; and which repeatedly granted the prayers of the Company for modifications of the contract, thereby enabling it to carry on its frandulent practices. Our contemporary does not say that Mayor Miura has been entirely free from neglect of duty. But if he is blameworthy, official discipline requires that he should be properly dealt with by his superiors. He is not free to leave office. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks that men like Viscount Tani and Mr. Tomita, who are exerting themselves strenuously to compel Mr. Miura to resign, would not have conducted themselves, under the circumstances, more prudently than the object of their attack.

* * *

The Opposition press urges the citizens to return members such as will uphold the course taken by the last Council and pass another vote of want of confidence in Major Miura. These journals also seize the opportunity to discuss the question of abolishing the exceptional system of municipal government operative in the case of the three cities of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto. While in all other municipalities the mayors are elected by the citizens, in these three cities the office of mayor is combined with that of Governor, and the Governor is appointed by the Government. This state of affairs has frequently been the subject of unfavourable comment, but the Opposition papers now write as though the subject is to be brought up for discussion in the coming session of the Diet.

* * *

The settlement of Formosa, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's decision to open a line of steamers to Europe, the development of Hokkaido, the question of taxation, and the extension of railways, are the other topics discussed by the press during the week.

EDUCATIONAL ITEMS.

PRINCE BISMARCK AND MADAGASCAR.

In a recent number of the *Berliner Politische Korrespondens* we find the following account of Madagascar, including an amusing statement of Prince Bismarck's. The *Korrespondens* begins by saying that, when, at the close of last year, the French were preparing for a campaign in Madagascar, a diplomat of great power, who was not particularly well disposed towards France, said, at a dinner in Berlin, that this war would probably cost the French nation a milliard francs to begin with. This prediction was perhaps no exaggeration. For with the occupation of Antananarivo the conflict will scarcely be at an end, but is likely to be followed by a guerilla war with the mountain tribes which may last for years. At all events, it will take a long time before France can peaceably enjoy the possession of this fruitful and wealthy island. For two hundred and fifty years France has, off and on, endeavoured to get possession of the island. Already at the time of Henry IV. and Richelieu (1642) Madagascar was for the first time annexed by France. After numerous changes, and after it had been for a time possessed by the English, a treaty of protection was finally, in 1815, consummated, which France is now endeavouring to uphold with her arms. The fact that France allowed tens and hundreds of years to pass by before she seriously asserted her claims, has naturally attracted the attention of other powers to the Hovas island. Prince Bismarck, too, had once thought on a distant possibility of making this island a German possession, although the subject may never have been a question of actual consideration. An audacious statesman, with the far-sightedness of a Bismarck, will at times allow his ideasto scale regions closed to the eyes of ordinary mortals. It was about a year and a half after the old Chancellor had retired into private life, when two well-known African explorers, of whom one to-day occupies a high position in the Colonial Office, were guests at Friedrichsruhe. After dinner, and after the Prince had lighted his long pipe, the conversation turned on the future of our colonies, especially in East Africa; the probable consequences of the German-English treaty which Caprivi had just concluded, in which we recovered Heligoland as our reward for Zanzibar; especially was the question discussed as to the best means and ways to make good the probable loss, for us, in East Africa which would follow the German withdrawal from Zanzibar. In this connection the old Chancellor developed an idea which was as remarkable as it was genial, and was listened to with intense interest. He said that the thought had frequently occurred to him that East Africa should not for ever be retained as a German possession, but rather as an object with which Germany might some day do a good business. He had come upon this thought because, in the dividing up of Africa, we had really come too late, and consequently had obtained only a few of the least desirable pieces, the utilization of which was all the more difficult on account of our ill-formed bounderies and the envy of our neighbours. His idea of a German colonial empire, the Prince continued, would be the possession of a land where we Germans could be all by ourselves. Such an ideal land was Madagascar. Here, of course, France was heavily engaged, but it would not be beyond the power of wise statesmanship to induce France to relinquish her claims on Madagascar in favour of Germany. This would have to be done by far reaching diplomatic action, that would at the same time favourably influence the European relation of both States. Upon being questioned in what way this could be accomplished, the Prince replied, we would let England have the whole of East Africa, for which she would have to make some concessions to France in Egypt. The English would be all the more ready to do this for they know that in the course of time this will have to be done anyway, and there is no way of getting around it. In addition to this valuable service we might grant the French a slight boundary regulation in Lorraine which would silence the screamers on the Seine and would reasonably satisfy the national pride of our Western neighbours. In return France would have to relinquish all her claims in Madagascar, to which England would give her consent. Four years have passed since the old Chancellor delivered this piece of phantasm to his guests, a project which is in keeping with the character of the genial old statesman. Laughingly the Prince added at the time, that he would, of course, not have expressed this thought, not even in such a confidential circle, were there the least prospect of its realization; for himself there was no further chance in this respect, and even the finest projects may go to water. Now, after France has been engaged in a colonial war in Madagascar, the end of the song will, of course, be that Madagascar will remain French.

THE NEW ORIENTAL BANK LIQUIDATION.

The Report of the Liquidator for the third year, ending June 22, 1895, states:—The cash at close of last account was £118,565, which has been augmented by collections, realisations, and receipts amounting to £214,876 12s. 8d. The amount, £333,442, as to the principal part, has been applied thus:—Secured creditors paid in full, £12; unsecured creditors, first three dividends, £12,094; do., fourth dividend, £201,567; and other amounts making £318,130. The difference, £15,311, is accounted for by various payments including Penang tramways, £54. The principal transactions carried out during the year have been the re-arrangement of the debt of the Oriental Estates Company (Limited), and the agreement with the Bank of Mauritius, which included first an agreement for subscribing £50,000 of capital to that bank, without which support on the part of the liquidation the bank would not have been formed. Claims compromised.—(1) Hongkong Lease: This was the subject of legal proceedings, a claim of $7,482 being formulated, and ultimately compromised by a payment of $6,500 under legal advice. (2) Calls on shares in Tanjong Pagar Land Company, Singapore: This was an onerous security held by the bank on which a liability of $7,000 had arisen, which was got rid of by a payment of $2,500 and $288 for solicitors' costs. All compromises, whether with creditors, receive the attention and require the sanction of the judge. Penang Tramways: The payment shown is connected with the winding-up of the working account to date of sale. Expenses of Liquidation: Total, £15,780, reduced by sundry repayments £15,659 5s. 9d. Dividends: The payment of another dividend must await the realisation of a holding of £150,000 Six per Cent. Mortgage Debentures of the Oriental Estates Company (Limited). The actual documents are not yet created, as the care of the judge required that the mortgage deed should be placed before him for sanction, and this is not yet done; but it is anticipated that all causes of delay in this matter will speedily be removed and the bonds issued to the public. Upon the whole the collection of debts in Australia, Japan, and elsewhere in the East has been slow and unsatisfactory, and the latest information is far from encouraging the hope of better things.—*L. & C. Express.*

ASCENT OF FUJI IN THE SNOW.

It has already been noticed that Mr. Nonaka, a member of the Meteorological Society of Tokyo, is conducting meteorological observations on the top of Fuji-san, intending to stay there till next summer. After his ascent about two months ago, he was joined by his wife. The results of his observations are looked forward to with a great deal of interest by scientific men, while the idea of passing the winter on the summit of the highest peak of the highest mountain in Japan has appealed so strongly to the imagination of the public in general, that parties are being organized to visit the bold meteorologist and his wife during the cold season. The first party, consisting of Police Sergeant Tsukushi, of Okuriya, in the Prefecture of Shizuoka, and two others, attempted the ascent on the 30th ultimo, with the assistance of experienced guides. They found the mountain side entirely covered with frozen snow from the third station upward. Thence their progress was extremely difficult. On that day, they succeeded in struggling as far as the sixth station. The following morning, they resumed their arduous journey, but found it impossible to proceed any farther without special equipment. So they had to give up the attempt and return. Profiting by the experience of these persons, another party have made thorough preparations for a second attempt. They are to commence the ascent on the 10th instant, and they invite any friends of Mr. and Mrs. Nonaka that may desire to send letters, to post them to the care of Mr. Sato Yoheiji, Takigawara, Nakahata, Tamahomura, Sunto-gun, Shizuoka, before the 10th instant. It is also reported that Professor Wada, of the Tokyo Meteological Observatory, intends to pay a visit to Mr. Nonaka on Fuji at the end of the present month.

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING.

From the Returns compiled by Lloyd's Register of Shipping, it appears that, excluding warships, there were 356 vessels of 716,575 tons gross under construction in the United Kingdom at the close of the quarter ended 30th September, 1895, the present figures exceeding those reported twelve months ago by about 63,000 tons. As compared with last quarter, the steam tonnage in hand has increased by 16,000 tons, while a reduction of 7,000 tons has occurred in sailing tonnage. Of the other vessels under construction in the United Kingdom at the end of September, 284 of 581,539 tons were under supervision of the Surveyors of Lloyd's Register with a view to classification by the Society. In addition, 24 vessels of 74,981 tons were building abroad with a view to classification. The total tonnage "preparing" (*i.e.* ordered, but not commenced), reached nearly the same level as in June, and was in fact equal to the average of the last five quarters. From the statement of war vessels under construction at private and at Royal dockyards it appears that there are 52 boats of 224,230 tons displacement being built in Great Britain.

THE "EDGAR" DISASTER.

Says the *Nagasaki Express*:—From details given by some of the ship's company of H. M. S. *Edgar* we learn that the particulars of the late distressing accident, as given in our Chemulpo correspondent's letter to the *Rising Sun*, were slightly inaccurate; but of course nothing further can be divulged till after the Court of Enquiry has been held. There were 71 men in the boat, instead of 74, as previously stated, and no machine guns were taken by her. The boat was a sailing pinnace, carrying eighteen oars, and she simply sailed into the heavy seas and sank. A funeral service was held on board the *Edgar* at Chemulpo on Sunday, November 17th, when the bodies of those drowned were solemnly committed to the deep with full naval honours. The French, Russian, and American men-of-war all sent representatives to this service to show their sympathy. A subscription has been started on behalf of the widows and orphans of the unfortunate men, and £304 8s. 8d. has already been received. *Yen* 600 of this amount was collected on board the U.S.S. *Yorktown* alone.

NAVAL NOTES.

From the *China Mail* we gather that H.M.S. *Daphne* went into dock at Kowloon on Nov. 28th. The *Plover* went to Canton on the 29th to take the place of the *Pigmy*, which is to be dismantled at Hongkong. Previous to paying off, the *Pigmy* went out for a full speed trial. The 1st Lieutenant of the *Victor Emanuel*, Mr. B. C. Barber, has been appointed to command the *Plover* temporarily, in lieu of Lieut.-Commander the Hon. F. C. S. Addington, who left for England on Nov. 24th in the French mail steamer. H.M.S. *Caroline* has gone to Nagasaki, where a Court of Enquiry will be held into the cause of the *Edgar* disaster, after which the

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Caroline will return to Hongkong, calling in at Foochow to bring down the *Tweed* under escort. The new storeship *Humber* passed the Suez Canal on the 22nd ult.

JAPANESE IN HAWAII.

THE Planters' Labour and Supply Association of Hawaii recently held an annual general meeting when statistical reports regarding the labourers engaged on the islands were received. The following is the census of labourers that was given:—

Portuguese (males), Oct. 9. '94		4,700
Arrivals Oct. '94 to Nov. 19, '95 ...		342
Estimated Portuguese population...		5,042
Japanese (males) Oct. 19, '94.....		21,876
Arrivals Oct. 19, '94, to Nov. 19, '95	2,307	
Departures	1,319	988
Total Japanese		22,864
Chinese Oct. 19, '94.....		14,114
Arrivals to Nov. 19, '95	3,216	
Departures.....	1,628	1,588
Total Chinese.....		15,702

These figures, it is reported, embrace all classes and take no account of mortality, hence they cannot be taken as exact. It is apparent, however, that there are a number not actively employed. Many of the Chinese and Japanese are employed in domestic service and on rice plantations. From particulars supplied by managers of all sugar plantations and of the principal coffee plantations the following figures, showing the nationality of the field labourers thereon employed, have been complied:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Hawaiians ...	1,591	15	0	1,606
Portuguese ...	2,046	206	326	2,578
Chinese	4,077	3	0	4,080
Japanese	10,872	969	0	11,841
Others	379	0	0	379
Totals ...	18,965	1,193	326	20,484

Of these labourers there are under contract:—

	Men.	Women.	Total.
Hawaiians.....	594	0	594
Portuguese	439	49	488
Chinese	993	—	993
Japanese	6,675	664	7,339
Others	107	—	107
Totals.....	8,808	713	9,521

Not under contract:—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
Hawaiians ...	997	15	0	1,012
Portuguese ...	1,607	157	326	2,090
Chinese.....	3,084	3	—	3,087
Japanese	4,197	305	—	4,502
Others	272	—	—	272
Totals ...	10,157	480	326	10,963

Comparing these figures with last year, remarks the writer, the report shows that the total number of male labourers now on sugar plantations is 129 above what it was in October, 1894; that there are 29 more contract labourers and about 229 more free labourers. The figures also show that of the three nationalities upon which the planters depend for field labour, there are in the country about 3,000 Portuguese, about 10,000 Japanese, and about 11,600 Chinese engaged in industries and occupations other than sugar cultivation. Particulars obtained from thirty-four coffee plantations show that this industry employs 446 labourers as follows:—Hawaiians 25, Japanese 399, Chinese 11, Portuguese 7, others 4. The desertions have been about 450, 90 per cent. of which were among the Japanese.

MARQUIS ITO.

MARQUIS ITO, we are informed, has nearly recovered from his ailment, catarrh of the throat, which was caused by influenza. It has been stated in some papers that His Excellency is expected in Tokyo in a few days. According to our information, that report seems to be unfounded, if being understood that the Marquis will remain at Oiso for some time longer. Pending his return, no definite announcement can be made on the subject of his intended resignation. But, so far as we know, the threatened crisis, if not actually averted, is at any rate very likely to be averted.

DECORATIONS.

IN recognition of distinguished services rendered during the late war, H.I.H. Prince Fushimi has received a decoration of the Third Class of the Order of the Golden Kite, with an annual pension of *yen* 700. H.I.H. Princes Arisugawa and Kanin have been decorated with the Fourth Class of the same Order, and receive an annual pension of *yen* 500 each. T.I.H. Princes Komatsu Yorihito and Yamashina Kikumaro received the Fifth Class of the same Order with an annual pension of *yen* 300 each.

BURNT AT SEA.

IT is now definitely known that the ship burnt at sea, reported previously from Singapore, is the *Avoca* of London, Official No. 91,888, of 1,625 tons, built at Greenock in 1885. The nineteen souls missing are the captain, his wife, and seventeen sailors in one of the ship's boats. One boat, containing ten men, reached Emma Harbour, Padang, on the 9th instant.

MARQUIS SAIGO.

THE Tokyo News Agency reports that Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, sent in his resignation two or three days ago. It is stated that Governor General Count Kabayama, of Formosa, will be appointed his successor, his place being given to Vice-Admiral Viscount Niire.

THE GERMAN-LLOYD'S NEW BOATS.

THE *China Mail* says:—It is stated that the Fairfield Shipbuilding Company has secured the contract for the building of two large German-Lloyd steamers, to be of greater dimensions than the *Campania* or *Lucania*.

SHIPPING AT WOOSUNG.

THERE were no fewer than nineteen vessels at Woosung on the afternoon of the 27th November, sixteen of them being at the anchorage and the others outside the Woosung Spit Buoy.

THE INTERPORT SHOOTING MATCH.

NEWS has reached Shanghai that Singapore made 934 in the Interport Rifle match, against Shanghai's 903, and Hongkong's 897.

A DISMASTED SHIP.

NEWS reached Shanghai that the *Lillian J. Robbins* has been dismasted off Cape St. James, and towed into Saigon. Her repairs will take some months to effect.

H.B.M. COURT VACATION.

THE winter vacation of H.B.M. Court for Japan begins on December 23rd and ends on January 4th. Police and summary cases will be heard during the forenoons within this period.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

It having been decided at the recent general meeting of the shareholders to open a line to Europe, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has just despatched a commission westward to make the necessary investigations preparatory to the enterprise. The commission consists of Mr. A. Macmillan, and Mr. Z. Ogawa, hitherto Manager of the Company's branch office at Kobe. They left by the *China* which sailed for America on the 7th inst. It is further reported that Mr. Macmillan is charged with placing orders in London for the construction of six steamers, 5,000 to 6,000 tons each, to be employed on the new line. Mr. Ogawa's place at Kobe has been taken by Mr. S. Yoshitake, hitherto Manager of the branch office at this port, who is in turn succeeded by Mr. T. Hayashi, an assistant-manager of the head-office in Tokyo. Mr. Shoda Heigoro, a director, will shortly proceed to Europe on the Company's business Messrs. Macmillan and Ogawa were entertained at a farewell dinner by Mr. Kondo, now President of the Company, at the Tokyo Club, on the 5th instant.

THE NATIONAL UNIONISTS.

According to the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, a journal whose political proclivities render it unlikely to misrepresent the attitude of the National Unionists in a sense favourable to the Government, that Party has concluded, and will soon announce its conclusion in a manifesto, that while the Cabinet's action in respect of Liaotung and Korean affairs must be considered to have been dictated by the knowledge in possession of the officials concerned, without full access to which knowledge the public cannot pass intelligent judgment, the present is certainly not a time for disputes between the Government and the people, and it therefore behoves all patriotic politicians to support the Cabinet as far as their principles permit. This somewhat guarded utterance may be interpreted, we presume, in the sense that the National Unionists will vote with the Liberals on the side of the Cabinet in the approaching session of the Diet, thus securing to the Government an overwhelming majority.

DINNER AND SOIRÉE AT THE RUSSIAN LEGATION.

His Excellency the Russian Representative entertained at dinner on Monday evening a large party, consisting chiefly of members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique and officers from the Russian and French ships-of-war now in port. After dinner a *soirée* was held, all the dancing folk of the capital attending. Dancing commenced at about half-past nine and was kept up until three o'clock in the morning, the doors, with that very practical hospitality characteristic of Russian society, being carefully locked to ensure against desertions. Our readers know the spirit that the Russians manage to put into their dancing—a spirit that converts even sober quadrilles and stately mazurkas into happy combinations of delight, dementia, and discipline. Such a spirit presided from first to last on Monday evening, no more vigorous and hearty exponent of it being present than the Minister himself.

THE CHINESE IN FORMOSA.

We are obliged to our correspondent "X." for calling attention to an important point in our suggestion about Formosa. Of course if the 5th Article of the Shimonoseki Treaty were couched in the terms quoted in our editorial of the 15th instant, every word that our correspondent writes would be unanswerable. But, through an unfortunate printer's error, a vital part of the Article was omitted. The original, instead of reading:—"At the expiration of that period, those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories, shall be Japanese subjects," reads, "shall, *at the option of Japan*, be Japanese subjects." The words "at the option of Japan," which we have italicized, and which were accidentally dropped out, make all the difference in the world. We wrote with the original article before us, as our correspondent must perceive if he refers to our interpretation of it:—

> This article does not secure any right of perpetual residence to the Chinese. It merely provides that Chinese hitherto resident in Formosa shall have liberty to sell their property and remove to their own country within the space of two years; and that persons failing to avail themselves of that liberty shall not be entitled to claim any status other than such as the Japanese Government may choose to confer on them. Hence, if at the expiration of two years, a large number of Chinese be found remaining in Formosa, it will be competent for Japan to place them on the same footing as ordinary Chinese subjects visiting her dominions under the provisions of the treaty of friendship and commerce now in process of negotiation.

Our suggestion is simply this, that since many of the Chinese in Formosa, however desirous of realizing their property and leaving the island, may be unable to find purchasers within the given period, or may be compelled to sell at a heavy sacrifice, the Japanese Government should have a fair valuation made and should offer to purchase at that value, intimating, at the same time, that any Chinese remaining in the island after two years, shall not receive the status of Japanese subjects, but shall be treated as Chinese subjects, in accordance with the optional right secured to Japan by the Shimonoseki Treaty.

THE LIBERALS AND FOREIGN POLICY.

The *Jiyu-to Toho* of a recent date, contains an interesting article on the question of Foreign Policy. The article sets out with a strong denunciation of contemporary writers on this subject in Japan, who are either remarkably deficient in the sense of responsibility or blind followers of some shallow thinkers in the West. The writer proposes to discuss the matter from a standpoint essentially Japanese, and to try to elucidate the fundamental principle that should govern the foreign policy of this Empire. It is the practice with most writers on this question to insist that the foreign affairs of the country should be conducted in accordance with a fixed and permanent line of policy, or, in more concrete language, that the attitude to be maintained toward each of the foreign Powers should be determined once for all. But the writer in the *Jiyu-to Toho* is unable to agree with such a view. From the nature of diplomacy, he declares it impossible for a country to pursue any fixed course of policy in the relations with foreign States. The very word "policy" conveys an idea of changeableness and adaptability. It is, therefore, obviously inconsistent to demand that a fixed line of foreign policy should be pursued. To desire to be friendly with this Power and antagonistic to that is all very well. But that is no reason why the country's foreign policy should be governed by such sentiments. The country's friendly feeling may not be reciprocated by the desired Power, while the Power against which hostile feelings are advocated may not, after all, be an ill-wisher. Thus it is idle to talk of alliance with this or that Power and hostility to another. By way of demonstrating the erroneousness of insisting on a fixed and stable foreign policy, the writer proceeds to consider the basis of the relations between the different nations of the world. International relations, though ostensibly dressed in the guise of justice and righteousness, are in reality nothing more than native self-interest. It is customary with all civilized States to justify their diplomatic actions by reference to the principles of right and humanity. But neither humanity nor right is their object. The specious terms they employ are simply used for the sake of appearance. This fact is recognized even by standard authorities on International Law. Now self-interest being the prime motive force in the intercourse of nations, the function of diplomacy is simply to reconcile the conflict of antagonistic interests. Under such circumstances, a consistent and permanent friendship to a particular ally is impossible except at the sacrifice of the country's vital interests.

The writer then goes on to examine more in detail some of the opinions advanced on the subject of foreign policy. There are persons that advocate an alliance with Russia, and others that are in favour of cōoperating with England, while still others map out a more heroic and grand policy of organizing a confederation of Asiatic states, with Japan as its leader, for the purpose of putting a check upon the eastward advance of the European races. The advocates of each of these different programmes are in no lack of plausible arguments to back their opinions. The policy of an Asiatic confederation does not receive any serious notice from our author, who doubtless considers it as lying, for the present at least, outside the pale of practical politics. He devotes his chief attention to the proposed alliance with Russia, and in discussing that question he incidentally and indirectly affords some glimpses of his views on the question of an alliance with England. The proposal of a Russian alliance, in his opinion, is based principally on three ideas, namely, first, that, it being the law of nature that nations extend their sway from north to south, Japan's natural sphere of action is in the south and not in the north, where she might come into collision with Russia; secondly, that between Russia and Japan there is little apprehension of commercial competition, such as is inevitable between England and Japan; and thirdly, that England is an untrustworthy ally. As to the first of these arguments, namely, the so-called natural tendency of nations to advance from north to south, it is pronounced to be an altogether unwarrantable assumption. There are many instances of a southern people extending their conquest toward the north. The history of Japan is one of the most striking examples. In this country the rule has always been movement from south to north, the north having in no way and in no age exercised ascendency over the south. Even granting that from north to south is the natural direction of national expansion, the writer in the *Jiyu-to Toho* fails to discover the correctness of the conclusion that Japan ought, therefore, to be a good friend with Russia, for, according to the assumption under consideration, is it not Russia's destiny to advance southward and would not her appearance in the Sea of Japan be a menace to Japan? With reference to the second proposition, that there is no cause of difference between Japan and Russia in the field of commerce, our writer exposes the fallacy of the idea that, because there is little danger of commercial competition between the two countries, there need be no apprehension of a conflict of interests between them. Russia may not be Japan's rival in peace, but it must not be forgotten that she has towering political ambition, which cannot but be prejudicial to the interests of Japan. Russia is reputed to aspire to become the mistress of the world. It might not be wholly inexpedient to secure a temporary alliance with Russia by agreeing on some exchange of interests. But there are most positive objections to any proposal for such an alliance as a fixed national policy. Touching the third reason adduced by the advocates of a Russian alliance, namely, that England is an untrustworthy ally, the Liberal writer observes that to say that Russia is more trustworthy than England, is like attempting to distinguish the sexes of crows. Moreover, he calls attention to the fact that England has apparently good cause of complaint against the treacherous conduct of Russia, and adduces several instances of alleged breach of faith by Russia in Persia and Central Asia. He is at a complete loss to understand why the Russians should be considered more trustworthy than the English.

The question of commercial competition between Japan and England, of which so much is said by the advocates of an alliance with England, receives further and more special attention from the writer in the Liberal organ. Advocates of a Russian alliance allude to this fact as an insurmountable obstacle to an *entente* between Japan and England. But persons arguing in that fashion are ignorant of practical diplomacy. Commerce being England's principal object in Asia, competition is inevitable between her and Japan, because the latter is destined to advance along the same path. But to conclude that commercial competition is incompatible with good diplomatic relations between the two countries, is a most superficial idea. Peace is essential to the continuity of commercial pursuits. Without peace, trade is impossible, and consequently the preservation of peace is the object of Japan and England alike. From the similarity of their pursuits, these countries are equally interested in the preservation of China's territorial integrity and the opening up of her vast markets. England and Japan are also equally interested in keeping Russia's southward march in check, for should the Northern Power be once suffered to obtain an ice-free port in these regions, both British and Japanese interests would be seriously menaced. There is thus little doubt, all things considered, that Japan and England have a strong community of interests in Asia. The writer, however, does not wish to be understood as advocating an alliance with England: his object is purely to point out the fallacy of the arguments adduced by persons zealous for an alliance with Russia. He acknowledges that circumstances may possibly necessitate alliance with Russia, or may even favour the formation of a confederation of Asiatic countries. What he tries to make clear is that it is absurd and impossible to fix in advance a permanent policy to be followed by the Empire in its foreign intercourse, and that diplomacy should be adopted to the varying conditions of each moment and juncture.

The essayist next proceeds to discuss the ideas held by European writers on the subject of diplomacy. He thinks that Occidental authorities make a flagrant mistake in considering diplomacy as something quite distinct from the art of war. In his opinion the art of diplomacy and the art of war really belong to the same profession and ought not to be considered separately. In other words, he thinks that diplomacy is only part of the art of war, for he understands the art of war in the broad sense applied to the term by the old Chinese authors, in whose age the petty principalities into which their country was divided were engaged in perpetual warfare, and who, consequently, had no idea of diplomacy as it is understood among modern civilized nations. Taking such authors as his guide, the Liberal writer thinks that the highest function of diplomacy consists in the adage, *si vis pacem para bellum*—keeping the the country in a state of preparation and depriving other powers of any opportunity to pick a quarrel. He thinks that authors of text-books and statemen in the West are very superficial in their ideas about diplomacy, because they commonly treat it in its restricted sense. Quotations are made from Sir Charles Dilke and Lord Salisbury to illustrate the point, but we fail to identify the original passages, and to re-translate these quotations into English would be unfair to the writers. Neither does this part of the essay possess any great value, for the writer's aim is simply to warn his countrymen against blindly following the "shallow" opinions of Occidental authors and politicians on matters of diplomacy, and to urge them to consider the foreign relations of their country from a standpoint essentially Japanese.

Briefly speaking, the essayist's idea amounts to this, that the functions commonly included in the term diplomacy are of secondary importance, and that the secret of true diplomacy is to keep the country in such a state of military preparedness that so-called diplomacy may be dispensed with. Such, he alleges, has always been the idea entertained by the Liberal Party, which was the first to advocate the paramount importance of strengthening the Navy and of making it the principal defence of the country. Thus the Liberals demanded, on the one hand, reforms in the Naxy, and, on the other, insisted on the speedy increase of the fleet to 150,000 tons. That was some years since, and in those days the Liberals were taunted by the Progressionists with being seized by a mania of conquest. The Progressionists were even silly enough to declare that it would be more prudent to set to the world the example of disbanding the military and naval forces, and of devoting the money thus saved to the encouragement of education. As to the public in general, they, too, did not realize the importance of increasing the country's fighting strength, and society was more and more tending toward effeminacy and degeneracy. Such was the state of the country when war was declared last year, and the Liberals welcome the war principally as a means of awakening the nation from its temporary torpor and saving it from the evils of luxury and effeminacy. They were prepared for some reverses and calamities. Indeed they considered that something of the kind was needed to open the eyes of their countrymen to the gravity of the situation. Speaking frankly, the Liberals did not expect that the war would be so complete a success, and they have abundant reason to be satisfied with its general a result. The writer here bestows well merited ridicule upon those that were timid before the war but are now writing and speaking as though they were the bravest fellows in the world.

Diplomacy, the essayist repeats, can never be confined to a fixed and permanent course. Yet there ought to be some fundamental principle guiding the Empire's foreign policy. Russia

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appears to make military aggression the principle of her diplomacy, while the United States of America adopts peace and commerce as the aims of their policy. Judging from the geographical position of the country, and the history and character of its people, there is no room to doubt that the future of Japan his in the fields of navigation, commerce, and industry. The promotion of the nation's smooth development along these lines should be the principal object of Japanese diplomacy. But in order to attain that object, it is absolutely necessary for the country to have at its back a sufficient military and naval power to command the respect and even fear of other Powers. The safety of the empire thus secured, the rest may be trusted to justice and righteousness, for the courage and spirit arising from the conciousness of justice and righteousness is a great moving force in human affairs. The country provided with a reasonable amount of military force, and the people determined to fight to the last drop of blood, while at the same time zealous in the pursuit of commerce and industry, Japan may feel secure in her position, without the necessity of seeking allies now in this quarter and anon in that. The writer asks his countrymen to bear in mind the fact that, after all, "the European Powers always put between them and Japan a great gulf of narrow-minded race prejudice." Under these circumstances it would be the height of folly for Japan to be duped into alliance with this State or into enmity with that.

THE NEW DOCKYARD AT SASEBO.

The ceremony of opening the newly finished dockyard at Sasebo was conducted on the 5th instant, and was attended by the officers and men of the war-vessels in port, the higher officials of the Prefectural Government of Nagasaki, the law officers of the Courts at the same place, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's branch at Nagasaki, and so forth. From the speech of Rear-Admiral Shibayama, commandant of the Naval port, we reproduce the following facts. The plan of the dock was completed in September, 1892, but it was not until March of the following year that work was actually commenced. The breaking out of the late war made it necessary to hasten the construction, and through the zealous exertions of the naval expert, Mr. Kakikawa, and all employed on the works, the dock was finished in August of this year. The total cost was 639,315 *yen* 66 *sen*. The length of the dock is 135 metres, and the breadth at the entrance 36 metres, with a total capacity of 38,000 tons. It can be filled with water in an hour and a half, while five hours and a half are required to drain it. Ships of 15,000 tons can be docked.

BALL ON BOARD THE RUSSIAN FLAGSHIP.

The Commander and Officers of His Imperial Russian Majesty's ship *Amiral Nakhimoff*, Flag Ship on this station, gave a ball on board on Wednesday evening. Steam-launches were in waiting from 8.45 p.m. to 10 o'clock to carry the guests to the ship, and a special train was provided at 2.30 a.m. for the convenience of those desiring to return to Tokyo; but the delights of the ball and the genial hospitality of the hosts proved so attractive that only two persons out of the whole party availed themselves of the special train, the visitors from the capital preferring to remain until the first regular morning train at 5.35. Dancing took place in the battery, which was beautifully decorated, one end being converted into a grotto, with fountains springing and brooks running among shrubberies softly illuminated by many-coloured electric lights. After supper a *cotillon* was danced lasting until half-past four o'clock, and on leaving the ship each lady was presented with a prettily designed little broach, a miniature rope tied in a sailor's knot, with a silver pendant bearing the inscription "Amiral Nakhimoff 11 Decembre 1895."

HISTORY OF THE DIPLOMATIC COMPLICATIONS ABOUT THE RETROCESSION OF LIAOTUNG.

Under the above heading, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a brief summary of the facts connected with the Retrocession of Lioatung. We reproduce the substance of our contemporary's account:—"On the 23rd of April last the three Powers, Russia, Germany, and France, first offered their advice to Japan relating to the desirability of her renouncing permanent possession of the Liaotung peninsula. After one or two communications with the allied Powers on this subject, the Japanese Government, on the 5th of May, expressed its willingness to adopt that suggestion. These facts were recently narrated in our columns at some length. At the time when the above mentioned reply was given by the Japanese Government, the pledge entered into by this country had reference simply to the renunciation of perpetual possession of Liaotung, and it was understood that everything relating to the manner of retrocession and the compensation to be demanded in return by Japan, would be settled between this country and China. That such was the case is shown by reference to the Imperial Rescript promulgated on the 13th of May.

"But, as the pledge given by Japan related simply to the renunciation of permanent possession of Liaotung, it was uncertain when, and under what conditions, evacuation would to be effected, and there was also a possibility that, in the event of the conditions imposed by Japan proving beyond the capacity of China to fulfil, Japan's presence in the districts in question might eventually become permanent. Such in fact seems to have been the fears of the allied Powers, for their Representatives called together upon Count Mutsu at the Foreign Office on the 30th of May, namely, the day on which the Emperor returned to Tokyo, and expressed a wish that an early opportunity should be taken by the Japanese Government to fulfil in an effective manner the pledge given by it. The same representation was repeated on several subsequent occasions.

"Emboldened by Japan's compliance with the advice of the three Powers, the Minister of one of them is known to have declared that, since Japan had already renounced the possession of Liaotung, she had no right to demand from China any compensation for the return of the peninsula. When Count Mutsu pointed out the extravagance of such a contention, the statement was explained away by another Minister, who assured the Minister of Foreign Affairs that they did not question Japan's right to demand compensation, but that they feared lest her demands, if exhorbitant, might lead to her occupying the peninsula indefinitely. There could be no question, of course, that Japan was entitled to compensation for the return of Liaotung. Not only had the three Powers declared to Japan at the outset that they had no intention of depriving her of the fruits of her victories, but the home Government of the very Minister who made the ill-considered statement that Japan had no right to such compensation, had distinctly told the Japanese Minister, Viscount Aoki, at the time when Japan's acquiescence with the admonition of the Allies was notified, that it would take steps to induce the Chinese Government to pay reasonable compensation to Japan. Thus the Allies definitely recognized Japan's right to demand compensation for the retrocession of Liaotung in the interests of peace in the East; but, at the same time, they repeatedly called attention to the circumstance that, should any large amount of indemnity be demanded, China's inability to make the payment might possibly lead to the practical annulment of the pledge offered by Japan.

"Meanwhile, upon the restoration of friendly relations between Japan and China, Consul Arakawa proceeded to Tientsin to resume his duties there. Earl Li caused Mr. Wu Ting-fang to visit the Japanese Consul and inform him that the Pekin Government had fallen into the hands of Russia and was apparently in an inextricable situation, and to express the hope that, as Japan was now the only country capable of rescuing China from utter ruin, she would consider the unhappy situation of her neighbour and be magnanimous and friendly. China had just entrusted Russia with the raising of a loan and was feeling the full force of the new relationship with the Northern Power, and Earl Li seems to have referred to this state of affairs with the object of arousing the sympathy of Japan. He is understood to have requested the Japanese Consul to transmit the statement he had caused to be made by his subordinate to the Government in Tokyo. Some journals rejoiced at the incident as a proof that Earl Li's faction were leaning upon the friendship of Japan. But the fact is that the step was simply a prelude to asking Japan to be moderate in her demands relative to the retrocession of Liaotung.

"Not long afterwards, Earl Li was summoned to Pekin. On the eve of his departure for the Capital, he asked Consul Arakawa to telegraph to the Japanese Premier as follows:—'I put my signature to the Shimonoseki Treaty in the confidence that I was serving, to the best of my ability, the interests of peace between the two countries. But my countrymen are very loud in blaming me, so that I feel that my aged shoulders are too feeble to bear the weight of responsibility. I earnestly implore that, in consideration of my well-meant motives at the time of the negotiation of that treaty, you will be so good as to afford me an opportunity, in connection with the matter now under consideration, to lighten somewhat the heavy burden of censure that is pressing down my aged frame.' In speaking of the matter under consideration, the Earl doubtless alluded to the question of the return of Liaotung, the negotiations about which he expected to be entrusted to him upon his arrival in Pekin.

"Previous, however, to his arrival in Pekin, the subject was opened to our Minister there by the Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên, who stated that Japan had promised to return Liaotung—which had been ceded by China in good faith—in consideration of the remonstrances of the three Powers, but that no further interference of the Allies should be suffered in the settlement of the matter; it ought to be conducted between China and Japan alone. They further stated that Japan and China being bound together by the closest ties of friendship and mutual interest, no European Power ought to be suffered to come between them, and that if Japan agreed to return the ceded territory, China, in eternal gratitude for this act of liberality, would ever remain Japan's ally and would further permit the Japanese to build a railway between Pekin and Tientsin. It is thus seen that the Chinese Government proposed the free retrocession of Liaotung in return for a petty concession, and the promise of an alliance the value of which was at least problematical. Minister Hayashi appears to have been inclined to favour this proposal, as calculated to put an end to the interference of the Allies. But the instructions that he received from his Government were decidedly opposed to it, and the negotiations were suspended for the moment.

"While these things were passing in Pekin, the allied Governments, being desirous of securing an early settlement of the question, offered to the Japanese Government that, should the latter's demands be reasonable, they would try their influence with the Chinese Government to make it accept Japanese terms speedily. Having reason to suspect some ulterior motive in the proposal made by the Chinese Government, and believing it better to avail itself of the mediation of the allied Powers, His Imperial Majesty's Government changed its policy and decided to arrange the matter first with those Powers, and then to let them undertake the task of inducing China to accept Japan's terms. At the same time, the three Powers, perceiving that their interests, especially those of Russia, would be seriously prejudiced should Japan, after the return of Liaotung, con-

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sent to the cession of Formosa and the Pescadores to some other Power or to the closing of the Formosan Channel to all Powers except the friends or allies of the new proprietor, approached the Imperial Government on the subject. France in particular positively declared that she had not the slightest objection to the Japanese occupation of Formosa and the Pescadores, and at the same time asked, in common with the other Allies, for a declaration that those islands should never be ceded to any other Power. France made this declaration to Japan because it was very generally rumoured in the East as well as in Europe, that she was opposed to Japanese possession of the islands. Believing that a declaration of non-cession and free navigation would not be prejudicial either to the dignity or interests of the country, but might, on the contrary, be of use to ease the minds of the Allies and secure their good offices, the Government accepted their request as to the two matters just mentioned, and simultaneously proposed an indemnity of 50,000,000 taels in return for the Laiotung peninsular.

"Germany approved the above proposal, but Russia objected to it and was supported in her objection by France. After communications between the three Powers, Germany at last expressed her agreement with her Allies. Thereupon, the Imperial Government accepted the views of the Allies and consented to reduce the amount of compensation to 30,000,000 taels. The Allies agreeing to advise China to pay the sum, Japan promised to evacutate the peninsula in three months after the payment should have been effected. Thus a basis for the solution of this problem was at last furnished, and instructions founded on that basis were sent to Minister Hayashi. The Japanese Minister's conferences with Earl Li and the final conclusion of the convention have already been described in our special correspondence from Pekin.

"Such being the facts about this question, it will be seen that China had no choice but to agree to what had previously been arranged between Japan and the three Powers, and it will also be easy to understand the reason why Earl Li paid repeated visits to the Ministers of the allied Powers before opening negotiations with Minister Hayashi."

A CORRECTION BY THE "NICHI NICHI."

The *Nichi Nichi* has the following note:—"Since publishing our account of the diplomatic proceedings relating to the Liaotung question in our issue of the 5th instant, we have discovered that our information was not accurate in some points. That is especially true of the passage in which the Minister of a certain Power was represeuted as declaring that Japsn having already renounced her right of possession in Liaotung, was not entitled to demand reparation for it; and of another passage saying that Minister Hayashi was in favour of accepting the proposal of the Tsung-li Yamên, thinking that such a course would put an end to the interference of the three Powers. Having ascertained that these statements are incorrect, we hereby withdraw them."

THE LADIES' BAZAAR IN TOKYO.

The Ladies' Bazaar, held in the buildings of the former Engineering College, Toranomon, Tokyo, on Saturday, was very successful. By two o'clock in the afternoon the stalls were dressed, and very picturesque they looked, the pretty and useful articles with which they were stocked being most tastefully disposed. The attendance, especially of gentlemen, was exceptionally large. Among the visitors were the Representatives of Great Britain, Germany, Russia, and Italy, and several members of the staffs of these as well as the Spanish, French, and American Legations. The sum realized was 760 *yen*, an amount considerably in excess of anything previously taken, and distinctly remarkable considering the simple character and limited number of the articles displayed.

THE TOKYO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

The Tokyo Municipal Council's meeting of Monday, the 9th instant, was very stormy. The proceedings opened at 4.30 p.m., Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, M.P., being in the chair. After some minor reports had been read by a clerk, Mr. Yoshino Seikei asked the President to cause the report of the Special Committee charged with the investigation of the water pipes case to be communicated to the meeting at once. As the document was extremely lengthy, the President thought it sufficient to have read only the parts relating to the responsibility of the Mayor, the Aldermen, the Standing Water Works Committee, and the Municipal Council. We need not follow the report from point to point. It will be sufficient for our purpose to state that the document condemned the whole administrative and legislative branches of the Municial Government as guilty of serious neglect of duty in connection with the frauds of the Iron Foundry Company. As to the part of the report concerned with the pecuniary aspect of the question, the direct and indirect losses inflicted on the City are estimated at 146,732 *yen*. This sum does not include the loss of receipts occasioned by delay in the completion of the Water Works, and the payment of interest on the Municipal Loan. Such items had not been computed by the Special Committee, but it may be assumed that they will bring the total loss to a considerable sum. The prisoners' property attached aggregates 1,889,895 *yen*, of which 1,072,705 *yen* is subject to prior claims, the available sum being thus reduced to 817,190 *yen*. Another fact made clear by the report is that the frauds will necessitate a delay of nearly a year in the completion of the Works.

The reading of the report was followed by questions, explanations, and angry recriminations among the members of the Council. A recess was taken at 5.30 p.m. for refreshments. On the resumption of the proceedings at 6.35 the debate on the report was continued. What occasioned most dispute was the omission of the names of six out of eleven members of the Council who had attended a meeting held at Shibaura on September 8th in the interests of the Iron Foundry Company. The Special Committee was doubtless wrong in withholding the names of these persons, while not hesitating to mention the names of others. Mr. Koizuka, one of the members of the Committee, was finally compelled to give up the names, and after some further controversy, the report was voted by a large majority.

Dr. Hasegawa Tai, M.P., then moved that disciplimary punishment be inflicted on the Standing Water Works Committee. In the present mood of the Municipal Council, no penalty can be severe enough, and the motion introduced by Dr. Hasegawa was approved unanimously.

The next measure introduced had long been expected, namely a resolution of want of confidence in Governor Miura in his capacity of Mayor. The introducer of the motion was Mr. Yoshino Seikei. It was received with enthusiastic acclamation by the whole assembly. Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, M.P., strongly criticised Governor Miura's conduct in refusing the friendly advice that the Council had sometime since given him to resign his office. The resolution was passed without one dissentient voice.

Lastly, having condemned everybody connected with the municipal administration, it was now the Council's turn to sit in judgment on their own conduct. The unanimous opinion of those present being that the Council were to blame for having elected the Aldermen and the Standing Water Works Committee now proved guilty of neglect of duty, it was resolved that the members of the Council should tender their resignations separately. If this plan be followed, the city will be left in a state of complete anarchy.

THE COUNCIL DISSOLVED.

As might have been expected from its extravagant proceeedings on Monday last, the Tokyo Municipal Council was dissolved on the following day, the 10th, by the Minister of State for Home Affairs in virtue of the 120th Article of the Organization of Municipalities. The Article runs as follows:—

> The Minister of State for Home Affairs shall have power to dissolve a Municipal Council. In that case, he shall at the same time issue orders for the election of members within three months. Pending the convocation of the new Council, its functions shall be discharged for the time being by the Board of Aldermen.

The members of the dissolved Council are reported to be using their eloquence to persuade the members of the different Urban Division Councils to disapprove whatever measures may be submitted for their deliberation by the Mayor, who has been declared unworthy of the confidence of the Municipality. There are abundant indications that the anti-Mayor agitation is getting stronger and stronger. Many of the Aldermen, led by men like Viscount Tani and Mr. Tomita Tetsunosuke, are also bringing pressure to bear upon the Mayor. They make it their business to oppose whatever measures are submitted by him. They are also understood to have personally tendered strong advice to him to resign his office.

THE "NICHI NICHI" ON THE KOREAN QUESTION.

The *Nichi Nichi's* recent article on the Korean question seems to have given rise to an erroneous idea in Tokyo political circles that the Government had changed its policy toward the peninsular Kingdom. Our contemporary now points out that such an idea is mistaken. The Imperial Government has not yet given up the policy it proclaimed at the time of the declaration of war with China, namely the policy of assisting Korea to establish its independence and advance its civilization. By way of explaining what it has of late written on the subject, the *Nichi Nichi* observes that in view of the perpetual feuds between petty factions in the peninsula during the past twelve months, it cannot but recognize the fact that the Koreans are lamentably deficient in some of the attributes essential to national independence. Holding that opinion, our contemporary naturally began to consider whether it might not be advisable to abandon a policy having for its basis the maintenance of Korean independence. "But," continues the *Nichi Nichi*, "we did not mean to say that the time was propitious for a change of policy, neither did we think that the Government was acting unwisely in following the same policy as of old. We only called the attention of the Cabinet to the importance of considering the policy that ought to be pursued in future." Japan's object being to assist Korea in the maintenance of her independence, it has never entered the former's mind to station troops perpetually in the peninsula. Thus the announcement made by the Imperial Government to the United States and some other Western countries, is simply a repetition, in a more definite form, of what was originally proclaimed at the time of the declaration of the late war. Such an announcement does not signify any change of policy on the part of the Japanese Government. The *Nichi Nichi* concludes as follows:—"It is not easy to discuss diplomacy in all its intricate aspects. If independent Korea be deemed trustworthy as a neutral country, the Empire will adhere to its original policy and assist in maintaining the little Kingdom's independence. But should Korea prove incapable of profiting by Japan's assistance and appear only liable to cause trouble and danger to Japan, it would be necessary for this country not only to give up the task of helping the peninsular Kingdom, but also to take such steps as might be required for the preservation of her own rights and interests. No necessity of adhering to the old policy would exist under such a changed state of affairs. We are thus disposed to consider that the Imperial Government has been guilty of too rigid adherence to obsolete methods in making the recent announcement to the United States and other Powers. Nothing, at the same time, could be more erroneous than to suppose that the Government has adopted a new policy toward Korea."

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CURRENT TOPICS.

Concerning the rumour that Marquis Saigo has tendered his resignation, the *Nichi Nichi* has the following note:—"A rumour is widely circulated in the capital that the Minister of the Navy has resigned, but inquiries in official circles show that there is not the slightest truth in the report. It seems to have originated in Marquis Saigo's absence from the Cabinet Council of the day before yesterday (10th). But his failure to attend was owing to an entirely different reason. Marchionness Saigo is suffering from fever of a violent type, and her condition was at one time even critical. Having watched at her sick bed day and night, Marquis Saigo considered it inadvisable to attend a Council held in the Imperial Palace. But he has never ceased to transact business at the Naval Department, where he can be found at any time during office hours in the afternoon. The conference of Admirals, in session since the 10th instant, is daily attended by the Marquis. Altogether there is absolutely no foundation for the story.

Count and Countess Inouye left Tokyo on the 11th instant for Izu. They intend, we are informed, to stay for some weeks at Shuzenji, and to return to the capital by the middle of January.

The leading members of the National Unionist Party held a conference on the afternoon of the 11th instant, to consider the lines of the Manifesto to be issued on the 22nd instant. According to rumour, they decided that the document should conform with two general principles; namely, first, that the National Unionists are to devote their whole attention, in the coming session of the Diet, to questions relating to increase of armament and the promotion of industries; and secondly, that, with regard to the question of Ministrial responsibility about the Liaotung and the Korean complication, the Party is, on the one hand, to avoid completely identifying itself with the Government as the Liberals are doing, and, on the other, to refrain from pursuing such an attitude of uncompromising hostility as the Opposition parties intend to pursue. If this report be true, we may conclude that the National Unionists are determined, while nominally remaining neutral, to show distinct sympathy with the Government.

The question of amalgamating the different sections of the Opposition into one body does not seem to be making any practical progress. It is noteworthy that despite their undisputed ascendency among the section, the Progressionists have not succeeded in removing the personal prejudice with which they are regarded by their present allies, especially the Constitutional Reformists. The airs of intellectual superiority that the followers of Count Okuma assume are said to be very irritating to their political allies, while some episodes in the history of their Party have created wide-spread distrust of their sincerity. The Constitutional Reformists, as for example, Mr. Kawashima Jun, Mr. Kusumoto Masataka, President of the House of Representatives, and Mr. Ohigashi Gitetsu, are understood to be of opinion that the time has not come for fusing the Opposition sections into one political body. While, therefore, strongly disposed to believe that circumstances will one day necessitate such a combination, we imagine that an interval must elapse before it becomes an accomplished fact.

There is a strong movement among the so-called *Jitsugyo* (Industrial) members of the Lower House to effect a combination for the purpose of passing the Military, Naval, and Industrial measures in the coming session of the Diet. Condemning the course contemplated by the Opposition, namely, to demand the resignation of the Cabinet in connection with the Liaotung and Korean questions, they propose the milder measure of voting a resolution embodying moderate condemnation of the Government's policy on these questions. Such a resolution, even if passed would not, they believe, create a Cabinet crisis. In short, they appear to be bent upon pursuing the same line as the National Unionists.

Things are thus decidedly unfavourable to the Opposition. But the astute politicians that lead the Cabinet's enemies do not entirely despair of their chances in the next session. As the National Unionists and the Industrial members are supposed to be not altogether disinclined to pass some measure of mild censure upon the Cabinet's foreign policy, the Opposition politicians are said to be thinking whether it may not be advisable to defer their contemplated attack on the Government until the very last moment, when, the armament and industrial bills having been passed, the National Unionists and the *Jitsugyo* members would be free to join the asssult. However mild the form of censure may be, they think it quite easy for them to give the debate such a complexion as would place the Cabinet in an awkward position, and even bring things to an extremity.

THE "THALES" INCIDENT.

The facts of the *Thales* incident, if not already familiar to our readers, will be sufficiently explained by the documents printed below, both of which appeared in the Japanese language, in the *Official Gazette* of the 9th instant. The occurrence had evoked criticism in the columns of English local journals in the East, and there had been an assumption on the part of the critics that the British Government were neglecting their duty in not exacting full explanation, apology, and pecuniary reparation from Japan; or that Japan was playing fast and loose with Great Britain's just demands. Neither hypothesis being in the least degree tenable, we did not concern ourselves to offer any comment. The facts and the methods adopted in dealing with them were certain to be known to the public before long, when it would be at once seen that the two Powers concerned had acted, the one with all expedition and plainness, the other with a full sense of responsibility and justice. In laying the documents before our readers, it is only necessary to call attention to the following dates:—The incident occurred on the high seas between Amoy and Taiwan on the 21st of October; an explanation was sought from the Japanese Government by Her Britannic Majesty's Representative in Tokyo on October the 24th; on November the 6th the Japanese Government replied, acknowledging in the frankest terms that "the acts committed by the Commander of the *Yayeyama Kan* were wholly without warrant, in contemplation of International Law;" "regretting exceedingly that the occurrence should have taken place," and declaring their readiness "to fully compensate the *Thales* for the wrong suffered." If all interntional complications could be settled with a similar display of promptness, courtesy, and justice on both sides, the world would be happier. The following are the documents:—

NOTE VERBALE.

The British steamer *Thales* having left Taiwan on the 20th of October with eight hundred passengers, mostly women and children, was stopped 15 miles from Amoy by the Japanese cruiser *Yayeyama*, before daybreak on the following morning, and a search crew was placed on board by the Commander of the cruiser. The Commander wished to take out seven passengers, against which the Master protested.

The Commander of the cruiser then insisted on placing two officers on board, and after a detention of ten or twelve hours, allowed her to proceed to Amoy on condition of holding the men he required at the disposal of the Japanese Consular authority for that port.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul of course demanded that the men claimed by the Commander of the Japanese cruiser should be delivered to him, and that having been done, set them at liberty.

Her Britannic Majesty's Minister has now received instructions from his Government to inquire what explanation the Japanese Government have to offer respecting the stoppage of a British ship on the high seas by a Japanese war-vessel, and her search and detention.

Tokyo, October 24th, 1895.

NOTE VERBALE.

The Imperial Government have not failed to take into very serious consideration, the Note Verbale which His Excellency H.B.M.'s Minister did them the honour of presenting to them on the 24th ultimo, in reference to the search and detention of the British steamer *Thales* by the Japanese man-of-war *Yayeyama*.

Full reports of the attending circumstances of the case are still wanting, but sufficient is known to enable the Imperial Government to determine that the incident occurred on the high seas, and that the *Thales* was at the time on a voyage from Taiwan to Amoy, China.

From the meagre information at hand, the Imperial Government are led to believe that the acts complained of were the result of a misapprehension of instructions, but setting aside once for all any discussion of incidental points, the Imperial Government hasten to acknowledge that the acts were, in contemplation of International Law, wholly without warrant. They regret exceedingly that the occurrence should have taken place, and are prepared to fully compensate the *Thales* for the wrong suffered.

The instructions which the Imperial Government are issuing to their vessels-of-war will make a repetition of the incident impossible, and while expressing their warm appreciation of the considerate manner in which the event was brought to their attention, the Imperial Government venture to hope that the explanation and reparation which they offer will prove satisfactory to H.B.M.'s Government.

The Gnaimusho, November 6th, 1895.

JOURNALISM IN PEKIN.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* Pekin correspondent sends some interesting details about the condition of journalism in the Chinese Capital. There are now three journals in Pekin, namely, the *Yucheh Wei-tsun*, the *Kin-pao*, and the *Wan-kwoh Kung-pao*. The first two are dailies; the last is issued on alternate days. The *Yucheh Wei-tsun (Official Gazette)* is published from a book store, the proprietor of which is an official of some standing. It is in the form of a small pamphlet, about 11 by 7 inches, containing from 10 to 30 leaves, and its contents consist entirely of Court news, official notifications of all sorts, memorials presented to the throne, and reports from provincial mandarins. Its price is 1 tael per month including the carrier's charge, and its daily circulation is put at between 600 and 700 copies.

The *Kin-pao* (Metropolitan News) is also taken up entirely with Court intelligence and the publication of official documents. In general get up and quantity of matter, it is far inferior to the *Official Gazette*. Like its rival, it is in pamphlet form, consisting of a dozen leaves, the dimensions of a page being about 6 by 4 inches. But being cheaper in price,—20 cents per month—it is a great favourite with the middle and lower classes, and its circulation is twenty times larger than that of the *Yucheh Wei-tsun*.

The last, but not the least important, is the *Wan-kwoh Kung-pao*, a new journal, to which reference has been made in these columns more than once. The two daily publications alluded to in the foregoing paragraphs, being simply dry repositories of official news, without editorial comments of any kind, do not exercise any direct influence on the minds of the reading public in the capital, except through some of the memorials to the throne published in them, which sometimes contain instructive allusions to the present needs of the Empire. But the *Wan-kwoh Kung-pao* (Universal Intelligence), has made a new departure, for it publishes original essays discussing, in an intelligent manner, the various reforms needed in China. The personality of its editor has long been a mystery, but the *Kokumin's* correspondent states that, according to his information, its progressive articles owe their conception to an American missionary, though they are written in Chinese garb by a certain Chinese scholar of Hanlin grade. The circulation is at present only six or seven hundred copies, but, as the correspondent justly observes, its future career is full of interest.

As to the method of distributing newspapers to their subscribers, the correspondent of the *Kokumin* says that the system is in its infancy. How it is conducted may be judged, he says, from the fact that the newspaper carriers never venture out of doors on stormy days.

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THE SUSPENSION OF THE "NIPPON."

Tuesday's issue of the *Nippon* being considered prejudicial to public peace, the paper was placed under the ban of suspension. The issue contains two articles, either of which would alone have been sufficient to invite official intervention. In one of them, our contemporary strongly censures the Government's weak and conciliatory attitude toward European Powers, especially Russia. The passages most offensive by presumption are treated in the manner usually adopted by Japanese journals to evade the provisions of the Newspaper Regulations, namely, blotted out, so that the article appears with blank spaces at frequent intervals. Notwithstanding these precautions, the apprehended calamity befel the *Nippon*. Alluding to the different attitudes assumed toward, on the one hand, the weak countries of Asia, and, on the other, the strong Powers of Europe, the Japanese Government receives the soubriquet of a sheep in a tiger's skin. When Russia demanded the retrocession of Liaotung, the Japanese Government showed prompt readiness to comply with the demand, disclaiming at the same time any intention of disturbing the peace of the East. When the incident of October 8th gave another opportunity to Russia, the Japanese Government was so meek and compliant as once more to obey the Northern Power; on the one hand, arraigning Minister Miura and others before a court of law, and, on the other, declaring its intention of withdrawing its troops from the peninsular kingdom and keeping its hands away from that country. What impression has such weak and gentle conduct produced upon the Russian Government? Russia is more than ever bent upon aggressive schemes. Korean conspirators are harboured in the Russian Legation at Söul, some being suffered to find asylum on board a Russian man-of-war, and, above all, Russia's Pacific Squadron is constantly strengthened. The *Nippon* goes on in this fashion censuring the conciliatory attitude of the Government toward the Northern Power. The article being signed *Don-gori*, the *nom de plume* of a well known writer on the staff of the paper, must not be read as reflecting in every respect the sentiments of the chief editor, whose philo-Russian tendency is well known. But that such an article has been published in the editorial columns of his paper, must be considered as a significant commentary on the state of public feeling in Japan.

The other article of an offensive character in the *Nippon* of the 10th instant is an outspoken attack upon the authorities of the Department of Education, especially Marquis Saionji. The Minister, the Vice-Minister, and the rest of the principal officials of the Department, are all charged with strange indifference and inaction. An alleged conversation with a certain official of the Department is quoted, in which the anonymous functionary is made to utter sweeping strictures upon his chief's indifference to matters of education. The article is not yet concluded, and, from its heading, it seems that the writer's object was to extend his criticism to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce also. We (*Japan Mail*) confess that we have no manner of sympathy with the *Nippon*. It is an inflammatory, ill-balanced, rabidly anti-foreign and altogether extravagant newspaper, in our opinion.

A NEW LIBERAL ORGAN.

The *Mesamashi Shimbun*, hitherto nominally independent, though well known to be more or less a representative of Liberal views, has now come out plainly as a Liberal organ, under the new title of *Tokyo Shimbun*. It announces the fact is very simple language, giving no detailed exposition of what its readers are to understand as Liberal politics, except that they point to a large development of the country's economical and industrial systems. The *Tokyo Shimbun* commences its new rôle on the 15th instant, when it promises to enlarge its sheets and improve their contents.

THE "EDGAR" CATASTROPHE.

We invite our readers' attention to the fact that a fund is being raised for the relief of the widows and orphans of the sailors drowned on the occasion of the sinking of the *Edgar's* pinnace. The accident was so inexpressibly sad and its results must have carried bitter sorrow and calamity to so many homes, that we need not attempt to speak of it in detail. But it may be useful to remind the public that while numerous calls are made upon their purses on account of penury or suffering among the Japanese—calls that are always responded to with admirable generosity—not once in a dozen years does any occasion present itself to contribute for the relief of our own countrymen or countrywomen on a large scale. Many a distressed British subject has been privily aided to find his or her way back to the old country, and to land there not without some slender resources, and even at this moment succour is being given, without ostentation or reluctance, to several persons that have been distanced in the hard race for sustenance. But we have now before us an incident happily unprecedented in the history of foreign intercourse with the East, and the opportunity thus furnished to do a work of real kindness to sufferers of his own nationality must be welcome to every loyal Britisher. We are persuaded that the appeal of the kind-hearted ladies by whom the work has been taken up will evoke a munificent response.

* * *

The following sums to this fund have been subscribed :—

Sir E. Satow	$100	Mr. W. D. Cox	$ 5
Mr. G. Lowther	20	Lieut. T. H. James	25
Mr. J. H. Gubbins.	10	Sympathy	20
Mr. R. Paget	10	Mr. James Walter.	20
Mr. A. Wileman	10	Mr. J. Fraser	10
Captain du Boulay.	20	Mr. Pulford	10
Mr. H. Parlett	10	Seamen's Club	10
Captain Brinkley	20	Mr. J. P. Mollison.	5
Mr. W. H. Stone	10	Mr. Garfit	5
Mr. Kirkwood	20	Dr. O'Regan	5
Mr. C. W. Pownall	10	Mr. Jackson	5
Mr. Chamberlain	5	Mr. Dinsdale	5
Mr. Trevethick	10	Mr. Lowder	5
Mr. Macdonald	5	Mr. T. Thomas	25
Baronne d'Anethan	5	Mr. J. E. Beale	10
Mr. S. Tuke	5	Mr. J. Mendelson..	10
Miss Ranken	1	Mr. F. Mendelson..	10
Miss Mair	1	Sympathiser	2
Mr. Conder	5	Mr. A. D.	5
Mr. Pallister	5	Jardine, Matheson & Co.	200
St. Andrew's House, Shiba	10	Strachan & Co.	100
Mr. R. Ward	5	Cornes & Co.	100
Professor West	20	Samuel Samuel & Co.	100
Dr. Divers	20	Mr. F. Gillett	$ 5
Mr. J. C. Hall	$ 10	Mr. H. J. Snow	5
Mr. R. de B. Layard	5	Mr. W. R. H. Carew	5
Mr. C. D. Moss	5	Mr. E. Rogers	5
Mr. & Mrs. Bonar.	25	Mr. James Stewart	5
Mr. Perott Forshaw	30	Mr. W. Gordon	5
Mr. W. B. Walter.	20	Mr. W. J. S. Shand	5
Mr. H. C. Litchfield	10	Mr. J. H. Cocksedge	5
Rev. W. T. Austen	5	Mr. R. T. Denne	5
Mr. A. B. Walford	10	Mr. J. Budge	10
Dr. Wheeler	10	Mr. J. Budge, Jun.	5
Butterfield & Swire	50	Mr. C. Budge	5
Dodwell, Carlill & Company	100	Mr. H. H. Matthews	10
Findlay, Richardson & Company	100	Mr. G. C. Murray.	3
Mr. J. Rickett	20	Mr. J. P. Macintosh	3
Mr. M. T. B. Macpherson	20	Mr. H. E. Harries..	3
Mr. W. R. Bennett	20	Mr. E. T. Nicholas	5
M. H.	10	Mr. F. Cruickshank	3
J. J.	10	Mr. W. Sutter	10
Eyton & Pratt	10	Mr. F. J. Hall	5
Mr. C. W. Ure	5	Mr. A. Cole Watson	5
Mr. F. R. Daniel	5	Mr. L. Pollard	5
Mr. J. H. Brooke..	5	Mr. R. M. Sterling	2
Mr. R. N. St. John.	5	Mr. H. R. Mair	2
		Mr. A. B. Smith	2
		Mr. G. Hodges	1
		Mr. G Kircher	1

Mr. Mizuno, Chief Civil Administrative Officer of Formosa, paid a visit to the Premier at Oiso on the 10th inst., on business connected with some bills to be introduced in the approaching session of the Imperial Diet with reference to Formosa. It is stated that Mr. Mizuno will be Government delegate in the coming session of the Diet for bills connected with the island.

HARBOUR IMPROVEMENT SCHEMES.

The people of Shimonoseki are reported to have taken into serious consideration a scheme for improving their harbour so as to fit it for a port of foreign commerce. Such an undertaking had been on the *tapis* for some years past, but the magnitude of the work and its cost had proved deterrent. The new Governor of the Prefecture, Mr. Oura, has interested himself in the matter, and his encouragement, combined with a state of general industrial prosperity, have induced the principal inhabitants of the place to take up the scheme with eagerness. Apparently the principal feature of the project is to fill up the space between the two islands Ganryu-jima and Hikoshima in the western part of the harbour, leaving a narrow channel in the centre, and to connect Hikoshima with the mainland by means of bridges. In this way sufficient ground would be obtained for the construction of a large new city. The cost is estimated at about 2,000,000 *yen*.

Keen competition is going on between the inhabitants of Fukuoka and Karatsu about the selection of a new port for foreign commerce. These two places were in former times centres of trade with China, Fukuoka being the older. It is now generally felt that the rapid growth of industry and trade in Kyushu will necessitate the opening of a new port for foreign trade in the north of the island, and consequently great efforts are being made by the inhabitants of each place to have their own port selected for the purpose. As a practical means of attaining their object, they are competing with each other in schemes to improve their harbours. In the case of Karatsu, the port designed is not the one usually known by that name, but another in the same bay a little to the eastward, named Funakoshi. Deputations from both towns are now competing in Tokyo for the help of capitalists, and are also seeking to sound official views.

BALL IN TOKYO.

One of the most enjoyable and perfectly managed evening parties ever given in Tokyo took place on Tuesday, the host and hostess being Mr. G. A. Lowther, Secretary of the British Legation, and Miss Lowther. Dancing commenced at a little before ten o'clock, and after a programme of ten dances had been disposed of, supper was served, by way of preliminary to a cotillion which lasted until half-past two. The favours were exceptionally handsome, and it was notable that at the point where the supply of these adjuncts usually becomes scarce, or the quality indifferent, prettier and more novel surprises made their appearance. The last figure, in which the ladies and gentlemen pelted each other with mimic snow-balls filled with a dust of many-coloured paper, created great amusement. After a second supper the party broke up at half-past three.

FIRE IN TOKYO.

On Thursday afternoon at five minutes past two o'clock, a fire broke out in Saionji-machi, in the Shiba district of Tokyo. A strong Westerly wind fanned the flames, and the locality being crowded with houses of the poorest character, no possibility existed of checking the conflagration before it had laid waste an area including a portion of Saionji-machi and thence *vid* Kawaguchi-cho. At half-past four the work of destruction ended. By that time some five hundred houses were in ruins, making the worst record of the kind since 1893. The weather being bitterly cold and the people rendered homeless being of the lowest classes, terrible suffering must have been entailed.

Another fire occurred at No. 16, Hatchobori, Itchome, Kyobashi, Tokyo, on the 12th inst. at 1.30 a.m., destroying 49 houses, one school, and 4 sheds; 28 houses and one shed were damaged. The fire is shid to be of incendiary origin.

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THE KOREAN CASE AT HIROSHIMA.

The preliminary examination of the military officers connected with the *émeute* of October 8th, which was going on at the Head-quarters of the Gendarmes in Hiroshima, has just been brought to a conclusion, and the report of the results is now under consideration by the military authorities. It is believed that the prisoners will be brought for trial before a court-martial. As to the civil prisoners, their preliminary examination has not yet been finished, but it is expected to be concluded before long. Three minor prisoners have been admitted to bail. Viscount Miura was reported recently to be suffering from indisposition, but the latest correspondence from Hiroshima alleges that he has completely recovered. He is said to have declared to a recent visitor that he is entirely satisfied with the considerate treatment he receives in prison. The other prisoners have repeatedly expressed themselves to the same effect. Viscountess Miura is shortly expected at Hiroshima, where she intends to stay until the case is concluded.

When the case comes up for open hearing, it is believed that the presiding judge will be Justice Matsushita, the chief judge of the Hiroshima Local Court, while the prosecution will be conducted by Public Procurator Kusano of the same court. The leading counsel for the prisoners will be Mr. Masujima, who will no doubt be assisted by a number of barristers.

THE COUP D'ÉTAT OF OCT. 8TH.

It is a relief to learn that the atrocities perpetrated in the Korean Palace on the morning of October the 8th were, perhaps, not quite so terrible as rumour has hitherto led us to suppose. The account thus far circulated is to the effect that the Queen's murderers, uncertain as to Her Majesty's identity, assassinated several of her ladies in waiting, lest by any chance their intended victim might be disguised as one of her own attendants, or for the purpose of extorting the truth by intimidation. Now, however, there seems to be at least a possibility that the Queen was the only victim. The Editor of *The Korean Repository*, writing in the Middle of November, says:—"We have it on good authority that all the ladies who were in attendance upon Her Majesty have been found, and though some of them have been badly wounded, none are dead." It matters very little, so far as the moral guilt of the assassins is concerned, whether they only wounded the ladies badly or killed them outright, but there is comfort for the public in knowing that the dimensions of the catastrophe are less appalling than was imagined.

THE HOME MINISTER AND THE LOCAL OFFICIALS.

We read in the *Kokkai* that, in connection with the alliance between the Liberals and the Government, and with a rumour that the portfolio of Home Affairs was to be given to Count Itagaki, considerable excitement arose among the Provincial Governors and Secretaries, to calm which a circular has been addressed to them by Viscount Nomura, the present Minister of State for Home Affairs. The import of the circular, according to our contemporary, is that although Marquis Ito had desired to resign, the Emperor did not consider the time suitable for such a step, and the idea had consequently been abandoned. Further, with regard to cö operation between the Government and the Liberals, its prime purpose was to promote measures for the increase of the country's armaments. In several other directions, also, the Liberals found themselves in the same route as the Government, and would therefore work with it. But as to the general policy and organization of the Government, there would be no change whatever. The *Kokkai*, commenting on this circular, says that, although emanating from the Minister of State for Home Affairs only, the nature of its contents justify the conclusion that it represents the sentiments and has the endorsement of the whole Cabinet.

THE LIBERAL PARTY.

Telegrams from Nagoya, Yamagata, and Tochigi, announce that at the meetings of the respective local Liberal associations, held on the 8th instant, it was unanimously resolved to approve and support the Manifesto recently issued from the head-quarters of the Party.

Greater importance attaches to the news that the grand meeting of the Liberals of the Kwansai district, held at Kyoto on the 8th instant, enthusiastically declared its adhesion to the Manifesto. There were present three hundred Liberals, the head-quarters being represented by Messrs. Kono Hironaka and Komuro Shinobu. The meeting further voted a declaration. After emphasizing the alliance between the Cabinet and the Liberal party as a great step of progress in the constitutional system of the country, being in short, a distinct advance toward the introduction of Government by Party, the document went on as follows:—

"The measures of urgent national importance are very numerous. · · · In the coming session of the Diet, we shall approve an increase of armament so far as the resources of the country permit. We shall also endeavour to attain our long cherished objects with respect to enlarging liberty of speech, publication, and public meeting, extending the franchise, improving the local government system, establishing a new university, widening the scope of common education, encouraging technical and art education, developing the steamship service, educating navigators, reforming the agrarian system, effecting riparian improvements, and so forth."

THE RAILWAY SERVICE BETWEEN YOKOHAMA AND TOKYO.

We hear frequent complaints on the subject of want of information about the arrivals and departures of trains on the Tokyo-Yokohama line, many people being ignorant that the recently announced changes still hold, and will probably hold until the middle of next month. We append a table of the present times:—

Leaves Shimbashi	Arrives at Yokohama		Leaves Yokohama	Arrives at Shimbashi	
5.20	6.15		5.35	6.30	
6.20	7.05	To Kobe	6.45	7.40	
7.30	8.25		7.30	8.15	From Kobe.
8.05	8.50	To Ogaki	8.05	9.00	
9.05	10.00	To Kodzu	8.56	9.51	From Kodzu.
10.10	11.05		10.25	11.20	
11.00	11.45		11.25	12.20	From Shizduoka
11.45	12.30	To Kobe	12.10	1.05	
12.35	1.30		1.15	2.10	
1.30	2.25		2.30	3.25	
2.30	3.15		3.25	4.30	
3.25	4.20		4.25	5.00	From Kobe.
4.20	4.55	To Shidzuoka	5.05	6.00	
5.05	6.00		6 00	6.55	From Kodsu.
6.40	7.35		7.00	7.55	
7.30	8.25	To Kodsu	8.15	9.00	From Ogaki.
8.30	9.25		9.05	10.00	
9.55	10.40	To Kobe	10.00	10.55	
11.15	12.03		10.50	11.35	From Kobe.

THE TSUNG-LI YAMÊN.

The Tsung-li Yamên, that wonderful body of Chinese statesmen, who from time immemorial furnished to the world a magnificent object lesson in the art of how not to do it, are beginning to find themselves "left" by the times. Their chief function, the management of foreign affairs, has been virtually transferred to the new Ministry of War, a Board of Six, namely, Prince Kung, the *Tu pan* or President, the sixth and only surviving son of the Emperor Tao Kwang; Prince Li, *Hsiang-pan* or Co-President, chief of one of the eight "iron-capped" families, which helped to conquer China in the middle of the 17th century; Wêng Tung-ho (Chinese), President of the Board of Revenue; Li Hung-tsao (Chinese), President of the Board of Rites; Hsü Fu (Chinese), President of the Board of War; and Jung Lu (Manchu), Commander of the Pekin Gendarmerie, and now said to be the principal favourite of the Emperor. This new Ministry has further been instructed to assume charge of all the provincial arsenals, hitherto controlled by the local Viceroys, so that, in the matter of armament at any rate, a marked step has been taken in the direction of centralization. No lesson was taught more forcibly by the recent war than the fact that China owed much of her weakness to the dissipation of her fighting energy, caused by each province's regarding itself as a district apart, and not as a unit of the empire. The Board of Six, though entrusted with the conduct of the country's important foreign relations, has no member at all versed in foreign affairs, except Prince Kung, who is now very infirm. It might have been expected that the ex-Viceroy Li Hung-chang's name would have appeared on the Board, but though Japanese observers persist in saying that Li is gradually recovering political influence, no practical evidences of the fact are yet visible.

A strong movement is stirring among the British communities in the East for the establishment of a branch of the British Naval League. Men have been roused by the perception that Russia has now four iron-clads and four armoured cruisers on the Pacific station against two British iron-clads and one armoured cruiser. It is true that the discrepancy is diminished by one first-class cruiser of 7,350 tons, five second-class cruisers ranging from 3,600 to 3,730 tons, four third-class cruisers of about 1,700 tons each, all flying the Union Jack, against three Russian armoured cruisers, one third class cruiser, and five sloops. It is also true that the total displacement of the two squadrons is nearly equal—British 58,908 tons and Russian 58,838 tons. But Englishmen find the comparison very disquieting, and there will certainly be a display of loyal munificence in the Far East.

German ships-of-war continue to survey and explore the coasts of Fukien and Kwang-tung, and they are reported to have done a great deal of work about Quemoy Island. Either Namoa Island or Quemoy Island might be of use as naval stations, but it is not considered that they would serve as tradal centres so long as Swatow and Amoy remain. Germany's designs in these districts, if she has any designs, are still wrapped in mystery.

The negotiation of the new commercial treaty between China and Japan is proceeding very slowly. The Chinese plenipotentiary has proposed a treaty of absolute equality, quietly ignoring the fact that under the sixth article of the Shimonoseki Treaty, China has pledged herself to take as a basis "the treaties, conventions, and regulations now subsisting between China and European Powers." It matters little to Japan what obstructions or delays are created in Pekin, for the Shimonoseki Treaty secures to her people most-favoured-nation treatment in all respects pending the conclusion of the new treaty.

It is now definitely settled that Herr von Brandt, formerly German Representative in Pekin, is to discharge the duties of Commercial Ambassador, on his return to China—not an official appointment, but a commission from German merchants and manufacturers. The

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idea of the Germans is said to be, not merely to take advantage of the needs that China must feel in the sequel of the late war, but also to cultivate and develop her progressive desire to manufacture her own raw material and to be self-supplying in the matter of warlike apparatus. Herr von Brandt has hitherto posed as an uncompromising foe to Japan's expansion, on the ground that her manufacturing capacities would make her a keen competitor with the West in the markets of the world. He now offers proof of his sincerity and consistence by coming out to assist China in developing the very capacities that he denounced as a serious menace to the Occident in Japan's case.

It seems pretty certain that the Mohammedan rebellion is petering out. The followers of Islam are fighting among themselves, and the Imperial forces have commenced the terrible rôle of extermination that always forms the concluding page of such chapters in Chinese history. The world will probably hear little more of an insurrection that threatened at one time to over-tax the resources of the Manchu dynasty.

NEWS OF THE "STRATHNEVIS."

SAFE, BUT HER MAIN SHAFT BROKEN.

Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill, & Co., the agents in Yokohama of the Northern Pacific Steamship Co., courteously write to us:—"We are pleased to inform you that we have to-day (9th inst.) received a cable from our firm in Tacoma containing the news that the steamer *Strathnevis*, now considerably overdue at this port, was spoken by a sailing vessel on the 19th November, in N. lat. 48° 40′ W., long. 145°. The sailing vessel reports that the steamer's main shaft is broken, but that she was otherwise undamaged, and was endeavouring to make her way back to Victoria, B.C. Our Tacoma house adds that they expect further particulars to-day, when, if desirable, they will cable again. In the meantime, the Captain of the steamer *Tacoma* has been instructed to make a rigid search for the steamer on his present westward voyage."

HER PROPELLER LOST.

Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co., inform us that further cable advices from their Tacoma house received on Tuesday, report that the Northern Pacific Steamship Company's steamer *Strathnevis* signalled that she had lost her propeller.

THE DENVER MIRACLE-WORKER.

It appears that Schlatter, the miracle-worker of Denver, is in danger of being soon exposed as a common imposter. The Rev. C. W. Heisler, pastor of the Lutheran Church in Denver, having made an investigation of this "modern messiah" and his methods, reports thus:—

"A careful investigation fails to satisfy you that one actual healing has taken place. I looked up the case of a blind man reported as healed. Yes, he thought he could see a little now; he could tell when people passed in front of him. He *thought* he was getting better every day. On leaving his home, I remarked to my companion "You see there is absolutely nothing in that testimony." And since then I have learned that the man never was totally blind. There are multitudes of people, however, with real and imaginary complaints, especially of a nervous character, who are easily duped. If they had the "faith," Mr. Editor, it would do them just as much good to take your hand as it does Schlatter's.

"At first I was inclined to think that Schlatter was a self-deluded enthusiast, as he seemed to be so sincere. Since visiting him the second time and in the light of subsequent events, I am inclined to put him down as a humbug of the first water, and I am beginning to question whether we evangelical pastors are pursuing the wisest course in holding our peace concerning him. In view of the crowds who seem to be led away by him, I wonder whether we ought not publicly protest against his sacrilege. . . . . Of course the end is not yet. Schlatter does not claim to heal instantaneously. When a lame man came to our Lord for healing, he could throw away his crutches instantly. But Schlatter tells him in two, three, five months he will be entirely well. Notwithstanding this time element, which is really very prudent on his part, I have no hesitancy in writing down the whole thing as a senseless delusion and a snare. But it pains one to think we have so may simpletons among us."

THE "EMPEROR" OF KOREA.

In the latest number of *The Korean Repository* we find an interesting note in the editorial department, with reference to the proposed assumption of the title of Emperor by the King of Korea. Our readers will perceive, on examining the account given by the *Repository*, that all preparations for the assumption of the title had been made, and that the ceremony was on the very verge of being performed, when the Japanese Minister arrived at the palace, and after his departure it was announced that the project had been postponed. We call attention to this fact because the strongest denials, and charges of direct falsehood, were evoked in certain quarters by our recent assertion that the assumption of the title of "Emperor," so far from being instigated by the Japanese after the death of the Queen, was actually prevented by them. The writer in *The Korean Repository* was actually an eye-witness of what occurred, and he describes the arrival of the Japanese Minister on the scene as having suspended the programme. It is possible, of course, that the Japanese Representative went to the Palace as the exponent, not of his own views only, but of those of the whole foreign *corps diplomatique* also. At any rate, he was the immediate instrument of intervention. We refer to this matter only as a matter of history. In our opinion, no objection can be legitimately urged against the Korean Sovereign's calling himself "Emperor" if he pleases. He has already assumed that title in his treaties with Japan and Western States. But there certainly was a very strong objection to his assumption of it in the immediate sequel of the bloody drama of October 8th, and with the advice and assistance of officials that had been privy, so far as the world knows, to the brutal assassination of his Queen. Here is *The Korean Repository's* note:—

All change is not necessarily "reform" or "progress," though these much abused and misunderstood terms involve the idea of "change." On the 25th of Oct. the Cabinet that climbed into power since the storming of the Palace on the 8th, issued an order commanding the officers of the several departments of the government to assemble within the Palace enclosure the following day between the hours of seven and ten in the morning to witness the assumption on the part of the King of the title of Emperor. Whether the braves who are implicated in the murder of the Queen were to show their allegiance to their lord by raising him upon a shield or not, we do not know. Immediately on the issue of the order there were conferences, consultations, caucuses between Koreans and Japanese; and between the representatives of western nations and the Japanese the subject was discussed.

We should say in passing that this subject of making Korea an empire is not a new one, now suggested for the first time. Not at all. It is one that has been carefully weighed by our broad-minded Korean statesmen—in the absence of other business we suppose—ever since the signing of the treaty of peace at Shimonoseki last April, when Korea was made independent. Up to this time, before his own people, the king used the term *Kouk Woang*, which to the average Korean means King. In the treaty with Japan and other countries the terms employed is *Woang Chei* which, being interpreted, meaneth Emperor. Why not finally and forever cut loose entirely from anything and everything that savours of dependency on China? Why retain a term that betrays subordinate relations, rather than to choose one that expresses what you really are—a free, a sovereign, and an independent ruler? Linguistic lore evolved shades of meaning from the Chinese characters, keen discriminations and delicate distinctions were without doubt made by men of whom it might be said, to borrow a homely figure, that though too bungling to split saw-logs nevertheless attempted to split hairs. What arguments were arrayed, what men of straw were set up and knocked over, into what wee hours of the night these erudite statesmen and pure minded patriots continued their deliberation, we have not been informed. The matter is of minor importance and we shall not lay it up against them. Suffice it to say we took the precaution, in view of the momentous interests at stake, to secure a good night's rest for the arduous duties of the morrow.

The next morning, to prove our interest in the welfare of the empire soon to be ushered into existence, we went with eight other equally self-sacrificing foreigners to the Royal Palace. The morning was crisp, and the fifteen minutes walk exhilarating. The dull coolie with charcoal on his back, the huge bull groaning under a load of rice straw, and the ubiquitous merchant boy were on their way to the marts of trade. Our business, however, was far higher and more important. We passed the Korean guards at the Palace gate, the same gate which eighteen days before was entered by a murderous band of Japanese *soshi* hirelings, attended by regulars from the Japanese and Korean armies, escorting the Tai Wŏn-kun to the presence of the King, and there with an indignation born of hatred and revenge to eject "the base fellows" who had dared to climb back again to power. Through two massive gates, around the frowning Audience Hall, through a smaller gate and between buildings used by scribes (possibly Pharisees and hypocrites); under two gates and into a long lane that turns through another gate and over a camel hump bridge; now a few yards to the right and through one more gate and up along the west side of the lake well known to foreigners for the skating parties invited there by their Majesties. We make a low bow as we turn from the road leading to the quarters where the King has spent eighteen long, sad, and anxious days; we cross a drain with an effluvia not limited to the Palace, for we have had the misfortune to meet it many times in the streets of the filthy city; a few steps more and through the last gate into the court where stands the beautiful buildings that contain the Royal Library, part of which are occupied by Generals Dye and Le Gendre and—we beg these gentlemen's pardon—for the time being by ourselves.

The hands of the clock in the tower to the west of us had not yet reached seven and we felt sure the important ceremonies had not been performed. We viewed the Library buildings, than which probably there are no more handsome structures in the Palace or in the country. We strolled down to the pond. The Tai Wŏn-kun in the plain white dress of the civilian, attended by a single servant, came from the house of his son the King. Age is telling on the fiery Prince. His body is bent, his step is slow, he leans upon a staff. He looks at us, but not having our divining cap with us, we know not his thoughts. His favourite grandson, a young man of less than twenty-five, soons follows. He bows to us and enters into conversation. If the plump face and contented look are not deceptive, he has fully recovered from "the terrible sufferings" (to use his own words) through which he passed last winter and spring, a fifteen year sentence of banishment on the island of Kyo Dong. He assures us that our devotion to and concern for Korea are as beautiful as they are disinterested, and that the trouble to which we have placed ourselves in coming to the Palace at such an early hour is fully appreciated, while all that the distracted, disturbed, distressed country now needs is a western protectorate. We do not pretend to give the exact words of the patriotic young Prince, neither would we be rash enough to venture an opinion on his chances of reaching the throne of Korea.

Time passes and we look at the Palace built in western style of architecture, we stroll around the lake, we enter the pine grove to the east of the lake; watch with interest the arrival of several members of the Cabinet, we discuss Korean politics—if her political troubles may be called by that term—and the politics of other countries; the probable candidates and their chances of election for the Presidency of the United States next year are named and weighed, but for valid reason we shall not publish the results; the prospective war between Russia and Japan must of necessity receive attention; one of our number taking advantage no doubt of the presence of two physicians, learns to ride on a bicycle; two improvise stone and pitch quoits. The Resident Japanese Minister arrives and is received in audience by His Majesty and promptly takes his departure. The sun has now reached zenith, the King's older brother, Minister of the Royal Household and father of the Prince above mentioned visits us, salutations are exchanged, we gather around him to hear the very latest, and he announces with Oriental suavity that the ceremonies connected with the assumption of the title Emperor had been—postponed. We are greatly relieved. The Minister of Foreign Affairs had already gone to announce the decision to the several Legations. Thus ended the attempt on the part of an over-zealous Cabinet to crown His Majesty, the King "Emperor of Korea."

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GERMANY AND JAPAN.

AT the time when three great European Powers entered into an alliance to change the terms of the Shimonoseki Treaty, we expressed an opinion, probably shared by the majority of our readers, that, before long, Germany would be found to have resumed the friendly attitude previously maintained by her toward Japan for many years. It would seem that the expectation is likely to be soon fulfilled. So far as can be seen, Germany's action with regard to Liaotung has brought her nothing. France and Russia, though willing enough to avail themselves of her assistance, have taken no account of her in the division of the spoils. She has not even succeeded in keeping her fingers "between the bark and the wood," where her chief object was to get them, for the triple alliance has brought France and Russia closer together than ever. Even assuming, as some assert, that her procedure was directed against England, partly because she has never forgiven England's attitude during the war of 1870, or British abstention from the Dreibund, and partly because she adheres to the Bismarckian policy of endeavouring to find in the East a safety-valve for the fighting spirit of Europe, it would seem that she has failed in her purpose, for the force of events is driving her into the same camp with England. The transfer of the empire of the sea to France and Russia would be scarcely less fatal to Germany than to England. Such a catastrophe can not be contemplated with equanimity by any loyal German. To keep Russia busy with England in the East, and so avert any chance of an effective combination between France and the Great Northern Power for the purposes of a war in Europe, might be a wise policy. But to unite France and Russia for a maritime attack upon England, would be to incur the tremendous risk of seeing British strength at sea disabled, after which the allied fleets of Russia and France would make but one mouthful of Germany's navy. Is there any probability that they would refrain from doing so? Their recent conduct towards Germany in the East certainly suggests no likelihood of forbearance in the presence of opportunity. The original purpose that unites Russia and France is certainly not pro-German, nor can it be made pro-German by any such coquettish procedure as the recent alliance to drive Japan out of Liaotung. If the markets of the Orient are to be kept open to the Occident, the thing must be accomplished by Germany, England, and Japan. Russia and France have not, nor ever will have, any such aim in view. With Russo-phobism we have no manner of sympathy. We appreciate the thorough reasonableness of Russia's southward impulses, and her Central-Asian expansion is certainly open to no censure from Englishmen. But her exclusive tradal policy must be resisted, and that is equally true of France. Japan's financial needs impel her, for the moment, to increase her import duties. But her destiny is to be a manufacturing country, and the necessity of gaining access to foreign markets must compel her to make her own reciprocally accessible. Thus a common commercial policy draws together Germany, Japan, and England. The *Kölische Zeitung's* latest utterance on this subject is worth quoting:—

> It is time that the German people should understand that Japan can not be kept down. Politically this may be possible, if the right kind of coalition is formed; economically it is impossible. We must acknowledge that the land of the rising sun has entered the lists of peaceful competition as an equal of all other civilized nations. It is impossible to stop her progress. All attempts to do so can only hurt our interests. Japan is the land of the future in the Far East, and is bound to become the predominant power of Asia. Germany will do well to reckon with this. And it is also time to remember that the possibility of Japanese competition has been much overrated. Japan will obtain as much of the world's trade as belongs by right to forty-two millions of intelligent people. This can not be kept from her, but on the other hand, she is chiefly agricultural, and will remain so.

With the last opinion here expressed, namely that Japan will remain chiefly agricultural, we do not agree. But it does not seriously affect the general issue. Germany, as the *Neue Freie Presse* alleges, may have sought, last spring, to destroy British ascendency in the East, and may have joined with Russia and France in pursuit of that purpose. But she must now perceive that if British interests be driven to the wall, German will follow them, and that wherever France and Russia succeed in planting their feet firmly, she herself will be elbowed out.

AUSTRALIAN HORSES.

IT appears not improbable that the seven horses constituting the remnant of the twenty-five recently shipped from Melbourne for this country, may ultimately be offered for sale in Yokohama, as the Japanese have not yet determined to take them. It was a sad business, the loss of eighteen horses out of twenty-five, especially as it occurred when the voyage had been almost accomplished, the ship being in the vicinity of Hongkong. So far as these seven are concerned, however, their survival should serve as an advertisement and a recommendation, for it certainly indicates superior endurance and toughness. The horses are of the type supplied in thousands every year by Australia for Indian cavalry remounts, and their arrival prompts us to repeat an opinion expressed in these columns more than once previously, namely, that the wisest course for Japan to pursue would be to abandon all idea of attempting to utilize the ponies of this country for cavalry or artillery purposes—mountain batteries and land-transport service, perhaps, excepted—and to boldly introduce the Australian breed at once. We do not pretend to speak any last words on the subject. Doubtless it has received careful attention at the War Department, and whatever programme be adopted will have good reasons to support it. But two facts obtrude themselves on every intelligent observer's notice: one is that the ponies of Japan would be absolutely useless for cavalry operations against any Western nation; the other, that all attempts hitherto made to improve the Japanese breed, have ended in virtual failure. As to the former point, it is of course possible that the ponies of Japan should be employed, without great disadvantage, for vidette and outpost duties. But if opposed to horses such as all Western armies use, the Indian army not excluded, they would be simply annihilated in a charge, and even for the attack of infantry their low speed would keep them fatally long under fire, and their want of weight would deprive their onset of a great part of cavalry's effectiveness. Hooked to guns, too, their lightness must render obstacles formidable that would easily be negotiated by any artillery team in Europe. Indeed, in the matter of military serviceableness they are altogether unworthy of attention. The Japanese trooper rides well, but his mount being a mere rat, his general appearance is better calculated to raise a smile than to create alarm. No particular difficulty attends the use of such wretched cattle against Chinese troops, who are no better mounted. But suppose that Japan had to fight England, for example. Her cavalry's only hope would be to hide itself. One squadron of Sikh troopers would ride through all the cavalry Japan could muster. Her men might be as plucky as it is possible for soldiers to be, but the immensely superior weight, and therefore momentum, of an enemy mounted on Australian horses would sweep the insignificant Japanese pony off his feet in a moment. These are indisputable facts. They must be recognised and dealt with. On the other hand, the results obtained from foreign sires and Japanese dams, the half-breeds, are horses that would be ridiculed at any remount depôt in Europe, America, or India. They are mere rails; chestless, weedy, long-pasterned beasts, without weight, endurance, pluck, or temper. Possibly after fifty years of crossing and re-crossing something like a serviceable horse might be obtained. But can Japan wait fifty years before she supplies herself with an efficient cavalry arm? It seems to us that she should make up her mind at once to procure a good supply of cattle from Australia, not merely for mounting her cavalry and horsing her artillery forthwith, but also for establishing breeding parks whence her remounts could be furnished. It is plainly a problem of the greatest importance, and we have reason to apprehend that the factor of cost may impede its solution to a dangerous extent, though three or four

million *yen* would probably suffice. Five thousand Australian cavalry-horses could be laid down here at a cost of about £25 each, we imagine—that is to say 2½ million *yen*, in round numbers—and another million *yen* would procure a good stock for stud purposes. That amount should not deter Japan, seeing what an effort she is now making to increase her armaments, and to place them on a really effective footing from a Western point of view.

THE DOCTRINE OF IMMORTALITY.

WE propose to examine briefly Mr. BARTLETT'S interesting and philosophical contribution to this topic, published in our issue of November 18th. Mr. BARTLETT holds that the doctrine of immortality is logically demonstrable, and he advances three syllogisms in support of this view. By casting his syllogisms in the hypothetical instead of in the categorical form, he has impaired the intelligibility if not the force of his arguments, and we shall therefore modify their form while leaving their sense unchanged.

The first syllogism runs as follows :—

Major premise. All existing organs or forces possess (or are survivals from periods of such possession) adequate functions.

Subordinate argument. The conscious ego is an existing force or organ ; it must therefore possess (or have outlived the possession of) an adequate function.

Minor premise. The function possessed by the conscious ego of guiding the physical and intellectual man through a few decades of time is a function entirely inadequate to such an organ.

Conclusion. The conscious ego must have a function beyond this life.

Examination of the first syllogism. The major premise we accept as a sound induction from biological experience. The subordinate argument, stating that the conscious ego is an existing force or organ, appears to endow the ego with a real, objective existence, such as that of the liver or the heart. It is to such organs as these that the induction from biological experience applies, and to transfer it from these to the ego, which, as KANT showed, is merely the name given to "the consciousness of my thinking," is in truth "materialism" of the very grossest kind. This criticism of the subordinate argument entirely deprives the first syllogism of any logical value. But since the criticism will be unintelligible to those that have failed to master the principles of the Kantian philosophy, and since many of our readers are, perhaps, in philosophical matters, still numbered among pre-Kantians, we shall further adduce the argument by which a century and a half ago HUME refuted the minor premise of Mr. BARTLETT'S syllogism. "If the reason of man," he writes, "gives him great superiority above other animals, his necessities are proportionably multiplied upon him ; his whole time, his whole capacity, activity, courage, and passion, find sufficient employment in fencing against the miseries of his present condition ; and frequently, nay, almost always, are too slender for the business assigned them. A pair of shoes, perhaps, was never yet wrought to the highest degree of perfection that commodity is capable of attaining ; yet it is necessary, at least very useful, that there should be some politicians and moralists, nay, even some geometers, poets, and philosophers, among mankind. The powers of men are no more superior to their wants, considered merely in this life, than those of foxes and hares are, compared to their wants and to their period of existence. The inference from parity of reasoning is therefore obvious."

The third syllogism, which for the convenience of the argument we consider before the second, runs as follows :—

Major premise. The infinite is unchangeable.

Subordinate argument. The infinite is capable of entering into relations, and, since the infinite is unchangeable, those relations are necessarily unchangeable.

Minor premise. Man is capable of conscious relations with the infinite.

To those that have accepted the Kantian philosophy, this syllogism also is illicit, for the infinite is beyond the range of possible experience, and therefore neither unchangeability nor any other attribute except infinity is logically predicable of it ; we do not know whether the infinite is unchangeable or not ; nor do we know that the infinite is capable of entering into relations, and most thinkers would here incline to the negative view. (In mathematics, at least, the infinite has no relations, as is shown by the following equations : $\infty + n = \infty$; $\infty - n = \infty$; $\infty \times n = \infty$; $\infty \div n = \infty$.) And lastly, whether the infinite, speaking generally, has or has not relations, many thinkers have held, and we learn from Mr. BARTLETT that no less a man than EMERSON was one of these, that man at least has no conscious relations with the infinite.

With regard to the third syllogism, as with regard to the first, let us now put the Kantian criticism on one side, and examine the argument on its merits, assuming its terms to be intelligible and true. We see at once that it proves too much, for it proves not merely that the consciousness of man is permanent, but it proves further that in so far as it is permanent, it is *unchangeable*. It is not the play of changing thoughts that makes up the consciousness of daily life which this syllogism shows to be permanent ; that, at any rate, since the essence of its nature is change, can have no relations with the unchangeable infinite ; what is proved to like the last, would seem to prove too persist is merely the arch-ego, or, in the language of the schoolmen, the *principium individuationis*. Neither memory nor emotion, nor indeed anything that we value among the elements of our conscious life, is guaranteed by the syllogism to exist after the death of the body, for all these states of consciousness are changing states, and the infinite can have no relations with the changeable. The only element of consciousness that the syllogism proves to persist is the hypothetical unchanging consciousness of relation with the unchanging infinite. This chill abstraction can never satisfy the eager longings of ordinary men and women for an immortality that will give them the sunshine of the present life, without its shadows of sin, suffering, and death.

It is in effect on these longings that Mr. BARTLETT'S second syllogism, so far as it has any force whatever, is based.

Major premise. The history of all organisms is cyclical, passing through successive periods of development, service, and decay.

Subordinate argument. The conscious ego is organic (Qy. an organism). It may therefore be expected to present a complete cyclical history.

Minor premise. The history of the conscious ego in this life does not present a complete cycle.

Conclusion. Therefore the completion of the cycle of the conscious organism may be expected after the death of the body.

We accept the major premise as a valid induction from biological experience. The subordinate argument is subject to the serious criticism already made on the subordinate argument of the first syllogism. Let us pass this over and consider the minor premise. It appears to us that biological experience, shows that the mental life of man has a cyclical course comparable with that of his physical life. Where the decay of the bodily powers is slow, as in old age, this decay is usually accompanied by the progressive mental deterioration which, in extreme cases, culminates in senile dementia. It is true that in a large number of cases—the majority, in fact—the mental cycle is, happily, not completed, and the conscious existence appears to be arrested, by accident or disease, in the full vigour of mental activity. But precisely in these cases, the physical cycle is also incomplete. A man in full health of body and mind is struck on the head by a falling stone. All manifestations of activity, both bodily and mental, cease at once, and, as far as our senses can judge, for ever. But the mental cycle was incomplete, and we are therefore to infer that this cycle is to be completed in a future existence. *A fortiori*, then, we must argue that the bodily existence is destined for similar completion. This syllogism,

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much, and to lead us to a manifest absurdity. In truth, all that biological experience warrants us in concluding with regard to the cyclical course of organic life, is that in each case the cycle tends to completion unless some forces more potent than those that sustained the tendency to completion intervene and bring about a premature arrest of the cycle. But, amid the warring play of activities that we term nature, such a premature arrest of the cyclical course is the rule rather than the exception, and in this respect the human mind has, so far as we learn from experience, to share the common lot.

In his commentary on the second syllogism, Mr. BARTLETT is misled by the most potent source of fallacy in enquiries of this character, namely, a sudden, but easily overlooked, transition in the meaning of a term. The word cycle, as he uses it in his syllogism, is the biological cycle of development, maturity, and decay. But when he tells us that "the human cycle is always incomplete this side of death; that was what GOETHE felt, SOCRATES (or PLATO) felt, JESUS CHRIST (or the synoptic writers) confidently affirmed" —the "cycle" is one unknown to biology, a cycle of permanent maturity, in which decay has no part. We have here no more to deal with an induction from biological experience, but merely to use plain language, with a widespread (but by no means universal) longing for immortality. To a consideration of this longing we will return in a moment, after we have discussed Mr. BARTLETT'S last attempt to prove the doctrine of immortality by recourse to biological analogies. He writes: "My own belief in intrinsic immortality rests on the additional fact that the higher the organism the smaller the proportion of wasted individuals to perfected ones, and the conviction that the soul is the last and highest product not to be wasted." To this ingenious argument, the only answer necessary is that the diminution of wastes as we ascend in the biological scale is by no means so rapid as to lead us to suppose that with man waste has arrived at a vanishing point. Here again the argument from biology applies to the body quite as much as to the soul. Nature squanders individual human bodies as if they were things of small value; then why not also individual human souls? To nature, "red in tooth and claw with ravin," there can here be no appeal.

The only one of Mr. BARTLETT'S arguments that appears to have survived is the inference that men are immortal because they feel that the present life does not satisfy all their aspirations. In respect of this we can not do better than quote the words of one of the greatest writers of our time, HUXLEY, in his work on the philosophy of HUME. "It is remarkable that HUME does not refer to the sentimental arguments for the immortality of the soul which are so much in vogue at the present day; and which are based upon our desire for a longer conscious existence than that which nature appears to have alloted to us. Perhaps he did not think them worth notice. For indeed it is not a little strange that our strong desire that a certain occurrence should happen should be put forward as evidence that it will happen. If my intense desire to see the friend from whom I have parted, does not bring him from the other side of the world or take me thither; if the mother's agonised prayer that her child should live has not prevented him from dying; experience certainly affords no presumption that the strong desire to be alive after death, which we call the aspiration after immortality, is any more likely to be gratified. As HUME truly says, "all doctrines are to be suspected which are favoured by our passions;" and the doctrine that we are immortal because we should extremely like to be so, contains the quintessence of suspiciousness."

Our conclusion is that Mr. BARTLETT'S well-meant attempt to provide an intellectual ground for the belief in immortality is "too late a week;" and that natural religion, like dogmatic atheism, belongs to the eighteenth century. Between faith and agnosticism there is no middle standing-ground. But if the intellect cannot prove that man is immortal, neither can it prove the opposite. To the purely contemplative (unemotional) intellect, it appears to us that the analogies that lead us to infer that the individual conciousness ceases at death are strong; but they do not, and cannot, amount to logical proof. In proportion, then, as the scientific or the emotional temperament predominates in a man who, disregarding faith, sets himself to examine this problem of the ages, will his mind dwell especially on the negative or on the positive aspect of the question; will he answer it (to quote the words of EDMUND GURNEY) with a "Probably, No," or a "Possibly, Yes."

RAILWAY NEWS.

The question of the advisability of transferring the State railways to the control and possession of private companies is beginning again to attract attention. Early last year a number of prominent men in Tokyo formed themselves into a sort of association to consider ways and means of attaining that object, and the association appointed a special committee to conduct investigations. The committee held two meetings, the second being in July of last year, when the outbreak of war temporarily suspended their work. Now, once more bestirring themselves in the matter, they held their meeting in the Imperial Hotel on the 5th instant, Messrs. Shoda Heigoro, Nakamigawa Hikojiro, Suyenobu Michinari, Watanabe Hiromoto, Oku Saburobei, Imamura Seinosuke, Shibusawa Eiichi, and Hara Rokuro being present. After a debate of some length, they are said to have decided that, the war having made no change in the general aspect of the railway question, they should continue their investigations on the original basis. A report of their debate published in the Tokyo press contains rather severe reflections upon the railway authorities. They are blamed for insufficient attention to the convenience of the public, and for the slow progress of work on new lines. In the opinion of the committee, these defects are inseparable from Government undertakings, and can not possibly be remedied except by transferring the State-owned lines to the possession of private companies. It may be expected that, in view of the railway mania now prevailing, the agitation for the sale of Government lines to private companies will develop great force and may not improbably obtain the support of the Diet. At all events the question will be much heard of during the approaching session of the Houses.

The Government, on the other hand, purposes submitting to the Diet various bills relating to railways. One of the most important will be for doubling the Tokaido railway. Other measures are the construction of a central station in the city of Tokyo connecting the Shimbashi terminus of the Tokaido, and the Uyeno terminus of the Northern railway; the continuation of the central railway from Hachioji, through Kofu, to Nagoya; the connection of Hirosaki and Fukushima, through Akita, and Yonezawa; the prolongation of the Naoyetsu line to Shibata, touching at Niigata *en route*; the laying of a line from Yatsushiro to Kagoshima; and the construction of two more lines in Kyushu.

Attempts are being made to organize an agitation among the inhabitants of the intermediate *shukuba*, the former postal stations on the Tokaido, to have the course of the railway altered so that it shall touch at these villages, and that there shall be a depôt at each of them. The organizers of this movement threaten that, should their representation be rejected by the railway authorities, they will open communications with the members of the Diet and in combination with them thwart the construction bills that the Government is understood to have under contemplation. Men are going from one village to another along the Tokaido haranguing in this fashion, and of course their speeches meet with the approval of the villagers. We are not surprised that it should be so to a certain extent. The routes of the Tokaido, and Japan Railway Company's lines are doubtless well chosen from an engineering point of view, but the question of feeding lines has not yet received much practical consideration, and the result is that many villages and small towns lying at a distance of a few miles from the railways, derive comparatively little advantage from them. It is in the interests of the railways themselves, not less than of the population in the districts through which they pass, that every means should be adopted of extending their carrying facilities as widely as possible.

FORMOSA NEWS.

DECEMBER 7TH.

The latest correspondence from Formosa published in the vernacular press contains an account of the reduction of a formidable stronghold held by a numerous gang of robbers. About a dozen miles from Tainan-fu, there is a wild tract of almost impenetrable jungle and dangerous precipices, where the upper steam of the Sôbun-kei develops its tortuous course. There a gang of banditti constructed a fastness several years ago. The leader was a desperate character named Chin Fah. They made occasional descents on villages in the neighbourhood, and carried away treasure, provisions, and women. The Chinese Viceroy of the island, Liu Ming-chan, once attempted to hunt out the depredators, but the difficulty of finding the way to their den compelled him to give up the attempt. Some years ago, in one of his forays, the Chief of the banditti was caught, condemned, and deported to the Pescadores, where he was undergoing a sentence of penal servitude when the general confusion caused by the arrival of the Japanese troops in the spring of the present year gave him an opportunity to regain his liberty and return to his stronghold

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in Formosa. Since his return there he did not forget to wreak vengeance upon the villagers to whom he owed his apprehension and punishment. The villagers recently applied for protection to the commander of the Japanese troops (a company of foot) stationed in the vicinity.

The Japanese officer, Captain Sato, at once complied with the request, and started in the direction of the robbers' stronghold, at the head of about sixty men. Under the guidance of a few villagers, the party struggled through jungle and over hills, and at last, with great difficulty, reached the top of an eminence confronting, at a speaking distance, another elevation surmounted by the strongly intrenched position of the banditti. The intervening space being of an impassable character, it was necessary to make a detour of some miles in order to reach the fastness. Accordingly, the Japanese pitched their camp and rested a while. Sometime afterwards, there arrived four messengers from the banditti, bringing presents of fowls, wild geese, and vegetables. One of them was detained, while the rest were allowed to go back, charged with a message to their leader to the effect that, if he surrendered, he and his followers would be pardoned, and that he should at all events come to the Japanese camp the following day.

The chief, however, not making his appearance one of the native guides was ordered to shout to the sentinel in front of the opposite fastness and inquire why the chief hesitated to come. The sentinel, after seeking instructions, replied that for certain reasons the banditti were unable to come, whereupon the Japanese officer answered that if they could not come he should go himself. The answer was that they should be glad to receive his visit, but that he must not bring a large number of men. Captain Sato, followed by two or three men, then proceeded to visit the robbers in their lair. With unfinite difficulty, he succeeded in making his iway to their quarters. There were seven rows of buildings, the whole surrounded by breast works and bamboo stockades. The Japanese messenger was shown into an apartment, where the chief soon came out to receive him, and drink was served. Chin, the chief, having asked permission to introduce his brothers, seven or eight big fellows came into the room taking their seats beside Chin. After the usual salutations, Captain Sato demanded why they had not come to the Japanese camp. They replied that they were willing to do so, but that, as the way lay near a hamlet, the inhabitants of which were at feud with them, they dared not run the risk of being attacked by their enemies. Upon this Captain Sato gave them several copies of a free pass, which, he explained would secure them against the villagers, and suggested that they should pay the visit as soon as possible. But as they still asked for a period of ten days, it became plain that they were resolved not to come. They inquired when their messenger, detained by the Japanese, would be allowed to return, whereupon Captain Sato told them that the man could not be set free until they themselves visited the Japanese camp. At this a violent dispute arose among theso-called brothers of the chief. Captain Sato could not make out what they were saying, for, although able to conduct a conversation with the banditti in writing, he had no knowledge of spoken Chinese. It was apparent, however, they were disputing about the advisability of detaining a captive by way of retaliation. But they seem to have been pacified by the Chief, for no such attempt was made. Before taking leave of the banditti, the Japanese officer expressed, in a seemingly indifferent tone, a wish to look round the place, as he had been informed that it was one of the most picturesque spots in the island. The chief would not allow this, however, so the Japanese had to be contented with what they could observe in passing rapidly from the building in which the meeting had been held to the gate.

It being now evident that the robbers had no intention of surrendering, and the force under Captain Sato's command being inadequate for reducing the stronghold, he decided to return to his station. On the way back. the Japanese came upon an outpost of the banditti, consisting of four men. Three escaped, but one was secured and carried away. The captive proved to be Ho An, second in command of the banditti.

By this expedition it had been ascertained that the stronghold was guarded by a little less than two hundred banditti. When Captain Sato visited it, there was no trace of any fire arms, but in the course of a scouting tour in the vicinity of the fastness he observed a breech-loader in the hands of a sentinel, and from this and other evidence, he concluded that the banditti possessed a sufficient supply of arms and ammunition. It was even stated by some villagers in the vicinity that the robbers had bought two cannon and fifty rifles from the beaten followers of Liu Yung-fu.

An evil fate attended a party of seven Chinese, who, hearing the news of the Japanese expedition against their old enemies, followed Captain Sato's detachment. They missed the route of the Japanese, and fell into the hands of the banditti. One of them subsequently came back to the village with news that his comrades must be ransomed for ten taels per head.

Another expedition was soon organized at Tainan. It consisted of two companies of infantry under the command of Major Kawagoye. Leaving Tainan on the 15th ultimo, the detachment passed that night at Wanrigai, where it was joined by Captain Sato at the head of a small force. On the 16th, the Japanese encamped a few miles from the stronghold of the banditti, and on the 17th, they resumed their march before dawn. The ascent was arduous and in some places almost impassable. At several spots the Chinese coolies had to dig footholds for ascending the sides of precipitous hills, and streams had to be forded times without number. At half-past nine, the Japanese came in sight of the stronghold, and their commander, Major Kawagoye, caused a captive robber, Wan, to call out to the sentinel that the leader, Chin, and his followers would be pardoned if they came out and surrendered within an hour, but if they refused to do so they must take the consequences. The sentinel, after consulting with his chief, replied that they would surrender, if the Japanese commander would be so good as to send a formal note commanding them to lay down their arms. They were told that no such note would be sent, as there was no necessity for it. However, Captain Sato was ordered to enter the stronghold and hold a parley with the banditti. He was proceeding at the head of a small force, when he was fired at from the stronghold. His party was then at the bottom of a valley fully exposed to the enemy's fire. The path to the stronghold led up the side of precipitous hill, and it being impossible either to stay and fight or to climb over the precipice and charge, the Japanese had no choice but to retreat. Before they could do so, however, one of their officers, Sub-Lieutenant Ina, and a bugler were wounded. They climbed up a hill confronting the robbers' fastness, and from thence opened fire. Meanwhile, the rest of the detachment quickly took up positions on the tops of several hills, and the attack commenced at twenty minutes past noon. The banditti replied vigorously. At a little past one, Captains Sato and Otachime charged up the precipitous path in front of the stronghold, and breaking through the barricades, succeeded in forcing their way into the stronghold, an entry being effected nearly at the same time from another direction by a party under Captain Hasegawa. Two of this last party were shot down while climbing up the path. Thus vigorously attacked, the robbers lost heart and fled along a path in a south-easterly direction, leaving thirty-two dead bodies behind. It was about 1.30 p.m. when the place fell into the hands of the Imperial troops. There were found Mexican and Japanese silver pieces to the amount of about 2,500 *yen*, seventy-four small arms, two cannon of old style, spears, 2 swords, and a quantity of ammunition.

About four o'clock on the same afternoon, it being reported that a number of robbers were hiding at the bottom of a valley near the stronghold, a search party was despatched. They discovered no robber, but their attention being attracted by the furious backing of a dog, they went to the spot, when the found two young Chinese women, one of whom had a baby a month or two old. The women said that they had been carried to the stronghold by the robbers in April last, and had since then remained prisoners. They implored the Japanese soldiers to conduct them to their homes in the vicinity, and their prayer was at once complied with.

As to the chief of the robbers, it was known that he had left the place at noon, taking with him a number of female captives. Three Chinese prisoners found there were liberated. The Japanese left the place on the 18th, setting fire to the building.

Lately it was discovered that in the south of Formosa some remnants of Liu Yung-fu's followers were giving trouble, plundering villages and threatening small parties of Japanese troops. Telegrams just received in Tokyo announce that order has been restored there. The first telegram, dated Taipeh-fu, November 29th, and wired from Ujina on the 4th instant, runs as follows :—

"The Yamaguchi detachment arrived at Seisei-sho (left bank of the Tong-kang) on the 28th, when the insurgents in the vicinity completely dispersed, the leaders escaping into the mountains and the rest mingling with the local inhabitants. To-day the detachment is to make a search at Chokosui and Haisi-roto. The people at Seisei-sho and in its vicinity have entirely submitted to the Imperial rule. For the convenience of the detachment, a field telegraph line has been establlshed with an office at Seisei-sho. The laying of a commissariat telegram line between Fang-lian and Hêng-chuen has been commenced."

The next message, dated Taipeh-fu, November 30th, and transmitted from Ujina on the 10th instant, says :—

"When the search parties sent out by the Yamaguchi detachment on the 29th, arrived at Chokosui and its vicinity, the inhabitants made act of submission, surrendering their arms and ammunition. The detachment proceeds to-day to Chokosui. A body of troops has been stationed between Seiseisho and Fêng-shan."

The latest telegram, dated Taipeh-fu, December 4th, 5.50 a.m., is as follows :—

"The Yamaguchi detachment, then staying at Banzen-sho, sent out a party to Chetong-ka in order to effect a junction with the troops stationed at Fang-liao. The detachment has received the submission of the Hakkas and a majority of the aboriginal tribes. Peace having been restored in these regions, the detachment intends to come back to Feng-shan by the 9th instant, leaving half a battalion of infantry at Akogai and a squadron at Senshito. The chiefs of the four tribes inhabiting a tract forty Chinese miles north-east of Naibunsho, have come to Tainan, followed by 140 of their tribesmen. They brought presents of various things which they offered to the Commander of the Second Division, thanking him for the despatch of the detachment."

CHINA NEWS.

DECEMBER 10TH.

Our last intelligence from China was to the effect that the Mohammedan rebellion in Shensi had begun to "peter out," and that nothing now remained except the closing page of all such chapters in Chinese domestic history, namely the slaughter of the insurgents and the confiscation of their property. That news was based on telegrams received in Pekin about the middle of November, but it would seem from correspondence published in the leading Shanghai journal, that a very different state of affairs existed at the beginning of November, the rebels up to that time having been virtually unopposed. There was also a report that large quantities of arms and ammunition had fallen into the hands of the insurgents, and it seems to have been considered certain that 2,000 troops, by whom these munitions were escorted,

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had been annihilated. General Tung Fuhsiang had been commissioned to make peace, but the Mohammedans were insisting upon the decapitation of a military graduate whom the Government was resolved to protect, and were also declaring that if they were to be treated as rebels, they would resist to the death. It is exceedingly difficult to discover the real state of affairs in Shensi. A certain Mr. Simpson, who passed through the disturbed districts in the closing days of October and reached Lanchow, reports that for six days he saw only deserted or burning villages and crops uncut.

An unquiet state of affairs is reported as prevailing in Shansi. Its proximate causes are said to be the appointment of a Hunan man to be Governor, and the circulation of wild stories about successes achieved by Liu Yung-fu against the Japanese in Formosa. Vile literature, scurrilous placards, and other means of rousing public feeling against foreigners are largely resorted to:

When the war with Japan began to develop its most disastrous phases for China, considerable excitement prevailed among the *Chüjen* that had come to Pekin to receive their *Chiushih* degree. They could not endure the idea of China's suing for peace, and in order to prevent such humiliation they drew up a memorial and presented it at the Censors' Yamên on the 4th of May, believing that there would thus be time to enter their protest before the exchange of ratifications at Chefoo on May 8th. They were too late, but their memorial remains, and its very interesting contents are thus epitomized by the *North China Daily News*:—

I.—To create a patriotic spirit.
II.—To remove the capital to Hsianfu in Shensi.
III.—To raise and drill armies.
IV.—To make reforms.

In order that peace may not be signed, that the outer barbarians be repelled, that our country be preserved, and that our dynasty be prolonged.

I.—To create a patriotic spirit five things are necessary.

1.—Reform. Laws and regulations like utensils become old and useless and new ones must be provided according to the needs of the times.

2.—Confess sins like the ancient Emperors! Call upon all to wipe out the nation's disgrace as if avenging a personal enemy.

3.—Punish unworthy officials.

4.—Employ better men.

5.—Don't listen to Japan about not punishing those who were engaged in war.

II.—Remove the capital. The present is toof near the sea and therefore is too easy of access to all Foreign nations. The former Treaties were all made from fear of losing the capital. Put it at a safe distance and former humiliations will not be repeated.

III.—Raise and drill an army.

The indemnity asked for by Japan (Tls. 200,000,000) should be used to equip the army.

Young generals should be elected who are not bound by old and out-of-date methods, and encouraged to raise armies and drill them night and day.

The barbarous nations are constantly making new guns. (Here they give the names of the different guns and rifles used by the different armies of Europe and America.) While barbarous nations buy the new and discard the old, we buy up the discarded rifles of Siam, how can we prosper? they say.

IV.—Reforms. So long as we have only a revenue of Tls. 70,000,000 how can China ever repay an indemnity of Tls. 200,000,000? Various reforms are necessary.

A.—To enrich the people six things are necessary.

1.—Must establish Banks. By means of these the financing of the nation in regard to all matters will be easy.

2.—Must have railways. Their savings to the country will be very great.

3.—Must encourage machinery.

4.—Open coal mines.

5.—Coinage. Instead of the millions of dollars which come in from abroad now annually and which are alloyed with large quantities of lead, coin our own. Besides we do not want the year of of Christ put on our coins.

6.—Post offices.

B. There are four other ways of benefiting the people.

1.—Agricultural reform.

2.—Technical training and patents.

3.—Encourage trade so as to be delivering instead of destroying the nation. Note the exports and imports.

4.—Provide for the poor.

(1) Let the manufacturers (producers) be increased and the transporters (distributors) lessened. About Tientsin 60% are carriers, while the producers are only 40%.

(2) Let there be emigration and colonising as the British do in Canada and the Russians in Siberia.

(3) Let there be reformatory schools.

(4) Let there be poor relief.

C.—Reform of Education.

1.—What is studied by all other nations should be studied by China.

2.—There should be an increase in the number of educated, for other nations have 79 or 80 per cent. able to read, while China has no more than 20 per cent.

3.—Military training should be changed into technical training.

4.—A new system of examination of those who have been studying in colleges without a fixed number of passes.

5.—Have public libraries.

6.—Have newspapers and magazines of all kinds to encourage different departments of learning.

7.—Found a religious department of Education. The customs of our country are degenerating fast because we have no religious teachers! Thus it is that the depraved religions of foreign barbarians spring up and deceive our people. Every province is full of chapels whilst we have only one temple in each county for our Sage Confucius. Is this not painful? Let religious instruction be given in each country. Let all the charitable institutions help. Let all the unowned temples and charity guilds be made into temples of the Confucian religion and thus make the people good and stop the progress of strange doctrines (Christianity). Let the most advanced students of Confucianism be called up by the Emperor to the capital and given the Hanlin degree and funds to go abroad. If they succeed in establishing schools in foreign countries where are gathered 1,000 pupils let them be ennobled! Thus we shall take Confucianism and with it civilise all the barbarians, and under the cloak of preaching Confucianism travel abroad and quickly learn the motives of the barbarians and extend the fame of our country!

D.—Re-arrange the officials both in the capital and the provinces as suggested by former noted mandarins.

E.—Have a college to teach foreign affairs to those who shall become Ministers abroad.

F.—Let there be more travelling abroad like Peter the Great instead of the princes and nobility staying at home and knowing nothing.

G.—Let the power of memorialising the Throne be much extended, instead of leaving all power in the hands of a few Viceroys and Governors as now, by which the Emperor has little chance of knowing the whole truth.

H.—Let the people, say every 100,000 families (half a million), elect one man to come to Peking and meet at the Tai Ho palace in the presence of the Emperor to discuss matters of the national interest and make a fresh election each year. In this way the Emperor will soon know all.

When Bismarck thought of the changes that might be made within 100 degrees of longitude, 6,000 miles in length, a population of 400 millions, and 260,000 different products, he could not think of it without dread and at first advised the division of the empire. But finding that China procrastinated he said there was nothing to fear from it.

Turkey, because of its refusal to change, has been divided by six Powers. Japan, though only a barbarous island, by changing has taken Loochoo away from us and invaded our empire.

If our parents were suffering from some dangerous illness we would strongly urge them to take the right medicine. China is now in very great danger, and we therefore most anxiously urge the adoption of right measures for her safety.

It is noteworthy that this memorial, while thoroughly anti-foreign in spirit, nevertheless advocates emphatically the adoption of foreign methods of progress and civilization.

Viscount Tani and Messrs. Tomita Tetsunosuke and Sudo Jiichiro called on the 11th inst. on Viscount Nomura, Minister of Home Affairs, and advised him to dismiss Mr. Miura, Governor of Tokyo, in connection with the waterworks scandal. Nothing has been heard relative to the result of the interview, but they are resolved to interview Marquis Ito if their advice is not accepted by the Home Minister.—*Mainichi Shimbun.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CHINESE IN FORMOSA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Your Editorial of the 5th inst. regarding the regulations issued by Governor-General Count Kabayama contains some startling propositions. You say:—"Recently issued regulations for the control of Chinese visiting Formosa suggest the question, what steps does Japan intend to take with respect to the Chinese already settled in Formosa? Will she suffer them to remain there, as subjects of her own, or will she adopt measures to ensure their return to China?" You add: "Japan does not wish, and cannot afford, to expose her territories to a deluge of Chinese." The sum of your suggestions amounts practically to the adoption of measures to deprive the Chinese inhabitants of Formosa, permanently residing there at the period of the cession of the territory to Japan, of all the rights they had under the Chinese Government and drive them from their homes and out of the country. Your view of treaty obligation, as urged in this connection, to me appears passing strange. The fifth article of the treaty of Shimonoseki reads—as quoted by you:—

"The inhabitants of the territories ceded to Japan who wish to take up their residence outside the ceded districts, shall be at liberty to sell their real property and retire. For that purpose a period of two years from the exchange of the ratifications of the present Act, shall be granted. At the expiration of that period, those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories, shall be Japanese subjects."

If words mean anything definite there can be no question regarding the guaranteed status of the Chinese resident of Formosa. A treaty concluded with China should be as binding upon Japan as a treaty made with England or any other Power, so I can see no escape from the logical conclusion that if faith is to be kept by Japan with the Powers that have concluded treaties to go into effect in the near future, China and all the world besides can expect nothing less than that the stipulations contained in Article V. of the Shimonoseki treaty will be observed to the letter. There is no ambiguity in the words. At the expiration of that period, those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories, shall be deemed to be Japanese subjects. The inhabitants of Formosa are clearly entitled to the privilage of election whether they will place themselves outside of Japanese jurisdiction or remain subjects of the Empire. There is no method by which Japan can escape from the results of this fifth Article of the Shimonoseki treaty, be they agreeable or otherwise, than by bald repudiation of treaty stipulations together with the perpetration of the grossest outrage against the commonest dictates of humanity. The Chinese in Formosa being guaranteed the right of election regarding their citizenship by treaty stipulations, if they should be treated as you suggest they may be, and in Japanese interests should be, without protest from the nations of the earth now awaiting the period when they likewise have to test the integrity of the Japanese government in its dealings with their subjects and citizens who way be found within the precincts of the realm, it would evidence a state of affairs incomprehensible to the average minds. For one, I cannot believe that Japanese statesmen would initiate such a course, although their hearts might pulsate in that direction, and that I doubt.

The Chinaman may be all that is destestable in human depravity; objectionable in every way that the human mind can depict; yet Japan entered into a solemn compact with the Emperor of China to accept as Japanese subjects all Chinese residents in Formosa who might elect to remain there. Would the Editor of the *Japan Mail* urge that, had, the Liaotung peninsula not been retroceded Japan would have been competent, under treaty stipulation, to have proceeded in the manner he suggests should be pursued in Formosa? The Japanese Government knew, at the time of entering into the compact with China, that Formosa had a large contingent of Chinese inhabitants; that the Liaotung peninsula was filled with Chinese to the exclusion of all others than Chinese:—and the general make-up and characteristics of these Chinese were as fully known at that time as today. If, to enable Japanese to fully utilize Formosa in its vast possibilities, all the Chinese inhabitants must be driven from the country, it is time for Japan to call a halt to any hope for further territorial expansion, for the spirit of the age will not countenance the theory that she may exterminate a people by dispersion because the fear may be present that the individual Japanese is not capable of competition with the conquered in the strife to live—Japan should be able to take care

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of her new subjects in Formosa: they electing to become such,—and find her profit in the accession. The Chinaman is not altogether bad, and he is capable of improvement.

Yours truly, X.

Yokohama, December 7th, 1895.

SUNDAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Apropos of the question concerning the observance of Sunday, now being agitated in your correspondence columns, I have thought that the enclosed from Mr. Gladstone might serve to throw some light upon the subject. Will you kindly insert it *in toto*,

Yours truly, SABBATARIAN.

Mayebashi, December 5th, 1895.

MR. GLADSTONE AND THE LORD'S DAY.

The April (1895) number of the *Church Monthly* will contain the second part of Mr Gladstone's article on the Lord's-day. In the course of an extremely interesting argument he says: The question for the Christian is, not how much of the Lord's day shall we give to service directly divine. If there be any analogous question it is rather how much of it shall we withhold? A suggestion to which the answer obviously is as much, and as much only as is required by necessity, and by charity or mercy. These are undoubtedly terms of a certain elasticity; but they are quite capable of sufficient interpretation by honest intention and an enlightened conscience. If it be said that religious services are not suited for intension over the whole day, and could only lead to exhaustion and reaction, I would reply that the business of religion is to raise up our entire nature into the image of God, and that this, properly considered, is a large employment—so large that it might be termed as having no bounds. But the limit will be best determined by maintaining a true breadth of distinction between the idea of the new life and the work of the old. All that admits the direct application of the new spirit, all that most vividly brings home to us the presence of God, all that savours most of emancipation from this earth and its *biscentum catenæ*, is matter truly proper to the Lord's day, and what it is in each case the rectified mind and spirit of the Christian must determine. What is essential is that to the new life should belong the flower and vigour of the day. We are born on each Lord's-day mornings, into a new climate, a new atmosphere; and in that new atmosphere (so to speak by the law of a renovated nature, the lungs and heart of the Christian life should spontaneously and continuously drink in the vital air.

It may perhaps be said that this view of the subject disparages the Christian life of the other six days of the week. A fatal objection, if only the fact were so. But I believe that, if we search the matter to the bottom, it is found difficult or impossible to reach any other firm foundation for the observance of the Lord's-day. The counter idea is to give a certain portion of the day to work associated with the new life, and to withhold the rest. On what authority, what groundwork of principle, does such an idea rest for its warrant? There is no allocation of a portion, of a *quantum* of time weekly for such a purpose commanded in the Old Testament, none in the New, none in the known practice and tradition of the Church. Would it not seem that this plan savours of will-worship rather than the other? The observance of the Lord's-day by spiritual service rests, in its inner soul and meaning, not on a mere injunction, but on a principle.

Does, then, that principle impart any dishonour to the general law of love, obedience, and conformity to the divine command, which embraces all days alike without preference or distinction of degree? It does nothing of the kind. The service of God in this world is an unceasing service, without interval or suspense. But, under the conditions of our physical, intellectual, and social life, a very large portion of that service is necessarily performed within the area which is occupied by this world and its concerns, and within which every Christian grace finds perpetual room for its exercise. But for its exercise under circumstances not allowing the ordinary man, unless in the rarest cases, that nearness of access to the things of God; that directness of assimilation to the divine life, which belongs to a day consecrated by spiritual service. So the grace and compassion of our Lord have rescued from the open ground of worldly life a portion of that area, and have made upon it a vineyard seated on a very fruitful hill, and have fenced it in with this privilege, that, whereas for our six days work the general rule of direct contact must for the mass of men be with secular affairs, within this happy precinct there is provided, even for that, same mass of men, a chartered emancipation; and the general rule is reversed in favour of a direct contact with spiritual things.

"PLOT AND PASSION" AT THE PUBLIC HALL.

Amateurs, especially in small communities, where necessarily the numbers are few who can declaim a dozen lines decently or who know how to "carry" themselves on the stage, lie under a heavy handicap when appearing in such a piece as that selected for presentation last night. "Plot and Passion" is a play that possesses but one element of success—the acting. It is neither scenic or witty, nor do either of the three acts culminate in a *finale* that is at all startling. With the exception of *De Neuville*, there is not one among the cast that exhibits an amiable trait in his or her character, consequently there is nothing to enlist the sympathies of the audience outside the dramatic action of the piece. The scene opens in Paris during the Empire, is removed to Prague in the second act, and reverts to the French capital in the third, where the atmosphere reeks with intrigue and conspiracy, the outcome of which are hypocrisy and bribery on every hand, each of the principal characters being ready to sell the life or liberty of another without the slightest hesitation or compunction, the prominent characteristics of the principal *rôles* being the daring impudence and duplicity of *Desmarets* and the brutal selfishness and savagery of *Fouché*, while *Madame de Fontanges* is a creature of the secret police and an unblushing and inveterate gamester. Noble sentiments and pretty wit being generally absent from the dialogue, it will be seen that our estimation of the task that Mr. Bayne set his company in their latest essay, is not wide of the mark.

The following is the cast with a synopsis of the play:—

Fouché (Duke of Otranto, Minister of Police)	Mr. A. C. Read.
M. Desmarets (Head of the Secret Department of Police)	Mr. W. G. Bayne.
The Marquis de Cevennes (A Legitimist)	Mr. H. V. Henson.
Berthier (Prince of Neufchatel, Grand Chamberlain)	Mr. F. J. Hall
De Neuville (Secretary to De Cevennes)	Mr. H. J. Sharp.
Jabot (House Steward to Madame de Fontanges)	Mr. H. M. Arnould.
Grisboulle (a Subordinate of Desmarets)	Mr. W. R. H. Carew.
Madame de Fontanges	Mrs. A. C. Read.
Cecile (her Maid)	Miss F. Eldridge.

Fouché, Duke of Otranto, Minister of Police under Napoleon, I., taking advantage of the passion of *Madame de Fontanges* for gaming, causes her to be tempted by his agents, and beggared through play, in order that he may avail himself of her services as a police spy. Of noble lineage and of high repute, and unsuspected in society, this lady is visited by *Fouché*, disguised as an abbé, under pretence of being her confessor, but, in reality, to clandestinely consult with *Desmarets*, the head of the secret service. To enable him to do so, the Minister had caused a concealed passage to be cut though the walls of the adjoining house, owned by his head agent, under the assumed name of *Lebon*. In this passage-way is a secret vault, wherein are preserved state documents, which might either compromise the safety of *Fouché* or be used for his security. Visiting the apartments of Madame beneath his priestly garb, the Minister converses, in her absence, over state affairs with *Desmarets*, his covert enemy, who informs him of the publication of a most bitter pamphlet, emanating from "Timon," which lays bare the enormities of *Fouché's* political career, supported by the reproduction of damning documents, copied from the secret archives of the State. *Desmarets* inwardly exults over the vexation of his wily employer, to whom, as evidence of his ingenuity and subserviency, he presents a page of the original manuscript, obtained from a spy in the printing office wherein the publication was composed. *Fouché* vows vengeance upon the unknown author, should he be discovered, when he is visited by the *Marquis de Cevennes*, a noble charged with complotting for the restoration of Louis XVIII., and summoned into his presence in the name of the police. *Fouché* reveals himself to the astonished nobleman, and alarms him into accepting a delicate mission to Prague, through accurately detailing incidents of his previous career in conspiracy. *De Cevennes* incautiously places in the Minister's hands, a memorial, the hand-writing of which corresponds with that of the offensive publication. The *Marquis*, on receiving his instructions, promises to produce the author, his secretary, prior to his departure, and goes in search of him. *Madame de Fontanges*, in the absence of *Fouché* and his new tool, returns to her house, where she finds *Desmarets*, who declares his love for her upon her demanding the loan of money to redeem her jewels, pledged for gaming losses. Although scouting the agent's proposition of marriage, the lady, abashed at the degradation of her position, still overcome with her propensity for play, accepts the money, tendered only to rivet more firmly her chains, and hastens to again tempt fortune at the gaming table. *Fouché*, having arranged that the carriage on the left of the court-yard should proceed in desperate haste to Prague, while the one on the right, surrounded by soldiers, should convey the secretary, *De Neuville*, to the dungeons of Vincennes, returns to receive these gentlemen. *Desmarets*, fearing that the arrest of *De Neuville* would disclose the fact of his having betrayed his trust through supplying documents from the secret archives, places the secretary on his guard, who, thus warned, takes the carriage destined for Prague. The *Marquis* endeavours to depart on his mission immediately upon the return of *Madame de Fontanges*, who is in high spirits at having broken the bank but, taking the wrong carriage, leaps, from it to avoid arrest, is fired upon, and returns to the house. Discomfited at the escape of his calumniator, *Fouché* determines upon sending the beautiful *De Fontanges* to Prague, there to become acquainted with *De Neuville*, so as to fascinate and allure him back to Paris. She refuses to accept the task, and pleads hard to avoid it, till the orders of the police minister are imperative. At Prague, although surrounded by spies, the female agent becoming deeply enamoured of the man she is designed to betray, who, without knowing her real occupation, reciprocates her passion, endeavours to shake off the thraldom of *Fouché* and to apprise *De Neuville* of the danger. At this moment *Desmarets* and *De Cevennes* appear upon the scene, the one as an emissary of the police minister, and the other as an unconscious bearer of a correspondence antagonistic to Napoleon's matrimonial scheme. The *Marquis* exhibits to the agent a cane he is charged to carry from a lady to *Fouché* as a curious present. *Desmarets* purloins a dispatch concealed within it, and substitutes a copy, and then, to gain *De Fontanges'* affection, entrusts her with the secret of the hidden vault, containing evidences of *Fouché's* treachery. The lady in the desperation of love, resolves upon the overthrow of the Minister to secure the safety of her lover. She avails herself of *De Cevennes'* return to Paris, and furtively accompanies him on his journey, and, while he sleeps, takes possession of the dispatch entrusted to him. *De Neuville*, mad with jealousy, and *Desmarets*, fearful of his secret being betrayed, hurry after them. *Fouché*, apprised of his enemy's return, comes in person to cause his arrest, but *Madame de Fontanges*, having caused the treacherous dispatch to reach the Emperor, the power of the Minister is broken, and he himself driven into exile.

There was a good house, and the audience took early and frequent opportunities of signifying their approval by applause. Thus encouraged, the actors soon warmed to their work, and the production of the piece must be pronounced a success—a decided success. The most difficult *rôle* was that of *Madame de Fontanges* (Mrs. Read). This is doubtless the heaviest part that lady has ever undertaken, one of alternating pathos and passion, several of the situations being exceedingly trying, but they were all excellently filled. It might be said that a little more intensity in some of the scenes would have been more effective, but on the professional stage to arrive at the acme of excellence in such a part requires the experience of several performances. The only other lady in the cast was Miss F. Eldridge, who made a very acceptable first appearance as *Cecile*, and spoke the lines allotted to her distinctly and without the embarrassment so frequently found in novices. Little need be said of Mr. Bayne's *Desmarets*. As an accomplished actor who never misses a point, it was expected that the character of the Police Agent would be perfectly rendered—and it was so; the part suited him well and he made the most of it. The versatility of Mr. Read (*Fouché*) enabled him to take his part with such consummate ease and assurance, that were he to perform the *rôle* for a hundred nights we question if he could improve upon it. For his capital rendering of the character of *De Neuville*, much praise is due to Mr. Sharp. He delivered his lines with rare accuracy, and in the management of his voice and the modulation of his tones he was full of force and feeling, while his half suppressed emotion was a triumph of the actor's art. Mr. Henson played the *Marquis de Cevennes*, a somewhat colourless character—a nervous gentleman in great awe of *Fouché*. It was a careful and creditable performance. Mr. F. J. Hall appeared as *Berthier*, and two servants were played by Messrs. Arnould and Carew, the former one of the most conventional order, the latter one of an eccentric type.

The piece was well put upon the stage, and a new scene was painted for the environs of Prague. The town band played between the acts.

IMPERIAL RAILWAY DEPARTMENT.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE IMPERIAL RAILWAY DEPARTMENT FOR THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR OF MEIJI, APRIL 1893 TO MARCH 1894.

In continuation of the annual report for the previous fiscal year, the following report is now made on the general condition of works undertaken during the year beginning with April, 1893, and ending at the close of March, 1894, and on the principal features in connection with financial affairs during that period. The divisions and order of headings in the present report are modelled after the last annual report, and are as follow:—

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1. General condition of works on different lines:—
   Hokuriku Line:—Tsuruga-Morita Section.
   O-u Line:—Aomori-Ikarigaseki and Fukushima-Yonezawa Sections.
   Tokyo-Kobe Section.
   Takasaki-Naoetsu Section.
3. Finance—Capital Account.
4. General Condition of Traffic.
5. Finance—Revenue Account.
6. Private Railway lines.

APPENDIX.

Table No. 1.—Detailed Statement of Expenditures on Capital Account.

Table No. 2.—Detailed Statement of Expenditures for the construction of new lines.

Table No. 3.—Detailed Statement of Receipts and Expenditures on Revenue Account.

Table No. 4.—General Balance-sheet.

Table No. 5.—Rolling Stock Returns for the end of the 26th fiscal year.

Table No. 6.—Statistics of Passenger Traffic.

Table No. 7.—Statistics of Goods Traffic, with total Train Mileages.

Table No. 8.—Locomotive Mileages of the different Sections.

Table No. 9.—List of Deaths and Injuries among passengers, staff, and others in the different sections during the 26th fiscal year.

Table No. 10.—List of Casualties and Accidents in connection with the running of trains in the different sections during the 26th fiscal year.

Table No. 11.—Comparative table of the earnings, expenditures, &c., of the Private Railway Companies, during the 26th fiscal year.

Table No. 12.—Rolling Stock Returns of the Private Railway Companies for the end of the 26th fiscal year.

General Condition of Works on different Lines.

The new works undertaken during the year under review consisted of beginning the construction of the Hokuriku and O-u lines, which form portions of railways to be constructed within the so called "first construction period" provided in the Law concerning Railway Construction.*

Of repairs, those made on the Tokaido Trunk Line were heaviest; there was besides a considerable amount of new and supplementary work done to meet the requirements of traffic development, such as widening the railway between Osaka and Sanomiya for the admission of another line of rails.

The main features of these undertakings will now be reviewed.

Hokuriku Line.

TSURUGA-MORITA SECTION.

Route and Topography.—The line starts from the present Railway Station in the town of Tsuruga and follows the existing railway in a southerly direction for a short distance, when it turns to the left, takes a north easterly course and, passing Miyama-dera, Kashimawari, and Usokōchi, goes on to Habara; thence curving toward the north-west and entering the narrow valley of Tera-dani, it proceeds to Kobayashi dani in Aso. The nature of the ground between Tsuruga and Tera dani is such that the line has to be taken exclusively on two steep gradients of 1 in 53 and 1 in 40; and, in order to avoid habitations and cultivation, it is carried along hill-sides. Between Kashimawari and Uso Kōchi, curves are necessarily very numerous owing to the railways having to pass through the narrow valley of the Kinomegawa, which river has to be crossed at four different places between these two points.

From Kobayashi dani the line goes, by way of Urakurayama-dani and Funaga-tani, to the eastern side of Sugitsu, and thence, passing along hill-sides, crosses the Shiwasu and Wanayama valleys. From this point the ground becomes extremely rough, and the line crosses over the Mawari, Ashi and Ira valleys by a succession of tunnels and bridges, strikes the Nakayamatoge, and comes out to the west of the old Hokuriku Kaido—the highway from Tsuruyo to Imajo. The 4½ miles from Habara to this place is the roughest portion of the whole section, there being no less than 10 tunnels, with an aggregate length of 2 miles 34 chains within this short distance. Thence the line follows the downward course of the Kasogawa for over two miles to Ogiri. This portion, though short, requires some very heavy work owing to the nature of the locality's being such as will only admit of a road on steep gradients and with numerous curves. From Ogiri eastward the ground becomes more open and level: the Kasogawa has to be crossed, however, at nine different places before reaching the villages of Shinmichi and Mawari. Here the line crosses the Yunagase-Kaido and comes out at the town of Imajō. The Hokuriku Kaido is then crossed, and the course of the Hinogawa followed to Yuo-tōge near the village of Saba-nami, and the line proceeds straight northward between the Hokuriku-Kaido and the Hinogawa. From the southern end of Shinkawa the line goes through the narrow strip of land between the highway and the river, and crosses the former at the southern extremity of Nishikaidō. It then crosses the Wakimoto-gawa, passing the villages of Wakimoto and Kunikane, crossing the Ojiogawa, and after skirting the villages of Imajiku and Shirōmaru, the town of Takefu is reached. The 10 miles between the towns of Imajō and Takefu is the most level portion of this section. From Takefu the line goes to Iyehisa where, curving to the right, it crosses the Hinogawa and thence takes, a north eastern direction to reach Sabae. It again turns to the right and, passing the villages of Kamikawabata, Shimokawabata, Toba, Tokumitsu, and Sambongi, goes on to the foot of Monju-zan, and then, passing the villages of Ikuno and Tsunowara, goes straight to Hokogasaki. Curving now to the left and taking a northern direction, it passes Handa; from this place the road is laid out viâ Shinkai, Kawagita, Omachi, Hanadō, and Kida, and, curving to the right in crossing the Ashiba gawa, proceeds to the city of Fukui on the straight. The road for 8½ miles between Sabae and Fukui is located through generally level country. The district between Toba, Tokumitsu, and Sambongi, through which the Asamizu-gawa winds its crooked course, is subject to frequent floods, and owing to the flatness of the locality the water does not speedily recede, but remains on the adjoining fields for a long time. In consequence of this a large number of flood openings have to be provided. The water of the Ebata-gawa, a similar description of river, which runs between Handa and Hida, acts during rainy seasons in like manner, and the stream has not only to be bridged over but numerous flood openings have to provided along the approaches. For these reasons greater engineering difficulties are encountered, and more works have to be prosecuted than are apparently warranted by the general flatness of the district.

In leaving Fukui the line skirts the city to avoid the thickly habitated parts, curving to the right, passes along the eastern side of the old castle grounds, and crosses the highway at Takagi and proceeds to the village of Morita, on the Southern bank of the Kuzuryu river, the terminal of the section.

Construction Works.—In April, 1893, a Branch Office of the Railway Department to superintend the survey and construction of this line, was established in the town of Tsuruga. Final surveys over the route indicated by the previously made preliminary surveys were at once proceeded with. Upon the completion of the same in August, the line was divided into three Construction Sections, viz:—1st, Tsuruga-Yamanaka; 2nd, Imajō-Yuo; and 3rd, Hokogasaki-Kida, and construction works were taken in hand. At the close of the period with which this report deals, the principal work completed was as follows:—Earthworks: including cuttings, embankments, deviation of roads and rivers, and laying out of station grounds, 72,924 tsubo. Bridgeworks; 3 bridges (all over the Kinomegawa), and 14 culverts. Rails laid: on the main line and sidings, 5 miles 5 chains. Locomotives were being employed in transportation of material for a distance of 4½ miles from Tsuruga. Tunnels: of which these are 13 in all, the 1st (Kashimawarai) and the 2nd (Usokochi) had been completed; all the others being well in hand. Buildings:—Offices and other subsidiary buildings belonging to them, together with a temporary Engine shed, were built, all of which are within the Tsuruga Station yard, the total area of these being 397 *tsubo*.

O-u Line.

This being an important and lengthy system between the distant cities of Fukushima and Aomori, it was decided, with a view to facilitating construction, to start the work from both ends; and the work from the Aomori end was begun in July 1893, and from the Fukushima side in February 1894, under separate sections, viz., Aomori-Ikarigaseki, and Fukushima-Yonezawa, as is shown below:

AOMORI-IKARIGASEKI SECTION.

Route and Topography.—Aomori Station, the northern terminal of the Nippon Railway Company's system, is the starting point of this railway. On leaving the station, the line follows the highway in a south-western direction, and runs for a short distance parallel to the existing line of the company, when it curves to the right, crosses the highway, and enters Nishitaki village. It then crosses the Nishitaki and Okidate-gawa, recrosses the highway, passes Ishiye-mura, curves to the left and, crossing Shinden-gawa (1st crossing), enters the village of Shinjo. The ground between the starting point and this village, a distance of 3 miles 37 chains, is mostly level, and the line passes through paddy fields and over moors. After leaving Shinjo the line curves to the left to Shirahatano, crosses the highway, makes another curve to the left, crosses the Toaza-gawa, enters Tokado village, and again curving to the left crosses the Obukuro gawa. Here it turns to the right, crosses the highway and the Shinden-gawa (2nd and 3rd crossings), each twice, recrosses twice both the highway and the Shinden-gawa (4th and 5th crossings), and reaches Tsuruga-ita village. From thence it has again to make two crossings over the Shinden-gawa (6th and 7th crossings) and by means of a succession of contrary curves the Daishaka tunnel (891 feet in length) is entered. Passing through the tunnel the line comes out at the western end of Daishaka village, passes to the north of the town of the same name, curves to the left and crossing the highway known as Goshogawara-Kendo reaches the Daishaka Station. The line eastward of Shinjo to this place is laid mostly through a hilly district. It has to follow the intricate valley of the Shinden-gawa; and it is only after reaching Tsuruga-ita and getting through the Daishaka tunnel (parallel to the highway) that it emerges into a more open country. From Daishaka Station the line passes on to Tokuhoji and Suginosawa, and after crossing the Daishaka gawa and Aka-gawa (the former at two different places), it curves to the right, and the village of Namioka is reached. This part of the country is flat, and the line is laid through paddy fields. From Namioka the road proceeds *viâ* Mejikazawa, crosses the highway, passes the village of Shimodogawa, and, crossing the Togawa, goes on to Hitachi-mura, and thence to Kawabe-mura. From the latter village the Asaseishi and Hirakawa are crossed, and the town of Hirosaki is reached after passing the villages of Nadenshiko and Watoku. Between Namioka and Hirosaki the line passes through the celebrated plains of Tsugaru, and this portion is the most level and open throughout the section. From Hirosaki the line crosses the highway to Oshimizumura, crossing Owazawa-gawa, and passing the villages of Horikoshi and Ishikawa curves to the right to Daibutsu-ga-hana, where it crosses the Hira-kawa and follows its southern bank up to Moriyama. It then goes across the Meuchi-gawa, and after passing Nijigai recrosses the Hira-kawa and proceeds to Owani. Over this portion of the route the line, though generally level, has to curve around the hillsides to a considerable extent. From Owani the line crosses the highway, passes Kuradate-mura and follows the highway to Nagaminemura: it then crosses the Inari and Sawa-kawa and proceeds along the hill-sides which form the southern bank of the Hira-kawa. It finally crosses the river and strikes Karaushi tunnel (528 feet long) on the straight. On leaving the tunnel the line crosses the highway, and by curving to the right and left several times, reaches the town of Ikarigaseki.

Constuction Works.—For the purpose of construction, this line of 36 miles 4 chains, was divided into four sections, viz.:—1st Aomori-Tsurugasaka; 2nd, Tsurugasaka Namioka; 3rd, Namioka-Owazawa-gawa; and 4th Owazawa-gawa-Ikarigaseki. The 1st Section was taken in hand in July, 1893, and the 2nd and 3rd, respectively, in August and September of that year. Whilst the the construction works were making considerable progress in each of the sections, they were checked in November by heavy rains, and were thereafter more or less interrupted throughout the winter by the abundant snow-fall to which these districts are subject. It was not until the latter part of February, 1894, that they could be fully resumed. The principal work done up to the date of this report may be summarized as follows:—Earthworks: consisting of cuttings and embankments and deviation of rivers and drains, 112,533 tsubo; or say, the whole of the 1st section, eight-tenths of the 2nd Section, and nine-tenths of the 3rd Section. Bridges and Culverts:—(In the portion of the line between Aomori and Namioka it was at the outset decided to utilize brick for these structures as the existing roads were so hilly and wretched in condition as to hinder the free transportation of any heavier material; whilst to the south of the latter town and about Hirosaki it was resolved to use masonry for the same purpose, as stone of excellent quality was obtainable in abundance in those parts). In the section where brickwork was employed, all the work including the Obukuro gewa bridge and six bridges over the Shinden-gawa, were completed, with the exception of some of the wing-walls. In

* Issued in June 1892. The other railways included within the "first construction period" or to be constructed within 12 years from the date of the promulgation of this law, being:—The Chiu-o (Central), from Hachioji, the terminal of the Kobu Railway, through Kofu and along the Nakasendo to Nagoya where it will join the Tokaido Line; a line from the Sanyo Railway to the Military port of Kure; and a line from the Kyushiu Railway to the port of Kagoshima.

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the masonry section seven-tenths of the work may be said to have been finished, though no steps had yet been taken in the erection of the girders and the building of the wing-walls. Rail-laying:—The road had been laid and ballasted for 7 miles and 40 chains to the south of Aomori; and with the progress in the making of embankments plate-laying kept pace and had advanced to Tsurugasaki, or say 8 miles 40 chains, at the time of which this report treats. Tunneling:—The headings of the Daishaka tunnels have met, and seven-tenths of the work in widening and lining may be said to have been completed. Buildings:—Consisting of temporary offices, out-houses, and residences for the staff, built within the Aomori Station compound, and amounting in all to 374 tsubo, were constructed.

FUKUSHIMA-YONEZAWA SECTION.

ROUTE AND TOPOGRAPHY.—Starting in a western direction from the Fukushima Station on the Nippon Railway Company's system, this line passes the villages of Shimidzu and Noda, and goes into Niwasaka-mura. Up to this place the ground is level, and the road passes through paddy fields, mulberry plantations, and forest land. From Niwasaka a turn is made to the left, and curving again to the westward the course of the Matsukawa is followed along its southern bank to the neighbourhood of Akaiwa, in Osasa-mura, where it crosses the river, and thence follows its northern bank up to the village of Itaya; curving then to the south, the hills of the Itaya pass are reached. These are negotiated by a tunnel, and the line taking a westerly direction, follows the serpentine course of the Haguro-gawa along its southern bank, passing the village of Osawa, and, crossing the river twice near Hanazawa-mura, proceeds to Sekine-mura. From Niwasaka to this place the country is extremely wild and hilly, and engineering works of considerable magnitude are encountered. From Sekine-mura the route goes north-westward through paddy fields and mulberry plantations and over more or less level ground to the city of Yonezawa.

CONSTRUCTION WORKS.—From Fukushima and Niwasaka-mura, 4 miles; and from Niwasaka-mura to Ohimuki-mura, 6 miles 20 chains, were respectively made the 1st and 2nd construction sections, and the 1st section was taken in hand in February, 1894. Surveys and the preparation of the working drawings were begun in October, 1893, and during the same month the Construction Office of this Bureau was established at Fukushima, and much of its time has since been occupied in purchasing the right of way, and other business of a like nature. As only a short time has elapsed since the works were begun in the 1st Section, there has been nothing done worthy of special record. It may, however, be stated that 4,959 tsubo or eight-tenths of the whole amount of earthworks, 10 out of 14 culverts, and all the drain pipes within the section were laid and finished at the conclusion of the period with which this report deals. Mention may also be made of a temporary siding of about 32 chains from the Fukushima Station to Su-gawa, from which river—gravel for ballastingpurposes will be obtained. Arrangements were made with the Nippon Railway Company for the prosecution of this work in March. The work was forthwith proceeded with, and the siding was completed within the same month. Other works in progress at the date of this report were of a preparatory nature, and the results of these preparations will be recorded in the report for the next fiscal year.

TOKYO-KOBE SECTION.

All the rivers in the province of Mikawa, and the Toyokawa, which runs between Toyohashi and Goyu Stations, in particular, became much swollen on the 18th of August, 1893, owing to heavy rains which prevailed in that district. The water in this river, which at one time registered 12 feet above its normal level, forced its way through its banks at several places, some two or three miles above the railway, and came rushing down the line. The railway embankment was washed away at two places to the extent of about 20 chains, besides causing damage to the masonry of the bridge at four places. Traffic had to be suspended between the two stations until the 21st of the same month, by which time the road was sufficiently repaired to admit of its resumption.

From the 17th of August the rain continued in the Mino plain and the water accumulated in the rivers between Gifu and Ogaki, viz.: Nagara, Goroku, Sai, and Ibi. The streams of these rivers greatly increased in volume, as much as 21 feet above the normal height in the case of the Nagara-gawa. On the 23rd, the banks of the Goroku-gawa gave way, and the line between Nakagawa and Sai-gawa became submerged. This was followed by the Nagara-gawa bursting its banks in about ten different places both above and below the railway. Through this cause the railway between Nakagawa and the Nagara-gawa became likewise covered by the flood; and traffic had from that day to be suspended. On the 24th breaches occurred in the banks of the Sai-gawa, and the district between this river and the Ibi-gawa were also under water. The whole plain between the Nagara and the Ibi-gawa was thereby deluged and converted into one great lake. At some of the deeper places the rails were submerged 14 feet below the surface of the water; and of the railway bridges over the Naka, Sai, and Goroku-gawa, the tops of the girders barely remained visible. From the 26th the water began to recede, when it was discovered that so great had been the force of the current that rails for a distane of about 6 chains between Nagara and Naka-gawa were washed away completely, and also that some damage had been done to the masonry of the flood-openings in this locality. Repairs were conducted with the utmost speed, and the line was rendered fit for traffic by the 28th of the same month.

As had been the case during the previous fiscal year, a large amount of work, such as increasing sidings, extensions, and increase in the accommodation of the railway platforms and station buildings to meet the requirements of the continual development of the traffic, were undertaken during this year. Under this head mention may be made of converting into brick arches the wooden bridges at Washizu and Toyohashi, the widening of the Hoshikoshi-yama tunnel, the removal of the Stores-buildings from Shimbashi to Tsuruga, the removal of the Engineers' offices from Hamamatsu to Kodzu, the building of new goods sheds at Hiratsuka and Shizuoka, the replacing of the wooden passenger pass-over bridge at the Kodzu Station by one of iron; the extending of the offices of the finance and stores department at Shimbashi; the removal to other stations of residences of the staff from Shidzuoka, Okazaki, Kakegawa, Nagahama, and Numadzu; the extension of the platforms of the Hamamatsu, Kariya, Obu, Gifu and all the stations between Mukomachi and Suita; and the extension of sidings at several stations. The total amount of work involved in the above enumerated repairing and supplementary works being; Earth-works, 10,763 *tsubo*; masonry, 4,218 *tsubo*; sidings, 1 mile 65 chains; bridges, wooden girders which were replaced by those of iron, 21; buildings, repairs and additions were made at 52 different places; the total area amounting to 689 *tsubo*.

DOUBLE LINE BETWEEN OSAKA AND SANNOMIYA.—With regard to the Section between Kyoto and Sannomiya, though constructed as a single line, provision had, from the first, been made for the admission of another line of rails. Thus, the right of way had been procured; embankments were made of sufficient width for the laying of two lines of rails; and similar provision had been made for drains, bridges, and bridge-piers; and all the larger bridges were so constructed that whenever necessary they could be widened for bearing another pair of girders. By these far-seeing provisions the doubling of this section is a mere matter of widening the tunnels and bridges, and laying another line of rails. From the time of the opening of the Tokaido railway constant increment in both goods and passenger traffic has taken place all through the line, and this being specially so over the portion between Baba and Kobe, the desirability of increasing the capacity of the railway became very much felt. The Osaka Station had of late become the centre for the accumulation (owing to speedy distribution being beyond the capacity of a single line) of an enormous amount of goods, and inconvenience was thereby caused to all concerned. As a first step, it was decided to double the 19 miles of line between Osaka and Sannomiya. This work was begun from both ends on the 28th of January, 1894. The principal works connected with this undertaking are the widening of the tunnels under the rivers Sumiyoshi and Ishiya, the widening of 39 spans of bridges over the Shimojuso, Shimo-Kanzaki, and Muko-gawa, the widening of 24 culverts, and the extension of the different intervening stations. Two-tenths of the work in the Eastern Section-between Osaka and Nishinomiya, and nine-tenths on the Western Section between Nishinomiya and Sannomiya, were completed at the date this report closes, and it is expected that the whole will be finished at no distant time.

YOKOSUKA BRANCH.—The work done in the Section between Ofuna and Yokosuka consisted of extending the Station buildings at Dzushi, and of replacing the old platforms at Yokosuka by those of masonry.

TSURUGA BRANCH.—Five wooden bridges between Maihara and Tsuruga were replaced by those of iron, and the sidings at Yanagase and Hikida Stations were engthened by 5 chains.

TAKASAKI-NAOETSU SECTION.

A land-slip occurred at the cutting situated 83 miles 8 chains from Naoyetsu (between Yokogawa and Karuizawa) during a severe storm on the 27th of May, 1893, and interrupted the line. The road was cleared, and traffic was resumed in the course of the same day. Owing to the opening of the Section between the above Stations on the 1st of April, 1893, a considerable amount of new works, extensions, and additions had to be made in stations and buildings during the year; such as the building of a middle passenger platform, an engine shed and quarters for engine drivers and firemen at Yokohama; the building of new quarters for the staff at Karuizawa and Kashiwabara; and extensions and additions made to Miyoda, Mure, Taguchi, and Sekiyama stations. These are the principal works done, besides the ordinary minor repairs which are not of sufficient importance to be noticed here. The aggregate amount of the work done during the year on this Section being:—earthwork, 15,510 *tsubo*; stonewalls and sods laid, 80,664 *tsubo*; sidings, 26 chains; buildings, 1,609 *tsubo*.

CAPITAL ACCOUNT.

The railway fund granted by the Government from the first establishment of railways (March 1870) up to the close of the last fiscal year (end of March, 1893), amounted to *yen* 37,554,475. The increment of the railway capital during the year under review is as follows:—

	Yen.
Amount received from Treasury during the year under review for the Construction of the Usui Mountain Railway	16,556
Amount expended during the year under review on Supplementary works of open lines defrayed from the Revenue, in accordance with the Regulations for Government Railway Finances	638,857
Amount received from Treasury during the year under review from funds obtained by the issue of Bonds in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 4 of 1892, concerning the Construction of Railways	1,382,509
Total	2,037,922

This total, added to the amount at the close of the previous fiscal year, gives *yen* 39,592,397. The amount of Capital reduced during the year under review is as follows:—

	Yen.
Amount of surplus, returned by Construction paymasters of the Usui Line during the year under review, of cash entrusted to them during the previous year	757
Amount paid in by a Contractor for the value of material on "Bond account" lost during transportation under his charge and paid into the Treasury as General Revenue	1
Amount of property sold and paid into the Treasury as General Revenue	16
Amount realized by the sale of Construction Stores no longer required	6,163
Amount of Fixed Capital (the premises of the office of the Department) transferred to Communications Department	17,729
Total	24,666

The balance remaining of *yen* 39,567,731 from reductions thus made, represents the total Railway Capital at the close of the 26th fiscar year. This amount may be divided into 1st, Fixed Capital; 2nd, Working Fund; 3rd, Construction Stores, the accounts of which have not been adjusted; 4th, Expenditure of funds obtained by the issue of Bonds in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 4 of 1892 concerning Railway Construction. The details under these heads are as follow:—

1. FIXED CAPITAL:—The amount, at the beginning of the year under review, stood at *yen* 33,427,735. Adding to this amount the sums of *yen* 638,857 for expenditures on supplementary works to railway property, *yen* 66,295 for Construction Stores used, accounts of which have been adjusted, and *yen* 1,991,665, the amount of the Construction account of the Usui railway adjusted during the year, a total of *yen* 36,124,552 is obtained. Deducting from this amount *yen* 16 for property sold, *yen* 3,555 for stores, the accounts of which had previously been adjusted, but returned to the Stores Department, they having been found unnecessary, and *yen* 17,729 for the premises of the head offices of the Bureau, transferred to the Department of Communications, the balance remaining is *yen* 36,103,252, which sum represents the actual amount of the Fixed Capital of the Government Railways at the close of the year under review.

The details of the Fixed Capital are as follow:—

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1. TOKAIDO LINE.—Tokyo-Kobe Section, Ofuna-Yokohama Section, Obu-Taketoyo Section, Maibara-Tsuruga Section: the construction and supplementary-works expenditures which were defrayed from the old funds for the promotion of industries (*Kogyo-hi* and *Kigyo-hi*) or from grants in accordance with the old and new Regulations for Railway Finances :—

	Yen.	*Yen.*
Amount of Fixed Capital at the close of the last fiscal year		29,605,324
Amount of Fixed Capital increased during the year under review.		
Issues from the Supplementary Works Fund	599,309	
Stores, the accounts of which were adjusted	42,089	641,398
Amount of Fixed Capital reduced during the year under review :—		
Property sold.....	16	
Stores, the accounts of which were adjusted, but returned to the Stores Department, they being not required	3,555	
Premises of the Head Offices of the Bureau transferred to the Communications Department	17,729	21,300
Amount of the Fixed Capital at the close of the year under Review :—Balance		30,225,422

2. TAKASAKI-NAOETSU LINE.—Takasaki-Yokogawa Section, Yokogawa-Karuizawa Section, and Karuizawa Naoetsu Section, the construction and supplementary works, expenditures of which were defrayed in accordance with the old and new Regulations for Railway Finances :—

	Yen.	*Yen.*
Amount of Fixed Capital at close of the last fiscal year		3,822,411
Amount of Fixed Capital increased during the year under review :		
Issues from the Supplementary Works Fund.....	39,548	
Stores, the accounts of which were adjusted	24,206	
The Construction Expenditures of the Usui Railway, the Accounts of which have been adjusted..	1,991,665	2,055,419
Amount of the Fixed Capital at the close of the year under review.....		5,877,830
Aggregate Fixed Capital of all the Sections at the close of the year under review		36,103,252

2. WORKING FUND :

The Amount fixed according to the law of the Government Railways.....		2,000,000

3. CONSTRUCTION STORES, THE ACCOUNTS OF WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN ADJUSTED.—The Construction Stores, the accounts of which remained unadjusted at the close of the previous fiscal year, were *yen* 150,829; adding to this sum *yen* 3,600 for stores the account of which had been adjusted but were returned to the Stores Department afterwards, as they were not required, the total is *yen* 154,429. Now deducting from the latter sum *yen* 66,295, the amount of stores the accounts of which were adjusted during the year under review, and *yen* 6,163 the amount realized for stores not further required, or sold and paid into the Treasury as General Revenue; the sum left is *yen* 81,971, which represents stores the account of which remained to be adjusted at the close of the year under review. The details of this account are as follow :—

	Yen.	*Yen.*
Amount of Stores on the old construction account the accounts of which had not been adjusted up to the close of the year under review		81,971
Details :—		
Materials in Stores.....	68,248	
Sums receivable for stores of no further use, sold	13,723	

4. RAILWAY BOND FUND :—According to Law No. 4 of 1892, concerning the construction of railways, which provides for the construction of lines of railway from Fukushima to Aomori, and Tsuruga to Toyama, within 12 years, at the estimated cost of *yen* 18,451,080, the construction of these lines was begun in April, 1893; and the amount of this fund received from the Treasury from that date up to 31st March was *yen* 1,382,509. Out of this amount *yen* 1, the sum returned by a contractor for certain stores he had undertaken to convey to Aomori and lost on the way, was paid into the Treasury as General Revenue; hence *yen* 1,382,508 represents the actual amount received. The details of this Account are as follow :—

	Yen
Amount received from the Treasury of the Railway Construction Bonds Fund	1,382,508
Details :—	
Construction Expenditures on the Fukushima-Aomori Section the accounts of which have been adjusted	622,232
Construction Expenditures on the Tsuruga-Toyama Section the accounts of which have been adjusted.	347,255
Amount chargeable to both Sections adjusted	5,706
Amount in the hands of Construction Paymasters	213,683
Stores, the accounts of which have not been adjusted ...	193,632

The total above given, added to the totals of the Fixed Capital, Working Fund, and the unadjusted amount of Stores, will agree with the sum already stated as the aggregate capital of the Government Railways at the close of the year under review, viz :—*yen* 39,567,731.

In the following table the Fixed Capital amounting to *yen* 36,103,252 is analyzed under various heads, and the average amount of the expenditures per mile under each head, with the ratio they bear to the aggregate amount at the close of the year under review, are given and a comparison made with those of the previous fiscal year :—

Items.	Average amount per mile on open lines. End of 26th fiscal year. Yen.	Average amount per mile on open lines. End of 25th fiscal year. Yen.	Percentage of aggregate amount. End of 26th fiscal year. Per cent.	Percentage of aggregate amount. End of 25th fiscal year. Per cent.
Preliminary Surveys	526	508	.0081	.0084
Superintending and Engineering	1,415	1,497	.0219	.0214
Right of way	2,982	2,991	.0461	.0493
Earthworks	10,456	10,368	.1616	.1709
Bridges (including culverts)	15,805	15,603	.2443	.2572
Tunnels	5,761	4,418	.0890	.0728
Permanent way (including drain-pipes, fences, boundary posts, and telegraphs)	10,332	10,021	.1597	.1652
Stations	3,308	3,244	.0511	.0535
Transportation (including construction trains)	1,924	1,451	.0297	.0239
Wharves	202	205	.0031	.0034
Locomotives	3,866	3,098	.0598	.0511
Other rolling stock	4,689	4,096	.0724	.0675
Buildings	701	694	.0108	.0114
Shops and Machinery	1,362	1,367	.0211	.0225
Construction plant	378	301	.0059	.0049
General charges	1,001	1,005	.0154	.0166
Total	64,701	60,667	1,000	1 000

From the above it will be seen that the average cost per mile at the close of the year under review was *yen* 64,071, which, when compared with that of the previous year, shows an average increase of *yen* 4,034 per mile.

In the following table the average cost per mile, at the close of the year, of the different sections of the lines in operation is compared and given :—

	Miles.	Average Cost per mile. yen.
Total length of open lines	557	64,701
Details :—	Miles.	Average Cost per mile. yen.
1. Tokyo Yokohama Section ..... (Double line, construction begun April, 1870, completed September, 1872.)	18	162,741
2. Kobe Otsu Section ..... (1 mile double; construction begun November, 1870, completed September, 1879.)	58	142,659
3. Tsuruga Ogaki Section ..... (Construction begun May, 1880, completed July, 1884.)	49	71,600
4. Takasaki Naoetsu Section..... (Usui-tage excepted; construction begun October, 1884, completed December, 1888.)	110	35,329
5. Yokohama Ogaki Section ..... (22 miles double line; construction begun August, 1885, completed April, 1889.)	258	52,156
6. Ofuna-Yokosuka Section ..... (Construction begun January, 1888, completed July, 1889.)	10	41,538
7. Otsu Nagahama Section ..... (Construction begun February, 1887, completed July, 1889.)	48	34,202
8. Yokogawa-Karuizawa Section ... (Construction begun April, 1890, completed March 1893.)	7	284,524
Double line between Oyama and Numazu ..... (Being a portion of the Yokohama-Ogaki Section; construction begun February, 1890, completed March, 1891.)	22	15,617

The foregoing railways were already in a state of completion in the previous fiscal year. The reduction by *yen* 716 of the average cost per mile of the Tokyo-Yokohama Section in face of expenditures on this line to the extent of *yen* 4,901, the account of which was adjusted during the year, is owing to the sum of *yen* 17,729, the value of the premises of the Head Office, which on being transferred to the Department of Communications, was written off, and to the further sum of *yen* 55, an overcharge made in the accounts for this Section in the previous year, having been deducted. The general augmentation in the average cost per mile noticeable in all the other Sections is owing to supplementary works which were carried out during the year.

The construction of the Yokogawa-Karuizawa Section (Usui Toge), began in the 23rd Fiscal Year was completed in the 25th, and the amount of *yen* 1,991,665 on the Construction Account of the same having been adjusted, has been included within the Fixed Capital.

The supplementary works done during the year on the existing lines amounted to *yen* 638,857. The whole of this amount has likewise been charged to the Fixed Capital.

In the following table the amount of the Gross and Fixed Railway Capital at the close of each fiscal year from the 19th is compared with the mileages of lines in operation, and the average cost per mile in respect of the aggregate and fixed capitals is given :—

Fiscal Years.	Amount of Aggregate Capital at the close of fiscal year. Yen.	Amount of fixed Capital at close of fiscal year. Yen.	Percentage of Fixed Capital to Aggregate Capital. Per cent.	Miles in operation. Miles.	Per One Mile of open lines. Amount of Aggregate Capital. Yen.	Per One Mile of open lines. Amount of Fixed Capital. Yen.
Before 19th	17,885,844	14,971,665	83.7	143	125,076	104,697
19th	21,134,852	17,279,952	81.8	209	101,124	82,679
20th	26,284,852	22,447,623	85.4	245	107,285	91,623
21st	33,391,027	28,632,343	85.7	446	74,868	64,198
22nd	34,447,633	31,618,348	91.8	551	62,518	57,384
23rd	34,971,702	32,745,991	93.6	551	63,470	59,430
24th	36,583,118	33,008,184	90.4	551	66,394	60,015
25th	37 554,475	33.427,735	89 0	551	68,157	60,667
26th	39,567,731	36,103,252	91.2	558	70,910	64,071

The proportional increase in the amount of the Fixed Capital, notwithstanding the reduction of the latter by over *yen* 17,000 for the transfer of the Head Office premises to the Department of Communications, is owing to the inclusion in the fixed Capital of the sum of over *yen* 1,990,000, the cost of the construction of the railway over the Usui Pass, which was opened in April of the year under review.

The increase of the Aggregate Capital per mile indicated in the above table is owing to the sum of over *yen* 1,380,000 received from the Railway Bond Fund having been added into that account.

Table No. 1, appended, treats of the Aggregate Railway Capital; it gives the details of the Expenditures chiefly of the lines in operation. The details of expenditures on the lines under construction and defrayed from the Railway Bond Fund will be found in Table No. 2.

GENERAL CONDITION OF TRAFFIC.

TRAFFIC RECEIPTS AND THE CAUSES OF THEIR VARIATION.—The traffic earnings of the Tokyo, Kobe, and Takasaki-Naoetsu Sections, taken together, show, as the result of the operations for the year under review, an increase of 14 per cent. over that of the previous year. The coaching receipts show an increase of 13 per cent.; the number of passengers 12 per cent.; passengers recipts 14 per cent.; and the average mileage per passenger has also increased by 2 per cent. The goods receipts were increased by 16 per cent., the goods tonnage by 6 per cent., and the average mileage also shows an increase of 15 per cent. The train mileage likewise shows an increase of 5 per cent. The details of the variations, and their cause, in each of the above sections are as follow :—

THE TOKYO KOBE SECTION.—The traffic earnings of the year show an increase of 12 per cent. compared with that of the previous fiscal year. The number of passengers increased 13 per cent.; the passenger receipts 12 per cent.; the average passenger mileage showed a decrease of .02 per cent. The increments above indicated in face of interuptions to the traffic that occurred several times, are attributable to a gradual increase in the number of persons availing themselves of the railway as a means of transit.

The goods traffic shows in tonnage an increase over the last year of 7 per cent., and goods receipts an increase of 13 per cent., and the average ton mileage of 13 per cent. This increase in the goods traffic is brought about by causes above referred to in regard to the passenger traffic.

TAKASAKI-NAOETSU SECTION.—The traffic earnings for the year under review show an increase

over that of the previous year by 33 per cent. The number of passengers shows an increase of 6 per cent., the passenger receipts of 34 per cent., and the average mileage per passenger of 25 per cent. In goods tonnage a decrease of 3 per cent. was experienced: however, the receipts for goods were increased by 31 per cent., and the average mileage per ton by 33 per cent. The decrease above indicated in the tonnage may be thus explained. Prior to the opening of the Usui line, goods coming from the north were frequently delivered over to the owners at Karuizawa, and those coming from the south at Yokogawa, and re-received at either of the above stations as the case might be, and carried to their destinations. Under these circumstances, the tonnage of one lot of goods was not seldom entered twice over in the records, a condition of affairs which has passed away with the opening of the through traffic between Takasaki and Naoetsu.

As was the case during the previous year, the line was interrupted by snow last winter; still the traffic over it for the year gives the satisfactory results above stated, proving thereby the constant development of the traffic over this railway.

NEW LINES OPENED FOR TRAFFIC:—On the 1st of April, 1893, the Yokogawa-Karuizawa Section was opened to the public for traffic. From the following day (2nd) goods trains began to run over the section four times a day.

ALTERATIONS OF TRAIN SERVICE.—The time tables of the Yokogawa-Karuizawa and Karuizawa-Naoetsu Sections were altered on the 1st of April, 1893. The service for the whole line between Yokogawa and Naoetsu was revised on the 1st of May following, by which 38 trains were added. On the same date the service of the Tokyo-Kobe Section and the Yokosuka Branch was revised, and 24 main-line trains and 2 branch line trains were added. The service between Osaka and Nishinomiya of Passenger Train No. 157 was altered on the 1st of Nov., and from the 1st January, 1894, train No. 142 was made to stop at Kanzaki.

SPECIAL TRAINS.—During the year 6 special trains were run for the Emperor and Empress, 9 for the Austrian Prince, 23 for transportation of troops, and 463 for ordinary passengers. Of goods trains 360 specials were run.

CASUALTIES.—On the Tokaido Line, the railway was flooded between Toyohashi and Goyu, by the Toyokawa having burst its banks on the 18th of August, 1893, and train 91 was the last that was able to pass over that district on that day. Traffic was resumed on the 21st, the first train to get over being No. 157. On the 23rd of the same month the Goroku, Nagara, Sai, and Naka-gawa between Ogaki and Gifu burst their banks and flooded the whole district as far as Ibigawa. All traffic had to be stopped from Train No. 73 of that day, and remained suspended till the 28th of the same month.

In the Takasaki-Naoetsu Section, the engine and brake van of a goods train were derailed between Taguchi and Mure owing to snowslip on the 2nd April, 1893. The trains were interrupted between Yokogawa and Karuizawa on the 27th of May by the falling of a part of the cutting during a severe storm which prevailed. On the 24th of December train No. 25 had to be stopped at Toyono, the line between it and Mure having become impassable by snow. From the 15th of January to 15th of February, traffic was suspended by the snow over the whole of the line north of Kashiwabara. Although snow-ploughs and one or two goods trains succeeded in passing through during the interval, the line was practically closed for 30 days.

TELEGRAPHIC MESSAGES:—The number of the Telegraphic messages for the year under review amounted to:—Railway Messages, 827,027, which shows an increase over the previous fiscal year's figures of 87,434; public messages, 130,403, which also shows an increase over the previous year of 7,980, and the receipts for public messages was *yen* 7,157, which shows an increase of *yen* 78 over the previous year. The expenditures on account of the maintenance of telegraphic instruments at the different stations was *yen* 2,464, which shows a decrease of *yen* 813 compared with the expenses for the previous year. The total length of telegraph wires in operation at the close of the year under review was 433 *ri* 12 *cho*, 7 *ken*, 5 *shaku*, which is a decrease of 50 *ri*, 35 *cho*, 44 *ken* from the length at the close of the previous year. There are 106 stations provided with telegraph, telephone, or block signalling instruments, an increase of 2 stations, and at 38 of these stations the business of public messages is undertaken, together with that of the messages for the railway service being an increase of 4 stations. There are in employment, 137 Siemens-Morse printing instruments, 16 telephone instruments, and 36 blocksignalling instruments.

The statistics of traffic, statements of locomotive and train mileages, lists of casualties, &c., will be found in the Tables from No. 6 to No. 10 inclusive, at the end of this Report.

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

The mileage of open lines for the year under review is 558 miles, an increase of 7 miles over that of the previous year. The lines during the 12 months have been remarkably free from casualties and interruptions, and in consequence the operating mileage was the same as the mileage open to traffic, and the earnings compared with that of the previous year showed an increase of yen 803,823 whilst the Operating Expenses were reduced by yen 223,824, and the net profit show an increase of yen 1,027,647. The details of the Revenue Account are treated under different heads as below:—

1.—REVENUE AND WORKING EXPENDITURES:—

	Yen.	Yen.
Revenue:—		
Coaching Receipts		3,977,086
Goods Receipts.....		1,306,397
Miscellaneous Receipts ...		100,972
Total.		5,384,455
Working Expenses:—		
Maintainence-of-way	640,494	
Locomotive Power.....	775,386	
Traffic Expenses	396,580	
General Charges	129,915	
Total.		1,942,375
Net Profit, Balance.		3,442,080

The proportion of the Working Expenses to the revenue is 36 per cent., and when compared with that of the previous year, shows a decrease of 11 per cent. This result has been obtained alike from the large increase in the earnings; and marked decrease in the expenses incurred in operation.

Note.—The total amount of the revenue above given is correct, but it is to be understood that the figures of the three items of receipts being based on approximate accounts may become subject to slight variations when the preparation of the actual accounts is completed.

2.—THE INCREASE AND DECREASE OF REVENUE AND WORKING EXPENSES AND THEIR CAUSES.

In the following table the average revenue and working expenses per day and the same per mile of lines in operation of the different sections for the year are given and compared with those of the previous year:—

Sections.	Average amount of Revenue and Working Expenses per Day. Revenue. 26th fiscal year. Yen.	25th fiscal year. Yen.	Working Expenses. 26th fiscal year. Yen.	25th fiscal year. Yen.
Tokyo-Kobe Section	12,389	10,685	3,999	4,654
Ofuna-Yokosuka Section	190	183	60	62
Obu-Taketoyo Section	78	69	35	39
Maibara-Tsuruga Section.....	362	307	170	238
Takasaki-Naoetsu Section ...	1,733	1,306	1,058	942
Total average.....	14,752	12,550	5,322	5,935

Sections.	Average amount of Revenue and Working Expenses per Day. Revenue. 26th fiscal year. Yen.	25th fiscal year. Yen.	Working Expenses. 26th fiscal year. Yen.	25th fiscal year. Yen.
Tokyo-Kobe Section	11,903	10,318	3,861	4,494
Ofuna-Yokohama Section.....	6,922	6,671	2,177	2,398
Obu-Taketoyo Section	2,372	2,103	1,074	1,180
Maibara-Tsuruga Section.....	3,226	2,730	1,516	2,123
Takasaki-Naoetsu	5,407	4,333	3,299	3,122
Total average.....	9,650	8,313	3,481	3,951

The above table shows that the revenues the of all sections have increased, and the increment is most marked in those of the Tokyo-Kobe and Takasaki-Naoetsu Sections. The general decrease noticeable in the working expenses is owing to the lines having been free from casualties, and extraordinary expenditures having in consequence been slight. The Takasaki-Naoetsu Section, where there is an increase in the expenses over the last year, is the sole exception in this respect. This is attributable to the portion of the line over the Usui Pass, being built on a special (Abt) system. The railway is on a grade of 1 in 15, and the permanent way and locomotives as well are of special kinds, which, together with the existance of 26 tunnels within the distance of 7 miles, necessitates greater expenditure for the maintenance of the way and motive power than lines laid out and worked in the ordinary way. The sum of *yen* 5,384,455, the gross revenue for the year, is divided under three heads of Passenger, Goods, and Miscellaneous Receipts, and the ratio that each bears to the total for this and the last fiscal year is as follow:—

Receipts.	Amount for the year under review.	Amount for the last fiscal year.	Increase or Decrease.	Percentage of the different receipts to the total revenue: 26th fiscal year. per cent.	25th fiscal year. per cent.	Increase or Decrease. per cent.
Passengers ...	3,977,086	3,487,333	‡489,953	73.9	76.1	‡2.2
Goods	1,306,397	1,019,161	‡287,236	24.2	22.3	‡1.9
Miscellaneous.	100,972	74,238	‡ 26,734	1.9	1.6	‡0.3
Total	5,384,455	4,580,632	‡803,823	100	100	

† Decrease. ‡ Increase.

As is indicated in the above table, each item of receipts has increased over the previous year. The most noticeable being the proportionate increase of the goods receipts, which is 1.9 per cent. above the ratio of the 25th year.

In the following table the aggregate Working Expenditure, during the year under review, namely, *yen* 1,942,375, is divided under the four heads of Maintenance of Permanent Way, Locomotive, Traffic, and General Expenses, and the ratio these bear to the Revenue and Working Expenditure is given for this and the previous year:—

Expenses.	Amount for the Year under review. Yen.	Amount for the last fiscal Year. Yen.	Increase or Decrease. Per Cent.	Ratio of the respective expenses to the revenue & working expenses 26th Fiscal Year. Per Cent.	25th Fiscal Year. Per Cent.
Maintainance ...	640,494	839,796	‡199,302	33 0 12.9	38.8 18.3
Locomotive	775,386	800,520	† 25,134	39.9 14.4	37 0 17.5
Traffic.....	396,580	379,654	‡ 16,926	20.4 7.4	17 5 8.3
General	129,915	146,229	† 16,314	6.7 2.4	6 7 3.2
Total 1,942,375		2,166,190	†223,824	100.0 36.1	100.0 47.3

Expenses.	Increase or Decrease Per Cent.
Maintainance	‡5.8 † 6.4
Locomotive	‡2.9 † 3.1
Traffic	‡2.9 † 0.9
General	0. † 0.8
Total	0. †11.2

‡ Increase. † Decrease.

Note.—The figures on the left side in the columns of percentages gives the percentage of Working Expenses; those on the right percentages of Revenue.

During the year under review expenditures for the maintainance of the way, locomotive, and general charges have in each case considerably decreased, as shown above. The decrease in the maintainance and general expenses is attributable to all the lines having been comparatively free from casualties.

The reduction in the locomotive expenses was caused by reasons quite different. The locomotive running mileage for the year under review was 4,126,128 miles, or 168,069 miles over that of the previous fiscal year; and under ordinary circumstances the expenses should have shown an increase instead of a decrease; that such was not the case is owing mainly to the lowness of the price of coal which prevailed during the year. There were 57,592 tons consumed (which is more than 5,000 tons over the consumption of the year previous), at the cost of *yen* 258,384 or *yen* 27,448 less than what was expended for the same purpose during the previous year; this, the main cause, together with the termination of the engagements of two members of the foreign staff belonging to the Locomotive Department—one in January and the other in March, 1893—brought about the results above shown. The increase of traffic expenses is owing to the augmentation of both the passenger and goods business.

The different heads of the receipts and expenditures in the revenue account of the last three years, divided by their appropriate divisors, give results as shown in the following tables:—

RECEIPTS.

	Average mileage in operations. miles.	Receipts per average mile in operation. Passenger Receipts. yen.	Goods Receipts. yen.	Miscellaneous Receipts. yen.	Total. yen.
26th fiscal year	558	7,128	2,341	181	9,650
25th fiscal year	551	6,328	1,850	135	8,313
24th fiscal year	539	5,899	1,529	197	7,625
Average for 3 years		6,451	1,907	171	8,529

EXPENSES.

Fiscal Year.	Maintenance Expenses. Divisor. Working Mileage. miles.	Per mile in operation. yen.	Locomotive Expenses. Divisor. Running Mileage. miles.	Per mile run. yen.
26th fiscal year ...	558	1,148	4,126,128	.188
25th fiscal year ...	551	1,524	3,958,059	.202
24th fiscal year ...	551	1.840	3,547,377	.244

Fiscal Year.	Traffic Expenses. Divisor. Total Revenue. yen.	Per 100 yen.	General Expenses. Divisor. Revenue and Expenditure. yen.	Per 100 yen.
26th fiscal year...	5,283,483	7.506	7,326,830	1.773
25th fiscal year...	4,580,632	8.288	6,746,831	2.167
24th fiscal year...	4,110,141	9.182	6,537,041	2.589

	Maintenance Expenses.	Locomotive Expenses.	Traffic Expenses.	General Expenses.
Average for the three years	1,504	211	8,325	2,276

The details of the Receipts and Expenditures of the Revenue Account for the various sections will be found in Table No. 3.

3.—WORKING FUND.

The Working Fund is floating capital used for prosecuting operations and is therefore amalgamated and accounted for with the Revenues and Expenditures in the Revenue Account, the details of which are as follow:—

	YEN.
Working Fund	2,000,000
Operating Receipts	5,384,455
Total	7,384,455

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DETAILS.

	Yen.	Yen.
Material in Stock :—		
In stores 736,965		
At shops..... 45,228	782,193	
Sums receivable and Office Furniture, &c.	54,045	
Cash belonging to the Working Fund	1,163,762	
Operating Expenses.....	1,942,375	
Expenditures on supplementary works	638,857	
Disparity between new and old accounts	93,463	4,674,595
Net Profit—Balance		2,709,760

4.—CASH ACCOUNT.

	Yen.	Yen.
Amount at deposit at the close of the year under review		4,023,812
Amount belonging to the Working Fund.....	1,163,762	
Amount carried over to the next fiscal year to meet sums payable...	150,390	1,314,052
Balance		2,709,760

The last balance represents the sum remitted to the National Treasury as the amount of Net Railway Earnings for the year.

The foregoing are the results as worked out in accordance with the new regulations. But since the division of items and the system of accounts generally employed in previous years are here retained, in order to facilitate comparison of the progress made by the operation of railways, the sum of *yen* 3,442,080 is taken as the net profit in this statement.

5.—NET PROFIT.

The net profit of the year under review, *yen* 3,442,080, compared with the aggregate amount of the capital, *yen* 39,567,731 and the total of the finally adjusted amount of the same, or Fixed Capital, *yen* 37,078,445, give the following ratios for this year, those of the three previous years being also given for the comparison :—

Fiscal Year.	Net profits compared w th Gross Capital. Per cent.	Net profit compared with Fixed capital: Per cent.
26th fiscal year.....	8.7	9 3
25th fiscal year.....	6.4	6.8
24th fiscal year.....	4.6	4.9
23rd fiscal year.....	6.3	6.8

As may be observed in the above table, the net profit of the year was 8.7 per cent. of the Gross Capital and 9.3 per cent. of the Adjusted Fixed Capital. In the Gross Capital, however, is included the sum of *yen* 1,382,508 expended for the construction of the Ou and Hokuriku Railways and the adjusted sum of *yen* 975,193 is included in the Fixed Capital. Were these amounts, which are as yet unproductive, excluded from the respective Capitals, the net profit would have amounted to 9 per cent. of the Gross and 9.5 per cent. of the Fixed Capital. Such therefore are the percentages of the net profit of the year's working when compared with the actual productive capital invested; an increase of 2.2 and 2.3 per cent. respectively over the net profit percentages of last year's operations.

In the following table the annual increase of the Capital and of the Gross Recepts is compared, and the annual increase of the mileage in operation and the percentages are given, to show the relation between the Capital and the Revenue for this last and the three previous fiscal years :—

Fiscal Year.	Increase of mileage in operation.	Increase in amount of aggregate capital.	Proportion of increase of capital.	Increase of gross receipts.	Percentage of increase of gross receipts.	Proportion of gross receipts to capital.
	Mile.	Yen.	Per cent.	Yen.	Per cent.	Per cent
26th fiscal year...	7	2,023,256	5.4	803,823	17.5	13.6
25th fiscal year...	0	971,357	2.7	471,491	11.4	12.1
24th fiscal year...	0	1,621,416	4.6	103,663†	2.4†	11.2†
23rd fiscal year...	9	524,609	1.5	442,174	11.7	12.0

† Decrease.

The Net Profit of *yen* 3,432,080 is the result when the account is based upon the mode of adjustment observed prior to the introduction of the new system of accounts, according to the law of Government railway finances. According to the latter, the sum paid into the National Treasury, amounts to *yen* 2,709,760, as before stated. The following may explain the relation the two systems of rendering accounts bear to each other :—

Net Profit		3,442,080
The amount of sums receivable, after deducting therefrom sums payable, which are included in the adjustments according to the new system, but excluded from it in the old system until the year in which such sums are actually received	93,463	
Expenditure on supplementary works on open railways, which according to the new system are excluded from the account of railway property, but included therein by the old system of accounting.....	638,857	732,320
Amount remitted to the National Treasury as Railway net profit, Balance		2,709,760

This amount of *yen* 2,709,760 is 7.1 per cent. of the Aggregate Capital and 7.5 per cent. of the Adjusted Fixed Capital.

The General Balance Sheet of the Capital and Revenue Accounts are given in Table No. 4.

PRIVATE RAILWAYS.

Applications received during the year under review for permission to form companies for the construction and working of railways were 34. Beside these, applications for extensions of existing lines were made by 11 Railway Companies. The whole of these 45 projects come under applications for provisional charters. The number of railway charters granted during the year amounted to 11, and of provisional charters to 5.

The lines opened to public traffic during the year, after having been duly inspected and passed by the authorities of the Railway Bureau, were :—Sotogawa-Hiraigawara Section of the Iyo Railway; Takata-Sakurai Section of the Osaka Railway; Kotake-Iidzuka Section of the Chikuho Railway; Anegasaki-Ikeda Section of the Settsu Railway; Miyagawa-Tsu Section of the Sangu Railway; Shiniuchi-Hachinohe Section of the Nippon Railway; and Kudzuo-Koshina Sectin of the Sano Railway.

The details of these facts are given in tabulated form below.

The total mileage of the railways of the different companies in operation at the close of the year under review amounted to over 1,381 miles, showing that 61 miles of new private lines were opened during the year. The lines open, lines under construction, and lines surveyed are given in the Railway Sketch Map* annexed to this report.

CHARTERS WERE GRANTED TO :—

The Sano Railway Company :—
Office—Kudzuo Machi, Tochigi *Ken*.
Charter—Granted 13th April, 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 145,000.
Line—Kudzuo to Koshinagawa.
Length—9 miles 54 chains.
Period of Construction—1 year.

The Nara Railway Company :—
Office—Nara, Nara *Ken*.
Charter—Granted 13th April, 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 1,000,000.
Line—Nara to Kyoto.
Length—25 miles 53 chains.
Period of Construction—3 years.

The Kwansei Railway Company :—
Office—Yokkaichi, Miye *Ken*.
Charter—Granted 15th June, 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 1,960,000.
Line—Kuwana-Nagoya.
Length—15 miles 40 chains.
Period of Construction—5 years.

The Nanwa Railway Company :—
Office—Goshomachi, Nara Ken.
Charter—Granted 26th July, 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 500,000.
Line—Takata to Gojo.
Length—16 miles 40 chains.
Period of Construction—2 years.

The Bantan Railway Company :—
Office—Shikama, Hyogo Ken.
Charter—Granted 30th June, 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 1,000,000.
Line Shikama to Ikuno.
Length—30 miles 57 chains.
Period of Construction—2 years.

The Bōsō Railway Company :—
Office, Sogamachi, Chiba Ken.
Charter—Granted 7th September, 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 230,000.
Line—Soga to Otsuna.
Length—11 miles 75 chains.
Period of Construction—1 year.

The Ota Railway Company :—
Office—Otamachi, Ibaraki Ken.
Charter—22nd December, 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 178,000.
Line—Otamachi to Mito.
Length—12 miles 18 chains.
Period of Construction—2 years.

The Nanyo Railway Company :—
Office—Korinakamachi, Ehime Ken.
Charter—Granted 24th January, 1894.
Capital—*Yen* 95,000.
Line—Matsuyama to Korinaka.
Length—6 miles 57 chains.
Period of Construction—1 year.

The Dogo Railway Company :—
Office—Dogo Yunomachi, Ehime Ken.
Charter—Granted 24th January, 1894.
Capital—*Yen* 38,000.
Line—Dogo Mimuro-machi to Furumachi.
Length—3 miles 6 chains.
Period of Construction—2 years.

The Naniwa Railway Company :—
Office—Osaka, Osaka Fu.
Charter—Granted 15th February, 1894.
Capital—*Yen* 150,000.
Line—Osaka to Hojo-mura.
Length—8 miles 13 chains.
Period of Construction—2 years.

The Sobu Railway Company :—
Office—Tokyo, Tokyo Fu.
Charter—Granted 23rd January, 1894.
Capital—*Yen* 321,750.
Line—Koiwa to Honjo.
Length—6 miles.
Period of Construction—2 years.

PROVISIONAL CHARTERS GRANTED :

The Kojima Railway Company :—
Office—Kurashiki, Okayama Ken.
Provisional Charter—Granted 17th Nov., 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 280,000.
Line—Kurashiki to Ajino.
Length—11 miles 21 chains.
Period for Surveys—12 months.

The Iyo Railway Company :—
Office—Matsuyama, Ehime Ken.
Provisional Charter—Granted 1st Dec., 1893.
Capital—*Yen* 25,000.
Line—Tachibana to Morimatsu.
Length—3 miles 14 chains.
Period for Survey—12 months.

The Hase Railway Company :—
Office—Nara, Nara Ken.
Provisional Charter—Granted 18th Jan., 1894.
Capital—*Yen* 400,000
Line—Nara to Sakurai.
Length—14 miles 40 chains.
Period for Survey—12 months.

Nippon Railway Company :—
Office—Tokyo, Tokyo Fu.
Provisional Charter—Granted 15th Feb., 1894.
Capital—*Yen* 2,200,000.
Line—Kawaguchi to Uchihara.
Length—60 miles.
Period for Surveys—12 months.

The Chikuho Railway Company :—
Office—Wakamatsu, Fukuoka Ken.
Provisional Charter—Granted 16th Feb., 1894.
Capital—*Yen* 123,590.
Line—Kotake to Kōbukuro.
Length—3 miles 40 chains.
Period for Surveys—6 months.

APPLICATIONS FOR PROVISIONAL CHARTERS HAVE BEEN MADE BY :—

The Kobu Railway Company :—
Office—Yodobashi, Tokyo Fu.
Capital—*Yen* 1,500,000.
Line—Yotsuya, viâ Akasaka to Iidamachi.
Length—5 miles 12 chains.

The Toyokawa Railway Company :—
Office—Toyohashi, Aichi Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 50,000.
Line—Shimoike to Toyokawa.
Length—4 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 100,000.
Line—Toyokawa to Shinjo.
Length—8 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 40,000.
Line—Toyokawa to Kokufuji.
Length—4 miles.

The Settan Railway Company :—*
Office—Kawanishi-mura, Hyogo Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 1,350,000.
Line—Oto to Sonobe and Ikuse to Mita.
Length—38 miles 40 chains.

The Settan Railway Company :—*
Office—Sonezaki-mura, Osaka Fu.
Capital—*Yen* 1,500,000.
Line—Umeda to Funaoka.
Length—34 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 3,000,000.
Line—M'meda, via Sanya, to Maizuru.
Length—67 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 3,000,000.
Line—M'meda, via Ayabe, to Maizuru.
Length—69 miles 40 chains.

The Ryomo Railway Company :—
Office—Tokyo.
Capital—*Yen* 300,000.
Line—Maebashi to Shibukawa.
Length—11 miles.

* The Map cannot be reproduced here. The Tables are given at the end of the report.

* Two distinct Companies bearing the same name.

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The Ota Railway Company :—
Office—Ota-machi, Ibaraki Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 50,000.
Line—Mito to Ono.
Length—6 miles.

The Sobu Railway Company :—
Office—Tokyo.
Capital—*Yen* 600,000.
Line—Koiwa to Akabane.
Length—14 miles 40 chains.
Capital— *Yen* 90,000.
Line—Chiba to Hamano.
Length—4 miles 40 chains.
Capital—*Yen* 250,000.
Line—Hamano to Shigewara.
Lenth—12 miles 40 chains.
Capital—*Yen* 300.000.
Line—Sakura to Narito.
Length—15 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 425,000.
Line—Ichikawa to Fuse.
Length—17 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 900,000.
Line—Naritō to Choshi.
Length—30 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 425,000.
Line—Senju to Okawaguchi.
Length—8 miles 40 chains.

The Isominato Railway Company :—
Office—Mito, Ibaraki Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 200,000.
Line—Mito to Iwaimachi.
Length—7 miles 64 chains.

The Goyu Railway Company :—
Office—Goyu-machi, Aichi Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 75,000.
Line—Goyu to Toyokawa.
Length—6 miles.

The Osaka Railway Company :—
Office—Osaka Fu.
Capital—*Yen* 150,000.
Line—Sakurai to Hase.
Length—3 miles 30 chains.

The Kyoto Railway Company :—
Office—Kyoto.
Capital—*Yen* 5,000,000.
Line—Kyoto viâ Maizuru and Miyabe to Fukuchi-yama and Wadayama.
Length—100 miles and 2 chains.

The Sakura Railway Company :—
Office—Sakura-machi, Chiba Ken.
Capital *Yen* 130,000.
Line—Sakura to Narita.
Length—7 miles 71 chains.

The Shimosa Railway Company :—
Office—Sawara-machi, Chiba Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 500,000.
Line—Sakura to Sawara.
Length—20 miles 40 chains.

The Kayo Railway Company :—
Office—Osaka.
Capital—*Yen* 300,000.
Line—Kashiwara to Mikkaichi.
Length—14 miles.

The Kidzu-Naniwa Railway Company :—
Office—Kidzu-machi, Kyoto Fu.
Capital *Yen* 900,000.
Line—Kidzu to Shijo.
Length—13 miles 60 chains.

The Nippon Railway Company :—
Office—Tokyo.
Capital—*Yen* 5,000,000.
Line—Ueno to Shimbashi (elevated).
Length—3 miles 60 chains.
Capital—*Yen* 5,640,000.
Line—Mito to Iwanuma.
Length—130 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 450,000.
Line—Nakazato-mura to Sumidagawa.
Length—3 miles.

The Hankaku Railway Company :—
Office—Osaka.
Capital—5,500,000.
Line—Sonezaki to Maizuru and Fukuchiyama to Yatsushika.
Legth—106 miles.

The Joka Railway Company :—
Office—Kyoto.
Capital—*Yen* 800,000.
Line—Kidzu to Shijo and Nagao to Yawata.
Length—22 miles 40 chains.
Capital—*Yen* 250,000.
Line—Yawata to Shijo.
Length—not yet known.

The Hokuwa Railway Company :—
Office—Nara, Nara Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 600,000.
Line—Nara to Shijo.
Length—13 miles.

The Kiwa Railway Company :—
Office—Gojo-machi, Nara Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 1,400,000.
Line—Gojo to Wakayama.
Length—31 miles 20 chains.

The Fushiki Railway Company :—
Office—Fushiki, Toyama Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 140,000.
Line—Fushiki to Takaoka.
Length—4 miles 40 chains.

The Chiuwa Railway Company :—
Office—Horyuji-mura, Nara Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 130,000.
Line—Koryu to Kawarajo.
Length—5 miles 49 chains.

The Iga Railway Company :—
Office—Nabari-machi, Miye Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 2,300,000.
Line—Sakurai to Toba.
Length—68 miles 50 chains.
Capital—*Yen* 200,000.
Line—Nabari to Ueno.
Length—11 miles.

The Futami Railway Company :—
Office—Yamada-machi, Miye Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 136,000.
Line—Yamada to Futami.
Length—5 miles.

The Dzuso Railway Company (electric) :—
Office—Tsukiji, Tokyo.
Capital—500,000.
Line—Kodzu to Yumoto and Numadzu to Nanjo.
Length—17 miles 58 chains.

The Chiu-Etsu Railway Company :—
Office—Takaoka-machi, Toyama Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 350,000.
Line—Takaoka to Shirobata.
Length—19 miles.

The Boso Railway Company :—
Office—Sogamachi, Chiba Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 450,000.
Line—Otsuna to Tokane and Otsuna to Ichinomiya.
Length—18 miles and 7 chains.
Capital—*Yen* 450,000.
Line—Tokane to Yokaichiba and Soga to Chiba.
Length—18 miles 51 chains.

The Kaikyo Railway Company :—
Office—Sakai, Osaka Fu.
Capital—*Yen* 1,500,000.
Line—Sakai to Hachimoto-machi.
Length—22 miles.

Sanuki Railway Company :—
Office—Tadotsu, Kagawa Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 500,000.
Line—Marugame to Takamatsu.
Length—17 miles 19 chains.

The Chikuho Railway Company :—
Office—Wakamatsu, Fukuoka Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 129,000.
Line—Iidzuka to Usui.
Length—5 miles.
Capital *Yen* 1,224,834.
Line—Iidzuka to Harada.
Length 21 miles.
Capital—*Yen* 522,486.
Line—Tosu, Sanya to Yoshikawa.
Length—17 miles.

The Nishinari Railway Company :—
Office—Fukushima Mura, Osaka.
Capital—*Yen* 300,000.
Line—Sonezaki to Tempozan.
Length—4 miles 56 chains.

The Arima Electric Railway Company :—
Office—Kobe, Hyogo Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 300,000.
Line—Kobe to Yuyama.
Length—15 miles.

The Yamaga Railway Company :—
Office—Yamaga, Kumamoto Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 265,000.
Line—Yamaga to Ueki.
Length—10 miles.

The Kano Railway Company :—
Office—Nanao-mura, Ishikawa Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 700,000.
Line—Tsubata to Nanao.
Length—34 miles 70 chains.

The Toyo Railway Company :—
Office—Imajimachi, Ehime Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 300,000.
Line—Imaji to Matsuyama.
Length—28 miles.

The Kisetsu Railway Company :—
Office—Osaka.
Capital—*Yen* 2,800,000.
Line—Osaka to Wakayama.
Length—40 miles.

The Bantan Railway Company :—
Office—Kobe, Hyogo Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 500,000.
Line—Ikuno to Wadayama.
Length—13 miles 40 chains.

The Omi Railway Company :—
Office—Hikone-machi, Shiga Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 1,000,000.
Line—Hikone to Fukagawa.
Length—26 miles.

The Kodzuke Railway Company :—
Office—Takasaki, Gumma Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 200,000.
Line—Takasaki to Shimoshinden.
Length—16 miles.

The Hakata Railway Company :—
Office—Fukuoka, Fukuoka Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 500,000.
Line—Hakata to Dazaifu.
Length—12 miles.

The Hoshiu Railway Company :—
Office—Yukihashi, Fukuoka Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 198,512.
Line—Ikari to Yugeta.
Length—2 miles 10 chains.

The Kanyo Railway Company :—
Office—Hakodate.
Capital—*Yen* 95,000.
Line—Hakodate to Shimoyugawa.
Length—3 miles 50 chains.

The Settsu Railway Company :—
Office—Itamimachi, Hyogo Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 300,000.
Line—Amagasaki to Ajikawa.
Length—4 miles.

The Sewa Railway Company :—
Office—Matsuzakamachi, Miye Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 4,500,000.
Line—Sakurai, Toba, to Kawaidzu.
Length—90 miles.

The Bisei Railway :—
Office—Tsushima Machi, Aichi Ken.
Capital—*Yen* 200,000.
Line—Tsushima to Ichinomiya.
Length—10 miles.

THE RAILWAYS WHICH WERE OPENED FOR PUBLIC TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW ARE AS FOLLOW :—

	Length M. C.
The Iyo Railway Company :—	
Line—Sotogawa to Hiraigawa	4.33
Opened—7th May, 1895.	
The Osaka Railway Company :—	
Line—Takata to Sakurai	6.00
Opened—23rd May, 1893.	
The Chikuho Railway Company :—	
Line—Kotake to Iidzuka	5.05
Opened—3rd July, 1893.	
The Settsu Railway Company :—	
Line—Amagasaki to Ikeda	8.35
Opened—12th December, 1893.	
The Sangu Railway Company :—	
Line—Miyagawa to Otsu	23.58
Opened—31st December, 1893.	
The Nippon Railway Company :—	
Line—Shiriuchi to Hachinobe	3.30
Opened—4th January, 1894.	
The Sano Railway Company .—	
Line—Kudzuo to Koshina	9.45
Opened—20th March, 1894.	
Total	60 55

For the purpose of showing the working of private railways, the Receipts, Working Expenses, per centages of the net earnings, &c., for the year under review, of the Nippon and fourteen other railway companies, as they appear in their respective reports, are given and compared with those of the previous year in Table No. 11.

The Rolling Stocks Returns of the different Companies are given in Table No. 12.

TABLE OF MILEAGUES OF ALL THE RAILWAYS IN OPERATION ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1894 :—

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

	M. CH.	M. CH
Shimbashi-Kobe Section	376.31	
Ofuna-Yokosuka Section	10 03	
Obu-Taketoyo Section	12.01	
Maibara-Kanegasaki Section	31.01	
Takasaki-Naoetsu Section	117.10	
Baba-Otsu Section †	1.23	
Fukatani Nagahama Section †	9.60	
		557.49

NIPPON RAILWAY.

Ueno-Aomori Section	454.66	
Shinagawa-Akabane Section	12.76	
Omiya-Maebashi Section	51.14	
Utsunomiya-Nikko Section	25.00	
Iwakiri-Shiogama Section	4.23	
Ueno-Akihanohara Section †	1.15	
Oyama-Mito Section	41.45	
Mito-Nakagawa Section †	.62	
Shiriuchi-Hachinohe Section	3.30	
		595.11

KOBU RAILWAY.

Shinjiku to Hachioji	22.77

RYOMO RAILWAY.

Oyama to Maebashi	52.17

† These lines are used for Goods Traffic exclusively.

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SANYO RAILWAY.

Kobe-Mihara Section	143.40	
Hyogo-Wadanomisaki Section †.	1.64	145.24

KYUSHU RAILWAY.

Moji to Kumamoto	121.31	
Tosu to Saga	15.30	136.61

KANSEI RAILWAY.

Kusatsu-Yokkaichi Section	49.25	
Kameyama-Tsu Section	9.60	59.05

OSAKA RAILWAY.

Osaka-Sakurai Section	29.10	
Oji-Nara Section	9.37	38.471

HANKAI RAILWAY.

Osaka to Sakai		6.22

CHIKUHO RAILWAY.

	M. CH.	M. C.M.
Wakamatsu-Iidzuka Section	24.38	
Nokata Kaneda Section	6.20	30.58

IYO RAILWAY.

Hiraigawara to Takama		10.19

SANUKI RAILWAY.

Tadotsu to Kotohira		10.15

KOKKAIDO RAILWAY.

Temiya-Horonai Section	56.02	
Horonaifuto-Ikushunbetsu Section	4.39	
Muroran-Utashinai Section	114.39	
Sunagawa-Sorachifuto Section	2.68	
Oiwake-Yubari Section	26.49	
Sanbashi-Temiya Section†	.34	204.71

KUSHIRO RAILWAY.

Shibecha to Atosanobori		26.67

SETTSU RAILWAY.

Amagasaki to Ikeda		8.35

SANGU RAILWAY.

Tsu to Miyagawa		23.58

SANO RAILWAY.

Kudzuo to Koshina		9.54
Total		1,938.50

Table of mileages of Railways either under construction, or for which surveys have been made, *i.e.* of the lines projected by companies for which they had been granted charters and hence possessing the right of construction on 31st March, 1894.

	M. CH.	
Government Railway :—		
Fukushima to Aomori 298.26		422.04
Tsuruga to Toyama 123 58		
Kobu Railway :—		
Shinjiku to Iidamachi ..		4.00
Sanyo Railway: —		
Mihara to Shimonoseki		176.23
Kyushiu Railway :—		
Kokura to Gyohashi		134 40
Kumamoto to Yashiro and Misumi ...		
Saga to Nagasaki and Sasebo		
Kwansei Railway :—		
Yokkaichi to Nagoya		22.35
Osaka Railway :—		
Tennoji to M'meda (Osaka)		6.31
Sōbu Railway :—		
Honjo to Sakura		31.00
Hoshū Railway: —		
Gyohashi to Yokkaichi		43.65
Gyohashi to Kashun and Ikari		
Settsu Railway :—		
Ikeda to Ikuse		6.00
Kawagoye Railway :—		
Kawagoye to Kokubunji		18.20
Ome Railway :—		
Ome to Tachikawa		13.07
Nippon Railway :—		
Hachinohe to Minato		1.63
Nanwa Railway :—		
Takata to Gojō		16.40
Bantan Railway :—		
Shikama to Ikuno ..		30.57
Nara Railway :—		
Kyoto to Nara		25 53
Bōsō Railway :—		
Soga to Otsuna		11.75
Ota Railway :—		
Mito to Ota		12.18
Nanyo Railway :—		
Matsuyama to Korinaka		6.57
Dogo Railway :—		
Dogo to Omuro		3.06
Naniwa Railway :—		
Osaka to Shijō		8.13
Total		994.47

TABLE No. 1.

DETAILED STATEMENT OF RAILWAY EXPENDITURES ON CAPITAL ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST, 1894.

Items.	Tokyo-Yokohama, Double Line, 18 miles.	Kobe-Otsu, Single Line, 58 miles.	Tsuruga-Ogaki, Single Line, 49 miles.	Naoetsu Line, Single Line, 106 miles.	Tokaido Line, 158 miles. Yokohama-Obu. Single Line, 205 miles.	Yokohama-Obu. Oyama Numazu Double Line, 29 miles.	Yokohama-Obu. Total.	Ogaki-Taketoyo, Single Line, 53 miles.	Total.	Yokosuka Line, Single Line, 10 miles.	Biwa Lake Shore Line, Single Line, 48 miles.	Usui Line, Single Line, 7 miles.	Grand Total.
Preliminary Surveys ..... Yen	24,829,675	68,888,583	100,879,327	39,422,495	27,209,151	2,146,895	29,356,046	9,114,705	38,470,751	4,204,190	3,063,675	13,643,084	293,401,780
Superintending and Engineering	74,882,680	202,165,021	47,594,021	117,812,241	189,097,288	9,020,916	198,118,204	49,532,516	247,650,720	7,889,782	16,810,540	74,464,101	789,287,706
Right of Way and Station Grounds	235,831,433	371,557,015	88,351,093	244,817,010	460,311,686	865,222	461,177,208	119,076,713	580,253,921	23,977,694	104,815,585	14,579,371	1,664,183,122
Earthworks	464,868,072	867,783,508	618,729,800	1,033,967,070	1,866,655,878	99,782,139	1,966,438,017	333,744,514	2,300,182,531	59,510,394	383,515,246	106,072,590	5,834,509,211
Bridges	653,701,466	2,149,265,397	177,320,892	408,667,044	2,546,257,454	64,984,939	2,611,242,393	1,060,032,761	3,671,275,154	21,091,183	446,734,812	125,672,875	7,653,728,823
Culverts	15,680,779	414,550,264	84,988,659	139,947,243	270,353,937	15,271,791	285,625,728	87,096,890	372,722,618	9,781,017	113,483,039	14,380,132	1,165,539,771
Drainage Pipes	23,521,169	14,032,121	9,486,420	53,996,976	47,798,768	826,050	48,624,818	12,539,410	61,164,228	946,794	16,612,192	763,675	180,523,575
Tunnels	0	523,011,078	531,943,315	70,098,954	1,111,241,967	0	1,111,241,967	0	1,111,241,967	153,521,649	74,135,791	752,459,534	3,214,412,288
Permanent Way	524,273,664	892,426,705	623,058,028	790,883,894	1,485,842,193	133,121,250	1,618,963,443	430,895,520	2,049,858,963	95,931,076	329,918,817	155,773,882	5,462,125,029
Stations	229,100,204	944,415,301	140,916,123	116,515,785	271,153,114	1,495,662	272,648,776	61,458,181	334,106,957	17,458,537	55,261,907	7,969,383	1,845,764,197
Breakwaters and Wharves	0	1,622,452	102,284,197	132,990	8,768,121	0	8,768,121	0	8,768,121	0	0	0	112,807,760
Rolling Stock	355,981,709	1,098,639,470	718,389,413	463,221,283	1,627,051,770	0	1,627,051,770	77,980,126	1,705,031,896	0	9,380,141	419,456,851	4,770,100,763
Machine Shops	167,990,077	344,884,223	95,075,290	69,098,519	65,037,932	0	65,037,932	11,432,791	76,490,723	0	0	6,178,784	759,717,616
Buildings	30,362,767	154,792,980	31,250,514	68,008,238	62,184,240	22,076	62,206,316	14,689,774	76,896,090	3,302,986	10,779,930	16,483,872	391,877,377
Transportation	225,608	829,516	2,237,154	174,039,526	349,248,242	4,413,959	353,662,201	56,189,961	409,852,162	8,995,970	37,297,412	264,478,103	897,805,541
Construction Trains	5,224,811	17,531,420	17,339,331	20,016,870	84,568,248	10,341,379	94,909,627	2,381,936	97,291,563	4,030,970	4,939,822	9,092,323	175,467,110
Construction Plant	66,668,930	15,870,483	0	23,013,072	95,547,502	66,890	95,614,392	1,014,091	96,628,483	559,145	3,012,434	5,193,981	210,946,528
Fences and Boundary Posts	4,336,356	33,465,617	820,929	3,715,999	4,998,545	0	4,998,545	1,233,249	6,231,794	228,862	930,277	119,250	49,849,084
General Charges	51,811,568	140,310,598	112,866,464	39,131,773	110,032,478	51,176	110,103,654	67,919,091	178,022,745	2,825,402	29,006,124	4,457,702	558,432,376
Telegraphs	114,585	18,183,390	4,865,459	9,658,190	29,948,629	1,161,613	31,110,252	3,084,467	34,194,719	1,214,649	4,015,348	405,705	72,652,045
Total ..... Yen	2,929,345,643	8,274,229,742	3,508,396,429	3,886,165,172	10,713,327,453	343,571,957	11,056,899,410	2,399,456,696	13,456,356,106	415,380,300	1,641,713,092	1,991,665,218	36,103,251,702
Working fund													2,000,000,000
Material in stores, and sums receivable for stores sold													81,971,417
Railway Bond Fund													1,382,507,590
Grand Total ..... Yen													30,567,730,709

TABLE No. 3.*

DETAILED STATEMENT OF RAILWAY REVENUE FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST, 1894.

Items.	Traffic Receipts. Coaching Receipts.	Goods Receipts.	Miscellaneous Receipts.	Total.	Traffic Expenditures. Maintenance of Way.	Expense of Locomotive Power.	Traffic Expenses.	Total.	General Charges.	Total.	Net Profit.
Tokyo-Kobe ..... Yen	3,379,684,429	1,045,241,893	96,925,189	4,521,851,511	409,646,225	612,943,610	330,961,426	1,353,551,261	106,010,629	1,459,561,890	3,062,289,621
Ofuna-Yokohama	67,195,830	1,703,830	322,574	69,222,234	6,718,942	8,690,190	4,820,507	20,229,639	1,558,980	21,770,619	47,451,615
Obu-Taketoyo	24,037,650	3,871,190	553,988	28,462,828	6,541,612	2,813,608	2,748,680	12,103,900	779,490	12,883,390	15,579,438
Maibara-Tsuruga	102,764,735	28,401,130	1,095,124	132,260,989	28,485,313	18,270,236	11,900,817	58,656,366	3,507,705	62,164,071	70,096,918
Takasaki-Naoyetsu	403,402,960	227,178,847	2,075,354	632,657,161	189,101,567	132,668,810	46,166,791	367,937,168	18,058,183	385,995,351	246,661,810
Total ..... Yen	3,977,085,604	1,306,396,890	100,972,229	5,384,454,723	640,493,659	775,386,454	396,580,221	1,812,460,334	129,914,987	1,942,375,321	3,442,079,402

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TABLE No. 2.* DETAILED STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW LINES DURING THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR.

ITEMS.	Fukushima-Aomori Section.		Tsuruga-Toyama Section.		Chargeable to both Sections.		Total.	
Salaries ..... *Yen*	—	16,586.643	—	11,218.785	—	862.527	—	28,667.955
Higher Officials (Sonin)	3,214.520	—	2,501.107	—	6,315 626	—	599.999	—
Lower Officials (Hannin)	13,372.123	—	8,717.678	—	22,352.329	—	262 528	—
Travelling Expenses.....	—	9,006.850	—	5,264.075	—	155.300	—	14,426.225
Domestic Travelling Expenses	9,006 850	—	5.264.075	—	155.300	—	14,426.225	—
Wages.....	—	10,154.773	—	7,384.283	—	225.884	—	17,764 940
Employés.....	10,154 773	—	7.384.283	—	225 884	—	17,764 940	—
Office Expenses	—	6,865.726	—	4,846.389	—	4.462.145	—	16,174.260
Furniture..	2,444 888	—	1,438.298	—	16.014	—	3.899.200	—
Drawings and Printing	172 531	—	177.846	—	35.200	—	385.577	—
Stationery	1,036 622	—	885.672	—	28.338	—	1,950.632	—
Consumption (as fuel, &c.)	1,117.524	—	650.205	—	6.090	—	1,773 819	—
Messages and transportation	400.898	—	249 751	—	53.885	—	704.534	—
Uniforms.....	18.035	—	1.460	—	0	—	19 495	—
Sundry Expenses	1,675 228	—	1,443.157	—	4,322.618	—	7,441.003	—
Railways.....	—	579.618.202	—	318,540.910	—	—	—	898,159 112
Right of way and station-grounds	97,012.808	—	11,242.717	—	—	—	108,255.525	—
Earthworks	60,241 848	—	78,858.255	—	—	—	139,100.103	—
Bridges	67,026.032	—	14.541.480	—	—	—	81,567 512	—
Culverts	56,588.960	—	5,056.946	—	—	—	61,645 906	—
Drainage Pipes	4,651 254	—	3,252.177	—	—	—	7.903.431	—
Tunnels	29,672.131	—	62,451.829	—	—	—	92,123 960	—
Permanent Way	189,572.145	—	123,123.642	—	—	—	312,695.787	—
Stations	835.716	—	222.990	—	—	—	1,058.706	—
Machine Shops	0.000	—	55.403	—	—	—	55 403	—
Buildings.....	9,883.490	—	4.379.357	—	—	—	14,262.847	—
Transportation	56,556.222	—	12,017.872	—	—	—	68,574.094	—
Construction Trains	3,657.250	—	640.390	—	—	—	4,297.640	—
Construction Plant	2,805 947	—	2,653.334	—	—	—	5.459.281	—
Fences and Boundary Posts	1,114 399	—	44.518	—	—	—	1,158.217	—
Total..... *Yen*	—	622,232.194	—	347,254.442	—	5,705.856	—	975,192.422

Stores and sums entrusted to paymasters	+416,503.365	
Sums payable for stores purchased.....	— 9,188.267	
Total ..... *Yen*		1,382,507.590

* The Tables No. 2 and No. 3 are unavoidably transposed.

TABLE No. 4. GENERAL BALANCE SHEET, MARCH 31ST 1894.

Items.	Dr.—*Yen.*	Items.	Cr.—*Yen.*
Construction Expenditure, Old Lines.	36,103,251.702	Capital	30,185,223.119
Construction Expenditure, New Lines.	975,192.492	Working Fund.....	2,000,000.000
Material in stores :—		Railway Bond Fund..	1,382,507.590
Construction Department, Old Lines	68,247.716	Traffic receipts.....	5.384.454.723
Construction Department, New Lines	202,820.157	Sums Payable :— Construction Department, New Lines ...	9,188.267
Traffic Department.....	782,192.396	Traffic Department...	150,289.772
Working Expenses	1,942,375 321		
Supplementary Works	638,856.970		
Sums Receivable :— Construction Department, Old Lines	13,723.701		
Traffic Department.....	54.045.339		
On deposit.....	4,023,811.759		
Paymasters	213,683.208		
New account.....	93,462.710		
Total ..... *Yen*	45,111,663.471	Total ..... *Yen*	45,111,663.471

TABLE No. 5. QUANTITY OF ROLLING STOCK AT CLOSE OF THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR.

Items.	Shimbashi-Kobe.	Takasaki-Naoetsu.	Total.	Total at the close of the 25th Fiscal Year.	Increase.	Decrease.
Engines	123	17	140	133	7	—
State Coaches	2	—	2	2	—	—
1st class Carriages	37	—	37	37	—	—
1st and 2nd class Composite	33	—	33	27	6	—
2nd class Carriages	77	—	77	73	4	—
2nd and 3rd class Composite...	1	12	13	7	6	—
2nd class and Postal Service Composite	5	—	5	5	—	—
3rd class Carriages	309	36	345	343	2	—
3rd class and Brake Composite	49	5	54	53	1	—
Passenger Brake Vans	64	7	71	73	—	2
Postal Service Vans	10	—	10	10	—	—
Covered Goods Waggons	634	108	742	732	10	—
Open Goods Waggons	568	45	613	540	73	—
Carriage Waggons	4	20	24	4	20	—
Horse Boxes	3	—	3	3	—	—
Cattle Trucks	13	—	13	13	—	—
Fish Trucks	39	—	39	34	5	—
Oil Trucks	62	—	62	57	5	—
Timber Trucks	31	—	31	30	1	—
Ballast Waggons	—	—	—	1	—	1
Stone Waggons	157	53	210	215	—	5
Goods Brake Vans	113	—	113	123	—	10
Casualty Vans	2	—	2	2	—	—
Grand Total	2,335	303	2,638	2,516	139	18

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TABLE No. 6. STATISTICS OF PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

Items.		Tokyo-Kobe Section.		Takasaki-Naoyetsu Section.		Total.	
		26th Fiscal Year.	Increase or Decrease in comparison with 25th Fiscal Year. Decrease marked.*	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase or Decrease in comparison with 25th Fiscal Year. Decrease marked *	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase or Decrease in comparison with 25th Fiscal Year. Decrease marked.*
Average operating mileage	Miles	429.36	0.	117.10	7.	546.46	7.
Passenger train mileage*	Miles	2,225,469.	38,256.	198,361.	37,867.	2,423,830.	76,123.
Daily train mileage	Miles	6,097.	105.	543.	103.	6,641.	309.
Carriage mileage	Miles	26,698,219.	1,194,523.	2,069,848.	459,282.	28,768,067.	1,653,805.
Average mileage per day	Miles	73,140.	3,273.	5,671.	1,258.	78,817.	4,532.
Average number of carriages to a train	Carriages	12.00	.34	10.43	.39	11 87	.32
Total number of carriages used†	Carriages	241,861.	2,146.	20,377.	2,857.	262,238.	5,003.
Daily Average mileage per carriage.	Miles	110 387	3.995	101.578	9.651	109.702	4.295
Number of Passengers carried :—							
First class	Persons	80,654.	§	77.	§	80,730.	§
Second class	Persons	713,039.	90,854.	26,774.	3,604.	739.813.	94,458.
Third class	Persons	12,294,124.	1,403,675.	1,329.659.	72,647.	13,623,783.	1,476,322.
Total	Persons	13,087,817.	1,494,529.	1,356,510.	76,251.	14,444.327.	1,570,780.
Daily Average number of passengers	Persons	35,857.	4,095.	3,716.	208.	39,573.	4,303.
Passenger mileage :—							
First class passenger mileage	Miles	3,144,492.	—	895.	—	3,145,387.	—
Second class passenger mileage	Miles	21,659,614.	2,768,844.	707,122.	253,014.	22,366,730.	3,021,858.
Third class passenger mileage	Miles	287,068,006.	32,793,709.	29,047,206.	6,953,075.	316,115,212.	39,746,784.
Total	Miles	311,872,112.	35,562,553.	29.755,223.	7,206,089.	341,627,335.	42,768,642.
Average mileage per First class passenger	Miles	38.99	—	11.62	—	38 96	—
Average mileage per Second class passenger	Miles	30.38	* .00	26.41	6.80	30.2	.12
Average mileage per Third class passenger	Miles	23.35	.00	21.85	4.27	23.2	.45
Average mileage per passenger	Miles	23.83	.00	21.94	4.33	23 6	.44
Average number of passengers per mile	Persons	726,213.	82,810.	254,047.	49,293.	625,033.	71,155.
Average number of passengers per train mile	Persons	140.14	13.81	150.01	9.52	140.95	13.65
Average number of passengers per carriage mile	Persons	11.68	.85	14.38	.38	11.88	.86
Coaching Receipts :—							
Passenger receipts	Yen	3,392,437.128	356,288.751	399.063 929	99,603.379	3,791,501.057	455,892.130
Parcels and luggage receipts	Yen	114,540.605	* 3,106.075	5,907 980	2,057.010	120,448.585	* 6,049.065
Postal service receipts	Yen	41,786.092	8,960.488	4,787.180	2,291.114	46,573.272	11,251.602
Total	Yen	3.548,763 825	357,143.164	409,759.089	103,951.503	3,958,522.914	461,094.667
Daily average receipts	Yen	9,722 641	978.475	1,122 628	284 799	10,845.268	1,263.273
Average receipts per operating mile.	Yen	8,263.509	831.629	3,498.477	721.564	7,242.415	760.595
Average receipts per train mile	Yen	1.595	.136	2.066	.161	1 633	.143
Average receipts per carriage mile	Yen	.1329	.0078	.1980	.0081	.1376	.0086
Average receipts per passenger	Yen	.2595	* .0024	.2951	.0612	.2626	.0035
Average receipts per passenger mile.	Yen	.01087	* .00012	.01347	.00019	.01110	* .00006
Daily average receipts per carriage	Yen	14.669	1.355	20.109	2.654	15 095	1.499
Total tonnage of parcels and luggage carried ‡	Tons	4,812.	* 356.	376.	57.	5,188.	* 299.
Average number of tons per day	Tons	13.18	* .98	1.03	.16	14.21	* .82
Average receipts per ton	Yen	23.803	.071	15.713	3.641	23.217	.163

* ⅓ of Mixed train mileage added to the total Passenger train mileage.
† Number of vehicles multiplied of the number of days they were employed.
‡ Mails not included.
§ First and Second Class taken together.

TABLE No. 7. STATISTICS OF GOODS TRAFFIC.

Items.		Tokyo-Kobe Section.		Tokaido-Naoetsu Section.		Totol.	
		26th Fiscal Year.	Increase or decrease compared with the 25th Year. Decrease Marked *	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase and Decrease compared with the 25th year. Decrease marked *	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase and Decrease compared with the 25th year. Decrease marked *
Average operating mileage*	Miles	440.39	0.	117 10	7.	557.49	7.
Goods train mileage, down train	Miles	524,624.	—	127,943.		652,567.	
Goods train mileage, up train	Miles	519,250.	—	132,290.		651,540.	
Total†	Miles	1,043,874.	55,086.	260,233.	60,459.	1,304.107.	115,545.
Daily average mileage	Miles	2,860.	151.	713.	166.	3,573.	317.
Goods waggon mileage, down train	Miles	9,077,217.	—	1,150,367.		10,227.584.	
Goods waggon mileage, up train	Miles	8,984,557.	—	1,034,254.		10,018,811.	
Total	Miles	18,061,774.	1,269,292.	2,184,621.	445,049.	20,246,395.	1,714,341.
Empty waggon mileage, down train	Miles	3,158,147.	36,491.	572,003.	26,614.	3,730,150.	63,105.
Empty waggon mileage, up train	Miles	556,457.	79,931.	262,553.	90,844.	819,010.	170,775.
Total	Miles	3,714,604.	116,422.	834,556.	117,458.	4,549,160.	233,880.
Ratio of empty waggon mileage to the total waggon mileage	Per cent.	20.6	* .8	38.2	* 3 0	25.5	* .8
Percentage of empty waggon mileage, down train	Per cent.	34.8	* 2 4	49 7	* 13.0	36.5	* 3.1
Percentage of empty waggon mileage, up train	Per cent.	6.2	.5	25 4	5.7	8.2	1.2
Daily average mileage	Miles	49,484.	3,477.	5,985.	1,219.	55,470.	4,697.
Daily average mileage of freighted waggons	Miles	39,307.	3,158.	3,699.	898.	43,006.	4,055.
Daily average mileage of empty waggons	Miles	10,177.	319.	2,286.	321.	12,463.	641.
Average number of waggons to a train	Waggons	17.30	.32	8.39	* .32	15.53	* .06
Total number of waggons used ‡	Waggons	502,725.	18,104.	63,145.	0.	565,870.	18,104.
Daily average mileage per waggon	Miles	35.928	1.277	34.597	7.048	35.779	1.947
Tonnage of goods carried, down train	Tons	392,413.	—	86,746.	—	479,159.	—
Tonnage of goods carried, up train	Tons	516,728.	—	80,802.	—	597.530.	—
Total	Tons	909,141.	58,806.	167,548.	35,389.	1,076,689.	94,285.

STATISTICS OF GOODS TRAFFIC.—(Continued.)

Daily average tonnage	Tons	2,491.		162.		459.		97.	2,950.		259.
Ton mileage, down train	Miles	18,423,933.		4,519,608.		1,984,286.		758,309.	20,408,219.		5,277,917.
Ton mileage, up train	Miles	30,539,745.		3,882,604.		3,489,474.		449,601.	34,029,219.		4,332,205.
Total	Miles	48,963 678.		8,402,212.		5,473,760.		1,207,910.	54,437,438.		9,610,122.
Average mileage per ton, down train	Miles	46.95		—		22.87		—	42.59		—
Average mileage per ton, up train	Miles	59.10		—		43.19		—	56.95		—
Average mileage per ton	Miles	53.86		6.15		32.67		.39	50.56		4.93
Average tonnage per mile	Tons	111,158.		19,075.		46,734.		7,998.	97,626.		16,212.
Average tonnage per train mile, down train	Tons	35.118		6.994		15.509		3.235	31.214		5.754
Average tonnage per train mile, up train	Tons	58.815		4.896		26.377	*	4.056	52.229		2.258
Average tonnage per train mile	Tons	46.906		5.885		21.034	*	.319	41.743		4.027
Average tonnage per waggon mile, down train	Tons	2.030		.374		1.725		.315	1.995		.362
Average tonnage per waggon mile, up train	Tons	3.399		.221		3.374	*	.121	3.397		.192
Average tonnage per waggon mile	Tons	2.711		.296		2.506		.054	2.689		.270
Average tonnage per freighted waggon mile, down train§	Tons	3.113		.477		3.421	*	.348	3.141		.439
Average tonnage per freighted waggon mile, up train§	Tons	3.624		.258		4.522		.167	3.699		.494
Average tonnage per freighted waggon mile	Tons	3.413		.339		4.054	*	.113	3.468		.315
Goods Receipt:—											
Ordinary freight receipts	Yen	265,716.152		11,145.885		211,372.963		51,557.362	477,089 115		62,703.247
Waggon-load freight receipts	Yen	461,785.050		41,772.900		12,898.120		4,299 920	474,683.170		46,072.820
Goods carried by special contract receipts	Yen	291,305.350		61,912 600		272.970	*	2,679,810	291,578.320		59,232.790
Total	Yen	1,018,106.552		114,831.385		224,544 053		53,177.472	1,243,350.605		163,008 857
Daily average receipts	Yen	2,791.251		314 607		615.189		145 689	3,406.440		460 299
Average receipts per mile	Yen	2,312.907		260.692		1,917.132		361.022	2,229.775		272.206
Average receipts per train mile	Yen	976		.062		.863		.005	.953		.048
Average receipts per waggon mile	Yen	0564		.0026		.1028		.0043	.0614		.0034
Average receipts per freighted waggon mile	Yen	0710		.0025		.1663		.0013	.0792		.0036
Average receipts per ton	Yen	1.1087		.0455		1.4233		.1266	1.1548		.0602
Average receipts per ton mile	Yen	02075	*	.00154		.04212		.00195	.02284	*	.00115
Daily average receipts per waggon	Yen	2.027		.162		3.556		.842	.197		.234

AGGREGATE TRAIN MILEAGES.

Passenger train mileage	1,996,030	* 27,122	20,140	15,964	2,016,170	* 11,158
Goods train mileage, down train	407,388		37,210		444,598	
Goods train mileage, up train	407,047		44,802		451,849	
Total	814.435	* 10,292	82,012	38,556	896.447	28,263
Mixed train mileage, down train	234.472		181,465		415.937	
Mixed train mileage, up train	224.406		174,977		399.383	
Total	458.878	130,757	356.442	43,806	815.320	174,563
Grand Total	3.269,343	93.34 2	458.594	98,326	3,727,937	191,668

* The inclusion of the Otsu and Fukatani Goods lines causes the operating Goods train mileage to be longer than that of the passenger trains.
† ½ of mixed train mileage added to the total Goods train mileage.
‡ Number of vehicles multiplied by the number of days employed.
§ Calculated from freighted wagons only. Empty wagons not included.

TABLE No. 8. LOCOMOTIVE RUNNING AND CONSUMPTION SHEET FOR THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR.

Items.	Total Locomotive running Mileage. Miles.	Total Coal Consumption. Cwt.	Average Coal Consumption per mile. Lbs.	Total Oil Consumption. Pints.	Average Oil Consumption per 100 miles. Pints.
Tokyo-Kobe	3,327,929.½	886,015.½	29.78	327,422.	9.83
Ofuna-Yokosuka	72,604.⅓	15,073.½	23.25	5,655.¾	7.78
Obu-Taketoyo	31,022.⅔	5,920.	21.37	2,220.	7.15
Maibara-Tsuruga	128,756.⅓	38,924.	33.85	14,484.	11.25
Takasaki-Naoetsu	565,814.⅓	205,896.½	40.75	75,819.⅓	13.40
Total	4,126,127.⅓	1,151,829.½	31.26	425,501.¼	10.31

TABLE No. 9. LIST OF DEATHS AND INJURIES AMONG PASSENGERS, STAFF, AND OTHERS IN THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS DURING THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR.

Sections.	Passengers.		Railway Staff.				General Public.			Total.	
	Accidental.	Negligence.	Accidental.		Negligence.		Suicide.	Negligence.		Killed.	Wounded.
	Injuries.	Injuries.	Death.	Injuries.	Deaths	Injuries.	Deaths.	Deaths	Injuries.		
Tokyo-Kobe Section	4	2	6	8	5	4	87	23	12	122	30
Takasaki Naoetsu	1	—	—	1	2	2	5	3	5	10	9
	5	2	6	9	7	6	92	26	17	132	39

TABLE No. 10. LIST OF CASUALTIES & ACCIDENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TRAFFIC IN THE DIFFERENT SECTIONS DURING THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR.

Section.	Derailments.			Collisions.		Failures.	Obstruction to the road and trains.		Trains Delayed.	Trains Stopped.	Violators of Railway Regulations.
	Carriage.	Waggons.	Engines.	Waggons.	Engines.		Natural Causes.	Wilful Acts.			
Tokyo-Kobe Section	6	33	7	1	—	193	156	35	118	238	150
Takasaki-Naoetsu	—	10	5	—	1	81	57	12	27	79	3
Total	6	43	12	1	1	274	213	47	145	317	153

NOTE—By "Derailments" and "Collisions" are meant vehicles getting off the track or colliding with each other by negligence on the part of Pointsmen, steam being in excess, &c.
By "Failures," vehicles becoming disabled by over-heating of the axles, parts of machinery breaking, or giving way, &c., is meant.
Obstructions to the road and trains mean impediments on the lines caused by storms, &c., or by persons wilfully placing stones, wood, &c., on them.
Delays of the trains are interruption of their working brought about by these obstructions: the stoppages result from same causes.
Violators of Railway Regulations mean passengers who over ride their station and fail to pay their fare, and those who otherwise act contrary to the Railway Regulations.

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TABLE No. II.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EARINGS, EXPENDITURES, &C., OF PRIVATE RAILWAYS FOR THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR.

Items.		Nippon Railway Company.			Hokkai Railway Company.			Iyo Railway Company.			Ryomo Railway Company.			Sanyo Railway Company.			Sanuki Railway Company.		
		25th* Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked*)	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease Decrease marked.*)	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked.*)	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked.*)	25th Fiscal year.	26th Fiscal year.	Inrease.	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked.*
Operating mileage at the close of the fiscal year	Miles	591.61	591 61	—	6.22	6.22	—	5.66	10.19	4 33	52.17	52.17	—	145.24	145.24	—	10.15	10.15	—
Average operating mileage for the year	Miles	591.61	591 61	—	6.22	6.22	—	5.24	8.34	3.10	51.75	51 75	—	142.17	145.24	3 07	10.15	10.15	—
Amount of Capital at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	20,000,000	20,000,000	—	400,000	400,000	—	140,000	145,000	5,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	—	13,000,000	13,000,000	—	300,000	330,000	30,000
Amount of paid up Capital at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	19,196,940	19,200,000	3,060	400,000	400,000	—	96,951	145,000	48,049	1,500,000	1,500,000	—	7,020,000	7,020,000	—	297,572	300,000	2,428
Amount of debt at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	765,000	680,000	* 85,000	—	—	—	39,700	40,000	300	—	—	—	525,000	2,000,000	1,475,000	15,000	8,000	* 7,000
Amount of construction expenditure at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	19,804,815	20,272,482	467,667	358,935	423,576	64,641	58,269	152,392	94,123	1,457,383	1,516,601	59,218	7,055,796	7,371,083	315,287	282,792	308,267	25,475
Amount of Traffic receipts for the year	Yen	2,069,898 2,789 864	2,880,711	120,847	94,188	111,410	17,222	17,565	25 214	7,649	210,786	221,995	11,209	482,859	591,104	108,245	29,391	36,919	7,528
Amount of Miscellaneous receipts for the year	Yen	549,629 732,839	740,462	7,623	4,609	2,272	* 2,337	998	548	* 450	366	4,676	4,310	1,142	113,351	112,209	715	768	53
Amount of Working expenditures for the year	Yen	957,076 1,276,101	1,167,681	*108,420	38,612	37,346	* 1,266	9,875	13,035	3,160	89,962	89,149	* 813	220,168	257,894	37,726	17,271	17,178	* 93
Amount of Net receipts for the year	Yen	1,662,451 2,216,602	2,453 492	236,890	60,185	76,336	16,151	8,688	12,727	4,039	121,190	137,522	16,332	263,833	446 561	182,728	12,835	20,509	7,674
Rates of Dividends paid	Per cent.	1.00	1.00	—	1.35	1.55	0.20	0.92	0.88	0 04	0.70	0 80	0 10	0.37	0 45	0.08	0.39	0.58	0.19
Ratio of the Net profit to the paid up Capital	Per cent.	1.15	1.23	0.08	1.50	1.91	0.41	1.24	1.30	0 06	0 80	0.88	0.08	0.38	0.64	0.26	0.43	0.68	0.25
Average earnings per mile	Yen	4 664	4 868	204	15.010	17,755	2,745	3.314	2,993	* 321	4.058	4.274	216	3.395	4,068	673	2,885	3,624	739
Average working expenditures per mile	Yen	2,156	1,973	* 183	6,153	5,952	* 202	1,863	1,299	* 564	1,732	1,716	* 16	1,548	1,775	227	1,695	1,686	* 9
Average construction expenditures per mile	Yen	33,468	34,258	790	57,201	67,502	10,301	10,003	14,886	4,883	28,060	29,201	1,141	48,560	50,730	2,170	2,776	3,026	250
Number of passengers carried	Persons	4,209,639 5,612,852	5,226,220	*386,626	1,967,239	2,015,913	47,774	534,428	717,279	182,851	1,103,367	1,231,143	127,776	1,956 023	2,683,974	727,951	444,353	551,206	106,853
Passengers receipts	Yen	1,231,528 1,642,037	1,662,674	20 637	92.915	109 863	16,948	15.475	20,996	5.521	130,486	140,010	9.524	349 155	415,172	66,017	28,229	35,466	7,237
Amount of Goods carried	Ton	403,827 538,436	612,149	73,713	9 996	12.545	2,549	9 918	17,450	7,532	115,009	96,921	* 18,088	168,169	198,313	30,144	9.175	11,372	2,197
Goods receipts	Yen	806 782 1,075,709	1,218,037	142,328	1,269	1.547	278	2,090	4,218	2,128	63,613	67,260	3 647	97.263	130,947	33,684	1,162	1,453	291
Total Train mileages	Miles	2,015,847	2,204 911	189 064	112 592	114,387	1,795	59,169	91 902	32,733	187,689	232,056	44,367	688.852	778.890	90.038	91,517	92.976	1.459

Items.		Kwansai Railway Company.			Kobu Railway Company.			Osaka Railway Company			Kyushu Railway Company.			Tasko Railway Co. (Hokkaido).			Chikuho Railway Company.		
		25th† Fiscal Year.	26th† Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked*)	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase.	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked.*)	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked.*)	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked.*)	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase.
Operating mileage at the close of the fiscal year	Miles	59 05	59.05	—	22 77	22 77	—	32.47	38 47	6.00	136 61	136 61	—	204.71	204.71	—	25.53	30.58	5.05
Average operating mileage for the year	Miles	59 05	59.05	—	22.77	22.77	—	32.47	37.63	5.16	136.61	136 61	—	162.00	204.71	42.71	19.27	29 35	10.08
Amount of Capital at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	3,000,000	6,500,000	3,500,000	900,000	1,350,000	450,000	2,000,000	3,000,000	1,000,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	—	5,000,000	5,000,000	—	1,696,000	1,700,000	4,000
Amount of paid up Capital at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	2,820,000	3,692,535	872,535	810,000	855,000	45,000	2,000,000	2,250,000	250,000	5,700,000	5,700,000	—	5,000,000	5,000,000	—	1,696,060	1,700,000	4,000
Amount of debt at the close of the fical year	Yen	—	—	—	30.000	255.000	225,000	—	—	—	—	1,500,000	1,500,000	500,000	900,000	400,000	445.000	1,000,000	555,000
Amount of Construction expenditure at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	2,745,664	2,792,793	47,132	752,312	800,342	48,030	1,844,040	2,068,630	224,590	5,854,379	5,994,727	140,348	5,032,323	5,165 714	133,391	1,749,820	2,451,829	702,009
Amount of traffic receipts for the year	Yen	96,608 193,216	255.512 204,409	11,193	108,105	124.347	16,242	215.134	264,406	49.272	430,957	510.792	79,835	446,146	565.593	119,447	111,647	262,309	150,662
Amount of Miscellaneous receipts for the year	Yen	4.435 8,870	17,156 13,725	4,855	3.696	8,350	4.654	5.050	4.026	* 1,024	10,333	45,156	84,823	224,102	240,315	16,213	1,863	10,658	8,795
Amount of Working expenditures for the year	Yen	46,346 92.692	115.389 92,311	* 381	35.891	39.380	3.489	80.503	81.391	888	206,848	189 138	* 17,710	315.497	312,922	* 2.575	68.437	111,180	42,743
Amount of net receipts for the year	Yen	54 697 109.394	157,279 125.823	16,429	75.910	93.317	17,407	139,681	187.041	47.360	234 442	366.810	132,368	354.751	492,986	138,235	45.073	161,787	116,714
Rates of Dividends paid	Per cent.	0.36	0.42	0.06	0.82	1 00	0.18	0.66	0.80	0.14	0.40	0 51	0.11	0.74	0.78	0.04	0.25	0.60	0 35
Ratio of the net profit to the paid up Capital	Per cent.	0.39	0.45	0 06	0 94	1 09	0.15	0.70	0.83	0.13	0.41	0.64	0.23	0.69	0.87	0.18	0.27	0.95	0 68
Average earnings per mile	Yen	3,271	3,461	190	4,706	5,145	709	6,602	6,997	395	3.151	3.735	584	2.754	2.761	7	5.774	8,911	3,137
Average working expenditures per mile	Yen	1,569	1,563	* 6	1,377	1,455	78	2,470	2,154	* 316	1,512	1,383	* 129	1,948	1,527	* 421	3,539	3.777	238
Average construction expenditures per mile	Yen	49.487	47,285	798	32,763	34,854	2,091	56,587	54.744	* 1,843	42,807	43,833	1,026	24,561	25,212	651	68,186	79,799	11,613
Number of passengers carried	Persons	271,015 542,030	541,786	* 244	414,715	452,863	38,148	990,930	1,429,949	439,019	1,311,611	2,046,767	735,156	426 412	410,428	*15,984	193,676	335.576	141,900
Passengers receipts	Yen	77,654 155,308	158,431	3,123	75,357	82,588	7.231	173,338	212,094	38,756	325.129	377,372	52,243	120,095	127,202	7,107	25.389	40,283	14,894
Amount of Goods carried	Tons	28,736 57,472	74,495	17,028	51,510	79.445	27,935	85,327	100.459	15,132	122,866	185.567	62,701	391,111	471,829	80,718	189,326	555.714	366,388
Goods receipts	Yen	17,915 35,830	49,594	13.764	32,198	40,228	8,030	40,375	49,515	9,140	102,347	118,608	16,261	302,628	362,252	59,624	57.133	215.475	158,342
Total Train mileages	Miles	122,554 245,108	301,638 241,310	* 3,798	93,124	106,166	13,042	255,236	260,739	5,503	273,124	327,047	53,923	372,982	541,721	168,737	95,779	197,201	101,422

TABLE No. 11.—CONTINUED. COMPARATIVE TABLE OF EARNINGS, EXPENDITURES, &c, PRIVATE RAILWAYS FOR THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR.

Items.		Kushiro Railway Company.		Settsu Railway Company.	Sangu Railway Company.	Total.		
		25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	26th‡ Fiscal Year.	26th‡ Fiscal Year.	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	Increase Decrease (Decrease marked.*)
Operating mileage at the close of the fiscal year	Miles	26.67	26.67	8.35	23.58	1,320.26	1,367.77	47.51
Average operating mileage for the year	Miles	26.61	26.61	8.35	23.58	1,267.12	1,363.57	96.45
Amount of Capital at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	200,000	200,000	240,000	1,100,000	55,636,000	61,965,000	6,329,000
Amount of paid up Capital at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	200,000	200,000	184,400	714,980	46,737,463	48,861,915	2,124,452
Amount of debt at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	—	—	—	210,000	2,319,700	6,593,000	4,273,300
Amount of construction expenditure at the close of the fiscal year	Yen	169,996	169 996	181,995	719,838	47,166,521	50,390,265	3,223,744
Amount of traffic receipts for the year	Yen	4,494	10,771	1,155	46,423	5,104,352	5,857,558	753,206
Amount of Miscellaneous receipts for the year	Yen	—	388	406	—	994,583	1,185,101	190,518
Amount of Working expenditures for the year	Yen	4,105	10,352	888	23,365	2,455,962	2,443.210	* 12,752
Amount of Net receipts for the year	Yen	389	807	673	23,058	3,642,973	4,599.449	956,476
Rates of Dividends paid	Per cent.	0	0	0.52	0	0 66	0.77	0.11
Ratio of the Net profit to the paid up Capital	Per cent.	0.02	0.02	0.67	1.28	0 78	0 94	0.16
Average earnings per mile	Yen	168	402	137	1,957	4,028	4,295	267
Average working expenditures per mile	Yen	153	387	105	972	1,938	1,792	* 116
Average construction expenditures per mile	Yen	6,352	6,352	21,582	30,341	35,723	36,836	1,113
Number of passengers carried	Persons	1,284	3,273	142,417	177,878	15,498,920	17,965.778	2,466,858
Passenger receipts	Yen	278	716	6,576	34,819	3,133,191	3,424,262	291,071
Amount of Goods carried	Ton	9,732	21,612	3,074	781	1,758.047	2,441,726	683,679
Goods receipts	Yen	4,197	10,055	365	885	1,815.814	2,270,439	454,625
Total Train Mileage	Miles	11,112	29.565	4,184	34,944	4,502,133	5,257,999	755 866

* The 25th Fiscal year of this Company consisted of only 9 months from April to December 1892. In order to facilitate comparison, calculations have been made for 12 months based on the actual figures for the 9 months. The upper figures in this column are for 12 months so calculated and the lower the actual amounts for the 9 months.

† Both the 25th and 26th years of this Company not having been of 12 months, calculations were made as in the above case, and the upper and lower figures in these columns should be read in the same sense.

‡ The lines of these Companies having only been opened only for a short time in the 25th year no comparison is made.

TABLE No. 12.—ROLLING STOCK RETURNS OF THE PRIVATE RAILWAY COMPANIES AT THE CLOSE OF THE 26TH FISCAL YEAR.

Items.	Locomotives.		Carriages.		Waggons.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.
	26th Fiscal Year.	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	25th Fiscal Year.	26th Fiscal Year.	25th Fiscal Year.		
Nippon Railway Company	74	69	235	248	1,225	1,022	1,534	1,339	195	—
Hankai Railway Company	6	5	41	45	34	30	81	80	1	—
Iyo Railway Company	4	4	18	18	16	15	38	37	1	—
Ryomo Railway Company	5	5	21	22	54	54	80	81	—	1
Sanyo Railway Company	31	25	149	139	358	323	538	487	51	—
Sanuki Railway Company	3	3	31	31	18	18	52	52	—	—
Kansei Railway Company	10	10	70	68	77	77	157	155	2	—
Kobu Railway Company	3	3	16	16	65	48	85	67	18	—
Osaka Railway Company	7	7	54	52	116	111	177	170	7	—
Kyushu Railway Company	24	22	53	53	352	246	429	321	108	—
Hokkaido Railway Company	24	24	43	40	606	576	673	640	33	—
Chikoho Kogyo Railway Co.	14	6	19	8	496	280	529	294	235	—
Kushiro Railway Company	2	2	2	3	19	19	23	24	—	1
Settsu Railway Company	4	—	20	—	20	—	44	—	—	—
Sangu Railway Company	—	—	30	—	6	—	36	—	—	—
Total	211	185	802	743	3,463	2,819	4,476	3,747	729	—

THE AUTUMN ATHLETIC MEETING.

The Autumn Athletic Meeting of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club took place on Saturday on the Cricket Ground. The weather was blustery, the wind coming keen from the north-east, but at times the sun shone out of the grey banks of clouds with agreeable warmth. As the afternoon progressed, many ladies put in an appearance, brightening up the ground considerably: the attendance of the other sex was also above the normal. The entries were not so large as might have been expected and no very exciting competitions have to be recorded. Johnson, who looked an easy winner for the Hurdles, did not justify expectations in this event, having evidently tired himself in previous contests, and the winner turned up in B. Mason, of Tokyo, an old Ipswich Middle School boy. Another winner from Tokyo was A. Dewette, who won the mile walking race in 9m. 46 secs. The bicycle race, of course, attracted the greatest amount of attention, being the first of its kind, we believe, on the Yokohama ground. But the disparity in the weight and make of the machines rendered racing on equal terms out of the question. In one sense the race was international, a Britisher coming in first, an American second, and a Swiss third. The Town Band was in attendance and played a very good selection of airs during the afternoon. For the sake of record, we may mention that in order to give the cyclists a cinder path, all the corners of the ground were altered, and the course measured 506 yards. The quarter mile was therefore 66 yard less than once round; the half mile 132 yards less than twice round, or about 1½ laps; the mile 3 laps and 242 yards (about 3¼ laps); whilst the 2 miles, starting opposite the Pavillion, was just 22 yards short of 7 laps. The following were the officers:—Mr. J. P. Mollison, President; Mr. A. H. Dare, Judge; Mr. Jas. Dodds, Starter; Mr. J. F. Pinn, Time-keeper; Messrs. A. B. Walford, E. F. Kilby, W. S. Stone, K. F. Crawford, E. R. Morriss; H. V. Dickson, E. O. Kenyon, and F. E. White, Committee. To the great delight of all, Mr. Kenyon, the indefatiguable and cheery Secretary of the Cricket Club, who has been very ill, was able to venture out for an hour or so, while the sun shone: many were the hearty good wishes expressed on his restoration to health. Mrs. Mollison presented the prizes at the close. Details:—

100 YARDS FLAT RACE (Prize presented by Messrs. Read and Jackson).

1st HEAT:—G. C. Allcock, 3 yards, 1st.; H. Goddard 3 yards, 2nd; E. J. Libeaud, 2 yards, 3rd; D. Tyng, 4 yards, 0.

Allcock led from the start and won easily from the second man; the others were three yards behind. Time, 11 secs.

2nd HEAT:—H. E. Allcock, 5 yards, 1st; E. B. S. Edwards, 1 yard, 2nd; B. Mason, 4 yards, 3rd; A. Kingdon, 3 yards, 0.

This was a close thing, the scratch man being only beaten a stride from home by less than half a yard. Time, 11¼ secs.

FINAL HEAT:—G. C. Allcock, 3 yards, 1st; H. Goddard, 5 yards, 2nd; E. B. S. Edwards, 1 yard, 0; H. E. Allcock, 5 yards, 0.

The men got off well, G. C. Allcock soon obtaining a lead. Just at the close Goddard spurted, but he failed to catch the leader; who won a good race by about six inches. Time, 10⅝ secs.

LONG JUMP.

R. C. K. Johnson, scratch, 18ft. 8½in. 1st; G. Philip, 6 inches, 17ft. 8in. 2nd; H. Goddard, 12 inches, 17ft. 3½in., 3rd; W. Goddard, 12 inches, 0; E. J. Libeaud, 12 inches, 0; J. F. Drummond, 12 inches, 0; E. B. S. Edwards, scratch, 0; and G. C. Allcock, 12 inches, 0.

Johnson made a magnificent jump; Philip also jumped well. Most of the competitors retired at at the second trial.

HURDLES, 120 YARDS.

1st HEAT.—R. C. K. Johnston, minus 5 yards, 1st; H. S. Goddard, 5 yards, 2nd; J. F. Drummond, 5 yards, 0.

The scratch man drew level at the fifth hurdle, and then romped home at his own pleasure. Drummond retired half way down. Time, 20 seconds.

2nd HEAT—B. Mason, 10 yards, 1st: H. Goddard, 5 yards, 2nd; W. Goddard, 5 yards, 0.

Mason led all the way, but only won by 2 yards. W. Goddard fell at the last hurdle. Time, 19 seconds.

FINAL HEAT:—B. Mason, 10 yards, 1st; H. S. Goddard, 5 yards, 2nd; R. C. C. Johnston, minus 5 yards, 0.

To the surprise of many, the scratch man did not catch up, and the race finished as it started, Mason only losing a few yards of his handicap. Time, 18 secs

PUTTING THE SHOT.

E. B. S. Edwards, 30 ft. 6½ in., 1st; M. Schellenberg, 28 ft. 1 in., 2nd; G. Philip, 25 ft. 8 in., 3rd; W. Goddard, 24 ft. 3 in., 0; and H. S. Goddard, 22 ft. 3 in., 0.

BOYS' RACE (under 15) 200 YARDS.

Master Gibbs, 1st; Master Tyng, 2nd; Master Carst, 3rd.

Fifteen started. Carst, last year's winner, was penalised 10 yards, and two small lads of five years old were the "limit men" at 70 yards. Carst made a grand struggle, but his handicap was too heavy, though he finished close up to the leaders, who were separated by about 4 inches. Master Hans Grosser, the smallest tot of the lot, gallantly ran the whole distance, and finished amid applause. Time, 32⅓ secs.

HIGH JUMP.

There were five competitiors, and their best jumps were as follows:—M. Schellenberg, 4 inches, 4ft. 10in., 1st; D. Tyng, 3 inches, 4 ft. 9 in., 2nd; R. C. K. Johnston, scratch, 4 ft. 9 in., 0; J. F. Drummond, 2 inches, 4ft. 8in., 0; H. S. Goddard, 3 inches, 4 ft. 6 in. Johnson attempted the 5 ft. 1 in., to tie, but failed.

QUARTER MILE FLAT (Prize presented by Mr. Walford).

G. C. Allcock, 15 yards, 1st; H. S. Goddard, 20 yards, 2nd; E. J. Libeaud, 15 yards, 3rd; R. C. K. Johnson, scratch, 0; E. B. S. Edwards, 15 yards, 0; W. Goddard, 25 yards, 0; A. Dewette, 20 yards; F. B. Abenheim, 25 yards, 0; M. Schellenberg, 30 yards, 0; H. E. Allcock, 15 yards, 0.

This was one of the largest fields seen in Yokohama for a quarter mile flat. The winner soon opened out and passed man after man. Entering the straight he spurted and passed to the front. The others then came up and the race was only won by about 6 inches; bad third. Time, 55 secs.

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THREAD AND NEEDLE RACE.

Runner.	Threader.
1.—M. Schellenberg.	Mrs. Campbell.
2.—E. B. S. Edwards.	Miss Young.
3.—G. C. Allcock.	Miss Scott.

Edwards was the first to reach the rail, 60 yards from the starting line. But the fortune of war was not with him, for Schellenberg, the second runner-up, managed to get his needle threaded quickest and romped home an easy winner. Time, 22¾ secs.

BICYCLE RACE (2 miles)—Prize presented by Mr. H. McArthur.

E. Adet, 50 yards, 1st; Poole, 25 yards, 2nd; R. Dubuffet, 70 yards, 3rd; H. Corté, scratch, 0; H. Tennant, 60 yards, 0.

The men went round the first lap in the following order, Dubuffet, Adet, Tennant, Poole, Corté. During the second lap Tennant fell behind, and the at end of the third be dropped out, the riders then being Dubuffet, Adet, Corté, and Poole. At the end of the fourth lap, Corté gave up. In the fifth lap Adet took the lead and finished the lap with a good lot in hand; Dubuffet being a dozen yards ahead of Poole, who was still riding easy. Poole drew up on Dubuffet in the sixth lap, but when the lap finished Adet still maintained his splendid lead. No change was effected till near the finish of the race, which Adet won comfortably by about forty yards, Poole overtaking Dubuffet on the finishing line. Had the laps been announced we think the race would have ended differently, as Poole had a lot left in him, having saved himself for another lap. Time, 6 min. 48⅗ secs.

ONE MILE FLAT (Prize presented by Mr. Dare).

M. Schellenberg, 70 yards, 1st; E. H. Irwine, 120 yards, 2nd; H. R. Mair, 50 yards, 3rd; G. C. Allcock, 30 yards, 0; W. Goddard, 30 yards, 0; F. B. Abenheim, 60 yards, 0.

Irwine led for the two rounds; and Allcock made a desperate effort to come up, but unsuccessfully in the second round. In commencing the last lap Schellenberg drew up to Irwine; and Allcock, Goddard, and Abenheim fell out. Going up the back straight, Mair spurted, but it was too late for him to achieve anything. Entering the straight for home, Schellenberg overtook Irwine, and won easily by half a dozen yards; bad third. Time, 5 min. 21 sec.

SACK RACE.

M. Kingdon, 1st; J. F. Drummond, 2nd; H. E. Campbell; 3rd, F. J. Lias, 0; E. R. Morriss, 0; B. Mason, 0.

An amusing race, with only two spills. Kingdon won in a canter.

ONE MILE WALKING.

A. Dewette, 20 yards, 1st; H. S. Goddard, 10 yards, 2nd; J. F. Drummond, 20 yards, 0; W. Goddard, 10 yards, 0.

The shades of evening were gathering fast when this race was started, and it was nearly dark by the time it finished. Dewette won easily; bad third. Time, 9m. 46 secs.

LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

Philadelphia, October 16th.

All our street car companies, save one, have been merged into a union company, which controls absolutely all the lines. It is about the most gigantic combination we have had in this Quaker city. Undoubtedly the public will lose by the absence of healthy competition, but the new company promises all sorts of things as an equivalent for the withdrawal of certain others. This is one of the signs of the times here, that great business interests are being merged into larger corporations. The ruinous character of indiscriminate competition has brought this about. Now we may have to suffer from the other extreme, the absence of all rivalry. Oh, for Confucius' doctrine of the Golden Mean! Another great union is that between the Westinghouse Company of Pittsburg and the Baldwin Locomotive Works. These two immense establishments, of world-wide reputation, are uniting to get out electric locomotives. Mr. Westinghouse declares that the joint company will put out electric locomotives which will cost only a sixth of the present motors, and that they will do away with the unsightly overhead wires.

I was over in Brooklyn, N.Y., at the great meeting of the American Board. It was an enthusiastic gathering. Instead of the Chinese horrors dampening the zeal of these friends of missions, it seems as if they rather increase it. By the way, I have just received news from England that the son of Rev. R. W. Stewart who was killed at Whasang on August 1st by the Chinese Vegetarians, has offered to take his father's place and to assume his work. The American Board last year spent upon its missions $661,885, of which $93,783 was spent upon the Japan mission. Excepting only the Western Turkey mission, this is the largest sum expended on any mission. The Board has a debt of $114,632. It was argued, in the Brooklyn meeting, that the Board should pay as it goes. But Dr. Meredith and others very wisely suggested that the Board did perfectly right in availing itself of its good credit and that the work could not be measured by yearly periods. Still it is evident that, unless the money comes in very freely, a severe retrenchment will be ordered. One giver offered $25,000, another $2,500, several $1,000, and still others smaller sums for the extinction of the debt. The Board has 20 missions, with 187 ordained missionaries, and some 572 "labourers" sent from America. The total number of members of mission churches is now 44,413, with an addition of about 3,300 this last year.

The American Baptists are also sending out earnest appeals for help. The riots in Western China have, in driving out the Baptist missionaries from the Szechuan Province, entailed a great expense. The Missionary Union started at the beginning of its year, April 1st, with a debt of $189,956. That has been greatly reduced, certainly at least half of it is paid, but about $300,000 is needed before March next year. Rev. Wm. M. Upcraft, of the Western China mission, has started overland from the head of navigation on the Yangtze-kiang to the Irrawady river in Burmah.

I have been mousing through the book-stores of New York and Philadelphia and have talked with some of the travellers of the great publishing houses. Book-selling is going to be very active this Fall. Nothing especially noteworthy on Japan is promised. Dr. George L. MacKay has written "From Far Formosa," and Revell in New York will issue it in November. It will have maps and illustrations in abundance. The best collection of stories ever published, I think, is Ian Maclaren's "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush." He will issue Nov. 4th a new collection, "Auld Lang Syne." The book has had a wonderful sale, greater than any book for many a year. Du Maurier's "Trilby," sold like everything for a while, but the booksellers hardly sell a copy a week nowadays.

LETTER FROM AMERICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

Ithaca, N.Y., November 15th.

We are waiting in anxious expectation to see what will become of the war cloud, about as big as a man's hand, which seems to rise weekly out of the great newspaper sea, only to melt as often into thin air. The war of the telegrams reminds one of the episode of the Kilkenney cats, for each one seems to destroy the other. Meanwhile, there is more or less solicitude about the missionaries who dwell in the far interior of the countries affected by the recent and prospective movements. It seems at times as though the old Chinese and Oriental world were breaking up, and what the rearrangement of the elements will be no one can tell. Perhaps to us Americans, the most practical question is less the rearrangement of the map of Asia and the distribution of spoil among the European powers, than the possible rapid shaping of a definite foreign policy. Heretofore, with so much territory to occupy and perfect for civilization, the tendency has been ultra-conservative toward preserving the old status of indifference to the actions of European governments, so long as the continent of America was not taken into their programme.

One may easily be mistaken in regard to the depth and force of American sentiment regarding that so-called Monroe Doctrine, which was first suggested by Great Britain, but which took definite literary and positive form under President Monroe. Counting out the truculent Jingo element in American politics (upon which the sober-minded citizen is apt to sit down with all his avoirdupois), it may be said that our people are pretty well determined to prevent foreign aggression from Europe toward the weak nations of Central and South America. This does not mean that the United States will concern itself with the petty quarrels of the Spanish American States, or shield them in the attempts which they may make to shirk debt, obligations, or justice; but is is evident that American sentiment is already unanimous in the determination to allow no European Power to treat any part of the American Continent as these Powers are quite accustomed to treat Asia or Africa. The willingness with which the American people submit to taxation in order to have a navy that will be able to enforce its claims, is one of the noticeable signs of the time. With such a mixture of peoples on American soil, it is not at all wonderful that certain politicians seem sometimes unusually forward in trying to foment hostility to Great Britain. In addition to the Irish, who are always with us, there is among certain people a very keen desire to marshal the sons of the South and the North once more shoulder to shoulder under the same flag, and against a common enemy. Nevertheless, those who know our people best, know also that every year sees the tie between the old country and the new strengthened, the glorying in a common inheritance more manifest and the determination that no war shall, if possible, ever take place between the two peoples intensified.

If is one of the evils which grow alongside of great advantages that editors must have something to say of a sensational nature. So, when other things fail, the gentlemen of the newspaper sanctum officially declare war against the only people who can read as vernacular their proclamation. There is further, in the United States, a strong faith in the idea that even Englishmen themselves would consider a war between the two peoples, a disgrace to Christianity and civilization.

In reality, the question most considered by the thoughtful is the probability that events in the Far East, if not nearer home, will compel the shaping of a definite foreign policy which shall be practically unchangeable by any emergency in home politics. At present and heretofore, so far as the United States has had any business abroad, beyond the extension of trade and international courtesy, things are as they were a century ago. The policy of one administration is very apt to suffer a radical change when a new administration, elected to office by a hostile political party, comes in. What seems to be the need of the near future is the shaping of a rule of action on which both Democrats and Republicans will agree. Throughout our national history, there have really been only two parties. One, the Democratic, has always held to a strict, even literal, construction and application of the Constitution. The Democratic party has emphasized popular and local liberties, and made prominent State right. The Republican party has always, with its predecessors in name, believed in interpreting the Constitution liberally. Without ignoring local or State powers, it has wrought strenuously to strengthen the National Government. This is the real difference between the two parties. It is the key to our politics, which, rightly used, may help foreigners to understand why the Republicans, as a rule, favour protection and believe in high tariffs, while the Democrats tolerate tariffs "for revenue only." The impartial student must acknowledge, however, that some of the most pronounced exhibitions of American power abroad have been made under Democratic Presidents, as by Jackson, and Pierce, and Buchanan. Yet it seems more likely that what may be called a "stalwart" foreign policy will be inaugurated under Republican leadership. Any day may change the eastern cloud into a storm that will convert the most ultra-conservative American into believing that the United States cannot long hold aloof from action abroad, which will be at least an advance upon, if not a change in, American foreign policy.

A question that is thoroughly practical, yet not perhaps clearly understood in all its bearings, is the protection of American missionaries in the various countries not usually recognized, either diplomatically or sentimentally, as equals in civilization. There are people, even in the United States, who seem to be very much muddled on the subject, and who do not seem to know that the United States Government is bound by the very law of its being to protect even the gentlemen and ladies who, in the unsympathetic language of the seaports, are called "hired converters." Whether a man is religious or not; whether he is professionally a freethinker, an Israelite, a Christian, or a Buddhist, the Government of the United States never inquires. It does not know anything about the religion of its citizens. For in the language of Washington and the first officers of the government, "The Government of the United States of America is not in any sense founded on the Christian religion" (Treaty with the British, 1796). The nation is undoubtedly a Christian nation; the people in overwhelming majority are Christians, and not adherents of any other religion than that which is at least believed to have been founded by and inherited from Christ Jesus. Even the various states are, by open declaration of their constitutions, more or less committed to tenets and forms that are Christian. But the Government of the United States itself knows nothing about the religion of its citizens. When a man from Iowa, Ohio, or Texas is abroad, the government does not even know him as a citizen of any particular State, but only of the United States, and it makes

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no distinction whatever between missionaries, merchants, or sailors. Indeed; it makes no more inquiries into a man's lawful occupation than into his religion. Hence, since the government of the United States knows nothing about a man's religion, all its citizens are alike in the eyes of the law. The very simplicity of the relations between a citizen and his government forms the surest guarantee of his rights in an alien country, as all citizens are alike in the eyes of the law. The missionaries' rights, based on precedent, even though not on treaty stipulation, are as justly founded as are those of the sailor, merchant, trader, or traveller. Not even the petty local prejudices of the mercantile communities in the treaty ports of the Far East against the so called "hired converters" are ever likely to avail very much in modifying the policy of the government of the United States. The union of the States as a body politic knows nothing about the religion or the bigotry, or even the irreligion or atheism, of its subjects abroad, so long as they are obedient to the recognized law to which they are responsible.

To change violently and suddenly from a great subject to something so contemptible as "the simple and unostentatious potato," let me note one or two points for the sake of "more light." In a letter, received this very morning, from the President of a Bank at Rockford, Ill., who used to be personally acquainted with Mr. Townsend Harris, he states, "That the Japanese owed to him (Mr. Harris) the introduction of the Irish potato into their country, and (Mr. Harris) said it was a great boon to the people, as they depended so much on fish food." Is it not the fact, that the Irish potato under the name of the Java (*Jagatara-imo*) was known much earlier than Mr. Harris' time in south-western Japan? Was not the white potato introduced by the Dutch. This, however, would not interfere in any way with Mr. Harris' statement that he personally introduced the "Irish" potato (so-called, being originally of American habitat) into that part of Japan where he lived, and where foreigners do most congregate at present, viz., around the shores of Yedo Bay?

Another item of interest may be worth quoting. In Mr. Townsend Harris' diary, which has recently been published, a reference is made at pp. 134-139 to a visit at Shimoda in 1857 from the American bark *Messenger Bird* from Boston, via the Sandwich Islands; Mr. Edward F. Hall being super-cargo. In the text of the printed book, the name of the captain is given as "Horner" and in the index as "Hosmer." This discrepancy occurred because the proof-sheets were revised while the editor was in Europe. A fresh examination of the original manuscript of Mr. Harris, shows that the name was "Homer" and a letter from Captain Homer's relatives in Boston gives the information that this is the first word or news of any kind that has reached them since Captain Jacob Homer, with his handsome wife and two healthy children, sailed away to try their fortunes in the then hardly opened Japan of 1857. After they left the Sandwich Islands, a baby was born off the Caroline Islands, but what, after leaving Shimoda, became of the family of five (and of Mr. Hall the super-cargo?) and the crew, nobody ever knew. It is believed they were lost by shipwreck or killed by pirates. The publication of Mr. Harris' Journal is as an echo out of the past. Who can give information about the ship or the people?

During the past week, Rear-Admiral R. W. Shufeldt, U.S.N., has "joined the majority." He never recovered from the attack of pneumonia from which he suffered a few years ago, and he knew he could not survive another. He died in unimpaired mental health, however, and his memoirs, with which he was recently busy, will doubtless be of interest. Beside his adopted daughter, he leaves two sons, one the United States Marshal at Shanghai, and the other, his namesake, who is the renowned ornithologist of the Smithsonian Institution at Washington. He was not exactly the Perry of Korea, though he negotiated the first treaty ever made by that unhappy country with a Western power.

It is possible that we may yet have also another publication of "material for history." The son of the Rev. J. G. Bettelheim, so long the lonely missionary at Napa, in the Loo-choo Islands, is living at Brookfield, Mo. He has the journals and letters of his father, about the publication of which there have been some talk and writing. One needs, however, to be somewhat of a capitalist to be able to publish anything of an historical nature, for the outlay is almost sure to swallow up any income that may arise. The majority of people like to have their history in the form of fiction. The pill of fact must be heavily coated with the sugar of invention. The investigator gets little thanks, but plenty of blows.

Whether fiction or history, however, books on Japan continue to multiply. Already the table of the student of Japanese affairs resembles the landscape of Central New York in late October. As many coloured as the autumn leaves are the gaily-decorated covers of the books which fall from the publishers' presses. Here is the lively bundle of letters of Bishop Charles B. Galloway, called a "Circuit of the Globe." In gray and silver, and crimson is Canon Tristram's "Rambles in Japan." Francis Tiffany's "This Goodly Frame, the Earth," is handsome within. The polychrome paper-covered "My Japanese Wife," and Mr. J. Morris' matter-of-fact "Advance Japan," with military cover, strike the eye. Even China and Korea are well represented, and Professor Douglas's "Li Hung-chang," and Louise Jordan Miln's "Quaint Korea," and Mr. Stewart Culin's handsome and scholarly book on "Korean Games," show how well interest in the Oriental lands keeps up. What we really want just now is a scholarly work which will tell us exactly what Russia is and means, and intends to do in the Far East.

I close this letter with a passing reference to the arrival of the new Japanese Consul, Mr. Saito, at Tacoma, November 10, "to make a report to his government on the feasibility of establishing a Japanese mail line to this country." This will be a fine outset of usefulness for the transport steamers purchased during the recent war. Should this line be established, it will add one more link of communication between the young Republic and the old Empire. Yet one wonders all the more why a submarine telegraph is not yet laid between Japan and California. Are the Americans waiting until Hawaii becomes one of the United States? Will her star be the 46th? W.E.G.

TRIBUTE TO JAPAN'S SOLDIERS.

The following is from the *New York Herald* of November 7:—

Yokohama, Japan, Oct. 1, 1895.

Dining at the house of an acquaintance in this city a few evenings ago, I was presented to a young Chinese gentleman who interested me greatly. He appeared to be about thirty years of age. His face, while of the pure Mongolian type, was full of intelligence, and his eyes were keen and spirited. He was dressed after the manner of a Europeanized Japanese student—in fact I took him at first for a Japanese professor or clergyman. I learned subsequently that he was Tsai Ting-kan, or Tsoy Chan, the young naval officer who had charge of the Chinese torpedo fleet at Wei-hai-wei. He behaved with gallantry there, but surrendered when the Japanese possessed themselves of the well equipped but thoroughly incapable Chinese fleet. He was brought a prisoner to Japan, and the Emperor of China, believing him to have been guilty of treason, put a price upon his head. In the final settling up of war affairs this young officer was given his liberty, and as he had no desire to return to China, the ungrateful land, he took up his abode quietly with some friends here, and has been living *perdu*, so to speak.

I found Tsoy Chan a very well informed gentleman. He spoke English smoothly and idomatically. He is now a thoroughly Christianized man. He informed me that he was thirty-four years of age, that he had spent several years at school in Hartford, Conn., and that he had just taken a prize for his English, and was preparing for a lofty collegiate fight when he was ordered home by his government and assigned to the torpedo service. He received his education at the hands of German naval experts, and, on account of his intelligence, skill, and alertness, was given command of the torpedo fleet assigned to the protection of Wei-hai-wei. That he did his duty during the terrible days of February last is generally agreed, but he could get no service out of his men. The Japanese naval officers, I am told, have the highest respect for his talent and learning, and all of them sympathized with him in his misfortune. The kindness which he received at their hands during his entire captivity so impressed him that he wrote an article for publication, giving expression to his sentiments. At my suggestion he turned over this manuscript to me, with the understanding that the *Herald* would be glad to print it. Here it is:—

"We, who have been for some time prisoners of war in Japan, have felt it our duty to write some account of our experience and thank the Japanese for their kind treatment. While war was still raging, and the two nations were in the heat of conflict, careful thought for the comfort of enemies was not to be expected, but it was our good fortune to have met uniform kindness and sympathy everywhere. It would be impossible to give in detail the experience of every individual, but when some of us were captured in the vicinity of Wei-hai-wei we were supplied at once with warm and suitable clothing. After marching some distance, the lieutenant in charge told his soldiers to give us something to eat from their haversacks. On the road we met a superior officer, who asked a few questions, and then from his own haversack gave us some bread and dry beef. During the journey we were allowed to rest quite a number of times, as our feet were frozen, and some, who were in a bad condition, had to be supported as we marched along.

"We reached Wei-hai-wei city in the afternoon, and after answering a few questions put to us by the officers we were collected around a good fire. After being warmed we were supplied with rice, and then shown a large room, where we slept on the straw. One of our officers was given a room to himself and a quilt allowed him. Medicine was also applied to our sores, and on the next five following days we were sent from station to station, by easy marches. In most of the stations we had blankets to cover ourselves at night. In the last we had a thick quilt. In the second station, called Hoo-shan, the officers and interpreters were exceedingly kind. The sergeants and soldiers gave us cigarettes and sugar. During the last day of our march our feet were very sore, and the sergeant in charge reported our condition and applied to the officer for stretchers to carry us. This was granted. At our noon-day meal, besides rice and fish, the officer of the station gave us some fresh beef, which was most acceptable. He gave us also some cigarettes. It is seldom that I have met a kinder-hearted man than Sergeant Chobo, who had us in charge. After tiffin, four of us were borne by Japanese coolies to the last station. We remained here two days, and then embarked on the steamer *Doyo Maru* for Japan. It was commanded by Captain Sakamoto, and we were placed in charge of Lieutenant Inouye. All the officers of the ship will ever be remembered with grateful hearts. We had a comfortable room given us, and the luxury of a soft pillow and easy bed was never realized so much before as at this time. We reached the port of Hiroshima five days after we left China. When we were passing the Inland Sea, Sergeant Narita would call us out of the cabin whenever a pretty view or celebrated spot was in sight, and would explain to us in writing the names of the places and the historical incidents connected with them.

"After dropping anchor at Ujina, Lieutenant Inouye went ashore to report our arrival, and soon a boat came off to take us ashore. Lieutenant Inouye had spoken kindly about us to the officers on shore, so when we landed the officers and men were ordered to stand apart, and the Japanese officers supplied us with cigarettes. From Ujina harbour we were ordered to a Buddhist temple near Hiroshima. On the way there a crowd of boys followed us, but no shouting or unseemly demonstrations took place. Sergeant Narita was very careful that no harm was done us. We were handed over to Major Otawa and Captain Tanimura, who looked after our welfare most thoroughly. Two cotton wadded quilts and two blankets were supplied to each of us. Also a Japanese soldier's uniform that had been slightly worn, and a new suit of underclothes and soap were supplied.

"By special kindness of the authorities in charge we were permitted to receive calls from missionaries, who kindly brought us some books and oranges, which were very much enjoyed and highly appreciated. Such acts of kindness made a deep impression upon our minds and will never be forgotten. The numerous tokens of kindness and sympathy we received at Hiroshima are too many to be enumerated, and many of the names of the officers and soldiers are forgotten, but we can still remember Captain Tsunoda, of the Japanese navy; Mr. Miura, of the Agriculture and Commerce Department; Lieutenants Yamada and Yoshita, of the Japanese army; Sergeant Hirogawa, and Nonaka, the interpreter. These and many others showed their kindness in various ways, while Mr. Kachiyama, the keeper of the temple, was extremely obliging. His wife offered to wash our soiled clothes, and he himself would often bring us some sweetmeats.

"At the end of April we were transferred to Osaka. Lieutenant Abe took charge of us. This officer was exceedingly friendly, frank, and open-hearted, and very energetic. He did everything to make the journey pleasant, exchanging thoughts with us constantly by writing. With many a kind word he delivered us over to Lieutenant Terada, who had charge of the prisoners. The latter officer was always kind and considerate, but at the same time order and obedience were insisted upon. In winter the prisoners had each a cotton stuffed robe; in spring a double cloth robe and in summer a single cloth robe. Every third day we had baths. In the summer officers had mosquito netting.

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Captain Takamatsu inspected the quarters several times, and the authorities took every precaution to prevent disease. Lime was scattered all over the place and carbolic acid sprinkled in the private buildings. Every two or three days the doctors from the Red Cross Hospital visited and examined the prisoners. They were accompanied by a nurse, who carried the medicine and bandages.

"In the Red Cross Hospital the patients were treated most kindly. Plenty of milk and fresh eggs were given. Rice, beef, fish, turnips, and onions formed the ordinary diet. Mr. Mesaki was the superintendent of the hospital and is a most conscientious man. Unless on public business, he never left the hospital, and every night he went through the patients' quarters twice. The head nurse was Mrs. Tanaka, the wife of an officer, and a very energetic lady. She was not afraid of work and did many kind acts to relieve the sufferers. Ten other nurses were under Mrs. Tanaka, all of whom had special duties at regulated times. Every other morning Mr. Mesaki would send to the patients' quarters a few pots of morning glories, which were much appreciated and admired by us.

"The nurses seemed to have administered to the patients with a sense of religious duty. There were two or three Christians among them; the rest adherents of Buddhism. There were two young doctors who never left the hospital unless doing duty in the prisoners' lodge. They took turns in the night watches. Every morning a senior doctor came to examine the patients. Scrupulous cleanliness was kept in the hospital.

"One day an army surgeon, Dr. Arima, and the Rev. Mr. Wada, Tokyo, visited the hospital and spoke to us most kindly, wishing us a pleasant passage home and a joyful reunion with friends and relatives. At the word home many dropped tears. One night we were treated to a magic lantern exhibition. The different pictures showed the history of the Red Cross Society, and among the pictures were also those of Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress of Japan. The wives of some Japanese officers visited the Red Cross Hospital. The first party gave three *yen* to the patients to buy what they liked; the second party gave seven *yen*. Some handkerchiefs, tobacco, and cakes were distributed to each of us in the hospital as souvenirs to take back home.

"It is with an indescribable feeling of mingled sadness and joy that I write this account. It is sad to have been made a prisoner of war; but, having been captured, I am glad that it was my good fortune to have been thus kindly treated. The total number of prisoners at Osaka, including offices and men, was very nearly 300, comprising captives from Ya-san, Ping-yang, Chiu-lien cheng, Tai-lien-wan, Port Arthur, Kin-chow, Kai-ping, Hai-cheng, Yung-Wei-hai-wei, and Chin-kwan and all agreed that we were better treated than we had any reason to expect. It is usually with reluctance that men speak well of their opponents, but facts like these ought not to be concealed. We have a saying in China that kindness received should never be forgotton. I have not written this account with the joy and enthusiasm of a sensational novelist, but simply to discharge what I feel to be clearly my duty."

This is the narrative of the Chinese ex-prisoner just as he wrote it, his chirography being, I may remark, very much clearer than mine. Such a tribute to Japanese hospitality and kindness ought to go far toward shaming the casual observers who have tried to make the world believe that the Japanese are to-day the same savage, barbaric people that they were three hundred years ago, when Hideyoshi, the Napoleon of Japan, invaded Korea, devastated it with his armies, and sent home to Kioto enough pickled ears and noses of the Korean variety to form a monument.

JOHN A. COCKERILL.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, Dec. 8.

The foreign Embassies at Stamboul have again been instructed to insist upon the doubling of the guardships at Constantinople, and further action is imminent.

London, December 12.

An Irade has been issued which authorises the guardships to pass the Dardanelles.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, December 10.

The British steamer *Bonnington*, which left Yokohama on the 3rd inst. for this port, has not arrived here, and fears are entertained for her safety.

(FROM TONGKING PAPERS).

Paris, November 21.

The total number of soldiers who died in Madagascar was three thousand five hundred.

Paris, November 22.

The Chamber has voted urgency for a motion in favour of arbitration for the settlement of trade disputes.

Paris, November 21.

The Chamber has voted the alterations in the succession duty.

Paris, November 24.

The Crown Prince of Austria is ill and will pass the winter in Egypt.

(FROM THE "BANGKOK TIMES.")

London, November 14.

A rabid anti-Semite, Herr Lueger, whose election as Burgomaster of Vienna was cancelled by the intervention of the Emperor, has been re-elected and thereupon the Common Council was dissolved. Intense excitement prevails throughout Vienna.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, Nov. 30.

Negotiations between France and Great Britain on the Meikong question are, for the time, at a standstill.

All the Socialist Reichstag Committees have been closed on the ground that they endanger public order.

The Sultan, who appears to be entirely in the hands of a Palace clique, still refuses to grant firmans for extra guard-ships.

H.M.S. *Dryad* is now at the entrance of the Dardanelles, and is awaiting a firman allowing her to proceed.

There have been fresh disorders in Erzeroum.

London, Dec. 2.

The Sultan shows no sign of yielding.

H.M.S. *Dyrad* has rejoined the squadron at Salonica.

The situation is critical.

There have been fresh massacres at Aintab, and the Kurds have been raiding the province of Van, committing horrible atrocities. The entire population of the village of Jurtalon, numbering two hundred persons, has been killed.

London, December 6.

The Embassies have again addressed the Porte on the subject of the guardships, and the diplomatists at Constantinople have expressed a strong opinion that further delays should not be tolerated much longer.

Said Pacha, who was recently Vizier, has been ordered to reside in the Sultan's Palace, but, being in fear of being murdered, has taken refuge in the British Embassy.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Hiroshima, Dec. 10.

Captains Murai, Maki, and Fujita, who are now under arrest in connection with the Söul disturbance, were examined yesterday, and Lieut.-Colonel Kusunose was examined to-day.

Kobe, Dec. 10.

The French flagship *Bayard* proceeded to Nagasaki, and the Russian sloop *Bobre* put into this port this morning.

Osaka, Dec. 11.

A meeting of promoters of a large dock to be constructed at Moji took place here yesterday. Messrs. Yamada Torakichi and Iyeiri Yasushi reported that Moji is fit for the purpose in every way. Captain Tajiro then spoke about the importance of the proposed dock, and the community resolved to build one by extending the Moji Iron Works. Baron Ogawa and Captain Tajiro, of Tokyo, Messrs. Tateno Gozo, and four other Osaka promoters and two Kiushu promoters were appointed to investigate and report upon the scheme.

Kanazawa, Dec. 11.

A number of persons favoured with the privilege of using the Sai river have objected to the place being chosen as the site of an electric factory and yesterday held a meeting. They subsequently attempted to call on Mr. Kiuchi, a Secretary of the Home Department, to protest against the scheme, but were dispersed by the police.

Söul, Dec. 10.

The Russian and American Ministers have not visited the Palace for the past few days. They seem to have acknowledged the Cabinet.

It is stated that the U.S. Minister has put forward no objection to the dismissal of Captain F. J. H. Nienstead and another American employé.

Nagoya, December 10.

Lieut.-General Viscount Katsura and Major-General Baron Oseko proceeded to Toyohashi to-day to inspect the troops.

Sendai, Dec. 10.

Heavy seas broke over the shore of Natori and Watari Districts on the night of the 8th inst., and much damage was done. Some *Kencho* officials were dispatched to inspect these places.

Tottori, Dec. 11.

About thirty houses were destroyed by fire at Fujino-mura, Takakusa District.

Kobe, Dec., 11.

The remains of the late Mr. Ishikawa Goichi, an interpreter to the Japanese army who was killed at Tientsin by the Chinese officials, reached here to-day, and will be sent up to Tokyo to-morrow.

Söul, December 12.

Mr. Uchida, Japanese Consul, sent a police inspector to the U.S. Legation to-day, and summoned Gen Ko-taku, a Korean refugee who has been in hiding at the Legation, and examined him as a witness in connection with the disturbance of October 8th. Tei Rei-ka and General W. McE. Dye will also be examined as witnesses. It is said that they witnessed the disturbance of October 8th.

Li Sai-yen, who fled to the U.S. Legation after the recent disturbance, is said to be guiltless, and he has removed to the house of a friend. Li says that In Chi-ko and Li Han-shin have not yet effected their escape.

Hakodate, Dec. 12.

A severe gale has been raging for the past two or three days, and considerable damage has been done at Ezashi, Kameta District. Some lives have been lost.

Shimonoseki, Dec. 12.

The *Tokyo Maru* arrived here from Vladivostock this morning.

Nagasaki, Dec. 12.

Fire broke out in Chinatown at Shinchi, and two dwellings and one godown were destroyed.

Söul, Dec. 12.

Jo Ko-han, Minister of Education, was to-day appointed Korean Minister to the United States of America, his place being taken by Li Do-sai, Minister of War. Gyo In-chu, Minister of Finance, was ordered to hold the partfolio of War in conjunction with his present office.

Some Cabinet Ministers propose the abolition off the Education Department through scarcity of funds, and convert it into a Departmental Bureau.

Taipeh, Dec. 11.

H.I.H. Prince Fushimi left Kelung at noon by the *Satsuma Maru*.

Söul, Dec. 12.

It is stated that there is a scheme to rescue the prisoners concerned in the latest disturbance.

Hiroshima, Dec. 12.

Sub.-Lieutenant Miyamoto Takemaro and a soldier named Meaki Torataro, who have been examined by gendarmes in connection with the disturbance of Oct. 8th, were released to-day.

Talien, Dec. 19.

Owing to heavy gales since the 7th inst. the embarkation of soldiers on the *Riojun Maru* and *Matsuyama Maru* has been suspended.

On the 8th the wind became more violent although snow ceased to fall. Communication between the ships and shore was interrupted.

The gale slightly abated on the 9th, and although embarkation was commenced the wind again rose and operations were interrupted.

There are at present no signs that the sea near the harbour will be frozen.

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 206.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—B to Q 6	1—B takes P
2—P to K 5	2—B moves
3—R to K 7, mate	
	1—K takes B
2—P takes B (R)	2—K to B 3
3—R to K 6, mate	
	1—B to Kt 3
2—P to Q 8 (Kt) ch.	2—K takes B
3—Kt to B 4, mate	
	if 2—K to B 3
3—Kt to Q 5, mate	
	1—B to B 2
2—P to Q 8 (Q)	2—B moves
3—Q to K 7, mate	
	1—K to B 3
2—P takes B (B)	2—K to K 3
3—R to R 6, mate.	

Correct answers received from W.H.S., Digamma, Kt., Shogi, W.D.C., Omega, and J.D.

E. J. King telegraphed solution of Problem No. 204 late at night on December 6th, when we were already in type.

Correct solution of Problem No. 205 received from "Don" too late for acknowledgment last week.

The excellence of Problem No. 206 has caused one of our enthusiastic solvers to "drop into poetry!" We pardon him this time; and print his effusion, as follows:—

Problem No. 206.

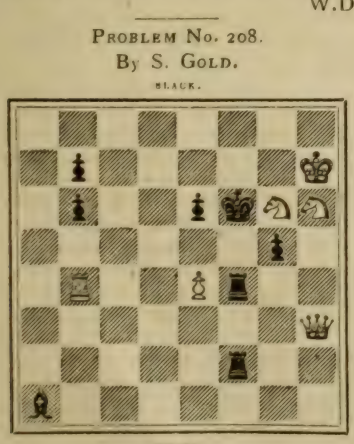
B to Q 6, accounting it no shame
To lose his life, and thus to win the game.
Should then the King the Bishop captive make;
Pawn slays Black B, a *Castle's* form to take;
King then to Bishop's third square needs must go;
Rook to King's sixth completes the tale of woe.
But, if B goes to Knight three, still he errs;
Pawn then moves on, and wins his *Knightly* spurs,
Checks, and the King takes Bishop, all too late,
Knight to B four administers the mate:
If the King goes on Bishop's third to stay,
Knight to Queen's fifth will surely win the day.
While, if the B to Bishop's second tries,
Pawn, moving on, secures a *Queenly* prize;
Then, when B moves, his monarch meets his doom,—
Queen to King seven leaves him no standing room.
But, if the King for Bishop's third square hope,
Pawn takes the Bishop,—*wears his Lawn and Cope;*
Then must the King to King's third square retreat,
Only, from Rook on Rook six, death to meet.
Once more, the Bishop dares to take the Pawn;
Pawn to King five—Black's chances all are gone;
For, when the Bishop strives in vain to pass,
Rook to King seven gives Black the *coup-de-grace.*

W.D.C.

Problem No. 208.

By S. Gold.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Mr. Planck, the well known problemist, has, strange to say, committed a plagiarism upon himself by recomposing a problem he made and published three years ago and had quite forgotten.

Hastings Congress.

CONCLUSION.

In round 19, Pillsbury, Steinitz, Tarrasch, Tschigorin beat respectively Tinsley, Marco, Lasker, Pollock. In round 20, Blackburne, Janowsky, Pillsbury, Tarrasch, beat respectively Lasker, Tschigorin, Vergani, Steinitz; and in round 21, Lasker, Pillsbury, Steinitz, Tarrasch, Tschigorin beat respectively Burn, Gunsberg, Walbrodt, Vergani, Schlechter. Round 21 brought the play in the masters' tourney to an end, and the final scores in wins, draws, and losses of the leading players were as follow:—Pillsbury 15, 3, 3; Tschigorin 14, 4, 3; Lasker 14, 3, 4; Tarrasch 12, 4, 5; Steinitz 11, 4, 6; Schiffers 9, 6, 6; Von Bardeleben, Teichmann 8, 7, 6; Schlechter 5, 12, 4; Blackburne 9, 3, 9; Walbrodt 6, 8, 7. The prize-winners were Pillsbury, Tschigorin, Lasker, Tarrasch, Steinitz, Schiffers, Von Bardeleben, Teichmann (the two last-named dividing the seventh prize); and the respective values of the prizes were £150, £115, £85, £60, £40, £30, £20. In addition, Tschigorin, as the winner of the largest number of Evans Gambits, received a special prize, consisting of a gold ring and a chess book; and for the best score against the prize-winners Schlechter received a special prize of £5.

As to the contests of the prize-winners with one another Pillsbury lost to Tschigorin, Lasker; won from the other five. Tschigorin lost to Steinitz, Schiffers; won from the other five. Lasker lost to Tschigorin, Tarrasch, Von Bardeleben; won from the other four. Tarrasch lost to Pillsbury, Tschigorin, Teichmann; drew with Von Bardeleben; won from the other three. Steinitz lost to Pillsbury, Lasker, Tarrasch; drew with Teichmann; won from the other three. Schiffers lost to Pillsbury, Lasker, Tarrasch, Steinitz; drew with Von Bardeleben, Teichmann; won from Tschigorin. Von Bardeleben lost to Pillsbury, Tschigorin, Steinitz; drew with Tarrasch, Schiffers, Teichmann; won from Lasker. Teichmann lost to Pillsbury, Tschigorin, Lasker; drew with Steinitz, Schiffers, Von Bardeleben; won from Tarrasch. These details, which show some cross results, are in favour of Tschigorin—the more so if it be remembered that Pillsbury's win from Von Bardeleben was scored by default. Schlechter's record was superior to that of several of the prize-winners. It was made up of wins from Pillsbury, Schiffers; draws with Tarrasch, Steinitz, Von Bardeleben, Teichmann; losses to Tschigorin, Lasker.

The total number of games contested was 230—equivalent to 21 times 11, less one scored by Pillsbury against Von Bardeleben by default. The 230 games were made up of 88 W (White wins), 84 B (Black wins), 58 D (draws). The number of openings played was 28, the favourite among which was 1. P to Q 4—62 times in all, of which 4 were Queen's Gambits, and 27 were Queen's Gambits Declined. The 62 games were made up of 25 W, 25 B, 13 D. The Ruy Lopez attack was played 44 times for 19 W, 12 B, 13 D; the French Defence 28 times for 16 W, 8 B, 4 D; the Vienna 12 times for 4 W, 6 B, 2 D; the Giuoco Piano 11 times for 6 W, 2 B, 3 D; the Scotch 9 times for 2 W, 3 B, 4 D; the Two Knights' Defence 7 times for 1 W, 5 B, 1 D; and the Evans Gambit 7 times for 1 W, 5 B, 1 D. These 10 openings account for 180 games, distributed into 77 W, 64 B, 39 D. The other openings account for 50 games distributed into 11 W, 20 B, 19 D. One of them was played six times, each of two five times, each of two four times, each of four three times, each of five two times, and each of four one time.

The following is the game of the twentieth round, by losing which Tschigorin lost the first prize of the tourney:—

Game No. 402.

THE VIENNA GAME.

WHITE. Tschigorin.	BLACK. Janowsky.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to Q B 3 (a)	2—Kt to K B 3
3—P to Q 3 (b)	3—P to Q 4 (c)
4—P takes P (d)	4—Kt takes P
5—Q to K 2	5—Kt to Q B 3
6—B to Q 2	6—B to K 2
7—Castles	7—Castles
8—Q to B 3	8—B to K 3
9—K Kt to K 2	9—P to B 4
10—Q to R 3	10—Q to Q 3
11—Kt takes Kt	11—Q takes Kt
12—Kt to B 3	12—Q to R 4 (e)
13—P to Q R 3 (f)	13—B takes P
14—Kt to Kt sq.	14—B takes P ch.
15—K takes B	15—Q to R 7 ch.
16—K to B sq.	16—Kt to Q 5 (g)

And Tschigorin resigned.

NOTES.

(From the *Daily News*, condensed.)

(a) In this opening the defence frequently does well; the first player is rarely successful.

(b) The only continuation leading to a sound game is 3 P to K Kt 3.

(c) Well played.

(d) Inferior to 4 P to K B 4.

(e) White must now submit to some loss.

(f) Inexplicable, unless on the theory that the continued strain of hard play had affected the soundness of Tschigorin's judgment.

(g) To this move there is absolutely no reply.

Game No. 403.

The following is the game of the twentieth round by which Lasker lost his last chance of scoring a tie with Pillsbury for the first prize:—

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. Lasker.	BLACK. Blackburne.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Kt 5	3—P to Q 3 (a)
4—P to Q 4	4—B to Q 2
5—Kt to B 3	5—P takes P
6—Kt takes P	6—Kt takes Kt
7—Q takes Kt	7—B takes B
8—Kt takes B	8—Kt to K 2
9—Castles	9—Kt to B 3
10—Q to B 3	10—P to R 3
11—Kt to R 3	11—Q to B 3 (b)
12—Q to Q Kt 3 (c)	12—Castles
13—P to Q B 4	13—R to K sq.
14—R to K sq.	14—Q to Kt 3
15—B to Q 2	15—B to K 2 (d)
16—Q to B 2	16—B to B 3
17—Q R to Kt sq.	17—B to Q 5
18—P to Q Kt 4	18—Kt to K 4
19—R to K 2	19—Kt to B 6 ch.
20—K to R sq.	20—Kt takes P
21—B to B 4	21—Kt to Kt 5
22—B to Kt 3	22—B to K 4
23—Q to Q 3 (e)	23—B takes B
24—Q takes B	24—Kt to B 3 (f)
25—Q to R 3 ch.	25—K to Kt sq.
26—P to B 3	26—Kt to R 4
27—R to Q 2	27—R to K 4
28—K to Kt sq.	28—Kt to B 5
29—Q to R 4	29—Kt to K 3
30—R to Q 5	30—Kt to Kt 4
31—Q to Kt 3	31—R takes R
32—B P takes R	32—P to K R 4
33—P to Kt 5	33—P to R 5
34—Q to Kt 4	34—P takes P (g)
35—Kt takes P	35—P to R 6
36—R to Kt 2	36—P takes P
37—R takes P	37—Kt to R 6 ch.
38—K to B sq.	38—Q to B 3 (h)
39—P to K 5	39—P takes P
40—R to R 2	40—P to K 5
41—R takes Kt	41—Q to R 8 ch.
42—K to Kt 2	42—P takes P ch.
43—K to Kt 3 (j)	43—Q to K 4 ch.
44—K takes P	44—Q takes P ch.

And Lasker resigned.

NOTES.

(From the *Daily News*, condensed.)

(a) Tried, perhaps, because 3.....Kt to B 3 leads to drawn position and 3.....P to Q R 3 had not fared well in the Hastings tourney.

(b) Black had nothing to fear from the exchange of Queens.

(c) Better have played 12 Q takes Q.

(d) If, instead, 15.....R takes P, 16 R takes R, Q takes R; 17 R to K sq., Q to B 4; 18 R to K 8 ch., with considerable attack.

(e) If 23 B takes B, 23.....R takes P, bringing the Rook into dangerous play, and if 24 P to B 4, 24.....Q to R 3 ch, winning another Pawn.

(f) If now 25 Q takes Q, 25.....R P takes Q ch., &c., winning the King's Pawn.

(g) 34.....Q to B 3 seems to be a very strong move.

(h) More effective would have been 38.....Q to R 3.

(i) If 40.....Q to R 3; 41 Q to Q B 4; and if 40.....R to R 5; 41 R takes Kt

(j) Tschigorin recommended 43 Q takes B P Q to Kt 7 ch.; 44 K to Kt 3, R takes R ch; 45 K takes R, Q takes Kt; 46 Q takes P, Q to Q 6 ch; 47 K to Kt 4, Q to B 5 ch; 48 K to Kt 5, Q takes R P; 49 K to Kt 6, &c., as giving White the best chance of drawing.

In the Ladies' Tourney, the prize-winners in the first section of 12 players were Lady Thomas (Southsea), Miss Field (London), Miss Fox (London). In the second section of eight players the prize-winners were Mrs. Ridpath (Hastings), Miss Dobell (Hastings), and Mrs. Bowles (London).

Lasker has offered to play in the course of next year a match for the championship of the world either with Pillsbury or with Tschigorin.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Phrà Chula Chom Klew, British steamer, 1,011 Morris, 7th December,—Hongkong, Sugar.—Butterfield & Swire.

Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,765, Goodwin, 7th December,—Kobe 6th December, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 8th December,—Yokkaichi 7th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British schooner, 2,398 Gasson, 8th December,—New York viâ Suez Canal, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

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Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, Hamada, 8th December,—Yokkaichi 7th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, N. Ono, 8th December,—Kobe 6th December, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 8th December,—Marseilles viâ ports, 27th October, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

Pakling, British steamer, 1,910, Long, 8th December,—Liverpool viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Peik, Norwegian steamer, 8th December,—Hakodate, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Tokio Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, Tipple, 8th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Buyers, 9th December,—San Francisco 8th November, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Chiyoda Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, 10th December,—Kobe 9th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bering, Russian barkentine, 377, Ringvall, 10th December,—Petropolsky, Ballast.—Captain.

Drumfell, British steamer, 1,568, Steidleman, 10th December,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 10th December,—Moji, Coal.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Phentie, 11th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ceylon, British steamer, 4,094, Baker, 9th December,—Kobe 8th December, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. St. G. Lindsay, 9th December,—San Francisco 21st November, viâ Honolulu 28th, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 11th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 1,342, Steeves, 12th December,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, McIntosh, 12th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Meiji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,010, Nakao Masakiyo, 12th December,—Yokosuka, 12th December.—Lighthouse Department.

Rosary, British steamer, 1,426, Wood, 13th December,—Kobe 11th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 13th December,—Hakodate 11th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 13th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, C. Johnstone, 13th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

China, British steamer, 2,600, W. B. Seabury, 7th December,—San Francisco, viâ Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 7th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 8th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Bobr (5), Russian gunboat, Captain Molos, 8th December,—Kobe.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 8th December,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,359, West, 8th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General. —Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Tokai Maru, Japanese steamer, 634, McIvor, 8th December,—Bonin Islands, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orono, British steamer, 1,321, Hancock, 8th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 10th December,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Iser, British steamer, 1,511, Boyce, 10th December,—Otaru, Ballast.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Phra Chom Klao, British steamer, 1,011, Morris, 11th December,—Kobe, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 641, Hamada, 9th December,—Jinsen viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peik, Norwegian steamer, 9th December,—Kobe, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Polyphemus, British steamer, 1,760, Goodwin, 11th December,—New York viâ ports, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Else, German steamer, 747, Christiansen, 11th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coptic, British steamer, 2,940, H. St. G. Lindsay, 12th December,—Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Forfait (16), French cruiser, Captain Delort, 12th December,—Nagasaki.

Chiyoda Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,160, 12th December,—Otaru viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,439, Bailey, 12th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenogle, British steamer, 2,398, Gasson, 12th December,—Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Isly (10), French cruiser, Captain Rivet, 13th December,—Kobe.

Pakling, British steamer, 1,910, Long, 13th December,—Kobe, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Prentice, 13th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ceylon, British steamer, 4,094, C. E. Baker, 14th December,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Evandale, British steamer, 1,896, J. Buyers, 14th December,—Hongkong, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Lady Furness, British steamer, 2,062, Tregarthen, 14th December,—Kobe, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Oxus, French steamer, 2,500, Dupont, 14th December,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Mr. Nakamura, Mr. A. Tanaka, Mr. Otto Walbeck, Mr. Derby, Mr. Cochrane, Mr. Olivier, Mr. and Mrs. Olivier, Mr. Despase and boy, Mr. and Mrs Lennet, Mr. Lan, Mr. Butcher, Mr. Davidoff, Mr. Rubettel, Mr. Jummer, Mrs. Ah Jan, Mr. Hugenheim, and Mr. de Beeker in cabin; 6 Chinese and 2 children, aged 33 seamen in steerage.

Per British steamer *Evandale*, from San Francisco:—For Hongkong: 122 Chinese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, from San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mr. H. L. Lacazettes, Miss K. Lindsay, Mrs. J. S. Hargreaves, Miss Sarah S. Sprague, Mr. Livingston Roe, Mrs. Livingston Roe, Bishop John McKim and family, Rev. J. M. Francis, Mrs. Francis, Mr. C. H. Denison, Mr. Q. W. Rhee, Mrs. Lt. H. P. Dixon, Mr. Hopgood, Mrs. C. H. Denison, Dr. R. Holta, Dr. Philip Jaisohn, Mr. Leo. D. Stein, Mr. Fred. M. Stein, Mr. C. D. McGrath, Mrs. C. D. McGrath, Rev. J. Davis, Mr. L. S. J. Hunt, Rev. C. E. Rice, Mr. Niels L. J. Grön, Mr. Shimizu, and Mr. R. H. Wright in cabin. For Hongkong:—Captain Rosewell Davis, Mr. H. H. Smith, Mrs. H. H. Smith, Mr. J. Thomas and valet, Mrs. J. Thomas and maid, Mr. B. Tozer and valet, Mr. R. H. Copper, Mr. F. J. Bardens, Mr. F. Shipton, Mr. Edwin Fowler, Miss Hattie St. John, Mr. C. C. Mead, Mrs. J. H. Rinder, and Mr. W. H. Shearer in cabin.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Messrs. P. E. Emerson, W. F. Wheeler, L. J. Healing, E. O. Kenyon, M. W. Carleton, N. D. Tata, and N. Hyogby in cabin; 7 Japanese and 35 Chinese in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—Mr. M. Asada, Mr. John A. Blattau, Miss Boyd, Mrs. G. W. Bramhall, Dr. A. H. Bradford, Rev. J. L. Barton, Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Cook, Mr. T. B. Cunningham, Mr. J. V. C. Comfort, Mr. E. C. Dalton, Mr. J. Duer, Mr. W. P. Ellison, Miss C. Ferris, Mr. H. W. Grantley, Miss Goodall, Dr. F. W. Harrell, Commander R. E. Impey, U.S.N., Mr. F. S. James, Dr. and Mrs. J. S. Johnson, Mr. B. Kaufmann, Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Keswick, five children, maid, and amah, Mr. T. Komatsubara, Mr. S. Kusakabe, Miss Lee, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. B. Lamberts, Mrs. A. C. Morrison and child, Mr. and Mrs. A. Macmillan, Mr. T. Matsuoka, Mrs. A. Moritz, Mr. S. Ogawa, Mr. J. P. Pomeroy, Mr. A. Le Prevost, Miss Palmer, Miss Cora Richards, Mr. J. H. Rosenthal, Mr. Theodor Schmitz, Mrs. Minnie Wheeler, Mrs. L. J. Woodhull and two children, Mrs. T. Walkington, Miss A. G. Waters, and Mr. K. Watanabe in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Prof. E. Warren Clark, Hon. Homer N. Lockwood, Mrs. Matthew Hart, Miss Mary T. Hart, Mr. E. A. Hart, Miss C. A. Howard, Miss Clemson and maid, Surgeon-Captain Grey, Messrs. S. Kataoka, T. Nagai, T. Chimura, S. Honda, R. Honda, K. Yamazaki, Mrs. Farmer, Mr. Herbert de Stein, Mr. Chas Cousens, Lieut. Fuller R.N., Mr. E. O. Kenyon, Mr. G. Watanabe, Mrs. Sheltinga and child, Mrs. Balk, Mrs. Tisenko and child, Mrs. Stepanoff and 2 infants, Commander J. Lebedeff, Mr. Lee Sang Kee and infant, Mr. Lo Shu Sang, Mr. Chou Yen Shing, Mr. T. K. Strenski, and Mr. G. P. Wheatley, in cabin; 8 men, R.N., 2 Europeans, 72 Japanese in third class.

Per British steamer *Coptic*, for Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki:—Mr. David Goldman, Mr. S. Wartmuth, Mr. A. B. Brown, Dr. R. I. Bowie, and Mr. P. Spence in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ceylon*, for London viâ ports:—Miss Belinfante, Miss Haines, Mr. C. W. Ure, Mrs. C. W. Ure, infant, and amah, Mr. A. T. Millwood, and Mr. L. Font in cabin.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Messrs. Dubuffet, G. H. Tilden, Inouye, E. H. Summer, A. Mendie, Kanskiti, E. W. Fairley, R. H. Wright, A. Novion, T. Robertson, H. Collaco, A. O. Da Cruz, Mrs. and Miss J. King, Mrs. Goetz, Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. E. Scott Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Musso, Mr. and Mrs. J. Grand, Messrs. J. King, Touzawa, and C. Ferrari in cabin; 9 Chinese in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Rhosina*, for Portland, Or., and Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Hongkong ...	26	—	—	—	26
Foochow	—	—	3,482	—	3,482
Hyogo	—	95	—	—	95
Yokohama ...	—	607	—	26	633
Total	26	702	3,482	26	4,236

Per British steamer *China*, for San Francisco, viâ Honolulu:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	ST. LOUIS.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	1,770	—	753	541	—	—	3,064
Yokohama.	413	—	—	—	—	—	413
Hongkong.	220	—	—	—	—	—	220
Foochow ...	760	—	—	—	—	—	760
Total ...	3,163	—	753	541	—	—	4,457

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	MARSEILLES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	125	—	125
Hongkong	—	346	—	346
Yokohama	—	958	—	958
Total	—	1,429	—	1,429

Per British steamer *Ancona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 223 bales; Waste Silk, 257 bales.

Per British steamer *Ceylon*, for London viâ ports:—Waste Silk, 38 bales.

Per French steamer *Oxus*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Raw Silk for Europe, 476 bales; Waste Silk for Europe, 227 bales.

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Evandale*, Captain Buyers, reports:—Left San Francisco the 8th November; had head winds and heavy swell during most of the voyage. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th December. Time, 30 days, 3 hours, 17 minutes.

The British steamer *Coptic*, Captain Lindsay, reports:—Left San Francisco the 21st November at 4.03 p.m.; thence to 22nd had strong N.W. winds and heavy seas; thence to port variable winds and smooth seas. Arrived at Honolulu the 27th at 5.49 p.m. and left the 28th November at 4 p.m.; thence to 4th December had westerly to S.W. winds and moderate seas; thence to 6th N.N.W. winds and high seas; thence to port S.E. to N.E. winds and high seas. Arrived at Yokohama the 9th December at 11.50 p.m.

INTERNET ARCHIVE
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 17th.*
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 15th.†
From Hongkong	per O. & O. Co.	Tuesday, Dec. 17th.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Friday, Dec. 20th.§
From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 23rd ‖
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Dec. 27th.¶
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Dec. 25th
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 2nd

* *City of Rio de Janeiro* left San Francisco on November 30th.
† *Persia* will leave Kobe on December 14th. ‡ *Afridi* left Nagasaki on December 13th. § *Sydney* (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 11th. ‖ *Empress of China* left Vancouver on December 9th. ¶ *Gaelic* left San Francisco on December 10th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For America	per O. & O. Co.	Wed'day, Dec. 18th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 21st
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec 23rd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 27th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Dec. 27th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 28th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co	Friday, Jan. 3rd
For Victoria, B.C.	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 4th

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market has been disorganised this week by the "slump" in Exchange, which naturally tends to raise prices here in *Yen*. With a dull market before-hand, dealers are not disposed to pay up immediately, but prefer waiting to see if exchange will not improve.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.30
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	7.75 to 9.75
Victorin Lawns, 12 yards, 32-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3½ per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
Nos. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
Nos. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

No good news. The fall in exchange has caused holders to pluck up heart and hold more firmly to stocks in hand, but there is no general trade as yet.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.40 to 5.80
Tin Plates, per box	5.60 to 5.90
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE

In statu quo. The fall in exchange adds to the firmness of holders, and it looks as though we must see a fresh rise in the price of Oil here ere long.

American	Nom. $2.50
Russian	Nom. 2.50
Langkat	Nom. 2.50

SUGAR.

Brown—Market firm at quotations. Someholders think that prices should improve yet further, while dealers say that the advance has gone far enough. White Refined—Steady business at late rates.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.80 to 5.25
Brown Daitong (New)	4.30 to 4.35
Brown Canton	4.20 to 4.75
White Java and Penang	6.90 to 7.10
White Refined	6.30 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

A moderate business continued until the declining exchange caused holders to ask a little more money for their wares, and some kinds of Re-reels are said to be $5 higher. Prices at the close are more or less nominal, sellers trying to push them up to counterbalance the advantage which buyers would find in a low exchange.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	Nom
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	$900 to 910
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	860 to 870
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	840 to 850
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	810 to 820
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 805
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	810 to 815
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	770 to 780
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 840
Kakedas—No. 1	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 1½	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Market unchanged. The lower rates for silver will enable some outstanding orders to be filled at limits if sellers are wise and do not seek to advance prices for Waste.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$125 to 130
Noshi—Filature, Good	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Best	120 to 125
Noshi—Oshu, Good	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	130 to 135
Noshi—Bushu, Good	120 to 125
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	110 to 115
Noshi—Joshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 105
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Nothing of interest to report. A small retail business goes on. Prices nominally unchanged.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange declined daily during the past week, but rates yesterday again rose ⅛, and quotations now present some appearance of stability.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/1⅛
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅝
Sterling—Private 4 months' sight	2/1⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.64
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.70
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71⅛
— Private 10 days' sight.	72⅛
On India—Bank sight	183
— Private 30 days' sight	185⅛
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	51⅛
— Private 30 days' sight..	52
— — 4 months' sight	52⅛
On Germany—Bank sight	2.14
— Private 4 months' sight	2.19
Bar Silver (London)	30 1/16

BISSET & CO.'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, 6th December, 1895.

The following are the quotations wired to us to-day:—H. & S. Banks 181 per cent., sellers; Hongkong Lands $68.50, sales; China Fires $87, buyers; H. & W. Docks 147 per cent., sellers, H. & K. Wharfs $48, sellers: Douglasses $59; sellers; H. C. & M. Steamboats $36, buyers; Punjoms $6, sales; Raubs $4, sellers; Balmorals $3, sales; Nationals $28, sellers; Indo-Chinas $57·50, buyers; Straits $25, sellers; Unions $200, sales, and Traders $73, sellers.

Locally, quotations are unchanged, and the tone of the market is very steady and firm. Club Hotels have risen to $66, at which rate shares are wanted. Breweries have been parted with at $135. Debentures of all kinds are wanted at quotations. Oriental Hotel Founders; $140 is offered for shares.

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May 4th, 1895. 1y.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 21ST, 1895.

BIRTHS.

On Tuesday, the 17th inst., at 16, Tatsuokacho, Hongo, Tokyo, the wife of Rev. H. H. COATES, of a son.

At No. 46, Bluff, on December 20th, 1895, Madame KLOBUKOWSKI of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 17th inst., at the Legation of the United States, at Tokyo, by the Rev. T. S. Ting and the Rev. A. F. King, VICTOR FRANÇIS THIENNETTE DE BÉRIGNY, of Kobe, to MARY ELIZABETH, only daughter of Paul Andreas Dithlefsen, of Kobe.

DEATH.

GEORGE DUBOIS, born at Locle, Switzerland, the 17th September, 1862, died of typhoid fever, at No. 235, Bluff, Yokohama, on the 16th December, 1895, at 9 a.m., in the 34th year of his age.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS, who was to visit the Yasukuni Shrine, at Kudan, Tokyo, on the 18th inst., was compelled to give up her intention through indisposition.

CAPTAIN HIRAYAMA, of the *Fayeyama Kan*, was superseded on the 14th inst.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR visited the Yasukuni Shrine, Kudan, Tokyo, on the 17th inst.

JUDGE TANAKA, of the Hachioji District Court, has been transferred to the Yokohama Local Court.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has granted *yen* 2,000 towards the expenses of the grand festival of the Yasukuni Shrine, Tokyo.

THE military attachés in the German, French, Spanish, American, Russian, and British Legations visited the Yasukuni Shrine on the 17th inst.

THE Chinese Consulates at Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, and Hakodate will not be opened before the Chinese new year, in obedience to instructions of the home Government.

H.I.M. THE EMPRESS-DOWAGER has contributed *yen* 1,000 towards the fund now being raised by H.I.H. Princess Kitashirakawa for the soldiers of the Formosa expeditionary force.

FOREIGN iron pipes to the amount of 1,400 tons, to be used for the Tokyo Water Works, reached Yokohama on the 10th instant in the British steamer *Drumfell*, and are now being conveyed to Tokyo.

HAGIWARA SHINZO, age 21, residing at Takecho, Shitaya, Tokyo, on the 15th inst. committed *hara-kiri* because he could not pass the doctor to join the army. He is not dead, though the wound is over seven inches in length.

IT is stated that the Government has selected, as the site of the proposed steel foundry, Ominato, in Aomori Prefecture, as the materials are to be procured chiefly in Fukushima, Yamagata, Niigata, Akita, Aomori, and Iwate Prefectures.

THE losses sustained by the Osaka Fire Insurance Co., during the latter half of this year exceed *yen* 27,000, of which *yen* 14,000 were lost in the Nemuro fire, *yen* 8,000 in the Echigo fire, and the remainder by other smaller fires.

THE Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly and Yokohama Town Assembly have rejected an application for permission to construct an electric railway in Yokohama, but the promoters are endeavouring to get up another petition for a similar purpose.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has given a pair of *shippo* (cloisonné) flower pots and a small silver case to H.I.H. Prince Komatsu Akihito in recognitions of services rendered by him as Superintendent of the Fourth Industrial Domestic Exhibition.

SUBMARINE telegraph cables for use between Osaka and Marugame and Saga and Shimonoseki lately arrived from England, and the work of laying the same will shortly be commenced. Government exports left the capital on the 17th inst. for the districts named.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has been granting an annual sum of *yen* 300,000 to be added to the fund for the construction of new warships. The Aichi Prefectural Assembly thinks it inadvisable to receive this from his private purse, and have petitioned the Imperial Diet to decline the grant.

THE *Okayama Shimpo* states that the certain Mr. Miyatani, of Kagawa Prefecture, has discovered an extensive iron mine in Aba District, Sakushu. The length of the lode is measured at 4 *ri* (one *ri*=2½ miles), and the total area at 4,000,000 *tsubo* (one *tsubo*=6 ft. sq.). The ore is said to be better than that of the Kamaishi mine.

SOME leading residents at Wakayama contemplate constructing a railway between Osaki and Wakayama via Okacho, Wakanoura, Kimidera, Utsumi, Kuroguchi, Hidaka, Nadaka, and Fujita, at a cost of *yen* 600,000.

COUNT D'ORFINI, the Italian Minister, was received in audience by H.I.M. the Empress on the 14th inst. Mr. Oyama, Secretary of the Japanese Legation at Vienna, and Mrs. Oyama, who lately returned home on leave, were also received in audience by Her Majesty the same day.

REUTER telegraphs:—A select battalion, with Prince Henry of Battenberg, has embarked for Ashantee. The steamer *Gorsedd*, which was seven weeks out from Singapore, has arrived at Port Townsend. Major Toselli's force has been surprised and surrounded by King Menelek's army at Ambagali; and General Arimondi, while advancing to relieve him, was forced to retreat to Makalle, after a battle in which King Menelek lost heavily. Seventeen officers, forty non-commissioned officers, and a mountain battery, who were with Major Toselli's force in Abyssinia, were massacred at Ambagali, after six hours' desperate fighting, in which the Italians were crushed by vastly superior numbers. Reinforcements to the number of four thousand men are to be sent from Naples. The British and Italian guardships have passed the Dardanelles. M. Nelidoff, Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, appealed to the Sultan in the name of H.I.M. the Czar with a view to prevent an ultimatum being presented by the Powers. The Sultan thereupon yielded. The Italian Government has voted an extra credit of four million *lire* (£160,000) for the expenses in Africa. The Hon. John G. Carlisle, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, announces that the Estimates show a deficit of seventeen million dollars, and proposes to cancel the greenbacks of small paper currency in order to make room for silver coinages certificates.

THE Import trade has not yet recovered, though exchange rose a point on several days last week and is fairly steady at the close. Yarns and Shirtings continue dull, and there is little or no improvement in Cotton Piece-goods. Fancy goods are not in much demand, Velvets excepted, and these have been sold for more money. The Woollen trade is also quiet, Italian Cloth being about the only article enquired for. Nothing to report in Metals, and from present appearances there can be no movement till the new year. The Sugar trade has toned down, and large supplies coming in on the top of recent heavy transactions have had the effect of weakening the market. Prices at present may be said to be nominal, and the opinion is that a drop in values is not far off. There has been some business in Silk, but not enough to make a great impression on the heavy stock now on offer. Prices for the very best parcels have been pushed up somewhat, though Common and Medium grades remain about the same. Holders of Waste have at last made some reduction in their demands, but with very little result, buyers who would have done business two months ago now declining the offers made. Somewhat more buying in the Tea trade, about 1,000 piculs of Common to Medium grade leaf having been taken. Chinese are still making small shipments to the Straits. Exchange has recovered the late decline to a certain extent, the rise of a point being recorded several days last week. Rates close fairly firm.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

With the return of Marquis Ito to Tokyo, all talk about his intended resignation has ceased, it being now definitely believed that he will remain in office for some time yet. The Opposition journals, however, continue to discuss the position of the Cabinet and clamour for the organization of a responsible Ministry and one that shall enjoy the confidence of the nation. Writing on this subject, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* remarks that it is absurd to demand the formation of a responsible Cabinet as though the one in existence were not responsible. In point of fact, there has never been an irresponsible Ministry during the present era, especially since the coming into force of the Constitution which explicitly defines the responsibility of the Ministers of State. This truth is practically recognized by the Opposition papers; they have never ceased to discuss the question of Ministerial responsibility in a spirit clearly indicating their belief that the Cabinet is responsible. They assert, however, that the Cabinet ought to enjoy the confidence of the nation, whereas the *Nichi Nichi* contends that these two questions should be considered separately, being quite independent of each other. Under the Japanese Constitution, the Cabinet may be perfectly responsible and yet not enjoy the confidence of the people, though practically the latter consummation is to be desired. Recent Japanese Cabinets, however, cannot be said to have lacked the confidence of the people. The Yamagata Cabinet, for instance, was supported in the first Diet by a majority in the House of Peers, and even in the House of Representatives it was not opposed by the majority. Under the Matsukata Cabinet the Opposition was at one time in a majority, but after dissolution the new Diet rejected the Address of impeachment. The Ito Cabinet was also once opposed by a majority in the House of Representatives, but two succesive dissolutions left the Government master of the situation. Another circumstance that ought to be always kept in mind by the Opposition journalists, is that in order to secure the smooth conduct of the administration, it is necessary for a Japanese Ministry to have a majority not only in the House of Representatives but also in the House of Peers. If the Opposition organs mean to be at all logical and responsible in their discussion of this question, they ought to be able to show how, if at all, a Cabinet enjoying a larger measure of public confidence than the present one can be organized. Parties like the Progressionists, that have been able to number more than fifty or sixty in the Lower House, have no right to cry out that the present Cabinet does not enjoy the confidence of the people. If they mean to discuss the question in a responsible manner, Opposition papers are told that they must wait until their parties have secured a working majority in the Diet.

* * *

The undecided attitude of the National Unionists attracts considerable attention. The Opposition parties have not even now entirely given up the hope of securing their support in their proposed attack upon the Cabinet's foreign policy. But, as already pointed out in these columns, there seems to be no ground for such a hope. The flat refusal of the National Unionists to attend the conferences of the allied Opposition parties, is the best proof, if proof were needed, that our views are correct. The *Choya*, which is understood to represent a large section of the National Unionists, writes in the following strain:—"We think it a mistake to suppose either that the National Unionists will support the Cabinet, or that they will cöoperate with the Opposition. They once attacked the Cabinet most vigorously becausee they discovered that their views were different from those held by Marquis Ito and his colleagues. But they also supported these statesmen with all their hearts (namely, in the session at Hiroshima), because, both in view of the national interests and in reference to their political principles, they thought it necessary to repose confidence in the Ito Cabinet. The Diet not having yet been opened, and the Cabinet's policy being still unknown, how can the National Unionists decide either to support or attack those in power? The question depends entirely upon the policy to be followed by the Government. The National Unionists may leave nothing unutilized to attack the Cabinet as in the fifth and sixth sessions of the Diet, or they may give their hearty and unstinted support to it. The solution of the problem thus entirely rests with the Ministry and not with the National Unionists. Similar remarks may be made about their probable attitude toward the Liberal Party. On the question of an increase of armament, they will not hesitate to cöoperate with that Party, but on other topics they may be found voting with other parties. It may, however, be safely stated that the National Unionists will never be found supporting any scheme that has for its object the attack of the Ito Cabinet even at the sacrifice of national interests." The emphasis laid upon the last mentioned passages leaves little doubt as to the general attitude of the National Unionists.

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The Opposition organs strongly censure the Government on account of its weak and conciliatory foreign policy. The particular incidents cited in support of the criticism are—besides the retrocession of Liaotung—the reduction of the compensation for the return of the peninsula, the Government's silence on the subject of the Russians connected with the disturbance of the 28th ultimo, the readiness of the Cabinet to apologize to the English Government about the stoppage and search of the *Thales* by the *Fayeyama*, and so forth. In the present mood of the Opposition journals anything is welcome to them that serves as a device, however clumsy or unreasonable, for discrediting the Ministry in the eyes of the people. Alluding to these hostile criticisms, the *Nichi Nichi* points out that moderation is as much a virtue between nations as it is between individuals. Morbid or ignominous moderation ought of course to be avoided, but wherever it is consistent with the honour and interests of the country, moderation deserves praise rather than censure. As to the return of the Liaotung question, and the decrease of the indemnity for it, the *Nichi Nichi* frankly admits that the step taken by the Japanese Government was not properly moderation, but simply a policy dictated by a sense of inferior power. Japan's apology to England in connection the *Thales* affair was quite different, as were also her prompt and decisive measures about the participators in the *coup d'état* of Oct. 8th. On these occasions her conduct was prompted by a genuine desire to be moderate and conciliatory. The Government is not to be blamed on account of these steps. As to its silence on the question of the alleged implication of the Russians in the trouble of the 28th November, the *Nichi Nichi* observes that thus far no evidence has been forthcoming to establish the rumoured connection of Russians with the conspiracy, and, consequently, there is no reason why communications should be opened on the subject with the Russian Government. Thus, all things considered, there appears little ground for complaint about the Government's foreign policy.

* * *

The report that the Chinese Government has agreed to lease the port of Kiao-chow, in the Shan-tung peninsula to Russia, has created considerable excitement in this country. The *Choya Shimbun*, among others, is inclined to believe the telegram. China's situation, says our contemporary, deserves sincere pity, for she is completely in the hands of her worst enemy. If she alone were concerned, it would matter little, although she deserves sympathy. As it is, however, the increase of Russian influence in China is a direct menace to Japan, and the question, therefore, should be most seriously considered by the Japanese people. Our contemporary goes on to allude to the stir caused in London by the report, since proved untrue, that Russia had obtained the right of anchorage in Port Arthur. When such a noise is made in far off England about every danger of an increase of Russian power in these waters, there is no reason why the present report should be regarded with indifference by Japan, which is more directly concerned than England. The *Choya* then proceeds to urge the importance of diplomacy in avoiding external dangers and raising the prestige of the country. Our contemporary recognizes the importance of increasing the fighting capacity of the Empire, but fears that its countrymen do not attach sufficient value to diplomacy. Unless something is done to increase the efficiency of the diplomatic service, the *Choya* fears that mere increase of armament will not go far to help the country *vis-à-vis* foreign Powers. Our contemporary regards it as no chimera to think that one of these days China will be foolish enough to be pushed by Russia to try to be avenged upon Japan.

* * *

The *Mainichi Shimbun* hears that the Chinese Government intends to appoint Liu Yung-fu to an important post. Should such a step be taken by China, our contemporary urges the Japanese Government to exact satisfaction for the gross insult offered to this country. Strictly speaking, China ought to have transferred the island in a state of perfect peace and tranquillity. But in the present disorganized state of that Empire, it was probably too much to expect her to discharge her duties in such a thorough manner. She ought not to be pardoned, however, should she go so far in her insolence as to restore Liu to any official position. In resisting the peaceful occupation of the island by the Japanese, the Black Flag leader offended as much against China as against this country. Consequently, instead of official recognition, punishment is his proper reward from the Court of Pekin. The fact is, on the contrary, that he is being everywhere highly honoured by the people as well as the mandarins, and the report of his official appointment is not improbable. Japan, reiterates the Progressionist organ, will never tolerate such an insult to her honour.

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Other questions that have been discussed in the vernacular press during the week, have been the increase of the Navy, the employment of the indemnity, the grand meetings of Liberals and the Progressionists, and the agitation in Tokyo against Mayor Miura.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

FUNERAL OF MR. GEORGE DUBOIS.

A VERY large asemblage gathered at the funeral of Mr. George Dubois on Tuesday afternoon, the procession being of such a length that the head of it had arrived at the Cemetery gate before the rear had left the Hospital premises. Mr. Dubois was a nephew of Mr. J. Favre-Brandt, and was connected with the firm at this port, though he was also well-known and highly respected in Osaka, from whence many beautiful wreaths of flowers and messages of condolence were received. Among those present were the French Consul-General, the Swiss Consul-General, the Vice-Consuls of Belgium and Portugal, Mr. Casati, of the Italian Consulate, &c. Several Japanese naval and military officers, amongst whom was Admiral Count Kawamura, were present, also civil officials; and telegraphic messages of condolence were received from General Marquis Saigo, Minister of State for the Navy; General Marquis Oyama, Minister of State for War; Colonel Ota, Colonel Kono, and other naval and military officers, civil officials, and private friends. Beside a large number of flower-stands in the Japanese style, wreaths and crosses were received from the following, many of which were of the most beautiful and elaborate description:—Messrs. Arnold Dumelin, James Walter, H. Abegg, Fritz Ehrismann, Edward Bosshart, Ernst Baumgartner, J. Kern, E. Balmes, Max Maelger, Theo. Staubli, P. J. Hellendall, Emil Leopold, Walter Loxton, Hyacinthe Renault, Max Kaufmann, J. R. Merian, August Egli, Hans Spörry, Martin Schellenberg, Yasuda

Genzaburo, K. Tamamura, M. Hunt, Rodolphe Schmid, James Eastham, M. Hansell, J. Favre, Jun., Ishikawaya, Theodore Culty, P. L. Abry, François Favre-Brandt, A. Coye, Jules Sibiodon, E. Andreis, E. Berard, L. de Micheaux, Georg Peterson, Albert Dubourg, M. Engert, S. Huguenin, O. Keil, Henry Delmas, F. Nabolz, L. Muraour, Francis Herb, P. Vautier, Herrmann Heckert, A. Culty, L. Gros, E. R. H. Manley, Benjamin Martinelli, Arend Seekamp, R. Robert, Albert Hofmann, A. Mingard, Hans Frick, A. Deguy, F. Retz, Gustave Gilbert, L. Rubattel, Joseph, A. Baud, T. Meyerdirks, E. Freivogel, H. C. Deck, Alfred Unger, L. Gros, H. Gouilloud, F. R. da Silva, Ishiono, Matsufuji, Gennosuke, Miki, Kijiwaya, Ito, Sakai, Yoshioka, Yuota, Sugiashi, Madame Baylies, Dr. Paul Ritter, Captain Carst, the family of the late M. Jubin, the family of J. Favre-Brandt, Mr. and Mrs. Witschi, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Colomb, Mr. and Mrs. Strähler, Mr. and Mrs. Salabelle, Mr. and Mrs. Weinberger, &c., &c. The Rev. E. C. Irwine, M.A., conducted the funeral service, and the pall bearers were :—Messrs. Robert, Dubourg, Deguy, Gros, Egli, Abegg, Kern, Gilbert, Spörry, Salabelle, Abry, and Frick.

AN INGENIOUS CONTRIVANCE.

About two months ago, the British steamer *Isis* arrived in this port in a damaged condition, through collision with the American ship *W. H. Macy*. Her port side, below the bridge amidships, was completely crushed in, making it necessary to remove and renew a number of plates and angle-irons in her side. The work was placed in the hands of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, and operations were commenced a day or two after the steamer's arrival. After her cargo had been discharged the steamer was shifted further towards the Kanagawa shore and there listed as much as possible ; but it was found that the injuries extended several feet below the water line, even after she had been listed over. As the docks in Yokosuka were engaged, some means had to be devised whereby the necessary repairs could be proceeded with. A coffer-dam was consequently constructed, built of heavy timbers and planks, and made to conform to the shape of steamer's bottom. This was towed out and placed in position and then pumped dry. That part of it touching the steamer was thickly padded ; this acted as suction while the outside water pressed it firmly to the vessel. Wire hawsers were also fastened to the coffer-dam from the steamer, both forward and aft, making movement impossible. A powerful centrifugal pump was placed on a lighter outside of it, in case of leakage or other accident. Inside this impromtu dry dock the men have been prosecuting their work, removing old and inserting new plates with as much ease and security as if they were in an ordinary dock. This is the first time a coffer-dam has been used in this way on a steamer in Yokohama, and credit for the ingenious contrivance undoubtedly belongs to the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works ; it has probably saved the *Isis* several thousands of dollars, in time if not in money. In another month or less all the repairs will be finished, and the steamer will be in as good condition as when she started on her present voyage.—*Communicated.*

PROF. LOISETTE'S LECTURE.

Prof. Loisette, of New York and London, the distinguished Memory Psychologist, whose system of memory culture has a world-wide reputation, will give his popular lecture on Assimilative Memory at Van Schaick Hall next Monday evening. At Sydney recently twenty-five hundred persons were unable to gain admission to this lecture. After this address, he will give a course of three Instruction Lectures, imparting the principles and practice of his system in great detail. At Hongkong recently, the Professor gave four courses of instruction in English and two through an interpreter. One of Hongkong's foremost lawyers, Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., gave the Professor the following testimonial :—"As a mere system of memorising, your methods are admirable. As a mental discipline and as a memory training, they are simply invaluable, and I think unrivalled. I have profited much by them. You might rechristen your system 'the art of study' or 'the whole science of application'—either name would fit it." The Professor claims that he imparts a good all-around memory to all who attend and heed his lectures, and his testimonials certainly support his claim. He says that his system differs from all others in this, that it uses no artificial appliances whatever ; that while other systems when attempting to teach how to learn one thing compel you to learn another thing in the hope that it will "aid" you to know the first, but that he teaches only the thing itself directly by an almost instantaneous act of assimilation.

THE "EDGAR" FUND.

The following additional subscriptions have been received :—

Vincent & Bird	$ 5	Club Hotel	20
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent	5	Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Compradore	5
Mr. R. Schwabe	5	Kingdon, Schwabe & Co.	50
Mr. W. J. Gresson.	5	Mr. E. J. Moss	10
Mr. H. V. Henson	5	Mr. A. S. Aldrich	10
Mr. A. J. Lines	10	Mr. E. H. Horsey	5
H.T.	10	Mr. H. Goldman	5
Mr. John W. Hall	5	Mr. C. Dunne	5
Mrs. Parsons	5	Mr. P. Taylor	5
Mr. E. J. Moss	10	Mr. R. Howie	10
Mr. A. S. Aldrich	10	Col. J. A. Cockerill.	5
Mrs. Todd	10	Seventh Rgt. N.G. S.N.G.	5
Mr. A. J. Easton	5	Cash	5
Mr. E. Morriss	3	do	5
Mr. Bugbird	3	Capt. Efford	10
Mrs. Thomsen	3	Club Hotel	1
Mr. Budd	10	Howard	50 cts.
Mr. W. S. Stone	5	Mr. T. G. Rinner	2
Mr. E. V. Thorn	5	L. G.	1
Mr. L. Eppinger	5	Mr. & Mrs. P. B.	10
Col. U. Volunteers.	5	W.	10
Mr. E. P. Heinlein.	5	"Esto sol testis"	5
Mr. R. A. Mowat	50	Mr. P. Hodnett	5
Mr. Lichtenstein	10	Oriuti	5
Mr. A. M. Chalmers	10	Messrs. C. & B. Abenheim	10
Mr. Alex. Clark	10	Mr. G. Charlesworth	10
J. M.	5	Messrs. Okura & Co.	20
C. K. M. M.	5	Mr. W. B. Mason	5
Lane & Crawford	100	St. Hilda's Mission	5
Mrs. Blad	5	Mr. Page	5
Mr. N. Morgin	5	Captain M. Squire, R.N.	5
Mr. J. M. James	10	J. C.	5
Mr. F. Staniland	5	Rev. E. C. Irwine	5
Mr. B. Gillett	5	Dr. G. Smith	5
Messrs. J. Witkowski & Co.	20	Mr. E. Adet	5
Mr. P. Helm	10	Mr. Healing	5
Mr. G. B.	2	Mr. S. Isaacs	25
Mr. J. Wien	3	Mr. Tiesize	5
Mr. Silver Hall	5	Messrs S. Strauss & Co.	$ 25
Mr. R. Y. Davidson	3	Messrs. Sale & Co.	30
Rev. J. White	5	Messrs. Kelly and Walsh	100
Mr. A. W. Thompson	5	Mr. H. Neville	5
Dr. Macdonald	5		
Mr. R. J. Kirby	10		
Mr. Coulson	$ 5		
Mr. Powys	5		
Mr. McKinnell	5		
Mr. A. Macdonald.	1		
Mr. P. Peacock	4		
Mr. Owston	5		

PREHISTORIC ART.

In the Pyrenees region of France there have been dug out some mutilated statuettes of ivory belonging to the epoch "when great glaciers covered a part of France, and immense herds of animals furnished not only nourishment and clothing, but materials for the expression of artistic feeling—ivory from the mammoth, the teeth of bears and lions, and the bones of many animals." It is declared that these works "recall in their vigour and sureness of touch the unfinished statues of Michel-Angelo," but their wood-cut reproductions certainly do not justify any such eulogy. What is most interesting about them is the type of humanity they represent, a type very low down in the scale. On this subject we quote from a translation in the *Literary Digest* :—

"These figurines reveal to us unexpected facts. The ancestral race shows itself to us in them as it really was, furnishing characteristics that could never have been inferred from the rare crania in our possession. Now, says M. Piette, the Magdalenians resembled in certain special features the Bushmen and Hottentots of our own time. Do you recollect those odd-looking women that were exhibited at the *Jardin d'Acclimatation* in Paris some years since ; Hottentots with pendant breasts and enormously developed hips? The adipose system was exaggerated in them in a limited region of the body, forming a fatty mass between the skin and muscles. This is what is called steatopygy.

"This characteristic is found, less accentuated, among the African peoples, among the women of the Namaquas, the Kaffirs, the Nigritians of the Nile, and, according to Hartmann, among those of the Berbers and the Bengos.

"The ancient Egyptians were acquainted with steatopygic peoples. There have been found bas-reliefs that represent the Queen of the country of Noun (the Somali region) coming to render homage to Queen Hatason. Steatopygy is very evident.

"Two statuettes of Brassempony seem to show this characteristic in the women of this epoch. We present one of them, the remnants of which are typical (Fig. 1). It is of ivory and much mutilated : the trunk alone remains, with its pendant breasts and protuberant hips faithfully portrayed. This remnant appears almost formless at first sight, for it has been mutilated. But it we study it attentively we shall agree with M. Piette in recognizing the exaggerated size of the hips. We can not, nevertheless, affirm absolutely that there is true steatopygy. Perhaps it is, as M. A. de Mortellet suggests, only a mark of obesity.

"More interesting still for the artist is the head of a woman found in the same cave (Figs. 2 and 3) ; the length of the nose is extreme and, on the contrary, the part of the face comprised between the nose and the extremity of the chin is very diminutive. The cheeks are protuberant, the visage flattened, the nose retreating, as with the Mongols. But very noticeable is the point at the chin, formed by the meeting of two straight lines starting from the lobes of the ears. Add to this, a round, brachycephalous head swelling in the temporal region, and you will be tempted to say with M. Zaborowski that by these two characteristics—the angular chin and the protuberant temples—this head recalls those of the modern Basques. M. de Quatrefages, and recently M. de Collignon, have dwelt on the value of these two characteristics in recognizing Basque blood.

"However this may be, another point strikes the observer. The head-dress of the woman is arranged in parallel strips, recalling distinctly that that of the ancient Egyptians. We must not conclude that there is any relationship between this woman and the Egyptian race. Care for the hair is yet carried to a high degree of perfection among savage peoples. No doubt similar arrangements of the hair could have been devised at different epochs and in different countries by ingenious minds, without any relation between them.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

A large audience assembled to hear Captain Crawford's entertaining paper on "Picket Duty." An excellent story with many touches of adventure in the field, and an episode about escorting a lady-prisoner back to her home for a day's visit. A hearty vote of thanks followed the paper, and we hope to hear more of these personal reminiscences at an early date. Mr. Loomis also gave a short narrative of a narrow escape he had in the same great civil contest, and the meeting dispersed at 10.30. Following is the full programme, the musicians and singers receiving unstinted applause and some of them would have had to appear again had not the President with inexorable firmness forged ahead with the "next item" :—

P. E. Duo ..... Sonata in F. flat ..... Weber.
Miss and Mr. Griffin.
Paper ..... Picket Duty in the Warwick Swamps, Virginia.
Captain W. H. Crawford.
Song ..... Spring ..... Gounod.
Mrs. F. Herb.
Violin Solo ..... Polish Dance ..... Young.
Miss Helena Page.
Address ..... A personal incident of the War.
Rev. H. Loomis.
Song ..... Dreams ..... Gatty.
Mrs. Taft.
Violin Solo ..... Canzonette ..... Godard.
Mr. H. A. Poole.

THE "NATAL"-"KIHO MARU" COLLISION.

The certificate of Henry David James, a British pilot, was suspended on the 3rd inst., by a finding delivered by the Osaka Marine Court of Inquiry. James was on duty as pilot when the *Natal* ran down the *Kiho Maru* off Wakimurabana, Iyo province, on September 10th, 1894. The Court was of opinion that the pilot had not exercised sufficient care when the collision occurred, and that he acted improperly in refusing to reply to questions put by the Court on the 3rd of June last, when he withdrew from the Court without permission and declined to an-

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swer a summons by the Court on August 15th last. The circumstances of this case are no doubt well known; also the fact of the owners of the junk having withdrawn their petition in the French Court and agreed to a compromise by which they received only a nominal sum as compensation.

PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A LANTERN meeting of this society took place on Friday evening at 8.30 o'clock in Keil's building, when a magnificent set of lantern slides sent by the Lantern Slide Exchange of the U.S. were exhibited. The slides included a variety of exquisite land and seascapes with some beautiful cloud effects, while the figure subjects showed great care and technique. Professor Wood, in the absence of any other foreign member of the Society, gave short explanations of the pictures, apologising at the outset for the want of business tact of the Society in giving an exhibition on mail night. A vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Kajima for the use of his lantern.

DINNER TO CAPTAIN DE BOULAY.

MARSHAL MARQUIS OYANA, Minister of War, gave a farewell dinner on the 11th inst. to Captain De Boulay, Military Attaché of the British Legation, who is about to leave for home. Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, Vice-Admiral Viscount Ito, Chief of the Bureau of Naval Command; Lieut.-General Viscount Kawakami; Major-General Baron Kodama, Vice-Minister of War; Major-Generals Terauchi and Inouye, Rear-Admiral Samejima, and Mr. Nagasaki, a Master of Ceremonies in the Imperial Household Department, were also entertained.

REPORTED OPENING OF THE WEST RIVER.

IT is reported, says the *Hongkong Daily Press*, in Chinese official circles at Canton, that Wuchowfu, on the West River, is shortly to be opened to foreign trade. Shuihing, it is said, will not be opened. It is further said that the opening of Wachowfu may take place within a month, and at any rate within two or three months. This news is important if true. We repeat it simply on hearsay and cannot guarantee its accuracy. It is also reported that in addition to the new ports mentioned in the treaty with Japan a port is to be opened in Hunan and three in Liaotung.

THE NEW SWISS PRESIDENT.

THE following telegram, dispatched by Mr. Sugimura, *Chargé d'Affaires* of the Japanese Legation in Austria, has been received by the Foreign Department:—On the 12th inst. Adrian Rachener (?) was appointed President of the Swiss confederation for 1896, and Adolf Dochel (?) Vice-President.

YOKOHAMA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE election of officers of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, which took place on the 14th inst., resulted in the return of the following gentlemen:—Mr. Hara Zenzaburo, President; Messrs. Otani Kahei, Ono Mitsukaze, Watanabe Fukusaburo, Asada Matashichi, Sonoda Koshichi, and Kimura Riyemon, Standing Committee.

THE NEW CABLE STEAMER.

THE new cable-laying steamer, the *Okinawa Maru*, which is now being built on the Clyde, is to be handed over to the Japanese on the 10th of February next, and is expected to arrive in Nagasaki some time in April. On the 12th inst., says the *Nagasaki Express*, some eighty Japanese seamen and engineers left here by the *Ancona*, and will take charge of her and bring her out.

THE "ARCTIC."

UNDER instruction from the Marshal of H.B.M's. Court, the schooner *Arctic* was sold by public auction yesterday by Mr. Jno. W. Hall, and, together with the guns, ammunition, &c., on board, realized $1,290.

MRS. MOWAT.

WE have been asked to say that Mrs. Mowat, who has now returned from Nikko, begs her friends who have written so kindly on the subject of her recent accident there, to be good enough to excuse her from replying, as the injury to the right arm will prevent her using it for three weeks, during which time she regrets also she will not be able to see her friends.

HIGHER COMMERCIAL SCHOOL FOR OSAKA.

THE Minister of Education has a bill for the establishment of a Higher Commercial School in Osaka, whtch he intends to introduce in the coming session of the Diet. If the bill be passed, Mr. Komaya, President of the Tokyo Higher Commercial School, it is said, is to be removed to Osaka. Some persons, however, are very unwilling to have this able President removed to the western city, and are preparing to petition for his retention in Tokyo.

SEAMAN DROWNED.

A SEAMAN named Peter Tiernay, belonging to the British vessel *Federation*, was drowned in Yokohama harbour at 12.15 a.m. on Friday through the capsizing of a boat when alongside his vessel. Four men were in the boat at the time: one succeeded in jumping on board, two others were rescued by the second officer and watchman, but the fourth was lost.

PRIVATE RAILWAY COMPANIES.

THE receipts of the following private railway companies during the ten days ended the 10th inst. were:—Ryomo Railway Co., *yen* 6,951.935, a daily average income of *yen* 13.631 per mile; Osaka Railway Co., *yen* 10,041.105, a daily average income of *yen* 23.160 per mile; Sangu Railway Co., *yen* 2,607.105, a daily average income of *yen* 10.863 per mile.

NEW TELEGRAPH CABLES.

SUBMARINE telegraph cables for use between Osaka and Marukame and Saga and Shimonoseki lately arrived from England, and the work of laying the same will shortly be commenced. Government experts left the capital on the 17th inst. for the districts named.

MR. H. M. BEVIS.

WE (*China Gazette*) understand that Mr. H. M. Bevis, the late popular Manager of the local Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has been appointed General Inspector for all branches in every part of the world, Mr. John Walter, the late General Inspector, having been permanently appointed to the London office.

THE JAPANESE MINISTER IN AUSTRIA.

MR. TAKAHIRA, Japanese Minister in Italy, was transferred to Austria on the 16th inst. He also received the additional appointment to represent Japan in Switzerland.

MYSTERY IN SOUL.

The mystery of the Korean Queen's death seems to have remained a mystery among the bulk of the foreign residents in Söul for more than a month after the occurrence. At first nothing was know definitely in Tokyo, for Viscount Miura's telegrams to the Foreign Office were couched in language purposely designed to leave a part of the truth untold. But very soon the facts came out, and it was ascertained beyond all question that Her Majesty had been murdered. Yet, in the middle ot November, we find the editor of *The Korean Repository* writing: "The mystery surrounding the fate of the Queen still remains unsolved. It is generally admitted in the Japanese journals that she is dead and their correspondence from Söul claims that her body has been found in a well with a fatal cut, well known to Japanese swordsmen, extending from the shoulder down into the breast. We should like to know who the parties are that fouud the body, and what they have done with it. Either someone is lying desperately, or else they possess facts in which the public has a tremendous interest."

JAPAN IN THE EAST.

Recently, referring to a trade report by Consul-General Jeringan of Shanghai, we congratulated the writer upon having been the first to recognise officially the display of commercial liberality made by Japan in the Shimonoseki Treaty. It has never happened previously, so far as we can remember, that a victorious State exacted from a vanquished conditions plainly unfavourable to the tradal interests of the former, in order that the rest of the world might profit by them. Had Japan sought to obtain a monopoly of the Chinese markets for her own spun or woven cottons, she should naturally have desired, above all things, to prevent the establishment of cotton mills under foreign auspices in China, whereas, on the contrary, she included in the Shimonoseki Treaty a clause finally disposing of all the impediments hitherto placed by the Chinese in the path of such enterprise. Has she received any public recognition of her liberality? None, so far as we can see, except from Consul-General Jernigan. The projectors of the Ewo Cotton Mills, when announcing by circular that they were at length in a position to carry their undertaking to a practical issue, went out of their way to attribute their suddenly acquired ability to the exertions of the British Representative in Pekin, whereas, in point of fact, they owed it entirely to the privileges secured by the Shimonoseki Treaty. For years the British Representative had been working to obtain the required permission from the Chinese Government. He had even began to be very doubtful whether such a concession would benefit the British empire, since the machinery needed for establishing cotton mills would probably come from the United States, and the products of the mills would compete ruinously with manufactures imported from Great Britain. But the conclusion of the Shimonoseki Treaty settled everything. Immediately Her Majesty's Representative obtained for his nationals the permission of the Tsung-li Yamên, under the right conferred by the most-favoured-nation clause, and within a few days the Ewo Mill projectors were able to inaugurate an enterprise that had hung fire for years. If they shrank from openly accrediting that consummation to Japan's cosmopolitan liberality, they might at least have refrained from attributing it to the efforts of the British Representative, as though to place on record their indifference to what Japan had done. It is not to be assumed, of course, that Japan's action was purely altruistic. She doubtless desired to conciliate Europe's good will. But, at all events, that is a spirit that Europe should try to develop by approval instead of chilling it by injustice. We fear that this experience may serve to drive Japan into the wholly selfish grooves from which it ought to be the object of her foreign friends to hold her back. A correspondent from Shanghai, writing on the subject, says:—'Your editorial comment on an extract from one of Consul-General Jernigan's reports, recently republished in the *Mail*, is timely and certainly just to Japan. Possibly you may have seen another report from the same official, in which he says:—"Japan has accomplished more for civilization in Asia than a hundred years of European diplomacy and arms." The machinery imported by the Ewo Cotton Mill would have remained on ship-board or in a godown until Japan's action created the right to land and use it, and it is most unfair to Japan to withhold the credit that is justly her due. Historic truth ought to be no less sacred than religion, and it is a historic truth that Japan has done more to liberalize commerce in Asia than Europe and America combined have done. It will require a lever of great motive power to turn China over. Europe made a mistake in checking the progress of Japan's arms, probably not a mistake when considered from the point of self-interest, but certainly a mistake when viewed from the standpoint of a more liberal civilization.'

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MR. FUKUZAWA AND HIS PUPILS.

Nobody in Japan is more widely respected and esteemed than the Sage of Mita, whose sixty-first anniversary has just been celebrated by his pupils and admirers in a most picturesque and impressive manner. Born on the 12th day of December (old calendar), in the 5th year of *Tempo* (1834), Mr. Fukuzawa has not yet completed his sixty-first year. But the usual custom in such cases is to make no distinction between the old and new calendars. Anniversaries of births are celebrated on the day of nominal, instead of real, correspondence between the two systems, for in that way many revered associations are preserved. The case is of course different with persons born since the introduction of the new calendar twenty-three years ago. Thus Mr. Fukuzawa's sixty-first birthday was celebrated by his disciples at the Maple Club, Tokyo, on the 12th instant.

We take the following facts from a minute account of the affair published in the *Jiji Shimpo*:—The gate of the Koyo-kan was spanned by a big arch of evergreens, with words appropriate to the occasion picked out in yellow chrysanthemum blossoms. The garden at the back of the building was decked with paper lanterns in the usual style. At one in the afternoon, Mr. Fukuzawa and his family arrived in carriages and were greeted most enthusiastically by neary two hundred and fifty of his former pupils, now prominent men in various departments of life. Among them were noticeable:—Mr. Kuki Kyuichi, Privy Councillor; Viscount Nagaoka, Baron Suyematsu, Chief of the Legislative Bureau; Mr. Yano Fumio, a Master of Ceremonies; Mr. Tsuji Shinji, ex-Vice-Minister of Education; Mr. Iwasaki Hisaya; Mr. Kondo Rimpei, President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; Mr. Kato Masayoshi, Vice-President of the same Company; Mr. Masuda Takashi, Mr. Soda Heigoro, Mr. Toyokawa Ryohei, Mr. Abe Taizo, Mr. Watanabe Hiromoto, Mr. Oishi Masami, ex-Minister to Korea; Mr. Ozaki Yukio, M.P., Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi, M.P., Mr. Inukai Ki, M.P., Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, M.P., Mr. Minoura Katsundo, M.P., Mr. Obata Tokujiro, Imperial Nominee to the House of Peers; Professors Kikuchi Dairoku and Mizukuri Kokichi of the Imperial University; Dr. Nagayo Sensai, Dr. Kitazato, the bacteriologist, Dr. Matsuyama. We also find the name of Count Goto, but we believe that he was not Mr. Fukuzawa's pupil; probably he joined the celebration simply out of admiration for the great educationist. There were also several Koreans present, and the foreign professors of the Keiwo Gijuku.

At 2 p.m., the party assembled at the *No* theatre which was connected with the Koyo-kan by a temporary covered way, specially constructed for the occasion. The performances consisted of *Hashi-Benkei*, *Yamauba*, *Suminori*, and *Shojo*. Upon the conclusion of the *No* performances, Mr. Obata Tokujiro, the earliest disciple and well known assistant of Mr. Fukuzawa, appeared on the stage and read a congratulatory address on behalf of the assembled former pupils of the great master. The address commenced by congratulating Mr. Fukuzawa upon the extraordinarily good condition of his health, which was attributed in part to the strong constitution inheritated by him from his mother, but principally to his well regulated and virtuous mode of living. The great Chinese philosopher Mencius said that the three things to be most esteemed were virtue, age, and honours. Virtue and age are the undisputed attributes of Mr. Fukuzawa, and as to honours, he does not covet them. He is perfectly happy without them. The address then went on to speak in high, but well deserved, terms of the great services rendered by Mr. Fukuzawa in the field of education in its broadest sense, and concluded with wishing continued prosperity and happiness to the great master. Congratulatory letters and telegrams that had been received from all parts of the country and from Korea were then read by Mr. Takahashi Yoshio and Commander Kaburaki, I.J.N.

Mr. Fukuzawa then rose to address his entertainers. He thanked them sincerely for the magnificent manner in which they had celebrated his birthday and for the highly eulogistic address that had just been read by his esteemed friend Mr. Obata. He thought it fit to say something about his birth and past career. "On the 12th day of the 12th month of the 5th year of *Tempo*, I was born in the clan *yashiki* of Nakatsu, at Tamaye-bashi, Dojima, in Osaka; or to speak more correctly, in the *nagaya* to the right of the front gate of that *yashiki*. At the age of three, I lost my father, and went back to Nakatsu in company with my mother and five brothers. At twenty-one I went to Nagasaki, where I began to study the Dutch language. Subsequently I proceeded to Osaka and entered a school kept by the late Agata Koan, where I remained until 1858, when I bade adieu to my birthplace and came up to Yedo. I opened a little school in the compound of the *yashiki* of my clan at Teppozu. About this time I gave up Dutch in favour of English. While I was thus prosecuting my studies and imparting what little I knew to others, mighty changes were taking place in the political world, changes that finally resulted in the Restoration of 1868. That revolution inaugurated a new epoch of civilization, and the impetus thus given to the pursuit of knowledge soon swelled the number of the pupils, necessitating the removal of my school first to Shinsen-za and finally to Mita. Such was the origin of the Keiwo Gijuku." Mr. Fukuzawa then went on, in his characteristically easy, simple, yet withal eloquent manner, to expatiate on the facts that he is still the same artless student of former days, and that, in associating with his fellow men his greatest joy has always been to speak with all, high and low, rich and poor, on terms of perfect equality.

Afterwards the whole party returned to the Maple Club and sat down to dinner, separating into four different groups in four separate apartments. Mr. Fukuzawa went round the different groups and thanked his pupils and friends. A band played in the garden. The party dispersed about 9 p.m. each carrying home, as a *souvenir* of the occasion, a portion of red and white *mochi* (dried cake), a *sake* cup with an inscription in Mr. Fukuzawa's own writing, and a *fukusa* with his picture and a poem printed on it.

On the same day, the students of the Keiwo Gijuku assembled in the central yard of the school, where, having solicited the presence of Mr. Fukuzawa and his family, they shouted *banzai* in honour of their master, and congratulatory addresses were read by the spokesmen of the different departments of the institution. Mr. Fukuzawa addressed them in an interesting speech which deserves to be noticed at some length, as it contains many suggestive allusions to the history of Japan during the past forty years. He could say without any taint of egotism, that, although he did not deserve the panegyrics pronounced upon him, he was eminently happy to have been a spectator of the memorable drama enacted during the past four decades. Not only had he been a spectator, but he had also taken a part in it. Men twenty years younger than he had only seen one-half of the stirring drama, but it had been his good fortune to witness it from the very beginning of the first scene. What had been his part in the performance? His part had been to talk and to theorize. While he was between twenty and thirty, the country was still under the full sway of feudalism, divided up among two hundred and seventy barons. The hereditary system of government held the people under a discipline hardly conceivable by the present generation. Even in those days there were men that rebelled against the existing state of affairs, and secretly ridiculed the customs and institutions of the time. Mr. Fukuzawa remembered well that, having become a confirmed believer in the theory that the age of the sword was to be succeeded by the age of the pen, he sold all the swords in his possession to a dealer in Hikage-cho, Yedo. Students of western science in those days were fiercely opposed to Chinese philosophy and its votaries. Being entirely dissatisfied with the existing order of things, they thought it laudable for the feudal retainers to sever their connections with their clans and enter the fraternity of *Ronin*, who were devoted to the introduction of a new era based on the principles of western civilization. What was the impression produced upon society by these revolutionary spirits? They were hated and disliked; they were in fact regarded as drunkards breaking in upon a peaceful family circle. What the disciples of Occidental civilization advocated with ardour, merely caused surprise; their talk about the various material wonders produced by modern science was received with utter incredulity. How could a Japanese of those days believe that by constructing an iron road between Yedo and Osaka, he could leave the former city in the morning and eat his supper in the latter on the same day, whereas the journey there involved a fortnight by road. Even the most uncompromising revolutionalists of those days did not dream that things, by describing which they delighted to surprise their ignorant fellow countrymen, would soon become accomplished facts. The students of western civilization, thirty or forty years ago, were veritably in a state of despair. But the revolution of 1868 soon led to the realization of all their apparently impossible dreams. Indeed, the changes accomplished in the sequel of that revolution were so sweeping and radical in character, that the advocates of the new civilization felt ashamed because they had not been more sanguine and sweeping in their opinions and dreams of reform. It was not uncommon forty years ago to hear young zealots sing verses in which gigantic schemes of foreign conquest and a glorious future for the country were depicted, but neither the composers nor the reciters of these verses had the smallest expectation of witnessing such glorious days. How happy then did Mr. Fukuzawa, one of the dreaming zealots of forty years ago, feel to have lived to share the joys of a glorious campaign that had raised the country's prestige so much! All seemed to him like a dream, so unexpectedly rapid and successful had been the progress of his country along the path of civilization. It might justly be said that the drama that opened forty years ago had just been brought to a conclusion, but Mr. Fukuzawa assured his young hearers that they need not feel any regret on that account, for there would ensue a glorious performance, in which they would take their parts each according to his worth and ability. In order to be prepared, therefore, they should discipline their intellects, make themselves acquainted with the true aspect of human affairs, and above all work out their independence. Should they find themselves too much in advance of the time to carry out their cherished ideas, they must not despair, for there remained for them a nobler field of activity, namely, that of teaching the people by pen and by mouth.

THE SHARE MARKET.

Reference was made recently to the extraordinary rise that took place in the prices of shares during the latter part of last month. Since the beginning of the present month, the opposite tendency has set in, as shown by the following table:—

Shares.	Paid up. Yen	Highest Dec. 3. Yen.	Highest Dec. 3. Yen.	Depreciation. Yen.
Ryomo Railway.....	(50)	91.50	85.50	6.00
San-yo Railway.....	(30)	66.00	59.90	6.10
Kwan-sai Railway...	(47)	82.50	71.80	10.70
Kyushu Railway ...	(41)	77.00	67.90	9.10
Kobu Railway	(50)	162.00	148.00	14.00
Tanko Railway.....	(50)	108.80	102.70	6.10
Nippon Yusen	(50)	117.00	100.90	16.10
Taikoku Shogyo Ginko	(25)	52.10	47.50	4.60
Kanegafuchi Boseki	(50)	78.40	72.20	6.20
Tokyo Stock Exchange	(50)	820.00	597.00	223.00

On the whole, the depreciation has been in proportion to the former appreciation, and it may be stated as a general fact that the quotations have returned, or are fast returning, to the condition in which they were found during the first half of last month.

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THE PROGRESSIONIST MEETING.

The grand lecture meeting of the Progressionists at the Kinki-kan on the 15th instant ended in a fiasco. It was apparent long before the meeting was opened that the audience, which already filled the hall to overflowing, contained a large number of hostile *soshi*. Everybody, therefore, expected animated scenes. Scarcely had the first speaker, Mr. Ogawa Michizo, ascended the platform, when the *soshi* began to cry "banzai! banzai!" in ironical tones. A body of *soshi* belonging to the Progressionist Party replied in an angry tone, and the altercation led to a confused scene, the audience standing up and increasing the tumult by all sort of shouts. Blows were freely exchanged, and one or two Progressionist partizans received cuts from knives. It is asserted that some *soshi* were armed with daggers and revolvers, but the statement lacks confirmation. The confusion increasing every moment, the police inspector ordered the dissolution of the meeting. His order was received with loud cheers by the hostile *soshi*, but those in the employ of the Progressionists became still more exasperated and refused to disperse. While the tumult was at its height, there appeared on the platform the notorious Mr. Tanaka Shozo, who loudly protested against the measures taken by the police inspector and censured him for his partiality to the hostile *soshi*. Mr. Tanaka was requested to descend from the platform, but as he refused to do so, he had to be dragged down by force. The police being in large numbers and apparently ready to act with decision, the excited audience gradually dispersed uttering execrations against the guardians of the peace. The Progressionist papers strongly censure the conduct of the police, charging them with gross partiality for the hostile *soshi*. Being present in strong force, the police, it is argued, could have succeeded, had they been so inclined, in keeping the *soshi* under control. But we fail to see how they could have done so, when the confusion was increased to a hopeless degree by the conduct of Progressionist *soshi*, who usurped the duties of the police.

THE PROGRESSIONIST MANIFESTO.

The following is a translation of the Manifesto voted at the meeting of the Progressionists on the 14th instant :—

By the success of our arms in the war with China, our national prestige was on the point of being augmented when a diplomatic blunder prevented us from realizing our object. Was not that a serious warning to the nation?

Our deliberate opinion is that, in order to secure the full benefits of the constitutional system, it is absolutely necessary to have a strong Cabinet enjoying the confidence of the people. Under a strong Cabinet alone will it be possible to secure the success of our arms and extend the prestige of the country. That we have not been able to retain the fruits of our victory over China, that our original policy toward Korea has not been consistently followed, are not these the consequences of not having a Cabinet responsible to the Diet? Thus the recent turn of events has made us feel more keenly than ever the necessity of responsible Cabinets.

By a singular change of situation, the attention of the Powers of the world has been concentrated upon the East, and in that way Japan is now the object of increasing observation by those Powers. It is, therefore, universally recognized by the nation that the course of events has proportionately increased the military responsibility of the Empire. Our Party is convinced that it is a measure of the most urgent importance to maintain in constant readiness a force as strong as the national resources permit.

Industry is the means by which the material resources of a country are increased, while intelligence and virtue constitute the moral strength of a nation. In order to secure the permanent maintenance of a powerful fighting force, steps should be taken to promote the development of the moral strength and material resources of the country. Our Party, therefore, attaches great importance to the encouragement of education and industry.

Taking these ideas as a basis, our Party hereby adopts the following resolutions :—

"Firstly.—The retrocession of Liaotung has stained the honour of the country, and the Government's Korean policy has increased the dangers of the situation in the East. There has been maladministration in connection with other foreign affairs, but our Party should limit its attention to the above two questions as a reason for demanding the resignation of the Cabinet.

"Secondly.—It is contrary to the dignity and interests of the country to change the Korean policy. The object of maintaining the independence of Korea should, therefore, be pursued to the end in obedience to the declaration of war.

"Thirdly.—An increase of armament is a matter of urgent importance. But in carrying out that principle, attention should be paid to the importance of reforms in the Army and the Navy, to the rejection of all ornament, and to making practical utility the sole object. While advocating, on the one hand, an increase of armament within the limits of the national resources, our Party, on the other, should exert itself to carrying out reforms in the interior of the Army and the Navy.

"Fourthly.—Military equipment and diplomacy are inseparably connected. Our Party, therefore, should use its endeavours for the definite settlement of the country's foreign policy and for the improvement and extension of the machinery of diplomacy.

"Fifthly.—It being impossible to increase the prestige of the country unless abundant resources are available, our Party should direct its attention to the development of industries of all sorts.

"Sixthly.—The operations of the troops would not be effective and the development of industries would be incomplete, unless railways and telegraphs were increased, steamship services extended, the maritime fleet augmented, and officers and men educated and trained in increasing numbers. Our Party should, therefore, direct its attention to carrying out these important measures.

"Seventhly.—More increase of troops would not make the country strong unless the people were animated by a high martial spirit. Neither would a high martial spirit alone secure the prosperity of the country without a corresponding degree of intelligence and virtue on the part of the people. Our Party should, therefore, endeavour to improve and extend the educational system of the country, so as to secure the advance of education among the people.

"Eighthly.—In order to defray the expenses required for increased armaments, extension of the diplomatic service, and other important measures, it will be necessary to increase the taxes. But simultaneously with increasing the taxes, it is important that reforms should be introduced in the system and method of taxation, superfluous expenditures being curtailed, and the general finances prudently managed.

"Ninthly.—A prevalent fault on the part of the Authorities is to disregard and encroach upon the rights and liberties of the people. Our party should endeavour to root out this evil.

"Tenthly.—Vigorous general administration is impossible without a firm foundation. Recent blunders and maladministrations abundantly prove the truth of this statement. Our Party should, therefore, exert itself to inaugurate a system of responsible Cabinets, which is the foundation of all political reforms."

It is the desire of the Progressionist Party that all its members, both those having seats in the Diet and others, should harmoniously cōoperate for carrying out the above resolutions and other objects entertained by the Party.

VISCOUNT TANI & THE GOVERNOR OF TOKYO.

Viscount Tani seems to be employing all the zeal by which his pursuit of any cherished object is usually marked, to induce the Mayor of Tokyo, Governor Miura, to resign his office in deference to the opinion of the Committee appointed to examine and report upon the Iron-foundry frauds. The Governor justly observes that the Committee have no competence whatever to discuss his resignation, but Viscount Tani replies that whether the recommendation of the Committee be *ultra vires* or not, Governor Miura should adopt it if it be good—a species of argument to which the Governor naturally offers no conclusive reply. Viscount Tani is probably one of the most emotional statesmen in Japan. That is a distinction, at all events.

THE LIBERALS.

A general meeting of the Liberal Party was held in the buildings of the head-quarters at Shiba, Tokyo, on the 15th instant. The proceedings were opened by Mr. Ishizuka, the manager of the Party at 9 a.m. There were present over three hundred and fifty members. At the instance of Count Itagaki, Mr. Kono Hironaka was voted to the Chair amid enthusiastic cheers. Count Itagaki then rose and addressed the meeting as follows :—

The ninth session of the Diet being near, a general meeting has been convened in pursuance of the usual practice. I thank you on behalf our Party for promptly responding to the summons and assembling here in such large numbers. I shall proceed to say a few words, as is my wont, about the policy of the Party. That policy was announced by a Declaration issued in July last, and was subsequently propounded in the Manifesto proclaimed recently; so that it is not necessary for me to dwell upon the subject at any length. The situation of affairs subsequent to the war has seriously increased the responsibilities of the Empire. Unless we increase our armaments, it will be imposible not only to preserve peace in the East, but even to guarantee the safety of this country. And in order that we may be able to increase our Army and Navy to an adequate point, and maintain them in a state of efficiency, it is of imperative necessity to nourish and develop the resources of the country. These two measures are of such paramount importance that any delay in carrying them out will have a serious influence upon the destiny of the country. Therefore, in respect of these two measures, all classes of the people should be united. In addition to this reason for combined action with those in power, it was perceived that an alliance with them would open hopes for perfecting the system of constitutioned government, which is the basis of our national wealth and strength. Under these circumstances, our Party's alliance with the Cabinet, I am convinced, must be regarded as an act of patriotism well becoming a great political body like ourselves.

Our Party does not posses a majority in the Diet, and consequently it will be necessary for us to open communications with some other parties in connection with the questions that may be brought up for discussion in the coming session. In order to secure smooth and harmonious cōoperation with other parties, it is not advisable to decide definitely beforehand upon the line of action to be pursued on each and every question. I hope, therefore, that you will repose confidence in those having seats in the Diet and leave them free to act according to the requirements of each case.

In conclusion, I wish to say a word of two on the future prospects of our Party. We have succeeded in obtaining the confidence of the country so that we now exercise a large degree of influence in the Legislature. But prosperous as its condition is, our Party has not yet secured a majority in the Diet, and consequently much remains to be accomplished. Perseverence, therefore, should be our motto. One word more about our alliance with the Cabinet. It is a mistake to suppose that we are ready to make any sacrifice short of abandoning our principles. But in so far as our political creed is not prejudiced, we should try to bury in oblivion whatever unpleasant passages may have taken place between ourselves and the Cabinet, so as to unite together for the furtherance of measures of national importance. We cannot lower our self respect and personal dignity. But it is at the same time important that the true proportions of things should be kept in view, and it should also be remembered that by retracing a step on one point we can often advance six on another. It is the virtue of constancy that has secured for us the confidence of the country. In adversity it is comparatively easy to be constant; but that virtue is more difficult to maintain in times of prosperity. We are nearing a period of prosperity, and it is my earnest wish that we should endeavour to remain true to the virtue by which we have thus far been distinguished.

On the conclusion of this speech, the Chairman called for the election of a Committee to consider and report upon the measures submitted to the meeting. To avoid the trouble of voting, the Chairman was unanimously requested to nominate the Committee, whereupon he nominated 10 members of the Diet and 5 ordinary members of the party. None of the persons selected is of sufficient standing to be named here: indeed, the nomination seems to have been made purposely from the ranks of

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the third-rate members. The Committee withdrew to a separate apartment to enter upon their business at once. Meanwhile, the assembly listened to and approved reports on the general affairs and finances of the party.

At the instance of Mr. Okuno Ichijiro, Mr. Kayetsu Ujifusa was requested to thank the Leader and the Council of the Party for their zealous devotion to its interests. Mr. Kayetsu discharged the duty thus entrusted to him in a few well chosen words, expressing on behalf of the whole party, entire satisfaction with the alliance that the Leader and the Council had effected. The assembly then adjourned for tiffin.

At half-past twelve, the conference was resumed. On a motion by Mr. Hirata Shin, the assembly decided that, in order to secure promptitude and activity in the conduct of Party affairs, the Council of sixteen members should be replaced by a Political Committee of three. The nomination of the Committee was entrusted to the leader, who named Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Hayashi Yuzo, and Matsuda Masahisa. This nomination was enthusiastically received by all present.

The commttee that had been nominated during the morning session to report upon the measures submitted for the approval of the assembly, then submitted their report. They recommended approval of the declaration of July 17th and of the Manifesto of Nov. 22nd. They further recommended approval of another measure for delegating to Liberals having seats in the Diet discretionary power with regard to the extension of freedom of the press and platform, the increase of the Army and Navy, the reform of finance, the promotion of education, the encouragement of industry, and other subjects likely to be discussed in the Diet. These recommendations were unanimously adopted.

Referring to a passage in the Declaration of July 17th, in which attention was called to the necessity of curtailing expenditures as far as possible, Mr. Takahashi Anji asked whether the sentence should be interpreted in the sense that the same policy formerly followed in the matter of reducing official expenditure was to be continued. In reply to the question, Mr. Hayashi Yuzo answered that, superfluous items were to be curtailed, there was no intention of demanding any reduction of necessary expenditures. Mr. Takahashi further asked whether it was contemplated to demand reductions such as would necessitate a modification of the Official Organization. Nothing of the kind, replied Mr. Hayashi, was contemplated.

Mr. Okubo Tango having asked for information about recent meetings between Marquis Ito and Count Okuma, Mr. Hayashi answered as follows:—"Those meetings occurred just when communications were taking place between our Party and the Cabinet on the subject of coalition. Marquis Ito sent for me and told me that, although he had received an invitation to dinner from Count Okuma, it was only a matter of social courtesy and had no political meaning whatever. The Marquis further assured me that his meeting with Count Okuma would not in any way prejudice the question of coalition with our Party, then under negotiation. Subsequently, in order to make the thing still more certain, I went to Oiso on the 13th ultimo, and had an interview with the Premier, when I satisfied myself that there was no intention on his part of coming to an understanding with the Progressionists. Two days afterwards, on the 15th ult., a meeting of the Council was held, at which it was decided to issue the recent Manifesto."

Mr. Takahashi then suggested that it would be advisable for his Party to be prepared to oppose the Government, should the latter form an alliance with the Progressionists. Mr. Hayashi declared himself of the same way of thinking. After a few more measures had been disposed of, Count Itagaki called for three cheers for the Emperor, the Crown Prince, and the Liberal Party. The call was lustily responded to, and the meeting adjourned at 2 p.m.

CIRCUMSTANCES AND CASES.

Last July we gave publicity to the fact that a subscription had been started among the Japanese for the relief of the families of soldiers killed in the war with China. Such an act of charity is perfectly natural. There devolves upon every State an obligation to make some provision for the families of men killed in battle or in the active discharge of duty. But while that is true, it is equally true that many cases of distress must fall outside the pale of any reasonable system of relief. If the extremes of suffering be taken as a basis, the scale must evidently be too high: if the mean be taken, it must often happen that the succour rendered is quite inadequate. The plain function of private charity is to look for and relieve those cases that lie beyond the reach of ordinary State aid. With that view a subscription was started among the Japanese last June, and in July the lists were opened to foreigners. Doubtless our readers remember the reception given by local foreign newspapers to the appeal. It was denounced as undignified and monstrous. In most emphatic terms those newspapers declared that upon the Government and the Government alone rested the duty of providing for the bereaved families. They even descended to the miserable *grossièreté* of assigning to each of the half dozen foreigners that subscribed, motives entirely independent of any charitable impulse. Four months afterwards the pinnace of a British man-of-war was upset when carrying back to their ship a number of bluejackets from drill on shore. A subscription was quickly started in the Far East for the relief of the families of the deceased, and not only were subscriptions received from persons not of British nationality, but the Japanese were strongly censured for not subscribing!! It is scarcely possible to believe that such flagrant self-stultification could take place, but the facts are undeniable. For the amusement of our readers we print, side by side, the comments of the two evening journals of Yokohama with regard to the Japanese relief fund and the *Edgar* relief fund:—

As to the Japanese Relief Fund.

So far from charitable emotions being evoked by the appeal, the only proper sentiment which should be entertained, is that of surprise that a Government should be so apathetic or so unmindful of what is due to the survivors of those who have perished in the war, and of the reputation of the country abroad, that she should have allowed the paltry scheme to be launched. * * * The responsibility of doing what is requisite, rests with the Government alone, and it should at once recognise it, for it possesses ample funds to meet every individual emergency that the war has created amongst the survivors of those who perished by battle, by hardship, or by disease. As the case stands, it is but paltering with the evil, to rely on the charity of private persons to relieve families' distress.

We regard the well-meant, but mistaken design of the projectors of the scheme, to be decidedly mischievous, inasmuch as they have intruded between the manifest duty of the Government and the sufferers, and it may be thought, have relieved it, in large measure of its responsibility.

Another Journal on the Japanese Relief Fund.

An attempt is to be made to obtain subscriptions from the foreign residents on behalf of the families of those killed in the war. We cannot endorse the appeal. Those killed died in the service of the Japanese Government. * * * That this community should put its hands into its pockets to execute the duty devolving on the Japanese Government is a monstrous proposition. Let the distressed be relieved out of the indemnity.

The same Journal on the *Edgar* Relief Fund.

Foreigners in Japan may be said to be creditably distinguished by the spontaneous voluntary contributions which they make to assuage the poverty and misery of Japanese sufferers by calamities, on occasions that arise which seem to justify an exercise of philanthropy. For these exhibitions of sympathy with suffering, many thousands of dollars have been subscribed by foreigners to relieve cases of Japanese loss and distress, but it is remarked that there is no reciprocity on the part of the Japanese when cases occur which appeal for the exercise of a similar spirit of benevolence on their part. Take the case of the relations of the seamen lost by the sinking of the boat of the British man-of-war *Edgar*, for which a subscription is in the course of being raised for those who were dependent on them. If any persons have the curiosity to look over the list of the names of the contributors, as published in the newspapers, they will not find the name of one Japanese included.

The same Journal on the *Edgar* Fund.

The *Edgar* Fund, as I anticipated, has reached very handsome proportions. The vessel was specially detached from the Meditoranean squadron for service out here in the stormy times of last year, and as British residents in the Far East do not contribute to the navy the opportunity to show their sympathy with the seamen was one which I should have thought no Englishman would miss. The Government does not look after the wives and children; that duty devolves on the public, * * * Yet on glancing down the lists I note one or two abstentions. Considering how cheerfuliy Englishmen subscribe to Japanese charities I expected to see many Japanese names.

It would be difficult to carry inconsistency further than these journals have pushed it. The Japanese must be vastly amused.

"CONQUEST AND EXPATRIATION."

Under the above heading, the *Kobe Chronicle* discusses the treatment that ought to be extended by Japan to the Chinese residents of Formosa. Strange to say, our contemporary accepts without comment the typographically mutilated version of the 5th Article of the Treaty as published in these columns. The last clause runs thus in the original:—"At the expiration of that period" (two years from the date of the exchange of ratifications), those of the inhabitants who should not have left such territories, shall, *at the option of Japan*, be deemed to be Japanese subjects." The italicized words, "at the option of Japan," were dropped by the printer from our reproduction of the Article in our issue of the 5th instant, but the error was pointed out and its significance explained in our third succeeding issue (Monday 9th instant). Yet in the *Kobe Chronicle* of the 14th instant, we find the article quoted in the erroneous form originally given to it by our printers. The *Japan Gazette* has steadily adhered to the false rendering ever since. We are not surprised at that. If it be possible to blunder, the *Japan Gazette* blunders, and when the blunder serves to make a bad case for Japan, its permanent adoption is secured. With the *Kobe Chronicle*, however, things are very different. We should have expected it to consult the original under any circumstances before taking the Article as an editorial text, and above all, when our own editorial to which the *Chronicle* replies, is obviously based upon a treaty stipulation different from that appearing at the time in our columns, our Kobe contemporary should have detected the discrepancy. If the Shimonoseki Treaty's 5th Article had simply provided, as the *Kobe Chronicle* alleges, that any Chinese remaining in Formosa at the end of two years "shall be deemed to be Japanese subjects," how could we possibly have interpreted the Article to mean "that persons failing to avail themselves of the liberty to sell, will not be entitled to claim any status other than such as the Japanese Government may choose to confer on them"? Our issue of the 9th, containing the correction, must have reached Kobe on the 10th; that is to say four days before the *Chronicle's* editorial appeared. We observe, too, that the *Kobe Herald* has fallen into the same error, and drawn the same false deduction. With regard to the *Kobe Chronicle's* comments, with the spirit of which we agree, though the general argument is vitiated by the mistake above alluded to, we need make only one observation. Our contemporary writes thus:—

The clause which we quoted" (*i.e.* the misquoted clause) "at the beginning of this article binds Japan to regard the Chinese who intend to remain under Japanese domination as Japanese subjects, with the rights and privileges appertaining thereto. Had any other idea been expressed when the Shimonoseki Treaty was made, it is very certain that it would have been protested against by the Chinese plenipotentiary, who would have been supported in his protest by the general opinion of the civilised world.

The *Kobe Chronicle* believes, then, that the inhabitants of conquered territory have an inherent claim to be regarded as subjects of the conqueror, and to enjoy all the rights and privileges appertaining to such subjects. Against any other idea, our contemporary says, the Chinese Plenipotentiary would have protested, and the general opinion of the civilized world would have supported his protest. As a matter of fact no such idea was embodied in the Shimonoseki Treaty. On the contrary, it was explicitly left optional for Japan to regard the inhabitants of the ceded island as her subjects or not, according to her own convenience, and neither did the Chinese Plenipotentiary protest, nor did the civilized world make any comment. But where, in any dictum of international law or in any historical precedent, is the principle embodied that our contemporary lays down? Does any civilized nation recognise such a principle?

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MR. KONO HIRONAKA AT KYOTO.

Explaining the coalition between the Cabinet and the Liberal party at the meeting of the Kwan-sai Liberals at Kyoto, Mr. Kono Hironaka, the leader *Jiyu-to* in the House of Representatives, spoke to the following effect :—

"The alliance between our party and the Government is the result of a coincidence of views on the principal national questions. Allusion may, however, be made to three particular reasons which contributed to the consummation of the alliance. As a result of the recent war with China, our foreign relations have entered upon a new epoch of great responsibility, and in order to fulfill these responsibilities in a satisfactory manner the country must be united and harmonious. It does not require any uncommon intelligence to see that nothing could be more disastrous to the interests, and more unbecoming to the dignity of the Empire, than that the people should be engrossed in petty party disputes and contentions among themselves. Les us suppose for a moment that we join our voice to that of the parties bent upon attacking the Government on the question of the Liaotung peninsula, would it in the least help us to regain any part of the territory we have renounced? To waste precious time and energy on such a question, and at such a juncture, would be totally inconsistent with any love of the country. That is one of the reasons that induced our Party to bury in oblivion all recollections of former differences and join hands with those in power. When we opened communications with the Government on this matter, we discovered that they were of the same way of thinking, and our coincidence of views led to the present alliance. The next reason that caused the alliance was the urgent necessity of carrying out various measures of national importance, such as the increase of the Army and the Navy, the development of industry and commerce, and the promotion of education. The successful carrying out of these measures demands union between the Government and the Diet. That was another reason why we have sacrificed personal considerations in order to cōoperate with those in office. A third reason is our conviction that by taking this step we shall effectually promote the introduction o a system of responsible cabinets—a consummaf tion which has ever been the cherished hope of the Liberal party. For the attainment of that object, we have suffered much, but the only result of our endeavours has hitherto been to strengthen the Government's resistance to the realization of our object. To continue the fruitless struggle at the present juncture would be not only to thwart the carrying out of various measures of paramount importance, but also to retard the attainment of our longcherished object. Under these circumstances, it was thought more wise and patriotic to join hands with our antagonists and work with them in frank and manly cōoperation, for such a course is better calculated to serve the interests of the country and facilitate the attainment of our political aims. Such are the principal reasons which made us decide upon an alliance with the Government. We have nothing to be ashamed of in all this, for we have throughout been actuated by the purest of motives, namely, a sincere regard for the good of the country. We have only to pursue the course that commends itself to our disinterested judgment. We are confident of our victory in the coming session of the Diet. But should we be defeated, we should be ready to hand over the government of the country to our opponents, provided they faithfully represented the sentiments of the people. But that is exactly what they do not do, and, under the circumstances, the consequence of our defeat, which we do not apprehend, must be an appeal to the country. Should the verdict of a general election be unfavourable to our Party, the Government will not hesitate to resign, thereby inaugurating a system of responsible cabinets. In that event, while regretting our own defeat, we should have good reason to be proud of having realized the principal aim of our Party. These things I allude to only hypothetically; I need not assure you that our Party's position is not so precarious. We are confident of success. We ought, however, to be prepared for the possible amalgamation of the parties opposed to us. Of course, we are not afraid; such a contingency does not appal us; on the contrary, the union of our opponents is just what we are most desirous to see accomplished. All the same, we must bear this possibility in our minds and be prepared to repel the united attacks of our adversaries. In defending ourselves against our political opponents, much depends upon the attitude of local organizations, and it is for that reason that I have dwelt upon these things."

CURRENT TOPICS.

The first conference of the Opposition parties took place at the Kaizaku-yen, Nihonbashi, on the 14th instant. The Progressionists and others made great efforts to induce the National Unionists to attend the conference. The former, it is said, declared themselves perfectly willing to come to a compromise with the latter on the question of ministerial responsibility in regard to the Liaotung and Korean affairs, but the National Unionists refused to entertain any proposal for a compromise, and the conference came off without their presence. This was a source of serious disappointment to the Opposition parties, for all hope of obtaining the support of the National Unionists on the question of Ministerial responsibility must now be given up. The Progressionist organs, however, try to revive the drooping spirit of their allies by circulating a rumour that a split is inevitable among the National Unionists. According to this story, some Kyushu members of the Party, especially those from Satsuma, are discontented with the Chosu section, who advocate the unwisdom of attacking the Government on the Korean and Liaotung questions. Mr. Kashiwada Moribumi is said to be the leader of the discontented section. He and his followers propose, so the story runs, to demand that their Party adopt an attitude of hostility to the Cabinet on the question of foreign policy, and in the event of their demands being rejected, to secede from the party.

This rumour is most emphatically denied by the National Unionist organ, the *Chuo Shimbun*, which declares it to be one of the grossest falsehoods manufactured by the notorious news agency, the *Naigai Tsushin*. A neutral paper, the *Tokyo Asahi*, believes that at one time there was some danger of dissension among the National Unionists, but that the crisis has been successfully averted.

The National Unionists are to hold a general meeting on the 22nd. The manifesto to be issued on that occasion is in course of compilation by Messrs. Sassa Tomofusa, Kashiwada Moribumi, Minai Giichi, and so forth. The document has not yet been finally drafted, but according to the information of the *Tokyo Shimbun*, the new Liberal organ, the line of policy contemplated by the National Unionists seems to be in all essential points the same as that of the Liberal Party.

THE LOAFER IN TOKYO.

The loafer seems to have definitely found his way to Tokyo. It is a new experience for the citizens of the Japanese capital. They have had their itinerant mendicants and their alms-asking perambulatory priests, but the gentleman that eats his meals wherever he can find them, never pays for anything, and roams about in ragged garments with an air of general proprietorship is a novelty. The police don't appear to know how to deal with these products of Western civilization. One of them is disporting himself in the neighbourhood of Kyobashi, to the great annoyance of the respectable citizens, but the guardians of the law profess themselves unable to make him "move on" permanently. So the *Chuo Shimbun* says at all events.

THE HORSE BREEDING PROBLEM.

A recent number of the *Kokumin-no-Tomo* contains a valuable contribution on this subject from Mr. Kaneko Kentaro, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce. The first point to be considered, says the writer, is whether horses for military purposes should be bred separately from those destined for the ordinary uses of life. There is no necessity for such a distinction. Riding horses of private gentlemen can be used as officers' chargers, and horses for drawing guns may be recruited from horses habitually harnessed to carts and waggons. As for commissariat horses, they are the easiest to obtain: there are plenty of suitable animals in the country. Hence there is no necessity whatever to make any distinction between horses destined for military and civil purposes. In Austria, the distinction is maintained, but in other countries, like France and Germany, such is not the case.

The next point discussed is the selection of sires for stud purpose. Some persons advocate the importation of approved foreign breeds, both sires and dams, so as entirely to supplant the native breed of horses. That plan is rejected by the Vice-Minister of Agriculture as unworthy of serious attention. No such experiment has ever been tried in any country in the world. The course best adopted to the needs of the country is that tried with such encouraging results in all other lands, namely, crossing the native breed with stallions imported from abroad. In that way have been produced nearly all the famous strains of horse in Europe and America. Imperfect as Japanese ponies are in many respects, it is impossible to believe that many centuries of existence in Japan have not produced in them qualities adapted to the peculiar climate and typographic conditions of the country—qualities that it should be the aim of breeders to develop and perpetuate. Mr. Kaneko thinks, therefore, that the first point to be kept in view by those concerned in the improvement of horses in this country should be to preserve and perfect the best native breeds. The next thing necessary is to cross the best Japanese breeds with some of the best foreign breeds, such for instance, as the Arabian or the English. These two processes should form the principal methods of improving horses in Japan. But simultaneously with the pursuance of the above programme, Mr. Kaneko deems it advisable to import sires and dams of some well known breeds, such as the Arabian, the English thorough-bred and so forth, with the object of ascertaining whether these breeds can be perpetuated in Japan in their original purity, and if not, to study in what manner their characteristics are modified.

The writer has something to say about the importation of breeding horses from abroad. In reply to his enquiry on the subject, a certain foreign expert once called his attention to the importance of entrusting the selection and purchase of sires to properly qualified Japanese. The Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce concurs entirely with that view, for no one but Japanese can correctly ascertain what sort of horses are adopted to the requirements of Japan. As to the country from which the purchase should be made, some sires will have to be procured from Germany, England, and the United States, but the countries to which the writer particularly wishes to draw the attention of those interested in the improvement of horses, are Australia and New Zealand. It is from these lands that the military horses in India are now principally supplied. He justly observes that it would be at least worth while to try the Australian horses.

The selection of pastures is another topic that engages the writer's attention. Useful as his suggestions on this subject doubtless are to those practically engaged in the business, we do not think it necessary to reproduce them. He dwells further on the importance of keeping pedigrees of horses. Indeed he lays very great stress upon this point, seeing that a practice of such importance is seldom, or never, followed by breeders in Japan. The valuable essay concludes with one or two useful suggestions.

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One is to the effect that, in making the annual purchases of military horses from private breeders, the Military Authorities should give precedence to the Government's breeding establishments, since otherwise there is danger of the supply of good sires becoming insufficient. Another piece of advice relates to the season for holding competitive horse exhibitions. At present they are usually held in April, a time of year unsuitable for reasons obvious to experts. The writer suggests that October would be better.

EDUCATIONAL ITEMS.

The establishment of a University in Kyoto has long been the expressed desire of a large section of the public. The wish is now to be gratified, for we learn that the Department of Education has decided upon carrying out the measure, the sum necessary for the purpose having been incorporated in the Budget for next fiscal year. The institution will take some years to develop. In the first year of its establishment, there will be colleges only of Jurisprudence, Engineering, and Medicine. Other Colleges will be added by degrees.

The Department of Education has decided upon a radical change in the system of hospitals attached to the College of Medicine in the Imperial University. The present system is to maintain the hospitals by the income derived from fees paid by patients. It appears that the patients, since they pay to be treated, are naturally averse to being used as subjects for clinical lectures. That, however, is the principal purpose for which hospitals are attached to the College. Moreover, under the present system, the patients being persons of some means, it seldom happens that, when death occurs, the relatives consent to the dissection of the bodies. Consequently, in order to obtain a sufficient supply of corpses for dissection, the College has been compelled to apply to the prisons for unclaimed corpses. Even in this way, the supply has yearly decreased, as may be seen from the following figures relating to the number of dead bodies dissected at the College:—

Year.	No. of dead bodies dissected.
1892	263
1893	161
1894	138

On the other hand, the number of students is expected to increase from next year at a rapid rate, principally in consequence of the increased numbers of cadets that will matriculate with a view to enter the Military medical service. Thus the number of students admitted to the College (about 30 hitherto), will next year increase to 60, and the following year to 150, and since the demand for bodies to dissect and for facilities for clinical study will increase proportionately, the hospitals are to be placed on a purely charitable system, patients of the poorest classes only being admitted. The maintenance of the hospitals, or hospital—as the two now manitained are to be amalgamated—will cost about 58,000 *yen*. At present the two hospitals stand, one in the College grounds at Hongo and the other at Shitaya. As the buildings are old and incomplete, they are to be pulled down, and new ones erected in the College grounds after the best scientific style. The total expense is estimated at 460,000, *yen*, a part of which has been included in the Budget to be submitted to the Diet next session.

THE SHANGHAI SPINNING COMPANY (JAPANESE).

The first general meeting of the Shanghai Spinning Company (Shanghai Boseki Kaisha), took place at the Bankers' Assembly House, Tokyo, on the 3rd instant. Mr. Nakamigawa Hikojiro, of the Mitsui Bank, was in the chair, and there were present above 280 persons. Mr. Asabuki Eiji undertook the task of explaining the various measures submitted for the approval of the assembly. The first subject of discussion was the constitution of the company, the draft of which was adopted without any change. The next business related to the salaries of the Directors and Assessors. On this topic, too, the draft was approved in its entirety. The scale of salary adopted was 300 *yen* per annum for each of the ordinary Directors; 500 to 1,500 *yen* per annum for a special Director, upon whom will devolve the principal control of business at the head office in Tokyo; 3,000 to 5,000 *yen* per annum for each of the Directors and Assessors in Shanghai; and 150 *yen* per annum for an ordinary Assessor in Tokyo. The election of officers was then proceeded with. To avoid the trouble of voting, Mr. Imamura Seinosuke, a well-known banker, proposed the following names, and his proposal was adopted:

Mr. Nakamigawa Hikojiro
Mr. Masuda Takashi
Mr. Komuro Sankichi } .....Directors.
Mr. Asabuki Eiji
Mr. Uyeda Yasusaburo

Mr. Suyenobu Michimasa
Mr. Umakoshi Kyohei } .....Assessors.
Mr. Hamaguchi Kichiyemon

The assembly then approved the disbursement of some 2,500 *yen* by the promoters for floating the scheme. Leave was given for the purchase of a site for the factory in the English settlement at Shanghai at a price of about 30 *yen* per *tsubo*, the total area being 4,600 *tsubo*, and the aggregate cost, 140,000 *yen*. Several contracts entered into with foreign and Japanese machine-makers, were also endorsed. Mr. Naruse Ryuzo, late of the Osaka Commercial Academy, received the appointment of Chief Manager of the Company. He is one of the earliest graduates of the Tokyo Commercial College, and for some years discharged the duties of *Kanji* (Manager) and Professor in that institution, after which he proceeded to Europe to complete his studies, staying several years in Belgium. On his return, he was appointed President of the Osaka Commercial Academy. The Company may be congratulated on having obtained the services of a man of his information and business ability.

The largest shareholder of the company is Mr. Mitsui Takayasu, with 4,777 shares. He is followed at some distance by Mr. Komuro Sankichi, with 860. Among other principal shareholders, we may mention Messrs. Shibusawa Eiichi, Wakanigawa Hikojiro, Masuda Takashi, Fujita Denzaburo, Oye Taku, Toyokawa Ryohei, Watanabe Hiromoto, with whom are many persons well known in the field of Japanese commerce.

The TOKYO CHAMBER of COMMERCE AND CHINESE COTTON.

A memorial has been presented to the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce over the signatures of four of its members, Messrs. Asabuki Eiji, Masuda Takashi, Wakamigawa Hikojiro, and Shibusawa Eiichi, on the subject of the importation of water-impregnated cotton by Chinese merchants. The memorialists suggest the advisability of drawing the attention of the Authorities to this subject, and requesting the issue of instructions to His Imperial Majesty's Consul-General at Shanghai, to open communications with the Chinese Taotai for the correction of the nefarious practice. The memorialists hear that the matter has been taken up by the Consuls of Holland, England, and the United States, and if instructions have not yet been issued to the Japanese Consul on the subject, it is high time that they should be. Of the total quantity of cotton exported from Shanghai during the year 1894, namely 930,350 piculs, more than one-half, or, to be exact, 517,835 piculs, came to Japan. In the opinion of the memorialists, from 13 to 15 per cent. of the weight represented moisture with which the cotton had been dishonestly saturated by the Chinese. Of course, in the long run, China has to suffer for this, but Chinese cotton being the principal supply to the Japanese mills, it is highly important for the sake of both countries that prompt steps should be taken to check the evil.

THE WAR INDEMNITY AND ITS EMPLOYMENT.

It is agreed on all sides that the greater part of the money received from China as war indemnity should be applied to increasing the country's armaments. But opinions differ as to the manner in which the remaining amount should be employed. Among the suggestions thus far made, it is proposed, for instance, that, after defraying Military and Naval expenditures, the residue should be devoted to purchasing foreign consols as a war fund, to extending the country's steamship service to foreign countries, to establishing an industrial bank, and so forth. The latest proposal comes from educational circles. It is to the effect that one-tenth of the indemnity, that is to say, 30,000,000 *yen* in round numbers, should be set apart for educational purposes. As to the exact nature of the objects to which the sum should be applied, there are two plans. One is to divide it in varying amounts among the primary schools of the Empire as foundation endowments. According to the census for the year 1893, there were 23,000 primary schools in the country, so that the sum distributed would be, on the average, a little less than 1,500 *yen* per school. The other plan is to devote the 30 million *yen* entirely to endowing one or two universities. Those in favour of the latter plan say that the sum is not sufficiently large for distribution among the primary schools with any hope of perceptibly beneficial results; while if used for endowing one or two Universities, it would do incalculable and permanent good to the country. It is reported that a large number of influential members of the Diet are disposed to press the claims of education for a share of the indemnity.

COUNT OKUMA ON FINANCIAL SUBJECTS.

The *Chugai Shogyo Shimbun* publishes an elaborate account of a conversation that its representative recently had with Count Okuma on various economical subjects. After dilating upon the history of tradal prosperity and depression, enumerating the various causes usually at work to produce commercial stagnation, and alluding to the efficient manner in which the Bank of France, with its enormous specie reserve, regulates the money market in that country, the Count went on to speak of the economical condition of Japan. He had reason to be thoroughly satisfied with the recent economical development of Japan. In 1878, when he was Minister of Finance, the first domestic public loan was raised, namely, the Industrial Loan. In what a state of infancy the economics of the country then were, might be judged from the fact that, issuing the bonds (face value 100 *yen*) at only 80 *yen* with interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, the Government had great difficulty in obtaining the required amount of subscriptions. The thing being new, there was a general hesitation to respond to the encouraging terms offered by the Government. Ultimately the Authorities had to assemble the principal capitalists and exhort them personally to subscribe to the loan. Even then the subscriptions hardly came up to the required sum. What a wonderful change had since come over the moneyed classes of the country! The Count alluded with satisfaction to the ease with which the recent War Loan had been floated. Then passing to the subject of interest on money, he regretted that the rate was still very high. At present the rate of interest charged by the Bank of Japan on loans was 2 *sen* per diem, in other words, approximately 7 per cent. per annum. There being now a general industrial mania, it might be supposed that the increased demand for capital would lead to a rise in the rate of interest. But Count Okuma said that such a result would be averted by the gradual transfer to Japan of the indemnity now lying in the Bank of England. It was true that a great part of the sum would be required for the purpose of increased armament, but still, in his opinion, the transfer of the remainder would

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increase the bulk of the circulating media sufficiently to prevent any great appreciation of interest. There was of course danger in too much inflation, but the Count was confident that such a peril would be successfully avoided, since there were now competent men in the Treasury, in the Bank of Japan, and in the Specie Bank. He had no doubt that the decline of the rate of interest would go on steadily though slowly, until it reached about the level now ruling in London. Much of course would depend upon the sagacity and judgment of the men in positions to regulate the money market.

On another occasion, writes the same journal, Count Okuma spoke as follows with regard to the manner of employing the war indemnity paid by China:—"I hear that among business men some suggest that one-half of the money received from China should be used for military and naval purposes, and that the other half should be devoted to commercial and industrial purposes. But I must differ from that programme. In my opinion, no step should be taken that might tend to necessitate an excessive inflow of money into the country. On this subject, I do not feel any uneasiness because I have confidence in the ability of those charged with the direction of public finance. But how is the money to be used? The safest and wisest course, in my opinion, would be to buy foreign consols to the amount of, say, 100 million *yen*. But the consols of what country? It would be inadvisable to touch those of any European country on account of political reasons. I would advise the purchase of American consols. The money thus invested would form an emergency reserve. As to the rest of the indemnity, it should be devoted to the redemption of the temporary debts incurred in connection with the war, to the increase of the Army and the Navy, and to the establishment of an Industrial Bank. No large capital would be required for the last mentioned purpose; 10 million *yen* would suffice."

SUSPENSION OF THE "YORODZU CHOHO."

The *Yorodzu Choho* has been suspended, evidently on account of an article, written in English, discussing the Liaotung question. We have always been puzzled to understand the object of the *Yorodzu Choho's* English column. Presumably it is intended to bring within the ken of Western readers a conception of Japanese popular opinion on any particular subject. But, frankly speaking, we can not regard the writer of the *Yorodzu's* English articles as a representative of Japanese public opinion, and we should be very sorry to think that the sentiments he expresses have the endorsement of any considerable section of the nation. For example, in the article that has just evoked official condemnation, he advocates two things; first, that, at the time when European intervention between Japan and China seemed imminent, the statesmen of the former country should have proposed to divide Korea between Japan and Russia, accompanying the division by a defensive and offensive alliance; and secondly, that, failing the above scheme, an indemnity of a thousand million taels should have been exacted from China, Manchuria being held as a pledge of payment, and things being so arranged that the territory ultimately revert to Japan in lieu of hard cash. That is the kind of international chicanery advocated by the *Yorodzu Choho*. Plainly, if the fortunes of Japan were presided over by statesmen holding the views of our contemporary, this empire's name would stink in the nostrils of civilized nations, and the continuance of peace even for a day could not be assured to the Orient. If ever the interference of the censor were justified, it is to prevent the dissemination of such mischievous and misleading views. Nevertheless, we shall heartily rejoice when the suspension of newspapers in Japan can be dispensed with: in other words, when public opinion can be left to discriminate between the good and the bad without official guidance.

THE MARLBOROUGH-VANDERBILT WEDDING.

The Marlborough-Vanderbilt marriage seems to have attracted much more attention in America than the mere fact of an alliance between a great deal of money and very high rank would justify. The exceptionally interesting elements appear to be, first, that all pretence of mutual affection was dropped out of the affair, and, secondly, that it came as a kind of climax capping a series of similar though smaller events by which an immense sum of money has passed from the New World to the Old. The Duke himself, when admitting his engagement, is said to have been careful to add that it had been arranged by his friends and by those of the young lady. Thus it was a pure business affair: every element of romance was eliminated. Nothing remained of the pleasant fiction so sedulously preserved among Anglo-Saxons everywhere, that all marriages are love-matches. Moreover, for the first time statistics were consulted, and the public learned that within the space of a few years no less than a hundred millions of dollars had been carried from America to Europe as the price of titles for young ladies of the Great Republic. Striking elements were not wanting, therefore. Indeed this replenishing of noble British coffers by means of the dowers of American heiresses has now been elevated to the rank of an international question. On the English side it is prettily claimed that a nobility of wealth exists, and should be recognised just as certainly as a nobility of descent or of patented creation. The faculties by which great riches are acquired deserve social recognition no less than the faculties of statesmen, diplomatists, and soldiers. A man possessing millions and purposing to bestow them on his daughter, has a right to look for a son-in-law in a rank above that of the plodding masses. Hence the union of American coin will British coronets possesses a kind of natural and logical sanction. That is the English view of the matter. But the American view most recently announced is that, instead of buying titles for their daughters, the millionaires of the States should be eligible for nobility themselves. "What is the remedy for this state of affairs?" asks an American journal. "Something less than $100,000,000 has been carried to Europe within a comparatively few years by penniless lords who perhaps regarded the girls they had to accept with the milllions as incumbrances. How are we to keep our girls and their money at home? Something must be done, or else we shall not be able to export enough corn, wheat, and cotton to prevent all our gold from going to Europe.

"No doubt Congress would have been petitioned long ago to grant titles of nobility if it could do so. Would it not be better to amend the Constitution by striking out the section prohibiting titles of nobility, than to allow our great heiresses to be dragged away to Europe? Isn't it worse to lose our rich girls and their cash than to risk the dangers to be apprehended from titles of nobility? We are sure the framers of the Constitution never thought of the probability of an American girl having $10,000,000 with which to purchase a duke, or 15,000,000 with which to purchase a count. If they had they might have hesitated about adopting that clause of the Constitution which compels Money Bags and his wife to remain plain Mr. and Mrs. Can not the Colonial dames and sons and daughters of the Revolution point out some way to save our rich girls from sacrificing themselves for titles? Here is an opportunity for them to distinguish themselves and render their country a real service."

TREASURE CAPTURED IN THE WAR.

The ingots of gold and silver captured by the Japanese troops in the war, are now being coined at the Osaka Mint. Half a million *yen* have been already struck, and it is expected, according to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, that as much more will be coined, making a million in all.

THE SPINNING INDUSTRY.

Spinning factories are rapidly increasing in Japan. We may mention a few of the projected companies. The Tôkwa Soseki Kaisha is the name of a company formed by a large number of capitalists in Osaka, to start a spinning factory in the American settlement at Shanghai, working 75,000 spindles, and having a capital of 3,000,000 *yen*. Application for a charter has already been made through the Osaka City Government, and as soon as it is granted, a general meeting of the shareholders will be held. The construction of the factory buildings will be commenced early next year. A site for the factory has already been bought, at the rate of about 14 *yen* per tsubo, the total area being some 12,000 *tsubo*.

Another projected company is the Kashu Boseki Kaisha, the principal promoters of which are capitalists of Osaka and a few from the province of Kawachi. The capital is to be 500,000 *yen*. Application for a charter was presented on the 14th instant. It is not stated where the factory is to be located.

It is reported that there prevails an idea among persons connected with the spinning industry that any further increase of mills is calculated to be injurious to the healthy growth of the business. According to investigations recently conducted by the United Guild (*Rengo-kai*) of Spinners, the number of spindles, including those projected, now exceeds a million. The following statistics refer to the companies belong to the United Guild:—

	Number.	Spindles.
Factories at work	58	632,130
Spindles in course of increase in the above factories	—	251,344
Factories newly projected	6	101,083
Total	64	984,557

Besides the above, there are a number of companies, mostly newly organized, that have not joined the Guild; for instance, the Kyoto Boseki, the Hei-an Boseki, the Fushimi Boseki, the Bizen Boseki, the Nishinari Boseki, the Tokwa Baseki, and so forth. Taking these into account, the total number of spindles is put at 1,119,557.

THE MEDICAL PROFESSION IN JAPAN.

The *Jiji Shimpo* makes some interesting remarks on the present condition of the medical profession in Japan. It being understood that medical matters will be the subject of some debate in the coming session of the Diet, our contemporary finds the moment opportune to study the question. Some people boast of the country's progress in matters of medicine, but the *Jiji* advises them to moderate their pride, for the Japanese medical profession is still in a state of infancy. The number of physicians in January last was as follows:—

1. Old practitioners allowed to practise without examination	26,650
2. Graduates of the College of Medicine and practitioners licensed after examinations	12,984
Total	39,634

Among the old practitioners, some are competent physicians that have studied medicine after the Dutch system or under masters trained in that school, but the majority are followers of the old Chinese system. Even the medical men belonging to Class II. include some that were admitted to practise prior to the years 1884-1885. These are generally inferior in knowledge and skill to men whose licences bear later dates, for the standard of examination was very much lower in former years.

It is only fair to remark that some physicians of the old Chinese School have secretly studied the new system and made themselves tolerably conversant with the principles of modern medicine, though for the sake of appearance they still pretend to follow in everything the canons of their original creed. The late Dr. Ando Sôhaku, a celebrated leader of the old

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school, was one of these secret converts to Western medicine. But ninety-nine out of every hundred are ignorant and worthless quacks. Besides making constant mistakes in the diagnosis and pathology of diseases, they spare no pains to pander to the conservative ideas of the provincials, and studiously excite the prejudice of the rustics against the Government's sanitary measures.

The evils are not confined to the old school. A majority of the so-called new physicians are said to be deficient in knowledge and experience. It is commonly complained against practitioners of this class that they are rough and careless in examining patients. A much more serious abuse prevalent among them is that they seldom use medicines of a costly nature. It is true that they are not entirely to blame for that, being as they are, hampered by the exceedingly tenuous nature of the gains they make. An ordinary private practitioner does not get any fee; his sole source of revenue is the sale of medicines to his patients. The price demanded for medicine is from 6 to 8 *sen* per diem, and it is the physician's chief concern to use the cheapest possible drugs.

Such being the condition of the medical profession, the *Jiji* enggests the advisability of altogether prohibiting practice by the physicians of the old school. If such a step be thought too severe, measures should be taken to collect these physicians at some convenient places, and instruct them in the principles of modern medicine. They should subsequently be examined, and only those that successfully pass the examination should be licensed to practise. Another measure of equal importance is the separation of medicine and pharmacy, at present combined by every Japanese physician. It is obviously impossible to carry out this measure in remote localities where properly qualified pharmaceutists do not exist. But in all the principal towns the step ought to be at once taken.

THE TELEPHONE SERVICE.

That the experiments conducted by experts despatched by the Communications Department to Nagoya, for connecting that place with Tokyo by telephone, were attended with satisfactory results, has already been stated in these columns. The experiments since carried on at Osaka and Kobe have been equally satisfactory. It is even asserted by the authorities that communications between Tokyo and Kobe were more distinct and clear than those between the different parts of the metropolis. These experiments were conducted by the use of the telegraphic wires during the small hours of the morning, when there was comparatively little danger of interfering with the transmission of telegraphic messages. The telegraphic lines between Tokyo and Kobe are of copper, and may thus be used for the purpose of telephone experiments. But beyond Kobe, copper and iron wires are stretched indiscriminately, and more troublesome preparations are therefore required for conducting such experiments. It is reported that experiments to the southward of Kobe will be resumed early next year, it being the Government's intention to extend the service ultimately to Nagasaki in the south and Hakodate in the north.

THE "KOKKAI."

The *Kokkai* has ceased to appear. Our readers are doubtless familiar with the name: time and again the *Kokkai's* editorials have been translated or referred to in these columns. Nothing could be simpler or more straightforward than the *Kokkai's* announcement of its own demise. It merely says that after five years of effort in the cause of the country, it finds its purpose unattainable, and nothing remains, therefore, but to cease publication. Expressed in vulgar language, that intimation signifies that the struggle against financial difficulties has proved too much for the proprietors. Formerly, the *Kokkai* used to be edited by Mr. Shiga, the head and front of the *Kokkusi-honto*, or eclective conservative party. In these days, it was a journal of comparatively sober tone and much literary ability, having for its steadfastly pursued objects the stemming of the tide of foreign innovations, and the preservation of what was good in the customs of Japan. After some three years spent in the editorial chair of the *Kokkai*, Mr. Shiga transferred his attention to the *Nippon-jin*, which is now the organ of the eclective conservatives. He was succeeded in the *Kokkai's* office by Mr. Suyehiro Shigeyasu, a well known Progressionist leader, and from that time the paper became ultra-Progressionist. With Mr. Suyehiro to edit it, there could be no question about the talent shown in its editorials, but it did not touch the spirit of the time, and failure has overtaken it. Of late it has been understood that the paper received much aid from the *Asahi Shimbun*, for though the politics of the two journals are radically different, some personal relationship seems to exist between their proprietors.

CONVENIENT QUOTATION.

We have observed, with some amusement but without any surprise, that whereas the opening letters of the series recently published by *The Times* from a special correspondent, were carefully re-produced in this Settlement, the process of reproduction ceased so soon as the letters assumed a tone favourable to Japan. That is a striking illustration of some of the comments contained in the suppressed letters. We reprint here a few paragraphs worthy of special notice:—

Whatever the precise circumstances which precipitate hostilities, a nation cannot properly be charged with provoking a war of wanton aggression when the enemy against whom it is waged has himself been for years past compassing schemes of unmistakable hostility. The Japanese were far too well informed of all that was going on in China not to be aware that as far back as 1882 the Celestial Empire had determined to seize the earliest opportunity of arresting the progress of Japan and definitely restoring, by force of arms, the supremacy which in theory it had always claimed over her. In a memorial presented in that year to the Throne by Li Hung chang, it is expressly stated that such must be the cardinal object of China's policy. "Your Majesty," he says, "has graciously ordered me to undertake the responsibility of preparing the plan for the invasion of Japan," and if the Viceroy deprecated the immediate recourse to arms then contemplated at Peking, it was only because he had formed a more correct appreciation than his colleagues of the relative fighting strength of the two countries. "My humble opinion is, let us not lose sight of our plan of invading Japan, but let us not commit the mistake of doing this in a hurried manner. . . . In one of the ancient maxims it is said. 'Nothing is so dangerous as to expose one's scheme before it is ripe.' On this account I have in a former memorial recommended to your Majesty that we should be extremely cautious and take care to conceal our object, whilst neglecting nothing to raise our strength in the meantime." Finally, after discussing what might furnish "the best case for bringing about a rupture with Japan and coming to extremities," he repeats "that it is above all necessary to strengthen our country's defences and to organise a powerful navy, and the aggressive steps against Japan should not be undertaken too hastily." This was the policy which, in however blundering a fashion, China had never ceased to pursue; and in these circumstances Japanese statesmen cannot be blamed for having taken up in 1894, under conditions which they believed favourable to their country, the challenge thrown down to them in Korea by the high-handed proceedings of the Chinese. Had the influence of England at Pekin been exercised to its fullest extent either by the late Government when the Korean complications assumed a more immediately threatening shape last year, or by its predecessors during the long incubation of China's hostile designs against Japan, the latter might have been saved the necessity of vindicating by force of arms her right to work out her national development free from Chinese obstruction, for that was really the question fought out on the battlefields of Korea and Manchuria. Up to the very outbreak of war there is every reason to believe that Japan would have been satisfied with any substantial concession implying a practical confirmation of the equality of Japan already formally recognised by China, especially if such a concession had been made under the pressure, and therefore, by implication, under the guarantee of England. But the fatal delusion that China was not only our natural ally, but an ally whose alliance was worth cultivating, had led us for years past to remain conveniently blind to the general trend of Chinese policy towards Japan, and Lord Rosebery's Government in this respect merely followed at the crucial moment in the footsteps of its predecessors.

What, however, weighed perhaps most strongly against Japan with European, and especially British, public opinion was the bitterness entertained towards her amongst the foreign communities of the Far East. It would not be fair to ascribe this bitterness solely to the jealousy engendered by trade competition, or to the even unconscious perception of the fact that a helpless country like China affords a more promising field for the undisturbed enterprise of European than an active and go-ahead country like Japan. It must be admitted that there is one very important point in which Japan does not bear favourable comparison with China. In both countries the native commercial classes are strenuous and intelligent, but whereas in China their relative probity, ability, and trustworthiness stands out conspicuous against the vices of the ruling classes, they comprise in Japan some of the least estimable elements in the country. Until the new era of Japanese history they were looked down upon by the old feudal aristocracy with a contempt far more aggressive than that displayed by the Chinese mandarins towards the corresponding classes in the Celestial Empire. Under these conditions, the Japanese merchants or trader, being a kind of social pariah, was not restrained by the same sense of self-respect which governs other classes of the community, and he acquired, too often justly, the reputation of being thoroughly unscrupulous and untrustworthy. When Japan was thrown open to foreign intercourse, the European merchants naturally sought to guard themselves against the bad faith of the native traders by measures which, however necessary at the time, could not fail to prove more and more galling to a hyper-sensitive people in proportion as the attitude of Japanese society itself towards the mercantile classes underwent a more complete transformation. Trade and commerce have long since ceased to be tabooed, and many of the highest and ablest and most honourable men in Japan are to-day directly associated with important banking, industrial, and trading enterprises. There are now not a few Japanese firms which, for absolute integrity and trustworthiness, can bear comparison with any of the European firms established in Japan. Nevertheless, the standard of mercantile morality, although it has been undeniably raised, is by no means as satisfactory as it should be. Only this summer, for instance, a guild of Japanese merchants combined to defeat the ends of Japanese justice by compelling an English firm, under threats of a general boycott, to partially waive recovery of a judgment pronounced in its favour by a Japanese Court of law in a really outrageous case of breach of contract. Such incidents naturally breed ill feeling and distrust, and, though the remedy does not lie in reprisals and recriminations, it is not surprising that the European communities in Japan often allow their judgment to be overborne by prejudice. It is all the more to the credit of the late Government that, in the face of violent local opposition and of ignorance and indifference at home, they were the first to recognise by a generous revision of our treaties the right of Japan, in spite of many shortcomings, to be treated no longer either as a child or as an out-cast amongst the civilised nations of the world. Freely granted before the warlike achievements of Japan had strengthered her claim, this concession was a statesmanlike act, of which the satisfactory effect upon the relations of the two countries were only temporarily weakened by certain unpleasant incidents connected with the earlier stages of the war, and by the unabated virulence of the anti-Japanese feeling in a large section of the English Press of the Far East. They were subsequently confirmed and reinforced by our refusal to join with France, Russia, and Germany in their imperious intervention on behalf of China.

Her Majesty's first-class cruiser, *Blake*, completed her official machinery trials on the 6th inst. with a four hours' run under forced draught, in the presence of the engineer-in-chief of the Navy and a number of officials attached to Chatham dockyard and the Medway Fleet Reserve. The trial was attended with successful results, and at its conclusion the *Blake* returned to Chatham dockyard to be completed for passing into the A Division of the Medway Fleet Reserve as ready for further service.

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OUR CIVILIZATION.

WHEN Viscount TORIO, some four years ago, penned his indictment of Western civilization from a moral point of view, his words attracted little attention among foreigners. Why should they indeed? To the average foreigner the Viscount was simply a politician with a "fad;" a conservative unwilling to accept any portions of Western civilization except such as should pass through a very fine sieve of Oriental traditions and sentiments. Yet Viscount TORIO'S essay showed remarkable insight. He saw clearly the immense shadow of egoism that mparts such a sombre aspect to the life of the West, and he appreciated, and would fain have preserved, the altruistic elements of Japanese ethics. That he fathomed the whole problem, we greatly doubt. It is so terribly perplexing; so confused by contradictions. If, on the one hand, we have a multitude of persons driven solely by the lash of selfishness, on the other, we find men and women whose unique idea is sacrifice. Need we say that among the latter we do not include heroic Christians; missionaries that expose themselves to martyrdrom and accept lines of privation for the sake of their creed; or men that impoverish themselves by deeds of charity, and devote all their abilities and energy to accomplishing something that shall be worthy of the Nazarene's example? We do not include these persons, for the simple reason that they are Christians, and Christianity, pure Christianity as it flowed from the Messianic spring, stands sharply opposed to the egoism of modern Occidental civilization. Sociality is the soul of Christianity. Did a JESUS appear now upon earth, in Germany let us say, he would run imminent risk of being thrown into prison as a social democrat, and would certainly evoke thehaughty anathemas of an EMPEROR whose dynasty, in its rapid rise to the seats of the mightiest, has nevertheless held the Testament of JESUS ostentatiously higher than its diadem. But outside the ranks of Christians for Christianity's sake, there is no lack of men and women who, by splendid obedience to a spirit of nobility that the Western world, with all its egoism, worships more fervently and appreciates more keenly than ever, furnish ideals worthy to be the bases of any ethical system. These persons are the perplexing factor. How much, if any, of their moral grandeur do they owe to the development of modern civilization, and in what fashion do they own it? Have the immoral excesses of the time driven them to heroic revolt? Are they simply types of the greatness which, after all, characterizes this age in every sphere? Or are they representatives of the finer elements of humanity thrown into strong relief by their incongruous environment? We do not know how to answer these questions. But we can see how even the fairest section of our species is being rapidly invaded by the egoistic blight. Among women at least it used to be possible to look confidently for beautiful types of refined altruism. But the woman's emancipation movement, though it seems to make little progress toward the nebulous aims that it is supposed to contemplate, has certainly produced marked effects in society. The modern young lady is rapidly asserting independence of time-honoured forms and *convenances*. Her parents or guardians occupy a constantly diminishing space in her life outside the domestic sphere. She plays for her own hand, shaking off restraints once effective, and entering the arena of competition with all the keen egoism that fills the commercial, industrial, and political atmosphere of the era. To many the spectacle suggests infinite pity and regret. They remember the old adage that the measure of a man's respect for a woman is the respect the woman feels for herself, and they wonder how many hearts must break, how many names be tarnished, before this new departure ceases to have the disturbing significance of novelty. But in truth it is all an enigma. That "something amiss" which is to be "unriddled by and by," seems to come more and more into the foreground. No wonder that men of the East, like Viscount TORIO, shrink from the terrible egoism of the civilization now offered to them by the West, and see something comparatively noble and worthy in their own old ethics, for even to Occidental eyes the cloud on the horizon grows yearly larger, and philosophers ask with anxiety whether it is to overspread the whole sky, or to be dispelled, if not by socialistic forces now repellant in their guise and shocking in their potentialities, then by a breath of renewed Messianic influence such as the Christian optimists confidently predict.

THE CHINESE IN FORMOSA.

THE ingenuity shown by some of the local foreign newspapers in manufacturing materials to malign the Japanese is surprising; very malevolent ingenuity, it is true, but still, as ingenuity, a faculty that evokes astonishment. Ourrecent suggestion about the Chinese in Formosa furnishes an example. There are some 2½ millions of these folks in the island. Many of them have settled there in comparatively recent years, and if they were now to leave Formosa and cross over to China proper, they would be simply returning to their native country. So long as Formosa formed a part of the Chinese empire, these people had no objection to remain there. But it is very conceivable that, after the island's cession to Japan, many of them, if not the greater part, might desire to get back to China. Provision was made for such a contingency in the Shimonoseki Treaty. A period of two years was there allowed for the Chinese to determine whether they would remain in the ceded territories. And it was further provided that if they decided to remain, their permanent status should be determined by the Japanese Government at its own option. Concerning this arrangement the ingenious critics above alluded to inform us that "Japan and China contracted to commit a crime in the eyes of international law," and that Japan "believes the crime to be legalized because of the contract." What on earth was the crime? Does international law assert that inhabitants of conquered territory have a right to be placed on the same footing as subjects of the conqueror? If so, why does not Great Britain concede to the Hindus, Mohammedans, and other residents of India, all the privileges of British subjects? Why does she not extend the same privileges to the Zulus, the Maoris, the Hottentots and all the rest of the motley populations inhabiting her vast empire? And if neither Great Britain nor any other Western Power recognises such a principle, why should Japan and China be declared to have "committed a crime in the eyes of international law "because they do not recognise it? Passing from this ridiculous criticism of the Shimonoseki Treaty, we revert to the idea suggested in these columns a short time ago, premising that it was wholly our own idea. Our critics pretend to believe that it was the idea of the Japanese Government. That is their regular habit. Whenever they find in these columns anything capable, as they imagine, of being perverted to the discredit of the Japanese Government, they treat it as an official utterance. Whenever they find anything which, if official, would inconveniently expose their own wild assertions, they treat is as as an utterance of the *Japan Mail* alone. Such dishonesty, if carried into the practice of every-day business, would soon bring a man to oakum picking and prison diet. But as a guiding principle of Yokohama journalism, it is very clever and very pretty. With respect to the Chinese in Formosa, however, the ingenuous device may be abandoned; for if any Japanese ever entertained the notion expounded by us, we have not the remotest knowledge of his existence. We wrote our own thoughts and our own thoughts only. At present the situation in Formosa, is this:—The Chinese residents must determine, before May 1897, whether to dispose of their property, leave Formosa and return to China; or to retain their property, remain in Formosa, and receive, from May 1897, whatever status the Japanese Government may decide to assign to them. Until they know what that status will be, they are not in a fair position to choose between the alternatives of remaining or departing, and every day that such knowledge is withheld from

them, embarrasses the situation by shortening the time allotted them for selling their property. Our suggestion is that they should be placed in possession of full information as quickly as possible. But what form should the information take? All experience has shown that Chinese settlers in a foreign country never work for the good of that country; never concern themselves about its interests; never coalesce with its people; never can be employed for its defence. Formosa, from the time of its inclusion in the Japanese dominions, became a foreign country in the eyes of the Chinese living there. They will be, for all time, a community apart, and their great initial numbers, as compared with any probable influx of Japanese colonists, will ultimately enable them to swarm over the whole island. Is that a prospect to be contentedly contemplated by the Japanese? Of course there is no question whatever of preserving good order. The *Japan Gazette*, with its wonted hysterical blundering, says:—"Japan has acquired a very valuable island, but is afraid of the people. Conquerors as a rule have no misgivings as to the people victory gives them dominion over. * * * The true conquering race must possess the faculty of maintaining order among any kinds of men whom the fortunes of war have entrusted to its care. But Japan peeps into the future and is afraid of her own destiny. She distrusts herself. The Chinese in Formosa will, if allowed to remain there, peaceably overcome the Japanese; prove in fact that they are the superior or race?" Is it not strange that such silliness should be seriously penned? The Americans, then, are not a conquering race, distrust themselves, and are afraid of their own destiny, inasmuch as they restrict Chinese immigration. The Britons in Australia are not a conquering race, distrust themselves, and are afraid of their own destiny, inasmuch as they exclude the Chinese. The Russians are not a conquering race, distrust themselves, and are afraid of their own destiny, inasmuch as they drive out the Jews. Bah! Writers of such babyish ineptitudes ought to be re-tied to their mothers' apron-strings. It is not to be supposed for a moment that Chinese remaining in Formosa after May, 1897, will acquire the full status of Japanese subjects. The mere fact of their necessary exemption from military service must discriminate against them. What, then, will be their status? In our opinion, the wisest plan would be to place them on the footing occupied by Chinese subjects in all other parts of Japan's dominions. And in the event of that resolution being taken, it ought to be announced quickly, for it might evidently influence the choice of the Chinese as to staying or remaining. At the same time, since it might induce a large exodus, and thereby depreciate the price of fixed property, to the hardship of would-be emigrants, the Japanese Government should announce its willingness to buy up, at duly assessed prices, any lands not finding private purchasers. The *Japan Gazette* denounces such a project as a "proposed confiscation of the estates;" "a monstrous cruelty;" "an idea too appalling to contemplate," and so forth, terms charmingly applicable to purchasing a man's property from him at its market value. It is precisely what the people of the United States have been doing to the Indians for many years, but our eminently logical contemporary deems such methods quite applicable to the North American Indians, because "they were mere nomads, not civilized tillers of the soil." If they were mere nomads, then they could have no title to any lands whatever, and there could be no question of buying them out. Perhaps these critics that have denounced our suggestion with such a show of virtuous indignation and such vollies of wild words, would kindly explain what they expect Japan to do with the Chinese in Formosa. Is she to enrol them among her own subjects and confer on them all the constitutional rights attaching to that status? If she does, she will be the first nation that ever yet treated the alien inhabitants of conquered territory in that fashion. And if she is not required to do so, what limits is she to place upon the privileges enjoyed by them? Finally, need we take serious notice of the manifestly ridiculous assertion that because we suggested applying the Liaotung indemnity to official purchases of real property in Formosa, we estimated the total value of such property at thirty million taels, or 12½ taels for each member of a population of 2½ millions? The total population has to be divided by about five to find the number of families, and how many of such families own real property, or how many of them would fail to find private purchasers for their possessions. We have no clue to the Japanese Government's intentions, except that they are believed to be of an extremely magnanimous character, but, for our own part, we believe that unless the problem be solved in a drastic manner, it will involve great trouble hereafter.

THE GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE AND THE HYOGO AND OSAKA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

THE German Representative in Tokyo has had an unpleasant interchange of Communications with the Hyogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce. In connection with the subject of insufficient Custom House accommodation at Kobe—a matter that has long caused much inconvenience to the foreign merchants of that place—the President of the Chamber, in obedience to a resolution passed by that body, addressed H.E. Baron VON GUTSCHMID, in his capacity of Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique. Baron VON GUTSCHMID seems to have given full attention to the matter, and in the sequel of certain steps taken by him, he sent two letters to the German Consul in Kobe, at the same time directing the latter to inform the Chamber that these communications were confidential and not to be published. Up to this point everything had proceeded smoothly and in accordance with recognised precedent. But the President of the Chamber of Commerce now took a singular step. He returned the German Representative's letters, covering them by a communication to the German Consul in which he used the following language:—

> I observe that this information is transmitted to me at the request of Mr. von Krencki upon condition that it is to be considered as confidential and not to be published.
>
> After consulation with my committee, I have reluctantly come to the conclusion that it is out of my power, as Chairman of the Chamber, to receive any communication of the nature indicated, coupled with such conditions. Under the rules of the Chamber, our Meetings are open to the Press, and it is therefore clearly impossible for me to restrict the publication of any information that may be laid before the members at such meetings, even did I consider it desirable that a matter of such very general interest should be kept from the knowledge of the commercial public.
>
> As I am unable therefore to comply with the conditions under which the above communications have been sent to me, I beg to return them, and trust later on to receive through your hand further information, such as I may be at liberty to make known to the members of the Chamber and others interested in this very important subject.—I am, &c., &c.

It must be confessed that the tone of this communication leaves a great deal to be desired. Not only does it lack all the expressions of courtesy usually considered essential in such documents, but there is a *de-haut-en-bas* ring about it that could scarcely fail to give offence. A Chamber of Commerce, after all, is simply a private association of merchants, acting in combination for their own convenience. So far as their proceedings are calculated to promote the general interests of trade, and so far as their representations relate to subjects falling fairly within the scope of treaty privileges, the former are entitled to sympathy and the latter to support. But a Chamber of Commerce is not vested with any competence to address itself, in its collective capacity, to the Foreign Corps Diplomatique. Every British subject among its members has a perfect right to prefer complaints to his own Consular or Diplomatic Authorities, every French citizen to his, and so forth. Englishmen, Frenchmen, Germans, and other nationals, however, possess no publicly recognised title to constitute themselves into an association *vis-à-vis* the Corps Diplomatique, and to address that body. That they should do so is, on the whole, a matter of mutual convenience, but assuredly any communications from a Chamber to the Corps Diplomatique ought not to be couched in language indicating the assumption of official status, and above all, should not be lacking in forms of courtesy suitable to the relations in which the corre-

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spondents stand toward each other. In the particular case under review, it appears to us that the natural course for the President of the Chamber to adopt would have been to tender thanks through the German Consul for the trouble taken by the German Minister, and to explain, with all due courtesy, that the condition of privacy attached to the Minister's communications placed the President in a somewhat perplexing position, inasmuch as all the proceedings of the Chamber were usually made public, and it would be difficult to make an exception with regard to a matter of such general interest as Customs accommodation. Under these circumstances, the President might have added that he should await a further intimation of the Minister's wishes through the German Consul. But instead of taking such a measure, the President at once returned the Minister's communications—an act in itself very far from polite—and, without the least expression of thanks for what had already been done by Baron VON GUTSCHMID, wrote as though he were giving expression to an indisputable right:—"I trust later on to receive though your hands further information, such as I may be at liberty to make known to the members of the Chamber." In short, he said in almost as many words:—"Re-write your despatches: they are not in a form suitable to the customs of this Chamber." Naturally the German Minister was considerably incensed by such treatment. His reply to the President of the Chamber was sharp, short, and decisive:—

The Minister had expected that the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce would express to him its thanks for the serious attention which he had devoted to its representation. Instead of that the Chairman of that association, which is a mere private one and has no claim to be recognised as a public institution, has thought it fit to refuse in a letter which was far from polite a communication which Baron von Gutschmid had made to him under the condition that it must be considered as a confidential one. It was not consistent with his position as Minister Plenipotentiary and Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps to enter into discussions with the gentlemen of the Chamber of Commerce. It was sufficient to let them know once for all that according to established rules communications of Diplomatic Representatives are always of a confidential nature, and not intended for publication. Under these circumstances, in view of the pretensions of the Chamber of Commerce of Hiogo and Osaka, the Minister has to abstain from replying in future to representations of that association.

It is certainly to be regretted that the German Representative did not see his way to conveying his merited rebuke in terms less calculated to embitter the relations between the Chamber and the Corps Diplomatique. But there is no denying that the blame rests originally with the Chamber, whose President seems for the moment to have forgotten the prudence and tact that have gained for him a high reputation in Japan.

Messrs. Kudo Kokan, Ito Daihachi, Magaki Jocho, and others purpose constructing a railway between Kizukuri, Nishi-tsugaru District, and Kuroishi, Minami-tsgaru District, via Goshogawara, Kita-tsgaru District, Aomori Prefecture, at an outlay of *yen* 600,000.—*Chuo Shimbun.*

A CORRECTION.

WE observe that one of our evening contemporaries, in two consecutive issues, has published a statement that the Japanese Government has "had to recognise its liability for what appears in the *Japan Mail* by consenting to exercise its power of control over its conductor's pen." That is an unqualified falsehood. The Japanese Government could not possibly have recognised any such liability, since no such liability exists, and as for consenting "to exercise its power of control over the pen of the conductor of the *Mail*," no one in the world possesses any such power save the conductor himself. These deliberate falsehoods are wittingly published from time to time, evidently as a mere device of journalistic competition. There can be no doubt that the obvious dishonesty of their fabricators must defeat its own purposes in the minds of all fair-minded men. Were the *Japan Mail* an official organ, we should have no hesitation whatever in acknowledging the fact, since we hold that the Cabinet has even more need of a newspaper to explain the purpose of its measures and to dispel misconceptions about its administrative or international actions, than any political party has. But the *Japan Mail* is not such an organ, nor could any foreign journal be such an organ, we think, under present circumstances. We have often found ourselves in an attitude of direct opposition to the Japanese Government. For example, when the Imperial Court and the Cabinet united, a few years ago, to introduce foreign costume for ladies as well as dancing and other social customs incongruous with the national tendency of the Japanese, and, in our opinion, not conducive to their interests, we steadily maintained the inadvisability of such innovations, and events have proved the correctness of our judgment. It is amusing, too, to notice how frequently our local critics, the very writers by whom we are habitually charged with subserviency to Japanese views—it is amusing to note how frequently these same writers express naïve surprise at finding us adversely criticising acts, official or private, committed by the Japanese. That our sympathies have long been with the Japanese, we have never attempted to conceal, and we do not imagine that any one can now be found to deny that our judgment of their capabilities and prospects was sound. Any Japanese Cabinet, in which the guiding spirits are statesmen like Marquis ITO, Count INOUYE, Count MUTSU, Marquis YAMAGATA, Count OKUMA, Count MATSUKATA, and others of the so-called *Meiji* Statesmen, will always have our support, because we believe that to these men Japan owes her remarkable progress and her present position, and because we believe that, under their direction, she will always be led along the paths most conducive to her civilized interests. It is not the business of any English journal published in Japan to snarl perpetually at everything Japanese, to exhibit a profound prejudice against the people of the country and their rulers, and to spare no effort that may help to make Englishmen unpopular. The journal most conspicuous for its adherence to that miserable rôle pretends that its animosity is roused by the attacks of the *Japan Mail* upon the independent foreign press. Such a pretence is characteristic. For years past, not the smallest notice of that journal's writings has been taken in these columns, whereas scarcely a day has gone by without its publishing some article, note, or letter abusing and maligning the *Japan Mail*. The whole performance is contemptible, and if we stoop to notice it now, our object is simply to deny in the most unequivocal terms the falsehood that any power of control has been, or can ever be, exercised over this journal by anyone. More than one Foreign Representative has attempted to bring pressure to bear upon the *Japan Mail* by appeals to Japanese officialdom, but they have merely learned that no such means of bringing pressure was available, and that if they desired to obtain a hearing for their views, they must appeal to the editor personally.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF HUMAN PROGRESS.

IN the striking Proem to "Romola," GEORGE ELIOT imagines the spirit of a mediæval Florentine returning from the shades to hover over the city his body had inhabited four centuries before. Were such a man, an Englishman, let us suppose of the time of WILLIAM of OCCAM, indeed to return among us, he would doubtless be greatly astonished at our trains and our steamboats, our big guns and our dynamos, and all the other marvels of nineteenth century civilization; but if he were afflicted with the malady of thought, there is something that would astonish him a great deal more, and that is the modern conception of progress. It would take him long to understand, longer still perhaps to sympathise with, the manner in which we look forward to a sure if slow amelioration of the common lot of humanity by the practical application of scientific discoveries, on the one hand to the formation of character, and on the other to the diffusion of material comfort. Our forefathers, those of whom our imaginary visitor was one, in so far as they felt any active dissatisfaction with the average human lot of their time, contented themselves, some with regretful backward glances toward the imaginary golden age of a remote past, others with unfruitful aspirations toward the extra-mundane joys of a hypothetical future. Occupied with these chimæras, they concerned

themselves not at all about the questions that we now regard as the vital problems of existence; and Europe in the dark ages, while it employed itself eagerly about the nature of the Trinity and the destiny of the disembodied soul, exhibited towards such questions as the nature of the human mind, and the destiny of the actually existing human race, an impassivity that modern Europe has learned to stigmatize as Oriental.

With the Renascence, inasmuch as it was a great rush forward of the whole of western Europe, it was inevitable that the theory of progress should begin in some degree to occupy men's minds; and among the Humanists of Germany we find, amid all the wild fervour of the Reformation, a group of thinkers devoted to the quiet consideration of man's real needs and of the best means of satisfying them. But for the most part the impulse of the Renascence spent itself in other channels. Men's thoughts were filled, first with the religious revival, and then with the reaction that this revival evoked: later attention was occupied with political and industrial changes; and though the natural sciences continued to advance, there was no idea of an affiliation of all the sciences in the general interest of human progress. In the end of the last century, indeed, progress came to be a word often in men's mouths; but it represented rather the vague yearning of the poetical dreamer, or the crude scheming of the political enthusiast, than the steady striving of the scientific thinker: and when the nineteenth century opened, so disastrous had been the apparent results of the French Revolution, that progress was a word of evil connotation, and for decades no respectable member of society was willing to march under the banner on which it was inscribed. What has succeeded in rescuing the idea of progress from the mire? What power has revived, enlarged, and transfigured it, until it has become the leading thought of the age? The change has been mainly effected by the establishment of the doctrine of evolution, a doctrine that will for all time be associated with the name of DARWIN. With the publication of "The Origin of Species," there opened a new and glorious chapter in the book of the destiny of man.

In no sense of course was CHARLES DARWIN the founder of the theory of evolution. It had been dimly foreshadowed even by some of the philosophers of ancient Greece; it found expression during the last century in the works of ERASMUS; it was definitely formulated by LAMARCK, and by SCHOPENHAUER even the hypothesis of selection (*Auswahl*) for the general benefit was clearly indicated. To the genius and the industry of CHARLES DARWIN, however, the widespread acceptance of the idea of evolution was primarily due; and it is in consequence of his work that, though there is far from being agreement among men of science as to the methods of evolution, no doubt is any longer possible of the fact. The theory of natural selection, the theory of DARWIN, of WALLACE, and of WEISMAN, is so well known that it is not necessary to offer any exposition of it here. Less familiar, however, to the general public is the Lamarckian theory, which preceded it and has to some extent supplanted it. This theory was to the effect that development proceeds in obedience to a conscious impulse from within. The individual organism, actuated by desires, makes efforts for their satisfaction. By the repetition of these efforts its structure becomes modified in such a manner that satisfaction is more readily attained. The modifications thus produced, slight in the single organism, become, through summation by successive inheritance, considerable in the species. Among the illustrations given by LAMARCK in support of this hypothesis, the best known is that of the growth of the neck of the giraffe. This animal has a taste for the young and tender leaves that grow on the tops of certain trees. By the continual desire to crop these leaves, says LAMARCK, the animal has at length succeeded in elongating its neck so as to reach them easily. The example has usually been regarded as a *reductio ad absurdum* of the Lamarckian hypothesis. "Who," it is said, "who by taking thought shall add a cubit to his stature?" The criticism is unsound, for the records of religious enthusiasm on the one hand, and the results of modern scientific enquiry on the other, the stigmata of ST. FRANCIS, the "miracles" worked at Lourdes, and the equally marvellous cures by "suggestion" in the consulting room of a Parisian professor, all alike bear witness to the potent influence of mental representations in producing changes in the physical organism.

Notwithstanding the criticism of WEISMANN and his school, Lamarckianism holds its ground side by side with Darwinism; and the inheritance of acquired modifications, these modifications being the result of conscious efforts on the part of the organism for the attainment of a definite aim, is considered by many more important even than natural selection as a factor in evolution.

It might be thought that the decision in this matter would be of a purely theoretical interest, but we shall endeavour to show that in this case, as in most others, practice is closely bound up with theory, and that the consequences of accepting the Lamarckian view are momentous for the welfare of the race. The first question that an abstract thinker sets himself to answer with regard to any theory, is, of course, not "Is it advantageous that men should believe it?," but "Is it true?" Let us grant for the purpose of the present argument that the Lamarckian theory is true, and we shall see that it becomes of infinitely more importance in the doctrine of human progress than the rival theory of natural selection. With regard to the lower animals, Lamarckianism is merely a suggestive hypothesis; but with regard to man, in whom alone among animals we find continuous and highly developed conceptual thought, it is a superlatively fruitful idea. Among other animals, the wish for immediate sensual gratification is the sole instigator of modifications: representation there is, more and more definite as we rise higher in the scale of the end to be attained; but it remains always nothing more than the representation of a definite material aim. In the mind of man for the first time we meet with an abstract ideal, for the attainment of which he strives with a reasoned, not as heretofore merely an instinctive, adaptation. Moreover, in the human species we find the members no longer isolated units, combined, so far as they are combined, merely by social instincts that at times compel the subordination of the individual to the common good; we find them consciously bound together in a social organism, and social progress becomes a rational ideal to be attained by conscious mutual effort. And by a species of mental contagion, the aspirations of the leaders of thought, of the men whose ideas foreshadow the social type of the future, influence the conception and animate the efforts of men in whom the idea of progress would never have spontaneously arisen. The logical outcome of the Lamarckian theory is thus unceasing conscious effort for the evolution of a higher type of social organisation; the logical outcome of the theory of natural selection is, with as much content as we can muster, to adopt the principle of *laissez-faire*, and to waste no energy in useless interference with the forces that, slowly and blindly working, lead to evolution. Put tersely, the conception of natural selection, on which especial stress was laid by DARWIN, and for which an exclusive importance has been claimed by many of DARWIN'S successors, leads us to regard the needs of the species as the coercive force in the progress of the individual. According to the school of LAMARCK, we must regard the aspirations of the individual as the directive force in the progress of the species:—

> Ah, but a man's reach should exceed
> his grasp,
> Or what's a heaven for?

says BROWNING'S "Andrea Del Sarto." Viewed in the light of the Lamarckian conception of progress, these words, no longer representative of a vague and unfruitful yearning for a supra-mundane ideal, become instinct with a new and profound significance for the general welfare of our race.

DARWIN himself was mainly concerned with the general biological aspects of the

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conception of evolution; he paid little attention to the narrower, though more vital question of human progress. HERBERT SPENCER, however, to some extent an anticipator of DARWIN, and the inventor of the phrases, "struggle for existence" and "survival of the fittest," was among the first to see the enormous importance of the light now thrown on the development of human character and the origin of human institutions. He above all others directed the attention of thinkers to the need for a scientific study of sociology. But great as his work was, it was marred throughout by a serious defect. Though he was not himself, like many of the later expounders of the doctrine of evolution, "more Darwinist than DARWIN;" though he recognized in the abstract the wide importance in evolution of other factors than natural selection; yet, when he came to apply the doctrine of evolution to the scientific study of human society, he seemed to forget in fact what he continued to assert in theory, that any other principle was at work in human development than a blind interaction of natural forces. Conscious aspiration towards an ideal aim and conscious combination for the realization of this aim are to be effective, if effective at all, in an almost infinitely remote future. In human society, as at present constituted, the best the thinker can do is to sit apart and to watch the play of the blind forces of evolution, interfering only when he sees a possibility that the misdirected efforts of consciousness may lead to a modification in some degree of the pitilessness of natural selection, and that social combination, tempering the struggle for existence, may hinder the working of the evolutionary forces and bring about the survival of the unfit. The study of sociology leads in fact, according to SPENCER, to an apotheosis of *laissez-faire*. It is by their systematic neglect of one half, and that the more important of the theory of human pogress, that we can explain the barrent individualism of SPENCER and his school.

In contrast with the individualists we find a group of sociologists who run to the opposite pole, men who overestimate the capacity of the will in the modification of human character, and on the other hand under-estimate or ignore the importance of the principle of natural selection. These writers put before us an admirable finished scheme of the Socialist state, they cast it in the next century or even in some hitherto undiscovered continent of our own nineteenth century world. Here, in perfect harmony and content, all loving one another and all working for the common good, live these fictions of the poetic imagination, these JEKYLLS that have eliminated HYDE. Self-seeking and idleness have disappeared from the face of the earth. And how? By a simple fiat of the will. The mere representation in idea of the qualities necessary for the maintenance of the Socialist state has sufficed to bring those qualities into being. This has not been the result of a long and arduous strife; it has come in a day, in an hour, by a species of mental *coup d'état*. With regard to the other aspect of the socialists' misreading of evolution, the manner in which they ignore the principle of natural selection, it is hardly necessary to speak, for enough has been made of it in current criticism of socialist schemes. In a socialist state, we are told, the incentive to effort would be removed, the struggle for existence would cease, and in consequence there would follow a degeneration of type. The charge is often exaggerated, but it has never been fully met; and the difficulty of supplying adequate incentives to effort, and the difficulty of ensuring sufficient competition to foster a healthy perpetuation of individual force of character and physique, remain the most serious objections to any schemes that have been put forward of a finished socialist state. But criticise these schemes as we may and must, the socialist gospel remains a gospel of enlightenment and hope, whilst the purely individualist gospel is a gospel of darkness and despair. The socialist points forward, saying, "Here is the path of progress; march boldly along." The individualist stands in the path with arms thrust out across, saying: "This way is no way; ye cannot find the way." Remote as may seem the possibility of the realisation of the socialist ideal, that ideal remains a potent means for the direction of corporate effort and the formation of individual character.

Of late years, however, not content with the individualist to sit down in inaction, nor willing with the socialist to try to run before he has fully learned how to walk, the scientific student of human progress has turned his attention in other directions. He recognized that if his aim was the elevation of human nature, the first step must be to gain a knowledge of human nature as it is, of man's tendencies towards good, and how to encourage them, of his tendencies towards evil, and how to repress them. Disregarding the error-fraught assumptions of religion and metaphysics, he set himself to establish on the firm ground of observation and experiment the sciences of human and comparative psychology, and he then proceeded to the application of the knowledge thus gained in the formation of a practical philosoply of human progress. History teaches us how, in the "dry light" of science, astrology grew into astronomy, alchemy into chemistry. A similar change is going on under our own eyes in the development of the newly constituted science of society. The workers are still in the outer court of the temple; the day of great generalizations has not yet arrived; indeed as often happens in such cases many of the best workers, with their attention fixed on details, are hardly conscious of the wider end to be attained. But year by year, almost month by month, so rapid is the advance, the mystics and the doctrinaires are more utterly discredited; and groundless suppositions and vague half-truths give place to firm inductions and to valuable hypotheses on the high road to verification. Those of our readers that wish to study some of the most characteristic and valuable results of the anthropological work of the last few years, may do so in the writings of the generally acknowledged leader of the new school, the great Italian psychologist, CESARE LOMBROSO.

RAILWAY NEWS.

Among the numerous railways newly projected, mention may be made of a few of the principal. The leading moneyed men of Izumo and Hoki are organizing a company to construct a line from Yonago, via Matsuye, to Kizuki, a distance of about forty-five miles. A number of more or less well known merchants of Osaka have applied for a charter to lay a line from the Umeda Station to Kimen-san, via Hattori, Okamachi Kojl, and Hirao, with two branches from Hirao. The total length of these latter lines is 19 miles, and the estimated capital 1,000,000 *yen*. The Kan-to Tetsudo Kaisha, which obtained a provisional charter on the 15th instant, has decided to extend its original line between Hakodate and Yukawa as far as Mori, an increase of 1,200,000 *yen* in the capital. The latest project is reported from Wakayama, in the province of Kii. The company is a small one, with a capital of only 150,000 *yen*.

Concerning the extension of railways in Japan during the past twenty-four years beginning with 1872, the *Jiji Shimpo* publishes the following figures:—

Year.	Government lines. Mile chain.	Private lines. Mile chain.	Total length. Mile chain.	Increase per year. Miles chains
1872...	18.00...	—	18.00.....	—
1873...	18.00...	—	18.00.....	—
1874...	38.27...	—	32.37.....	20.27
1875...	38.27...	—	32.27.....	—
1876...	65 31...	— ...	65 31.....	27 05
1877...	65 31...	— ...	65.31.....	—
1878...	65 31...	— ...	65 31.....	—
1879...	75 34...	— ...	75.34.....	10.03
1880...	97 21...	— ...	97.21.....	21.87
1881...	97 21...	— ...	97.21.....	—
1882...	131.36...	— ...	131 36.....	34.15
1883...	131.36...	38.00...	169 36.. ...	38.00
1884...	183.77...	69 09...	253 06.....	83.70
1885...	214 51...	137.31...	352 02.....	98.96
1886...	254.24...	168 52...	422.76.....	70 74
1887...	285.18...	295.79...	581.17.....158.41
1888...	443.11...	333.11...	776.22.....195.05
1889...	550 59...	573.47...	1,124.26.....348.04
1890...	550.59...	811.22...	1,362 01.....237.75
1891...	550 59...	1,162 30...	1,713 09.....351.08
1892...	550 59...	1,312 38...	1,863.17.....150 08
1893...	550.59...	1,366.29...	1,924.08..... 60.91
1894...	550.59...	1,510.61...	2,068 40.....144.32
1895...	593.52...	1,650.12...	2,243 64.....175.24

The figures in the above table all refer to the end of the respective years, with the single exception of 1895, in the case of which the date referred to is the 30th November.

Eight Korean military officers entered the Seijo Gakko at Ichigaya, Tokyo, on the 19th inst. The school was inspected by the Korean Minister on the 16th inst.

Marquis Ito, the Premier, who is said to have resolved upon resigning immediately after the close of the next session of the Diet, intends to proceed to Russia with H.I.H. Prince Fushimi. The Premier had an interview with H.I.M. the Emperor on the 17th inst., when he is said to have replied to His Majesty that he will retain his post in the interim. It is also stated that the Marquis informed the Emperor about the coalition between the Cabinet and the *Jiyu-to*, and asked for Imperial sanction.

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MARINE NEWS.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha (Merchant Steamship Company) proposes to increase its capital of 2,500,000 *yen* to double of that amount. Mr. Tanaka Tashichiro, Vice-President of the Company, is now in Tokyo on business connected with the contemplated increase of capital. Two ships recently purchased by the company —namely, the *Maisuru* (formerly the *Continental*, constructed in England in 1890, tonnage 1,052 tons, speed 12 knots), and the *Suma* (built at Nagasaki this year, tonnage 1,505 tons, speed 10½ knots)—are to be used on the Okinawa, Korean, and Hokkaido lines. The company has two wooden vessels in course of construction.

There are two rival steamship companies in the Prefecture of Kochi, namely, the Doyo Shosen Kaisha and the Tosa Gun Yusen Kaisha. Negotiations that have for some time been going on between these companies for amalgation, are said to have been brought to a satisfactory conclusion on the 13th instant. The amalgamation is to take place in January next, with the united capital of 1,000,000 *yen*. The company proposes to extend its steamship service, first, to Hokkaido and Formosa, and in course of time, to Korean and Chinese ports.

KOREAN NEWS.

December 14.

The letters just received by the leading Tokyo journals from their Sōul correspondents throw little, if any, fresh light upon the real causes and the general political aspects of the disturbance of the 28th ult. Constant mention is made of rumours about the alleged implication of some foreigners and certain Korean refugees in foreign Legations; but these rumours having already been noticed in our columns, no further reference to them is necessary here. The letters, however, are pretty full and apparently tolerably trustworthy in their description of the details of the disturbance.

The present Palace Guards consist of two battalions, each divided into two equal parts composed respectively of the former *Kunrentai* troops, namely, those drilled under Japanese officers, and of the old Palace Guards. The *Kunrentai* section is quartered within the precincts of the Palace, the duty of guarding which is exclusively entrusted to these troops. The other half, consisting of the old Guards trained under American instructors, is assigned to the barracks formerly occupied by the Sōul garrison in the vicinity of the Eastern Gate of the city. It was at the head of part of these latter troops that the leaders of the recent conspiracy advanced to the Palace.

The officer under whose command the men acted on that occasion was Li Dotetsu, who, until very lately had been commander of the garrison at Phyŏng Yang. He seems to be a man of adventurous spirit. Last year, he was leader of a band of *Tonghaks* in Chung-chong-do. On one occasion he was hardly pressed by a Japanese force under Captain Ishimori, but somehow managed to escape. Afterwards, he offered, through a local functionary, to surrender to the Japanese officer on condition of being allowed to retrieve his past offence by new services. Captain Ishimori agreed to the proposal, and took the rebel leader under his charge. Li Dotetsu, being a man of courage and address, so far succeeded in winning the confidence of the Japanese officer, that, through the latter's recommendation, he received a commission in the Korean army. After the flight of Pak, the well known Minister of Home Affairs, Li Dotetsu, being suspected of "strong leaning to the Pak faction, was put on the retired list, and thenceforth devoted himself to brooding over the misfortune of his fallen star. All correspondents are agreed in believing that, in this state of mind, he was easily prevailed upon to take an active part in the recent disturbance.

Whoever may have been his employers, Li Dotetsu appears to have been the principal agent in arranging the military part of the programme. He sounded the commander of the guards quartered in the Palace, and obtained a promise of assistance from within when the projected attack upon the Palace should be made. But this promise was a ruse on the part of the commander of the Palace Guards, who at once reported the matter to the Cabinet Ministers and took thorough measures to defeat the expected attack. Li Dotetsu, however, entertaining no suspicion of his friend's duplicity, busily made preparations for the intended attack, entirely unconscious of the fact that he was closely watched by the Government's detectives.

On the evening of the 27th ultimo, he went to the barracks of the Guards that had been formerly guardians of the Palace, and pretending to act under the special command of the King, ordered them to accompany him to the Palace. A few of the officers, who were in the secret, at once complied with his orders, but one of two protested against the irregularity of such a proceeding. These latter, however, were overruled by the majority and had to follow the rest in the unsuccessful attempt. It is stated that these Guards had rifles but no ammunition. A few days previously one of the officers in the secret had succeeded in conveying a quantity of cartridges from the Palace, but these were of no use, as the arms carried by the old Guards were different from those in possession of the former *Kunrentai*. Confident in the promised support of his friend in the Palace, Li Dotetsu did not mind this serious difficulty. Arriving at the Palace gate at about 1.30 a.m. on the 28th ultimo, he was so rash as to climb the wall together with several other officers, thus easily falling prisoners into the hands of the Guards stationed inside the gate. Simultaneously with the arrest of these conspirators, the gate was flung open, and the troops without were vigorously charged and dispersed.

While on their way to the Palace, the conspirators sent a messenger to the Japanese Legation, with a letter informing the Minister of their projected attack, and imploring him not to order out the Japanese troops against them. At the same time, they posted placards in the Japanese settlement, assuring the Japanese soldiers and civilians that the disturbance had for its sole object to clear the name of the old Guards from the false accusation of treason, and advising them to keep quiet for the sake of the friendly relations between the two countries.

As to the suspected instigators of the disturbance, said to be hiding in foreign Legations, none of them had been apprehended at the date when the letters from which we are quoting left Sōul, namely, on the 3rd instant. Among the principal suspects thus far arrested, we may mention An Keiju, ex-Minister of War, the astutest opportunist in the peninsula, who had hitherto managed to be always on the sunny side of politics; and In Chiko, the clever Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs. The latter's father, In Yuretsu, is also under suspicion; he has fled to the country and constables have been sent to apprehend him. One or two Court Chamberlains are also under suspicion, but they do not seem to have been arrested.

December 19.

Recently we reproduced a report that Mr. In Chiko, the Korean Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, had been put under arrest. Letters since received from Sōul allege that he is still at large. The *Jiji's* correspondent says that he and his father are staying at the house of Mr. Underwood. According to the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs was not in any way connected with the disturbance of the 28th ultimo, but his father having been implicated in it he was naturally afraid of suspicion attaching to himself, and so thought it prudent to seek the protection of a foreign friend. These circumstances being well known to the Cabinet, a letter was recently sent him at his hiding place, strongly inviting him to resume his official duties, as he was under no suspicion whatever. But he is said to be still hesitating to trust to the assurance of his superiors.

The names of the foreigners that happened to be in the Palace on the night of the recent disturbance are given by the *Jiji's* correspondent. They are General Dye, Colonel Nienstead, General Le Gendre, the Rev. Mr. Underwood, the Rev. Mr. Appenzeller, Mr. Rev. Epison (?), and Mr. Hulbert, editor of the *Korean Repository*. As to the last mentioned gentleman, the correspondent is not sure of his presence in the Palace, but rumour includes him among the number. "These persons," continues the same writer, "entered the Palace a few hours previously to the outbreak of the disturbance. Hearing the report of guns outside the Palace, they ran toward the inner apartments with pistols in their hands. The Guards, who had been prepared for this move on the part of the foreigners, intercepted their progress, and when the foreigners endeavoured to force a passage, the Guards used their bayonets against them. Thereupon General Le Gendre turned and ran to his apartments, while the rest were conducted to the guard-room, where they remained as prisoners. Feeling cold, they obtained braziers from the Guards, and in that way passed the night. Such is the substance of a report very widely circulated among the Koreans."

Before the occurrence on the 28th ultimo, the foreign residents were free to enter or leave the Palace at their pleasure. But thenceforth strict instructions are said to have been issued to the Guards not to admit any foreigner other than those officially qualified. The discipline and efficiency of the present Palace Guards are highly praised by the Japanese correspondents.

The Korean capital was again disturbed on the 6th instant by rumours of a projected attempt to rescue the prisoners that had been connected with the affair of the 28th ult., and to complete the *coup d'état* that miscarried on that occasion. The attempt, it is said, was discovered by the Government in the following manner:—Li Kan-yo, one of the principal conspirators staying in a certain foreign Legation, secretly sent a note to his wife apprising her of the projected enterprise, and charging her not to be alarmed by the disturbance that would inevitably be occasioned. His wife showed this note to her sister, who, in turn, sent it to her husband. But on the way the messenger lost the note, which finally fell into the hands of the police. Thus warned, the Cabinet at once took vigorous precautionary measures, and the danger was successfully averted.

The *Jiji's* correspondent learns that recently Russian marines in Sōul made several trips to Ninsen, and, what is more singular, these trips were coincident with the disappearance from the Korean capital of certain Koreans suspected of complicity in the disturbance of the 28th ultimo. The same writer further learns that some Koreans recently left Ninsen on board a Russian war-ship, and that two of them landed at Chefoo and a third at Shanghai. As to the report that Li Han-shin was among these escaped suspects, the story is said to be untrue. The *Jiji's* correspondent is strongly inclined to believe that Li is still staying at the Russian Legation.

CHINESE NEWS.

December 14.

The progressive society recently formed in Pekin, and the newspaper issued by it, have attracted much attention and been referred to more than once in these columns. It is now stated that the Viceroy of Nanking, Chang Chih-tung, has signified his approval of the organization of a similar society, and a number of literati in Shanghai have taken up the matter.

It is stated that General Tung Fuhsiang's army in Shensi numbers only fifteen thousand,

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

whereas the Mohammedans have a force of a hundred and fifty thousand.

We do not anywhere find an accurate statement of the number of German officers employed by the Viceroy of Nanking for drilling and organizing his army, but it would appear that in the city of Nanking more than fifty are residing.

There is terrible distress in Honan owing to inundations. Destitute men and women have been crowding to the cities, but are refused admittance. The suffering is expected to become still more acute in a few weeks, when the potatoes now forming the country-people's sole means of sustenance will be exhausted.

December 18.

The Protestant Missionaries in China have presented to the Tsung-li Yamên in Pekin a memorial having for its object the closer association of missionaries and officials. Such a result, could it be achieved, would doubtless tend to prevent many of the misunderstandings that now arise. But there is little hope that the missionaries will succeed in establishing social relations hitherto beyond the reach of even the Corps Diplomatique in China. Nevertheless, something has certainly been accomplished, for the bearers of the memorial, the Revs. T. Richard and Dr. Wherry, introduced by the United States Representative, Colonel Denby, were received at the Tsung-li Yamên, to which august but invertebrate body of statesmen they seem to have now obtained free access. They have obtained from the Yamen a promise that the memorial shall be answered, and they have asked for an audience of the Emperor, but the latter request is not likely to lead to anything. The memorial suggests, among other things, that two Americans and two Englishmen should be attached to each great Board of Administration, the reason assigned for this choice of nationalities being that these are the only two States by which arbitration is admitted as an international principle.

A grand ball was given at the United States Legation in Pekin on the 12th of November, and on the 27th of the same month private theatricals and dancing took place at the Russian Legation, the latter event being attended by several Chinese high officials.

The Chinese had to pay so high for the weapons and munitions of war supplied to them by Europe before and during the conflict with Japan, that they have now resolved to manufacture all these things for themselves. Prince Ching memorialized the Throne to the effect that the best and newest foreign appliances and processes can be employed at the Shanghai Arsenal, quick-firing guns, smokeless powder, and all such things being producible there. The memorialist specially recommended that the whole work he placed under the direction of Taotai Liu, who for many years directed the Shanghai Arsenal. Between the cup and the lip there is many a slip, in China. But it looks as if the Germans, and others hitherto engaged in furnishing war material to China, had overreached themselves.

It is confidently predicted that the days of Indian opium are numbered in China, the Szechuan drug being much cheaper and little inferior. There has been endless discussion about the effects of opium, but a foreigner, recently writing from the poppy district of Szechuan, avers that the ravages caused by the use of the drug are appalling, and that if things go on in the present groove, the population must quickly diminish.

According to Foochow advices to the *N.-C. Daily News*, the Viceroy Pien has selected the expectant Taotai Yen K'ai (a Manchu), to go to Singapore and other Southern ports where wealthy Chinese abound, in order to induce them to take up the management, on a commercial basis, of the Foochow Arsenal and dockyards.

The Viceroy Wang has despatched Messrs. Ku and Shih, the first named being assistant manager of the Taku government dockyard, to proceed to Port Arthur to take over that port from the Japanese.

H.E. Liu K'un-yi, who is now in Tientsin, is reported to be soon leaving for Peking for an audience with the Emperor, and the liklihood is that His Excellency will return from southwards to take up his old post as Viceroy of the Liangkiang, in which case the Viceroy Chang will go back to Wuchang.

The Viceroy Wang Wen-shao, of Chihli, is reported to have received a telegram from Kansu announcing two victories by General Tung Fu-hsiang over the Mahommedan rebels, and the raising of the siege of Hochou by him. In consequence of this, the rebels in the prefectures of Ninghsia and Liangchou in the same province are reported to be discouraged and disbanding their forces.

General Liu, with twelve camps of Mingtze troops, who were recently employed beyond the Great Wall, have arrived at Tientsin from Taku, and will probably be sent on to Port Arthur.

It is again reported that as soon as he has completed the work on which he is now engaged, the Viceroy Liu Kun-yi will be reappointed to his old post at Nanking.

The Chinese are about to erect a cotton mill outside Soochow. The mill will contain about 15,000 spindles, it is said, the necessary machinery having been ordered by Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co. from Dobson and Barlow, Rochdale.

December 19.

At Wenchow the attitude of officials and people toward the Christians seems to be distinctly hostile. A householder of Fêng-lin, arrested two months ago for allowing Christian services to be held in his house, remains in prison, the Taotai refusing to release him unless guarantees are given that the "offence will not be repeated." Moreover, members of the China Inland Mission have been driven from two villages where they attempted to hold services.

The following Imperial Edict was published on the 6th of December in Pekin :—

With reference to the memorial of the Prince and Ministers of the Ministry of War requesting us to appoint a high official to have the chief control over the building of railways in the country, it must be confessed that railways are indeed important considerations in connection with trade and commerce, and we have, therefore, decided that railways must be constructed towards that end. The other day we commanded our Ministry of War to consider measures with reference to the intended building of a railway line within the neighbourhood of Pekin, and in obedience to our commands Hu Yü-fên, Provincial Judge of Kuangsi, was selected for this duty by the said Ministry of War. Their memorial based on Hu Yü-fên's report is now before us in which it is stated that commencing from Tientsin and following the western bank of the Grand Canal, and thence northwards *vid* the Southern Hunting Parks up to Lukou Bridge (western suburbs of Peking) the distance between these two points is about 280 *li* (about 90 miles). The estimated cost for a railway between Tientsin and Lukou Bridge, therefore, will amount to something like two million four hundred odd thousand taels. We have also consulted the map of the proposed route, presented with the above report, and in answer to the prayer that a high official be appointed to superintend the construction of this railway, we would like to remark that it is always a matter of difficulty to inaugurate an entirely new departure and at the same time be thoroughly prepared for eventualities, while it is necessary that we should have perfect confidence in the man selected for this difficult task. But as Hu Yü-fên already on a former occasion presented his scheme in this connection and now has further had the experience of going personally along the proposed route, we will therefore appoint him to the chief and sole control of the building of the Tientsin-Lukou Bridge railway. The Board of Revenue and the Imperial High Commissioner and Superintendent of Trade for the Peiyang are therefore hereby commanded to use their joint efforts in providing the funds necessary to build the proposed line.

With regard to the trunk line proposed to be built from Lukou Bridge southwards to Hankow, the line must necessarily be a very long one and will require an enormous sum to complete, we will therefore give to the wealthy merchants of the various provinces the opportunity to issue shares for the formation of a railway company for the construction of this line, the condition being that they collect ten million taels and above for this purpose. It shall be entirely a mercantile undertaking and the government officials shall not interfere with the profits or losses of the Company. We would exhort that one and all exert themselves to the utmost of their ability for the accomplishment of this work, and we promise that if this be done well that we will accord Imperial recognition and great rewards to the deserving ones. A special decree to all in Pekin and the provinces.

The *North-China Daily News* says that Mr. Kinder is to be engineer-in-chief of the Tientsin-Pekin railway, and that it will be a double line.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Our readers must distinctly understand that we are in no sense responsible for the sentiments or opinions of our correspondents, for the accuracy of their assertions, or for the deductions they may choose to draw therefrom.]

THE CHINESE IN FORMOSA.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Permit me to anticipate the congratulations which will be showered upon you by the rulers of the earth for your able solution, in your leader of the 5th inst., of what has hitherto been one of the chief difficulties in dealing with conquered peoples. Acting on your suggestion, Lord Salisbury may be expected to dispose of the Irish question during his present Ministry, while the French population of Alsace-Lorraine will be confined in the pale of a few treaty towns. And should the fortune of war ever bring about an occupation of this country by the armies of the Czar, and the latter ruler determine to retain his conquest, what a splendid field for Russian enterprise will be opened by a ukase on these lines.

And there is the further recommendation that in this, as in other points (Port Arthur, *e.g.*), the history of Asiatic civilization will be merely repeating itself.

Did not Nebuchadnezzar also the same?

Yours faithfully,

ASHIBIKI.

December 6th, 1895.

[Our correspondent finds this very pretty persiflage, we have no doubt. He forgets that the Irish are already subjects of Great Britain, whereas the Chinese in Formosa need never be made Japanese subjects unless Japan pleases, as is distinctly stipulated by the Shimonoseki Treaty. He forgets also that the French population of Alsace and Lorraine have already been made German subjects. He forgets, too, wha, the United States has for years been doing with the Indians—buying them out and setting them in reservations.—Ed. *J.M.*]

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—Let me begin by thanking you for reminding me in your note to my letter of the 16th of a few facts that you thought I had forgotten. The intention was good, I confess; but I had not; I simply did not think of them in the connection, as not being to the point—the point being of course that the compulsory moving out of a conquered race bag and baggage was rather a thing of the past.

Further, that it had become a thing of the past, not by virtue of written laws and treaties, but because it was generally assumed by civilized people that even a member of a subject race had a right to the possession of his former home if he did not use that possession as a basis of operations against the conqueror of his country.

To take the case of Ireland. Now, assuming that it would be legally impossible to expatriate the native Irish owing to their being British subjects—a statement which I dispute, as I know of nothing in the British Constitution to prevent the British Parliament doing as it chooses,—yet there is no legal impediment to making their residence by Coercion Acts so hot that they would voluntarily expatriate themselves.

One impediment there is; the British nation would stand no such thing, and would make short work of any government that would propose it.

That the Japanese nation is moved by no such feelings of humanity is not to be wondered at: the isolation of years has left a lot of leeway to make up, and if they and their admirers were not so forward and anxious to claim for them the status of Europeans no one would be inclined to reproach them with it. But as these claims have been pressed successfully, and we foreign residents are to get the benefit of it, one looks askance at being consigned to the tender mercies of a civilization which sees no wrong in expatriating a population, and is inclined to be censorious.

The one modern instance you gave, the case of the American Indians, is hardly to the point. A decreasing nomadic population may fairly be required to make way for a growing industrial and agricultural one on reasonable terms. To turn out one set of farmers, fishers, and traders in favour of another is a very different matter.

And what a gain to civilization it would be to substitute Japanese for Chinese business methods!

Yours faithfully, ASHIBIKI.

December 13th, 1895.

[What on earth have the Japanese to do with this matter? It is our suggestion. We have never heard an opinion expressed by a Japanese on the subject. "Ashibiki's" laments about the defective humanity of the Japanese people are wholly irrelevant. Certainly they showed no want of humanity toward the inhabitants of Manchuria or Shantung. We would further ask our correspondent what he means by talking of "expatriating" the Chinese in Formosa? In point of fact, their "expatriation" would commence when they ceased to be subjects of China and became naturalized Japanese. Their return to their native country after disposing of their fixed property in Formosa (a part of Japan's dominions) would be precisely the way to escape expatriation.—ED. *J.M.*

LITERARY GEMS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL."

SIR,—Here is another literary gem taken from the same local mine that furnished the jewel recently sent to you:—

One more artist, Mr Weldon, who has been here for some time, will now shortly leave this country, after having illustrated in black and white and by painting scenes of Japan, which he has had on view at his residence, some pictures, which he lately invited a few friends to see.

Yours truly, ADMIRATION.

Tokyo, 15th December.

YOKOHAMA SKATING CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the above took place in the Club Hotel on Friday afternoon, there being present Messrs. A. O. Averill, in the chair, W. W. Campbell, W. Sutter, A. H. Dare, and H. E. Campbell.

The accounts having been taken as read, various matters of interest to the members were discussed, in the course of which it was suggested by Mr. Dare that the surplus should be used in making things more comfortable to skaters.

The old committee was re-elected.

Mr. Campbell remarked on the remissness of members in leaving their skates and boots on his hands without any distinctive marks by which they could be recognised, and then sending for them, with the result that sometimes unpleasantness ensued. They seemed to expect the committee to be responsible for their own carelessness in not looking after their own property.

Mr. DARE animadverted on the practice of some boys during the past season having used the ice before the proper hour, to the great discomfort of the rest of the skaters who upon their arrival found the ice so cut up as to be almost useless. He suggested that they should be suspended for a week or so when caught in the act.

In the course of some further conversation it was suggested that a notice, which had formerly been put up, should be again posted, to the effect that the momban represented the committee and that consequently his orders should be obeyed.

After the usual votes of thanks, the meeting separated.

Below and the accounts:—

SEASON 1894-5.

DR.

To balance brought forward		$194.80
Subscriptions:		
51 at $3 $153		
2 at 4 4		
6 at 5 30		187.00
		$322.80

CR.

By payment for Rink.		
1894.		
Dec. 29th—1st instalment	$60	
1895.		
Jan. 4th—2nd instalment	50	
Mar. 6th—3rd instalment	25	$135 00
Sundry Expenses		13.62
Advertising		7.50
Balance		155.08
		$321.20
To balance in Treasurer's hands		$155.08

YOKOHAMA ENGINE AND IRON WORKS, LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Shareholders in the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, Limited, was held at Keil's Buildings on Wednesday afternoon for the purpose of considering a special resolution for an alteration in the Articles of Association. There were present Messrs. J. F. Lowder (in the chair), C. K. M. Martin, J. Johnstone, J. Rickett, E. Berger, F. H. Bull, James Walter, C. Giusanni, J. A. Fraser, H. M. Arnould, F. Gillett, Jas. Dodds, S. D. Hepburn, and G. C. Charlesworth, Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN congratulated the meeting on the fact of their having a quorum. All had no doubt read the notice convening the meeting, which was for the purpose of altering the Articles of Association. To elucidate matters he would read the proposed changes, which were as follow:—

(*a*) The following Article shall be inserted after Article 10, and shall be called Article 10-A:—
"The Company may from time to time reduce its Capital."

(*b*) Article 10 to be altered to read as follows:—
"The Capital of the Company shall, subject to the provisions of Article 10-A and 11, consist of $130,000 dollars, divided into 1,300 shares of $100 each, fully paid up."

(*c*) That in Article 45, for the words "Twenty-one days' notice," shall be substituted the words "Seven days' notice."

Continuing, the CHAIRMAN said they had always found much difficulty in the provisions of Article 45 which provided for 21 days' notice of a meeting. He would suggest that they pass this rule, whatever opinion the meeting may have as to the others. Referring to the other alterations, the Chairman pointed out that the Company was now in possession of a large amount of cash. The Directors did not want to keep it on their hands—he would not say they did not know what to do with it—and thought it inadvisable to pay it out as a dividend, but believed that in the interests of shareholders it would be better to reduce the capital, which must be done by special resolution to be confirmed not less than 14 or more than 20 days subsequently. The company had now a bank balance of $89,000, and had declared an interim dividend of 10 per cent., while the capital was $130,000. He thought it advisable to reduce the capital by one half, but this would come after to-day's resolution. All they asked for was that the Directors be given power to act. He was not asking them to commit themselves to anything, but to allow of the necessary changes being made.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the resolution be passed.

Mr. JOHNSTONE seconded, but the Chairman suggesting that it would be as well if some one not a Director should do so.

Mr. GIUSANNI then seconded the resolution, and it was passed unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said that to-morrow the shareholders would receive a notice of a meeting on 10th January, no earlier date being possible, for the purpose of confirming this resolution.

The meeting then rose.

THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

The Annual meeting of the Asiatic Society was was held at No. 17, Tsukiji, on Wednesday, December 11th at 4 p.m. The President, Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D., occupied the chair.

The minutes having been been read and approved the Chairman called upon Mr. Clay MacCauley to read his paper on the Japanese Landscape, of which we give the following abstract:

After claiming that the scenery of Japan has a unity or individuality so much its own that one is justified in speaking of the "Japanese landscape," Mr. MacCauley entered upon an elaborate description of the subject of his paper, dividing his treatment of it into two parts, first, the *scientific data*, and second, the *artistic characterization*. Among the data furnished by science is first the geologic founding of Japan. Japan is part of the edge of the inner rim of the Great Pacific Basin, the largest depression in diameter and depth of the earth's crush. This depression is peculiar in being so sunken towards the west, that its edge, which eastward is the lofty range of mountains bordering the west coast of America, has become westward the succession of mountainous islands that extends from Aleutia southward into the Antarctic zone. The deepest waters of the world lie off this island chain. To the northern half of the Pacific Basin there is an outer rim lying inland in both America and Asia; in America the Rocky Mountain ranges, in Asia, the Eastern Siberian and China mountains. Between these outer and inner rims lie plateaus, elevated in America, as arid wastes, depressed in Asia as shallow seas extending from Kamtchatka to Java and as low plains like the China Delta. This edge of the Pacific Basin is the great zone of fracture of the earth's crust. It is the line of greatest volcanic activity. Further, meteorologically, there is much that affects scenery in Japan. Japan's air being that of islands is moist. As islands, almost as a whole mountainous, Japan is a country of abundant rainfall. Owing to conditions, exhibited at length by the speaker, the rain-fall is very unequally distributed over the year, excessive in spring and autumn. Hence certain noticeable effects. Great erosion of the primæval volcanic masses forming the islands; modification of their outlines; formation of low lying alluvial slopes and plains; production of numerous rivers, streams, lakes, waterfalls, and torrents; wide water channels filled only in flood times, nearly emptied during most of the year; then as a consequence of the discharge of waters saturated with organic matter into the ocean, presence of abundant marine life; this occasioning the fishing industry; and this producing most entertaining spectacular effects. Again, by reason of its climatic character, Japan is covered with luxuriant vegetation; this vegetation is an interspersion of growths native to regions of far north and south latitudes.

But man as well as nature has had much to do with giving Japan its unique landscape. By a specialized social and industrial career, and in conforming to peculiar political and religious institutions, the Japanese have made a distinct impress upon their physical surroundings. Their habitation has been almost wholly along their sea shores and upon their low-lying plains. They have been content to live for the most part upon the easily obtained simple food products of the sea and the bordering swamps—fish and rice. Consequent upon this concentration of the nation's labour, exceptionally prominent landscape effects. Then the monarchical and feudal civil system has produced notable physical results;—castles, villages of the serfs and their surrounding petty fiefs; the great high roads. Consequent upon special religious mood and needs, numerous shrines and temples and their evergreen settings of groves. Moreover, the landscape effects of both nature and man are distinguished by a continuity or unity of characterization throughout Japanese. Man's work is the outcome of one range of motive, for example, in architecture of castle, of temple, of home. In agriculture one economical system has disposed of the land after one plan Nature and man have wrought out scenery essentially the same everywhere.

Passing to the characterization of the Japanese landscape from an artistic point of view, Mr. MacCauley spoke first of the remarkable *variety* or *diversity* disclosed in it. The same throughout in virtue of a common order of qualities, scenery here is varied everywhere with a diverse display of its common elements. Always diversified, never monopolized by no one or few objects and never a monotone of forms and associations. Next, Japanese scenery may be figured as for the most part *cheerful* and *serene*, in no way gloomy or violent. Fantastic and capricious often in outline and mass, and sometimes tending to arouse the emotion of sublimity, it nevertheless has the effect chiefly of brightness and tranquillity, of exhilaration and peace. This part of his characterization the speaker illustrated at considerable length and with much detail. A third distinctive feature spoken of, is the *picturesqueness* of Japan's scenery. It is a treasure land for artists. Its picture effects are inexhaustible. Illustrations of this characteristic were drawn from the effects of the religious life of the people, of the prosecution of their industries, of their agriculture and home life, their sea coast and inland environment and so on. But the Japanese landscape is to be characterized especially under the qualification, *beauty*,—beauty in its widest sense as expressing the sum of those qualities which please the eye,—variety, picturesqueness, grace and the like. There is nothing in the Japanese landscape as such that repels or does violence to the æsthetic sense. Many scenes were referred to to illustrate the beauty of this country. Comparison at length was made between the view at Taormina in Sicily, where mount Etna commands the picture and the prospect disclosed at Tesshūji near Okitsu in which Mt. Fuji is seen at its best. Japan's lake scenery at Hikone, Hakone, Chuzenji, etc., were described, and the mountain panoramas at Minobu and near Nikko were depicted. The procession of flower and leaf life in Japan's year was reviewed at considerable length. The perennial verdure of the landscape, the effects of snowfalls, of the plum blossoms, cherries, and wild wistaria, and of the autumn foliage were brought to notice. Then a glance was given at the demonstration made in the art and literature of the Japanese people of their appreciation of the beauty of their country. It would be difficult, said the speaker, to use language embodying deeper rapture or expressing more joyous elation over national beauty than that having place in Japanese literature. Quotations from translations of ancient Japanese poetry illustrative of this statement brought the paper to a close.

The Chairman thanked Mr. McCauley on behalf of the Society for his interesting paper.

The Society then proceeded to the business of the annual meeting.

The Corresponding Secretary read his annual report as follows:—

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"During the present year there is little of importance to note in the annual report beyond the ordinary amount of work done by the Society. The recent war between Japan and China may have diverted interest from the past to the present events of this country, but the Society can congratulate itself on a very fair amount of progress in spite of hindrance.

"Few changes worthy of chronicle have marked the session. Death has deprived the Society of the services of Sir Thomas F. Wade, of Cambridge, Eng., and also of the life members, Rev. C. S. Malan and John O'Neil, Esq., both of England. Fourteen new names have been added to the list of members, and two former members whose connection with the Society had lapsed have renewed their membership. Three members have resigned.

"During the Session, which now corresponds to the Calendar year, there were five papers contributed to the Transactions besides the work of Mr. Chamberlain on the Luchuan Language in a supplementary volume. There were also two lectures given under the auspices of the Society, one in Yokohama in February and the other in Tokyo in June. The list of papers read, etc., will be found in the Appendix to the regular volume of this year.

"The finances of the Society are in a satisfactory state and unless unforseen accidents occur, the Society has nothing to fear on this score in the future."

This report was adopted. The Treasurer then gave his report for the year.

J. McD. Gardiner, Hon. Treasurer in acct. with the Asiatic Society of Japan, Nov. 30th, 1895.

Dr.

To Balance from last year		¥ 770.97
Entrance Fees		45.00
Yearly Subscriptions...		342 88
Non. Res. Life Subscriptions		108.23
Resident Life Subscriptions		130.00
Sale of Transactions		243.60
Interest at Banks		79.788
		3,720.468
Nov. 30.		
To Balance		2,358.448

Cr.

By Meiklejohn & Co., Printing		955.85
Cash for Stationery, Postage, etc....		122.30
Rent of No. 17, Tsukiji		100.00
Insnrance		75.00
Library Expenses		78.87
Balance, F/D.'s ¥2,185.00		
C/A. 9.30		
M.B.G.K.C/A. ... 51.418		
Cash... ... ... 12.73		2,358.448
		3,720.468

E. & O. E.

J. McC. Gardiner, Hon. Treasurer.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.

Veend Duer,
W. B. Mason, Auditors.

The Society then proceeded to the election of officers for the coming year. The result of the balloting was as follows:—

President—Sir Ernest M. Satow K.C.M.G.; Vice-Presidents—Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D. and J. H. Longford, Esq.; Corresponding Secretary—Garrett Droppers, Esq.; Recording Secretaries—Garrett Droppers, Esq., and W. J. S. Shand, Esq.; Treasurer—J. McD. Gardiner, Esq.; Librarian—Rev. W. J. White; Councillors—Dr. E. Divers, B. H. Chamberlain, Esq., W. B. Mason, Esq., R. Masujima, Esq., Clay MacCauley, Esq., M. Michel Revon, J. H. Gubbins, Esq., Rev. T. S. Tyng, E. W. Clement, Esq., Rev. A. Lloyd.

Dr. Greene congratulated the Society in securing for President during the coming year one who had in former years contributed so much to the Society's welfare.

Sir Ernest Satow expressed his thanks to Dr. Greene and the members present for their good wishes in a few appropriate remarks, after which the meeting adjourned.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

Before J. Carey Hall, Esq., Assistant Judge.
Friday, 13th December, 1895.

THE TRAGEDY ON THE "HANKOW."

CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.

Chun Pai, the cook of the British steamer *Hankow*, was brought up for his preliminary examination this morning on a charge that he, on the 6th inst., did feloniously assault, wound, and kill one Li Fong, by stabbing him with a knife.

This case arose out of a quarrel between prisoner and the deceased over the value of an American gold dollar, the result of a gambling debt, in the course of which a knife was used, prisoner receiving a cut on his leg and the deceased being killed.

The following evidence was led to-day

Lo Ah-Kun, sworn in Chinese style, said, through the interpretation of Mr. Kwong—I was awakened by the two men calling out for assistance. This was on Friday, the 6th inst., about a quarter to 2 o'clock. I was asleep at the time; went to bed at 1.30. Seeing both men struggling together, I got up but ran out of the room when I saw some blood. I did not see how the fight started, but was awakened by the noise. Heard a dispute relative to the exchange value of some money, between $1.60 and $1.80, before I went to sleep. The cook said the value of the money in dispute was $1.60 and Li Fong said $1.80, a difference of 20 cents. The boy seemed to me to be the loser, but when they gambled I cannot say. The dispute continued for about 10 or 20 minutes. After the dispute I fell asleep, so cannot say whether either left the room in the interval. As soon as I got out of my bunk I ran out as I saw blood on the floor and was afraid. Both men were shouting out at the same time for assistance. I did not notice whether there was a knife in the room or not. A man named Wong Meng was in the room when I got up, but I did not see him while the two men were disputing. The man was sitting down on the bunk,—on the lowest bunk. He was in the room when I ran out. I was in the middle bunk on the near side to the door and Wong Meng on the opposite side of the room on the lower bunk. The scuffle occurred in the corner of the passage-way—I only saw them lying on the floor grasping each other. Neither was on top. I did not notice who had his arm above the other. I did not step over them as there was sufficient space for me to get out. I ran on deck. While I was getting out of the room the second officer entered. He was the first to enter the room; I did not see the big donkey-man at all.

The case was here adjourned till two o'clock, prisoner being remanded.

On resuming in the afternoon,

Witness, recalled, said—I have never seen this knife, now produced, before, and don't know to whom it belongs. I did not see the knife while I was not escaping from the room. I afterwards saw Li Fong lying on the hatchway, but did not go to ascertain whether he was dead or alive. I did not see the wound he received. The last I saw of him was when he was lying on the hatch.

Accused had no questions to ask the witness: he did not see witness escaping from the room while grasping the knife together with Li Fong.

Wong Meng, sworn, said—I was mess-room boy on the *Hankow*. On Friday, the 6th inst., I heard Li Fong and the cook quarrelling shortly after 1.30 p.m. while I was discharging my duties in the mess-room. I went into the room where they were disputing and saw them both sitting and facing each other. I then left, but hearing the dispute break out afresh again went into the room. Li Fong demanded from the cook 20 cents for difference in exchange, and in answer the cook said to the deceased the exchange value had been fixed during the time they gambled at $1.60, and that should deceased find the exchange in Yokohama to be $1.40 would he make up the difference? The boy then said, "If you don't give me back the 20 cents I will cut you with an axe," whereupon the cook left the room to go ashore. He, however, soon returned and informed me in the presence of deceased that the weather was too rough, and boat hire dear, so he had decided to wait. During the cook's absence I remonstrated with Li Fong about quarrelling over such a trifling amount. As soon as the cook returned Li Fong again demanded 20 cents, both being seated at the time. He again said to the cook "If you don't give me the money I will kill you." The cook then said, "If you want to fight, come out on deck." Meanwhile, the cook got up from his seat. As soon as the cook rose Li Fong stabbed him in the leg. The cook was standing and Li Fong sitting. The cook immediately grappled and both rolled on the floor, both shouting at the same time for assistance. Blood flowed, and the chief and second officers came in, but I don't remember who came in first. The donkey-man also came. As soon as the Europeans came I left and attended to my work in the mess-room. Lo Ah Kum was lying in his bunk. He was in the middle bunk, on the starboard side of the vessel. I was sitting on the lower bunk opposite, but when the men grappled I jumped to the middle of the room; they were near the passage way. I saw this knife for the first time when the struggle took place. The knife looks the same. I am sure the boy was the first to use the knife. I don't know where he got the knife. He produced it suddenly, from whence I cannot say. The boy jumped up as soon as he inflicted the wound on the cook's leg. He held the knife in his right hand and cut the cook on the right leg just about the heel. He produced the knife from where he was sitting. The knife must have been on the bunk, but it is not the kind of knife that would usually be used by the boys. I don't know to whom it belongs. I have never seen the knife before, and don't know if it is the cook's knife. I did not see the cook cut the boy as they grappled and fell on the floor, but both called out for assistance. The boy was stabbed to death—I think by the cook. Have seen the blood and the wound. I cannot account for his wound.

Accused had no questions to ask, witness had spoken the truth regarding the circumstances of the case.

Accused, in answer to the usual charge, said he wished to make a short statement.

Accused—During my first acquaintance with the deceased we were very friendly. When we were about leaving Hongkong he asked me for a loan to support his family, so I lent him my diamond ring for him to pawn, which he promised to redeem and return me on his voyage back. After that we were very close friends. On the steamer leaving Tacoma we all had some American dollars and at our leisure we used to gamble with these dollars, the exchange value of which we had fixed at $1.60 per gold dollar. When I won I took the dollar at $1.60, and when I lost I paid them the same rate. On the steamer's arrival in Yokohama, Li Fong demanded of me 20 cents on every dollar he had lost: he had lost more than ten or twenty dollars of which I was the gainer. In answer I said I don't know how much I have won or lost, but all the money won from you has been lost to some one else. Li Fong pressed me for the difference. I intended to go ashore, but it being too rough I returned to the room again, where deceased again asked me for the difference in exchange. I repeated what I had previously said. He then said "Unless you pay up I will kill you." He then pressed me to fight, when I answered this was not the place to do so, we had better go on deck. I was about leaving the room when he stabbed me in the leg. I did not know he had a knife, but as soon as I was stabbed I turned around and tried to snatch the knife from him, in doing which I cut one of my fingers. As soon as I got hold of the knife Li Fong got up from his seat, and in the struggle—both having hold of the knife—we fell to the floor, Li Fong being underneath. If I had moved the knife I would have stabbed the other man, and if the other man had moved it, I would have been stabbed. Both were rolling on the floor, so I didn't know whether the point of the knife was directed to his body or to mine. Just then the officers came and separated us and dragged me out of the room. I don't know where the knife came from or to whom it belongs.

The accused was committed for trial.

(In Admiralty.)

Before R. A. Mowat Esq., Judge; Nautical Assessors: Capt. Tocque, S.S. *Verona*, and Capt. Motyer, S.S. *Anjer Head*.

Tuesday, 17th December, 1895.

THE "ISIS"-"WILLIAM H. MACY" COLLISION.

DAMAGES $80,000.

This was an action to recover damages for loss sustained in a collision on October 15th last in Uraga Channel between the British steamer *Isis* of 1,518 tons, Walker, Master, and the American ship *W. H. Macy*, Amesbury, Master.

Messrs. A. B. Walford and Geo. H. Scidmore appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. J. F. Lowder represented the defendants.

Mr. Scidmore, in opening his case, said this was a cause of damages instituted by the owners of the American ship *William H. Macy* against the owners of the British steamer *Isis*, Walker, Master. Proceedings were instituted on the 21st November, and a warrant for the arrest of the steamer *Isis* was issued on the 23rd November. He asked that the Marshal of the Court report the arrest of the vessel.

His Honour did not think this necessary, as Counsel was present. It would be best to read the pleadings in the case.

Mr. Scidmore then read the pleadings as follow:—

The Petition of the plaintiffs shows as follows:—

1.—The plaintiffs are the owners of the American sailing ship *William H. Macy* of 2,092.28 tons register, which at the time of the matters hereinafter stated was approaching Yokohama in the course of a voyage from New York to Yokohama and Hiogo with a crew of 25 hands and a general cargo.

2.—Shortly after midnight in the morning of the 15th day of October, 1895, the *William H. Macy* was about 5 miles S. E. ½ S. from Tsurugizaki Lighthouse, Kanagawa Ken, sailing close hauled on the starboard tack, heading about N. W. and going at a speed of about 5 knots an hour. She had red and green side lights properly fixed and burning brightly and a good lookout was being kept

on board her. The wind was baffling from about N.N.E. and the weather was clear.

3.—In these circumstances those on board the *William H. Macy* saw the masthead light and the red side light of a steamship which afterwards proved to be the *Isis* approaching her on the starboard bow and about 2 miles off. The *William H. Macy* kept her course, but the *Isis* showing her red light came on with undiminished speed and in attempting to cross the bows of the *William H. Macy* came into collision with her and did her great damage.

4.—Immediately after the collision the *Isis* was asked to stand by the *William H. Macy* and afterwards several blue lights were burned on board the *William H. Macy* as a signal to the *Isis* that assistance was required, but the *Isis* did not stay by the *William H. Macy* and did not render or offer any assistance to the *William H. Macy*, though she might have stayed by and assisted her without any danger.

5.—A good look out was not kept on board the *Isis* previous to the collision.

6.—The *Isis* did not keep out of the way of the *William H. Macy*.

7.—The *Isis* did not slaken her speed or stop or reverse her engines prior to the collision.

8.—Those an board the *Isis* disobeyed Articles 17 and 18 of the Regulations for preventing collisions at sea.

9.—The said collision and the damages and losses consequent thereon were caused by some or all of the matters and things stated in the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th paragraphs hereof or otherwise by the negligence of the defendants or of those on board the *Isis*, and no blame is attributable to the *William H. Macy* or to any one on board of her.

The plaintiffs therefore pray:

1. Judgment against the defendants the owners of the *Isis* for the damage occasioned to the plaintiff by reason of the collision, and the condemnation of the said steamship *Isis* or her bail therein and in costs.

2. That an account may be taken of such damages with the assistance of merchants.

3. Such further and other relief as the nature of the case may require.

AMBROSE B. WALFORD,
Counsel for the Plaintiffs.

The plaintiffs bring into Court the sum of $1,000 as security for the defendants costs.

The Answer of the above-named defendants to the petition of the plaintiffs sheweth as follows:—

1.—In answer to the said petition, the defendants admit that on the morning of the 15th day of October, 1895, the American Ship *William H. Macy* and the British Steamship *Isis* came into collision in the Sea of Sagami, but they say that the collision took place under the circumstances hereinafter related, and they deny all the allegations of the petition so far as they are at variance with the statements hereinafter set forth.

2.—On the morning of the 15th October, 1895, the British Steamship *Isis*, of 2,505 tons gross, was not far from the Tsurugisaki Lighthouse, which bore N.W. by N. She was awaiting daylight, before proceeding to her destination at the port of Yokohama, with her mast-head, side, and stern lights all in proper position and burning brightly; a good lookout was being kept on board; her speed was about 3 knots; and her course was S.S.W.

3.—Under these circumstances, shortly after midnight, a green light, which afterwards proved to be the starboard side light of the *William H. Macy*, was suddenly discovered by those on board the *Isis*, about 5 to 6 points on her port bow, distant about 500 to 600 yards, and bearing swiftly down upon her.

4.—Thereupon the helm of the *Isis* was at once put hard aport, and her engines at full speed ahead; and those on board the *William H. Macy* were hailed twice in rapid succession to starboard her helm; but they neglected to do so, or to adopt any other manœuvre for preventing a collision, and the *William H. Macy* coming on with great and undiminished speed, struck the *Isis* with her stem on the port side amidships, cutting the *Isis* down to below the water's edge and thereby caused her to spring a leak, and inflicted upon her very serious damage.

5.—Immediately after the collision, the Master of the *Isis* enquired the name of the other vessel from those on board her; but failing to receive any answer, he asked whether she was badly damaged, and got the reply "No; I'm all right." Thereupon he said that he feared his own ship was sinking, and asked those on board the other vessel to stand by him; to which he received the reply "All right;" and he then heard the order given on board the other ship to clear away the life boat.

6.—In answer to paragraph 4 of the petition the defendants say that no requst to stand by the *William H. Macy* was heard by those on board the *Isis*, and that the burning of blue lights was not understood by them to mean that assistance was required; but that nevertheless the *Isis* stood by the *William H. Macy* from immediately after the collision until nearly 9 o'clock in the morning for the purpose of rendering such assistance as might be in her power, should she be called upon to do so; but that though, during the period aforesaid, the two vessels were at times within hailing distance, no assistance was asked for by those on board the *William H. Macy* and those on board the *Isis* had no intimation, or reason to believe that the *William H. Macy* stood in need of assistance.

7.—In further answer to paragraph 4 of the petition, the defendants say that by reason of the damage sustained by the *Isis*, in consequence of the collision, she was, during the whole of the time she was standing by the *William H. Macy* as aforesaid, in great and imminent danger of sinking and that there was hardly sufficient accomodation for her officers and crew in the only two boats that were left available to her by reason of the collision.

8.—No blame is attributable to those on board the *Isis* for the collision; but those on board the *William H. Macy* are solely to blame therefore.

9.—A good lookout was not kept by those on board the *William H. Macy*.

10.—The starboard light of the *William H. Macy* was either not exhibited, or was not of such a character as to be visible, or was obscured or obstructed, or was in such a position as to be invisible, or for some other reason was not discovered, to those on board the *Isis* until the two vessels were within 500 or 600 yards of one another.

11.—After discovery of the starboard light of the *William H. Macy* as aforesaid the *Isis* was prevented from keeping out of the way of the *William H. Macy* by the action of those on board the latter vessel; and the collision and the damage and losses consequent thereon was caused by the neglect, default and mismanagement of those on board *William H. Macy*, in not keeping clear of the *Isis*, and in not avoiding a collision, as they easily might and ought to have done by the exercise of ordinary, reasonable, and proper care and precaution. Nothing could have been done by those on board the *Isis* to avoid or counteract the effect of the aforesaid neglect, default, and mismanagement of those on board the *William H. Macy*.

12.—Those on board the *William H. Macy* disobeyed Articles 6 and 23 of the Regulations for preventing Collision at Sea.

13.—The defendants have sustained loss and damage by reason of the collision amounting to $150,000. For which the plaintiffs are liable.

(Signed) J. F. LOWDER,
Counsel for the Defendants.

His Honour said that, in view of the statements in defendants' Answer in paragraphs 5, 6, and 7, was it proposed to persist in the plaintiffs statements in paragraph 4—that the *Isis* did not stand by them?

Mr. Scidmore—Yes, your Honour.

His Honour—Do your persist in insisting on it. It would prolong the inquiry and does not amount to anything.

Mr. Scidmore then proceeded to read the preliminary acts.

His Honour understood there was very little discrepancy except as to the strength of the tide.

Mr. Scidmore acknowledged that this was so: in the tide and condition of the atmosphere. The rules he contended the *Isis* violated were Nos. 17 and 18:—

Art. 17.—If two ships, one of which is a sailing ship and the other a steamship, are proceeding in such directions as to involve risk of collision, the steamship shall keep out of the way of the sailing ship.

Art. 18.—Every steamship when approaching another ship, so as to involve risk of collision, shall slacken her speed, or stop and reverse if necessary.

The next rule to which he referred was Rule 22:—

Art. 22.—Where, by the above rules, one of two ships is to keep out of the way, the other shall keep her course.

Continuing, Mr. Scidmore said that under Paragraph 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1893—

His Honour pointed out this was no longer in force.

Mr. Walford remarked that the section in question was Section 422 of 1894, which reads—"Colliding vessels must stand by and give name and other particulars, or in the absence of proof to the contrary, he is deemed to be in fault."

Mr. Scidmore pointed out that was substantially the conditions contained in the former Act. In the answer to the petition, defendants say plaintiffs disobeyed Section 6 and 23 of the Merchant Shipping Act:—

Art. 6.—A sailing ship under way or being towed shall carry the same lights as are provided by Article 3 for a steamship under way, with the exception of the white light, which she shall never carry.

Art. 23.—In obeying and construing these rules due regard shall be had to all dangers of navigation and to any special circumstances which may render a departure from the above rules necessary in order to avoid immediate danger.

Mr. Scidmore remarked there was some discrepancy as to the time and positions, but this was immaterial, as being due no doubt to the different sorts of time kept on each vessel. As to the other points at issue, evidence would be called.

His Honour remarked that he would like the case completed, if possible, within three days; the usual course to be followed in the proceedings.

Jabez Alexander Amesbury, Master Mariner, sworn, said—I am in command of the American ship *W. H. Macy*. Have been Master for 23 years and in command of the ship for 8½ years. She left on June 12, 1895, from New York for Yokohama and Hiogo. On the 14th October last we were beating up towards the outer Lighthouse. Took on pilot about 5 p.m. We tacked, sometimes every hour or so, according to the wind. The weather was clear and we were carrying all necessary sail. Nothing happened until shortly after midnight. We were steering N.W. ½ N. the wind was N.E. by N. and wind baffling and on starboard tack. We were off Sagami about 5 miles. The vessel was steering by the wind, carrying three topgallant sails. We were going about 5 miles per hour. We saw the next light above, Kanonsaki. The weather was clear, and stars were shining, with clouds. We were light, drawing 20 feet of water. I was on deck aft by the wheel-house. A few minutes after 12, a light on the starboard bow was sighted, and, seeing a head light, knew it was a steamer. We kept on, supposing she would keep on her course. When we found she would not change, I called attention to it. She was 1½ to 2 miles off when I saw her. About 15 minutes afterwards I apprehended a collision, and gave orders to ring the forward bell and shout to the steamer, but gave no orders to alter my helm, as I thought it would be confusing. The tide was flood, and struck us on the lee bow. I don't know force of the tide. Had I starboarded my helm when the vessels were close together it would have made little difference, but might have increased the speed a little. Had I ported it might have made a few feet difference in the striking point. I saw the hull of the steamer five minutes before the collision. The collision took place at 12.20. I asked the quartermaster to look at the clock in the wheel house. As soon as we struck I looked over. She had swung back, her stern at our fore rigging. The vessels when colliding were a little forward of right angles, almost square, but not quite; the *Isis'* port beam and our port stem. The steamer was a point off right angles. Heard no shouts from the *Isis*, and saw no change in her direction. Did not hear anyone on the *Isis* hail to starboard our helm. I could see the *Isis'* lights. I asked them to stand by us, but got no reply; heard nothing from them although we asked twice. The two vessels were together at that time. Previous to the collision did not hear anything from the *Isis* about change of course. There was nothing intervening between the two ships before the collision. The bell was rung 4 or 5 minutes before the collision, and was kept ringing until the two ships came into collision. The men on the forecastle also shouted. This continued till the time of collision. Did not hear any one on the *Isis* asks if we were all right, and no one on our ship replied. She gradually drew off to the starboard, and then gradually disappeared. She did not ask for our name or offer to stand by. We backed our main yard to stop her and to ascertain damage, and found bobstays all damaged and all head-gear. Then sounded and manned the pumps. I saw the water was gaining, so decided to beach her on Tateyama Bay. We remained there eight days. I saw the *Isis* next day, the 15th at 1 p.m. She was near the Quarantine station coming up the bay. My lights were in good condition and were placed in the upper channel of the fore part of the upper rigging. I was carrying the two side lights: ordinary ship's lamps. I have them still. At midnight it was reported that the lights were burning brightly. It was when we sighted the steamer. Every half hour the lookout reports—"All's well, lights are burning brightly." They were burning brighty 5 to 10 minutes after. I burn 150° test kerosene oil; there was nothing to obstruct the lights straight ahead or 8 points abeam. The lights were examined by myself, the pilot, and the carpenter. They were burning brightly. There was 10 feet of water in the hold when she was beached. One gang of men was pumping all the time. The water gained on the pumps about 2 feet an hour.

Cross-examined—I remained on deck all the time after the collision—all hands were on deck. She touched the beach at 5.15. Did not see the lights of the *Isis* 15 minutes after the collision. Her lights were not reported. We saw the lights of one steamer outward bound: her lights were visible. The *Isis'* lights were abaft the beam for 15 minutes after the collision. She did not approach us after the collision to within hailing distance. I signalled blue lights and flash lights to get assistance. I saw the other ship about one o'clock. The lights were burnt for assistance.

Mr. Lowder—Do you consider blue lights and flash lights the proper signals for a ship in distress? —Yes. The lights for a pilot are a flash light or a blue light. I had no rockets on board. Don't know I am liable to punishment for not carrying them. Only carry them when I have passengers on board. I supposed it was required by law. I carried no rockets because it is not customary in American ships. The other vessels did not come to our assistance. We showed lights for half an hour after the collision. The first light was exposed at about 1 o'clock. I know the use of a flare-up light, but not the burning of a barrel. Don't know it is signal of distress. The *Isis* did not come close enough for them to hail us nor did they wave a white light to us. The *Isis* could have stayed by us and assisted us without danger to herself. I have ascertained that since, as she steamed with her own steam and was not leaking much. I do not consider it a very serious accusation against a ship-master to say he could have helped and did not. I consider it a serious matter for him to have rendered no help. I never knew her to be making water. The statement that she could have helped us is based on the fact of her steaming up herself. I did not ascertain the facts of the case before instruct-

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

ing Counsel. I did not know where she was carrying her boats. My boats were not damaged. I had four, with 26 crew all told. Boats were quite sufficient. I signalled for him to tow my ship; did not think that life was in any danger. I knew we would sink, but we had land right under the lee. The pilot knew where we were, so did I. Was on the starboard tack about ½ of an hour. Previous to that we were on the port tack. It was 3 or 4 minutes before the collision that I thought one imminent. If she was altering her course I could have seen it about three minutes before the collision. I did not perceive that she had altered her helm. Three or four minutes before the collision I rang the bell and ordered the men to shout. The *Isis* should then have gone full speed astern, and we would have crossed her bow in safety. From the fact of our striking her amidships she must have increased her speed. If she had gone astern 3 minutes before the collision we might have cleared. I considered a collision imminent 3 minutes before it took place. If I had backed my main yard previous to the collision it would be confusing under the circumstances of the case. I had one watch on deck all the time, and both watches when we wanted to tack ship. If I had starboarded my helm she would have increased her speed a little, but I would have been obliged to shiver the after sails, a manœuvre which takes time. If we had let the cross-jack run square she would have gone off a bit, but it would not have avoided the collision. If he had signalled us, then we might have been able to clear. I could see that the steamer was doing nothing but kept on her course. We were waiting for her to show her green light. It was not our business to do anything, as it would be confusing, for had we backed and he starboarded a collision would surely have occurred. Had he hailed us we should have heard him even with our ringing and shouting. Had he shouted we would have heard him. There was nothing to prevent us hearing a hail immediately after the collision; there was no confusion, everything was very quiet. My lights were filled in a galvanized iron receiver, and were screened by the side of the vessel. They were forward of the widest part of the ship. I carry no other screen but this.

The Captain then pointed out the position of the lights on a model which had been produced.

His Honour remarked that the Assessors would go on board and view the position themselves, and Counsel could, of course, go on board and see for themselves.

The case was adjourned till 1.30 p.m.

On resuming in the afternoon, the first witness called was the pilot,

James Cooke, sworn, said—I reside at Matsuo, which is one mile from Tsurigisaki. Have been a pilot for 25 years. Have been in command of sailing ships. I boarded the *W. H. Macy* at Sunosaki at 5 p.m. on the 14th. I was to pilot her to Yokohama. Was on deck at midnight. The weather was clear, and both Kannonsaki and Sagami lights were visible; wind N.N.E. and baffling, and tide flood, running N.E., up channel and contrary to the wind. The *W H. Macy* was heading N.W. to N.W. ½ N. She was sailing on the wind on the starboard tack. Her course would vary from ½ a point to a point to keep her full. She was going 5 miles an hour. We were 5½ miles off from Sagami light. Heard eight bells struck Heard of a light 10 minutes after midnight, a red light on the starboard. I saw the light, red light with bright masthead light. The *Macey's* lights were burning bright. It was reported at 12 and again shortly before the collision. The light was seen two miles off, the time between sighting the light and the collision being 15 minutes. Could see Sagami light 5 miles off, and Kannonsaki 11 miles. The *Isis* was on the starboard bow 5 to 6 points bearing N.N.E. There was no change in the bearings of the two ships. From the time of sighting lights and the collision 15 to 18 minutes elapsed. Nothing was done on the *Macy* in the interim, no change was made in her course. We shouted to attract the steamer's attention before the collision. Heard the order to inspect lights—saw lights after the collision and they were burning brightly. They were not touched between the two times. She carried ordinary ships sidelights. (Light produced.) This one is like the one burning that night There was nothing between the two ships that would obscure the light. Could see the hull of the *Isis* half a mile off before the collision, even if she had no lights. We were able to see the land on both sides of the bay. The ship was 10 to 15 feet higher out of water than the steamer. All sails were set excepting the mainsail. After the collision no conversation took place between the two ships. Heard nothing from the *Isis* before the collision. Saw no change of her course, or desire on her part for us to change our course. Had we starboarded our helm it would have had no effect, as she could not pay off in time; had we luffed it would have been useless. We hailed her to stand by, but I heard nothing from her. We burnt blue lights and flare lights. I then headed her for Tateyama Bay. The *Isis* headed up channel. About 15 minutes after the collision saw her sidelights about a mile off. The *W. H. Macy* made 2 feet an hour of water faster than the pumps. We were not asked by the *Isis* for assistance, nor for the name of our ship. We did not call out our name. I did not hear any one address those on the *Isis* except Captain Amesbury, who called out "Remain by the ship till we see what damage is done" or words to that effect. Heard him say so twice.

Cross-examined—The Captain was on the poop deck when he said this, and I was alongside of him. The other ship was within hailing distance—from 100 to 200 yards. I think a voice would have carried 600 feet that night; just before the collision, too, as there was no change in the weather. Both the Captain and myself gave orders to the quartermaster to keep her course before the collision,—about 10 to 15 minutes before, and also repeated afterwards 5 minutes before the collision. I repeated the order myself, not the Captain, but he was standing by me. He didn't countermand it. At that time I did not apprehend a collision, as I thought the steamer would alter her course. I apprehended a collision about 3 minutes before it actually took place. I commanded a ship about 27 years ago. I am an American. I did not hold a Master's certificate then.

Re-examined—At that time Master's certificates were not really required.

George Wilson, sworn, said—I am a seaman on the *W. H. Macy*, and was on watch on the night of the collision. Took watch at 8 bells and took the wheel, orders full and by, compass N.W. ½ N. It was a fine starry night, and I had a clock near me. I heard a light on the starboard bow reported at 12.5. I just kept my course and was not instructed to alter it any way. I could see the steamer off the starboard bow. It was 12.20 when we struck. I was able to see the hull from 12.10 to the time we struck independent of her lights. After collision I heard the Captain calling out to the steamer, but heard no reply. He asked the steamer to remain by us. I looked at the clock at the time of the collision. Heard no hail whatever from the *Isis* to starboard before the collision.

John Williams, second mate, sworn, said—I went on duty at 12 o'clock the night of the collision. I was attending to the pilot's orders. After 8 bells I heard a light reported, and then sent a man to see the sidelights, and he reported them burning brightly. I inspected the lights 10 minutes after the collision. I first inspected the stem and then the sidelights.

Mr. Lowder said he would admit the lights were burning to expedite matters.

Witness—Previous to the collision we rang the bell, but heard no hail from the *Isis*. After the collision I heard no conversation between the ships. Was on the poop until 3 minutes before the collision, when I went forward, and got as far as the mainmast when I was knocked down by the force of the collision. Could see the hull of the *Isis* ½ a mile off. There was nothing to obscure the light. We unbicketed the fore-stays as we were making short tacks so as to get everything clear. It could not have got in the way of the sidelight.

To the Assessors—If the bickets had been taught they would not have obscured the light.

Cross-examined—The fore tack would not have obscured the light, as it was inside the ship and a good distance away from the light. After the collision I went to the forecastle head. I do not hold a Master's certificate. I do not think I could command a ship now without a master's certificate—about 30 years ago I think I could have done so.

Mr. Scidmore remarked the man was not an expert, but that if Mr. Lowder wished to know, he could say it was not necessary in America, as the owners manned and officered a ship at their own risk.

Salve Meling, the carpenter, sworn, said—I was on board the night of the collision, and had charge of the lights that night. We used water white oil, 150 degrees test. The lamp produced belongs to the ship. Have been ship's carpenter 18 years. My duties covered looking after the lights. Have been on a British steamer, but the boatswain looked to the trimming and I took it in. This is a first class ship's light. Since the collision and since the vessel was in port we tested the light. The mate and I lighted the lamps and went ½ of a mile beyond the outer lightship and we could see the light distinctly. We went in a circle after we had gone straight ahead. I was able to see it straight ahead and abeam. There were the city lights behind her. We used the same oil as is in the lamp now. We did not light the lamp at Tateyama as we used the riding light. We made the test after we came into port—it was a clear night similar to the one on which the collision occurred. I examined the lights before the collision—also after the collision. I trim the lamps every morning at sea; did so on the morning before the collision.

Cross-examined—I examined the lights of my own accord. The bell was ringing and the men were shouting at the time. I was only standing by to 'bout ship. It is the custom for the carpenter to go to sleep at night, when the watch look after the lamps.

Olaf Olsen, a seaman, sworn, said—I was on the lookout on the forecastle, and went on duty at 8 bells. Looked at the sidelights as soon as I came on the forecastle head. The weather was fine. About 5 minutes after I saw steamer on the starboard bow,—3 or 4 points. Her red and masthead lights were visible. It was 5 minutes after 8 bells and 15 minutes before the collision. I heard an order to ring the bell, and was going to do so when I saw another man doing so. I called out to the steamer when she was 200 or 300 yards off. I heard no one on the *Macy* say we were all right.

Cross-examined—I signed the entry shown me, but can't remember the date of signing. There are 12 signatures on the log. I cannot read it, but it was read out to me in the cabin by the Captain and then we signed it. The whole entry was read to me. I remember seeing only one steamer after the collision, and not several as stated in the log.

In answer to His Honour, Mr. Scidmore said he had the whole ship's crew as witnesses as to the time between the sighting of the steamer and the collision, but his material witness was the first officer who was now absent on board, being in charge of the vessel.

The Captain, recalled by Mr. Lowder—The entry in the ship's log was made by me at 8 o'clock the same morning, soon after we arrived at Tateyama. I read it out to the men and saw them signing it. They made no objection.

His Honour—They never do. It would have surprised you had any one objected?

Witness—I would qualify the "several" vessels signalled, as entered in the log, by saying two, one abaft the stern and another one going out. I wrote the word "several" in the impulse of the moment, my attention has never been brought to it before.

Mr. Scidmore had 20 more witness to call, but intimated that the only material one would be the first mate.

The Court then adjourned till 10 a.m. to-morrow, to sit from 10 to 12 and from 1 to 3 o'clock. His Honour remarked that he would go with the Assessors to examine the position of the ship's sidelights at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18TH, 1895.

This case again came up for hearing, when further evidence was taken on both sides.

Upon resuming this morning, his Honour, the Judge, and the Assessors, having paid a visit to the *William H. Macy* to examine the position of the side lights, the first mate was called.

Fred. Scott Meady, sworn, said—I was on board the *W. H. Macy* on the night of the collision, and examined the green side light. After the arrival of the ship in Yokohama I tested the side lights.

His Honour intimated that the Assessors and himself had examined the side lights, which they had found to be excellent, and which could be seen 3 miles off as stated in the preliminary acts. The light was a first class one.

Mr. Scidmore said in that case it would be unnecessary for him to pursue the examination on that point.

His Honour remarked that the Assessors had examined the lights and had expressed the opinion that the ship was exceptionally well found.

Mr. Scidmore said his questions had only been put to make things plain.

Witness—The conditions of the atmosphere was the same as on the night of the collision. The light was visible about 2½ miles and could be seen 2 points abaft the beam.

Cross-examined—There was no sail set when I made the examination. There are no screens on the ship, the ship's side acting as a screen.

By the Court—I was not on deck at the time of the collision. I went below at 12 o'clock. The vessel was on the starboard tack for about ½ of an hour.

The Captain, recalled by the Court, said—The whole of the starboard and a part of the port watch was on deck at the time of the collision. We tacked so often that some thought it was not worth while to turn in—some had, however, turned in.

This closed the case for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Lowder, without addressing the Court, proceeded immediately to call his witnesses.

Thomas Walker, Captain of the *Isis*, sworn, said

—I have been at sea 23 years, and in command 13 years. Have had experience of steamers and sailing vessels both large and small. We were from Middlesboro' to Yokohama. About 6 o'clock I gave orders not to carry too high steam as I intended to ease down to daylight. I did so because it was difficult to pick up the light near the fort. Have been in port 11 times. I telegraphed to slow at 6.40, speed 3 knots or a little over. That rate was kept up until 2 minutes before the collision. Between six and the collision the ship was turned round twice, and her head was put S.S.W. true. The ship was in thorough control all the time. Left bridge at 11.56, and went on again 2 minutes before the collision occurred. Good look-out kept, saw various fishermen's lights and the lighthouses. The second officer and myself were keeping watch. The lookout man had glasses, and always used them as they are his own property. My men are a good lot, the officers as well. Never had to find fault with any one. A green light on a vessel should have been visible full range. At 12.15 heard a light reported. Was in the chart room doorway,—two feet from the bridge ladder. Went up immediately and saw a green light bearing down upon us 2 points across the beam. The chief officer gave the order hard aport, go astern, and I gave the order full speed ahead, and hailed the other ship to starboard, which would have made them run parallel or almost. She was about 500 to 600 yards off when I first saw her. If she had done this there would have been no collision. No notice was taken of our hail and she struck us at an angle of 85 from aft.

Mr. Walford at this point made an application for the withdrawal of witnesses from the Court.

Mr. Lowder said it was now too late; he himself had not done so.

His Honour pointed out that such as application must be made at the commencement of the proceedings, and cited the rules to that effect. Mr. Walford should have made the application at the outset, and having had the option and not doing so he had waived his right. He was rather surprised no such application had been made by Counsel, as the witnesses for both sides could have been kept out without distinction, but now it was too late.

Witness—She was 300 ft. distant when I hailed her to starboard. She could have cleared had she done so even then. This would have put her before the wind and increased her speed. We were on the port helm and were bearing away. She had gone off 2½ points before the collision occurred. He could have backed his main yard before that and stopped her way. A sailing ship is easier stopped than a steamer. He could have put her helm down and gone by the wind, which would have stopped her way. It would have stopped her way. After colliding she grazed along our side and hung for a short time on our port quarter. One life boat and one pinnace were smashed, which left us with one life boat and one jolly boat. They were lowered to the water's edge before 3 minutes. My crew numbered 24 all told. These boats would have just been sufficient to take the men on a night like that of the collision. I hailed her when we were alongside just from the bridge and then from the poop. She was only 20 feet distant when I hailed her the second time. I asked for the name of the ship, and got no reply. The second time I asked if she was badly damaged and heard from her, "No, I'm all right." I asked him to stand by as I thought my ship was sinking and heard the reply "All right." I then heard the order "Clear away the life boat," and nothing more. All night we were in the vicinity of the collision. We lost sight of her at 2.45 a.m. I passed astern at 2 o'clock while she was showing blue lights, at 2.45 it began to rain. I stayed till daylight and went to Tateyama to find him, but the weather being thick and rain and wind increasing, and as the plates were opening out more, she was in a critical condition. The condition of the ship was reported by the carpenter every half hour and the engineer when he found out defects. She was cut under the water's edge which caused disorder in the engine room. All the donkey connections were broken and only the main pump in order, so that if that went amiss the ship would have sunk. Had I sent one of the boats away it would have jeopardised the lives of the crew. At daylight next morning the second mate said I was too persevering, and at 8 o'clock the engineer pointed out to me the danger of staying so long. I waited to render assistance and ascertain her name. I made an entry in the official log which was signed by me and the chief officer on the day of the collision. This was read. She never asked for any assistance while in sight, but burnt several blue lights and white flash lights once or twice. This was from one to two o'clock and some time after. I only replied once by waving a white light which the carpenter had. I thought from the lights exhibited he required a pilot. At one time the engineer asked "What does she want?" and I replied "He wants a pilot." He did not seem to be satisfied, and thought they were signals of distress, when I showed him the log, and pointed out the use of signals. After the collision we hailed once.

Cross-examined—His stern was to our port side. We were going 3½ knots at the time of the collision. Had we reversed it wouldn't have stopped her way, as it was under two minutes. It would take four minutes to have got sternway on her. We were dodging the daylight—this I do not consider dangerous. It is not dangerous for me to dodge about the fairway; it was not a fairway, it was the open sea in my opinion.

To His Honour—The channel is from 10 to 11 miles wide. The statement in the answer about our lights is correct. I carry the stern light only when I am near land, but not in the open sea. I do not consider carrying the stern light an infringement of the regulations. I calculated her speed from points of land. Without influence of wind or tide she would go 3 knots, but if wind was against her she would only go one knot. She was making 38 revolutions which indicated 3 to 3½ knots. The tide was a little over one knot, and was flood. Her way would not have been stopped within two minutes,—it would have taken almost a minute to put her from full speed ahead to full speed astern. Heard the bell of the *Macy*, but did not see her hull and lights at the same time. Could not say who replied to my hail. My cargo was general, and some slight claims are now pending: some transhipment cargo was partly damaged by salt water. There was some water in the hold. After the collision I went in a N.E. direction and then went S.S.E. again, going about 3 knots. After passing her stern I turned back and kept her in view. As her head gear was gone, I considered she could not beat up. Staying by a ship I understand to mean to keep close by her, but not to keep within hailing distance as it would be dangerous, as a second collision might occur. I kept moving about the whole morning and arrived in Yokohama at 1 p.m. I took the time 12.15 from my own clock in the chart room. At 12 o'clock I changed the watch.

Re-examined—The bell commenced to ring shortly before the collision, and after I had got on the bridge.

Henry Nelson, second officer, sworn, said—I have been at sea about 10 years, and have served mostly in sailing ships. Remember the night of the collision, was on watch from 8 to 12. The captain left the bridge about 2 minutes before 8 bells. A light was reported on the port bow by the lookout, Smith. It was a fisherman's light. Smith is a good man, so also is Olsen. I consider the men good and active, no "duffers" among them. Have had no occasion to find fault with them while on board ship. I was keeping watch with the Captain and both of us had glasses. He ordered me to look out for fishermen and not to be afraid to use the telegraph, and to knock if he was required. From the bridge I can see all round the horizon. The height of the eye on the bridge is about 30 feet. I was relieved by the chief officer to whom I gave all particulars, also reporting a green light ahead—Jokoshima light. I then went into the wheel house, wrote out the log and then filled my pipe, took a look at the clock and then went on deck. As soon as I came up I heard "There's a green light," and almost simultaneously a light on the port bow and then hard aport. I stood there and saw a bright green light 5 or 6 points on our port bow. It was a good light and burning brightly. I stood still and watched the collision. We were paying off rapidly at the time. Before the collision the Captain hailed the other ship. He was 300 feet away. He called out to her to starboard her helm twice. I heard voices hollering out, but could not tell what they were saying, also a bell ringing. Had she starboarded she would have gone clear. After the collision I was ordered to clear away the lifeboats and to sound the well. I was on the starboard side, and then went to port and found all the davits gone and boats smashed up. The Captain called out, "Are you all right; are you badly damaged?" I was just at the corner of the engine-room going from the port to the starboard side. The boats were in the water in about 3 minutes: I put life belts in the boats; the men ripped up the covers, etc. The ship's stern was against our quarter. I heard no request from her for us to stand by. I stayed on deck till about 3 o'clock. I noticed blue lights being burnt, but no white lights, heard no guns, and saw no rockets. Asked the Captain as to the meaning of the lights, and he said "Asking for a pilot." Strict discipline was kept at the time of the collision; it is always kept on board our ship.

His Honour thought it waste of time to continue this line of evidence, as it served no purpose, things might be said or imagined to be said or heard in the excitement of the moment.

Cross-examined—The first light reported was a bright white light on the starboard bow. No green or red light was reported to me before 12 o'clock. She goes 8 or 8½ knots when full speed ahead.

The case was then adjourned till 1.30 p.m.

On resuming in the afternoon, the examination of witnesses was continued. The first called was

Robert Clelland, first officer, sworn, said—I have been at sea about 16 years and have a master's certificate. I remember the night of the collision. I relieved the 2nd officer on the bridge. The captain was at the chart room door. Our course was S.S.W., and I was told to keep a good look out for lights—a fisherman's light on the starboard bow. The green light was a shore light. Had the *Macy's* light been within 3 miles of us we should have seen her, but I only saw her about 2 minutes before the collision, when I saw her lights 5 to 6 points on her port bow about 500 to 600 yards distant. I saw her a little before the lookout man reported her. It was not more than 2 minutes. If we had starboarded our helm we must have collided, but I gave the order to put the helm hard aport. This was the most feasible thing to be done. The Captain just then came up and ordered full speed ahead—the two orders being almost simultaneous. Heard him call out to the other ship to starboard her helm. She was 100 yards off. Had she starboarded we would have cleared. After the collision orders were given to get out the boats, which was speedily executed. I heard our Captain hailing the other ship, but could not hear what he said; but heard from the other ship "all right" but could not say what it referred to. I was on the after part of the bridge and the Captain was on the poop, about 100 feet distant. We were about 30 feet distant from each other and she was just clearing from our stern. Heard nothing about "standing by," but heard the order on the other ship to clear away the life boat.

Cross-examined—When I mentioned two minutes as the elapsed time, it was what I judged it to be. I entered it in the ship's log. (The entry was read by Mr. Walford.) I got the times mentioned from the wheel house clock; it is different from the chart room clock, but don't remember which was the faster of the two. There was only one collision, but she rebounded and struck us a second time, for which we have a dent in the bulwarks. The entry was made just after the collision: it was written up after our arrival in Yokohama at 1.35 p.m. The *Isis* at full speed ahead goes at 8 knots. I have a very vague idea of her speed at the time of the collision. I considered the most feasible thing was to put her helm down and go full speed ahead, not to stop and go full speed astern. I had not time to starboard my helm, which would have been the proper thing, so I ported and went full speed ahead. She takes one minute to stop. I don't know who called out "all right," but it was not on our ship. I don't know who spoke, but the voice came from aft, and as all our men were forward, consequently it could not have been our men. I heard the bell of the *Macy* after I saw the lights.

To the Court—Four men were on watch, myself, the lookout, the man at the wheel, and the man about the deck.

To the Associates—Our boats were swung inboard.

Joseph Livingstone, chief engineer, sworn, said—I was in the engine room till 12 o'clock on the night of the collision. From 6 to 6.15 was told to ease the fires ready for slowing down. At 6.40 I was ordered to do so, the revolutions being reduced from 66 to 38. This went on till 12 o'clock. While in my cabin I head the telegraph ring roughly, so I looked out of my room and seeing the telegraph full speed ahead, I shouted "Danks, give it to her." Immediately afterwards I felt a terrific shock. Shortly after, we were ordered to stop her. We were told to look out for ourselves, and I ordered the third to come up.

Cross-examined—At 64 to 66 revolutions she would be going about 8 knots, that is with everything in her favour. With 38 resolutions she would go less than half speed.

To the Court—From the ringing of the bell to the collision was only 1½ minutes.

James Danks, third engineer, sworn, said—I relieved the chief on the night of the collision. Was told to keep low fires and full head of steam in case it was required. We were making 30 revolutions. At 12.13 got orders to go full speed ahead. I heard the chief engineer shout down some order. After that I got an order from the deck to stop, about 2 minutes after the collision. The next order was to go astern; this was another

HATHITRUST DIGITAL ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

2 minutes afterwards. I was then told to go slow ahead at about 12 25.

To the Court—If I were standing handy, it would take a few seconds to go full speed ahead. I was at slow. If I got an order to go full speed ahead it would have taken a few seconds for me to do so. It would take more time to reverse and go full speed astern. It would take about half a minute.

George Smith, A.B., sworn, said—I remember the night of the collision, and was on watch from 11 to 12, at which time I was relieved by Olsen. I made several reports while on deck. I had glasses of my own which I generally use when I expect to see many lights.

Cross-examined—While conversing with Olsen, did not make use of the expression "Sleepy head." This is the first time I have heard it. I told him there was a bright white light ahead.

Mr. Lowder called attention to the coincidence in the names of the two lookout men on the *W. H. Macy* and *Isis*, both, strange to say, being named Olaf Olsen.

His Honour remarked that fourteen years ago when presiding in a similar case here, and having the Captain of the *Verona* as an Assessor, he suggested the use of a short-hand reporter, which had now been done.

Olaf Olsen, A.B., sworn, said—I have been at sea 20 years. Was on the *Isis*, and went on duty at 12 o'clock, relieving Smith. There was a bright light ahead, which I lost sight of afterwards. I know no one on board called "Sleepy head." He did not call me sleepy head, nor did I call him that. I soon after saw a light on starboard bow, which I reported to Clelland and the chief officer. I saw a green light on the port bow, 3 or 4 points off, and quite near, which I reported. It was a light green light and burning brightly. It proved to be the light of the *Macy*. If the light was properly burning 10 minutes before I should certainly have seen it. I heard Captain Walker hail the other ship before the collision.

Cross-examined—I could see our own lights from the forecastle head. The red light is much easier to see, but it is not difficult to see a green light—I don't find it so.

Johann Johannsen, A.B. sworn, said—I was at the wheel from 10 to 12 on the night of the collision.

Karl Westerland, A.B., sworn, said—I have been at sea 9 years. Remember the collision. I was at the wheel, and went on at 12, relieving Johansen, course S.S.W. The second mate was on deck when I took the wheel. He was relieved by the chief mate shortly afterwards. About 1½ minutes before the collision I got the order hard a port. After the collision heard the Captain hail the other ship, but heard no reply.

Cross-examined—There was no clock near me.

To the Court—I calculated the time approximately.

Mr. Lowder—It must be purely guess work.

Andrew Foulds, carpenter, sworn, said—I remember the night of the collision and came on deck about 12.15. Was awakened by some one calling down the ventilator. Thought it was a man overboard, but got on deck in time to see a sailing vessel strike us amidships on the port side. Every half hour after the collision I reported to the Captain. While talking to the Captain I saw a blue light. Had a lamp in my hand, and when I pointed out the signal, the Captain took it from me and waved it.

To the Court—I jumped out of my bunk just as I was.

Westerland, recalled—I saw the ship strike us. It was about 2 minutes before the collision when I saw the light, and received my orders at the same time.

Mr. Lowder said he tendered the boatswain, two able seamen, and the steward for the cross-examination.

This closed the case for the defendants, and the Court then adjourned till 1.30 p.m. on Friday to hear the addresses of Counsel.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[REUTER "SPECIAL" TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

London, December 6.

The opening of Parliament will take place on the 11th of February.

London, December 16.

It is reported that the Kurds are pillaging in every direction.

An Irade has been issued by the Sultan which decrees the merciless punishment of murderers and pillagers and orders the troops to forcibly suppress all disorders.

The Duchess of York has been safely delivered of a son—mother and infant both doing well.

London, December 17.

The Hon. John G. Carlisle, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, announces that the Estimates show a deficit of seventeen million dollars, and proposes to cancel the greenbacks of small paper currency in order to make room for silver coinage certificates.

["SPECIAL" TELEGRAM TO "JAPAN MAIL."]

Kobe, December 17.

In the case of Head *versus* Taylor, at the United States Consular Court, a decision was given this day, and the defendant was convicted of incitement to assault and fined $10 gold, the Court, in giving judgment, taking into account the trespass by the complainant on the premises of the defendant.

(FROM THE "N.-C. DAILY NEWS.")

London, December 7.

Said Pasha's action in taking refuge at the British Embassy has caused a profound sensation in Constantinople. The Sultan has sent his Ministers to induce him to leave the Embassy, but the Pasha refused to do so.

London, December 9.

The Embassies in Constantinople have again been instructed to insist upon the presence of the guardships, and further action is imminent.

London, December 10.

M. Nelidoff, Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, has been granted an audience with the Sultan for the purpose of presenting him with a letter from H.I.M. the Czar.

Three of Major Toselli's officers and three hundred men afterwards joined General Arimondi, but the fate of the remainder is not known.

London, December 12.

The Italians have evacuated Adowa, and are concentrating at Adigrat where they are preparing to resist the Shoans, who muster about thirty-five thousand strong.

Prince Hohenlohe, the German Chancellor, speaking in the Reichstag, stated that the Government was resolved to take the strongest measures for enforcing the laws against the Socialists.

(FROM THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS.")

London, December 4.

The Sultan has vainly appealed to Russia, Austria, France, and Germany not to press the question of doubling the guard-ships at Constantinople. Prince Lobanoff undertook to sound the various Cabinets, but on receiving unfavourable replies informed the Porte that he declined to sever himself from the other Powers. M. Goluchowski in replying to the Sultan emphasized the complete *entente* between the Powers and advised him to abandon his dilatory policy.

FROM SAIGON PAPERS.

Paris, November 29.

The Russian squadron has arrived at Brest and has been warmly fêted.

The Russian Admiral in proposing a toast at a banquet said that the union of France and Russia for peace was indissoluble.

(FROM THE "MANILA COMERCIO.")

Madrid, November 27.

The Marquis de Cabrinana has published in the press a denunciation of the abuses of the Municipality, and, as a result, an attempt has been made on the Marquis's life, which, fortunately, was ineffective.

Public opinion in Madrid is so greatly excited that interest in the movements in Cuba is swamped. The dissolution of the Municipality is demanded.

It is believed that at the first Council of Ministers the dissolution of the Municipality will be decided upon.

Madrid, November 29.

Legal proceedings have been taken against thirteen of the members of the Municipal Council in connection with the exposures made by the Marquis de Cabrinana.

To-morrow the Council of Ministers will deal with the municipal difficulty.

Madrid, November 30.

The Marquis de Cabrinana has brought a charge in the courts against Senor Bosch in connection with acts committed by him while Mayor of Madrid.

Senor Bosch has tried to bring about a political crisis, but Senor Canovas del Castillo has frustrated the attempt.

Madrid, December 1.

Senor Aberto Bosch y Fustegueras, Minister of the Interior, has resigned.

In January ten thousand more men will leave for Cuba.

Madrid, December 4.

Great political excitement prevails.

The President of the Council of Ministers, Senor Canovas del Castillo, denies that there is any Cabinet crisis.

Great interest is felt in to-morrow's meeting of the Council of Ministers.

Madrid, December 4.

The President of the United States in his message to Congress reiterates his desire to preserve neutrality as regards affairs in Cuba.

Messrs. Alent and Call, members of Congress, have introduced a resolution favouring the recognition of belligerent rights in the Cuban rebels. Should this resolution pass it will be vetoed by the President.

(FROM JAPANESE PAPERS.)

Matsuyama, December 18.

Over 300 of the Japanese guard in Korea returned here to-day.

Hiroshima, December 18.

H.I.H. Prince Arisugawa Takehito and Marquis Saigo, Minister of the Navy, are expected to arrive here on the 20th inst. to attend the graduation ceremony of the Naval College at Etajima.

Hiroshima, Dec. 18.

Lieut.-General Yamazawa, Commander-in-Chief of the Fourth Army Division, and Major-General Okubo, Commander of the Seventh Brigade, will arrive here from the Liaotung Peninsula.

Kobe, Dec. 18.

The *Izumi Maru* has arrived here with some soldiers belonging to the Fourth Army Division.

Shimonoseki, Dec. 18.

The *Taiyo Maru* and *Hogoku Maru* put into Moji yesterday with a number of soldiers from the Liaotung Peninsula.

Nagasaki, Dec. 18

Mr. Isahaya Ichigaku, ex-member of the House of Peers, died yesterday.

Takamatsu, Dec. 18.

The Prefectural Assembly yesterday decided to dispatch a commission to Formosa to inspect the condition of the sugar industry there.

Osaka, Dec. 19.

Lieut.-General Yamazawa, Commander-in-Chief of the Fourth Army Division, and his staff arrived here from the Liaotung Peninsula to-day.

Söul, Dec. 18.

Brigands are making their appearance in various parts of Chhung-chhŏng-do, and are behaving in a very disorderly manner.

The report that China has allowed Russia to anchor her men-of-war at Chanchow Bay during the winter is likely to prove correct.

Li Kwan-yo and Bin Sho-ko have come out of the U.S. Legation and returned to their own homes, the fact that they were not connected with the latest Söul disturbance having been proved beyond a doubt.

Hiroshima, December 19.

Messrs. Asayama Kenzo, Sato Keita, Horiguchi Kumaichi, and Suzuki Junken, who have been arrested in connection with the Korean affair, were to-day released on bail.

Nagasaki, December 19.

The British cruiser *Edgar* and French cruiser *Alger* left here for Yokohama to-day.

Söul, Dec. 19.

Ming Ei-chun, Ming Ei-tatsu, and Li Shu-yo have been appointed to high positions.

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CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 207.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to K sq.	1—Kt takes P
2—P to K 4, mate	
	1—P to B 6
2—B to Kt 3, mate	
	1—B moves
2—Q to B 6, mate	
	1—Kt to B 2
2—Kt takes Kt, mate	
	1—P to K 4
2—R takes P, mate	
	1—Kt (K 5) moves
2—K to K B 6, mate	
	1—P takes P
2—Q takes B, mate.	

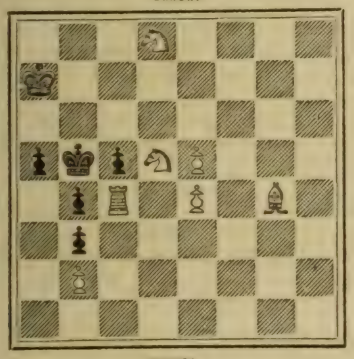
Correct answers received from Digamma, W.H.S., Krug, J.D., Shogi, and E. J. King.

W.D.C.—Your Key-move of P to Q 7 will not do; it is a pity that your are "bowled out" over this little two-mover when you were so successful with No. 206. Correct answer to 206 was received from E. J. King after we went to press last week.

Problem No. 209.

By E. B. Schwann.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in two moves.

Y.C.C. Championship.

The second round has come to a standstill. Wollheim has won his heat against McIlwraith; and Griffin, after placing one game to his credit against Mendelson, has retired to bed with a bad attack of the gout; Tennant, looking on from the peaceful shelter of his "bye."

Sydney Chess Club.

Since Thursday was appointed special club night, several very pleasant chess meetings have taken place at the new club. Recently the married and single members declared war against each other, much to the discomfiture of the benedicts. The scores appear below:—

MARRIED.		SINGLE.	
1. W. Crane, Jun. (Captain)	½	v. E. N. Wallace (Captain)	½
2. G. B. Hall	0	v. P. M. Scott	1
3. P. B. Walker	0	v. G. W. Britton	1
4. C. Linden	0	v. W. Ridley	1
5. F. J. Wallis	½	v. J. S. Angus	½
6. S. Macdonnell	0	v. C. Mackenzie	1
7. A. C. Godhard	0	v. Langkop	1
8. J. F. Paige	0	v. A. J. Turner	1
9. A. W. Green	½	v. E. H. Walker	½
10. W. P. Bradley	0	v. D. O'Connor	1
11. S. Rennie	0	v. W. Johnston	1
12. W. Briggs	½	v. Potter	½
13. Sewell	½	v. Power	½
14. Allen	1	v. Creagh	0
15. Hardaker	0	v. Goldrich	1
16. J. C. Dunn	1	v. Allport	0
	4½		11½

The following interesting game was played at board 5 in the above match:—

Game No. 404.

WHITE. C. Linden.	BLACK. W. Ridley.
1—K Kt to B 3	1—P to Q 4
2—P to K 4 (a)	2—P takes P
3—Kt to Kt 5	3—B to B 4
4—Q Kt to B 3	4—K Kt to B 3
5—B to B 4	5—P to K 3
6—Q to K 2	6—B to B 4
7—K Kt takes P at K 4	7—B takes Kt
8—Kt takes B	8—Kt takes Kt
9—Q takes Kt	9—P to Q B 3
10—Castles	10—Kt to Q 2
11—P to Q B 3 (b)	11—Q to B 2
12—P to Q R 4 (c)	12—Kt to B 3
13—Q to R 4	13—P to K R 3
14—P to Q 4	14—B to Q 3
15—P to B 4	15—Castles Q R
16—Q to B 2	16—P to K Kt 4! (d)
17—P to Q Kt 4	17—P to K R 4
18—B to K 2	18—Kt to K 5
19—Q to B 3	19—P to K B 4
20—B to Q 3	20—Kt takes P
21—B takes P	21—P takes B
22—Q takes Kt	22—P takes P
23—R to B 3	23—Q to Kt 3! (e)
24—P to Kt 5? (f)	24—B to K 4!
25—R to Q 3	25—R takes P! & wins.

(a) If this sacrifice is new—and we do not remember seeing it before—we must christen it the "Linden gambit." The opening is not without merit.
(b) Not 11—P to Q 4, because of 11—Kt to B 3.
(c) Too early; the natural 12—P to Q 4 is best.
(d) Right. Clearly the capture of the P would subject White to a bad time.
(e) Focussing on the weak spot.
(f) Fatal; his best reply was 24—P to R 5.

Game at Board 6. Team Match.

Game No. 405.

IRREGULAR OPENING.

WHITE. J. J. Glynn.	BLACK. C. Delohery.
1—P to Q 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K 4	2—P to Q 4 (a)
3—P to K B 3 (b)	3—P to Q B 3
4—P takes K P	4—P takes P
5—Q takes Q	5—K takes Q
6—P takes P (c)	6—B to Q B 4
7—B to Q B 4	7—B to K 3?
8—B takes B	8—P takes B
9—B to Kt 5 ch.	9—K to B 2
10—Kt to Q B 3	10—Kt to Q 2
11—Kt to B 3	11—P to K R 3
12—B to R 4	12—P to K Kt 4
13—B to Kt 3	13—B to K 6
14—Kt to Q sq. (d)	14—B to Kt 3
15—B to B 2	15—Kt to K 2
16—Kt to K 3	16—Kt to Kt 3
17—Kt to B 4	17—B takes B ch.
18—K takes B	18—K R to K B sq.
19—K to K 3	19—P to B 4
20—P to K Kt 4 (e)	20—P to Kt 4
21—Kt to Q 6	21—K to B 3
22—P to K R 3	22—R takes Kt ch. (f)
23—K takes R	23—K Kt takes P ch.
24—K to Kt 3	24—K takes Kt
25—Q R to Q sq. ch.	25—K to B 3
26—K R to B sq.	26—R to K sq.
27—P to Kt 3	27—P to R 3
28—P to B 3	28—R to K 2

Rest of game not taken, but Black won by superior end play.

(a) Better is P takes P.
(b) White should now take the K P.
(c) The text move gains a P, but because of the doubly isolated P's we prefer P to K B 4.
(d) K to K 2 was the right move.
(e) P to Q R 4 was necessary to prevent P to Kt 4.
(f) Well played; the two Kt's will overmatch the R in this position.

Game No. 406.

EVANS GAMBIT DECLINED.

WHITE. Pollock.	BLACK. Lasker.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B to Kt 3
5—P to B 3	5—P to Q 3
6—P to Q R 4	6—P to Q R 3
7—P to Q R 5	7—B to K 2
8—P to Kt 5	8—P takes P
9—B takes P	9—Kt to B 3
10—P to R 6	10—Castles
11—P to Q 3	11—Kt to K 2
12—P takes P	12—B takes P
13—Kt to R 3	13—P to Q 4
14—Castles	14—Kt to Kt 3
15—P takes P	15—Kt takes P
16—Q to K sq.	16—Q to B 3
17—B to K Kt 5	17—Q to B 4
18—Kt to B 2	18—Kt takes Q B P
19—R takes B	19—B takes Kt
20—Kt to K 3	20—Q takes B
21—R takes R	21—R takes R
22—Q takes Kt	22—Kt to B 5
23—R to R sq.	23—Kt to K 7 ch.

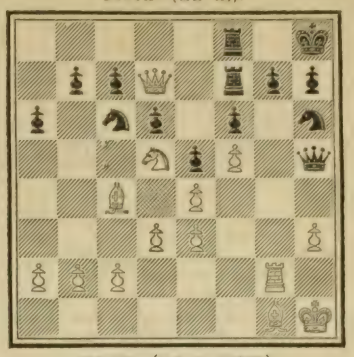
Black wins.

End-Game No. 29.

A BALMAIN BRILLIANT.

A fine ending, won by Mr. R. Hirst on the 24th ultimo:—

BLACK—(MR H.).



WHITE—(MR. R. HIRST).

White continued:—

1—Q takes Kt!!	1—P takes Q
2—Kt takes K B P!	2—Q to Q sq.
3—B takes R	3—Kt to K 2
4—R to Kt 7!	4—R takes B
5—R takes R and mates in two.	

Under the heading of "Chess in the Army" the *St. James's Budget* has the following:—We are informed that, "by order from head-quarters," the subject of chess is to be taken up at Aldershot. We do not know the precise nature of the order, but in all probability it will refer only to the formation of a chess club in connection with the officers' mess. We have already previously drawn attention to the benefits which we think would result from the practice of chess in the army. There can be no question that chess is a species of mimic warfare or battle, conducted by strategy, which must be of particular value as a recreative form of mental training; and the lower down the ranks chess is played the more valuable its influence. The enforced analytical research, the thoughtfulness, judgment, and sobriety which the practice of the game would impose on Tommy Atkins, unknown to himself, would no doubt influence his character for good.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 23rd *
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Friday, Dec. 27th. †
From Hongkong	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, Dec. 25th. ‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Dec. 25th.
From Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 29th.
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 2nd.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 5th.
From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 9th.

* *Empress of China* left Vancouver on December 9th. † *Gaelic* left San Francisco on December 10th. ‡ *Peru* (with English mail) left Hongkong on December 17th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Dec. 22nd
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Dec. 23rd.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Friday, Dec. 27th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Friday, Dec. 27th.
For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Dec. 28th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Jan. 3rd.
For Victoria, B.C.	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 4th.
For Victoria, B.C.	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 11th.
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 5th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 846, Thomsen, 14th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hertha, German steamer, 1,642, Binzer, 14th December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Asamor, British steamer, 1,560, Nicholls, 14th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 14th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 15th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 15th December,—Hakodate 14th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 15th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 6th December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Progress, German steamer, Brandt, 17th December,—Hongkong viâ Kobe, 4th December, Cattle and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

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Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 17th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 6th December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, Murray, 17th December,—Victoria, B.C., and Portland, Or., via Honolulu 28th November, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 18th December,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Macduff, British steamer, 1,882, Thomson, 18th December,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Mazagon, British steamer, 4,997, C. T. Denny, 18th December,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 18th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saint Regulus, British steamer, 1,999, F. W. Wilson, 18th December,—Mary Port viâ Suez Canal, 19th October, Railway Iron.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 18th December,—Kobe 17th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Devonhurst, British steamer, 1,163, J. D. Reese, 19th December,—Hongkong 6th December, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Iser, British steamer, 1,511, Burgoyne, 19th December,—Omura, Coal.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,456, Aubert, 20th December,—Marseilles viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, W. J. Russell, 20th December,—San Francisco 30th November, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Japan, British steamer, 2,795, T. Leigh, 20th December,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Brambletye, British ship, 1,495, Gom, 20th December,—Philadelphia, put in to Yokohama for repairs and water, bound to Kobe with Coal Oil.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 20th December,—Otaru, General.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Edgar (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Henderson, 21st December,—Nagasaki 19th December.

Federation, British steamer, 1,860, J. Prentice, 21st December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ingo, German steamer, 672, Assalsan, 21st December,—Kobe 19th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,286, Niitei, 21st December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Victoria, British steamer, 1,991, J. Panton, R.N.R., 14th December,—Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Ocampo, British steamer, 1,311, Hawkins, 14th December,—Kobe, General.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Pectan, British tank-steamer, 3,890, Hockins, 14th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Agamemnon, British steamer, 1,342, Steeves, 15th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Genkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 846, Thomsen, 15th December,—Chefoo viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 16th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 16th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 17th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Progress, German steamer, Brandt, 17th December,—Kobe, Ballast.—Dodwell, Carlill & Co.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 17th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Olympia (14), U.S. cruiser, Captain J. G. Read, 18th December,—Yokosuka Dry Dock.

Asamor, British steamer, 1,560, Nicholls, 18th December,—Bombay viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Afridi, British steamer, 2,283, Golding, 19th December,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Asloun, British steamer, 1,620, Murray, 19th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,754, McIntosh, 19th December,—London viâ ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

R. R. Thomas, American ship, 1,333, Nichols, 19th December,—New York viâ Kobe, Curios and General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Hertha, German steamer, 1,642, Binzer, 20th December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Rhodora, British steamer, 1,692, J. C. Williams, 20th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 21st December,—Nagasaki, Ballast.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. Akroyd, Mr. Josef. V. Bayern, Mr. Hing Kee, Captain Trussoff, Mrs. Tshiskhuin, Mrs. E. Rogers, Mrs. Dah Yie, Mr. Show Sak, Mr. R. Crosse, Mr. C. Crosse and servant, Mr. R. Hoecken, Mr. H. Piaget, Mr. E. Becker, Mr. W. T. Payne, Mr. A. Schirmer, Mr. F. Dietz, Mr. J. Flood, Misses Williams (2) and amah, Mr. Kwong Man, Mr. L. Morton, Mr. W. Martin, Mr. Th. De Berigny, Captain Dithlefsen, Mrs. Dithlefsen, and Miss Dithlefsen in cabin; one Japanese in steerage.

Per British steamer *Asloun*, from Victoria, B.C., and Portland, Or., viâ Honolulu:—one passenger in cabin; 2 passengers in European steerage, and 19 Japanese and 56 Chinese in steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, from Kobe:—Mr. and Mrs. Loisette, Mr. and Mrs. Gale and 2 children, Dr. Paulun, Messrs. J. K. Evelith, H. M. Beirs, J. Wilson, and J. H. Terry in cabin; Mr. Daniel in second class, and 28 passengers in steerage.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, from Marseilles viâ ports:—Messrs. Savatier, Nosawa, Araki, Rebel, W. Stevens, E. Corke, J. Orew, Col. de Wogack and boy, Mr. Cochrane, Mr. J. Derby, Mrs. Kique, Miss Joubert, Mr. and Mrs. Hlingue and servant, Mr. Tilden, Mr. Trouyé, Mr. and Mrs. Popp, Mr. Young, and Mr. Marangoni in cabin.

Per American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, from San Francisco:—Rear-Admiral F. V. McNair, Mrs. McNair, Master McNair, Miss Anna L. Jackson, Mr. A. Henry, Mr. O. C. Clifford, Mr. Geo. J. Campbell, Jun., Mr. A. L. Savell, Lieut. L. L. Reamey, U.S.N., Mrs. Reamey and son, Mr. Geo. W. Logan, U.S.N., Dr. Jas. Stoughton, U.S.N., Mrs. Stoughton, Mr. J. Henry Dye, Mr. F. D. Fujimura, Mr. M. A. Hachisura, and Mr. P. B. McLeod in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Victoria*, for Tacoma, Wash., viâ Victoria, B.C.:—

TEA.

	CANADA.	CHICAGO AND WEST.	NEW YORK AND EAST.	PACIFIC COAST.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	1,644	450	—	2,094
Hyogo	150	1,108	766	—	2,024
Yokohama	152	621	—	146	919
Hongkong	1	—	11	174	186
Foochow	2,966	—	3,188	—	6,154
Total	3,269	3,373	4,415	320	11,377

SILK.

	NEW YORK.	SAN FRANCISCO.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	90	—	90
Hongkong	20	—	20
Yokohama	1,090	—	1,090
Total	1,200	—	1,200

RATES.

Tea ..... 1 cent Gold per lb. gross.
Silk ..... 3 cents Gold per lb. gross.
Measurement ..... $11 Gold per ton.

Per British steamer *Afridi*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	ST. LOUIS.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Hyogo	—	14	—	—	—	—	14
Yokohama	1,815	—	—	—	—	—	1,815
Hongkong	338	—	—	—	—	—	338
Amoy	135	10,131	1,249	—	—	—	11,515
Foochow	223	2,486	—	—	—	—	2,709
Total	2,511	12,631	1,249	—	—	—	16,391

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	234	—	234
Hongkong	—	326	—	326
Yokohama	—	327	—	327
Total	—	887	—	887

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Asloun*, Captain Murray, reports:—Had heavy list to port on account of cargo shifting in heavy weather. Left Honolulu the 28th November; steamed slow thence westward to make coal last.

The Japanese steamer *Kobe Maru*, Captain Haswell, reports:—Left Kobe the 17th December at 5 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 18th December at 8 p.m. Had fine weather throughout the passage.

The British steamer *Devonhurst*, Captain J. D. Reese, reports:—Left Hongkong the 6th December. Arrived at Yokohama the 19th December. Had strong N.W. gales and heavy squalls, with terrific high seas. Lost three boats, carried away several davits, also had second cabin stove in. Ship badly hove down on account of cargo shifting.

The American steamer *City of Rio de Janeiro*, Captain W. J. Russell, reports:—Left San Francisco the 30th November at 3.56 p.m. Arrived at Yokohama the 20th December at 1.10 p.m. Passage, 19 days, 3 hours, 46 minutes.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market has not recovered from the fluctuations of exchange, Yarns and Shirtings being especially dull, although, at this time of year, Grey Cloth should meet with a fair demand. A little doing in Velvets at better prices, other Fancies neglected. Woollens, nothing doing beyond a few pieces of Italian Cloth, although the wintry weather should encourage a demand for blankets.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8¼lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Gray Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	3.75 to 3.30
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches	1.90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches	2.00 to 3.75
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	PER YARD. 0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	8.60 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches	0.75 to 0.90
TurkeyReds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches heat	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.27½
Mousseline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 3lb, per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 10/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

No change in the market; buyers carefully abstain from purchasing and are delighted to find that exchange is working in their favour once more. There is no prospect of any satisfactory trade until after New Year.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, 1 inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to 2 inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.40 to 5.80
Tin Plates, per box	5.60 to 5.90
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

No change, holders strong, stocks reduced, arrivals few with a prospect of an upward market.

American	Nom. $2.50
Russian	Nom. 2.50
Langkat	Nom. 2.30

SUGAR.

White and Brown—Some reaction from the recent state of affairs. As usual the high values

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current here have induced supplies; and buyers reap the benefit in a lower market at once. We shall probably see a further fall. Refined—Market quiet, dealers having filled their requirements both for the present and near future.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.75 to 5.15
Brown Daitong (New)	4.15 to 4.20
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4 70
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 7.00
White Refined	6.30 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Prices have advanced for good Silk, especially, Joshu Re-reels of favourite chop. Medium and Common grades remain as before. The principal business done has been in Filatures and Re-reels, and the bulk of shipments made has been for the U.S. market. Stock here remains heavy, being fully 18,000 piculs, and with the end of the year approaching sellers ought to be current.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	$920 to 930
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	790 to 800
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 14/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 840
Kakedas—No. 1	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 1½	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

Dealers have at last reduced quotations but without much result, for buyers will not operate at present. Dealers have only themselves to thank for the present position; had they made these concessions two months ago, they could have done a large business and had money in pocket instead of now being hampered with a large stock.

QUOTATIONS —(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	125 to 130
Noshi—Bushu, Good	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi—Joshu, Good	62½ to 67½
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 102½
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Rather more done at unchanged rates, and the stock shows a reduction of 1,000 piculs since we last wrote. Business has been chiefly in the Common and Medium grades, foreign Hongs buying for the States and Chinese for the Straits.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $31
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	23 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Exchange has recovered somewhat during the week, the alteration in rates having been upwards by small steps.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1⅛
— — Bills on demand	2/1⅛ @ 5/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1⅛ @ ⅜
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅛ @ 2
On Paris—Bank sight	2.65½ @ 6
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.70½ @ 2.71½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1 % p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛ % d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	183
— Private 30 days' sight	185½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	51⅛ @ ¼
— Private 30 days' sight	52¼ @ ½
— — 4 months' sight	53 @ ½
On Germany—Bank sight	2.14½ @ 15
— Private 4 months' sight	2.19½ @ 20
Bar Silver (London)	30⅛ @ 9/16

BISSET & CO.'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 16th, 1895.

The following were the closing quotations of the undermentioned stocks on Saturday, the 14th inst., at 5 p.m., wired to us from Hongkong: H. & S. Banks 181 per cent. premium, China Fires $87, H. & W. Docks 147 per cent. premium, H. & K. Wharfs $48.50, H. C. & M. Steamboats $36.25, and Indo-Chinas $57. There were then buyers at those rates. Sales of Lands at $68.50 and of China Traders at $73 have taken place on the same day. The following were shares that were on offer: Douglasses at $57, Punjoms $5.75, Raubs $4, Balmorals $2.75, Nationals $28, Straits $25, and Unions $200. It will be noted that the tone of the market is much firmer; many of the best stocks being wanted, and that, though no material changes in old rates has to be noted, save in Steamboats and Wharfs, an inclination for a rise is perceptible.

December 17th.

Latest mail advices from China bear dates of the 6th and 11th instant, but their contents are uninteresting, and only slight changes have to be noted. Business is reported as very dull, but some people are of opinion that a rise in H. & S. Bank shares would help to strengthen the market. A rise is to-day reported, by wire, from Hongkong, and H. & S. Banks, which, on Saturday were quoted at 181 per cent. with buyers, as the closing quotation, are now in demand at 183 per cent. premium. As reported yesterday, we are under the impression that the tone of the market is much firmer, and if the rise in Banks, reported to-day, would tend to help the market, higher rates may be looked for.

In sympathy with the very favourable news of the crushing of the Punjom Mines in November—the crushings amounted to 1,000 tons of ore which yielded 500 ounces of gold—shares rose from $5 to $6.50, but shares are now weaker, and $5.75 was the wired quotation on the 14th instant.

Locally, the market is firm, with buyers of Club Hotels at $60, Oriental Hotel Founders' at $140, Japan Breweries at $135, Bretts at $3, and Debentures of all kinds at quotations. Other stocks remain nominal as per last quotations, with neither buyers nor sellers.

December 18th, 1895.

A wire from Hongkong gives the following quotations:—Buyers of H. C. & M. Steamboats at $36.50 and of Indo-Chinas at $58, which is a rise from $36.25 and $57, respectively, the closing quotations on Saturday. H. C. & M. Steamboats have been placed locally from Hongkong for forward delivery 28th February at $37.75.

Local stocks are still enquired for, and offers of Grand Hotels, Club Hotels, Oriental Hotels, both Founders' and Ordinary, Japan Breweries and Bretts are wanted. Japan Brewery Debentures are wanted at $107.

December 19th, 1895.

Mail advices bearing dates of the 8th, 10th, and 11th instant, report little or no change in the share market and quotations more or less nominal. Business is reported as very dull, but from the quotations wired on the 14th instant, we must assume that rates are now much firmer, with a tendency for a rise. No material rise, however, can be looked for until after the settlements and at the beginning of the new year.

H. & K. Wharves are stronger, owing to renewed rumours of the construction of a railway between Kowloon and Canton, but opinions differ as to its realization, inasmuch as some people do not think the scheme will come off until negotiations regarding the Hankow-Kowloon line have been satisfactorily settled.

Dairy Farms have risen to $10. The Company's Balance Sheet shows a credit Balance of about $19,000 on the 30th ultimo; the Company will pay a dividend of $1 per share, equal to 10 per cent.

No change to report in local stocks, and offers of nearly all stocks are wanted. H. C. & M. Steamboats are offering locally at $37.

December 20th.

INDO-CHINAS have been placed locally from Hongkong for delivery in March at $61; the last cash quotation was $58. There is nothing fresh to report in China stocks. Local stocks of all kinds are wanted at last quotations. $140 is offered for JAPAN BREWERY shares and $107 for Debentures.

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART.

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The Japan Weekly Mail.

"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. Whatever is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith. It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 28TH, 1895.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

H.I.H. PRINCE ARISUGAWA returned to Tokyo on the 25th inst. from Etajima.

MR. Mitsuhashi, late Chief Administrator at Yingkow, returned to Tokyo on the 25th inst.

COMMANDER TOGO has been promoted to the rank of Captain, and Lieutenant Iwai to that of Commander.

THE British cruiser *Edgar* left Yokohama on the 24th inst., to search for the British steamer *Bonnington*.

H.I.H. THE CROWN PRINCE, who has been staying at Hayama for some time, will shortly remove to Numazu.

THE Temporary Epidemic Inspection Bureau established in the Home Department is to be closed on December 31st.

A DESTRUCTIVE fire broke out on Awashima, Niigata Prefecture, on the 7th inst., and nearly all the houses on that island, numbering over 150, were burnt.

MARSHAL MARQUIS YAMAGATA and Marshal Marquis Oyama were received in audience by the Emperor on the 21st inst.

COUNTESS MUTSU returned to Tokyo from Oiso on the 22nd inst. It is stated that Count Mutsu will shortly return to the capital.

MARQUIS ITO, the Premier, who lately returned from Oiso, paid visits to various Foreign Representatives on the 20th inst.

AN entertainment was given on the 24th inst., at the Yokosuka Admiralty Station, to the officers of the U.S. cruiser *Olympia*.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR AND EMPRESS have granted *yen* 800 towards the relief of the sufferers in the recent big fire at Shiba, Tokyo.

MARQUIS ITO, the Premier, and Marshal Marquis Oyama, Minister of War, were received in audience by H.I.M Emperor on the 23rd inst.

MR. JOHN MATHEWS JAMES, a British subject, received the decoration of the Second-Class of the Order of the Rising Sun on the 13th inst.

H.I.M. THE EMPEROR has announced his intention of attending a review of troops which takes place on the Aoyama Parade Ground on January 8th.

A MARINE Court of Inquiry was opened yesterday before H.B.M.'s Consul, sitting with Assessors, into the *Isis-Macy* collision. The Court was adjourned till to-day.

IT is stated that the Japanese Government has presented *yen* 10,000 to Mr. Denison, a foreign adviser in the Department of Foreign Affairs, in recognition of services rendered by him during the late war.

MARQUIS SAIGO, Minister of the Navy, who was absent from Tokyo for some days attending the graduation ceremony at the Naval College at Etajima, Hiroshima Prefecture, returned to the capital on the 25th inst.

VICE-ADMIRAL ARICHI, formerly Commander-in-Chief of the Standing Squadron, was placed on the Reserve List on the 19th instant. The change is said to be connected with the recent search and detention of the British steamer *Thales* by the *Yayeyama Kan*.

THE *Kaigai Kyoiku-kai*, organized by Japanese Christians, has decided to establish a school in Söul for the purpose of educating Korean youths. The institution is to be opened in January next, and Mr. Kojima Kesajiro leaves Tokyo on the 23rd inst. for the Korean capital.

THE residents of Nagoya are contemplating the organization of a silk spinning company with a capital of *yen* 1,000,000, and a similar scheme has been mooted by Okayama residents. The promoters in both towns, however, purpose amalgamating the two projects and establishing one large firm with a capital of *yen* 2,000,000.

FIRE broke out in an out-house in the compound of H.I.H. Prince Kuni on the 24th inst., but the flames were fortunately confined to the building where they originated. Another fire occurred at Odawaracho, Tsukiji, Tokyo, the following day, destroying nine houses; seven others were damaged.

SIX Korean fishermen were cast up on the shore of Yoshida-mura, Mino-gun, Shimane Prefecture, on the 12th inst. The Japanese fishermen of the locality gave them food and clothing, and afterwards reported the matter to the Masuda Police Office, which promptly dispatched constables to give aid to the unfortunate Koreans. It is stated that they were exposed to the elements in a small boat for six days.

REUTER telegraphs:—A message from President Cleveland to the U.S. Congress, sent in view of Great Britain's refusal to accept arbitration as to the Venezuela frontier, recommends that Congress should appoint a Commission to determine the true frontier, and states that it is the duty of America to resist by every means in her power any attempt by Great Britain to take possession of any territory which that Commision adjudges to Venezuela. President Cleveland concluded his message by stating that he keenly realises the gravity of the possible consequences of this proposal. His message met with hearty applause from Congress. Mr. Jno. Worrell Carrington, C.M.G., Attorney-General of British Guiana, has been appointed Chief Justice of Hongkong. The House of Representatives has passed a bill authorising President Cleveland to appoint a Venezuelan Commission and granting a sum of one hundred thousand dollars to meet expenses. A Bill has been presented to the Senate granting a credit of one hundred million dollars for an increased armament of a million rifles, a thousand field guns, and five thousand fort guns. This has been referred to the Military Committee. The U.S. Senate, on a motion brought forward by Senator Morgan and supported by Senator Sherman, has decided to refer the Venezuela Commission to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Both Senators supported President Cleveland, but deprecated any hasty action. The Canadian Press applauds Lord Salisbury's action, and urges the Canadian Government to look to its defences. The United States Senate has passed a resolution ordering the Finance Committee to enquire into the expediency of the opening of mints to free coinage. A semi-panic ocurred in New York on the 21st inst., causing an estimated loss of a thousand millions of dollars. The cause of the panic is ascribed to President Cleveland's warlike Venezuelan policy. The New York market has recovered, closing strong on the 22nd December, and the tone in America is calmer and friendlier. President Cleveland's political and financial discredit is increasing, but the American markets are improving though still sensitive.

THE Import trade is not active, and until the holidays are over there is not much business likely to be done. There is some talk of orders booked for Yarns and Shirtings to be executed later on, but such transactions are usually small in volume. There are only light sales of Metals, though there has been some deliveries on account of old contracts—a clearing up to begin afresh with the New Year. Next to nothing done in Kerosene, buyers and sellers being wide apart. The Sugar market is quiet, and buyers are apparently well supplied. There is little or nothing doing in the Silk trade, and no movement can be expected until after the holidays are over. There is plenty of stock to go on with when buyers are in the mood, though arrivals will not be extensive again until the spring reelings commence to come in. The Waste Silk business is much as last reported, and there will probably be no disposition to operate on an extended scale for some little time. The Tea trade is quiet and unchanged, and there will be but little more business done this season. The financial trouble in the States is possibly accountable to some extent for the restricted business in Exports, but matters may mend with the inauguration of the coming year. Exchange fluctuated slightly early in the week, but there has been no change in rates for the last few days.

THE SPIRIT OF THE VERNACULAR PRESS DURING THE WEEK.

The probable situation in the session to be opened to-day has occupied much space in the columns of the vernacular press throughout the week. During the past few days, the drooping spirit of the Opposition journals has been suddenly revived by a declaration of the National Unionists that they are resolved upon censuring the Cabinet's procedure in the Liaotung and Korean questions, though they will not sacrifice to this subject any important measures relating to increase of armament and encouragement of industry. So far as can be judged from present indications, it must be admitted that the Opposition has fair hope of success if the question of foreign policy can be deferred till all other measures have been disposed of. But even in that case, it is quite possible that diversity of opinion as to the form of censure to be passed upon the Ministry may prevent effective cō-operation between the different parties. The regular Opposition sections will no doubt insist on the Address to the Throne praying for the dismissal of the Cabinet. But this extreme and unconstitutional course will certainly be opposed by a large number of those now accounted partisans of the Opposition. The only measure that will receive the approval of a majority in the House will be either a Representation to the Government or a mere resolution, and such a step, even though unanimously approved by the House, is not likely to be seriously regarded by the Cabinet. The Opposition politicians know that well, and are consequently moving heaven and earth to commit their partisans to the extreme course of a direct appeal to the Throne. They have just decided to introduce such a motion at the very beginning of the session, though aware that at such a time success can not be hoped for. It would seem that their purpose does not extend beyond sounding the views of the different parties, and, if possible, extracting an early pledge from them—especially from the National Unionists—of adhesion to the motion at a later stage of the proceedings. The Progressionist organs are strongly urging the opponents of the Cabinet to open the attack at the earliest possible opportunity. As a fair sample of their writings on this topic, we may briefly notice an article in the *Mainichi Shimbun*.

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The *Mainichi* now confesses the true motives by which itself and the other Opposition journals were actuated when they raised such an outcry immediately after the conclusion of the Shimonoseki Treaty for the convocation of an extraordinary session of the Diet. Their ostensible reason was that the question of increasing the Army and Navy required immediate attention. It was, however, pointed out at the time in these columns, and believed by all independent observers, that the true purpose of the Opposition parties was to make skilful anti-Government use of the excited state of public feeling at that epoch. This interpretation was vehemently denied by the Opposition organs at the time, but the *Mainichi* now throws off the mask, and confesses that "the object of the Opposition in demanding the convocation of an extraordinary session, was to dispose of the urgent question of Ministerial responsibility as soon as possible, so that all available time and energy might afterwards be completely devoted to other measures of national importance." The Cabinet's refusal to adopt the proposed step is of course ascribed to apprehensions about the security of its own position, and the Ministers of State are denounced for having not only declined to call together an extraordinary session but even delayed the opening of the ordinary session far beyond the usual time. Then, passing on to the subject of the introduction of "the responsibility question" at the commencement of the session, the Progressionist organ labours to refute the charge that in pursuing such a policy the Opposition parties are sacrificing the interests of the country to their selfish aims. Those that think thus, says the *Mainichi*, show themselves incapable of judging the proportions of things. So long as the foundations of domestic government remain unstable, it is of no avail to increase the number of war vessels and fighting men. In order to reap benefit from increased armaments, our contemporary thinks it absolutely necessary that "the administration of the country should be placed on a sure footing," or, in other words, that the present Government should make room for another in touch with the Opposition. The Progressionist organ is far from confident that the proposed attack upon the Cabinet at the commencement of the session will be attended with success. On the contrary, it speaks very doubtfully about the issue. But fears of failure, it declares, should never deter the Opposition politicians from discharging their duty to the country. "The Government has pursued a strong policy toward the Opposition. When we opened lecture meetings, it tied our tongues. When we tried to discuss the responsibility question in newspapers, our pens were placed under restraint. We have thus been forcibly prohibited from expressing our opinions. It is only in the Diet that we have freedom to give utterance to our ideas and feelings on this most important subject. Though we fail to secure a majority in the House of Representatives, we shall be heard by the nation. And if the nation refuses to hear us now, it will have to hear us sooner or later."

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In its issue of the same day, the *Nichi Nichi* printed an article that reads almost as a direct reply to the above. Referring to the demand for an extraordinary session, our contemporary observes that the object of the Opposition was simply to find an early opportunity for attacking the Government's foreign policy. The Government did not see fit to comply with the demand, because it was impossible to complete the various important measures in time to submit them in an extraordinary session. Then, proceeding to discuss the situation in the present session, our contemporary naturally refers to the attitude of the National Unionists, for it is well known that they have the balance of power in their hands. Judging from the Manifesto that they recently published, it appears that they are still inclined to pursue an independent policy. "But since they have declared their determination to give precedence to the various measures of national importance, and to postpone the so-called responsibility question, there is no doubt that the Army and Naval Bills and other important projects will be passed by the Diet. If only these measures be passed, it may justly be considered that the object of the session has been attained. As to the question of Ministerial responsibility, its discussion does not lie within the proper limits of the Diet's functions. The members of the Diet are of course free to express their opinions on the subject. But the Ministers of State are in no way bound to take the slightest notice of what the Diet may be pleased to say. Nothing could be more gratifying to the Ministers than that the military and civil measures proposed by them should be carried out with the consent of the Diet." In short, the *Nichi Nichi* tells the Opposition politicians that, if they approve the Armament and Industrial measures, they are perfectly free to take any course they please about other matters, for whatever they may do, they will be impotent to disturb the position of the Cabinet. That an overwhelming majority of the Diet, indeed almost all parties, are agreed about passing the above mentioned Bills, is, in our contemporary's opinion, a significant commentary upon the state of public feeling.

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If the *Nichi Nichi* expresses official views in the above quoted article, it may be taken for granted that the present session of the Diet, though doubtless stormy enough, will not lead to a dissolution. Such, at all events, appears to be the opinion prevalent in well informed circles, though some persons are very confident that dissolution will prove inevitable. The *Jiji* seems to belong to the latter class. Like every other journal, it has no doubt whatever that all the Bills of practical importance will be almost unanimously voted by the Diet. On the other hand, it is equally confident that stormy scenes will take place about the question of the Government's foreign policy. Our contemporary has hitherto been uniformly against all wanton opposition to the Cabinet. But no harm can be done, it thinks, if the Opposition open their attack upon the Cabinet after voting all necessary measures. It is but natural that, on questions like the retrocession of Liaotung and the Korean problem, opinions should differ. Since the Opposition is dissatisfied with the policy pursued by the Government toward these problems, the *Jiji* fails to see anything improper in the proposed attack on those in power. So far from censuring the Opposition politicians, our contemporary thinks that their conduct is highly commendable from their own point of view. Moreover, it shows there is vitality in the sections composing the Opposition. Should these politicians fail to secure a majority of votes, so much the better for the Government. But should the Opposition programme be successful, what ought the Cabinet to do? In former sessions, the Cabinet had no recognized partizans in the Diet. It pursued the so-called policy of abstention from party politics, and had, therefore, some excuse for disregarding the declared views of the Diet. But the situation is now entirely changed. The Ministers have a body of definite supporters in the Lower House, and consequently, in the *Jiji's* opinion, they are bound to follow the practice observed under like circumstances in countries where a true representative system of Government is in operation. In case of the passage of a measure censuring the Cabinet's foreign policy, the Ministry should appeal to the country, and abide by the verdict of the people.

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The other principal questions discussed during the week have been the settlement of Formosa, the Korean question, the agitation against the Mayor of Tokyo, and so forth.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

RUSSIA'S FNIANCIAL SCHEMING.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Hannoverscher Courier*, writing from St. Petersburg, says, that upon the request of the Czar, the Russian Minister of Finance, M. von Witte, has for the time being withdrawn his resignation. The cause of his having asked to be relieved from his present post is the result of the Russian guarantee of the recent Chinese loan, which instead of giving Russia the desired predominence in China has created ill-feeling in Berlin and has been the means of a *rapprochement* between England and Japan. Moreover, Herr von Witte was not very fortunate in operating this new loan. The Paris *haute finance* in advancing the loan made two conditions. The payment was not to take place before next spring, and the inconvertibility of certain older loans, was to be officially proclaimed. The Minister of Finance chiefly objected to the second condition, as he had intended to use this transfer as a cloak for his new loan. Then von Witte tried his luck in Germany, whereupon the French group broke off the negotiations because they had reason to fear that the taking up of a loan in Germany would cause the French capitalists to dispose of their Russian shares. Meanwhile, the negotiations in Berlin took such a course that the Minister of Finance expected, for once, to get along without France, and could, therefore, remain at his post.

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In the *Novoe Vremya*, of St. Petersburg, we find an article of a different tenor, from which we reproduce the following:—The fact we previously pointed out, that Russia must hereafter necessarily occupy an important commercial and industrial position in China, has given much uneasiness to the German press. The Germans are not willing to believe that Russia can inaugurate economical measures in China. They had never thought that we could pursue in the East political and economical objects at the same time. One must admit that, when the

Germans judged the future by the past, they had every reason to be surprised at the change. Until now we have, in fact, allowed every chance to slip by where political influence could have been utilized for economic purposes. For this reason, perhaps, it seemed natural that after securing our political interests we left it to Eastern West-Europe to secure economically every benefit. Already the Russo-Chinese loan seemed mysterious to the Germans, and made them feel uneasy, and when we showed that we were in earnest and determined to defend Russo-Chinese interests, the German press became very nervous. They at once made enquiry, and found that five-eighths of the capital was French and three-eighths Russian, but that in the Bank Council, consisting of eight persons, the proportions were reversed, as they consisted of five Russians and only three Frenchmen. Shanghai has been selected as the place for locating the Bank, and consequently the German East-Asiatic Bank is in danger of a competitor in China. This is not the worst, for it need not imply a reduction in the income of this Bank. The misfortune lies in the fact that Russia has come to understand the tremendous advantage and importance of establishing a Bank in a land which is on the eve of an entire reconstruction of its whole system. This in itself seems like an attack on the Germans while posing as monopolists of civilisation. If the Germans are so much concerned, as they say and write, in extending or promoting civilisation over the whole earth they should joyfully welcome every one who comes to assist them in this noble object. When other people come to China to do this work the Germans should be delighted and say: "Now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace," and bear their civilizing cross into other regions, say to Africa, to Cameroons.

THE SINKING OF THE "KOHEI."

THE *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* states that a telegraphic message has been received by the Government to the effect that the Japanese man-of-war *Kohei*, formerly the *Kwang-ping* of the Chinese Navy, struck a large rock located some 10 miles south-east of Tsang Island, of the Pescadores, on the 21st inst., and badly damaged her bottom. The vessel foundered. A number of non-combatants including the Surgeon, Paymaster, Engineers, and some men under the charge of the above were rescued, but the officers and about sixty men are missing. According to the official list compiled on November 10th, the total number of men belonging to the *Kohei* was 160. She was commanded by Commander Fujita Koyemon, the name of the other officers being Lieutenant G. Nagai, Chief Torpedo Officer; Chief Engineer K. Shimizu, Surgeons K. Okamoto and Y. Wada, and Paymaster C. Kasamatsu.

GREAT BANK-NOTE FORGERIES.

THE Batavia correspondent of the *Singapore Free Press*, writing on November 26, says:—Forged Java Bank notes have been in circulation in Java for some considerable time and all the Dutch papers have very pointedly stated that they have been made in Singapore. It therefore caused some surprise in Sourabaya when it became known on Monday last that the Police had arrested a large number of forgers in a small lane in the heart of Sourabaya. The chief of the forgers is said to be Kwee Khe Soe, who has been assisted by several other Chinamen and a native etcher named Pa-aminoh. The printer is also a Chinaman. When the Police came on the scene work was in full swing. The amount circulated by forged notes is not yet known, but that it must reach a very considerable figure is proved by the high game the gang have been playing in other directions, as also by the fact that most of the notes are for f. 1,000. Forged acceptances amounting to about f. 600,000 have been discounted. Tam Kim Tjiang f. 300,000, Ong Tjong Han f. 150,000, and Nash & Co., f. 135,000 are the principal victims of this special department of the forgers. These acceptances were forged as having been verified by the notary Jhe van der Does de Bye, it being the custom in Java for this procedure to be followed with such documents. It was through a lawyer, Mr. Gericke, that the forgeries were discovered and the police acted. It is strongly suspected that some of the principal Chinese residents of Sourabaya will be implicated. Local law here only recognises the fault of the holder of a forged note and no amount of book proof will assist in bringing the real criminals to justice. So the catching of this gang in their trap is a piece of good fortune.

SHIPPING TROUBLE.

DETAILS of the recent trouble connected with the steamer *Skarpsno*, of which Messrs. Sennett & Co. are the agents, show that the So Kaisoten, a Japanese shipping office at Kobe, obtained official permission to open steamship communication to Formosa. They entered into an agreement with the foreign firm to charter a steamer for *yen* 7,300, under condition to pay *yen* 4,000 when the steamer left Kobe, and the remaining *yen* 3,300 when she left Nagasaki; the date of departure from Kobe for Formosa being arranged for November 20th. Up to the day of departure only 300 tons of freight were shipped, besides 90 passengers, and her departure was postponed. The consignors and passengers requested the shipping office to despatch the steamer, but without success, the proprietor of the Japanese shipping office having concealed himself. The foreign firm then arranged to dispatch the vessel, and a Japanese named Atsuta Ko was appointed her acting master. She left Kobe on the 8th instant. She stayed three days at Nagahama, and five days at Shimonoseki, but no freight was received there, only about 10 passengers coming aboard at Shimonoseki. At Nagasaki freight to the amount of 210 tons was to be received, with 39 passengers, but while they were being embarked the Kobe firm telegraphed to its Nagasaki agency on the 18th inst., ordering the latter to send all the passengers on shore, and to detain the cargo until the agreement was fulfilled by the Japanese shipping office, and also to send the steamer to Shanghai. The master of the ship disappeared on receipt of the message. The passengers were greatly excited with this treatment, and they at once held a conference at the Uyenoya, Nagasaki, at which it was agreed to institute legal proceeding against the Japanese firm. They also made a demand upon the Nagasaki agency for the recovery of their passage money.

GOVERNMENT DELEGATES.

THE following gentlemen have been appointed Government Delegates in the Imperial Diet:—Baron Suyematsu, Chief of the Legislative Bureau; Mr. Hara, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs; Mr. Fujii, Chief of the Trade Bureau in the Foreign Department; Mr. Matsuoka, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs; Mr. Egi, Chief of the Bureau for the Management of Prefectures, and Mr. Tsuzuki, Chief of the Public Works Bureau in the Home Department, Mr. Furuichi Koi, Mr. Kitagaki, Governor of Hokkaido, Baron Tajiri, Vice-Minister of Finance; Mr. Matsuo, Chief of the Accountants' Bureau; Mr. Megata, Chief of the Revenue Bureau; Mr. Sone, Chief of the National Debts Bureau; Mr. Sakaya, an Accountant, and Mr. Soyeda, a Secretary of the Finance Department; Major-General Baron Kodama, Vice-Minister of War; Baron Noda, Controller General; Major-General Terauchi, acting Chief of the First Bureau in the General Staff Office; Colonel Takenouchi, a sectional chief in the War Department; Rear-Admiral Baron Ito, Vice-Minister of the Navy; Paymaster-General Kawaguchi, of the Naval Department; Mr. Kiyoura, Vice-Minister of Justice; Mr. Yokota, Chief of the Civil and Criminal Bureau in the Judicial Department; Mr. Makino, Vice-Minister of Education; Mr. Koba, Chief of the Bureau for General School Affairs, and Mr. Nagai, a secretary of the Educational Department; Mr. Kaneko, Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce; Mr. Fujita, Chief of the Agricultural Bureau, and Mr. Takahashi, Chief of the Forest Bureau in the Agricultural and Commercial Department; Baron Suzuki, Vice-Minister of Communications; Mr. Matsumoto, Chief of the Railway Bureau; Mr. Den, Chief of the Correspondence Bureau; Mr. Sato, Chief of the Mercantile Marine Bureau, and Mr. Nakabashi, a secretary of the Communications Department.

THE "LILLIAN J. ROBBINS."

THE British ship *Lillian J. Robbins*, which arrived at Saigon dismasted, as already reported, was, it seems, towed in by the steamer *Machew*. According to the *Progrès Commercial de Saigon*, the *Machew* fell in with her in lat. 14.05 N. and long. 110.05 E. and towed her to Cape St. James, where she arrived on the 24th November. The *Lillian J. Robbins* had lost all her three masts in a typhoon on the 2nd November, and until the 21st, when the *Machew* found her, she had seen no other vessel.

M. DE SPEYER.

M. DE SPEYER, the newly appointed Russian Minister to Korea, who has been staying in Tokyo for some time, left the capital on the 21st inst. for Yokohama, whence he left for Korea by the Russian cruiser *Admiral Nakhimoff* at 3 p.m. the same day. M. Hitrovo, Bishop Nicolai, Lieut.-General Viscount Kawakami, Countess Kuroda, and several others assembled at Shimbashi to see him off. The *Admiral Nakhimoff* will arrive at Ninsen on the 25th inst.

CHRISTMAS.

THE advent of Christmas was heralded by the usual Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, while special choral services we held in Christ Church and Union Church. There was a football match in the afternoon in which a number of youths played, otherwise there was nothing special of note, the day being exceptionally mild and pleasant.

BOILER BURST.

THE boiler of the *Kayo Maru*, which left Sakai, Hakushu, for Hyogo, on the 6th inst., exploded while off Kagaura, Unshu. One fireman was killed, and four engineers were badly scalded, two of whom afterward died.

THE TOKYO LOCAL ASSEMBLY.

The Urban Department of the Tokyo Local Assembly has been dissolved by the Minister of Home Affairs, evidently on account of a Representation passed by that body, urging the dismissal of Governor Miura. We may note that the Local Assemblies of Tokyo, Osaka, and Kyoto are divided into two Departments, the Urban and the Suburban. It had been supposed that the example, set by the Urban Department of the Tokyo Local Assembly, would be followed by the Suburban Department, but happily the expectation has proved incorrect.

A "SOSHI" AT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

A person resembling a *Soshi* presented himself at the House of Representatives on the 25th instant. He was over fifty years of age, and possessed the recognised characteristics of his class, long unkempt hair, a seriously cultivated mustache, and a peculiar name, Suto Keijiro. He inquired for Mr. Ozaki Yukio, a prominent member of the Progressionist Party, but the policemen on duty thought his appearance so suspicious that they arrested and searched him, when a short sword was found concealed on his person. He was moreover under the influence of *sake*, and altogether seemed a fit subject for detention. He proved to be a fencing master from Shizuoka Prefecture.

THE CIVIL CODE.

According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the revision of the Civil Code has been completed with the single exception of the Chapter on Persons; and it is further stated that the revised portion will be introduced in the coming session of the Diet.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

CURRENT TOPICS.

It is reported that on the occasion of the coronation of the Russian Emperor in Moscow next March, Japan will be represented by H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, who returned to the capital a few days ago from Formosa, where he commanded a Brigade of the Second Division. Rumour also has it that His Imperial Highness will be accompanied by no less a personage than Marquis Ito. Those, however, that believe in this story do not attach any political significance to the fact that the Premier will proceed to Russia. They are inclined to suppose that if Marquis Ito accompanies the mission, it will not have any diplomatic significance, but be due entirely to his desire to be released from the duties of his responsible position, it being understood that, after the coronation is concluded, the Imperial mission will spend several months in other countries of Europe. Marquis Ito's supposed journey is thus regarded simply in the light of a holiday trip. But after all, the story lacks confirmation. That a brilliant mission will be sent to Russia, may be taken for granted, but we may safely state that nothing has as yet been decided upon as to the *personnel* of the mission.

Marquis Ito, being understood to have definitely consented to remain in office, is the object of various malicious criticisms on the part of the Opposition press. His intended resignation, and his absence from the capital, are supposed by these critics to have been one of the Premier's usual artifices to remind the public of his own importance and of the profound confidence placed in him by his Imperial master. But the general belief in the journalistic circle of Tokyo seems to be that the Marquis has consented to defer his resignation only until the conclusion of the coming session of the Diet.

Estimates of the distribution of parties in the approaching Diet necessarily vary according to the prejudices of each paper. But even the most sanguine of the Opposition journals finds it impossible to make it appear that the allied parties have any chance of success. The following is the latest forecast, published by the *Nippon*, which is now entirely in sympathy with the Progressionists:—

OPPOSITION.

Progressionists	53
Constitutional Reformists	40
Ote Club	22
Chugoku Shimpo-to	5
Financial Reformists	5
Independents	16
Total	141

MINISTERIALISTS.

Liberals	109
Independents	18
Total	127
National Unionists	32

Thus, even on the basis of the most favourable calculations, the Opposition forces fall short of one half of the House. It being tolerably certain that the National Unionists will vote, on all important questions, with the Liberals, we find that, even according to the above statistics, which are far from fair, the Ministerialists have a majority of about 20.

The *Tokyo Shimbun* states that Mr. Ban Naonosuke, a well known Financial Reformist, has seceded from his Party, in consequence of a difference of views on the subject of Cabinet responsibility about the Liaotung and Korean affairs. Unlike Messrs Taguchi, Sudo, and others of that Party, Mr. Ban considers it unwise to press such a question to the length of obstructing the passage of other measures of supreme importance. It is believed, says the same journal, that others in the allied camp are of the same way of thinking as Mr. Ban.

The second conference of the Opposition parties was held on the 24th instant, there being present Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Ozaki Yukio, Minoura Katsundo, Taguchi Ukichi, Ohigashi Gitetsu, Nakamura Yaroku, Haseba Junko, Inukai Ki, and a few others. It was decided that a general meeting of the Opposition members of the Lower House should be convened on the 26th, to draw up an Address to the Throne on the subject of the Cabinet's responsibility about the Liaotung and Korean affairs, and that the Address should be introduced at the commencement of the session. Not that the Opposition leaders have any expectation of such a motion's passing the House of Representatives. They know very well that the only hope for their anti-Cabinet proposition lies in deferring its introduction till the close of the session. But by bringing it forward for discussion at an early stage of the proceedings, they probably hope to use it as a means of sounding the views of members that have not yet declared themselves one way or the other.

The above proposal to take the earliest opportunity of attacking the Cabinet did not obtain universal approval. When the delegates of the Constitutional Reformists, after attending the conference on the 24th inst., submitted their report to their Party, an animated discussion took place. One section was in favour of approving the proposed measure, while another strongly opposed it. Among those opposed to the project were Messrs. Kusumoto Masataka, Kawashima Jun, Gamo Sen, and eight others. They declared themselves determined, however antagonistic they were to those in power on the subject of foreign policy, never to join any movement that might jeopardise the consummation of the various important measures now urgently called for. They went so far as to state that, should they be required to vote in the sense proposed, they would not hesitate to sever their connection with the Party for ever. It was ultimately decided that the members of the Party should be free to vote independently on this matter. Mr. Haseba Junko is said to have advocated most enthusiastically the policy of opening the campaign against the Cabinet at the earliest possible opportunity.

The expulsion of Messrs. Takizawa Sukesaburo, Kobayashi Seiichiro, and Suzuki Jisaburo from the Liberal Party, has attracted considerable attention. These men have no seats in the Diet, and their social standing is not sufficiently high to attract attention on their own account. The incident derives the prominence given to it from the alleged connection of the three politicians with Count Goto. According to the Liberal organ, the *Tokyo Shimbun*, one of the three, Suzuki, went, a month ago, to the Prefecture of Niigata, under instructions of Count Goto, to foment dissension among the Liberals of that locality by circulating various misleading rumours about the alliance between the Liberal Party and the Cabinet. On his return to the capital about a fortnight ago, he continued to scheme against his Party in concert with two other Liberals, namely Takizawa and Kobayashi, as well as with the immediate followers of Count Goto, as, for example, Messrs. Yamakawa Zentaro, Mori Ryusuke, Koyama Hisanosuke, and so forth. Their plan was to organize among the lower ranks of the Liberal Party a combination of malcontents. Of late these schemers used to hold secret conferences in Count Goto's private residence at Shibaura and other places. But their movements were watched by the Liberal Party, and they were struck off the roll of the Party on the 24th instant.

At the meeting on the 24th inst., the Liberals appointed Messrs. Kono Hironaka and Hayashi Yuzo as Leaders of the Party in the House of Representatives.

The grand conference of the National Unionists that took place on the 22nd inst., has revealed a state of affairs anything but reassuring from a Ministerial point of view. It is no longer to be denied that a small but powerful section of the Party is strongly inclined to join the Opposition in the projected attack on the Cabinet with reference to foreign policy. All rumours to that effect had previously been denied by the organ of the Party, but the discussion that took place at the meeting on the 22nd made it clear that the authority of Viscount Shinagawa is hardly sufficient to suppress the discontent entertained by a portion of his followers on account of his pro-Ministerial policy. The Manifesto, which was voted only after private negotiations during a recess, leaves the Party little room to hesitate should the Opposition decide to defer the projected attack upon the Government until after the Armament and Industrial Bills have been disposed of. Such procedure on the part of the Opposition is very probable, for it is exactly what the Progressionists and others have proposed more than once. Thus, so far as can be judged from the present state of affairs, it is probable that the National Unionists will be found side by side with the Opposition on the question of foreign policy. But there is uncertainly as to how far the National Unionists are prepared to cōoperate with the Opposition in censuring the Government. It is doubtful whether they will endorse any sweeping condemnation of the Cabinet's foreign policy. According to some well informed observers, the likelihood is that, when this question comes up for deliberation in the Diet, there will be a split in the Party, a minority seceding and thus adding another small coterie to the Progressionists. Under these circumstances, the Opposition journals are in high spirits.

Supposing that about a dozen, or one-third, of the National Unionists join the Opposition, the House of Representatives will be divided into two nearly equal camps. For according to the latest computation, the parties, independently of the National Unionists are disposed as follow:—

MINISTERIALISTS.

Liberals	106
Yayoi Club	2
Kishu Members	5
Yamaguchi Members	5
Other Ministerialists	10
Total	128

OPPOSITION.

Progressionists	53
Constitutional Reformists	40
Chugoku Progressionists	5
Financial Reformists	4
Ote Club	22
Independents	14
Total	138

The above calculations are obviously too favourable to the Opposition, for at least one half of the Independents are still an uncertain element. But should the Opposition introduce a mild form of censure calculated to satisfy the majority of the National Unionists, the situation would be hopeless for the Ministerialists. On the other hand, an expression of mild censure would probably fail to serve the purpose of the Opposition, namely, to drive out the Cabinet.

THE MAYOR AND CITIZENS OF TOKYO.

It is reported that there is a project among a section of the Tokyo citizens to carry the present agitation against Governor Miura, who is at the same time Mayor of the city, to such an extremity as to refuse the payment of taxes imposed on the authority of the Mayor. This project owes its origin to the members of the dissolved Municipal Council. We should think that it has not the slightest chance of being approved by the sober portion of the citizens.

The recent dissolution of the District Assembly (*Ku-kai*) of Asakusa, on account of its having passed a vote of want of confidence in the Mayor, has evoked some criticism. This is the first time that a *Ku-kai* has been dissolved. The law contains no special provision on the subject, and certain critics ask on what authority the extraordinary step was taken by the Minister of State for Home Affairs. An explanation has been offered by reference to the 133rd article of the Organization of Municipalities, wherein it is provided that "the Minister of State for Home Affairs shall be responsible for carrying out the present law," and that "he shall have power to issue all orders and instructions necessary for the purpose." But that explanation does not satisfy the critics, who continue to censure the Home Minister for his summary procedure in respect of the Asakusa District Assembly.

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE AMATEUR THEATRICALS IN TOKYO.

The second consecutive performance of amateur theatricals in Tokyo took place last evening in the Imperial Hotel. The house on both evenings was filled to overflowing. Nothing could have been more punctual than the rising of the curtain on each evening, and as everything worked perfectly smoothly, the second piece came to an end exactly at the contemplated time—a quarter past eleven o'clock. Thus there would have been ample interval for Yokohama visitors to catch the 11.30 train, especially as it had been arranged that the train should be held for a few minutes if necessary. But there appears to have been some doubt about these dispositions, and the consequence was that the Yokohama portion of the audience took their departure at ten minutes past eleven, thus missing the final episodes of the performance.

The stage, planned by Mr. Conder and erected under his supervision, showed remarkable taste, and was certainly the prettiest thing of the kind hitherto seen in Tokyo. We may say the same of the scenes and all the stage property. Liberal contributions of furniture from private houses, aided by the skilful employment of Miss Lowther's artistic talent and by some clever decoration from Mr. Parlett's brush, produced spectacular effects of a most charming character. The drop curtain, of handsome brocade, had been lent by the Imperial Household Department, and, in short, every detail of the arrangements had been most carefully thought out.

Felix Dale's farce, "He's a Lunatic," was chosen for first representation. It is a cleverly conceived and excellently written piece. The plot is simple: *Mrs. Arabella Hanwood* (Miss Lowther) is a pretty widow, weary of the stereotyped addresses of lovers and longing for a sensation. *Mr. March Hare* (Mr. Conder) is a young artist who loves her from a distance, and learning her peculiar mood, feigns lunacy to give her the desired sensation. Making his way into her house one evening, he surprises a burglar, *Ruggles* (Mr. Tuke), and conceiving that the man may prove a useful ally, hides him in a cupboard. Just as this is effected, he sees *Mrs. Hanwood's* maid *Hatter* (Miss F. Dening) coming, and contrives to win her alliance also. By and by, *Sir Guy Trotter, K.C.B.* (Mr. Parlett), a prosy old person, one of *Mrs. Hanwood's* admirers and abhorrences, comes to visit her. *March Hare* manages to enter with him, and there ensues a most amusing scene, in which the *soi-disant* lunatic engages in all kinds of quaint antics, making *Sir Guy* his perpetual butt. *Sir Guy* flies to fetch the police, and in the interval *March Hare* and *Hatter* devise a scheme, the issue of which is that *Sir Guy* is carried off as the lunatic, and *March Hare* is left in continued possession of the premises, where, having locked himself in with *Mrs. Hanwood*, he passes from madness to sanity, and carries her heart by storm.

The principal roles in this farce, those of *Mrs. Hanwood* and *March Hare*, were capitally rendered. Miss Lowther has evidently a genius for acting. Her elocution is excellent; her voice fine, with a wide range of modulations; and her by-play entirely free from any shade of artificiality. Moreover, she always avoids the besetting sin of amateurs—playing to the sides or back of the stage instead of to the audience. We have seen in this part of the world few ladies of comparable histrionic skill. Mr. Conder's personification of *March Hare* was thoroughly good. A drawing-room lunatic must necessarily be a difficult character to sustain, especially when the evidences of madness are not intended to be so marked as to betray themselves at once, and when sudden transitions have to be made from mental disorder to particularly sane contrivance. In all these phases Mr. Conder showed much versatility, and the general verdict on his acting was entirely applausive. It would have been hard, too, to conceive a better foil to the jocular lunatic's strange antics than was *Sir Guy Trotter*, who from start to finish stalelinessed to stuttering wrath and then to treble-voiced terror with quite realistic skill. *Ruggles*, the housebreaker, was done to the life by Mr. Tuke; his get-up was perfect and he managed to assume a voice sufficient in itself to suggest the lowest of callings. As for *Hatter* (Miss Dening), not only was she the daintiest, freshest little waiting maid conceivable, but she also contrived to invest with interest a rôle comparatively insignificant. Her terror at the discovery of *March Hare* lying on a sofa in her mistress' room at 9 p.m.; her transition to admiration for his looks, and her timidly carried out temptation to win a pair of gloves, were all very pretty bits of acting. It is not often that one sees a piece put upon the stage so well, or characters sustained with such spirit in every part.

"Kind to a Fault" has great merits of conception, but is by no means a brilliantly written comedy, and some of the situations are embarrased by a fault that every playwright should seek above all things to avoid, namely, dialogues conducted by only two or three actors independently of the other persons on the stage. Nothing could be more opposed to realism than to see four or five people awaiting their turn to speak while two or three others are carrying on a conversation that suspends the main action of the piece. The principal part, that of a young man who has just inherited a big fortune, and whose impulses of unreasoning kindness lead him to perform acts constantly productive of mischief, was taken by Mr. Tuke. His conception of the rôle was that of an extremely languid *fin-du-siècle* youth, whereas we should imagine that William Brough intended *Goldsworthy* to be an impetuous, breezy person, throwing himself into everything with giddy fervour. However, Mr. Tuke's idea was so well sustained that no incongruity obtruded itself. *Drewitt*, a middle-aged solicitor, subject to fits of unreasoning jealousy and rapid repentence, was played by Mr. Conder, who managed to make up so skilfully and change his voice so well that no one could have recognised the *March Hare* of the preceding farce. His acting throughout was of a high order, and in some of the situations he showed real force. As for the talent of *Mrs. Drewitt* (Baronne d'Anethan) it is too well known to need any fresh eulogy. The part presents great difficulties, but none made itself apparent, which is perhaps the best evidence of high art. Madame la Baronne manages her voice admirably, and is equally effective in light and in serious phases. Mrs. Droppers, who has already proved herself capable of sustaining a leading rôle, made the most that could possibly be made out of the comparatively insignificant part of *Jenny, Mrs. Drewitt's* maid, and the same may be said of Miss Tuck, as *Jessie*, who acted the romantic, plaintive young lady most prettily. Parker, *Drewitt's* servant, as represented by Mr. Carew, was decidedly one of the hits of the whole performance. His acting showed unflagging strength, and he repeatedly threw the house into convulsions of laughter. *Mr. Alderman Bluck* (Mr. Macauley), an irate, pompous old person, with a peruke that could never have been desecrated by a hat, won the hearts of the audience by thoroughly realistic bluster and self-sufficiency; and Miss von Fallot, who accepted a part uncongenial to a young lady, converted herself, as *Mrs. Cumberley*, into a veritable frump of a London land-lady and showed perfect perception of the character. M. Vieugué (*Honiton*), adhered to his usually quiet, passionless style, scarcely suited to the stirring adventures of *Arthur Honiton*, and Mr. Trevithick as a railway detective, found a congenial part and rendered it faithfully.

During the acts and before the rising of the curtain, Miss Mair, Mrs. Pownall, and Miss Divers played on the piano.

We can not close this brief notice without expressing the great admiration evoked by the labour of Baronne d'Anethan and Messrs. Conder and Tuke in all the preliminary stages of the affair. Their patience, tact, and fertility of resource were beyond praise.

MR. OZAKI YUKIO ON ARMAMENT AND DIPLOMACY.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio, the well known Progressionist member of the House of Representatives, contributes an interesting article on the above subject to the current number of the *Tai-yo*. The degree of armament proper to a country, he says, is governed by three considerations, namely, its position, its history, and the principle of its foreign policy. After explaining, in his brief and direct manner, why such small countries as Belgium, Switzerland, Portugal, Greece, and so forth are compelled to maintain proportionately large armaments, while countries like England and the United States of America are enabled to dispense with large armies, Mr. Ozaki remarks that Japan, being far removed from the great Powers or the World, occupies a position of comparative security. The United States of America is nearer than Japan to the European Powers, but the trans-Pacific Republic makes peace its national policy, and being disposed to regard justice and righteousness as the bases of its foreign policy, can not be easily tempted into a foreign war. It is true that Russian territority is nearer to these shores, but Russia in Asia is not yet sufficiently strong to menace the safety of Japan. As to the historical relationship of Japan with other nations, her long seclusion from the rest of the world kept her free from complications engendering international hatreds and antipathies. With China, indeed she was recently at war, and there may at present exist some unpleasant feeling between the two countries. But the writer is confident that under proper management these feelings will never develop into anything like the intense hatred that unhappily divides the Germans and the French. Since the interference of the allied Powers in the question of the Liaotung Peninsula, a strong antipathy to Russia has taken possession of the minds of the Japanese people. But when the foreign affairs of the country are placed in the hands of a capable statesman, Mr. Ozaki thinks that if will not be very difficult to induce the Court of St. Petersburg to remodel its foreign policy, in which case the relations between the two Empires will once more be as friendly as ever. Thus from historical as well as geographical reasons, Japan is remarkably fitted to pursue a peaceful policy. With regard to the principle that should control the Empire's foreign policy, Mr. Ozaki states that, from the reasons already cited, Japan is comparatively free to shape her foreign policy as she pleases. No single European Power is in a position to cope with her in this part of the world, and consequently, although the Powers are not at liberty singly to choose their attitude toward her, she herself has perfect freedom to adopt whatever attitude she likes toward any of them. If she thinks it wise or necessary to undertake the duty of disseminating enlightenment on the continent of Asia, she may pursue an aggressive policy. But if she thinks it better to remain at home and attend to her own internal development, then she is perfectly at liberty to follow a peaceful and defensive policy. Such choice of action is not left to some European countries. France, for instance, cannot give up her race with Germany in the matter of armament without imminent danger to her very existence. What, then, should be the end or principle of Japan's foreign policy? Japan's mission, says Mr. Ozaki, lies in maintaining peace in the Orient, and in the discharge of that mission, her aim must be to oppose with all her might the encroachment of European Powers upon the Far East, for their encroachment is incompatible with peace in these regions. In view of such a programme, to what degree should her armament be carried? Under ordinary circumstances, a country should be satisfied were it prepared to meet the most powerful of its possible enemies. But in Japan's present circumstances, Mr. Ozaki thinks it necessary for her to be prepared to encounter a combination of any two of the Western Powers. Were her diplomats more experienced, it might be safe to be satisfied with a lower limit of military equipment. But Japanese

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diplomacy being still in its infancy, Mr. Ozaki thinks that its defects should be made good by a proportionably larger armament. Fortunately, owing to her favourable geographical position, it is comparatively easy for Japan to be provided with fighting capacities sufficient to cope with a combination of any two strong Powers. Thus equipped, she ought in spite of her infancy in diplomacy, to be able to carry out her policy.

THE LIBERAL LECTURE MEETING.

In marked contrast to the Progressionist meeting of a few days ago, the lecture meeting of the Liberal Party, held in the Kinki-kan, Kanda, Tokyo, on the 19th instant, came off very quietly. The speakers, as might have been expected, confined themselves to attacking the Progressionist Party. None of the leading Liberal members, as Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Matsuda Masahisa, Hayashi Yuzo, Hoshi Toru, and so forth, appeared on the platform. One of the speakers, Mr. Okuno Ichijiro, expressly stated that, in dealing with men of the Progressionist type, it was not necessary to trouble the leaders of his Party, "common soldiers like himself" being sufficient for the purpose. A brief notice of one or two speeches will suffice to convey an idea of the general nature of the topics discussed. Mr. Nakano Torajiro, speaking of the present condition of the Progressionists, attacked them vigorously, saying that they were desperate because the coalition between the Liberal Party and the Cabinet had deprived them of all hope of getting into office. They had been openly holding high language, though all the while secretly imploring the countenance of those in power. But their scheme of clandestine convention had been defeated by the manly and open-minded conduct of the Liberals. Another speaker, Mr. Komuro alluded to the criticisms very frequently heard, that the Liberals have surrendered unconditionally. He said that, when there was entire accord on general principles, it was not necessary to exact any conditions; to do so would, under the circumstances, have been unbecoming to a great party like the *Jiyu-to*, which had always been distinguished for sincerity and candour. "We are not," he said, "at all inclined to follow the example of the Progressionist leader Count Okuma, who, on entering the Cabinet in 1888, presented some conditions in writing, but who, when laughed at by Marquis Ito, was ashamed of himself and committed the paper to the flames." In this manner one speaker after another went on with the same task, defending the Liberal coalition with the Cabinet and attacking the Progressionists.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

The Tokyo papers publish the following telegram :—

Pekin, December 18th, 5 p.m.

The Pekin Government has signed a convention with Russia, by which the port of Kiao-chow, in the Shan-tung Peninsula, is leased to Russia as a naval station during winter. We do not possess much information about Kiao-chow, except that it is a spacious bay on the southern side of the Shan-tung Peninsula. Neither can we learn that any official confirmation of the above report has been received. It may be considered that a certain sinister significance attaches to the presence of a Russian Squadron on one side of a Chinese peninsula while a Japanese force occupies a fortified harbour on the other, especially in view of the fact that Japan's occupation is temporary, being dependent upon the complete payment of the war indemnity, and that the supposed object of Russia is to extrude the Japanese from all positions on Chinese soil. Russia has succeeded in thrusting Japan out of Liaotung and Manchuria, and it looks as if she intended to make sure of pushing her out of Weihaiwei also, when the stipulations of the Shimonoseki Treaty are fulfilled. We do not allege that such inferences are unquestionable, but assuredly they suggest themselves readily and forcibly. Russia is gradually acquiring in the Far East a position that cannot be viewed with complacence either by Great Britain or by Japan.

A NEW ENGLISH PERIODICAL IN JAPAN.

The proprietors of the well-known periodical, the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, contemplate the issue of a monthly magazine in English. There are at present three English publications edited by Japanese journalists. The first in the *Yorodzu Choho*, which inserts one or two English columns in its daily issue. The editor, and apparently the writer, of these columns is Mr. Muramatsu, a gentleman possessing considerable knowledge of the English language, but by no means so conversant with it as to justify the course he adopts, namely, the publication of his own writings unrevised. It results that syntactical errors and defects of construction impart an air of immaturity to the articles and notes appearing in the *Yorodzu Choho*, and the singularly illogical violence of their anti-Government tone together with the callowness of the views expounded, deprive the journal of any creditable feature. Of a very different type are the English columns of the *Taiyo*, a monthly magazine the foreign portion of which is edited by Professor Kanda Naibu. A man of ripe scholarship, mature judgment, and moderate views, Professor Kanda succeeds in making the *Taiyo* a repository of thoughts and facts well worthy of foreign attention. Heaven and earth do not stand more widely apart than the sober, critical, careful writings of Professor Kanda and the ill-balanced, superficial, slip-shod work of Mr. Muramatsu. Even Professor Kanda's pen, however, is not fully equal to the task he requires it to perform—that of writing English without English revision. Doubtless he himself knows that even in the Occident, where the structure of the various languages differs comparatively so little, not one man in a million can confidently essay to write a journalistic or magazine thesis in a tongue other than his own. But Professor Kanda, it must be frankly confessed, attains so closely to the necessary standard that his linguistic defects never seriously mar the effect of his writing. Any one conversant with the subject will understand the very high compliment implied in that admission. Here is an example of Professor Kanda's style, extracted from a retrospect of 1894, that appeared in the *Taiyo* of January 5th :—

We have just passed through a most eventful year of this eventful era. Casting a retrospective glance beyond the all-engrossing subject of the War, we see the agitation of the question of strict enforcement of the treaties causing small ripples on the political sea. More of a weapon of the Opposition than a reflection of national sentiment, it caused a mere surface ruffle, losing itself in the mighty ground-swell in which the mass of this people moves in profound unison toward power and light. These momentary hitches in the wheel of progress are but signs of life, unavoidable to a national career and, we might say, as necessary to its healthy growth as the living waves are to keep the mighty ocean from stagnation. We are not surprised to meet with these apparent retrogressions. Even if they were less superficial they would not give cause for any serious solicitude. A nation in its path of progress must advance like a traveller climbing a steep mountain side. It would be unreasonable to expect the latter to direct his course straight from the foot to the top. He must turn now to the right now to the left, and only by this tedious plodding journey may he gain the summit, whence he may survey and wonder by what tortuous path he has attained his goal.

The new addition to this field of literature is to take the form of a thirty-page monthly magazine, issued simultaneously with the *Kokumin-no-Tomo*, under the editorship of Mr. Fukai Eizo, a graduate of the Doshisha. Two men of well known ability as writers of English have promised, we understand, to revise the pages of the magazine, and several Japanese of note will contribute to its columns. The leading idea of the scheme is to place before foreign readers, as far as possible, a mirror of Japanese public thought, but as the circulation of the magazine among the Japanese is a point of importance, contributions from foreign writers will also occupy a portion of the space. Altogether, the enterprise promises well, and we wish it every success. We understand that the first number will appear in February.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMISTS.

The Constitutional Reformists, the third largest political party in Japan, held their grand meeting on the 20th instant. There were present Messrs. Kusumoto Masataka, Kawashima Jun, Ohigashi Gitetsu, Kudo Kokan, Haseba Junko, Suzuki Shigeto, and thirty-two other members of the Party. Mr. Suzuki was in the chair. The following manifesto was voted unanimously :—

The ninth session of the Diet being about to be opened, we deem the present a fitting opportunity to declare our policy and briefly explain our views as to the measures that seem to be of urgent importance.

The war with China has brought about a great change in the position of Japan among the countries of the world. The approaching session of the Diet will, consequently, attract much attention from foreign nations, and demand a correspondingly increased self-respect and circumspection on the part of the Diet, the Government, and the people.

Our country now occupies an important position in the Far East, and is a great factor in the maintenance of peace in the world. Under these circumstances, international points of view should never be lost sight of in considering the questions of the national defence, civil administration, commerce, and industry.

The increased importance of the diplomatic aspects of all questions demands a correspondingly higher degree of capacity on the part of those charged with the general direction of foreign affairs. Men that have, in the past, repeatedly shown themselves incapable of taking advantage of good opportunities, and have thereby committed the country to erroneous courses of action, must be regarded as equally unfit for responsible positions in the future. It is, therefore, our intention to correct this evil in conformity with the fundamental principles of Constitutional Government.

In our opinion, the retrocession of Liaotung was a great stain on the honour of the country. Still more disgraceful has been the Government's conduct about the recent Sōul *émeute*. Judging from the present state of affairs, the future of the Korean question causes grave anxiety and misgivings. It is our purpose to revert to, and persevere in, the original policy announced in the Declaration of War.

The measures that have become necessary in consequence of the war admit of no delay. With regard to those measures, we purpose to pursue a positive line of policy. It is our intention to put in order the public finances; to reform the system of taxation; to increase the national armaments within limits consistent with the resources of the country; to improve and extend the various machinery of communication and transportation, such as railways, telegraphs, steamship services, and so forth; and to encourage the increase of all kinds of industry. It is also our aim to renovate the administrative machinery; to strengthen official discipline; to extend the liberty of the people, and guard their rights. Thus our object is to lay a foundation for building up the wealth and strength of the country, and to contribute to the perfection of the constitutional system.

To sum up, a self-assertive foreign policy and a system of responsible Cabinets are the two great political purposes of our Party, while the wealth and strength of the country are the two cardinal points kept in view by us in considering all practical measures. The time is past for mere speculative discussion; constructive statesmanship is what is wanted. We announce these our views and offer them for the consideration of persons that are in sympathy with us.

THE KOREAN CASE AT HIROSHIMA.

The constitution of the Court Martial to try the military prisoners in the Korean case has been completed. Major-General Baron Oshima, of the Fifth Divison, is President, the members being Colonels Nishiyama Sakeyoshi and Takeda Shusan, and Lieutenant-Colonels Baba Masao and Yamanouchi Sadanori.

As to the Civil prisoners, their preliminary examinations are expected to be finished in a few days. Several of them have been released on bail. It is reported that bail will be accepted for the majority of the remainder also.

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THE CASTING VOTE IN THE DIET.

That extremely uncertain element of Japanese politics, the National Unionist Party, seems determined to bestride the rail until the very last moment. It has been understood, up to the present, that the Party is divided between two opinions, some maintaining the necessity of clearing up the Government's responsibility for its so-called errors in Korea and Liaotung, others contending that nothing of the kind is required. According to the *Tokyo Asahi* newspaper, a decision was reached on the 21st instant which amounts to a compromise between these two opinions. It is to the effect that although the Cabinet ought to be called to account for its errors of foreign policy, no obstacle ought to be placed for that reason in the way of measures for increasing the national armaments or carrying out other important projects. The *Asahi* says that the above view will be embodied in the Party's manifesto now in course of preparation. If that version of the National Unionists' attitude be correct, we may interpret it to mean that they are prepared to defer their attack upon the Cabinet until after the principal Government Bills laid before the Diet next session shall have been passed. If, subsequently to that consummation, the Unionists join the Opposition to pass a vote of censure upon the Government, we shall presumably see a dissolution of the Diet and an appeal to the country. But for our own part, we doubt whether the National Unionists will at any time be induced to proceed to such an extremity. They must be very well aware that in the event of an appeal to the constituencies, the Liberals, if to their present popularity were added the immense prestige of direct connection with the Government, would gain enormously at the polls. In fact, the whole Opposition must foresee that result and must find their position correspondingly desperate.

CAPTAIN J. M. JAMES.

Captain J. M. James has received the very high honour of being decorated with the Second Class of the Order of the Rising Sun. An Order of such rank is not conferred in Japan unless the candidate's name is submitted to the Sovereign in connection with some special act of distinguished service. We are not in a position to state explicitly what service Captain James performed, but no doubt can be entertained that he well deserves the high honour paid to him, and we join our congratulations to those of his numerous friends.

In connection with this subject we take the opportunity of correcting our recent statement that the only holders of First-Class Orders among the past and present employés of the Japanese Government were Monsieur G. Boissonade de Fontarabie and Mr. H. W. Denison. A third name must be added to the distinguished list, that of Colonel Meckel, a German officer formerly in the service of the War Department. We believe that the circumstances under which Colonel Meckel received the honour were very exceptional. He had left Japan long before the war with China broke out, but the value of his services was so strikingly illustrated as the war progressed that the Emperor of Japan wrote an autographic letter to the Emperor of Germany, extolling what Colonel Meckel had done, and enclosing the insignia of the First Class of the Sacred Treasure for presentation to the able officer.

THE NEW YEAR LEVÉE.

The *Official Gazette* announces that all foreigners holding Japanese Orders from the Sixth Class upwards will be allowed to attend the Imperial New Year Levée. With the exception of the employés of the various Departments, whose names are already recorded, any foreigner desiring to attend under this rule, is required to send his card and a statement of the Order he possesses, to the Imperial Chamberlain's Bureau by the 27th instant.

THE OPENING OF THE DIET.

The Emperor has issued a Rescript ordering that the official opening of the Diet shall take place on the 28th inst. The usual invitations have been issued for that day, and the persons invited are required to attend at the House of Peers by 10 a.m., wearing full dress (evening dress for non-officials) as well as any orders they possess.

THE IMPERIAL DIET.

The two Houses of the Diet assembled on the 25th instant, and proceeded to take the usual measures of organization, namely, the division of the members into sections and the election of heads of sections (*bucho*) and managers (*riji*). The result of these proceedings was reported to the Cabinet by Vice-President Marquis Kuroda on behalf of the Peers, and President Kusumoto on behalf of the Representatives. The Houses will not meet for the transaction of regular business until the 29th instant, when, after receiving the Budget and possibly some other Bills, they will rise for the New Year's recess.

THE TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Tokyo Chamber of Commerce held an extraordinary meeting on the 23rd inst. There were present Messrs. Shibusawa (President), Oku, Ginbayashi, Ota, Kato, Oye, Masuda, Sonoda, Sekine, and so forth. After some reports had been read by the clerk, the President submitted to the meeting the resignation of Mr. Fukunaga Gihachi, which was at once approved. The next business was a communication from the London Chamber of Commerce relating to the reduction of telegraphic charges between England and the Far East. It was decided that the investigation should be entrusted to the Committee appointed some time ago to report on the revision of the Post and Telegraph Regulations. The third subject for discussion, namely, the report of the Committee charged with the investigation of the direct trade with foreign countries, was reserved for a future meeting. The next question related to the advisability of memoralizing the Ministers of Finance, and of Agriculture and Commerce, and petitioning the Houses of the Diet, for a reduction of the tax on Exchanges and Bourses. Draft memorials and petitions were approved with some minor modifications. Then followed the consideration of a report to be made to the authorities with reference to the effects produced upon commerce and industry by the late war. The report was approved. The very meagre accounts of the proceedings published in the metropolitan papers do not contain any allusion whatever to the nature of the report on this important question. Afterwards the Chamber examined memorials for presentation to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of Agriculture and Commerce on the subject of dishonest practices resorted to by Chinese exporters of cotton. The documents were approved with slight alterations of language. This completed the measures originally intended for submission to the meeting. Before rising, however, the Chamber's attention was called to a subject that has of late been exciting discussion in business circles; namely, the diversity of interpretations placed by different Departments of State on the provisions of the Commercial Code relating to an increase of capital by an already existing joint stock company. It was decided to memorialize the Minister President of State, requesting him to unify the interpretation.

THE EVACUATION OF LIAOTUNG.

According to the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun*, all the Japanese troops stationed in different parts of Manchuria were collected at Talienwan on the 20th instant. The last transport conveying the returning soldiers is expected to enter Ujina about the 29th instant.

AT THE OPTION OF JAPAN.

Our correspondent "X." declares himself perplexed as to the meaning of the words "at the option of Japan" that appear in the 5th Article of the Shimonoseki Treaty. Our readers doubtless remember that these words qualify the last clause of the article—the clause providing for the status of any Chinese remaining in Formosa after the expiration of two years. We cannot see any difficulty in interpreting the words. After inserting an explicit reservation as to Chinese residents that might desire to dispose of their real property and leave the island within the prescribed period of two years, it was only natural and in accordance with the precedent of modern conventions, to insert also some provision relating to Chinese that might wish to remain permanently. What provision, then, should be inserted? Were such Chinese to be conventionally guaranteed naturalization as Japanese subjects with all the privileges belonging to that status, or were they to receive a modified form of naturalization? It is only reasonable to conclude that the Japanese Government at the time of signing the Shimonoseki Treaty was not in a position to answer these questions definitely, and therefore reserved to itself a right of option with regard to them. When we remember that there are still some portions of the Japanese empire the inhabitants of which, though of Japanese origin, are still discriminated against in matters of civil and political privileges, we have no reason to be surprised if the exact status of aliens in newly-acquired territory calls for much reflection. Our correspondent writes as though he failed to distinguish clearly between persons subject to Japanese jurisdiction and actual subjects of Japan. We shall all be subject to Japanese jurisdiction when the revised treaties go into operation, but we shall not be Japanese subjects. So, too, the Chinese in Formosa, though at present subject to Japan's sway, cannot yet be called subjects of Japan inasmuch as they possess by treaty the right to remove themselves from her jurisdiction within two years. So far as we can gather, it is the intention of the Japanese Government to treat the Chinese in Formosa with the utmost consideration. No philanthropist need be at all uneasy on that subject. But the details of the programme demand much reflection and preliminary examination. For our own part, we think that the best policy would be to facilitate the exodus of the Chinese in every possible manner, one step toward that result being an offer, on the part of the Japanese Government, to buy up any real property the owners of which are unable to find private purchasers within the prescribed interval.

THE SPINNING INDUSTRY.

It is reported that spinning companies are realizing extraordinarily large profits. After putting aside a considerable sum as a reserve fund, it is expected that the Hirano and Settsu Spinning Companies will be able to declare a dividend of 25 per cent. per annum. The dividends anticipated in the case of some other companies are 20 per cent. for the Osaka and Miye Boseki, and 15 per cent. for the Tokyo Boseki. The principal causes of this increase in profits are a steady rise in the market prices of the products of the mills, a fall in the rate of interest on money, and cheapness of fuel and labour. As to the last mentioned item, however, it must be observed that scarcity of labour is causing some loss and much anxiety to the companies. It is stated that, in some mills, a considerable number of spindles are lying idle in consequence of want of hands. The present scarcity of hands is principally owing to a return of prosperity throughout the country: the people are reluctant to send their girls to factories. Under such circumstances, wages cannot but rise, and that tendency is already observable. It is expected that there will be a considerable rise early next year.

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THE BANKING BUSINESS.

According to the *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo*, there has been a decrease of profits in banking business during the latter half of the present year as compared with the corresponding period of last year, though the nominal bulk of transactions shows a considerable increase. The following table gives amounts of advances, discounts, and deposits in the banks of Tokyo and Yokohama that are members of the Banking League :—

ADVANCES AND DISCOUNTS.

	Nov., 1895. yen.	Nov., 1894. yen.
Advances	49,738,491	52,212,166
Overdrafts	8,101,713	6,249,294
Discounts	15,638,100	11,325,424
Total	73,478,304	69,786,884

DEPOSITS.

	Nov., 1895. yen.	Nov., 1894. yen.
Deposits of Public Money	1,500,688	1,589,803
Fixed Deposits	12,745,066	10,038,260
Current Deposits	22,946,528	19,755,110
Miscellaneous Deposits.	8,425,955	12,028,532
Total	45,618,237	43,411,705

Thus there has been an increase of 3,691,420 *yen* in advances and discounts and 2,206,532 *yen* in deposits. On the other hand, there has been a marked fall in the rate of interest. During the latter half of last year, the ruling rates were from 2 *sen* 6 *rin* to over 3 *sen* per diem per 100 *yen*; but they have since fallen to 2 *sen* and 1 *sen* 8 *rin*. The rates of interest on deposits have remained stationary. According to our contemporary's computation, the decrease in the profits of the banks will be from 10 to 15 per cent. But it has to be remembered that the profits during the second half of last year were exceptionally large, and that, consequently, notwithstanding the above mentioned decrease, the banks will be able to declare a pretty high dividend for the current period.

THE RISE OF PRICES.

There has lately been an extraordinary rise of prices, and the tendency is continuing. The appreciation has been most remarkable in articles of luxury, the rate of increase being from 30 to 40 per cent. in the case of some commodities, such as silk and cotton goods. The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a table showing the average rates of appreciation in the cases of twenty-two articles, as compared with the prices ruling in 1893. The list includes rice, barley, salt, *saké*, sugar, fuel, timber, silk and cotton fabrics, metal wares, and so forth. The following is the table :—

	Average rise for 22 Arts. Per cent.	Rise in the price of Rice. Per cent.
First halves of 1893 and 1895	23.9	20.4
Latter halves of 1893 and 1895	14 5	18.7
First half of 1893 and Nov., 1895	24.2	32.4
Latter half of 1893 and Nov., 1895	14.9	19.8

As to the increase in the cost of living, the *Jiji* thinks it safe to put it, on the average, at 20 per cent.

The rise of prices has been accompanied by a similar rise in wages. The *Chugai Shogyo Shimpo* publishes the following comparative table showing the average wages during the latter halves of this year and of last :—

	Latter half of 1895. Sen.	Latter half of 1894. Sen.
Common coolies	33	27
Carriers	33—35	30
Bricklayers	55—60	45—50
Masons	65—70	60—65
Carpenters	50—55	45
Roofers	60	50
Tilers	55	45—50
Paper-hangers	50—55	40—45
Wall-plasterers	65—70	50—60
Mat-weavers	50—55	50

All the figures in this latter table, as well as those in the former, been in some cases principally owing to scarcity of hands caused by an exodus of labourers and artizans to Formosa and Weihaiwei.

THE VOLUME OF CURRENCY.

The following table shows the volume of Government paper money and the bank notes in circulation at the end of the months of October and November :—

	End of November. Yen.	End of October. Yen.
Government Paper money of and above 1 *yen*	8,570,192.500	8,706,623.500
Do. of and below 50 *sen*	2,655,311.750	2,655,311.750
Total	11,225,504.250	11,361,935.250
Bank notes	20,728,708.000	20,728,708.000
Notes of banks now defunct	68.078.000	68,758.000
Total	20,796,786.000	20,797,466.000
Grand Total	32,022,290.250	32,159,401.250

The volume of convertible notes in circulation during the last week of November was 150,248,586 *yen*. Adding this sum to the above figures, the total volume of currency at the end of last month is represented by 180,786,072 *yen*.

THE PROGRESSIONISTS.

The Progressionists held a meeting in the Kinki-kan, Kanda, Tokyo, on the 14th instant. The morning hours were devoted to informal consultations about the condition of the Party's affairs in the various localities. The formal conference commenced at 2 p.m., the chair being taken by Mr. Maruo Bunroku, the oldest person present. The meeting consisted of Messrs. Shimada Saburo, P.M., Ozaki Yukio, M.P., Minoura Katsundo, M.P., Tsunoda Shimpei, M.P., Sudo Rikuzo, M.P., and about two hundred and fifty other members of the Party, representing nearly all the Cities and Prefectures. After the financial statement for the past year had been read and approved, a draft Manifesto was submitted for deliberation by the assembly. A question raised by Mr. Uruma Tamio, on the subject of the employment of the war indemnity, having been answered by Mr. Ozaki, the Manifesto was passed without a dissentient voice. That document we published yesterday. The next business was to consider representations made to the headquarters of the Party by the local associations of Shizuoka, Kanagawa, and Hyogo. These representations related to the Party's policy in the coming session of the Diet. They were nearly uniform in character, the principal points raised being the importance of compelling the Cabinet to resign on account of the Liaotung and Korean questions, and of providing for the increase of the Army and the Navy, the local association of Kanagawa going so far as to suggest that the War indemnity received from China should be used solely to pay for increased armaments and extension of steamship lines to foreign parts, the encouragement of industry and education, and so forth. It was decided that these representations be taken into consideration by a Committee charged with the duty of investigating various questions of current politics. Mr. Asaka next reported on the conduct of the Party during the session convened at Hiroshima. The last business was to elect members of the Party Council. It was decided that the task of election be entrusted to the election Committees of the different localities. The conference concluded with cheers for Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress, for the Army and the Navy, and for the *Kaishin-to*. Afterwards the party sat down to dinner, in the course of which several speeches were delivered.

YOKOHAMA GIRLS' HIGH SCHOOL.

The Christmas breaking up of Mrs. Cahusac's High School for Girls took place on Saturday last in the school room of the institution, which had been tastefully draped with evergreens and flags. A large number of ladies and gentlemen, the parents and relatives of the children, had been invited to witness the exercises, which consisted of recitations, singing, and pianoforte playing, the grand finale being two wax works exhibitions, and they no doubt derived great pleasure from the proceedings. It would be invidious for us to praise any particular number on the programme, considering the difference in the ages of Mrs. Cahusac's pupils, but the results show that great pains had been taken with them, and the praise bestowed upon each and all must have been very pleasing to those concerned in the school. The full programme, which we give below, show the variety of subjects taken up :—

1—Duet.....Our Girls,.....Paul Jones.
Miss K. Hall, Miss N. Orloff.
2—Recitation.....Introductory.....———.
Miss Ethel Fraser.
3—Piano Solo.....The Song of the Brook.....Brocca.
Miss Nina Orloff.
4—Part Song.....Stilly Night.....Volkslied.
Senior Class.
5—Recitation.....The Angel's Story.....A. A. Proctor.
Miss Nora Griffin.
6—Duet.....Ecossaise.....Schumann.
Miss Cassie Cook, Master Henry Cook.
7—Action Song.....Our Morning Porridge.....———.
Junior Class.
8—Recitation.....The Camel.....Anon.
Miss Vera Irwine.
9—Piano Solo.....Heimweh.....Jungmann.
Miss Netty McCance.
10—Recitation.....I'm such a dear little girl.....———.
Miss Edna Funcke.
11—Duet.....F. T. Baker.
Miss N. Orloff, Miss N. McCance.
12—French Recitation.....Le Petit Savoyard.....Guinard.
Miss N. Griffin, Miss K. Hall, Miss E. Fraser.
13—Song.....Enfants, n'y touchez pas.....Clapisson.
Miss Nina Orloff.
14—Recitation.....The Walking Bell.....Goethe.
Master Charley Wallace.
Duet—Vera-Irwine and Trixie Sharp.
15—Piano Solo.....Der Hussarenritt.....Spindler.
Miss Nina Orloff.
16—Recitation.....The Earl King.....Goethe.
Miss Cassie Cook, Miss Mabel Wallace, Miss Trixie Sharp.
17—Piano Solo.....March Turque.....Beethoven.
Miss Cassie Cook.
18—Recitation.....Little Drops of Water.....———
Miss Josephine Cleveland.
19—Duet.....Overture.....Caliph of Bagdad.
Miss N. Orloff, Miss N. McCance.
20—Piano Solo.....Melodie.....———
Miss Trixie Sharp.
21—Duet.....The Fire Fly.....Jungmann.
Master Harry Cook, Miss Nina Orloff.
22—Piano Solo.....Valse.....Chopin.
Master Harry Cook.

WAX-WORKS.—GROUP 1.

1.—The King was in his Counting House counting out his money.—Charlie Wallace.
2.—The Queen was in the Parlour eating bread and honey.—Florence Wales.
3.—The Maid was in the Garden hanging out the clothes.—Edna Funcke.
4.—Curly Locks.—Pauline Cleveland.
5.—Little Bo-Peep.—Vera Irwine.
6.—Little Red Riding Hood.—Josephine Cleveland.

GROUP 2.

1.—Ride a Cock Horse.—Gerald Irwine.
2.—The Fine Lady on a White Horse.—Cassie Cook.
3.—The Queen of Hearts.—Ethel Fraser.
4.—The Old Woman Sweeping Cobwebs out of the Sky.—Mabel Wallace.
5.—The Old Woman who lived in a Shoe.—Trixie Sharp.
6.—Cinderella.—Hilda Watson.
The Pretty Maids all in a Row.—Nina Orloff, Netty McCance, A. Strome, K. Hall, E. Hall.
Showwoman, Miss Mabel Moulton.

At the conclusion, the senior girls presented Mrs. Cahusac with a handsome basket of flowers and a box of pretty silver spoons.

THE INEQUALITY OF PECUNIARY REWARDS AMONG LITERARY AND PROFESSIONAL MEN.

It transpired in the course of a famous trial in Melbourne not long ago that a jockey, who was the plaintiff in the case before the court, had been for three years making an income of nearly £3,500 a year, and the said jockey was still a minor. This sum of money happened to tally will the salary paid to the Chief Justice of Victoria, and the circumstance naturally led certain persons to pass remarks on that peculiar characteristic of modern society which makes it ever ready to pay more for amusement than for instruction or even for justice. We say more ; for in the case under consideration no one would pretend that light weight, skill in riding, and knowledge of racing, could be placed in any impartial estimate, on an equality with the high culture, the keen mental discipline, and the great erudition of the Chief Justice as money-deserving qualities in a highly civilized community. Statistics prove conclusively that in the age in which we live men are willing to pay more for their pleasures than for ordinary professional and literary services rendered to them. Not long ago a return was laid before the English House of Commons

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giving a list of all the pensions granted since 1855, to persons who, in the realms of art, science, and literature had "rendered distinguished public service." Owen, the English Cuvier, Huxley, and Alfred Russell Wallace head the list with a pension of £300 each. Poetry seems to command a lower rate than Science. Tennyson was the proud possessor of a pension of £200. "Festus" Bailey and Eliza Cook received the reward of £100 a year each from a grateful nation, and Gerald Massey was valued at £70 a year. The caprice of human taste may be further illustrated by citing the following facts. The publisher gave Goldsmith £60 for the entire copyright of his "Vicar of Wakefield." To-day collectors are paying £90 for a single copy of the Salisbury edition of 1766, just as they are giving £32 for a single number of the original pale-green "Pickwick," sold at 1s. each when first issued. Great Britain spends £25,000 per annum on the Civil List pensions given in reward of distinguished services. It spends £2,000,000 per annum on football and £4,500,000 on fox-hunting, while the duty alone on the tobacco it smokes reaches £10,000,000. Pretty ankles, gracefulness of form and carriage, high class vocal chords, command higher prices than the genius of Darwin or Huxley.

Interesting statistics bearing on the inequality of professional and literary pecuniary rewards appeared in the *Forum* some time ago. We give the following epitome. Macaulay's History is computed to have yielded £150,000 and the Waverley Novels the still larger sum of £200,000. But these are very exceptional cases. Of the two hundred and fifty or three hundred people that make some kind of a living by novel writing, two or three make £3,000 a year, a dozen make £2,000, but the great bulk of novelists barely earn the wages of agricultural labourers. Educational works pay better in England than works of fiction, there being less competition. The man fortunate enough to get his Latin grammar into the public schools may smile at want. A hack writer has to burn the midnight oil to earn £160 a year, but a leader writer on *The Times* receives £5 a column, and the editor of a great London daily who has also some proprietory interest in his own journal will draw £5,000 a year. The same inequality exists in other spheres. A leading barrister with a roaring practice will make his £20,000 a year, but the rank and file of the bar do not earn an average income of £240 a year. A medical specialist like the late Sir Andrew Clarke has his coffers' filled by a perennial stream of gold, but the average doctor barely scrapes together £240 a year by incessant toil and exposure in all weathers. The head master of a great public school like Eton or Harrow will receive an income of £6,000 or £8,000. Even Winchester, Rugby, and the Charterhouse pay their heads from £2,000 to £4,000 per annum, and their assistant masters from £300 to £800. But the average master in a small school only gets £100 a year. In the religious world the same principle holds good. The Archbishop of Canterbury has £15,000 and the Bishop of London £10,000 per annum. About a dozen Non-conformist ministers, the *Forum* reckons, receive £1,000 a year; but the mass of ministers in all denominations are poorly paid. In 1880 there were 2,587 benefices with incomes under £200, but in 1894 the number had increased to 4,174, or nearly one third of the total number of benefices in England and Wales. There are no less than 1,379 benefices, with an average income of less than £65 per annum. The average income of the rank and file of Non-conformist ministers is stated to be £90 per annum.

All this goes to prove that in modern society the great prizes are only to be won by men of extraordinary talent and that mediocrity in all professions fares badly. The prizes are splendid; the general average is paltry. There is much to be said for and against this system. From a socialistic and humanitarian point of view it is considered diametrically wrong; but from a utilitarian point of view there is no little to be urged in its favour. It stimulates ambition. Thousands strive in vain to win the great prizes, but the world nevertheless benefits by their efforts. Were there less competition there would be less industry, less hard study, less mental discipline. Hence, judged by results, the present system is perhaps superior to any that could be invented. Nevertheless, one cannot but feel regret that, as the world grows older, life in England among the educated classes should be attended with ever increasing hardships. The incomes made by men of average ability in these days are too small to allow in many cases of their retiring from business even when borne down by the infirmities of age. Even supposing that they have been able to save a few thousand pounds, the rate of interest on capital is so low that they find it impossible to keep a family on the small sum realised by their investments. When the regular methods of making money yield on the average such poor results, we can hardly be surprised at the increase of speculation, at the widespread desire to gain by a lucky throw of the dice, as it were, treasures that, situated as things now are, years of toil can never bring. The plain cause of the pressure is the excess of the supply of professional men over existing demands. All the callings of life in the old country are too crowded. A vacant clerkship worth £60 a year is eagerly sought after by hundreds of applicants. To whatever profession one turns there appears the same scramble for places that yield a bare means of subsistence. Yet notwithstanding this, the number of young men who prefer privation and untold hardship at home to trying their luck in other lands is always large. Hence, since the only outlet for the superfluous supply of educated talent is used by a limited few, we can see no immediate prospect of any change in the situation.

THE NAVY LEAGUE.

Admiral Sir R. Vesey Hamilton's open letter suggesting the formation of a Naval League, has been published in all Great Britain's Colonies, and since it is not to be questioned that British subjects residing in Japan are just as much interested in this matter as British subjects anywhere else, we re-produce the document, with an expression of strong hope that it may lead to the formation of a branch of the League in the foreign settlements of Japan also:—

SIR,—Few arguments should be needed, though many can be urged, to recommend to your readers the objects of the League whose papers I enclose. The League has been formed in the capital of the British Empire, as the natural result of a growing realisation that the destinies of the whole British people, to whom that great heritage belongs, depend upon the maintenance by them of sea power—of command of the sea.

Since the works of Captain Mahan, of Sir J. Colomb, and of other writers, have demonstrated the vital bearing of naval supremacy upon the history of our race, and the manner in which "the expansion of England," has been at all times contingent upon the observance of that condition, and that too, the great national service rendered by the Press in directing public attention to the same subject, no thinking men have denied that as by sea power our past has been determined, so by the silent influence of this same controlling factor on the life of Greater Britain, our present is being moulded, and our future will be shaped.

When the peace which followed upon Waterloo closed at last the century of strife with France, in which we had wrestled with her for the Empire that depended upon dominion of the seas, the oceans and the shores of all be globe were open to us, because out of that struggle we had emerged supreme, and because the fighting force of our navy, like the tonnage of our mercantile marine, was greater than that of all other nations combined. Hence came that access to the markets of the world which, when the application of brains to industry increased production, afforded custom for our goods, and so enabled the population of the United Kingdom to grow at once in prosperity and in numerical strength; and hence came also acquisition or the development of those wide territories, beyond the seas that encircle England, which the still expanding British people now inhabit and possess.

One glance back through the history of the last hundred and fifty years will suffice to reveal the manner in which the whole present environment of our English-speaking world has been the product of this power of the sea. But for sea power, rendering possible the victory of Wolfe in 1759, the whole of Canada and of the United States might have passed not to the children of England, but to those of France; but for sea power, South Africa, to day, might be either Dutch or French; but for sea power, the continent under the Southern Cross, where the English language is now spoken, with scarcely the intermixture of any other tongue, might have been entirely or in great part the appanage of foreigners, some of whose governments would never otherwise have left untouched so vast and rich a section of the land surface of the globe.

Now, Sir (the Navy League asks), are you British people of Greater Britain willing to watch, unmoved, that steady advance of the navies of other States, in ships, in guns, in number of men, towards equality with ourselves, and, with that advance, to witness the constant growth of danger to your joint heritage and your place in the world? If the interests of Canada, or of Australasia, or of South Africa be assailed, or their just rights challenged by foreign nations, are you prepared tamely to submit? But against such outrages, and for the inviolability of your commerce throughout all seas, what guarantee have you, or can you have, but the Navy of the Empire, and if that be inadequate to the work which it has to perform, do you not lean upon a broken reed? If so, then it is time for you to be up and doing, for naval preparedness cannot be attained in a week, or in a month, or in a single year, nor can deficiencies be made good when war has once begun, but then with such material and organisation as may exist, the tremendous issue will have to be decided, and if the game go against us the entire fabric of our Empire, and with that the prosperity of all classes of our people, will vanish like a palace in a dream.

The Navy League has been created to arouse, before it is too late, a perception of these facts amongst all men of our race who have minds broad enough to apprehend their import, and hearts subject to the impulses of British blood. To quicken the recognition that command of the sea is the deep fundamental necessity of the whole British people, and—through that awakening—to make its attainment the first care of every British statesman, so that each colonial cabinet should have this desire ever before it, and ceaselessly press it upon the Government at home—this is the purpose of the League, and to achieve these ends it now seeks to form, in every centre of British population, branches whose members shall advocate constantly by speech and pen this, the common cause of all.

Such advocacy would be assuredly no slight or transient thing, but as its objects affect the destinies of the entire Empire, so their attainment needs the energy and the intelligence of every British branch of our race. "I am well aware," said Lord Palmerston, in words as applicable now to the whole British dominion as to the small islands which constitute its kernel, "that it is almost as difficult to persuade the people of this country to provide themselves with the means of defence as it would be for them to defend themselves without those means, and that although our internal condition may still be the envy of surrounding nations, yet we have neither.

"Hearts resolved nor hands prepared
The blessings we enjoy to guard."

To wipe away the reproach, and in doing so to keep our empire and the British people in their proper place—the forefront of the world—to strengthen the hand of the Cabinet of the United Kingdom (to whatever political party that Cabinet may belong), in demanding from Parliament the means necessary at once to our prosperity and our existence—this, again, is the endeavour in which, now, we seek your aid.

The League, then, asks, through your columns, for no mere academic acquiescence in its aims. It calls for the active, strenuous help of every man who sees in that great cause a great and binding duty. Eight local subscribers suffice to constitute the nucleus of a branch and in the papers sent to every member the details of the League's methods are clearly shown. Amongst your readers, who are those who will render aid?

I have the honour to be, on behalf of the Executive Committee, your obedient servant,

R. VESEY HAMILTON,
Admiral.

13, Victoria Street, London, S.W.,
9th July, 1895.

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COTTON MILLS IN CHINA.

THE Japanese appear to be resolved to open a cotton mill in Shanghai. Presumably they have considered the financial aspects of the enterprise with all care, but it surprises us to observe that neither in their prospectus nor in the published projects of foreign companies organized for a similar purpose, does any statement appear as to the method of procuring raw cotton. Yet that is the one vital question. Were it not for the apparent economy to be effected by obtaining Chinese cotton *in loco*, there would be no special inducement to devote large sums of money to the establishment of spinning factories in Shanghai. The mills in Japan already find themselves nearly able to offer their products in the Chinese markets at rates that would compete successfully with Bombay yarns. Slight assistance from the Government, such, for example, as the abolition of the import duty on raw cotton, would probably turn the scale in favour of the Japanese manufacture, and as such a concession is tolerably certain to be made very soon, there must be some independent consideration militating in favour of opening mills in China. The consideration assigned is that an ample supply of raw cotton can be obtained at the doors of the mills. Can it? Here it is, precisely, that we discover a difficulty not publicly noticed by any of the projectors of factories. Under existing treaties and conventions, Chinese products, sent from the interior to a treaty port for the purpose of being exported, have to pay two taxes: first, the transport tax called *likin*; secondly, the export duty. In former times, the *likin* used to be a very heavy impost, and the serious obstacle that it constituted to the development of trade was freqnently complained of. By the Chefoo Convention of 1876, however, it was agreed that, in the case of goods *bonâ fide* intended for shipment to a foreign country, all charges hitherto payable on such goods *en route* from the place of production to the place of shipment, should be commuted for a single payment amounting to one half of the export duty. The article embodying this arrangement runs as follows:—

> Native produce carried from an inland centre to a port of shipment, *bonâ fide* intended for shipment to a foreign port, may be, by treaty, certified by the British subject interested, and exempted, by payment of the half duty, from any charges demanded upon it *en route*. If produce be not the property of a British subject, or is being carried to a port not for exportation, it is not entitled to the exemption that would be secured it by the exhibition of a transit duty certificate.

It might fairly be contended that, under this article, cotton from the interior of China to Shanghai to be there manufactured into yarn, can claim exemption from all charges *en route* in consideration of the commuted payment of half the export duty, provided always that the yarn is *bonâ fide* intended for export. But if the yarn be not intended for export; if, on the contrary, it be intended for sale in China, as all yarn manufactured at the projected mills must be, what payments will be levied on it before it reaches the place of manufacture? Evidently it will then fall within the category of ordinary Chinese produce passing from one place within the empire to another, in search of a market, and will be liable to be taxed at every *likin* station *en route*. We cannot say with precision what such taxes would aggregate. On the West River there are said to be about 100 *likin* stations in a distance of 900 miles, and a recent traveller in Kiangsi found 5 within a reach of 70 miles on a small stream. A rough idea of what *likin* means may, however, be gathered from a conventional stipulation—already concluded though not yet in force—that produce which, having been carried to a port of shipment for the purpose of export, has consequently been exempted from any inland charge other than the commuted tax of one half of the export duty, may be relieved from the necessity of export and be sold locally on payment of a further tax of five times the commuted *likin*. In other words, supposing that an article intended for shipment abroad be liable to export duty amounting to 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, then, its total liability in respect of export and *likin* would be 7½ per cent.; whereas, if it be not shipped abroad but offered for sale at the port of shipment or elsewhere within China, it must pay an impost of 15 per centum. Observe how this applies to the case of raw cotton. It pays at present a specific export duty representing about 3 per cent. *ad valorem*. Hence, it can be carried from the interior and shipped to Japan by paying a total impost of 4½ per cent. But if, instead of being carried to Japan or some other foreign country, it be intended for manufacture into yarn at a Shanghai mill, and then for sale in the markets of China, obviously the Chinese Authorities may require it to pay an inland tax of 9 per cent. at least. That, indeed, is too favourable a statement of the case. The fact is that such cotton, not being certifiable by its foreign purchaser—supposing it to have been purchased by a foreigner at the place of production—would be liable to be taxed at every *likin* station passed *en route* for Shanghai, and by the time it reached the mill, it would probably have been mulcted to the tune of 20 or 30 per cent. Possibly there may be an idea that the Chinese Government will make an exception in favour of raw cotton; that, having granted permission for factories to be established at the open ports, it will extend its complaisance to the raw material required for manufacture. Such a hope appears to us quite chimerical. Assuredly it is entirely opposed to the practice invariably adopted by the Chinese Authorities. They take no thought whatever to foster trade—trade in foreign hands above all—but regard it simply as a means of procuring revenue. Moreover, the Chinese themselves are engaging in the cotton-spinning business, and there will naturally be a disposition to discriminate against the foreigner. It seems to us, therefore, that whereas mill-owners in Japan can now procure raw cotton from China by paying to the latter a total tax of 4½ per cent. *ad valorem*, they will find themselves obliged to pay an impost of 20 or 30 per cent. on the same cotton if they establish mills in China to spin it. Of course the question may be included in the negotiations now taking place between Earl LI and Baron HAYASHI. But is there any reasonable expectation of that? We should think not, in view of the exceedingly unsatisfactory recognition accorded to Japan's cosmopolitan liberality in framing the Shimonoseki Treaty. It was certainly against the interests of her own manufacturers that she should have stipulated for the privilege of carrying on industrial enterprises in China, and it would be still more opposed to their interests that she should extend her altruism to the supply of raw material for those enterprises. Japanese capitalists ought to investigate this point before they sink large sums of money in Shanghai mills. Otherwise they may find themselves ruinously handicapped when they come to purchase cotton for their work.

THE OPPOSITION IN THE LOWER HOUSE.

JUDGING from the comments of the vernacular press, there is still some doubt as to the period of the Diet's session that the Opposition will choose for introducing their Address to the THRONE on the subject of the Government's foreign policy; in other words, their motion of want of confidence. We find it strange, for our own part, that any uncertainty should exist on such a subject. It would be obviously absurd that a number of members, having openly declared their want of confidence in the Cabinet's administration of the empire's foreign affairs, and having pledged themselves to petition the THRONE for the dismissal of the Ministry, should by way of preliminary, vote in favour of measure after measure introduced by that very Cabinet and those very Ministers. Hitherto the Progressionists and their allies have not been guilty of any such ridiculous inconsistency. They have steadily opposed all important Bills emanating from a Cabinet in which they professed to have no confidence. They must adhere to that course in the present session also. If they attempt to postpone their vote of censure until after they have approved all the Cabinet's proposals for the increment of the Army and Navy, the extension of navigation, and the development of industrial enterprise, they will incur the contempt of the nation as

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mere political schemers, lacking the courage of their opinions. Nor can we perceive what power of choice they possess in such a matter. The disposal of the business of the session is practically in the hands of the Ministers of the CROWN. With them rests the right of selection as to which of the two Houses shall be the first recipient of an official bill, and at what time in the course of the session it shall be introduced. Thus things can easily be arranged so that if the leaders of the Opposition attempt to defer their anti-Cabinet Address to the THRONE until after all measures of national importance have been passed, they may never find any such opportunity: either bills that have passed the Lower House will be still awaiting decision in the Upper, or bills sent down from the Peers will be still be under discussion by the Representatives. The Government, perhaps, would not think it worth while to resort to such tactics, but that they are in a position to do so admits of no doubt. Hence, from every point of view, the hands of the Opposition seem to be forced. They must deliver their attack at the commencement of the Session. In that event, however, they must anticipate several defections from their ranks, as well as the antagonism of the National Unionists, so that their chances of obtaining a majority are slender indeed.

SEARCH FOR THE ORIGIN OF THE JAPANESE.

BY J. KUMPEI MATSUMOTO, M.A.

THE solution of the question as to the origin of a people that appeared upon foreign soil in a prehistoric age, offers great difficulties. Physical conformation alone cannot solve the problem, for climatic conditions, geographical aspects and admixture with different races, exercise in the course of time a largely modifying influence. On the other hand, neither language nor social life alone can sufficiently decide the question, for, as history shows many conquerors abandoned their own languages, customs, and mode of living and adopted those of the people with whom they were associated. We are justified in assuming a common starting point only when several of these indications point to the same origin.

The search for the origin of the Japanese race strongly suggests the case of the North American people, who are composed of various race elements—English, French, German, Spanish, Irish, Italian, Dutch, Russian, Hungarian, Jews, Indians, Africans, etc. Yet no one can doubt that these North Americans, as a whole, reveal remarkable characteristics of the Anglo-Saxon race at every point, in spite of so vast an amalgamation of races. It is not difficult to trace the reason, for in that country Anglo-Saxon elements predominate, and in their mould all the other heterogeneous elements are blended. The same principles are presented if we carefully observe the Japanese nation. The Japanese race contains, no doubt, different race elements, but on tracing the history of 3,000 years of the race, one can not fail to see that the dominant spirit is represented by the people called the Yhamato race.

There are two historical and traditional writings still preserved by us. They form the sole means by which we know the condition of our Japanese ancestors. One of them is the "Kojiki," or "Book of Ancient Traditions," which was compiled between A.D. 711 and 712. It treats of the creation of the heaven and earth, and of all the events of the mythological age, and gives the history of the MIKADOS from the year 1 (660 B.C.) down to the year 1,288 of the Japanese era. The other book, called the "Nihongi," was compiled in A.D. 720. It also contains the Japanese mythology and brings down the annals of the MIKADOS to A.D. 699.

According to these two oldest traditional manuscripts, we learn that the original Japanese race, who styled themselves the Yamato, were descendants of the first human pair, called IZANAGI and IZANAMI. This first man and woman were created by GOD, and lived some time in Takamagahara (or the High Heavens Plain). By a floating bridge from heaven they descended to an island indicated by GOD, where they created the whole of Yhamato. By this we understand that the original ancestors of the Yhamato race came from some other portion of the globe; that is to say, the Yhamato were colonizing people or immigrants. Again, we see in these old writings, that when the Yhamato race settled on the Island of Japan (Oyashima) in a prehistoric age they found some half-dozen aborigines belonging to a different race, who had occupied the islands previously. The names of these aborigines, as they appear in the "Kojiki," are the "Aragami" (rage demon), "Tsuchi-gumo" (pit-dweller), "Aogusa-hito" (blue-grass man), "Emishi" (barbarian), etc. These different aborigines or original inhabitants, seem to have been a very inferior race, for they were vanquished by the invaders (the Yhamato) just as easily as the Indians of America have been vanquished by the Europeans.

Thus the conquering Yhamato subjugated the central part of Japan and established the kingdom of Yhamato, having the MIKADO at the head of the government, whose descendants still continue to rule the Empire of Japan. All vanquished aborigines were killed in battle or became slaves, paying tribute. For a long time laws and traditions prohibited their intermarriage with the conquering race. For centuries the distiction between the Yhamato, the conquerors, and the aborigines, the conquered, as in the case of the Saxons and Normans in Britain, was kept up, but in the course of time fusion of blood took place and admixture of races continues up to the present time. Tet the fusion of these different races is not completed even now.

Foreign visitors to Japan have not infrequently been surprised by the fact that Japanese society exhibits a surprisingly large variety of both feature and complexion. Closely observing, we see three fundamental Japanese types, which can easily be recognized in the different parts of Japan.

One of these is marked by a darker skin, more compact figure and a powerful development of bone and limb. The short, flat face displays, under a low almost straight brow, large eyes, prominent cheek-bones and a depressed, flat nose. The large mouth is generally somewhat open; the gestures clumsy. This type exhibits prominently a Mongolian countenance, is more commonly found in the north and northwest than in the south or middle, and belongs principally to the country population attached to the soil. Although a portion of its representatives are found in the highest circles of society, I agree with Professor REIN in his remark that it may be safely concluded that this type of Japanese is represented by the Aino race, who were called "Emishi," or barbarians, in ancient days.

The second common type found among the Japanese is marked by a generally slight growth of beard, limited to the chin, and a markedly dark colour of the skin. Its representatives are rather smaller than those of the Aino type in stature. The people that represent this type are more commonly found in the southwest and along the coast of the Pacific Ocean. There is little doubt that their features are inherited from their forefathers, who came from the Malayan Archipelago, Philippine Islands and South China, taking advantage of the Kuroshiwo current which washes the south-western coast of Japan, sweeping from the Indian Ocean.

There is another striking type visible among the Japanese, especially among the old aristocracy, and more commonly seen in the provinces surrounding Yamato, where the ancient Yamato race is said to have first settled. They have a clear, slightly yellowish-white complexion, more symmetry in all parts of the body, and a fine, slightly reddish mustache, the hair being neither so black nor so thick as that of the Aino type; nor so sparse as that of the Malay type. It is a notable feature of this type that it exhibits a prognathous, oval countenance and a high brow. Large and slightly almond-shaped eyes, veiled by large lids, are placed at a more or less oblique angle to the nose and are overhung by lofty eyebrows. The cheek-bones are not noticeably prominent, nor is the mouth. The nose is delicate and

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slightly aquiline. Altogether the features are noble, and are found in the higher, or ruling, classes of society.

This type is supposed to represent the remotest ancestors of the Yhamato race; hence it is called the Yhamato type. Japanese spirit, valour, hauteur, courage, skill, knowledge, beauty, and almost all prominent elements in the political, military, and intellectual world are associated with this type. It still indeed the leading type of Japanese. Professor REIN states of this type of people: "Not infrequently the symmetry and regularity of features are so great and so different from the prevailing Mongolian type that we imagine ourselves in the presence of well-formed Europeans."

These strongly contrasting types among the Japanese people are not only visible to travellers in the different parts of the country, but are also fairly shown in art, painting, and in the drama. Thus again we understand that the present Japanese race is compounded of different and various race elements, and that the dominant elements and characteristics stamped upon the nation are those of the Yhamato race.

Then the question naturally arises, who are the Yhamato race? That is what I desire to consider. So long as the origin of the Yhamato race is not known, the problem of the Japanese race will never be solved. Many writers have tried to discover the origin of the Japanese race. Some have advocated the Aino theory. Their argument is based upon the fact that some resemblance exists between the language and modes of life of the lower classes of Japanese and those of the Aino races. But it must be remembered that a great many differences also exist, ethnographical, philological, and traditional, as well as in manners and modes of living. The present Japanese people, as I have already said, contain Aino elements, consequently they have many points in common with the Aino, but it is quite clear that the forefathers of the Yamato race were not the Aino.

Another argument is advanced by DOENITZ, who insists that the origin of the Japanese is Malayan. His argument is founded on the fact that the construction of Japanese houses bears a strong resemblance to the pile-dwelling of the Malays. This fact alone by no means satisfactorily proves that the Yhamato race is Malayan, since the construction of a dwelling-house is governed by local considerations. As a matter of fact, people, perfect strangers to each other, have adopted the same mode of building houses, from climatic or physical necessities. Another strong piece of evidence tells against this argument. The Japanese language (*Yhamato-kotoba*) has no relationship with the Malayan, either in structure or in vocabulary. The Japanese is polysyllabic and places the verb at the end of the sentence, while in the Malay family of languages, as in the Chinese, the verb must precede the object that governs. Again, in Japanese the adjective does not follow the substantive.

The most common notion of the origin of the Japanese race is that it is Chinese. This current opinion has been set forth by the most superficial of writers, who have never examined the question deeply. If we study carefully the Japanese people, we can not fail to find that the Japanese and the Chinese are radically different in many points. We perceive a great many Chinese influences upon Japanese life, but these are mere matters of fashion, and have never become really characteristic. The Japanese borrow the use of ideographs from the Chinese, but the language of the former is entirely different from that of the latter, as much as English differs from Japanese. According to the statement of KÆMPFER, the pronunciation of the Japanese language is smooth and distinct, while that of the Chinese is nothing but a confused noise of many consonants pronounced with a sort of sing-song accent. The Japanese language is wonderfully rich in vowels; almost every syllable has a vowel, but the Chinese language lacks them altogether. The construction of the Chinese is very like the Malay, and is radically opposed to the Japanese. In point of physical conformation, the Japanese, what we call the Yhamato type, are greatly different from the Chinese. MCFARLAND writes: "The Japanese (here he means the Yhamato type) bear a strong resemblance to the European family. Many of the upper classes, or members of the old families, are tall, exceedingly handsome in figure and countenance and are far more like Europeans than Asiatic Chinese."

Difference of national character again suggest a different origin. As many writers, such as MCFARLAND, KÆMPFER, etc., have stated, the Chinese are peaceful, timid, much given to a sedate way of life, cunning, suspicious, greedy, and addicted to fraud and usury, while the Japanese are quick and volatile, daring, fond of an active, exciting life, frank, liberal, and open-handed, having many of the virtues of nomadic tribes. Again, we perceive a most important difference between the Chinese and Japanese in the point of political heritage. In the political organization, the theocratical régime of the government and the strict hereditary system of ruler that have been continued during three thousand years under the unbroken dynasty of the MIKADOS, are features not to be traced in the history of China. Moreover, the wide differences of religious thought and modes of living between the two nations indicate different sources and origin.

The above three current opinions fail to prove the origin of the so-called Yhamato race. Professor REIN wisely rejects these common notions and sets forth his new speculation that the Yhamato race, the orignal race of Japan, is a member of the great Altaic family of people that has disappeared from its primitive home. The forefathers of the Japanese people found their way through the continent of Asia, across Korea, Tsushima, Iki, and Oki to Southern Japan, of which they gradually took possession, from the Loochoo Islands as far, perhaps, as the latitude of the Hakone Mountains, while the Mongolians settled on the neighbouring continent.

The most interesting and striking opinion concerning the origin of the Japanese race is that of KÆMPFER (1651-1761). He was a native of Lemgou, in Westphalia, and travelled over a great part of the world in his youth. Not satisfied with his extensive journey, he then entered the service of the Dutch East India Company as a surgeon, sailed from Ormuz to Batavia, and thence, *viâ* Siam, to Japan, where he arrived in September, 1690. He remained in Japan about three years. During his sojourn here he devoted his time to a work which for the first time gave the world fairly accurate information concerning the history, geography, religion, manners, customs, and national productions of this island empire. His work was soon translated into English, Latin, Dutch, and French. In this remarkable book, the "History of Japan," he mentions that the Japanese ancestors came from the high plain of Mesopotamia to the shores of the Caspian Sea, where they found a large and fertile country extending itself far eastward, offering abundance of pasture for their flocks and cattle and means of leisurely pursuing their journey. He supposes that they then proceeded through the valleys of the Yenesi, Silinga, and parallel rivers until they came to the lake of Orgueen, where the cold northern climate did not invite a long stay. From that lake rises a large river of the same name, the valley of which would bring them to the eastern coast of Asia into the peninsula of Korea, where the Amoor loses itself in the Japan Sea. Once in Korea, the passage over to Japan was neither long nor dangerous, especially as there are many little islands at almost regular distances between the main and large islands that constitute the Japanese Empire.

Modern Japanese scholars have zealously investigated the origin of their ancestors, and their final conclusion seems to coincide with the opinion of KÆMPFER. In my opinion, the original race of Japanese calling themselves the Yhamato, who established the kingdom of Yhamato, seem to have been emigrants from the ancient Hittites, the once warlike and conquering tribe supposed to have lived in Central Syria and the plains of Mesopotamia. Their capital, according, to ancient records, is said to have been Hamath, as the Bible calls it, or Yhamato, a fact that indicates why the Japanese ancestors called the m-

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selves the Yhamato or Hamath race, and named their capital and kingdom Yhamato. It also conforms with the tradition that they came from Korea, and explains why they maintained customs and manners characteristics and traditions of nomadic tribes. I cannot here enter into details contributing to prove that the Yhamato race were Hittite immigrants. I must content myself with furnishing indications and hints that point their common origin and justify one in assuming that they belonged to the same stock.

About the Hittites nothing is clearly known. But a number of inscriptions and monuments recently discovered among the ruins of Hamath and in the plains of Asia Minor, where the Hittites are said to have once lived, have been interpreted by zealous modern scholars and throw light upon the ancient darkness. So far as the discovery of the Hittite inscriptions are concerned, we can trace a striking similarity between the ancient Japanese language "Yhamato kotoba" and the Hittite, not only in vocabulary but also in grammatical forms. Furthermore, the writing of the inscriptions attributed to the Hittites bears a remarkable likeness to the ancient Japanese letters called the "Kamiyomoji," or "letters of the ancient age." Indeed, many of them exactly coincide. Some of the mythological stories connected with the Shinto religion, which was the faith of the ancient Japanese or Yhamato race, almost exactly correspond with the accounts in the Old Testament, the Hebrew tradition, such as the story of Creation, and of ADAM, EVE, &c. For a long time I thought it strange that these Hebrew traditions should have found their way into Japan. But the key appears to be that the traditions of the Hebrews, as told in Genesis in the Bible, were probably current not only among the Hebrew tribes, but also among all the tribes that lived in the neighbouring plains of Mesopotamia, and were thus brought from their primitive home by the Hittites, who are supposed to have had the same traditions as the Hebrews.

In addition to all this, we perceive a great many remarkable analogies between the Japanese traditions, customs, manners, and modes of living and those ot the people of Asia Minor and Syria, and of the ancient Hebrews as described in the Bible. All these sources of information and evidence, taken together, seem to warrant the conjecture that the Japanese ancestors, who laid the foundation of the MIKADO'S Empire and whose dominant influence still prevails, were Hittites.

The Marquis de Nayves was sentenced yesterday by the Police Court at St. Amand to six months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of 200f. for the cruel treatment of his wife and children. As this charge was made before the accusation of murder of which he was acquitted, and as he had already been kept in confinement for fifteen months, the Marquis will be immediately released.

THE WAR AND THE TRANSPORT SERVICE.

(BY A JAPANESE).

THE extravagant assertion made by the correspondent of *Le Temps* that the Japanese owed a large part of their victories to strangers, and that were it not for foreign help this country could never have achieved the victories at Phöngyang, Chinchow, Port Arthur, so forth, but would have died of cold and hunger in Manchuria, Liaotung, and Shangtung, —this assertion was refuted, a few weeks ago, in the columns of the *Japan Mail*, where it was shown that the employment of foreign captains on board Japanese transports was merely accidental, and not absolutely necessary, and that the competence of Japanese seamanship was significantly proved by the admirable achievements of the Imperial Navy, in which everything was done without the aid of a single foreigner. Subsequent inquiries have not only confirmed, but also considerably strengthened, that contention. In fact, the *Japan Mail* unwittingly fell into the error of exaggerating the services rendered by foreigners during the war, for it appears on investigation that Japanese captains, not foreign, commanded the majority of the transports. The foreign captains, mostly English, that took charge of some of the transports were almost exclusively confined to the employés of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha; and their number totalled only twenty-seven. The company offered for transport service fifty-seven of its steamers, and though, according to tonnage, these constituted about six parts of the whole fleet employed for purposes of transport, numerically they were less than one half of the total, the aggregate number of transports having amounted to 134 at one time. That was in March last. Moreover, the Japan Mail S.S. Co. was never under any absolute necessity to rely upon its foreign employés to command the steamers chartered by the Government. There was even talk, it would seem, of dispensing with foreigners altogether in these ships. Such a step would have been quite feasible, for a number of Japanese masters remained in charge of the Company's steamers engaged in the ordinary coasting trade, and every deficiency might have been supplied from other quarters. In justice to the Directors of the Company, it must be admitted that they took a most liberal view of the matter, and rejected the above narrow-minded suggestion, declaring that so long as the duties were faithfully discharged, they should regard their Japanese and foreign employés in precisely the same light. In obedience to that spirit they gave to their foreign employés a free choice as to taking command of transports, promising at the same time that additional remuneration should be given to those doing so. The greater part of the employés did not hesitate to undertake the risky task, and thus it fell out that a portion of the transports were commanded by foreigners. Nothing is further from our purpose than to minimize the part played by foreigners during the war. They proved most zealous and faithful servants, acting as though the success of their own country's arms was at stake. The Directors were thoroughly sensible of and fully appreciated their services, and so did the general public. Our intention is simply to state the facts as they stand, and to undeceive such mistaken observers as the correspondent of *Le Temps*, who labour under the misconception that a majority, if not the whole, of the transports were commanded by foreign captains. The fact that the transports, by far the largest number of them commanded by Japanese captains and navigating waters as yet very defectively surveyed and notorious for tempestuous weather, were kept at sea during a period of over a year without any marked casualty, has deservedly elicited the warm commendation of impartial outsiders, and need not be dwelt upon here. We may add that the list of Japanese captains of the first class, that is to say, men qualified to command steamers of above 500 tons burden, now contains 219 names. Thus it will be understood that no special difficulty could have presented itself in finding competent Japanese masters for 134 transports.

This opportunity may be taken to say a few words on the condition of Japanese shipping, especially in connection with the war. Undoubtedly the war has given a marked impetus to the development of maritime transport business. Prior to June, 1894, the total shipping of Japan was 419 steamers, representing 181,819 tons, and 212 sailing vessels of 53,553 tons, irrespective of junks. At the end of June last, that is, exactly one year after the commencement of the war, the steamers had increased to 503, with a displacement of over 310,000 tons. On the other hand, the number of sailing vessels had diminished to 180. The number of steamers requisitioned for Government use aggregated, as above stated, as many as 134 at one time, representing 227,054 tons. In other words, computed by tonnage, the war absorbed more than seven-tenths of the whole fleet of Japanese steamers. Thus it became absolutely necessary for the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and other ship-owners to charter foreign vessels, even at rates of freight more than double the ordinary charges. Otherwise the urgent demands of shippers of goods could not have been satisfied. The foreign steamers chartered in that way totalled at one time as many as 33, representing 75,000 tons. By recourse to such measures the requirements of the ordinary carrying traffic were satisfied. It must not be supposed, however, that this buying and chartering of foreign steamer, created any margin for military transport

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capacities. On the contrary, the capacities of the shipping service were strained to the utmost limit, and had the war continued a little longer a very difficult problem would have had to be faced. For though the war had diverted to military uses only seven parts of the total steam tonnage, the vessels thus drawn from the cabotage included nearly the whole of those available for the purpose, there remaining only a small fleet of steamers averaging some 500 tons burden. It is said that had the war lasted there would have been imperative necessity to requisition at least thirty more steamers. Where to get them would have been the difficulty. The situation was emphatically critical. These things, however, belong to the past. The Formosan trouble being now over, one transport after another will be released from military service, and a grave question arises what to do with the extra steamers that the country has acquired. Statistics for the seven years ending in 1894 show that the average rate of progress in the Japanese shipping business is about 12 per cent. per annum. But the progress in consequence of the war was as much as 67 per cent. In other words, the war has thrown upon the country's hands steam tonnage 55 per cent. in excess of the normal demand. To show the facts in a more detailed form, we subjoin two tables, one showing the increase of tonnage as a result of the war, and the other the normal increase in time of peace :—

Grade of Steamer.	At the end of June, 1895.		At the end of May, 1894.		Relative Increase.	
	Number	Tonnage.	Number	Tonnage.	Number	Tonnage.
Under 200 tons	255	24,304.67	227	21,620.40	28	2,684.27
200—500 tons	100	33,031.34	92	30,180.09	8	2,851.25
500—1,000 tons	40	26,864.57	37	24,608.66	3	2,255.91
1,000—2,000 tons	53	77,835.46	43	60,688.45	10	17,147.01
2,000—3,000 tons	41	102,753.60	14	34,932.72	27	67,820.88
Above 3,000 tons	14	49,833.53	3	9,629.30	11	40,294.23
Totals	503	314,623.53	416	181,659.62	87	132,963.55

Grade of Steamer.	At the end of Dec. 1893.		At the end of Dec. 1885.		Annual Increase.	
	Number	Tonnage.	Number	Tonnage.	Number	Tonnage.
Under 200 tons	220	21,020.00	136	13,381.00	84	7,639.00
200—500 tons	88	28,684.45	42	13,566.00	46	15,118.45
500—1,000 tons	36	24,032.85	19	13,660.00	17	10,372.85
1,000—2,000 tons	43	61,975.43	20	28,143.00	23	33,832.43
2,000—3,000 tons	11	27,184.94	10	23,648.00	1	3,536.94
Above 3,000 tons	2	6,588.05	0	0	2	6,588.05
Totals	400	169,485.72	227	92,398.00	173	77,087.72

These two tables indicate very marked points of contrast. From the first it appears that the greater part of the increased tonnage in connection with the war consists of steamers above 2,000 tons. Precisely the opposite state of affairs is shown in the second table, where the chief increment is in vessels under 500 tons. It appears plain that the class of vessels needed for purposes of marine transport during times of peace are comparatively small steamers. Such a fact might, indeed, have been anticipated, for, with the exception of a few special services undertaken by the Yusen Kaisha to the continent of Asia, the carrying trade of Japan may be considerred to be exclusively confined within territorial waters. The annexation of Formosa and the resulting necessity of keeping up regular communication between that island and Japan proper will keep in active employment a few of the 40 steamers of over 2,000 tons newly purchased. But where to find employment for the rest? Apparently some regular services abroad will have to be inaugurated. But here we are brought face to face with grave obstacles. In the first place, all the regular main lines are already occupied by foreign steamship companies of long standing and established credit. In the second, among the 40 new steamers only 15 are of modern style, the rest being old-fashioned vessels built more than two decades ago. Moreover, the war has incidentally strengthened the foreign companies to a great extent by enabling them to dispose of their old steamers at good prices to Japan, and to purchase or build, in their stead, steamers of improved style. All these considerations are sufficiently deterrent in their bearing on the idea of expanding Japan's maritimeenterprise abroad. But one special consideration of paramount importance strongly urges the country to push abroad boldly in spite of all difficulties. The war has taught this lesson, namely, that if Japan desires to preserve the status acquired by her arms, it is imperatively necessary for her to maintain in time of peace ships sufficient to serve as transports in case of emergency. This general consideration is strengthened by the nation's special consciousness that another and far more disastrous foreign war may break out in the near future. Granted then that Japan must embark in the perilous business of foreign marine service, is there any company sufficiently qualified for the task? There is one, and one only. We need scarcely say that it is the Yusen Kaisha. That company played the chief part in the transport service during the war. Its Directors comprehend the situation thoroughly. Happily the Company seems resolved to undertake the bold task, so far as we gather from information contained in the vernacular papers. At present three ocean routes offer, namely, the European, the American, and the Australasian. All are beset with grave difficulties, but whether the Company is determined to undertake them all or to confine itself at first to one or two, appears still undecided.

CHINA NEWS.

Monday, December 23rd.

The Anti-Foot-Binding Society in China seems to be making some progress. Its associates in Chungking have held social meetings which the ladies of the city have gladly attended. There can no longer be any doubt that the women of China are opposed to the custom of binding. Several have already agreed to give it up, and none oppose the movement for abolishing it, though there is a general opinion that nothing can be achieved hastily.

The farmers of Kiangsi get two crops from the land every year in ordinary seasons, but this year, owing to drought, the second crop failed entirely, and the first yielded only 30 per cent. of the average. Already there is much suffering, and terrible distress is anticipated later on. In the south-west of the province, fierce fights take place for the possession of little streams of water. Scores of lives have been lost in these conflicts, and it is related that the victors cut off the heads of their fallen foes and hang them up in the villages.

According to investigations recently made in the interior of China, there is little value in the immunity from *likin* conventionally secured to foreign goods in transit. No fixed fee, indeed, is levied at the *likin* stations, but a merchant cannot get his goods passed without handing over substantial samples of them to the local officials.

In spite of the strong efforts made to secure the execution of justice in the case of the Kucheng outrages, and in spite of the apparent success of those efforts, as evidenced by a number of capital punishments, there is no doubt that a large number of men implicated more or less directly in the brutal massacre, remain scot free. Investigations conducted *in loco* by the Foreign Commission of Enquiry resulted in the preparation of a list of 105 names of persons conclusively shown to have taken part in the tragedy. Of these, eleven only have been punished by sentences of imprisonment. The rest have never been apprehended. The list here referred to was compiled from the testimony of witnesses who, though fully cognisant of the facts to which they testified, could not, for various reasons, appear before the Chinese officials. It is in fact a list supplementary to that drawn up by the officials. It was formally sent to the Taotai of Foochow, who promised to despatch deputies to search for the 94 unpunished persons. The promise was given at the end of October, but remains apparently as far from fulfilment as ever.

The sum total of the punishments meted out by the Chinese Government in connection with the Szechuan anti-missionary riots is that six of the rioters were decapitated; seventeen sentenced to banishment, the cangue, or the bamboo, and nine local magistrates, expectant Taotais, acting prefects, and so forth have been removed from office or otherwise penalized. Considering that no foreign lives were lost in the riots, the above is not an unsatisfactory record.

General E, the Tartar of whom so much was heard during the war in Machuria last year, has received a reprimand from the throne. The gallant officer's offence is of a peculiar character: false modesty. He presented a memorial declaring that his incapability, mediocrity, and other defects disqualified him to accept the post of Tartar-General of Foochow. The Emperor practically says to him, "Go to, thou bashful fellow."

Thursday, December 26th.

The Commission appointed by the United States Government to inquire into the Szechuan outrages, was reported, when last heard from, to be making steady progress toward its goal, Chengtu. The journey was estimated to last 73 days. During the first few weeks the commissioners rode on horse-back; then they used mule-litters, and subsequently sedan chairs. One account says that they have met with great civility and helpfulness from all Chinese officials *en route*, but another alleges that they have had to endure studied neglect and insults.

The Mohammedan rebellion in Shensi remains unquelled. General Sung, who commanded the whole of the Chinese forces in Manchuria during the campaign against Japan, has been ordered to proceed at once with his army of twenty thousand men to reinforce General Tung of Kashgar, who is said to be unable to cope with the rebels.

The people of Hunan have emphasized their anti-foreign sentiment by issuing a proclamation for the purpose of preventing any sales of land to French missionaries or Japanese, who are supposed to be about to visit the province. The proclamation emanates from the seven colleges of literature in Changsha. It threatens condign punishment for any persons selling land to foreigners, and promises a reward of ten strings of cash to any one giving information of an intended or completed sale, the reward to be increased by one half of the price paid for the land in the event of an actual sale, the other half going to the public funds. That such a proclamation should be suffered to circu-

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late, in open defiance of the treaties, shows the temper of officialdom in Hunan.

The gun-boat *Feiying*, just added to what remains of the Peiyang squadron, has just arrived at Foochow from Stettin, where she was built. She is described as follows :—

She has rather a pretentious appearance with two masts and four funnels in line, but a fine model and is splendidly constructed of steel throughout. She is as near as possible in size, speed, and armament, the same as the Japanese *Tatsuta Kan* built in 1894 at Elswick, being 250ft. long, 28ft. 6in. beam, 13ft. draught, 850 tons displacement, 5,200 horse-power, 21 knots under forced draught. Two 10·5 cm. and six 4·7 cm. Krupp long-range quick-firing guns and four 37 mm. Hotchkiss cannon, also three torpedo tubes. The engines get steam from eight water-tube boilers with closed stokehold, and both engines and boilers have ample coal protection and steel armoured decks. The accommodation is very good. She has a complete installation of electric light and a very powerful projector above the bridge, and a small and very well-furnished conning tower, with steam steering gear; and there are steam appliances for everything throughout the ship.

Pekin is said to be full of foreigners of all nationalities who have gone there to bid for some of the work—railways, ships, arsenals, dockyards, loans, and so forth—that China is supposed to be about to undertake in her era of awakening. But as yet no one has succeeded in obtaining an order.

It is alleged that owing to dissensions between the two official parties in Pekin—the Emperor's party, headed by Wêng Tung-ho, and the Empress' party, headed by Li Hung-chang—there is no chance whatever either of railway building or of reform. The Emperor has just dismissed from office in perpetuity two high officials charged with using language calculated to estrange His Majesty and the Empress Dowager.

The sum (130 million taels) required to pay off the second half of the Japanese indemnity together with the thirty million taels lent by Russia for the re-purchase of Liaotung, is being negotiated by the German Asiatic and Hongkong and Shanghai Banks through their respective Legations.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE OKAYAMA ORPHAN ASYLUM.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—So many inquiries have come to me the past fall from friends of Mr. Ishii and his "large small" family, concerning the present condition and purpose of the institution, that I beg leave to make a brief statement through your columns.

After very severe trials in the summer, culminating in the alarming illness of Mr. Ishii, the death from cholera of four children and from quick consumption of Mrs. Ishii, the loss through fear of contagion of many valuable orders for work especially in the printing department, the institution slowly rallied, aided thereto by such a generous response to Mr. Ishii's statement of their embarrassed situation that $1,500, came in to them within a single month. Every department now has steady work, and all the children do what they can in the line of self support.

Mr. Ishii was led to feel, while facing death, that in non-private enterprises of this nature which possess so few resources of their own and have to carry so many weak and small children, it is wrong to decline offered aid. He now emphasises the true trinity of dependence, the Heavenly Father, self and benevolent friends, even as he believes fully in the three-fold education, that of head, heart and hand.

This reliance upon God, the personal labour of the inmates, and gifts of the benevolent, read as follows in their new declaration of principles :—

'*Tempu no mei-jo to innai kakuji no rôdô to tenka yûshika no gien kimpin ni yotte iji kwakucho su.*"

Then follows a statement, some of whose points may be translated thus :—

1.—Children of any nationality between the ages of six and twelve, *who are really in needy circumstances*, will be received in any number at any time. Persons acquainted with destitute children are invited to send them to the Okayama Orphanage.

2.—Children whom for any reason their friends desire to entrust to the care of the Asylum, will be received on condition of three *yen* per month being paid for their food and education until they become self supporting workers.

3.—The Asylum intends to publish in January, both in English and Japanese, a Report for the past year, and hopes to issue next year a regular monthly magazine. This also in both languages.

4.—The new aim of the institution embraces the idea of *individual* self-support, and to carry this into effect an account has been opened with each worker, and also a savings bank account for each member of the institution who is earning money.

All savings beyond bare living expenses will thus accrue to the benefit of the individual, and the institution will depend on charity for its support of the younger children, the erection of new buildings and the purchase of improved machinery.

At present the children are employed as follows, and all the industries are doing good work: Printing 23, straw braiding (*Bakko Sanada*) 28, Matches 65, Cloth weaving 59, Carpentering 7, Farming 57. The spirit of the institution never was better, there are no children on the sick list, and all are enthused with a remarkable feeling of loyalty to the high aims of this most unique Asylum in all the East.

The imperative needs of the institution are (1) winter clothing for one-third of the children; (2) another new work shop, $300; (3) a dormitory for the girls, $300; (4) a new sixteen page printing press with type &c., $308; (5) occasional gifts, small or large, for the support of the younger children.

It is a genuine pleasure at any time to commend such a noble enterprise to the continued interest of the public. It is an especial privilege to do so at this time when men's thoughts turn naturally to deeds of charity, and generous acts are the order of the day. Let the orphans be remembered as Christmas draws near.

If any care to contribute through me, I will guarantee that the proper acknowledgments are made and the money is put to its intended use.

Yours very truly, J. H. PETTEE.

Okayama, December 18th, 1895.

THE SHIMONOSEKI TREATY.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—It seems to me that the English version of the 5th Article of the Shimonoseki Treaty is loosely constructed. "The inhabitants of the territories ceded to Japan who wish to take up their residence outside the ceded districts shall be at liberty to sell their real property and retire. For that purpose a period of two years from the exchange of the ratification of the present act, shall be granted. At the expiration of the period those of the inhabitants who shall not have left such territories shall, at the option of Japan, be Japanese subjects."

The subject matter is of the gravest importance to the Japanese people and should not be lightly or hastily considered. The welfare of two and one half millions of the inhabitants of Formosa, though they have the misfortune to be Chinese subjects and citizens, is not a trifling affair.

What is the intent of the reservation. "At the option of Japan." Surely, all the inhabitants of Formosa, other than the subjects and citizens of the Powers having extraterritorial stipulations in their several treaties with Japan, are, at the present time, Japanese subjects. Those who were there upon the cession of the territory to Japan and subsequent to Japanese occupancy, became *de facto* Japanese subjects, subject to Japanese law, wherever it was extended—citizens they were of China, but subjects of Japan. Japan could not wait for the period of two years before determining the question of her sovereignty over the Chinese resident in Formosa.

That some significance was attached to the reservation is apparent. The real significance is not comprehensible to one having only the English text to guide him. Possibly the reservation was made to give time for the consideration of the question of conferring citizenship upon such as might elect to remain after the period of two years had passed.

That Japan should find it necessary to depopulate Formosa, evicting the Chinese, I cannot think possible. There is elbow room for many millions more than now populate Formosa. The floating population might be dealt with according to the dictates of good policy, but those having vested interests, and who may elect to remain in their homes, should be considered desirable inhabitants of the island, and if the industrial and agricultural development of the island is considered of advantage to the general prosperity of the Empire, they should be left undisturbed in their possessions, and, under salutary laws gradually merged into fully equipped Japanese citizens as well as subjects.

The United States of America, when it acquired California by conquest, granted citizenship to all such Spanish residents as elected to remain in the territory and all vested property rights were held inviolable. One example of national justice and magnanimity.

Yours truly, X.

Yokohama, December 20th, 1895.

THE LATE FESTIVAL AT KUDAN.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—May I ask for space in your Journal to call attention to the extreme courtesy and politeness of the Japanese Military Officials at the late festival held at Kudan in Tokyo?

On the 19th inst., I happened to be on the grounds looking at the various sights, when my attention was drawn to the immense concourse of people watching the wrestling matches then going on. With a desire of witnessing a few, but considering it impossible in such a crowd to do so, I casually addressed a guard, one of several placed, it seemed to me, to keep the people from entering on to the stands or into the space where the sports were held. To my great delight and intense surprise I was most politely conducted to one of the best positions on a raised platform, and more than this, was, by the instructions of a military officer, supplied with a chair, so that I obtained a most perfect view of the performances.

Such kindness shown to a foreigner, quite alone, without any introduction or giving any name, is I think worthy of record as showing the politeness and good feeling of the victorious soldiers of Japan to aliens, and is an event I believe which would not be experienced in any other country or from any other soldiers in the world. I may mention further that all the stands and the places in the pit around where the wrestling took place were occupied by soldiers and officers alone, others witnessing the events being, as far as I could see, forcedto stand to outside. Enclosing my card.,

I remain, yours respectfully, STRANGER.

Tokyo, 20th December, 1895.

THE "EDGAR" FUND.

To the Editor of the "Japan Mail."

Sir,—I have much pleasure in forwarding you for publication the accompanying List of Subscriptions in aid of the *Edgar* Relief Fund. If any of your readers will point out any errors or omissions the same shall be remedied.

The hurried departure of H.M.S. *Edgar* has made it difficult for Captain Henderson to make a more suitable acknowledgment of the subscriptions; but he has asked me to publish through your medium and that of the other papers of this Settlement the following letter :—

H.M.S. *Edgar*, Dec. 24th, 1895.

Dear Mr. Bonar—

The *Edgar* is suddenly leaving in search of the steamship *Bonnington*, and I have no time or means at my disposal to thank the Residents of Yokohama and Tokyo, and others, who have so handsomely and generously subscribed to the Fund in aid of the dependant relations of those lost in the disaster to our Pinnace. Except by requesting you to make it known through the medium of the papers, and to convey to them the gratitude of the Officers and Ship's Company for their exceedingly generous subscription of two thousand eight hundred and fifty dollars and fifty cents, which you have informed me is the amount collected. I wish also particularly to thank the ladies who have been good enough to collect subscriptions.

Sincerely yours, (Signed) W. H. Henderson.

It would have been preferable to make an alphabetical list of the subscribers, but the system adopted was the most expeditious, there being so little time for the publication of the list.

I am, Sir, yours, etc.,

HENRY A. C. BONAR.

Yokohama, 24th Dec., 1895.

Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co...	200	Messrs. Butterfield and Swire	50
Sir Ernest M. Satow, K.C.M.G.....	100	Messrs. Kingdon, Schwabe & Co....	50
Nippon Yusen Kaisha	100	The Italian Community Yokohama	41
Messrs. Strachan & Co.	100	Messrs. Sale & Co.	30
Messrs. Cornes & Company	100	Mr. Perrot Foreshaw	30
Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. ...	100	Mr. T. H. James, R.N.	25
Messrs. Findlay, Richardson & Co.	100	Mrs. Thomas Thomas.....	25
Messrs. Dodwell, Carlill & Co.....	100	Mr. & Mrs. Bonar.	25
Messrs. Lane Crawford & Co...	100	Messrs. MacArthur & Co.....	25
Messrs. Kelly and Walsh	100	Messrs. Strauss & Co.	25
Mr. R. A. Mowat..	50	Mr. S. Isaacs	25
		Messrs. Okura and Co.....	20
		Mr. G. A. Lowther.	20

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Dr. Divers.....	20
Professor West.....	20
Capt. Du Boulay, R.A.	20
Sympathy	20
Mr. J. Rickett	20
Mr. James Walter.	20
Mr. W. B. Walter.	20
Mr. M. T. B. Macpherson	20
Mr. W. R Bennett	20
Club Hotel	20
Messrs. Witkowski & Co.....	20
Mr. M. Kirkwood..	20
Capt. F. Brinkley..	20
Mr. L. L. D.....	10
Mr. J. C. Hall.....	10
Mrs. Todd	10
Mr. R. Paget	10
Mr. C. A. W. Pownall.....	10
Mr. H. E. Parlett..	10
Mr. A. E. Wileman	10
Mr. J. H. Gubbins.	10
Mr. F. Trevethick..	10
Mr. W. H. Stone..	10
Mr. H. C. Litchfield	10
Mr. A. B. Walford	10
Dr. Wheeler.....	10
Mr. M. Mendelson	10
Mr. E. Mendelson .	10
Mr. J. A. Fraser ...	10
Mr. Pulford	10
Mr. M. H.....	10
Seamen's Club.....	10
Mr. J. J.	10
Mr. W. J. Robinson	10
Messrs. Eyton and Pratt	10
Mr. H. H. Matthews	10
Mr. W. Sutter.....	10
Mr. and Mrs. Layard	10
Mr. H. T.....	10
Mr. E. J. Moss ...	10
Mr. A. Aldrich.....	10
Mr. J. C. Budd ...	10
Capt. Efford.....	10
Mr. J. E. Beale ...	10
Mr. R. Howie	10
Cash	10
Mr. Lichtenstein ...	10
Mr. A. M. Chalmers	10
Mr. A. Clark	10
Mr. & Mrs. P. B...	10
Messrs. L. & B. Abenheim	10
Mr. G. Charlesworth	10
Mr. W.	10
Mr. R.	10
Mr. J. M. James...	10
St. Andrew's House, Shiba	10
Mr. R. J. Kirby ...	10
Mr. C. Helm	10
Mr. Singleton	10
Dr. Munro	10
Mr. W. G. Bayne ..	10
Mr. A. T. Lines ...	10
Mr. R. Ward	5
Dr. O'Regan	5
Mr. C. D. Moss ...	5
Baronne d'Anethan	5
Madame Okoshi ...	5
Mrs. Jackson	5
Mrs. Baker	5
Mrs. Parsons	5
Mrs. Blad	5
Mr. and Mrs. Vincent	5
Rev. W. Austen ...	5
Rev. E. C. Irwine..	5
St. Hilda's Mission	5
Rev. J. White	5
Mrs. W. N. Wright	5
Dr. Macdonald ...	5
Capt. Squire, R.N.	5
Mr. J. F. Lowder...	5
Mr. C. W. Ure ...	5
Mr. F. R. Daniel...	5
Mr. J. H. Brooke...	5
Mr. F. Gillett	5
Mr. B. Gillett	5
Mr. W. D. Cox ...	5
Mr. P. Staffoy.....	5
Mr. H. J. Snow ...	5
Mr. W. R. H. Carew	5
Mr. E. Rogers	5
Mr. J. Stewart.....	5
Mr. W. Gordon ...	5
Mr. J. S. Shand ...	5
Mr. J. H. Cocksedge	5
Mr. R. T. Denne...	5
Mr. A. D—n.	5
Mr. J. P. Mollison.	5
Mr. H. Garfitt	5
Mr. Budge	5
Mr. Budge, Jun ...	5
Mr. E. T. Nicholas.	5
Mr. F. J. Hall	5
Mr. A. T. Cole Watson	5
Mr. G. Pollard.....	5
Mr. R. S. Schwabe.	5
Mr. W. J. Gresson.	5
Mr. H. V. Henson.	5
Mr. W. S. Stone ...	5
Mr. E. V. Thorn ...	5
Mr. C. Eppinger ...	5
Col. U. Volunteers.	5
Mr. E. P. Heinlein.	5
Mr. E. H. Horsey..	5
Mr. Goldman	5
Messrs. Vincent Bird & Co.....	5
Mr. H.C.	5
Capt. W. H. Hardy	5
Mr. J. W. Hall ...	5
Compradore (H. & S. Bank).....	5
Mr. A. J. Easton...	5
Mr. Ch. Dunne ...	5
Mr. Peter Taylor...	5
Colonel Cockerill ...	5
7th Regiment U.S.S. N.G.....	5
Mr. J.M.	5
Mr. C.K.M.M. ...	5
Este sol festis	5
Mr. P. Hodnett ...	5
Orinti.....	5
Mr. N. Morgin.....	5
Mr. E. Adet.....	5
Mr. F. Staniland...	5
Mr. Owston	5
Mr. Tresize	5
Mr. Coulson.....	5
Mr. Powys	5
Mr. McKinnell.....	5
Mr. H. V. Dickenson	5
Mr. B. C. Howard.	5
Mr. Baker.....	5
Mr. F. P. S.	5
Mr. H. Neville.....	5
Mr. Pallister.....	5
Mr. J. Conder	5
Mr. A. D. Charlton	5
Mr. C. W. Russell.	5
Mr. B. H. Chamberlain	5
Mr. A. W. Thompson	5
Mr. J. C.	5
An Englishman ...	5
Messrs. Peterson & Company	5
Mr. L. J. Healing..	5
Dr. G. Smith	5
Mr. S. Tuke	5
Mr. W. B. Mason..	5
Mr. W. F. Page ...	5
Mr. H. T. G.....	5
Mr. Geo. Hodges...	4
Mr. P. Peacock ...	4
Mr. R. Y. Davidson	3
Mr. G. C. Murray.	3
Mr. J. P. Mackintosh.....	3
Mr. H. E. Harries.	3
Mr. F. Cruickshank	3
Mrs. Thomsen	3
Mr. E. Morriss ...	3
Mr. Bugbird.....	3
Mr. J. Wien.....	3
Mr. A. B. Smith ...	2
Mr. H. R. Mair ...	2
Mr. T. G. Rinnet...	2
Mr. R. M. Stirling.	2
Mr. G. B.	2
Sympathiser	2
Mr. G. Booth	2
Mr. F. Schroeder...	2
Mr. M. F. B.	1
Mr. A. B. B.....	1
Mr. A. Macdonald.	1
Mr. L. G.	1
Mr. Kircher	1
Club Hotel	1
Miss Mair.....	1
Miss Ranken	1
Mr. A. O. L.	1
Mr. G. Burke	1
Mr. E. G. B.....	1
Mr. A. W.....	1
Mr. E. T. S.	1
Mr. Howard .....50 cts.	

YOKOHAMA SAILING CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama Sailing Club was held in Keil's Buildings on Friday evening. There were present Messrs. J. F. Lowder, in the Chair, J. O. Averill, A. Weston, E. Beart, J. Bermingham, L. Sallabelle, L. Munaour, F. L. Elliott, J. B. Gibbs, R. Boyes, T. Abbey and G. H. Scidmore, Hon. Secretary.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that the meeting was for the purpose of receiving the Report and Statement of Accounts for the past year. He, himself, had not yet time to read them, but they were very full and certainly very interesting. There might be others who like himself, had not yet read them; if it was desired he would ask the Secretary to read them, but perhaps they might be taken as read.

Mr. BEART proposed that they be taken as read.

There being no discussion, the Report and Accounts were passed, on the proposition of Mr. Bermingham seconded by Mr. Beart. They are as follows:—

SEASON OF 1895.

The Yokohama Sailing Club, being formed for the purpose of sailing and sailing races, the annual report of its Committee consists mainly of records and results of racing; but in submitting their report for the season of 1895, the ninth year of the Club's existence, your Committee can record not only a successful racing season, but can congratulate the members, that, as heretofore, when troubles have arisen, our Club has overcome the difficulties of the situation; and shown a strength as an organization which promises well for its permanence and prosperity.

During the season thirty-two regular races and a sendos' race were sailed.

Prizes were freely presented and the interest in the sport is general and generous.

The thanks of the Club are due to the following named individuals, firms, and institutions, for prize contributions:—

His Excellency the United States Minister.	Kobe Residents.
Her Britannic Majesty's Charge d'Affaires.	Mr. C. M. Laffin.
Mr. T. Abbey.	Mr. R. Lane.
Messrs. Abenheim.	Mr. J. F. Lowder.
"The Japan Advertiser."	Mr. John McLean.
Mr. C. S. Averill.	Mr. E. I. Marshall.
Mr. J. O. Averill.	Mr. C. K. M. Martin.
Mr. V. Blad.	Captain J. Martin.
Mr. V. Boeck.	Mr. B. Martinelli.
Mr. R. Boyes.	Mr. Alan Owston.
Mr. H. Baehr.	Mr. C. S. Pope.
Mr. W. W. Campbell.	Mr. L. Salabelle.
Tolonel J. A. Cockerill.	Mr. G. H. Scidmore.
The French Residents.	Mr. L. Stornebrink.
"The Japan Gazette."	The Swiss Residents.
The German Residents.	The Steamship Agents.
Mr. J. B. Gibbs, Jr.	Mr. E. V. Thorn.
Mr. H. M. Gillig.	Mr. J. Tornoe.
The Grand Hotel.	Mr. W. Tucker.
Mr. H. Goldman.	Mr. O. Voigt.
The Italian Residents.	Captain L. B. Walls,
Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.	Captain A. Weston.
Mr. F. Komp.	Mr. Yamada (of "Bisan Sha.")

Thanks are due to the local press for continued courtesy in announcements of races and other important Club business.

The amount distributed by the Club in cash prizes, is over seven hundred dollars; and when the value of the presented Cups is added the prize list will show a total well over a thousand dollars.

Several new yachts were built for the season's racing, and alterations made in existing craft, all tending to bring our fleet to a higher standard of racing efficiency; while frequent races and good competition are making our yachtsmen very creditable performers in starting and handling their craft in racing.

A slight glance at the individual yachts will preface the tabulated results of the season's races.

Mary, which only sailed one race last season, has proved herself easily first of our larger yachts; and, in both light and heavy winds, is too much for anything in our fleet. She won the 39 Rater Record Prize with 17 points out of a possible 20.

Maid Marion, with ballast all on keel and a new suit of Lapthorne sails, has gained second place, and shows herself still a wonderfully fast craft, although outclassed by the more modern *Mary*.

Tori, a new vessel this season, is a fine, able yacht. Some alterations and experiments seem necessary to ascertain her best form; but she has given *Maid Marion* close and exciting races.

Spray with a larger sail spread than last year, is improved as an all round performer; and the racing between her, *Maid Marion*, and *Tori* has been very interesting. *Spray* still continues formidable in strong breezes, and again this season secures the prize for the fastest speed on corrected time.

Neptune, with several alterations to hull and sail plan, is a more manageable craft, and sails well off the wind in good breezes.

Wanderer has discarded the yawl for the cutter rig, but has raced very little.

Golden Hind, a fine cruising craft, has been added to our fleet; but has not as yet sailed in any race.

Sea Gull, altered from sloop to full cutter rig, was greatly improved and had things her own way with anything near her size. She defeated *Daimyo* in six out of their nine meetings, leaving the port before the season was finished.

Daimyo, with sails and spars reduced, has not shown her old form in light weather; but in strong winds still sails well. She takes the 26 Rater Record Prize and Champion Pennant, having sailed in that class during the season.

Box of Curios did not prove equal to *Sea Gull* or *Daimyo*, even with the liberal handicaps allowed her.

Ronin picked up a handicap or two and satisfies her owners' desire for a cruiser.

Albatross, the ancient and many named *Mosquito*, one of the original fleet of the Sailing Club, has been refitted; and, in the hands of her present owner, seems able to win prizes still.

Else, late *Colombia née Madcap*, has raced a few times; but is still rather out of trim and carries her sail poorly.

Dan only started once or twice and made no showing.

The B Division opened the season with every prospect of a close and interesting struggle; but the sale of *Daisy* and the withdrawal of *Nandeska* left *Sans Nom* in possession of the honours among the 17 Raters.

Sans Nom, a new craft of light construction, fin keel and modern shape, gave such evidence, even in her first races when not in good trim, of speed under the conditions suited to her, that we think, as long as the water is smooth, she would prove too much for either *Daisy* or *Nandeska*. In lumpy weather she is rather overpowered and was beaten on one occasion by the 16 Raters. *Sans Nom* takes the 17 Rater Record Prize and Champion Pennant.

Daisy was sold away from this port, early in the season. She started in four races and was withdrawn with honors even between her and *Sans Nom*.

Nandeska withdrew after her fourth race, having been beaten by *Sans Nom* in three out of the four meetings.

Isabelle raced intermittently during the season and carried off the Consolation Prize.

Petrel started the season brilliantly and succeeds in carrying off the 16 Rater Record Prize. Towards the close *Vega* seemed to be the better of the two.

Vega late *Vixen*, raced throughout the season and made a very close thing with *Petrel*, losing the Record Prize, but winnig the 16 Rater Champion Pennant.

White Violet raced with varying success, at times showing good speed, and again being behind her class.

Sayonara and other canoes have raced now and then; but have scored but one first: that of *Sayonara* on May 25th.

It is noticeable that, although this year's races have not been sailed in such good breezes as last, still the average speed, made by Record Prize winners is, with one exception, better than last year, pointing to the conclusion that our yachts are improving in speed.

Our rules have worked well, and but few changes seem needed.

Appended is the Treasurer's Report.

G. H. SCIDMORE
J. O AVERILL
T. M. LAFFIN
L. SALABELLE
J. B. GIBBS, JR.
} Committee.

YOKOHAMA SAILING CLUB, SEASON OF 1895.
TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

	Yen.
Annual dues from members	254.00
Race entrance fees	150.00
Prizes in cash	462.17
Measurement fees	5.00
	Yen 871.17

DISBURSEMENTS.

	Yen.
Prizes	728.76
Printing	54.75
Flag boat hire	37.20
Steam-launch hire	26.00
Measurement fees	5.00
Ammunition and gun repairs	7.94
Collector's commission	6.78
Coolie-hire and gratuities	4.90
	Yen 871.17

G. H. SCIDMORE.

Examined with the vouchers and found correct.

T. ABBEY.

Yokohama, Japan, December 16th, 1895.

The next business was the election of a committee, the ballot resulting as follows:—Messrs. Alan Owston, James Martin, W. R. H. Carew, R. Boyes, and E. Beart.

While the balloting was going on, Mr. Scidmore remarked that none of the old Committee desired to serve. He expressed their thanks for the honour that had been done them, and that they would, in every way in their power, assist the new committee. They wanted new blood, and he suggested that an entirely new committee be elected.

Mr. BEART thanked the members for having elected him, but declined the honour done him, consequently it would be necessary to put up another name.

This closed the ordinary general meeting, and the members then resolved themselves into an extraordinary meeting, but there being only fourteen present, twenty being necessary to form a quorum, the meeting could not be held.

Before separating, Mr. BEART proposed a hearty

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vote of thanks to the retiring Committee, especially to the Honorary Secretary. In his resignation they had lost a first class man. No one had done more than Mr. Scidmore for the club. He had had to put up with all sorts of worries and complaints and had come through them all in a kind way which had smoothed over many difficulties. He proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring Secretary. He knew the difficulties of his position, having served in a similar one himslf, and it would be a very long time before they would be able to get any one as good.

Mr. SCIDMORE thanked Mr. Beart for his kind remarks, which he said were not deserved. He might have done better, but thanked the meeting for their kind appreciation of his efforts.

After the usual vote to the Chair, the meeting separated.

H.B.M. COURT FOR JAPAN.

(IN ADMIRALTY.)

Before R. A. MOWAT Esq., Judge; Nautical Assessors: Capt. TOCQUE, S.S. *Verona*, and Capt. MOTYER, S.S. *Anjer Head*.

FRIDAY, 20TH DECEMBER, 1895.

THE "ISIS"-"WILLIAM H. MACY" COLLISION.

DAMAGES $80,000.

This was an action to recover damages for loss sustained in a collision on October 15th last in Uraga Channel between the British steamer *Isis* of 1,518 tons, Walker, Master, and the American ship *W. H. Macy*, Amesbury, Master.

Messrs. A. B. Walford and Geo. H. Scidmore appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. J. F. Lowder represented the defendants.

This case came on again on Friday for the purpose of hearing the arguments of Counsel.

Diagrams of the positions of the respective vessels were put in by both sides by request of the Court. These having been submitted,

The Captain of the *Isis* was asked by the Court to explain a discrepancy in his plan. This showed his position when he first sighted the *Macy*, but did not show the courses of the vessels on their approach to each other, so that the Assessors could not on the diagram bring the vessels to the point of collision.

Mr. Lowder here handed in a diagram from which he had been working, but which, however, was not drawn to scale.

His Honour remarked that judging from this the *Macy* was 3¾ points off instead of six.

Capt. Thomas Walker, of the *Isis*, was then recalled by the Court, and in answer to questions, said—The length of my ship is 285 feet over all. Her propeller is a right-handed one, with left handed screw. When going astern on midship helm, her head would cant to port. It is difficult to say which way her head would cant on a starboard or port helm. I had the tide a little on my starboard bow, and setting N.E. My course was S.S.W.

His Honour said he had asked this question specificially, as the transcript had it S.W.

Witness remarked that this discrepancy had also occurred in the newspaper reports, also as to the time.

Continuing, he said—I could see the land plainly on the starboard side, but not on the port, which was farther away. We were going through the water at a little over 3 knots per hour, so that whatever force the tide had, it would have to be deducted. Thirty-eight revolutions would give us a little over 3 knots. I calculated the speed of the vessel from the cross-bearings from the land. She was going 3 knots through the water, and I saw by the cross-bearings that she would be going about a knot less. The time noted in the official log is 12.18; this time was taken from the clock in the chart-room. The other times were taken from the wheel house clock, according to the entries. There were 3 minutes difference between the two clocks.

Mr. Scidmore remarked that the position of the *Isis* was two miles North, and the distance travelled by the *Macy* in 15 minutes, 1¼ miles. The *Isis* was steaming a S.W. course.

His Honour saw that, viewing each of the diagrams separately, they converged to a point of collision between the two vessels. It seemed that Counsel had made the course of the *Macy*, and then put the *Isis* in such a position as to cause a collision.

Mr. Walford said that a reference to the preliminary acts would shown how collision would be brought about: it would show how the speeds were arrived at. The Captain of the *Isis* had said the tide against him was 1½ knots, consequently he must add this to his speed.

His Honour thought this was altogether inconsistent with the evidence.

Mr. Walford, in continuing his argument on this point, contended that this should not be allowed to contradict his preliminary acts. While the speed of the *Macy* was only estimated at 5 knots, it might be 4½ knots.

Captain Amesbury was then recalled by the Court. He said—My vessel, between perpendiculars, is 254 feet, over all she would measure 265 feet. When I said it would embarrass the steamer if we backed our yard, I meant that he would not have understood what we were doing, consequently she would not have known what to do.

His Honour—He would know that the effect of backing your main yard would stop your way?—Yes, sir.

His Honour—Then I don't see how it would be embarrassing to him?—It would not be the right thing to do.

His Honour—It would mean that you were stopped?—Yes, but it would have taken some time. If he had seen us backing, he would not have understood the manœuvre, and would not have known what to do.

His Honour—I should have thought it would have been of assistance to him. He would have known what you were doing, and it would have given him more scope?—It would have been directly contrary to all rules.

To Mr. Scidmore—My lights were in the upper channel, forward of the fore-rigging.

His Honour said the Assessors had found them so.

Salve Meling, the carpenter, recalled, said—I had laid down after work on the night of the collision. It was about nine o'clock I think. I came on deck fully five minutes before the collision. I was half asleep when I heard the mate's voice, and thinking we were to 'bout ship I went aft to the cross-jack braces where I was to help. My attention was turned to the *Isis* by hearing the second mate remark, "What is she going to do; is the going to cross our bows?" The pilot then said, "Ring the bell, ring the bell." I then went forward and looked at the lights, which I found were burning brightly. I then saw the whole outline of the steamer on our bow, about 2 points off. I had not seen our lights since nine o'clock. The *Isis* was a quarter of a mile off when I first saw her. I saw she had all her lights burning.

Mr. Lowder, in addressing the Court, said that it was evident great attention and great care had been given by the Court and the Assessors to the questions at issue, which had tended to shorten the proceedings. So far as purely nautical matters were concerned, he would not discuss them. He did not consider himself competent to do so, but from the remarks let drop by the Assessors he had seen that they were thoroughly competent. He would first refer to the lights on the *Isis* and then to those of the *Macy*. In the preliminary acts, the *Macy* people say the *Isis* lights were visible to them, and if they could see them 3 miles off their own lights could have been visible at that distance if properly fixed. The speed would be about 8 knots, taking the speed of both vessels combined, 22 minutes before the collision, and the lights should have been visible to the *Isis*. There were six men on deck at the time, and if the light had been visible they should have seen it. Four of these had come forward as witnesses—the master, the chief and second mates, and the lookout. They were all keeping a good lookout, and had reported all the lights they saw. The only deduction that could therefore be drawn was that they were not keeping a good look out for any lights that might be in sight, or that for some reason the green light was not seen by them until two minutes before the collision. The question then arose, was there any reason why the light was obstructed from their view? The *Macy* carried a first-class light, which should have been seen 3 miles off; but it was not screened. They were no doubt acquainted with the Order in Council and Board of Trade Regulations which provided that they must have a screen 3 feet long; and their only having the lights placed on the side of the ship must be considered an infringement of the rules. The rules for the prevention of collisions at sea were the same in the United States as they were in England. If their culpability in this is proved then she is in the wrong, but if it appears that this had had nothing to do with the collision it is otherwise. But if once shown that she has not been culpable the burden of proof is shifted to the others, and they are presumptively wrong in law. Counsel here cited the case of the *Fanny B. Carver* and the *Duke of Buccleugh*.

His Honour pointed out that the Assessors saw that the want of screens could not have conduced to the collision. It was a converse case.

Mr. Lowder said it was his duty to point this out. He could not account for her light not having been seen.

His Honour said the object of the rule was to prevent the light being seen across the other bow. The absence of a screen could not prevent it.

Mr. Lowder remarked he was not an expert, but it was his duty to mention it. If the Court was of opinion this would make no difference, he would drop this point of his argument. Counsel then went on to discuss the duties of a steamer and a sailing ship. It was suggested by his learned friend that the *Isis* ought to have starboarded her helm, so as to go astern of the ship rather than port. How this would have resulted the Associates could judge better than himself. What was done was the best under the circumstances—that was to port the helm and go full speed ahead. He was condemned by the other side because he had not taken the other step. In support of his contention he cited the *City of Antwerp* case. His Honour would have to find that she ought to have starboarded and then gone astern, and that if this was done the collision would not have occurred. When the lights of the ship were seen it was only two minutes before the collision, and the vessels were then 500 or 600 yards apart, and a collision was inevitable.

His Honour—What do you say your speed is?

Mr. Lowder said he was basing his argument on the combined speed of both vessels, which was 8 knots an hour. They were apparently going at the rate of 6,086 feet in 7½ minutes, therefore in two minutes they would be 1,620 feet apart, and that within that time the steamer could not have been stopped. Had she starboarded she would have run into the *Macy*, consequently the best and only thing to do was to port her helm and go full speed ahead. The steamer was to keep out of the ship's way in any way she chose, and this was to port and go full speed ahead. It would be unnecessary to cite his authorities, the Court having been given them, but he would refer to the cases of the *Benares* and *Zadoc* (read.) The latter case was very much in point; the officer in charge had to act in an emergency, and his action was approved. Counsel then went on to discuss the action of the sailing vessel, and what she should have done. In regard to the proper interpretation of the regulations, Counsel cited the case of the *Beryl*, in which it was shown that Rule 23 overrides everything. Once the sailing vessel saw the steamer was about to cross her bows, it was obviously her duty to take some measures, which she did not. Several other authorities were here cited by Counsel, which, however, were not read, except the case of the *Sunnyside*, as it referred to an American ship. He cited it to show the rules were the same in the U.S. as in a British Court. Briefly, a sailing ship seeing a steamer not doing anything was not justified in doing nothing. In the *Zadoc* case she was found against because she had no men to man the braces in case a sudden manœuvre was contemplated. The *Macy* was undoubtedly right in keeping her course, but at a certain stage she ought to have done something. She ought to have acted when she saw the steamer was not doing what it ought to do. According to the preliminary acts, she rang the bell and shouted when she considered a collision imminent—the bell was rung 5 minutes before the collision. He had 5 minutes in which to act, and he did nothing but shout and ring the bell. He says that if the *Macy* had stopped it would have been embarrassing to the steamer, but had she stopped the *Isis* would have seen it. But even if her course was kept it does not mean that the same speed was to be kept up. She says the *Isis* was visible to her all the time; if so, she saw that a collision was imminent and ought to have gone out of the way, but for some reason did not do so, consequently she did not do her best to avoid a collision. Counsel then feelingly referred to the cruel charge that had been preferred against the Master of the *Isis* for not having stood by.

Mr. Walford here rose and said that the Master of the *Macy*, after having heard the evidence, desired to withdraw it, as it was made without knowledge of the fact of his having done so.

Mr. Lowder contended a mere withdrawal of such a serious charge was inadequate, some apology was needed. If it had been a question of seamanship that had been called in question it could have been allowed to stand, but where a charge of want of humanity was made, it was a serious matter, and a simple withdrawal of the charge could not meet the case. He would not accept it. During his 20 years' experience in the Court, only one such case had come to his knowledge and for which the captain had been punished. The captain of the *Macy's* assertion that he thought, from having seen the *Isis* next day, that she had not stood by was not based on fact, he ought to have seen it. He could not accept

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the statement of his learned friend that the lights were not seen. If there was a deliberate attempt to run the *Isis* down they could not have taken better steps to do so. They did nothing whatever: The striking of gongs might have contented a lot of Chinamen, but for a ship captain to content himself with the ringing of bells and shouting, he could not think possible.

Mr. Walford prefaced his address to the Court by expressing his regret that his learned friend had not taken the evidence as given in regard to the matter of standing by. It was a mistake that they had not seen the lights subsequent to the collision. He very much regretted the charge that had been made. Counsel then referred to the case of the *Glamorganshire* and *Clarissa B. Carver*, where although the former was so badly damaged that she had to be beached, the same charge had been made, upon which he commented. He regretted it very much.

Mr. Lowder here mentioned the authorities to be cited, which he placed before the Court.

Mr. Walford then entered into a confutation of the points raised by plaintiffs' Counsel. He remarked that there was one case cited which, happening as far back as 1864, could have no application to this case. He could not do better than follow the course pursued by plaintiffs, first, as to the lights. These were burning properly, were properly placed and in good order, but they deny seeing the light. Probably they were looking for fishing boats' lights and did not see it. Referring to the question of positive as against negative evidence, Counsel remarked that if the first were not taken then they could be committed for perjury, but if the other were taken, perhaps it was not seen and was a mistake. The officer perhaps overlooked the green light. If he said he had been looking at that particular light then there would be a conflict of evidence, but if not, then there was no conflict. If the light was not seen, then the *Isis* was to blame for not seeing the light and for the consequent collision. As to the diagram prepared by Mr. Scidmore, the *Isis* was given a S.W. course in consequence of the incorrect report. He held the defendants to their preliminary acts, which said their vessel was going 3 knots, but the presumption is she was going 2 knots against the tide. She was travelling at the rate of 400 yards in 4 minutes. Whatever the distance the *Isis* was when she saw the *Macy* she came within the provisions of the two regulations for preventing collisions as sea, viz., Arts. 17 and 18. As his friend had said, she did neither, as she had only a short time to consider. After combatting Mr. Lowder's reading of the judgment of the Master of the Rolls, Counsel remarked that in the *Benares* case an accident was inevitable and could not be avoided. Another point was the wrongful act of the other ship. It was not necessary to say that it was a matter of discretion for the master of the *Isis*. The Court would have to find that if he had stopped he would have avoided the collision, and this was borne out in his own evidence when asked as to how long it would take to stop and reverse, when he said that he could have stopped her in 4 minutes. The chief officer said she could be stopped in one and a half minute. He thought she could be stopped in less than 3 or 4 times her own length. Defendant had to show that the departure from the regulations were necessary, not that he thought so. He had not set this up, but even if he had he could not prove it. Counsel here cited the case of the *Khedive*, wherein it was stated that had the Master acted within the rules the effect of the collision would have been worse, but his having departed from them, he was found to be in the wrong. Referring to the lookout on the *Isis*, Counsel said that if she had brought about a collision by a bad lookout then she must be in the wrong. In the evidence it was stated that the *Macy* was called out to to starboard her helm, which she did not do, but even had she done so it would have made no difference, as in one minute she would not have felt her helm at all. The *Macy* was not obliged to do anything: the worst thing would have been for her to stop, as it would have made it impossible for the *Isis* to starboard and pass her stern. Her main yard could not have been backed within five minutes. The strong point in the *Macy's* case was that in all the cases cited there was only one case in which a sailing vessel was held to be in the wrong—the *Zadoc* case, and this was an exceptional case. It was in a dense fog and the sailing vessel was going at an improper speed; she heard the whistle of a steamer which she knew could not see her, but nevertheless kept up her speed and ran into the steamship, consequently she was held to blame. The *Tasmania* case was between two steamers. He could meet the American case cited by his learned friend by a later one.

His Honour—Your contention is that a sailing vessel, if she keep her course, is absolutely right.

Mr. Walford—Yes. However obvious a collision may be, he must keep his course until the steamship can do nothing and then it is too late for him to do anything. It is not the duty of a sailing vessel or steamship to attempt to diminish the blow by infringing the rule. In this connection Counsel quoted the *Highgate*.

His Honour, quoting from a report of the *Glamorganshire* and *Clarissa B. Carver* case, remarked that it was laid down she was to do nothing until a collision was inevitable. This was a cruel position to put on a sailing vessel's master. He mustn't act too soon, at the same time he must not carry on till too late!

Mr. Walford did not think this was correct. He must never do it at all.

His Honour understood Mr. Walford's contention to be that the sailing vessel must stand on and do nothing. Did he mean to say that, if the yard could have been backed and the sailing vessel stopped, she would still be justified in keeping her course?

Mr. Walford understood it to be so. He then quoted the case of the *Jenny S. Barker* to controvert the *Sunnyside* case, after which he quoted the cases of the *Warrior*, *Amercia* and *Syria*, and the *Highgate*, and in conclusion quoted Marsden in which it was stated; "It is sometimes contended on the part of a ship that has failed to comply with the Regulations and is herself in fault, that the other ship is guilty of contributory negligence for not having departed from the Regulations. Such a contention will never succeed." And he trusted it would not succeed in this case.

The Court then rose, judgment being reserved.

CONSULAR TRADE REPORT FOR HIOGO AND OSAKA.

(CONCLUDED.)

FIRMS AND FACTORIES IN JAPAN.—The following statistics of the date of origin and the number of firms and companies in Japan, and of the nature of their business, have appeared in the *Official Gazette*. The total number at the end of 1892 was 4,635; of these 3,258 were joint-stock companies; 2,257 were otherwise organised, while the exact business of 20 cannot be traced. Classified according to amount of capital there were :—2,918 with less than $10,000, 1,164 with more than $10,000 and under $50,000 227 with between $50,000 and $100,000, 286 with more than $100,000, 40, the amount of whose capital is not ascertainable. Among these there are 2,767 industrial firms and factories, of which 493 employ steam power, 247 water power, and 247 both steam and water power, while the remaining 1,780 are driven by manual labour only.

As regards the nature of their business they are divided as follows :—429 banks or firms dealing with monetary matters, 1,415 manufactories of clothing and articles for personal wear, 333 have to do with minerals, 315 with transportation, 249 with domestic furniture, 217 with agriculture, 217 with food-stuffs, 214 with articles of daily consumption, 164 with public works and architecture, 144 with marine industries, 142 with articles of luxury, 132 with printing, 122 with technology, 166 with sericulture, 101 with metal articles, 35 with insurance, 28 with tools and machinery, 212 deal in miscellaneous articles.

A MARINE SALVAGE COMPANY.—Mention should be made of a joint-stock company established quite recently. It started originally with a capital of $150,000, the chief object being to float sunken ships; as the company, however, intend to extend the scope of their operations to the splitting of submarine rocks and other words in connection with the construction of harbours and piers, it is proposed to double the capital. The company enjoys, it is said, considerable public confidence, and several members of the House of Peers are among its supporters; the diving department is under the superintendence of a noted diver.

The first work contemplated is the floating of several Chinese men-of-war sunk by the Japanese fleet during the present war.

One of the many advantages enjoyed by the Japanese materially aiding the rapid and economical development of their industries is that foreign patents are not protected. When machine patented elsewhere is purchased it is not infrequently imitated, and an article equally good for all for practical purposes is turned out at less than half the cost. It is not improbable that when, under revised treaties, the patient laws become applicable to foreigners, there will be little or nothing to claim protection for.

COAL.—During the second half of 1894 the coal market of Japan was, owing to various reasons, in a most unusual state. The activity in domestic industries, and the increase in the export of coal, owing to the fall in silver, brought about a great rise in the price of coal. This was much accentuated by the Korean and Chinese complications. Much inconvenience was at one time caused to the owners of factories by the scarcity of coal, in consequence of the number of steamers chartered as military transports.

The supply of Kushin coal was, in fact, at one time virtually suspended in the Tokyo and Yokohama districts, because nearly all the ships had been engaged by the Government, and the market was consequently completely in the hands of the Tankosha, a company owning coal mines in the Hokkaido.

The market soon, however, showed unusual activity, and supplies came forth freely as soon as outside tonnage had been obtained for the purpose of carrying coal.

The consumption of Japan coal is steadily increasing in Bombay, and is, it is said, running Cardiff coal very hard in the matter of prices.

Of the numerous coal mines in the whole country there are only 49 which can produce annually over 10,000 tons of coal; the total production of coal from these mines in 1891 amounted to 2,275,617 tons, or 74 per cent. of the whole production of the country in the same year, and in 1892 their out-put amounted to 2,509,055 tons or 79 per cent. of the whole production in that year.

In the following table the collieries having the capacity of producing annually 30,000 tons of coal are tabulated :—

Collieries.	Provinces.	Production. 1891. Tons.	1892. Tons.
Miike	Chikugo	593,259	481,191
Takashima	Hizen	100,717	181,904
Horonai	Ishikari	144,038	134,689
Nakanoshima	Hizen	138,960	160,849
Namazuta	Chikuzen	87,169	125,624
Otsuji	Chikuzen	74,930	72,972
Sorachi	Ishikari	61,528	107,731
Akaike	Buzen	58,810	56,351
Arate	Chikuzen	57,292	51,601
Daijo	Chikuzen and Buzen	56,092	48,285
Shinniwa	Chikuzen	48,643	125,474
Minezi	Buzen	46,800	59,950
Shakanoo	Chikuzen	45,148	45,073
Ikushunbetsu	Ishikari	43,726	50,416
Dainoura	Chikuzen	36,096	50,472
Katsuno	Chikuzen	35,408	43,431
Ariho	Nagato	33,672	—
Takao	Chikuzen	30,393	38,684
Hashima	Hizen	30,201	51,213
Hoshii (Hokoku)	—	12,827	50,393
Sasanotaira	Iwaki	—	34,264

NOTE.—The total sum should be 2,275,617 tons. The difference of this, compared with the total number of the table, has been caused by the rough reduction of different weights in tons.

STEEL AND IRON INDUSTRIES.—A capitalist has recently purchased the Senninzan iron mine in the Akita district of Nippon, the main island of Japan, and intends starting works very shortly. The owner's view is that as there is no reasonable expectation of any perceptible improvement in exchange for some years to come, and as iron can be produced in the country at from $15 to $20 per ton, the cost of imported pig-iron being about $32, the enterprise ought to be profitable both to suppliers and consumers. Another iron mine in a different part of the country was also purchased a short time ago, and sanguine hopes are entertained of ultimate success. In this connection it may be here mentioned that a committee appointed to inquire into the iron industry have reported that there is an abundance of good ore suitable for the manufacture of pig iron and steel. During the early part of last year experiments were made, with what is said to be an entirely new process for the manufacture of steel, in the naval yard at Yokosuka, near Yokohama, by which a quantity of excellent metal was turned out.

SUGAR.—The attention of the mercantile classes has been much directed to the question of sugar. In 1872 the amount imported was 56,000,000 lbs., valued at $1,750,000; 10 years later the amount was 107,000,000 lbs., representing a value of $4,500,000; in 1893 some 253,000,000 lbs. were imported, as against 93,000,000 lbs. produced in the country. The consumption of sugar is generally regarded as a trustworthy test of national prosperity, and though the Japanese doubtless take the same view they are alarmed at the idea of paying some $10,000,000, annually for that luxury. Japan, however, is perfectly able to increase the area of its sugar-cane plantations, and there are sundry signs proving that it will not permit the present state of things to continue.

SILK.—According to a return issued by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce the total production in Japan of raw silk has increased

considerably during the last few years. The following table gives the amounts produced and exported, together with the value of the latter :—

Year.	Production. Lbs.	Export. Lbs.	Value.
1889.....	7,153,051 ...	5,502,321 ...	$26,616,542
1890.....	7,027,267 ...	2,813,753 ...	13,859,339
1891.....	9,078,517 ...	7,100,197 ...	29,356,339
1892.....	9,134,067 ...	7,209,141 ...	36,299,744
1893.....	9,279,617 ...	4,949,617 ...	28,167,744
1894.....	—	12,677,971 ...	42,663,662

The following prefectures are the principal producing centres :—Nagano, Fukushima, Yamanashi, Tokyo, Gifu, Saitama, and Yamagata. In raw silk Nagano stands first; in silk waste, Gumma; and in floss silk, Shiga.

The total production in Japan of silk-worm egg cards for 1893 was 3,000,000, Nagano being the principal producing district.

There are few trades in Japan in which such extraordinary strides have been made as in the manufacture of silk piece-goods, nine-tenths of which come from Fukui prefecture, situated on the west coast. The number of looms employed in the Fukui district in 1890 was 2,200, employing 2,907 hands; in 1894 there were 12,519 looms and 11,835 operatives, who are nearly all girls, receiving pay at the rate of $\frac{1}{2}$ per piece, of which they can make from four to eleven per month, the general average being five to six pieces. They usually work twelve hours per day, and on rare occasions as many as fourteen. The operatives as a rule become very expert after six months' training.

The total amount of various kinds of silk piece-goods exported from Japan has increased in an extraordinary way during the latest few years.

Imitation Leather Wall Paper.—An interesting account of the manufacture of an exceedingly durable and beautiful kind of wall paper made in Japan is taken from one of the local foreign journals. This paper is much appreciated in England and America, and is being exported in increasing quantities.

Matches.—The manufacture of matches in Japan commenced in 1877, and in the following year a small export business was done to China. This trade has suffered many vicissitudes, and a number of people, who did not understand the business, having rushed into it, heavy losses were incurred and the matches fell into disrepute. Down to 1888 business was in a very depressed condition, when strenuous efforts were made by the leading manufacturers, all goods for export being examined by an expert. After this the trade increased in volume, but it is now suffering from overproduction and slackness of business in Hongkong and Shanghai, owing to the plague and the war.

The total export of matches from Japan in 1884 amounted to 9,713 gross, valued at $2,792, of which Kobe exported 7,918 gross. In 1894 the quantity exported from Japan was 13,843,022 gross, of which 13,379,860 gross were from Hiogo.

Apart from the war, this trade has been injuriously affected by the erection of three match factories in Shanghai, which supply a district where the demand was formerly great and constant. Nine-tenths of the matches exported from this district have hitherto gone to China.

Insurance.—The growing popularity of fire insurance in Japan is well illustrated by the following returns of the Meiji Fire Insurance Company :—

Date.	Policies Issued.	Premia.
March 31, 1893	$ 3,205,119	52,108
March 31, 1894	11,449,720	168,594
Increase	8,244,601	116,416

There are three great companies—the *Meiji*, the Teikoku (Imperial), and the Nippon, the policies issued by the first amounting to $8,000,000, and those of the two others to $6,500,000 each. In addition to these there are many small companies, some of which deserve to be given a wide berth by prudent people.

Quite a new departure in insurance has been devised in Kioto. The dogs of that city, as in many other places, are harassed by their inveterate foes the dog-killers. Some shrewd persons have therefore conceived the idea of starting a dog insurance company, which professes to insure the loss or death of a dog by payment of a small monthly premium. Death from natural causes is, however, not insured; it must be death at the hands of dog-killers.

Osaka Industries.—A most extensive trade in hats and caps is carried on in this country, and the places where these articles are made is legion. Glass-blowing was first introduced under Government supervision, by foreigners employed in the Public Works Department, some twenty odd years ago, and for a long time it was carried on at a dead loss. Steady perseverance, however, led to success. There are several soap factories in Osaka, and constant experiments and close imitations of foreign brands have led to such improvement in the turn-out that the demand for the imported articles has declined very considerably. A lucrative export trade has been carried on in Osaka in isinglass made on the spot.

There are two clock factories in Osaka, and now watches are also going to be made by a new association called the Osaka Clock and Watch Company. A rapeseed oil factory was established in Osaka in 1890, and promises to be very successful in the near future. There are three flannel factories in Japan where woollen cloths are made—one at Senji, near Tokyo, owned by the Army Department; another at Oji, a suburb of Tokyo, run by a private company; and a third in Osaka, owned by the Osaka Woollen Thread Company. Flannel is made at the last named place only, the wool used being imported from Australia. The factory contains 250 sets of weaving machines, with 2,050 spindles, imported from England and Germany. The home demand for Tooth Brushes, made at a tooth brush factory in Osaka, is steadily increasing and there is every promise of its being very large in near future. Foreign-made towels were largely imported until a very few years ago, when several factories started in Osaka. Not only is there at present a great demand for the native-made article, but it is also exported in considerable quantities. Artificial flower making is an important industry in Japan, and there are numerous factories in Osaka. A large and increasing export trade is done from Osaka in Lanterns manufactured principally in that city and in Gifu. Glass bead blinds are in great demand, pricipally for America and England, and, to a limited extent, for France and China. Tortoise-shell, imported by Chinese in Nagasaki, has for about 200 years been used in a variety of ways, notably in making valuable ladies' hairpins and combs.

Tobacco.—Until recently the native article only was in demand, but now large quantities of foreign cigarettes, and even cigars, are consumed. There are about forty tobacco factories in Osaka only.

Paper Underclothing is an interesting industry started some time ago. The articles consist of a loose jacket and drawers made of a specially prepared kind of tough paper, said to be admirably suited as a substitute in cold weather for ordinary underclothing. The cost is exceedingly low. Great progress has been made in printing, and as no foreign type with Japanese characters has ever been imported, there are now several type foundries in Tokyo and Osaka. There are about 200 printing works in Osaka, and they are kept fully employed. The result of official investigation shows that at the end of December last there were, in Osaka, 2,584 factories, of which 187 were worked by steam; these establishments employ 15,074 male and 19,632 female operatives. A constant source of complaint is the inequality of the goods produced in factories and other places. This is mainly attributable to absence of unremitting and intelligent supervision of operatives, and the want of some system of fines for careless, inferior work. It has been recently stated that several influential persons contemplate establishing an Electro-Motor Company in Osaka to be worked by water-power. The experts employed have, after investigations extending over several months, pointed out three available sources of power, and they estimate that if 15,000-horse power can be developed, the profit of the company will exceed 10 per cent. It is stated that the gross horse-power in the various Osaka factories is about 25,000, and that electrical power would be cheaper by 30 per cent., than steam, resulting in a retrenchment in expenses of not less than $1,000,000, to say nothing of incidental benefits, sanitary considerations, and other advantages.

Some new and important schemes are also talked of in Osaka. One is a sugar refinery, with a capital of $2,000,000, the other a company for the export of shirtings to Korea, having for object the monopoly of the entire import trade in shirtings, amounting annually to $3,000,000, hitherto carried on exclusively by Chinese traders. It is also said that the erection of steel works is contemplated. The creation of an influential company for the purpose of manufacturing railway material, carriages, trucks, and general rolling stock has likewise been mooted. The carpet and rug industry at Sakai, a small town situated at a very short distance from Osaka, is making rapid progress, and gives occupation to 16,249 operatives.

Railways in Japan.

During the earlier half of 1894 the scheme for the establishment of a great railway company, with a capital of $100,000,000 began to assume a definite form, and a prospectus was issued by three of the leading men in business circles, which led to a meeting of some forty prominent financiers and business men, who resolved to submit an application to the Government with regard to the purchase of the railway lines now owned by Government, and entrusted the management of necessary proceedings to a committee of ten.

One of the Tokyo journals, which professed to express the opinions of authorities on this subject, has stated that the originators of this great scheme estimate the cost of lines, which the Government had already decided on constructing, at about $65,000,000 while they hope to obtain the lines at present running for the sum $35,000,000. The idea, it is alleged, is to purchase those existing lines for that amount, which would give a return of about 8 per cent., with every prospect of increasing this to 10 per cent. in another four or five years.

As a matter of fact, the amount proposed to be invested actually represents a sum twice as large, and it would seem unreasonable to expect to obtain such a profitable concern for the original cost of construction.

Several of the leading journals denounced the project, principally for three reasons. First, it was argued that military as well as economic considerations render it advisable to place the principal trunk lines under Government control; secondly, the estimated price of the Government lines is less than one-half of what it ought to be; and thirdly, all the papers called attention to the dangers, political and financial, attending the creation of such a large private company. In a country like Japan, where the general standard of wealth is as yet low, the consequence would be particularly serious.

It stands to reason that the recent events of paramount interest to Japan have for the present precluded all serious consideration of the scheme, even in a modified form.

A scheme for a through Asiatic railway was the subject of an address delivered at a recent meeting of the Japan Economic Society. The lecturer, Mr. Taguchi, a Member of the Diet, was in favour of a southern line from Pekin to Constantinople, as being the way by which from ancient times communication had been kept up between China and Hindustan: it was the route taken by the founder of the Wŏn Dynasty when invading the west, and Marco Polo came by it to China. The inquiries instituted into the geography of the various districts led him to the conclusion that a railway is practicable in that part of Asia.

Starting from Pekin, the line would enter Honan province *viâ* Tientsin, Hokien, and Kwangping; from there it would go south as far as Kai-fung, and then crossing the Yellow River, near the latter city, it would go west, passing through Ching Chow, Honan, and other places along the bank of the river, as far as the pass of Tung Chow. Here the land begins to rise, the pass itself being 4,000 feet above sea level. The pass being crossed, the land is again level until Sin-gan is reached, after which a height of about 8,000 feet is attained, passing the town of Yumakhien, a small desert is traversed, when a thriving place called Khamil is reached. Here the so-called In-Tienshan route begins. Turfan, Karashar, Aksu, Maiashar, and Kashgar, are passed, and Tienshan is then reached. Kashgar appears to be 5,000 or 6,000 feet above sea-level, and from there the land continues to rise, until at Terak Pass, a height of 12,500 feet is attained. This is the highest point along the whole route; but on the authority of a Japanese railway engineer, the slope does not exceed 1 in 100. Os and Polga are next reached, after which comes Kokand, in the Russian possessions. The work will not be difficult after the Tienchan range is once reached. The route further goes through Samarkand, Bokhara, Merv, Meshed, Teheran, Bagdad, Tsukandaran, Adana, Kamiah, Bansa, and Tsmid, which is connected by rail with Constantinople. The total length of the line would be 7,650 miles, and the cost is estimated at $765,000,000. The lecturer urged the prosecution of more accurate inquires, and the construction of the railway.

Effect of the War, and After.

The trade of this country with China, the gross annual value of which amounts to $25,000,000, has been virtually stopped by the present war, and its consequences, direct and indirect, on the economy of Japan is of course considerable.

The principal articles imported from China are sugar, raw cotton, beans, rice, hemp, &c., while the exports are yarn, marine products, matches, coal, &c.

Sugar is an important item, and in 1893 the amount imported exceeded $3,000,000; beans and cotton are also abundantly imported, but such is not the case with rice. Cotton was imported in 1893 to the extent of $8,500,000, and the stoppage of this supply must be affecting the spinning industry to an alarming extent; in fact, the spinners are most unfavourably placed, for, while they are precluded from getting the raw material, they also lose the China market for their goods.

The match manufacturers are also suffering, for not only is their princial market closed, but the

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disturbed state of the money market presses heavily on them. There has been a heavy fall in the value of sundry securities, and the reduced dividends paid by various leading institutions in the country.

Epitomising the returns, we find that out of 88 national banks 35 paid less dividend for the second half-year than for the first, one paying no dividend at all; out of 54 private banks 14 paid no dividend for the second half of the year; out of 17 spinning mills 3 paid less dividend and 3 paid none for the second half-year; out of 30 rice exchanges more than half paid no dividend for the second half-year.

Another of the effects promptly felt at the commencement of the war was an extraordinary rise in freights, owing to nearly all the available steamers being taken off the various lines and chartered by the Government as transports; after a short delay a number of foreign steamers were, however, engaged by Japanese shipping companies, and a return to the former condition of things was in a great measure effected.

The *Commercial News*, a Japanese journal, says that no business has been recently subjected to such varying fortunes as the shipping business of Japan. During the winter of 1893 and the spring of 1894 the demand for ships was unusually great, causing a gradual rise in freights, owing to increased export of coal to Hongkong, Shanghai, and Singapore. After this the outbreak of the war created, as already stated, an extraordinary rise in freights, owing to the requisitioning by the Government of a large number of steamers. This having continued for several months, a reaction set in, and freights fell in consequence of the large number of foreign vessels purchased and chartered.

Japanese Seamen.—In connection with the subject of shipping it is interesting to note that a Society for the Protection and Training of Seamen has existed in Japan since 1880, organised by some very prominent and wealthy men. The object was to improve the conduct and status of seamen, to encourage them in the attainment of scientific and practical knowledge, to act as a medium between them and their employers, and to extended to them and their surviving relatives protection and asistance when required. The funds of the society were originally raised by donations, and among the subscribers were the crews of the Russian Oriental squadron, who appreciating the importance of the enterprise, contributed a sum of $1,000. The first office was established at Yokohama, and boarding house was opened at Shinagawa, a suburb of Tokyo; subsequently branch offices were started at Kobe, Hakodate, and Nagasaki. Later on a naval school was founded at Yokohama by the President of the Mitsubishi Steamship Company (now amalgamated into the Japan Mail Steamship Company) for the education of seamen and engineers; this school was subsequently transferred to the control of the Government, and continues to turn out numbers of capable men. The society was thus of the greatest benefit, without seeking notoriety, but at the outbreak of the present war its usefulness became conspicious.

During thirteen years of its existence the society has educated 832 officers, has procured situations for 98,016 sailors, of whom 2,041 were trained under its care, has afforded assistance to 1,720 distressed and disabled seamen, in addition to relief granted to the relatives of those who have died, as well as other acts of charity.

After the war is over the Japanese intend going ahead, and every thing seems to portend that they will carry out this intention successfully. What will for a time tell immensely in their favour is the silver currency of the country and the question of wages. Considered in connection with the greatest industry of the country, it is merely necessary to state that a bale of cotton yarn was early in 1894 turned out at an average of $72; towards the end of the year the price advanced to $81.59c., owing to a rise in the price of cotton. The highest average of wages paid per day in the mills was, for male operatives, $0·267, and for female hands, $0·1822.

For a considerable time past there has been exceptional activity in the direction of improvements in the system and methods hitherto existing is commerce, industries, and agriculture. High Government officials, members of the Diet, and private individuals of standing and experience have been constantly lecturing on a vast diversity of subjects, with the object of stimulating the energies of all concerned. All sorts of guilds and associations are being formed to promote the material welfare of the nation, and innumerable subcommittees are to be at once sent all over the country to urge the views of the head-centres in the producing districts.

The foremost staple of Japan's exports, silk, required, said the Vice-Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, thorough improvement to secure the extension of its sale. Japan silk is considered by American and French weavers to be too brittle to be used as weft, and can only be used as warp, which is not quite satisfactory. It is not suited for large American and European factories, owing to the diverse kinds of cocoons used, these being collected from almost every district of Japan, and even from the coast of China. It is, therefore, of the greatest importance that a radical reform should be effective in this industriy.

In industrial, commercial, and agricultural circles one of the most prominent men at present is Mr. Mayeda, formerly in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. He is absolutely indefatigable. He has endeavoured to improve the quality of Japanese tea; he has placed the tea growers under one central guild, and this important industry is now on the high road to increased success. He next collected the colliery owners of Kiushiu and organised them. He then started the Five and Two Staples Associations, established the Match Guild, and recently turned his attention to the development of agriculture. By way of explanation it is well to state here that the members of the Five and Two Staples Associations are those who deal in woven goods, porcelain, lacquered ware, metal ware, paper and paper ware, curios, and matting.

The *Kokumin*, a Japanese journal published in Tokyo, and having an extensive circulation, went into ecstacy a short time ago about the rare progress of Japan, as shown in the increase of the trade of the country during 1894 over that of the previous year. It said that China might be compared to Turkey, Korea to Egypt, and that Japan is Great Britain, minus England's symptoms of decrepitude and corruption; in those three Oriental countries thus considered there lie, hidden from ordinary observers, great designs, large plans, and vast germs of fortune. If there be but a shadow of truth in all this, the future of the Japanese merchant will indeed be a happy one, and the prosperity of Japan great; it may, however, be laid down with absolute certainty that foreigners will participate in that success to an exceedingly limited extent, if at all.

Up to the present the foreign merchant in Japan has taken all the risk, with a prospect of moderate profit or of a commission, which is decreasing year by year; the Japanese, on the other hand, have always come in for the lion's share of the advantages derived. For a long time past the desire to do away with the foreign merchant has been distinctly on the increase, one of the main features of the "strong foreign policy," vigorously advocated by a considerable section of the Japanese, being the boycotting of the foreign middlemen. Sentiment and sound practical business principles are two very different things.

The authorities are evidently fully aware of the importance of maintaining and encouraging commerce and industries after the war, and for that purpose the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is now endeavouring to collect all possible information and statistics bearing on those matters in connection with the war in China. It is also stated that investigations have for some time past been carried on by agents in foreign parts as to the condition of commerce in countries affected by the great war in the United States in 1861-65, and the Franco-Prussian war of 1870.

Trade with India.—Japan has taken another stride by appointing, for the first time, a Consul to represent her in Bombay, to give further impetus to the trade which has recently sprung up between the two countries. In the course of an interview with the representative of an Indian newspaper the Consul stated that the Consulate had been established in accordance with the desire expressed by the Japanese merchants who are dealing with Bombay, particularly in respect of its cotton. He pointed out that there are large exports of coal, copper, paper, &c., from Japan, and that the Japanese not only desired to find a market for their goods, but also wished to import in return such articles of merchandise as could be obtained cheaper there than in other markets.

Financial Questions.—The question of the financial future is necessarily attracting great attention in commercial circles. The Government have already obtained authority to raise a war fund of $150,000,000; then, too, the money that will be required after the close of the war for purposes of defence, of administration, and for various industrial and commercial enterprises will be immense. The general opinion seems to be that the territorial acquisition resulting from the war will not be self-supporting, for a considerable time at least.

Meanwhile, there are ominous signs of a tightening money market, which cannot fail to have a disastrous effect on trade.

Considerable portions of this report and of the returns have been taken from the report of the Hiogo and Osaka Chamber of Commerce, and from articles which have appeared in various Japanese newspapers and foreign journals published in this country.

LATEST TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter "Special" to "Japan Mail."]

London, December 22nd.

The United States Senate has passed a resolution ordering the Finance Committee to enquire into the expediency of the opening of mints to free coinage.

London, December 23.

A semi-panic occurred in New York on the 21st inst., causing an estimated loss of a thousand millions of dollars. The cause of the panic is ascribed to President Cleveland's warlike Venezuelan policy.

The New York stock market has recovered, closing strong on the 22nd December, and the tone in America is calmer and friendlier.

London, December 26.

President Cleveland's political and financial discredit are increasing, but the American markets are improving though still sensitive.

(From the "Bangkok Times.")

London, December 2.

A Chinese force from Yunnan has dislodged the French garrison established at Muangu. The reason for this is unknown.

London, December 2.

King Leopold and his daughter, Princess Clementine, have arrived here—it is believed in connection with the settlement of the Stokes affair.

London, Dec. 7.

Herr Koeller, German Home Minister, has resigned, owing to the Emperor having dissolved the Socialist Committee without consulting Prince Hohenlohe, the Chancellor of the Empire.

(From Saigon Papers).

Paris, November 30.

The funeral of Dumas was of a civil character. No discourse was made.

Wien Traffe is dead.

Paris, December 3.

The Chamber has refused by 355 to 158 to strike out of the budget the votes for public worship.

(From the "Comercio.")

Madrid, December 5.

Nothing of interest has transpired in connection with the meeting of the Council of Ministers.

The Tradesmen's associations have arranged to close their shops an Monday as a protest against the inaction of the Government in connection with the charges brought against the Municipality.

Senor Canovas del Castillo has stated that a demonstration will be permitted on the Prado, but that steps will be taken to disperse assemblies in the streets.

(From Japanese Papers.)

Söul, December 26.

Mr. Hashiguchi, Japanese Consul at Ninsen, died this morning.

Kobe, December 26.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Standing Squadron entertained a number of leading residents of this port to-day, and the residents will give a banquet to the Commander-in-Chief to-morrow. The Standing Squadron leaves for the east on the 28th inst.

Söul, Dec. 25.

Li Shun-yo, who has been ordered to proceed to Japan to complete his studies, leaves to-morrow, and will embark on board the *Yamashiro Maru* the day after to-morrow.

Jo Sai-hitsu returned from America to-day.

Shimonoseki, Dec. 26.

No. 8 torpedo boat put into Moji yesterday, and after taking in coal left at once for Sasebo.

A Russian man-of-war passed here towards the west yesterday.

CHESS.

(All Communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor.)

The Yokohama Chess Club meets every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

The Tokyo Chess Club meets at the Tokyo Hotel every Friday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Solution of Problem No. 208.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1—R to Kt 2	1—B takes R
2—Q to Q R 3	2—B takes Q
3—P to K 5, mate	
	if 2—Any other
3—Q to K 7, mate	
	1—R to B 4
2—Q to Q B 3 ch.	2—P to K 4
3—R takes P, mate	
	1—R takes P
2—Q to Q B 3 ch.	2—R interposes
3—R takes R, mate.	

Correct answers received from Digamma, W.H.S., King, J.D., E. J. King, and Shogi.

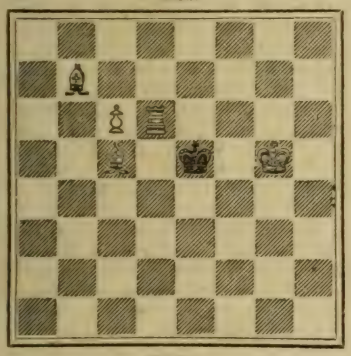
Digamma and Shogi both write to tell us that Game No. 404 belongs to the "Tennison" Gambit, "for which relief much thanks."

Some of our solvers seem to think that Problem No. 209 is too simple, probably they will find the same fault with No. 210, but we put these in purposely at this season of the year so that the digestion of solvers may not be deranged by tough Chess-nuts.

Problem No. 210.

By T. I. Goodlake.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play and mate in three moves.

Chess in Adelaide.

The following games were recently contested between Mr. H. Charlick, the ex-champion of Australia, and Mr. H. W. Apperley, formerly of Sydney, but now of Adelaide:—

Game No. 407.

KING'S GAMBIT EVADED.

WHITE. H. Charlick.	BLACK. H. W. Apperly.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P to Q 4
3—P takes Q P	3—P to K 5
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—Kt to K B 3
5—B to Kt 5 (ch.)	5—P to B 3
6—P takes P	6—P takes P
7—B to B 4	7—B to Q B 4
8—K Kt to K 2	8—Castles
9—P to Q 4	9—P takes P (en pas.)
10—Q takes P	10—Q to Kt 3
11—Kt to Q sq.	11—R to K sq.
12—Q to Q Kt 3	12—Q to B 2
13—B to K 3	13—Kt to R 3! (a)
14—B takes B	14—Kt takes B
15—Q to Q R 3	15—Q Kt to K 5
16—Kt to K 3	16—R to Kt sq.
17—R to Q sq.	17—P to B 4
18—Castles	18—Kt to Q 3
19—Q to Q 3	19—R takes Kt! (b)
20—Q takes Kt	20—Q takes Q
21—R takes Q	21—B to Kt 5
22—Kt to B 3	22—Kt to K sq. (c)
23—R to Q 5	23—R takes P (?)
24—R to Q 8!	24—R takes Q B P
25—Kt to Q 5	25—R to K 3
26—B to Q Kt 5	26—R to Q 7?
27—B takes Kt! (d)	27—R takes Kt?
28—B to Q 7 (dis. ch.)	28—R to K sq.
29—R takes R, mate.	

Time, 2½ hours.

a The preceding moves have been carefully considered by both players: the game now becomes instructive and entertaining.
b A neat reply.
c 22. K to B sq looks better.
d White's last four moves have been admirably timed.

Game No. 408.

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. H Charlick.	BLACK. H. W. Apperly.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to Q Kt 5	3—P to Q R 3
4—B to Q R 4	4—Kt to B 3
5—P to Q 4	5—P takes P
6—P to K 5	6—Kt to Q 4 (a)
7—Castles	7—B to K 2
8—Kt takes P	8—Kt takes Kt
9—Q takes Kt	9—Kt to Kt 3
10—B to Kt 3	10—Castles
11—Kt to B 3	11—P to Q 3 (b)
12—P to B 4	12—B to Q 2 (c)
13—B to K 3	13—P takes P
14—P takes P	14—P to Q B 4 (?)
15—Q to K B 4	15—B to K 3
16—B takes B	16—P takes B
17—Q to K Kt 4	17—Q to Q 2
18—K R to Q sq.	18—Q to B 3
19—B to R 6	19—R to B 2
20—Kt to K 4	20—Kt to Q 2 (d)
21—R takes Kt	21—Q takes R
22—R to Q sq. (e)	22—Q to Kt 4
23—Q takes K P	23—P takes B
24—R to Q 3	24—Q R to K B sq.
25—Kt to B 6 ch.	25—B takes Kt
26—P takes B	26—Q takes P
27—R to K B 3	27—Q to Q 5 ch.
28—K to B sq.	28—K to R sq.
29—P to Q B 3	29—Q takes K B P!(f)
White resigns.	

Time, 3¼ hours.

a 6 Kt to K 5 is the right move.
b 11 P to Q B 4 was of no use.
c We prefer 12 P takes P.
d A good move, which almost compels White to sacrifice the exchange to maintain position.
e If 22 Kt to B 6, B takes with a winning game.
f A very pretty finishing touch.

Game No. 409.

Played at Purssell's:—

EVANS GAMBIT.

WHITE. C. A. L. Bull.	BLACK. Mr. X.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—Kt to K B 3	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—B to B 4	3—B to B 4
4—P to Q Kt 4	4—B takes P
5—P to Q B 3	5—B to B 4
6—P to Q 4	6—P takes P
7—Castles	7—P to Q 3
8—P takes P	8—B to Kt 3
9—P to Q 5	9—Kt to R 4
10—B to Kt 2	10—Kt to K 2
11—Q Kt to B 3	11—Kt takes P
12—Q to R 4 ch.	12—B to Q 2
13—Q takes Kt	13—Castles
14—Kt to K 2	14—Kt to Kt 3
15—Kt to Kt 3	15—P to Q R 3
16—Kt to K R 5	16—P to K B 3
17—Q to B 3	17—B to Kt 5
18—Kt to Kt 3	18—B takes Kt
19—P takes B	19—Q to Q 2
20—Kt to B 5	20—Kt to K 4
21—K to R sq.	21—K to R sq.
22—K R to Kt sq.	22—R to K Kt sq.
23—P to K B 4	23—Kt to B 2
24—Q takes K B P	24—P takes Q
25—B takes P ch.	25—R to Kt 2
26—R takes R and White wins.	

Chess by Correspondence.

Of the two games by correspondence between Warrnambool and Ballarat, which were begun some months ago, one has been won by Warrnambool, and the other is still in progress. In the completed game 17 of the moves on the White side, and 16 of the moves on the Black side, were identical with those of a celebrated consultation game between Morphy, Greenaway, and G. Walker against Lowenthal, Mongredien, and Medley. At the 17th move, however, Black (Ballarat) varied, with the result that Warrnambool had the opportunity of winning by an exceptionally fine combination. The score of the game is as follows:—

Game No. 410.

KING'S BISHOP'S GAMBIT.

WHITE. Warrnambool.	BLACK. Ballarat.
1—P to K 4	1—P to K 4
2—P to K B 4	2—P takes P
3—K B to Q B 4	3—P to Q 4
4—K B takes P	4—K Kt to B 3 (a)
5—K Kt to B 3	5—K Kt takes B
6—P takes Kt	6—Q takes P
7—Q Kt to B 3	7—Q to K R 4 (b)
8—P to Q 4	8—K B to Q 3
9—Q to K 2 ch.	9—K to Q sq. (c)
10—Castles	10—P to K Kt 4
11—Q to Q Kt 5 (d)	11—P to K B 4
12—Q to Q 5 (e)	12—Kt to Q B 3
13—K Kt to K 5 (f)	13—K R to K B sq.
14—B to Q 2 (g)	14—Kt to K 2
15—Q to Q B 4	15—K R to K B 3
16—Q R to K sq.	16—P to Q B 3
17—Q Kt to Q R 4	17—K to B 2 (h)
18—Q Kt to B 5	18—Q to K sq.
19—Q to Kt 3 (i)	19—Q to K Kt sq. (j)
20—Q Kt to R 6 ch.	20—K to Q sq.
21—K Kt takes Q B P ch.	

And Ballarat resigns (k).

NOTES.

a At this point Zukertort preferred to check with the Queen.
b Much better than 7..... Q to K 3 ch. because White's reply would have been 8 K to B 2.
c This is Black's best move.
d This is Morphy without a doubt.
e Another Morphyan coup.
f Finely followed up.
g Staunton proposes 14 Kt takes Kt ch, P takes Kt; 15 Q takes P, P to B 6; 16 P to K Kt 3, P to Kt 5, and gives an elaborate analysis (for which see Wormald's edition of the *Laws and Practice of Chess*, pp. 348, 349) to prove that White can now win by taking the Rook. Mr. Stanley, however, the Warrnambool captain, is certain that Black would win by 15..... Q R to Q Kt sq. instead of 15..... P to B 6, followed by..... B to Kt 2.
h In the consultation game, which has been already referred to, the continuation was 17..... B to Q 2; 18 Q Kt to Q B 5, Q B to Q B sq; 19 K R to K B 3, P to K Kt 5; 20 K R to Q Kt 3, P to Q Kt 3, at which point the game was abandoned, owing to the lateness of the hour, as a draw. Staunton (see *Wormald*, p. 348) says that the position is "slightly in favour of Black." But Mr. Stanley informs us that he has subjected the position at the adjournment to an exhausive analysis, and has satisfied himself that, so far from White's position being inferior, White must win. He gives 21 K Kt to Q 3 as White's winning move. It may be persumed that Black discarded 17..... B to Q 2 because in reply to 18 Q Kt to Q B 5 the Queen's Bishop is compelled to retreat to his square. If 17..... B to K 3, then 18 K Kt takes Q B P ch, Kt takes K Kt; 19 R takes B, &c.
i The winning move. It places the Queen on a still more commanding square, prevents the Black King from moving to Q Kt sq, and prepares for the advance of the Q B P.
j It is natural enough to try and exchange the Queens. Moreover, White threatens 20 Q Kt to Q R 6 ch, K to Q sq. (forced); 21 B to Q R 5 ch, and mating in three moves. Black's best move was 19..... P to Q R 4, but, in any case, White had an irresistible attack.
k Because if 21..... P takes Kt; 22 B to Q R 5 ch, K moves; 23 Q R takes Kt ch, and the black queen is lost.

Interesting Game at Odds.

In the following game, for which we are indebted to the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle Supplement*, the Rev. E. E. Cunnington, of Muchwenlock, exchanges his Queen for a Rook—thus playing with three Rooks as opposed to Queen and two Rooks. This form of odds is said to be an invention of Mr. Cunnington, and as the *Chronicle Supplement* remarks, the interesting feature about it is this:—"Does it amount to less or more than giving a Rook?"

Game No. 411.

Remove White's Queen, and place a third White Rook on Queen's square.

WHITE. Rev. E. E. Cunnington.	BLACK. An Amateur.
1—P to K 4	1—P to Q 4 (a)
2—P to Q 3	2—Kt to K B 3
3—P takes P	3—Q takes P
4—Kt to Q B 3	4—Q to K 4 ch.
5—B to K 3	5—Kt to Kt 5
6—Kt to K B 3	6—Q to K 3
7—P to Q 4	7—Kt takes B
8—P takes Kt	8—Q takes P ch.
9—B to K 2	9—B to B 4 (b)
10—Kt to Q 5	10—Q to K 5
11—Kt takes P ch.	11—K to Q sq.
12—Kt takes R	12—P to Q Kt 3
13—P to Q 5	13—P to K 3 (c)
14—P takes P ch.	14—K to Q B sq.
15—Kt takes P ch.	15—P takes Kt
16—P takes P	16—B to Q Kt 5 ch.
17—P to B 3	17—B to B 4
18—P to Kt 4	18—B to K 2 (d)
19—Castles (e)	19—Q takes B
20—K R to K sq.	20—Q to B 5
21—R takes B	21—B to Kt 3
22—Kt to K 5	22—Q to K 7
23—R to K sq.	23—Q to Kt 7
24—Kt takes B (f)	24—P takes Kt
25—R to K 8 ch.	

And Black resigns.

NOTES.

a Scarcely advisable, considering the peculiar character of the odds. Better was 1..... P to K 4, 1..... P to K 3, or 1..... P to Q Kt 3.
b 9..... P to K 3, and if 10 Kt to Kt 5, 10..... B to Q 3 would have prevented the heavy loss which Black now sustains.
c Why open this file for the adverse Rook No. 3? 13..... Q takes B P was more to the purpose.
d 18..... B to K 6 would have been better.
e Very well played. White regains his piece with an improved position.
f Conclusive. After this move Black has no defence.

DIGITIZED BY THE INTERNET ARCHIVE IN 2011 WITH FUNDING FROM UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

GAME No. 412.

REMOVE WHITE'S Q KT.

WHITE. Paul Morphy.	BLACK. C. Maurian.
1—P to Q Kt 3	1—P to K 4
2—B to Kt 2	2—Kt to Q B 3
3—P to K 3	3—P to Q 4
4—P to K Kt 3	4—P to K B 4
5—Kt to K R 3	5—Kt to K B 3
6—B to Q Kt 5	6—B to Q 3
7—P to K B 4	7—Q to K 2
8—Castles	8—Castles
9—P to Q B 4	9—P to Q R 3
10—B takes Kt	10—P takes B
11—P takes K P	11—B takes P
12—P to Q 4	12—B to Q 3
13—P to B 5	13—Q takes K P ch.
14—K to Kt 2	14—B to K 2
15—R to K sq.	15—Kt to Kt 5
16—B to B sq.	16—Q to B 6
17—B to Q 2	17—Q takes Q P
18—R takes B	18—Q takes B P
19—Q to K 2	19—P to Q 5
20—P to Q Kt 4	20—Q to Q 4 ch.
21—K to Kt sq.	21—P to Q 6
22—B to B 3!	22—R to B 2
23—R to K 8 ch.	23—R to B sq.
24—Q to K 7	24—Q to B 2
25—Kt to Kt 5!	25—Q takes Q
26—R takes Q	26—Kt to B 3
27—Q R to K sq.	27—P to Q R 4
28—R takes Q B P	28—R to K sq.
29—R to Q sq.	29—P takes P
30—B takes Kt	30—P takes B
31—Kt takes R P	31—R to K 3
32—R takes Q P	32—B to R 3
33—R (Q 3) to Q 7	33—B to Q B 5
34—P to Q R 4!	34—P takes P e. p.
35—R to Kt 7 ch.	35—K to R sq.

36—K to K B 8 and White wins.

MAIL STEAMERS.

THE NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From America	per P. M. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 9th.*
From Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Thursday, Jan. 2nd.‡
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per M. M. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 5th.§
From Canada, &c.....	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 20th.
From Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Wed'day, Jan. 22nd
From America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 26th.

* *City of Peking* left San Francisco via Honolulu on December 21st. ‡ *Empress of Japan* left Hongkong on December 25th. § *Natal* (with French mail) left Hongkong on December 26th.

THE NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For Europe, viâ Shanghai	per M. M. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 11th.
For Europe, viâ Hongkong	per N. D. Lloyd	Sunday, Dec. 29th.
For Canada, &c.	per C. P. R. Co.	Friday, Jan. 3rd.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per N. P. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 4th.
For Hongkong	per P. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 5th
For America	per O. & O. Co.	Sunday, Jan. 5th.
For Victoria, B.C.....	per O. R. & N. Co.	Saturday, Jan. 11th.
For America	per P. M. Co.	Wed'day, Jan. 15th.
For Hongkong	per C. P. R. Co.	Monday, Jan. 20th.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Alger (30), French cruiser, Captain Jaureiguiberry, 21st December,—Nagasaki.

Glenfarg, British schooner, 3,646, Selby, 21st December,—Hongkong viâ ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Taichiow, British steamer, 862, Unsworth, 22nd December,—Hongkong, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Strathdon, British steamer, 1,720, Johnstone, 23rd December,—Kobe 21st December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 23rd December,—Hakodate 20th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gerda, German steamer, 1,243, Ehlers, 24th December,—Hamburg viâ ports, General.—Simon, Evers & Co.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,439, Bailey, 24th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Changsha, British steamer, 1,463, Williams, 24th December,—Hongkong, Sugar and Wool.—Butterfield & Swire.

Omi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,525, 24th December,—Yokosuka 24th December, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 24th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 17th December, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 25th December,—Vancouver, B.C., 9th December, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Chingwo, British steamer, 2,556, Shaw, 25th December,—London viâ ports, General.—W. M. Strachan & Co.

Fuyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 875, Eden, 26th December,—Nagasaki, Coal.—Mitsu Bishi Sha.

Ikai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,907, Allen, 27th December,—Ujina, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Strathesk, British steamer, 1,454, Taylor, 27th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Kubota, 25th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, W. G. Pearne, 27th December,—San Francisco 10th December, Mails and General.—O. & O. S.S. Co.

Hohenzollern, German steamer, 2,376, P. Wettin, 27th December,—Hongkong 21st December, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Ancona, British steamer, 1,880, W. D. Mudie, 28th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, 20th December, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,589, 28th December,—Kobe 26th December, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Kobe Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,358, Haswell, 21st December,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Moji Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,569, Kawahara, 21st December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Admiral Nakhimoff (18), Russian cruiser, Captain Kashirininoff, 21st December,—Nagasaki.

City of Rio de Janeiro, American steamer, 2,246, W. J. Russell, 22nd December,—Hongkong, viâ Nagasaki, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Verona, British steamer, 1,878, C. H. S. Tocque, 22nd December,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Brambletye, British ship, 1,435, Gomm, 23rd December,—Kobe, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Strathlyon, British steamer, 1,511, Phillip, 23rd December,—Otaru, General.—Hokkaido Tanko Tetsudo Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 25th December,—Hongkong viâ ports, Mails and General.—Frazar & Co.

Edgar (12), cruiser, Captain W. H. Henderson, 25th December,—North Pacific.

Masagon, British steamer, 4,997, C. T. Denny, 25th December,—London viâ ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Toyei Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,696, Toyoshima, 25th December,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pamiat Azova (14), Russian flagship, Captain Tchoukhnine, 26th December,—Nagasaki.

Ghazee, British steamer, 1,827, Bailey, 27th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peru, American steamer, 2,540, D. E. Friele, 27th December,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Hakusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,193, Kubota, 27th December,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hokkai Maru, Japanese steamer, 437, Hamada, 27th December,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,202, N. Ono, 27th December,—Noda, Ballast.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sydney, French steamer, 3,455, Aubert, 28th December,—Shanghai viâ ports, Mails and General.—Messageries Maritimes Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Peru*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Mrs. G. M. Hallers, Miss J. Chaffey, Mrs. J. Howard, Mr. W. R. Henderson, Captain Lemarcheffsky, Mr. B. Rosenthal, Mr. A. McConnel, Mr. G. B. Swayne, Mr. Ed. Krouse, Mr. Grunwaldt, and Mr. W. Graham in cabin. For San Francisco:—Mrs. M. E. Gleason, Mrs. E. M. Woodward, Mrs. M. L. Loud, Mr. H. A. Young, Mr. W. B. Jones, Captain J. M. Eriksen, Mr. N. N. Kalikauff, and Miss Claussen in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. Arai, two children, and nurse, Miss Blackmore, Rev. Wm. W. Bell, Mr. Lewis Bradbury, Mrs. S. M. Bradbury, the Misses Bradbury, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Davison and child, Mr. and Mrs. Goodson, Rt. Rev. F. R. Graves, Mr. B. Johnson, Mr. T. Morimura, Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Shainwald, Miss Shainwald, Miss Mary Verden, Miss Woodrich, and Mr. Wakefield in cabin; 7 passengers in second class, and 335 passengers in steerage.

Per British steamer *Gaelic*, from San Francisco:—Mr. T. Aoki, Mr. J. A. Jark, Rev. Christopher Noss, Mrs. Noss, and Mr. Robert Cameron Rogers in cabin. For Hongkong:—Mrs. A. L. Fields in cabin.

Per German steamer *Hohenollern*, from Hongkong:—Graf Wydenbruck, Baron Franz Aetenthal, Mrs. Matthews, Mr. C. Illies, Miss Dora Boeddinghaus, Mr. Walter Krumme, Professor A. Koebele, Mr. Henry Raymont, Mr. Gustav Reichert, Mr. Alexander Wohlgemuth, Mr. A. Mason, Rev. H. Foss, Miss Pepper, Mr. A. L. Boyle, Mr. J. Blaeser, and Mr. Yamamoto in cabin.

Per British steamer *Ancona*, from Hongkong viâ ports:—Miss Weston, Miss C. Jones, Mrs. Kouznakoff, Mr. C. H. Allers, Mr. W. H. Shearei, Mr. Chin Fai Fong, Mr. J. P. Savage, Mr. A. Fasola, and Count Telfener in cabin; 4 passengers on deck.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Harmon, Mr. H. Shoda, Mr. C. C. Mead, Mr. E. Fowler, Mr. R. Davis, Captain Du Boulay, Mr. J. T. Stewart, and Mr. Buller in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Mr. R. Rankin, Mr. A. Thofehrn, Dr. O'Regan, R.N., Mrs. M. J. O'Regan, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Schmiedell, Mr. A. P. Lacazette, Mr. W. Cope, Mrs. Cope, Miss Baugh, Miss Henry, Mr. and Mrs. L. Roe, Mr. J. W. Copman, Miss Leete, Mr. Lam Pack Tsun, Miss Ellen Pash, Miss Davies, Mr. J. C. Fox, Mr. A. Scovell, Mr. O. C. Clifford, Mr. A. S. Davis, Miss A. L. Jackson, Mr. J. H. Dye, Mr. Lo Hin Ting, Mr. F. Dietz, Mr. W. T. Payne, Mr. J. P. Cooper, and Mrs. and Master Dithlefsen in cabin; Messrs. R. Cattle, R.N., Thos. Lyons, R.N., H. Weston, R.N., B. Dicks, R.N., B. Howard, R.N., J. Milford, R.N., R. Johnson, R.N., C. Pickard, R.N., F. Fryman, R.N., Wm. Sayer, R.N., J. Turnbull, R.N., G. Netting, R.N., G. Parson, R.N., G. Webb, R.N., W. Street, R.N., W. Bowell, R.N., J. Hill, R.N., T. Rasmasson, W. Engell, and B. Iuhl in second class.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—Mr. A. H. Butler, Miss Clausen, Captain J. M. Frikson, Mr. C. M. Grunwaldt, Mrs. M. E. Gleason, Lieut. W. F. Halsey, U.S.N., Mr. K. Iwahara, Mr. W. B. Jones, Mr. N. N. Kalikanoff, Captain Paul de Lemascheffsky, I.R.N., Mrs. M. L. Loud, Mr. K. Mino, Dr. C. F. Stokes, U.S.N., Mrs. C. F. Stokes and amah, Mr. A. Segawa, Mr. K. Tamura, Rev. and Mrs. R. P. Williams and family, Captain W. H. Walker, Mrs. E. W. Woodward, and Mr. H. A. Young in cabin.

Per French steamer *Sydney*, for Shanghai viâ ports:—Mr., Mrs., and Miss Gordon, Mr. and Mrs. Klingen, Mr. H. Faber, Mr. E. Krause and boy, Mr. P. Bure, Mrs. Kimbell and servant, Mr. A. Woodward, Miss Domballe, Messrs. J. H. Johnson, J. Balmére, R. Ibrahim, E. Martin, Bergé, A. Meyer, Seek Mohamed, Y. Yamaza, Kakizaki, Colonel Iditti, Messrs. Butener, E. Süders, F. du Jardin, Abdool Kedir, Mr. and Mrs. Iganasi Sensaku, Messrs. Wong Mang Hoi, Pa Po King, Tin He, and Sum Ming Kui in cabin; 4 seamen in steerage.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Verona*, for Hongkong viâ ports:—Silk, 502 bales; Waste Silk, 349 bales.

Per American steamer *Peru*, for San Francisco:—

TEA.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	CHICAGO.	ST. LOUIS.	CANADA.	OTHER CITIES.	TOTAL.
Shanghai...	—	—	722	—	—	—	722
Hyogo	467	—	—	—	—	—	467
Yokohama.	321	—	—	—	—	—	321
Hongkong.	111	—	—	—	—	—	111
Total ...	899	—	722	—	—	—	1,621

SILK.

	SAN FRANCISCO.	NEW YORK.	HARTFORD.	TOTAL.
Shanghai	—	115	—	115
Hongkong	—	338	—	338
Yokohama	4	580	—	584
Total	4	1,033	—	1,037

REPORTS.

The British steamer *Gaelic*, Captain Pearne, reports:—Left San Francisco the 10th December at 4.30 p.m.; to the 24th had variable winds and moderate weather; thence to Cape King, strong south-west and westerly winds; thence to port light north winds and cloudy. Arrived at Yokohama the 27th December, at 3.11 p.m. Passage, 16 days, 5 hours, 13 minutes.

The German steamer *Hohenzollern*, Captain P. Wettin, reports:—Left Hongkong the 21st December at 7 p.m.; experienced through the Formosa Channel N.E. gale with high sea; thence to Van Diemen Strait very strong E. and S.E. winds, high sea, and S.E. swell; thence to port very strong N.W. and N. winds, rough sea.

INTERNET ARCHIVE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

No business of any consequence. Buyers are probably thinking of stock-taking and getting their accounts closed for the *Omisoka*. There are probably some sales booked which will be entered in the list at beginning of January.

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

	PER PIECE.
Grey Shirtings—8½ lb, 38½ yds. 39 inches	$2.30 to 2.90
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 inches	2.75 to 3.30
T. Cloth—7lb, 24 yards, 32 inches	1.70 to 2.00
Indigo Shirtings—12 yards, 44 inches,.	1.90 to 2.40
Prints—Assorted, 24 yards, 30 inches,.	2.00 to 3.75
	PER YARD.
Cotton—Italians and Satteens Black, 32 inches	0.16 to 0.22
	PER PIECE.
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	8.00 to 10.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42-3 inches,.	0.75 to 0.90
Turkey Reds—2.0 to 2.4lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.60 to 1.75
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb, 24/25 yards, 30 inches	1.85 to 2.10
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 4lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.35 to 2.65
Turkey Reds—4.8 to 5lb, 24/25 yards, 32 inches	2.90 to 3.30

WOOLLENS.

	PER YARD.
Flannel	$0.30 to 0.47½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches best	0.35 to 0.41
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Medium	0.30 to 0.32½
Italian Cloth, 30 yards, 32 inches Common	0.25 to 0.27½
Moussaline de Laine—Crape, 24 yards, 31 inches	0.15 to 0.22
Cloths—Pilots, 54 @ 56 inches	0.35 to 0.50
Cloths—Presidents, 54 @ 56 inches	0.60 to 0.65
Cloths—Union, 54 @ 56 inches	0.40 to 0.70
Blankets—Scarlet and Green, 3 to 5lb. per lb	0.60 to 0.75

COTTON YARNS.

	PER PICUL.
Nos. 16/24, Ordinary	—
Nos. 16/24, Medium	$36.00 to 37.00
Nos. 16/24, Good to Best	38.00 to 39.00
Nos. 16/24, Reverse	—
Nos. 28/32, Ordinary	—
Nos. 28/32, Medium	39.00 to 40.00
Nos. 28/32, Good to Best	41.00 to 43.00
Nos. 38/42, Medium to Best	43.00 to 45.00
No. 32s, Two-fold	45.00 to 46.00
No. 42s, Two-fold	51.00 to 53.00
	PER BALE.
No. 20s, Bombay	—
No. 16s, Bombay	—

METALS.

In statu quo. Some few deliveries are being made to clear up old contracts before the New Year, but fresh sales are few and far between.

	PER PICUL.
Flat Bars, ¾ inch	$3.25 to 3.30
Flat Bars, ½ inch	3.20 to 3.25
Round and square up to ¾ inch	3.20 to 3.30
Iron Plates, assorted	3.50 to 3.65
Sheet Iron	4.30 to 4.50
Galvanized Iron sheets	9.00 to 9.50
Wire Nails, assorted	5.40 to 5.80
Tin Plates, per box	5.60 to 5.90
Pig Iron, No. 3	1.60 to 1.65

KEROSENE.

As before. Both sides holding off. Probably some sales will be reported next week.

American	Nom. $2.50
Russian	Nom. 2.50
Langkat	Nom. 2.30

SUGAR.

White and Brown—Quiet market, dealers being well supplied for the present. Refined—The New Year demand being now supplied, buyers seem to have closed their books for the present.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Takao	—
Brown Manila	$4.75 to 5.15
Brown Daitong (New)	4.15 to 4.20
Brown Canton	4.10 to 4.70
White Java and Penang	6.80 to 7.00
White Refined	6.50 to 9.50

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

Quiet market at unchanged quotations. The holidays have interfered with business to some extent and there will be but little done for a week or so.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW SILK.)

Filatures—Extra 9/11, 10/12 den.	$920 to 930
Filatures—Extra 13/15, 14/16 deniers	920 to 930
Filatures—No. 1, 10/13 deniers	870 to 880
Filatures—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 10/14 deniers	850 to 860
Filatures—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 den.	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 10/15 deniers	820 to 830
Filatures—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	800 to 810
Re-reels—No. 1, 13/15, 14/16 den.	830 to 840
Re-reels—No. 1½, 13/16, 14/17 deniers	790 to 800
Re-reels—No. 2, 14/18 deniers	750 to 760
Re-reels—No. 2½, 14/18 deniers	730 to 740
Re-reels—No. 3, 11/20 deniers	710 to 720
Kakedas—Extra	Nom. 840
Kakedas—No. 1	810 to 820
Kakedas—No. 1½	790 to 800
Kakedas—No. 2	760 to 770
Kakedas—No. 2½	740 to 750

WASTE SILK.

No change of any moment. Some holders would like to be moving, but there seems little disposition for large operations on the part of shippers.

QUOTATIONS.—(NEW WASTE.)

Noshi—Filature, Best	$120 to 125
Noshi—Filature, Good	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Best	115 to 120
Noshi—Oshu, Good	110 to 115
Noshi—Oshu, Medium	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshu, Best	75 to 80
Noshi—Shinshu, Good	65 to 70
Noshi—Bushu, Best	125 to 130
Noshi—Bushu, Good	115 to 120
Noshi—Bushu, Medium	105 to 110
Noshi—Joshu, Good	62½ to 67½
Noshi—Joshu, Fair	55 to 60
Kibiso—Filature, Best	100 to 102½
Kibiso—Filature, Seconds	90 to 95

TEA.

Quiet and unchanged. Financial trouble in the States tends to restrict business there and here for the moment. Let us hope the clouds will roll by with the advent of 1896.

	PER PICUL.
Choicest	$30 to $32
Choice	28 to 29
Finest	26 to 27
Fine	24 to 25
Good Medium	22 to 23
Medium	20 to 21
Good Common	18 to 19
Common	16 to 17

EXCHANGE.

Rates of exchange fluctuated slightly early in the week, but no change in quotations has taken place during the past few days.

Sterling—Bank T.T.	2/1¼
— — Bills on demand	2/1¼
— — 4 months' sight	2/1⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1¼
— — 6 months' sight	2/1⅛
On Paris—Bank sight	2.65
On Lyons—Private 4 months' sight	2.70½
On Hongkong—Bank sight	1% p.
— Private 10 days' sight.	⅛% d.
On Shanghai—Bank sight	71½
— Private 10 days' sight.	72½
On India—Bank sight	282
— Private 30 days' sight	284½
On America—Bank Bills on demand.	51½
— Private 30 days' sight..	52¼
— — 4 months' sight	53
On Germany—Bank sight	2.14
— Private 4 months' sight	2.19
Bar Silver (London)	30 7/61

BISSET & COMPANY'S SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, December 21st, 1895.

A wire to-day from Hongkong quotes:—Sales of Hongkong Lands at $69; Buyers of H. C. & M. Steamboats at $37, Douglasses at $52.50 and H. & K. Wharfs at $49. Watsons are weaker, having sellers at $12. H. C. & M. Steamboats have been placed to Hongkong from a local holder at $37.

Local stocks of all kinds unchanged as last reported.

23rd December.

Advices bearing dates of the 4th and 6th inst. from our Singapore Agents give the following quotations:—Raubs keep steady at $4.10 and seem inclined to move up a little; Jelebus are wanted at $2.75, but there are no sellers under $3; and Punjoms are quoted $5, with no business done.

Local stocks are all in demand; $142.50 will be paid for Grand Hotels and the same price for Breweries. A lot of Oriental Hotel Ordinary shares might be had subject to a firm offer of over $115 being made. Two shares, one Ordinary and the other Founders, in the same Company might be secured at $300. All other stocks are unchanged and offers of shares are wanted. Iron Works might be placed on a firm offer of shares being made.

Matheson & Grant,

13, Walbrook,

London, England.

Railway & Tramway Material.

Machinery.

Iron & Steel Bridges & Roofs.

Electric Lighting.

Engines, Boilers, Tools, &c.

Indents of all kinds executed.

A 1 and A B C Codes.

Telegraphic Address: "Brookgrant, London."

June 8th, 1895.

Apollinaris

"THE QUEEN OF TABLE WATERS."

"First in Purity."

BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL.

"Has a charm which makers of artificial aerated waters do not even dream of."—MORNING ADVERTISER.

SOLE AGENTS:

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,

YOKOHAMA.

August 3rd, 1895.

Digitized from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

"A CHARMING SCENT."
H.R.H. The Duchess of York.

ATKINSON'S
WHITE ROSE.

"The Sweetest of Sweet Odours."
Delightfully and delicately fragrant.
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